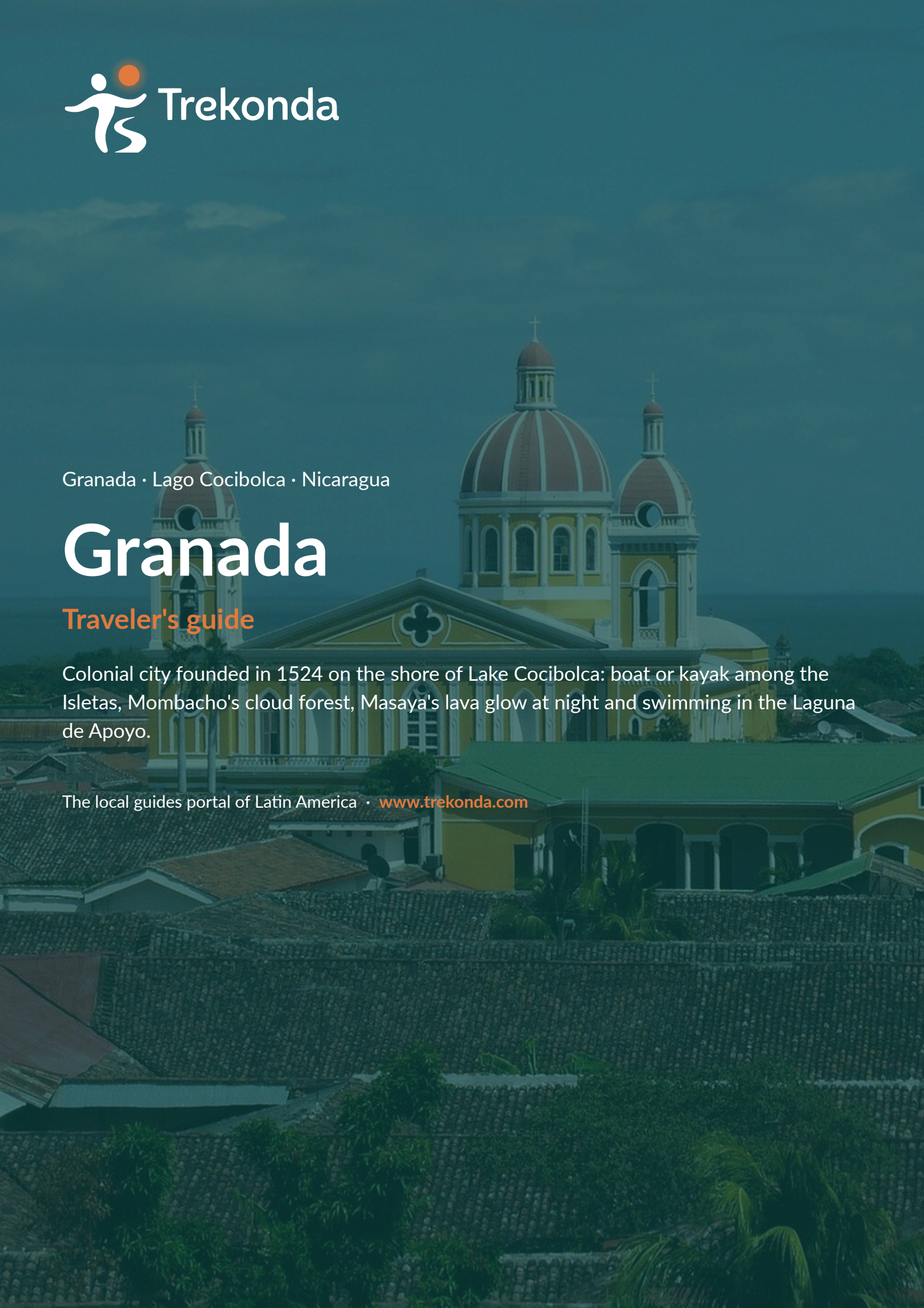
Trekonda



Granada · Lago Cocibolca · Nicaragua

Granada

Traveler's guide

Colonial city founded in 1524 on the shore of Lake Cocibolca: boat or kayak among the Isletas, Mombacho's cloud forest, Masaya's lava glow at night and swimming in the Laguna de Apoyo.

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Nature

Granada, founded in 1524 by Francisco Hernández de Córdoba, is one of the first colonial cities on the American mainland and looks out over Lake Cocibolca, Nicaragua's great lake. Some 365 islets lie off its shore, formed when Mombacho volcano (1,344 m) partly collapsed into the lake; its summit still holds cloud forest and fumaroles. To the northwest lie Masaya volcano, the country's first national park (1979), and the Laguna de Apoyo, a flooded crater about 6.6 km across and 175 m deep.



Activities

- Boat or kayak trip among the Isletas from Puerto Asese, with water birds and Mombacho in the background
- Mombacho Volcano Nature Reserve: truck ride up to the biological station at around 1,100 m and the Crater trail past fumaroles, orchids and cloud forest; the longer, steeper El Puma trail only with a guide
- Masaya volcano at sunset or after dark, to see the lava glow inside the Santiago crater from the rim
- Laguna de Apoyo, a nature reserve since 1991 with endemic cichlid fish: swimming, kayaking and diving in a flooded crater
- Walking or horse-drawn carriage tour of the colonial centre, Calle La Calzada and La Merced church, with views over the rooftops and the lake
- Zip-lining on the slopes of Mombacho and birdwatching along the lakeshore and in the volcano's forests

When to go

The dry season runs from December to April, with clearer skies for Masaya at night and the views from Mombacho, although its summit is often in the clouds. From May to November rain falls mostly in the afternoon and the landscape is greener. It is hot all year, averaging around 26 °C, so set off early for hikes and paddling.

How to get there

The nearest airport is Augusto C. Sandino (MGA) in Managua, about 45 km away: roughly 1 h by road by taxi or shuttle. Frequent minibuses run from Managua to Granada (1 h to 1 h 30), and Masaya is about 30 min away. From the Peñas Blancas border with Costa Rica it takes about 2 h 30 on the Pan-American Highway via Rivas. Boats to the Isletas leave from Puerto Asese, a few minutes from the centre.

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 Granada yet Are you a guide here? Create your free profile and be the first to appear.

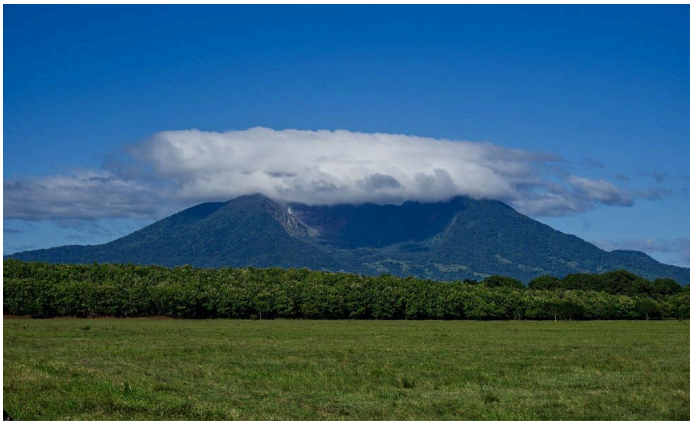
Guides

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Photo gallery



Lancha entre las Isletas de Granada, con el Mombacho al fondo · randreu · CC BY 3.0 · Wikimedia Commons



Volcán Mombacho cubierto de nubes · FurlongWiki · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

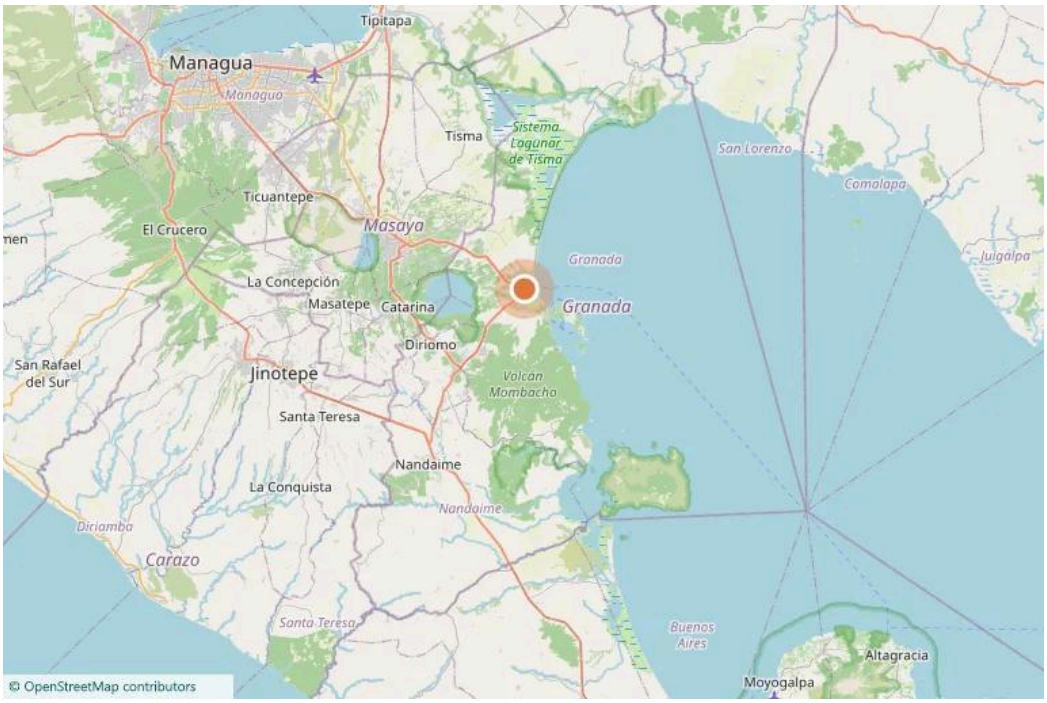


Cráter del volcán Masaya de noche · Leon petrosyan · CC BY-SA 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons



Laguna de Apoyo vista desde el este · Vladimir Menkov · CC BY 4.0 · Wikimedia Commons

Map · Granada



11.9299, -85.9561 · Directions in Google Maps

How to book with a local guide

Choose your experience → Request your date → Experience Granada

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

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