



Tailor-Made Itinerary – johannes





Introduction

Colombia is a land of contrasts: from the snow-capped peaks of the Andes to the lush Amazon rainforest and the vibrant Caribbean coast. For this 5-week high-end adventure (December 8, 2025 – January 12, 2026), you'll join a small group, focusing on immersive stays in boutique hotels, luxury eco-lodges, and stylish guesthouses. The indicative budget is €1700 per person, but for a premium experience, expect a higher investment. This itinerary is crafted for discerning travelers seeking authenticity, comfort, and unique experiences.



Why Colombia?

Colombia is ideal for travelers seeking variety: bustling cities, colonial towns, coffee regions, wild jungles, and pristine beaches. December to January is high season, with festive energy and generally dry weather in most regions—perfect for exploring both mountains and coast. The country's growing luxury hospitality scene and expert local guides ensure a seamless, inspiring journey. Colombia's rich culture, biodiversity, and welcoming atmosphere align perfectly with your preferences for authentic, comfortable, and sociable travel.



Custom Program

Day 1: Arrival in Bogotá

- **Private transfer:** 30 min from airport to La Candelaria (historic center).
- **Afternoon:** Orientation walk with your group; visit Plaza Bolívar and Museo Botero.
- **Evening:** Welcome dinner at a top local restaurant.
- **Highlight:** Discover Bogotá's street art and vibrant coffee scene.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Hotel de la Opera** (Boutique, La Candelaria): Colonial elegance, spa, from €140/night.
 - **Casa Legado** (Luxury, Quinta Camacho): Chic, design-driven, personalized service, from €180/night.
 - **Biohotel Organic Suites** (Eco-lodge, Usaquén): Sustainable luxury, rooftop garden, from €120/night.
- **Activity:** Private guided walk of La Candelaria: Explore colonial architecture, local markets, and hidden art galleries.

ALTITUDE: Bogotá sits at 2,640 m. Take it easy the first 2 days, hydrate well, and avoid strenuous activity until acclimatized[6][10][12].

TIP: Try ajiaco soup—local comfort food ideal for altitude adjustment.

Days 2–4: Bogotá & Surroundings

- **Day 2:** Private guided visit to Museo del Oro; afternoon at Usaquén

Sunday market (if applicable).

- **Day 3:** Day trip to Zipaquirá Salt Cathedral (Private transfer: 1h each way); guided cathedral tour.
- **Day 4:** Cable car to Monserrate for panoramic city views; optional salsa class in Chapinero.
- **Hotel options:** Same hotel options as Day 1.
- **Activity:** Zipaquirá Salt Cathedral: Explore the underground salt mine and cathedral, a UNESCO-listed marvel.

ALTITUDE: Continue acclimatizing; Monserrate is 3,152 m. Use cable car, not the stairs, and limit exertion[2][6][12].

TIP: Carry small bills for markets; many vendors do not accept cards.

Days 5–8: Villa de Leyva (Colonial Town)

- **Private transfer:** 3.5–4h by chauffeured SUV, with scenic stops.
- **Afternoon:** Explore cobblestone streets, artisan markets, and Casa Terracota.
- **Evening:** Dinner in the main plaza; stargazing experience with local astronomer.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Hotel Casa Terra** (Boutique, center): Artistic charm, tranquil garden, from €120/night.
 - **Hotel 1860** (Luxury, main square): Restored colonial mansion, from €150/night.

- **Hotel Campestre Bachue** (Eco-lodge, outskirts): Nature retreat, from €90/night.
- **Activity:** Stargazing in Villa de Leyva: Experience Colombia's clearest skies with telescope and expert guide.

TIP: Nights can be cold (1,800 m); pack warm layers.

Days 9–13: Coffee Region (Salento & Cocora Valley)

- **LOGISTICS x:** The direct bus from Villa de Leyva to Salento is not feasible (no direct route, 10–12h). **FIX:** Private transfer to Bogotá (3.5h), then flight to Pereira (1h), then private transfer to Salento (1h).
- **Morning:** Flight Bogotá–Pereira; transfer to Salento.
- **Afternoon:** Settle into eco-lodge; orientation walk in Salento.
- **Days 10–13:** Guided trek in Cocora Valley (giant wax palms), coffee farm visit, horseback riding, and local trout dinner.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Hotel Salento Real** (Boutique, Salento center): Colonial style, from €90/night.
 - **Hotel Terasu** (Eco-lodge, outskirts): Mountain views, organic breakfast, from €110/night.
 - **Montaña Eco-Hotel** (Eco-lodge, Cocora Valley): Immersive nature, from €130/night.
- **Activity:** Cocora Valley Trek: Guided hike among the world's tallest wax palms, with picnic lunch.

TIP: Salento is at 1,900 m; altitude effects are mild but weather is variable—bring rain gear.

Days 14–17: Medellín (Urban Culture & Transformation)

- **Private transfer:** 5–6h by SUV from Salento to Medellín, with scenic stops (Jardín, coffee towns).
- **Afternoon:** Guided tour of Comuna 13 street art and cable car ride.
- **Evening:** Dinner in El Poblado; option for rooftop cocktails or rest.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **The Charlee Hotel** (Luxury, El Poblado): Rooftop pool, design, from €200/night.
 - **Patio del Mundo** (Boutique, Provenza): Garden oasis, personalized service, from €170/night.
 - **EcoHub Hotel** (Eco-boutique, Laureles): Sustainable, modern, from €120/night.
- **Activity:** Comuna 13 Transformation Tour: Explore Medellín's social innovation and vibrant murals with a local guide.

TIP: Medellín's climate is spring-like year-round; pack for mild days and cool evenings.

Days 18–21: Guatapé & Lakes (Colorful Escape)

- **Private transfer:** 2h by SUV from Medellín to Guatapé.
- **Day 18:** Climb El Peñol rock (740 steps) for panoramic views.

- **Days 19–21:** Kayaking, boat tour of lakes, and exploration of Guatapé's colorful streets.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Hotel Los Recuerdos** (Boutique, lakeside): Infinity pool, lake views, from €120/night.
 - **Bosko Luxury Glamping** (Eco-lodge, outskirts): Designer domes, nature immersion, from €180/night.
 - **Hotel Guatatur** (Budget, town center): Simple comfort, from €80/night.
- **Activity:** Private boat tour: Discover hidden islands and lakeside art installations.

TIP: Guatapé is popular on weekends—book activities and restaurants in advance.

Days 22–25: Cartagena (Caribbean Coast)

- **LOGISTICS x:** Overland transfer from Guatapé to Cartagena is 13h+.
FIX: Private transfer to Medellín (2h), then flight to Cartagena (1h).
- **Morning:** Flight Medellín–Cartagena; private transfer to hotel.
- **Afternoon:** Explore the walled city with a private walking tour.
- **Evening:** Sunset at Café del Mar or ramparts; live music in Getsemaní.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Casa San Agustín** (Luxury, Old Town): Colonial elegance, pool,

from €350/night.

- **Hotel Quadrifolio** (Boutique, Old Town): Historic mansion, personalized service, from €250/night.
- **Selina Cartagena** (Eco-hostel, Getsemaní): Social vibe, rooftop bar, from €80/night.
- **Activity:** Private city tour: Discover Cartagena's history, architecture, and vibrant street life.

TIP: High humidity and heat—pack light, breathable clothing and sun protection.

Days 26–29: Tayrona National Park & Palomino (Nature & Beach)

- **Private transfer:** 4–5h by SUV from Cartagena to Tayrona area.
- **Day 26:** Check in to eco-lodge; relax at beach.
- **Days 27–29:** Guided hike in Tayrona National Park, swimming, and beach campfire.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Ecohabs Tayrona** (Eco-lodge, park entrance): Jungle bungalows, sea views, from €200/night.
 - **Casas Viejas** (Boutique lodge, Sierra Nevada): Mountain retreat, from €150/night.
 - **Dreamer Hostel Palomino** (Eco-hostel, beach): Social, relaxed, from €70/night.

- **Activity:** Tayrona guided hike: Explore jungle trails and hidden beaches with a naturalist guide.

TIP: Tayrona Park may close for conservation (dates vary)—confirm access before booking.

TIP: Park entry requires passport; bring cash for fees.

Days 30–34: Santa Marta & Minca (Mountains & Waterfalls)

- **Private transfer:** 1h from Tayrona/Palomino to Minca.
- **Day 30:** Settle into jungle eco-lodge; sunset yoga.
- **Days 31–34:** Guided hike to waterfalls, birdwatching, coffee farm tour, and panoramic dinners.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Casa Elemento** (Eco-lodge, Minca hills): Famous hammock, mountain views, from €90/night.
 - **Sweet Harmony Hotel** (Boutique, riverside): Tranquil, lush gardens, from €110/night.
 - **Hostal Minca La Casona** (Guesthouse, town center): Cozy, local charm, from €70/night.
- **Activity:** Birdwatching tour: Spot toucans, hummingbirds, and endemic species with expert guide.

TIP: Minca is cooler and wetter—pack layers and insect repellent.

Day 35: Return to Bogotá & Departure

- **Flight:** Santa Marta to Bogotá (1.5h, direct).
- **Afternoon:** Last stroll in Bogotá or private shopping tour.
- **Evening:** Farewell dinner or airport transfer for international flight.
- **Hotel options:**
 - **Movich Buró 26** (Luxury, near airport): Modern, quiet, from €130/night.
 - **Hotel Habitel Prime** (Boutique, airport area): Comfort, shuttle service, from €110/night.

TIP: Allow at least 3h for international connections; Bogotá airport can be busy.



Customizable Options

- Private Spanish lessons in Bogotá or Medellín (from €40/session).
- Lost City trek (requires 4 days, extra €500+, advance booking).
- Cooking class or coffee workshop with local chef/farmer (from €60/person).
- Wildlife watching tour in Tayrona or Amazon extension (from €150/person).
- Volunteer day with a community project in Medellín or Santa Marta (from €40/person).
- Upgrade to private suite or luxury eco-lodge in select locations (extra cost).

TIP: Most upgrades and special experiences require advance booking, especially in high season.

Practical Info & Budget

- **Comfort level:** Boutique hotels, luxury eco-lodges, and stylish guesthouses, with private rooms and curated experiences.
- **Indicative budget:** For high-end travel in peak season, expect €3,500–€5,000 per person for 5 weeks, including premium accommodation, private transfers, internal flights, guided activities, and most meals.
- **Included:** Accommodation, private transfers, 2 internal flights, guided activities, breakfasts.
- **Excluded:** International flights, some lunches/dinners, optional upgrades, park fees, personal expenses.
- **Seasonal notes:** December–January is peak travel time—book early. Tayrona may close for conservation (dates vary). Coastal areas are hot/humid; mountains can be cool at night.
- **Luggage tips:** Bring a lockable bag, quick-dry clothes, layers for altitude, and sun protection.

TIP: For a seamless luxury experience, raise the budget or shorten the trip to 3–4 weeks.



Next Steps

- Please confirm your preferred trip length and budget for tailored recommendations.
- Let us know your group style (age range, activity level) and any must-see regions or experiences.
- Would you like more details on private guided tours, or prefer independent travel with curated activities?
- Once clarified, we'll fine-tune the itinerary and connect you with our expert local partners for seamless bookings.

Item	Estimated Cost (per person)
Accommodation (35 nights, boutique/luxury)	€2,800
Private transfers & SUVs	€700
Internal flights (3 segments)	€300
Guided activities & tours	€600
Meals (breakfasts + some dinners)	€400
Park fees & entries	€100
Tips & incidentals	€100
Total Estimated Cost	€5,000

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