



## **Tailor-Made Itinerary – Bart**



## **Introduction**

Colombia, often described as the “gateway to South America,” is a land where Caribbean beaches meet Andean peaks and vibrant cities pulse with music and color. For your group of 12 adults traveling from December 13 to 21, 2025, this program is tailored for a week of discovery, comfort, and unforgettable moments, with a focus on luxury and boutique accommodations. Your indicative budget of €6000 per person opens doors to premium experiences and seamless logistics. This itinerary has been carefully structured to balance internal flights, private transfers, and immersive experiences that work smoothly for a group of this size.

## **Why Colombia?**

Colombia is the ideal playground for friends seeking a blend of culture, nature, and gastronomy with limited internal travel time. December is one of the best times to visit: the dry season usually brings clear skies to Bogotá, the Coffee Region, and the Caribbean coast, perfect for exploring colonial cities, lush coffee landscapes, and pristine beaches. The country’s luxury and boutique hotel scene has flourished, offering unique stays from restored mansions in Cartagena to chic haciendas and eco-lodges in the Coffee Triangle. Direct or short-connection flights between key regions make logistics comfortable even for a group of 12, while vibrant local life

and world-class gastronomy match your appetite for inspiration and style.

## **Custom Program**

### **Day 1: Arrival in Bogotá – Capital Contrasts**

- **Logistics:** Arrival at El Dorado International Airport (Bogotá, ~2,640 m altitude). Private coach transfer (~40–60 min depending on traffic) to your hotel in the central area (Zona G, Quinta Camacho, or Chapinero Alto) for easier access and comfort for a group.
- **Morning:** Check-in (or luggage drop if early arrival) and time to rest, hydrate, and adjust to altitude.
- **Afternoon:** Gentle guided tour of La Candelaria's colorful streets, colonial plazas, and a coffee tasting at a specialty roastery. Pace kept light to respect first-day altitude.
- **Evening:** Welcome dinner at a top Bogotá restaurant featuring modern Colombian cuisine, with shared plates ideal for a group atmosphere.
- **Highlight activity: Monserrate by Cable Car** – Late-afternoon ascent by cable car or funicular (no hiking) to enjoy panoramic sunset views over Bogotá, followed by a relaxed descent before dinner.
- **Hotel options (Bogotá):**
  - **Casa Legado** – Boutique, Quinta Camacho; stylish mid-century-inspired house with personalized service and garden

lounges; from €350–€500/nuit.

- **Four Seasons Hotel Casa Medina** – Luxury, Zona G; landmark building with warm, club-like atmosphere and excellent dining; from €500–€750/nuit.
- **The Artisan D.C. Hotel, Autograph Collection** – Design/boutique, Chapinero; contemporary urban vibe, great base for restaurants and bars; from €250–€350/nuit.

**ALTITUDE:** Bogotá is at ~2 640 m. Hydrate well, avoid strenuous exercise and heavy alcohol on Day 1, and opt for the cable car or funicular up Monserrate rather than walking.

**TIP:** For smoother group arrivals, consider arranging VIP fast-track immigration and a luggage porter team at the airport.

## **Day 2: Bogotá to Coffee Region – Hacienda Life**

- **Logistics:** Private transfer (~40–60 min) to Bogotá airport. Morning domestic flight Bogotá → Armenia or Pereira (~1 h). Private coach or multiple vans to hacienda in the Coffee Triangle (~45–60 min).
- **Morning:** Flight to the Coffee Region and arrival at your hacienda. Welcome drink and relaxed check-in overlooking coffee fields.
- **Afternoon:** Hacienda lunch followed by a hands-on coffee workshop and plantation walk with a local expert explaining cultivation, picking, and processing.
- **Evening:** Time by the pool or gardens, then a group cooking class

learning regional recipes (such as sudado, patacones, or arepas) followed by dinner.

- **Highlight activity: Private Coffee Cupping Workshop** – Comparative tasting of different origins and roast profiles guided by a barista, with notes on aromas and brewing methods.
- **Hotel options (Coffee Region – near Armenia/Pereira):**
  - **Hacienda Bambusa** – Luxury hacienda, countryside near Armenia; intimate property on a private cacao and fruit farm with pool and gourmet cuisine; from €400–€600/night.
  - **Hotel Boutique Sazagua** – Boutique, near Pereira; lush gardens, spa, and characterful rooms inspired by coffee culture; from €350–€550/night.
  - **Bio Habitat Hotel** – Eco-boutique, hills above Armenia; striking architecture nestled in forest with panoramic decks and nature focus; from €300–€450/night.

**TIP:** For a group of 12, consider pre-assigning rooms and collecting passport details in advance to speed up check-in at the hacienda.

### **Day 3: Valle de Cocora & Salento – Cloud Forest Adventure**

- **Logistics:** Private 4×4 or minibus transfer to Cocora Valley (~1–1.5 h each way, depending on road and hacienda location). Flexible departure to avoid peak crowds.
- **Morning:** Guided visit to **Valle de Cocora** with easy or moderate loop

options among the world's tallest wax palms and cloud-forest scenery; stops for photos and viewpoints rather than a forced long hike for the whole group.

- **Afternoon:** Transfer to Salento (short drive from Cocora) for lunch in a traditional fonda, then exploration of colorful streets, artisan shops, and cafés. Optional game of tejo or coffee/ice-cream stop.
- **Evening:** Return to the hacienda for sunset cocktails, followed by a private Andean or Colombian music performance.
- **Highlight activity: Cocora Valley Scenic Walk** – Gentle guided route focusing on viewpoints and interpretation of flora, fauna, and the symbolism of the wax palm, ideal for mixed fitness levels.
- **Hotel options:** Same hotel options as Day 2.

**TIP:** Trails in Cocora can be muddy; bring light hiking shoes or trainers with good grip and a light rain jacket, even in the dry season.

## **Day 4: Coffee Region to Cartagena – Caribbean Colors & Sunset Cruise**

- **Logistics:** Private transfer to Armenia or Pereira airport (~45–60 min). Late-morning or midday flight to Cartagena, usually via Bogotá (~3–4 h total including connection). Private transfer from Cartagena airport to hotel in the walled city or nearby Getsemaní (~20–30 min).
- **Morning:** Departure from hacienda and flight to Cartagena. Light snack or early lunch arranged according to flight times.

- **Afternoon:** Check-in at your boutique or luxury hotel in Cartagena's historic center. Free time to relax by the pool, enjoy a spa treatment, or wander shaded plazas.
- **Evening:** Private sunset cruise in the bay of Cartagena or rooftop cocktails with views over the domes and fortifications, followed by a relaxed dinner.
- **Highlight activity: Cartagena Sunset Bay Cruise** – Private boat with drinks and music, circling the city walls and Bocagrande skyline at golden hour.
- **Hotel options (Cartagena – historic center/Getsemani):**
- • **Casa San Agustín** – Luxury boutique, walled city; restored colonial mansion with lush courtyards, refined service, and intimate ambiance; from €600–€900/noite.
- • **Sofitel Legend Santa Clara** – Luxury, walled city; former convent with grand cloisters, large pool, and top-level facilities ideal for groups; from €700–€1 200/noite.
- • **Bastión Luxury Hotel** – Boutique, walled city; stylish rooftop pool and chic contemporary colonial design; from €400–€650/noite.

**TIP:** December is high season in Cartagena; securing a block of rooms for 12 people requires early booking and sometimes minimum-night stays.



## **Day 5: Cartagena – Culture, Forts & Flavors**

- **Logistics:** All activities on foot or by private minibuss within Cartagena



(short drives of 10–20 min).

- **Morning:** Guided tour of Cartagena's key historic sites, including the **Castillo San Felipe de Barajas** (fortress), the walled city, and Getsemaní with its street art and local life.
- **Afternoon:** Immersive cooking class with a local chef or a curated ceviche and street-food tasting in the market, with small groups rotating through stations.
- **Evening:** Dinner at a rooftop restaurant with live music and views of the illuminated city; optional exploration of Cartagena's nightlife afterward.
- **Highlight activity: Cartagena Gastronomy Workshop** – Hands-on preparation of Caribbean-Colombian dishes (e.g., coconut rice, patacones, fresh fish) and discussion of local ingredients and traditions.
- **Hotel options:** Same hotel options as Day 4.

**TIP:** Cartagena can be hot and humid; plan for hats, breathable clothing, sunscreen, and plenty of water during walking tours.

## **Day 6: Rosario Islands – Caribbean Escape**

- **Logistics:** Private speedboat from Cartagena marina to the Rosario Islands (~1 h each way). Departure time adjusted to sea conditions and group preferences.
- **Morning:** Cruise out to the Rosario Islands for snorkeling over coral



reefs, paddleboarding, kayaking, or simply relaxing on a white-sand beach at a quality beach club.

- **Afternoon:** Fresh seafood lunch at the beach club, followed by free time for swimming, sunbathing, or optional spa treatments (massages in open-air cabanas).
- **Evening:** Return by boat to Cartagena (~1 h). Evening at leisure in the city or casual dinner in Getsemaní.
- **Optional late-evening highlight:** Boat excursion to a nearby lagoon to swim among bioluminescent plankton (seasonal and weather-dependent).
- **Highlight activity: Private Rosario Islands Beach Day** – Exclusive use of shaded areas, dedicated staff, and non-motorized water sports for your group.
- **Hotel options:**
  - **In Cartagena:** Same hotel options as Day 4.
  - **Optional island overnight:** Hotel Las Islas – Luxury eco-resort near Barú and the Rosario area; bungalows amid mangroves and on the beach, ideal for a one-night “escape”; from €700–€1 200/night.

**TIP:** Sea conditions can be choppy; those prone to motion sickness should sit toward the back of the boat and consider medication before departure.

## **Day 7: Cartagena – Heritage & Leisure**

- **Logistics:** Optional half-day excursion by private minibus (~1–1.5 h

each way) to San Basilio de Palenque, or free time in Cartagena.

- **Morning:** Choice of a relaxed free morning (spa, shopping, photography walk) or a guided visit to **San Basilio de Palenque**, one of the first free towns of formerly enslaved Africans in the Americas, with music, dance, and oral history encounters.
- **Afternoon:** Return to Cartagena for last wanderings in the old town or poolside relaxation. Late check-out arranged where possible.
- **Evening:** Farewell dinner in a private dining room or rented colonial house patio, with a curated tasting menu and live music or dance performance.
- **Highlight activity: Palenque Heritage Experience** – Guided walk through the village, storytelling on Afro-Colombian history, and traditional drumming and dance workshop.
- **Hotel options:** Same hotel options as Day 4.

**TIP:** If choosing the Palenque visit, it is best to leave early to avoid midday heat and to carry cash for community crafts and tips.

## **Day 8: Cartagena – Departure**

- **Logistics:** Private group transfer from hotel to Cartagena airport (~20–30 min) timed to your international flights.
- **Morning:** Depending on flight times, relaxed breakfast and final strolls, or day-use rooms for shower and packing.
- **Afternoon:** Assistance with check-in and departure formalities.

Optional VIP lounge access for the group.

- **Evening:** Overnight flights home or onward journeys.
- **Highlight:** Final views of Cartagena's fortifications and Caribbean coastline as you depart.
- **Hotel options:** Day-use arrangements possible at your Cartagena hotel or nearby property if flights are late.

**TIP:** At peak season, allow extra time at Cartagena airport for security and check-in queues, especially for a group of 12.



## Customizable Options

- Private charter flights between Bogotá, the Coffee Region, and Cartagena for added comfort and reduced connection times.
- Exclusive villa or colonial mansion rental for the group in Cartagena, with private chef and on-site staff.
- Specialist guides (art, history, nature, gastronomy) for deeper thematic experiences in each destination.
- Helicopter scenic flight over the Coffee Triangle or along Cartagena's coastline and islands.
- Wellness-focused half or full days: spa rituals, private yoga sessions, meditation, or sound healing at top hotels.
- Private conservation or birdwatching excursion in the Coffee Region, tailored for different interest and fitness levels.



## Practical Info & Budget

- **Comfort level:** Luxury and boutique hotels throughout, all vetted for service, character, and suitability for small groups.
- **Pace & logistics:** Internal flights replace long road journeys; private transfers are used in all destinations, with most days limited to 3–4 hours of total travel time.
- **Seasonal notes:** December is peak dry season but also high season on the Caribbean coast; pre-booking is essential for preferred hotels and private boats.
- **Health & altitude:** Only Bogotá is at significant altitude; the rest of the trip unfolds at lower elevations. Plan a light first day, hydrate frequently, and avoid intense exertion upon arrival.
- **Luggage tips:** Domestic flights usually have stricter baggage limits; soft-sided luggage and coordinated group check-in are recommended.
- **Included (indicative):** Lodging in selected luxury/boutique properties, domestic flights, private ground transfers, most guided activities, boat to Rosario Islands, welcome and farewell dinners, and several curated culinary experiences.
- **Excluded (indicative):** International airfare, a portion of lunches and dinners, personal insurance, tips, and premium optional upgrades

(charters, helicopters, private mansion rental).

- **Budget check:** Your budget of about €6 000 par personne for 8 days is coherent with this level of accommodation and private services; adding multiple high-end upgrades (charters, helicopters, full villa rental) would require additional budget.

**TIP:** For smoother group accounting, we recommend creating a shared kitty in cash Colombian pesos for tips, small purchases, and incidentals in markets or rural areas.

Item	Estimated Cost (per person)
Hébergement (7 nuits, luxe/boutique, base chambre double)	€3 500
Vols domestiques (Bogotá–Coffee Region–Cartagena, taxes incluses)	€350
Transferts privés terrestres (aéroports, visites, excursions)	€500
Journée privée aux îles Rosario (bateau, déjeuner, activités de base)	€350
Visites guidées & activités (Bogotá, Coffee Region, Cartagena,	€700

Palenque)

Repas inclus (petits-déjeuners, 3 déjeuners, 4 dîners dont bienvenue & départ)	€600
Honoraires d'organisation & assistance locale 24/7	€300
Extras et imprévus (eau, snacks, petites entrées, pourboires de base)	€200
Total Estimated Cost	€6 500