Trekonda



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Cartagena de Indias

Traveler's guide

UNESCO-listed walled city on Colombia's Caribbean coast and the starting point for the reefs of the Rosario Islands, the mangroves of La Boquilla and San Basilio de Palenque.

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Nature

Cartagena de Indias, founded in 1533, preserves about 11 km of walls built between the 17th and 18th centuries and the San Felipe de Barajas Castle, completed in 1654; the port and its fortifications have been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1984. Beyond the city, the Corales del Rosario y de San Bernardo National Natural Park, created in 1977 about 45 km to the southwest, protects coral reefs, seagrass meadows and mangroves. To the north, the fishing village of La Boquilla lives between the sea and the mangroves of the La Virgen and Juan Polo lagoons.



Activities

- Walking tour of the walled centre: Clock Tower, Santo Domingo and San Pedro Claver squares, and a sunset stroll along the walls
- Getsemaní, the neighbourhood outside the walls, with murals, Plaza de la Trinidad and local nightlife
- Snorkelling and diving on the reefs of the Rosario Islands, about 1 h by boat from the city
- Canoe trip through the mangrove tunnels of La Boquilla with local fishermen, with birdwatching and traditional fishing
- Visit to San Basilio de Palenque (about 60 km, 1 h by road), a village founded by runaway slaves, with its Palenquero language, drum music and traditional sweets

When to go

December to April is the dry season, with clear skies and northerly breezes, although it coincides with the year-end and Holy Week high seasons. From May to November rain is more frequent, especially around October and November, but showers are usually short. It is hot all year, with highs around 31 °C, so it is best to walk early in the morning or late in the afternoon.

How to get there

Rafael Núñez International Airport (CTG) is about 6 km from the historic centre, 10 to 15 minutes by taxi, with direct flights from Bogotá, Medellín and several US cities. By road, Barranquilla is about 2 h away and Santa Marta 3 h 30 to 4 h, by bus or door-to-door shuttle. Boats to the Rosario Islands leave from the La Bodeguita pier (about 1 h at sea).

Activities in this destination

Hiking & trekking · Volcano · Rafting & hydrospeed · Boat trips, canoe & kayak · Hot springs · Zipline & tree

climbing · Canyoning & rappelling · Paragliding · Horseback riding · Snow & snowshoeing · Local & indigenous culture · Nature & photography · Stargazing · Full-day excursions · Food & wine · Family & inclusive · Surfing & bodyboard · Sandboarding & dunes · Cycling & MTB · Climbing & mountaineering · Ice & glaciers · Kitesurfing & windsurfing · Diving & snorkelling · Wildlife & whale watching · City & walking tours · Birdwatching · Fly & sport fishing · Archaeology & ruins · Wine & wineries · Coffee & cocoa · 4x4 safari & overland

Experiences

No experiences published in Cartagena de Indias yet Are you a guide here? Create your free profile and be the first to appear.

Guides

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Photo gallery



Garita de la muralla de Cartagena al atardecer · Igvir Ramirez · CC BY-SA 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons



Calle del barrio Getsemaní · Joe Ross from Lansing, Michigan · CC BY-SA 2.0 · Wikimedia Commons

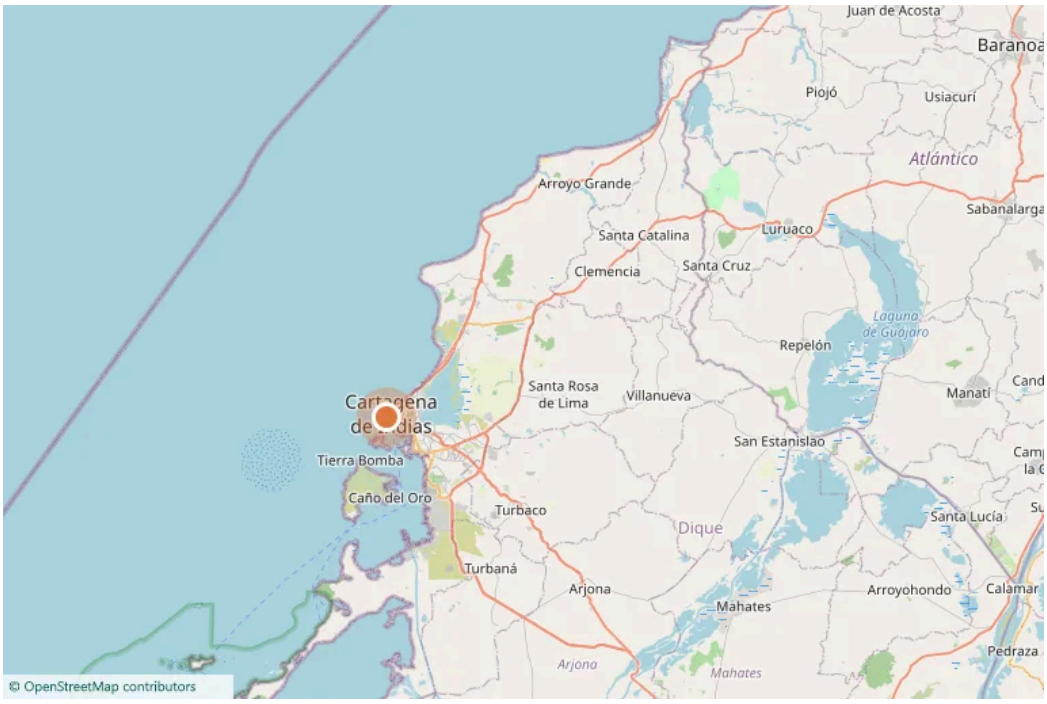


Islas del Rosario vistas desde el aire · República de Colombia (Presidencia) · Public domain · Wikimedia Commons



Botes de pescadores en La Boquilla · Bernard Gagnon · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Map · Cartagena de Indias



10.4230, -75.5490 · Directions in Google Maps

How to book with a local guide

Choose your experience → Request your date → Experience Cartagena de Indias

Send your request and the guide contacts you directly with availability and price.

https://www.trekonda.com/en/experiencias/cartagena

Contact platform: each guide provides the service.