

# Synopsis of Narcos:

Season 1 chronicles the life of [Pablo Escobar](#) from the late 1970s, when he first began manufacturing cocaine, to July 1992, when he escaped [La Catedral](#) prison. The show chronicles the main events that happened in Colombia during this period and Escobar's relationship to them. It is told through the perspective of Steve Murphy, an American [DEA](#) agent working in Colombia.

The initial episodes start at the year of 1973 in Chile, with Mateo "Cockroach" Moreno, a [Chilean](#) drug dealer and underground chemist in a secret cocaine lab in the [Atacama Desert](#), is discovered by the [Chilean Armed Forces](#) and his cartel members are completely executed, but Mateo surprisingly survives, in which later he manages to escape to Colombia. It is followed with the show how Escobar first became involved in the cocaine trade in Colombia. He was an established [black marketeer](#) in Medellín, moving trucks worth of illegal goods (alcohol, cigarettes, and household appliances) into Colombia during a time when this was strictly forbidden, when introduced to Mateo, who pitched the idea that they go into business together, with Moreno producing and Escobar distributing a new, profitable drug — cocaine. They expand beyond Moreno's small cocaine processing lab by building additional, larger labs in the rainforest and, using the expertise of [Carlos Lehder](#), transport their product in bulk to Miami, where it gains notoriety amongst the rich and famous. Soon enough, Pablo develops larger labs and more extensive distribution routes into the US to supply growing demand. With cocaine's growth into a drug of importance in the American market, one that accounts for a large flow of US dollars to Colombia and escalating drug-related violence in the US, the Americans send a task force from the [DEA](#) to Colombia to address the issue. Steve Murphy, the narrator, is partnered with Javier Peña. The role of Murphy's task force is to work with the Colombian authorities to put an end to the flow of cocaine into the United States.

At the time of Murphy's arrival in Colombia, Escobar and his associates are dealing with more significant problems than the DEA. They are at war with the [M-19](#), a revolutionary group of guerilla communists. When the M-19 kidnaps the Ochoa brothers' sister Marta, Escobar seizes the opportunity to form strategic alliances with other black-marketeer criminals to establish a group called "Death to Kidnappers", the genesis of the Medellín cartel. His promise to his allies is simple: to recover Marta Ochoa unharmed and to prevent further kidnappings. In the meantime, Escobar has political aspirations, as he desires to eventually become President of Colombia. He is elected as a congressman, but is made a fool of when proof of Escobar having criminal ties to the blooming drug industry is brought. Escobar plots his revenge.

An extradition plan is passed in the Colombian congress, allowing for narcos to be extradited to the United States when caught. This is a landmark win for Murphy, Peña, and the DEA and a devastating blow to the Medellín cartel. After making successive threats to the Colombian government to repeal the extradition plan, Escobar takes action against [Rodrigo Lara Bonilla](#), the Colombian Minister of Justice and a prominent lawyer in the prosecution of cartel members, by gunning him down in his car. Murphy and Peña are finally making progress when they catch Escobar's accountant, "Blackbeard", along with a gigantic cache of incriminating evidence. The evidence is stored in the only place large enough and thought to have security strong enough to thwart any break-in attempts: [the Palace of Justice](#). However, Escobar hires the M-19, his former enemies, to [attack the Palace](#) and burn all of the evidence. The DEA is left with nothing after Escobar's slippery move.

In the sixth episode, [César Gaviria](#)—the pro-extradition presidential candidate—is targeted by Escobar's assassins. Their plan is to blow him up whilst on [Avianca Flight 203](#). He is saved when the DEA warns the president's team of the assassination plans. Nonetheless, with the help of an explosive expert from the terrorist group [ETA](#), the plane is brought down, killing all 107 people on board. The Colombian people are infuriated with the unmanageable levels of violence, especially the plane bombing. The DEA also manages to track down [José Gonzalo Rodríguez Gacha](#), one of Escobar's principal associates, and violently gun him and his son Fredy down when they try to escape.