# Jewels of Colombia Bogota, Medellin, Cartagena

## 10 days for \$6,397 total price from Richmond

(\$6,195 air & land inclusive plus \$202 airline taxes and fees)

Colombia warmly welcomes visitors to experience its wealth of indigenous cultures, Spanish Colonial heritage, and Caribbean vibe. The country beckons – and our small group is poised to discover its many jewels, from Bogota to Medellin to Cartagena, with some hidden gems along the way.







**Moderate** 

Refer to page 5 for more information.

Your Tour at a Glance						
Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating			
1	Depart U.S. for Bogota	Sofitel Bogota Victoria Regia Hotel	Sup. First Class			
2-3	Bogota	Sofitel Bogota Victoria Regia Hotel	Sup. First Class			
4-6	Medellin	NH Collection Medellin Royal	Sup. First Class			
7-9	Cartagena	Hotel Casa Don Luis	Sup. First Class			
10	Depart Carta	gena for U.S.				

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel

industry standard reference.



The clock tower rises above the entrance to Cartagena's historic Walled City.

**Day 1: Depart U.S. for Bogota, Colombia** We arrive today in the Colombian capital and transfer to our hotel. As guests' arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities or meals planned.

Day 2: Bogota After a briefing this morning on the journey ahead, we set out to discover Bogota, one of the largest cities in Latin America. We begin with a walking tour through the colonial district of La Candelaria. Founded in 1538, La Candelaria became the core of Bogota as the city grew up around it. Our tour includes Bolivar Square in the heart of the city, as well as a visit to a local market and the Gold Museum, featuring the world's largest collection of pre-Hispanic gold work. We tour the Botero Museum, housing paintings and sculptures by the late Fernando Botero, one of the country's greatest artists, along with his collection of mid-19th century works by such artists as Monet, Corot, and Renoir. We also visit a tejo center, where we try our hand at this immensely popular sport where players toss a steel disc at a target ringed with gunpower-stuffed paper that explodes when hit. The more explosions, the higher the score. Tonight, we enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. B,L,D

**Day 3: Bogota/Zipaquira/Usaquen** We head out of the city this morning for an excursion to the

Zipaquira Salt Cathedral, a Roman Catholic church some 600 feet deep in a salt mine. Constructed entirely of salt by miners seeking solace as they labored at their dangerous profession, the cathedral today holds masses and weddings. Above ground, we visit the surrounding town of Usaquen, stopping for lunch at a local restaurant. Early this afternoon, we return to Bogota, where the remainder of the day is free for independent exploration and dinner on our own. We're invited to join our tour director on a walk through the trendy and lively Zona Rosa pedestrian neighborhood, alive with shops, restaurants, and cafés. *B,L* 

**Day 4: Bogota/Medellin** We fly this morning to Medellin, Colombia's second largest city known for its welcoming residents, flower-filled parks and plazas, great food, and many cultural attractions. Upon arrival in the "City of Eternal Spring," so named for its temperate climate, we have lunch at a local restaurant then depart for a tour of the popular Manrique neighborhood, with its colorful murals. Late this afternoon, we check in to our hotel and have time to relax before we head out for dinner together. *B*,*L*,*D* 

**Day 5: Medellin** Today we embark on an in-depth exploration of Medellin, starting with a walk around Botero Square, the inviting plaza melding art, nature, and culture, with 23 outdoor bronze sculptures

of human figures, animals, and inanimate objects by Fernando Botero. Next, we visit the Museo de Antioquia, Colombia's second oldest museum with a noted collection of pre-Columbian, colonial, and modern art, as well as paintings and sculpture by native son Botero. We also get a taste of an essential element of Colombia's cultural identity when we participate in a local coffee experience and tasting of the beloved brew (Colombia ranks third in world coffee production, after Brazil and Vietnam). We return to our hotel late this afternoon and dine tonight at a local restaurant. *B*,*D* 

Day 6: Medellin/Santa Elena We travel today to nearby Santa Elena, a typical – and beautiful – colonial town known for its profusion of flower farms, along with the rich traditions that have accompanied flower growing in the area for generations. We visit a *finca* (farm), where we learn about the cultivation process and see a variety of plants. After lunch at the farm, we move on to Parque Arví, Santa Elena's stunning nature reserve. Here we board the Metrocable, the iconic gondola system that services some of Medellin's steep hillside neighborhoods. Dinner tonight is on our own in this city known for its robust food and restaurant scene. *B*,*L* 



Fruit seller in Cartagena

Day 7: Medellin/ Cartagena This morning we fly to the port city of Cartagena, an important center of political and economic activity during the Spanish Colonial era and today a commercial center for the Caribbean, as well as a major city and beach resort. We arrive in time for

lunch at a local restaurant then embark on a tour of Cartagena's Historic Center, featuring 16<sup>th</sup>-century San Felipe Fort, now a UNESCO site. Strategically

#### **Post-Tour Extension**

Cartagena – On Your Own

2 days/2 nights from \$455 total price Single Supplement: \$345

Discover more of this alluring Caribbean city at your own pace.

#### **Your Tour Price Includes**

- 2 nights' accommodations at Hotel Casa Don Luis (Superior First Class)
- 2 meals: 2 breakfasts
- Transfer to airport

"

### Don't leave the old road for a new trail."

- Colombian Proverb

located atop San Lazaro hill to defend against attacks by land or sea, in 1741, San Felipe, considered the most impressive of Spain's New World fortifications, successfully repelled British Admiral Vernon's force of 23,000 men and nearly 200 ships. We also visit historic 16<sup>th</sup>-century San Pedro Claver Church, now a museum with pre-Columbian, Afro-Caribbean, and religious art. Then we check in at our colonial-style hotel located within the walls of the Old City. We enjoy dinner together tonight. *B,L,D* 

Day 8: Cartagena/Rosario Islands We board a boat today bound for the nearby Rosario Islands, an archipelago comprising 27 small (some tiny) coral islands with pristine white-sand beaches ringed by turquoise Caribbean waters. Part of Colombia's protected national park system, the islands feature prized coral reefs with an abundance of sea fauna and flora. Upon arrival, we embark on a guided walk and a canoe tour, followed by lunch together. Then we're at leisure to enjoy this small patch of paradise as we wish: swim, snorkel, or simply relax on the beach. Late this afternoon we return to Cartagena and our hotel. We're free for dinner on our own tonight in this city known for its fresh seafood, traditional Colombian dishes, and inspired fusion cuisine. *B,L* 

**Day 9: Cartagena** This morning we see local life up close as we explore the vibrant, artsy neighborhood of Getsemani, where friendly residents, street performers, vendors, artists, students, and travelers all meet in an upbeat convergence. The afternoon is free for lunch on our own and independent exploration. Tonight, we get a different taste of Colombia at a rum and chocolate tasting experience; chocolate from Colombia is renowned for its fine quality. Then we toast our Colombian adventure at a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. *B*,*D* 

**Day 10: Depart for U.S.** We transfer this morning to the Cartagena airport for our flights to the U.S., where we connect with our return flights home. *B* 

#### **Your Tour Price Includes**

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 9 nights' accommodations in Superior First Class hotels
- 20 meals: 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers
- \$100 frequent traveler credit towards your next VMFA/Odysseys Unlimited tour (\$200 after 3 tours; \$300 after 10 tours)



We ride Medellin's Metrocable on Day 6.

Tour Departs: December 1, 2026  Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees				
Miami	\$5,697			
Atlanta, New York, Orlando, Tampa	\$5,997			
Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Los Angeles	\$6,097			
Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle, Washington, DC	\$6,197			
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,095			

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$202, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,195. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Please note: Bogota's high altitude (8,700 feet) could pose problems for travelers with certain health conditions. Please consult your physician if you have concerns.





THE SMALL GROUP TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

#### Important Information About Your Tour

### General Terms and Conditions

The following is intended to provide you with a description of what to expect when you reserve a tour with Odysseys Unlimited. Upon booking, you will be asked to acknowledge your acceptance of the full Terms and Conditions on My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal.

#### Tour Prices

Tour prices quoted are guaranteed through December 31, 2026, and include accommodations based on double occupancy; airfare from your departure city; airline taxes, surcharges, and fees, and port charges and cruise line fees (where applicable), which are subject to change until final payment has been made; internal air, rail, and motorcoach transportation; meals, sightseeing, and transfers as described; hotel taxes; entrance fees for included sightseeing; the services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director; luggage handling for one bag per person; and all gratuities as described below. Please note that the cost of air upgrades is subject to change.

#### <u>Gratuities</u>

Tour prices include all gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers on base tours and on optional extensions when accompanied by an Odysseys Unlimited representative. Please note that gratuities for the Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour) are not included. These tips are optional and should be extended on a voluntary basis. Gratuities are not included on "On Your Own" optional extensions.

#### Not Included in Your Tour Price

Airfare from your hometown to your departure city; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; immunizations and inoculations; communications charges; airport transfers when purchasing a land-only package or when selecting alternate tour

arrival and/or departure dates; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director and shipboard personnel (if a cruise is included in your tour), which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per guest, per day); and a Travel Protection Plan. Additional baggage fees levied directly by the airline(s) may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

#### Registration and Payment

A deposit of \$500 per person confirms your reservation. Full payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure and may be made by personal check or credit card. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. reserves the right to cancel any reservations that are not paid in full at any time after final payment is due. If you make your reservation after the final payment date, payment in full will be required upon reservation.

#### Cancellations and Refunds

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

#### For all tours (except as noted)

Prior to departure	Charge
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	25% of tour price
64-45 days:	50% of tour price
44-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

#### For Machu Picchu to the Galapagos

Prior to departure	Charge
95 days or more:	\$200
94-65 days:	50% of tour price
64-30 days:	75% of tour price
29-0 days:	No refund

Please note that we will not refund the cost of any unused portion of your tour package, should you or your travel companion cancel your participation in the tour. If due to unforeseen circumstances Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.

#### Pre-Departure

Upon reservation, you will be able to access all information regarding your tour in My Odyssey, our secure on-line portal. This material includes your invoice, a detailed day-by-day itinerary, visa requirements (if applicable), Travel Protection Plan information, and more. Your final tour documents, including airline itineraries (with e-ticket numbers), will be available in the portal two to three weeks before departure.

#### Single Travelers

We welcome single travelers, and offer a limited number of single accommodations on each tour. Because hotel and cruise rates are priced by the room or cabin, the per person cost for accommodations occupied by one person is higher than that shared by two people. We endeavor to keep single supplements at a reasonable cost. Please note that single rooms in many foreign hotels may be smaller than those to which you are accustomed.

#### Changes to Your Reservation

A fee of \$50 per person will apply to all airinclusive guests who have chosen an alternate arrival or departure date. Once inside the final payment date for your tour, additional hotel night(s) and/or transfer(s) that you may have added to your reservation are non-refundable. From 94 to 30 days before departure, an administrative fee of \$100 per person will apply to any changes you make to your reservation, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason or at any time, you will be charged the single supplement. Please note that no changes to your name(s) or departure date are allowed within 95 days of departure. No changes to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure.

#### Required Information

Upon reservation, we will need to obtain from you the following, in accordance with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Secure Flight program (for details, please visit www.tsa.gov), as well as for our international travel partners: your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender; for domestic tours – your full name as it appears on the accepted form of government-issued photo identification that you plan to use, date of birth, and gender. In addition, airlines may require that we provide them with your contact information prior to departure. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

#### Travel Documents

A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on all of our international tours. For all domestic tours, where we fly into a U.S. city to begin the tour or out of a U.S. city at the end, you must present a valid U.S. government-issued photo identification. Starting on May 7, 2025, your government-issued photo ID must be REAL ID-compliant (or you can present an alternate form of ID, such as a passport). Visit www.dhs.gov/real-id or contact your local DMV for more information. If your tour requires a visa(s), we strongly recommend that you have at least six blank visa pages available; for tours not requiring a visa(s), we recommend that your passport have at least three blank visa pages. We will send you specific visa and entry requirements after you make a reservation. You are responsible for obtaining these documents. If you need to obtain a visa, we recommend our preferred provider G3 Global Services. If you are traveling with a minor, please contact us for special entry requirements. If you are not a U.S. citizen, please contact your embassy or consulate to ensure you obtain the proper documentation.

#### Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate in an Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day), often uphill or on uneven or cobblestone streets. You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own as well as keep pace with the tour group. We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance if you require the use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire, and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have.

We ask that all guests review our guidelines for health on tour, which can be found on our website: www.odysseys-unlimited.com/travel-health.

We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. While we do our best to accommodate food allergy concerns, we cannot guarantee zero cross-contamination.

#### Travel Protection Plan

Odysseys Unlimited makes available an optional Travel Protection Plan that is available for purchase until your final payment. We strongly recommend that you protect yourself and your investment in the event you have to cancel or interrupt your tour. Your Plan payment is fully refundable if you cancel outside of the final payment due date. In order to provide you with the most effective coverage, the policy exclusion for "Pre-Existing Conditions" will be waived if you purchase this plan within 14 days of making your initial deposit/payment for your trip and are medically able to travel at the time the plan is purchased. Information on this Travel Protection Plan will be included with your tour confirmation package. To review full plan details please visit www.tripmate.com/wpGR350.

#### Air Transportation

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy airfare (except for *National Parks of the Southwest*) from designated departure cities as shown and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. Airline upgrades at additional cost may be available on request for the round-trip trans-Atlantic

or trans-Pacific portion of your flights. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 21/2 months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour "Land Only" is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

#### Responsibility

The liability of VMFA, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers.

We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary or staff changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality. Cruise itineraries may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions.

VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.



#### RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your place on tour, please call Odysseys Unlimited toll-free at 888-370-6765. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and mail it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Upon receiving your request, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to review the tour information and provide you with a secure link to enter your credit card information. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited**, **Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

Tour Name						
Departure Date						
Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): Please sign me/us up □						
/We would like to request plac	re(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)					
Full Passport Name	Date of Birth	Gender				
Full Passport Name	Date of Birth	Gender				
Address						
City	StateZIP_					
Home Phone ()	Cell Phone ()					
E-mail(s)	Badge Name(s)					
Please book my/our air from	I/We request an air upgrade to					
will share a room with	I request a single room (li	mited availability) 🗖				
/We request an upgrade to a Highland Villa	a (for Machu Picchu to the Galapagos only) □					