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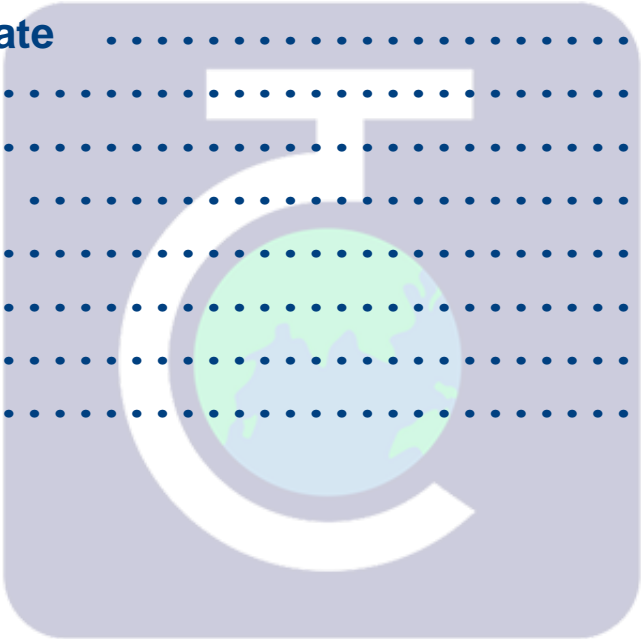
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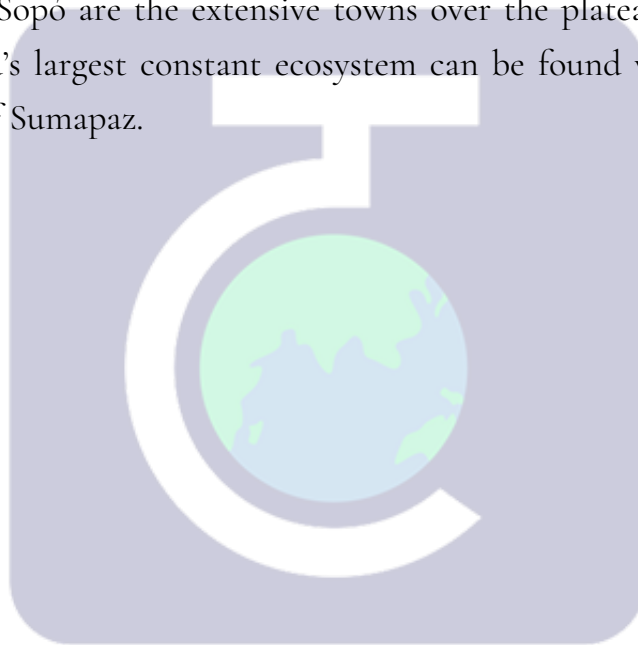
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### 1. Geographical location

Located on the west of the Savannah of Bogotá, 8661ft above sea level, Bogotá is a high plateau in the Andes Mountains, which is also the capital of Colombia. The city is located at the base of two Mountains, Montserrat and Guadalupe where the San Francisco River passes and forms River Bogotá. This river flows to the Tequendama Falls, making it one of the most popular waterfalls in the city. The Eastern Cordillera bound the sabana to the east and Sumapaz Paramo to the South. Chía and Sopó are the extensive towns over the plateau based in the northern region of Bogotá. World's largest constant ecosystem can be found within the city, which is situated in the locality of Sumapaz.



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### 2. Neighbouring cities/countries

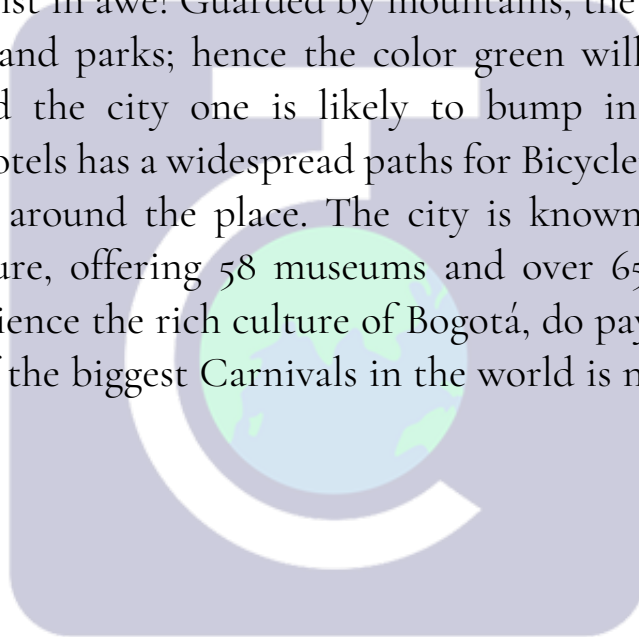
Bogotá Is A Huge City With Numerous Things To Do And Is Neighbours To The 3 Small Cities Of Soacha At 17.5Kms Distance, Mosquera At 27Kms, Sibaté At 38Kms, Villavicencio At 123Kms And Funza At 24Kms.



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### 3. Significance

A city with a population of around 7 million people showcases its ethnicity through the traditional cultural practices. A growing metropolis, the city faces problems like every other developing city, however Bogotá is a home to various shopping centers, high-rise apartments, open-air markets etc. With Colonial and modern architecture, this city has one of the best infrastructures in the country, which leaves the tourist in awe! Guarded by mountains, the city is home to many recreational centers and parks; hence the color green will be spotted in every other street. Around the city one is likely to bump into great restaurants, museums, bars and hotels has a widespread paths for Bicyclers, since people of the city loves to bicycle around the place. The city is known for its colonial and republican architecture, offering 58 museums and over 65 art galleries. If one really wants to experience the rich culture of Bogotá, do pay a visit in the month of August, for one of the biggest Carnivals in the world is not something to miss out for.



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### 4. History

Long before, Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada found Bogotá three and a half centuries ago; the city was discovered by the pre Colombian group, Muisca. The Spanish era originated in the year 1538 with Gonzalo finding the then called city 'Santa fe'. When the city was founded it merely consisted of 12 huts and a chapel, but slowly Quesada saw an eye for the development of the city and hence started building the beautiful city. Soon the city became the host to its first Archbishop in the year 1553, followed by Bogotá being named a Viceroyalty, marking its status of being equal to Mexico and Peru at that time. However in the year 1810 Bogotá received its independence from the Viceroy rule only to be conquered by the Spanish again. In the 19th century the town developed immensely, attracting over 30000 inhabitants in the city. Bogotá was a city that was rapidly growing and flourishing in the 19th century with the first tram and railway lines on the go. By 1940s, city experience industrialization, which gave a boom to the city's progress. By the 20th century, city was modernized after surviving major assassinations, violence and a period of civil unrest. A large, energetic and blooming city, today Bogotá stands as the Capital of Colombia.

## 5. Cultural identity

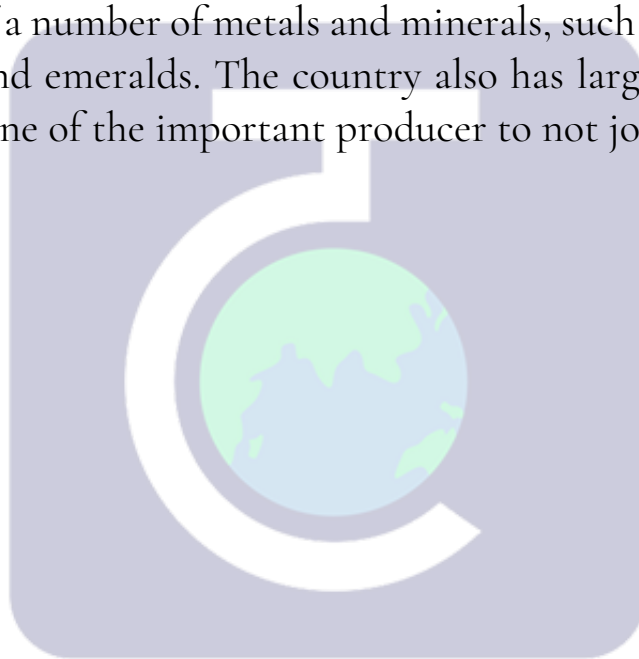
The people of Colombia are as vibrant as its countless landscapes. The country's descendants range majorly come from three major ethnic groups – Africans who were brought to Colombia as slaves, Indians and European settlers. The rich culture of Colombia is as unique and as varied as these ethnic groups, whose traditional art, cuisines and ceremonies are quite distinctive from each other. The people of Bogotá are divided into classes, namely – The marginal class with the highest population in the city, lacking stable employment. Followed by the upper echelons and middle class, who perform high skilled work. There is also a small population that constitutes to the upper class, who purely come from the Spanish decent. Colombian elites are possessive about their family pride and name, hence the term abolengo, is often used as collective in order to traditionally describe them. Colombia is still facing gender stereotypes, making men more dominant in the country, but Bogotá being a developed city is less harmed comparatively with this belief. The city's multi-cultural life is depicted through its museums, libraries, literature, theatre, cinema and plastic arts.



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### 6. Natural resources

Bogotá is home to the beautiful Chicaque Natural Park, which is surrounded by beautiful trees and has a unique ecosystem. The park offers certain activities like hiking, bird watching and zip lining etc. Another natural park near Bogotá is Chingaza National Natural Park includes grandiose lakes and some exotic animals. The park is also home to a Botanical garden. Colombia is a country that has major deposits of a number of metals and minerals, such as gold, silver, nickel, iron ore, platinum and emeralds. The country also has large oil, natural gas and coal deposits and is one of the important producer to not join OPEC.



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**7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)****7.1. Paid****7.1.1. Museo del Oro**

Displaying an extraordinary range of Pre-Hispanic bullion work, this museum features the largest collection of gold in the world. Housing more than 50,000 pieces of gold artefacts and 20,000 pieces of textiles and ceramics from the Pre-Colombian period, Museo del Oro gives a rich background to the history of metals to the tourists in both English and Spanish dialects.

Address : Carrera 6 #1588, Bogotá 111711, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.601892299999999, -74.0720397

Contact : +57 1 3432222

Website : <http://www.banrepcultural.org/museo-del-oro>

Nearest Public Transport : Museo del Oro A – 3 Bus station & Museo Del Oro Transmilenio station.

Entry Fee : General: COP \$3000; Children under 12years, Adults over 60years, Indians, Student groups: Free; Entry free on Sundays for everyone.

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Saturday 09:00hrs-18:00hrs, Sunday 10:00hrs-16:00hrs, Closed on Monday.

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 15-20minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

**7.1.2. Bogotá Botanical Garden**

Opened in 1955, this well-maintained botanical garden features a wide variety of exotic native Flora. Whether you opt for a relaxing yoga session or head out for a picnic with La Familia, this garden is a peaceful getaway from the city's chaos. The Botanical Garden of Bogota will make you hum to the tunes of the live music that plays in the background as you relax in the arms of nature.

Address : Ac 63 #6895, Bogotá 111071, Colombia

Zipcode : 111071

Location : 4.6682581, -74.1000085

Contact : +57 1 4377060

Website : <http://www.jbb.gov.co/jardin/>

Nearest Public Transport : AC 63 - Kr 69F Bus Station

Entry Fee : Adults: COP \$2700; Children from 4-12years: COP \$1400; Children under 3years and senior citizens over 60years: Free

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Friday 08:00hrs-17:00hrs, Saturday-Sunday 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

### 7.1.3. Salitre Mágico

A theme park in the city featuring attractions for all ages, Salitre Mágico offers various activities from the Tornado, roller-coasters, the Double Loop, Castle of Horror and Bumping Cars to water rides. The park also offers different attractive rides for children that promise a thrilling experience. Note: Tickets can be bought according to the number of rides you want to try.

Address : Calle 63, # 60-80, Bogotá 111221, Barrios Unidos, Colombia

Zipcode : 111221

Location : 4.6680014, -74.09132729999999

Contact : +57 1 6605000

Website : <http://www.salitremagico.com.co/>

Nearest Public Transport : AK. 68 - AC 63 Bus station

Entry Fee : Entry to the park is COP \$3000. However, the prices for different attractions inside the park are different.

Open & Close Timing : Hours of operations vary depending on the day of the week/month. The park usually opens at 10:00hrs and closes anywhere between 17:00hrs-19:30hrs depending on the day of the week. It is advisable to check the same once you finalize the day of visit.

Time Required : 8

Expected Wait Time : 15-25 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

### 7.1.4. Mirador Torre Colpatria

A sky-piercing structure that stands tall with 50 floors, Mirador Torre Colpatria

is the second largest building in Colombia. Reach up to the 48th floor of this skyscraper and enjoy the spellbinding views of the capital city from its four cardinal points. Take advantage of its downtown location and visit this attraction at night to be enticed by the hues that light up the city.

Address : Cra. 7 #2489, Bogotá 110311, Colombia

Zipcode : 110311

Location : 4.611184, -74.0701525

Contact : +57 1 7456300

Nearest Public Transport : Cl 24 - Kr 6A Bus station

Entry Fee : COP \$5000

Open & Close Timing : Friday 06:00hrs-21:00hrs, Saturday 14:00hrs-20:00hrs, Sunday 11:00hrs-17:00hrs, Closed on the other days

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.1.5. Maloka

Maloka is an interactive science museum, which attracts the tourists for its exhibitions exploring topics that fall under Science and Technology. The museum comprises of 9 rooms including a game center, which is the biggest attraction for kids. You can also see the city in 3D from one of the rooms and discover the field of Science in interesting ways with more depth.

Address : Sauzalito, Bogotá 110931, Bogota, Colombia

Zipcode : 110931

Location : 4.6554968, -74.1093156

Contact : +57 1 4272707

Website : <http://www.maloka.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : AV. Esperanza - KR 69 Bus station

Entry Fee : Museum: COP\$15,900; Cinemas: COP\$10,500; Combined ticket for Both Museum and Cinemas: COP\$25,000.

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Friday 08:00hrs-17:00hrs, Saturday and Sunday 10:00hrs-19:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.1.6. Quinta De Bolívar

Now expanded as a museum, Quinta de Bolívar was once a colonial house serving Simon Bolivar. The museum features certain artefacts from the time of independence and is used for various cultural and diplomatic events. Only certain rooms of this museum are open to visitors including the great room, the dining room, Manuelita, the game room and the bedroom of Simon Bolivar. You can also visit the barns and forests whose trees are believed to be planted by the liberator himself.

Address : Cl. 21 #4-30, Bogotá 111711, Bogotá, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.6024231, -74.06302210000001

Contact : +57 1 3366410

Website : <http://www.quintadebolivar.gov.co/Paginas/default.aspx>

Nearest Public Transport : CL 20 - KR 2 Este Bus station

Entry Fee : Adults: COP\$3000; Students with ID Proof: COP\$2000; Children under 12years: 1000; Children under 5years and senior citizens: Free admission; Entry is free on the Sundays.

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Friday 09:00hrs-17:00hrs, Saturday-Sunday 10:00hrs-16:00hrs, Monday closed.

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.1.7. Iglesia Museo de Santa Clara

A church transformed into a museum, Iglesia Museo de Santa Clara is appreciated for its brilliant architecture with paintings and artworks covering all the walls. The history of the museum dates back to more than 300 years since its construction in 1647. The museum displays the original decoration composed church altarpieces, as well as oil paintings of the best work from both 17th and 18th century which are preserved till date. The baroque-styled architecture of the museum portrays the cultural and social dynamics of the colonial era.

Address : Carrera 8 No 8-91, Bogotá 111711, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.5969209, -74.0774927

Contact : +57 1 3376762

Website : <http://www.museocolonial.gov.co/Paginas/default.aspx>

Nearest Public Transport : AK 10 - Cl 7 Bus station and AK 10 - Cl 9 Bus station

Entry Fee : Adults: COP\$3000; Students with a valid ID: COP\$2000; Children under 12years: COP\$ 500; Children under 5years, people with disabilities and senior citizens over 60years: Free admission; Free admission on Sundays.

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Friday 09:00hrs-17:00hrs, Saturday-Sunday 10:00hrs-16:00hrs, Monday closed

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.1.8. Colombian National Museum (Museo Nacional)

Museo Nacional is an exhibition space which displays the traditional art of Colombia and more than 20,000 artefacts that portray the national heritage of the country. With about 15 galleries, it is the oldest in the country and one of the most ancient museums in the continent. For the longest period of time, the museum has been dedicated to dissemination and preservation of the core cultural values of Colombia.

Address : Ak. 7 #28, Bogotá 110311, Colombia

Zipcode : 110311

Location : 4.615492399999999, -74.068287

Contact : +57 1 3348366

Website : <http://www.museonacional.gov.co/Paginas/default.aspx>

Nearest Public Transport : Museo Nacional B - 4 6 Bus station

Entry Fee : COP \$3000; Students: COP \$2000; Children from 5-12years: COP \$1000; People with disabilities, Children under 5years and Seniors over 60years: Free admission.

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Saturday 10:00hrs-18:00hrs, Sunday 10:00hrs-17:00hrs, Mondays closed

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

### 7.1.9. Cerro de Monserrate

Rising 10,341 feet above the ground, Cerro de Monserrate is a mountain center as well as a pilgrim destination that dominates the city. Excluding the church, the summit is home to numerous cafés, restaurants and gift shops. Known to be the guardian hill of the city, reach the peak to admire the alluring panoramas of the bustling city of Bogota and beyond or indulge into a gastronomic experience at one of the two restaurants while enjoying the breathtaking sundown. The hill-top is accessible through a cable car or the tram that leaves every half hour from Monserrate Station.

Address : Quinta de Bolívar, Carrera 2 Este No. 21-48, La Candelaria, Bogotá D.C., 110431, Colombia

Zipcode : 110431

Location : 4.605672800000001, -74.05552549999999

Contact : +571 1-284-5700

Website : <http://www.cerromonserrate.com/es/>

Nearest Public Transport : AC 20 - AK 1 Bus station (Not Recommended)

Entry Fee : Oneway footpath climbing: COP \$8500, Athletes (from Monday-Saturday 05:00hrs-09:00hrs): COP \$5500

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Saturday 10:00hrs-02:00hrs, Sunday 09:30hrs-16:30hrs

Time Required : 4

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

### 7.1.10. Funicular Monserrate

Take a journey of this funicular ride to the highest peak of the city and admire the beautiful scenery of Andean range that serves as a carpet of the city. The newest phase of the rides started in 2005 with modern car designs, allow you to enjoy the beautiful sunsets through its glass roof.

Address : Cra. 3 Este, Bogotá 110431, Colombia

Zipcode : 110431

Location : 4.602912299999999, -74.0609935



Contact : +57 1 2845700

Website : <http://www.cerromonserrate.com/en/#>

Nearest Public Transport : AC 20 - AK 1 Bus Station

Entry Fee : Monday-Saturday: COP \$14000, Sunday: COP \$10000. Note: After 17:30hrs the ticket Costs COP \$17000

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Saturday 07:45hrs-00:00hrs, Sunday 05:30hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 0.5

Expected Wait Time : 30minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

### 7.1.11. Zipaquira Salt Cathedral

Located at an hour away from the capital city, Zipaquira Salt Cathedral or Catedral de Sal is a majestic cathedral built in the depths of the biggest rock salt reserve in the world. This world-class Colombian wonder was opened to the public in 1995 and deserves every ounce of its fame. The underground materials have been manipulated by many artists and sculptors by adding some illuminating effects that gave birth to an original interpretation of religious symbols. Take a tour and go 180 metres below the surface of the earth and enter an old salt mine, which was adapted to become the now cathedral. You can also take the canopy tours to see the spectacular views of this savannah experience that stretches across the mineral plaza in a 210-meter flight starting from COP \$10,000. You can also take a wall-climbing experience in this park for around COP \$6,000.

Address : Parque De La Sal, Zipaquira 250252, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 250252

Location : 5.0193663, -74.0095

Contact : +57 1-8519502

Website : <https://www.catedraldesal.gov.co/>

Nearest Public Transport : Av. Cr 7xCll 244 TORCA Bus station (Not Recommended)

Entry Fee : Nationals- Adults: COP \$28500, Children(4-12years), Senior Citizens(Over 60years) & People with disabilities: COP \$20500; Foreigners- Adults: COP \$50000, Children(4-12years), Senior citizens(over 60years) & People



with disabilities: COP \$34000.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 09:00hrs-17:40hrs

Time Required : 7

Expected Wait Time : 15-20minutes

Buy Ticket : Yes

### 7.1.12. Museo de la Esmeralda

The first Emerald Museum in the world, Museo de la Esmeralda exhibits the process of extraction of emeralds starting from its original form to its commercialization. The exhibits of this international museum contain unique pieces collected from the hills of Colombia along with a significant number of splendid stones carved by the native Colombian artists to contribute to the culture of the country. Take a guided tour of this museum and enter the royal tunnel that houses an extensive collection of more than 3000 pieces of this gem.

Address : Calle 16 # 6-66, Piso 23, Bogotá 110321, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 110321

Location : 4.602634, -74.07246199999997

Contact : +57 1 2864268

Website : <http://www.museodelaesmeralda.com.co/#>

Nearest Public Transport : Museo del Oro A - 4 o 6 Bus Station

Entry Fee : General: COP \$5,000; Children & Adults over 60years: COP \$2,500.

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Saturday 10:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15minutes

Buy Ticket : No

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## 7.2. Free

### 7.2.1. Museo de Arte del Banco de la República

Spread over two floors, you are likely to bump into the chubby statutes of women, children, moustached men and some of the FARCL leaders created in signature Boterismo style by Fernando. Donated by Fernando Botero himself, the history of all the artefacts at this museum can be heard through a paid audio guide.

Address : Calle 11 No. 4-41, Bogotá 111711, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.5965780000000001, -74.072912999999997

Contact : +57 1 3431111

Website : <http://www.banrepcultural.org/museo-botero>

Nearest Public Transport : Cl 7 - Kr 4 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Mondays, Wednesday-Friday 09:00hrs-19:00hrs, Sunday 10:00hrs- 17:00hrs, Tuesdays closed

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.2. Plaza de Bolívar

A pulsating hub of the city, Plaza de Bolivar gives you the perfect start to discover the town. It is popular for the bronze statue of Simón Bolívar designed by Italian Pietro Tenerani standing at the center. Surrounded by the Parliament building, Palace of Justice, a cathedral, museum and the Mayor's workplace, this plaza was the first public monument in the city and since then has been a popular tourist attraction. You are likely to get disturbed by a flock of pigeons around the corner, so make sure you carry a hat with you.

Address : Cra. 7, Bogotá 111711, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.5978794, -74.076046599999998

Nearest Public Transport : AK 10 - Cl 9 Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24hours.

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.3. La Candelaria

A historic neighborhood in the city with the Spanish colonial churches, buildings and old houses, La Candelaria is filled with street performers, vendors, jugglers, Amazonian fruit juice and pineapple sellers who grab the attention of the tourists. Today, this neighborhood is also home to museums, libraries, cafés and theatres.

Address : La Candelaria Bogotá, Bogotá 111711, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.597014, -74.07287589999999

Nearest Public Transport : Estación Las Aguas Transmilenio station and AK 10 - Cl 7 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24Hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.4. Casa de Nariño

Colombia's presidential home, the structure is divided into two levels, wherein you will find various military flags. A huge living area in the building serves as a waiting room for the visitors. There is also a display of several oil paintings, landscapes and vintage artefacts on the different levels. However, if you want to visit the presidential building, you will need to go to their official website.

Address : Avenida Carrera 7, Bogotá 111711, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.5954862, -74.07728750000001

Contact : +57 1 3822800

Website : <http://visitas.presidencia.gov.co/web/CasaNarino.aspx>

Nearest Public Transport : AK 10 - Cl 7 Bus station, Cl 7 - Kr 4 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Friday Open 24 Hours, Saturdays and Sundays closed.

Time Required : 1

Expected Wait Time : 15-20 Minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.5. Luis Ángel Arango Library

Started as a small library, the Luis Angel Arango library now stands as one of the biggest public libraries in the city. With over 1 million books and 1800 reading places, the books found here range from subjects like geography, music, economics, social sciences, humanities and arts. A cafeteria, concert hall and museum are situated within its premises. This library is also assisted by a bookstore, ensuring every bibliophile finds solace here.

Address : Cl. 11 #4-14, Bogotá 111611, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 111611

Location : 4.596769999999999, -74.07284800000002

Contact : +57 1 3431224

Website : <http://www.banrepcultural.org/blaa>

Nearest Public Transport : Cl 7 - Kr 4 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 Minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.6. Parque 93

A major location for nightcrawlers in Bogotá, this park is enclosed by numerous bars, cafés, restaurants, galleries, shops and design centers. A recreational center and a commercial park, it is one of the most popular urban spaces known for its upscale zone and neighborhood. This park becomes a busy location during Christmas with its grand celebration of the festivities.

Address : Carrera 13 entre 93A y 93B, Bogotá 110221, Colombia

Zipcode : 110221

Location : 4.6952765, -74.10054450000001

Contact : +57 1 6170446

Website : <http://parque93.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : AK 11 - Cl 93A Bus station, Cl 94 - Kr 11A-12 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 Hours

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.7. Catedral Primada

The most dominating building of the Plaza, Catedral Primada is considered to be the place where the first ever mass was held in Bogota. You can spot the remains of the founder of the city, Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada here. Primatial Cathedral is the biggest church in the country and one of the biggest in South America. The architectural style is neoclassical, traditionally making it Spanish.

Address : Cra. 7 #11-10, Bogotá 111711, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 111711

Location : 4.5981206, -74.07604349999997

Contact : +57 1 3411954

Website : <http://www.catedraldebogota.org/>

Nearest Public Transport : AK 10 – Cl 9 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Tuesday-Sunday 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.8. Iglesia de San Francisco

An ancient church in the city, Iglesia de San Francisco features the biggest and most elaborated altarpiece in Bogota. Rebuilt after the horrifying 1785 earthquake, this church features artworks of different sculptors, carvers and international artists.

Address : Cl. 13 #7-10, Bogotá 110321, Colombia

Zipcode : 110321

Location : 4.601920899999999, -74.07330539999998

Contact : +57 1 3412357

Website : <http://www.templodesanfrancisco.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Museo del Oro A - 4 6 Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Friday 06:30hrs-22:30hrs, Saturday 06:30hrs-12:30hrs & 16:00hrs-18:30hrs, Sunday 07:30hrs-13:30hrs & 16:30hrs-19:30hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.9. Teatro Mayor Julio Mario Santo Domingo

Known for its rich cultural experience, this performing arts theatre complex is located in the city of Bogotá. Its innovative depiction of world culture through the acts and Colombian art expressions, make it a central tourist attraction. With a capacity of over 1300 people, the theatre is a home to all kinds of musicals, ballets, contemporary dances and theatre.

Address : NO. 67-51, Ac. 170, Bogotá 111156, Colombia

Zipcode : 111156

Location : 4.7566969, -74.06269529999997

Contact : +57 1 3779840

Website : <http://www.teatromayor.org/teatro/como-llegar>

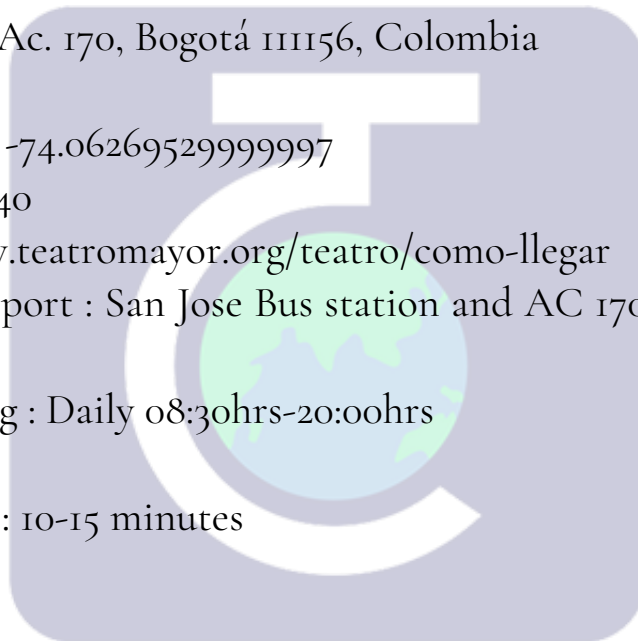
Nearest Public Transport : San Jose Bus station and AC 170 - Kr 65-31 (Al Lado) Bus station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:30hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10-15 minutes

Buy Ticket : No



### 7.2.10. Enrique Olaya Herrera National Park

Inaugurated in 1934 by the former President Enrique Olaya Herrera, this is the second park to be built in the city and is known to be a collective memory of the township. Located at an elevation of around 2600-3154 meters, this 65-hectare national park is famous for its biodiversity of flora and fauna and abundant water and forest resources that invite you to take a tour of the most universal and multifaceted scenarios of the capital city.

Address : Cl. 35 #3-50, Bogotá 110421, Colombia

Zipcode : 110421

Location : 4.6241379, -74.06512529999998

Contact : +57 311 2953792

Website : <http://www.idrd.gov.co/sitio/idrd/?q=node/243>

Nearest Public Transport : Parque Nacional\_et Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:00hrs-16:00hrs

Time Required : 4

Expected Wait Time : 15-20minutes

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.11. Santuario Nacional de Nuestra Señora del Carmen

Known to be the historic icon of the city, this Florentine Gothic styled church stands in the midst of the La Candelaria neighborhood of the city. Designed by the famous Giovanni Buscaglione, the architecture of the church is interspersed with a touch of Byzantine and Arabic decoration.

Address : Bogotá 11841, Bogota, Colombia

Zipcode : 11841

Location : 4.5944826, -74.07475950000003

Contact : +57 1 342 0972

Nearest Public Transport : Cl 7 - Kr 4 Bus station

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.12. Cerro de Guadalupe

Located in the heart of the city, next to the mountain of Monserrate, the Guadalupe Hill is known for its 15-meter-high sculpture of the Virgin of Guadalupe, designed by the sculptor, Gustavo Arcila Uribe Bogota that sits atop the hill. At an elevation of 3,300 meters, this hill has been a hub for pilgrims since the colonial times.

Address : Guadalupe Hill, Bogotá 110321, Bogota, Colombia

Zipcode : 110321

Location : 4.5919603000000001, -74.0540772

Nearest Public Transport : Pvia Choachi Bus station (Not Recommended)

Open & Close Timing : Monday-Saturday 07:00hrs-16:00hrs, Sunday 07:00hrs-12:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.13. Unicentro



One of the biggest and busiest malls in the city, Unicentro is a hub for all the shopaholics. This mall is popular for its brands, restaurants, boutiques, bookshops and for artistic ambience.

Address : Cra. 15 #124-30, Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 111611

Location : 4.7020953, -74.04135739999998

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.14. San Andresito

Head to San Andreisto, a shopping center widely known for its great quality products at affordable prices. This is one of the most inexpensive markets in town and has a wide variety of clothing, shoes and jewelry, and everything under the sun.

Address : Carrera 38, Bogotá, Colombia

Zipcode : 111211

Location : 4.6158199999999999, -74.10275999999999

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.15. Emerald Street Market

It is estimated that the country accounts for more than 70% of the world's emerald markets. One of the major places to buy these precious stones in Colombia is the Emeralds Street Market in the capital city. Come here to be stupefied by the different cuts and colors of emeralds that give it an unearthly glow and distinctive personality to every piece. You may also indulge in some window-shopping while sipping a cup of coffee, or buy a souvenirs to take back home. Every seller in this market is as unique as the gemstones they sell. Note: It is recommended to take someone with a good market knowledge with you, as they will help you recognize the quality and also negotiate the price.

Address : Av. Jimenez De Quesada, Bogotá, Colombia

Zipcode : 110321

Location : 4.6013858000000001, -74.07375630000001

Nearest Public Transport : Museo del Oro A - 4 o 6 Bus Station



Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.16. Andino

One of the most preferred malls among the locals and tourists, Andino is famous for luxury brands like Louis Vuitton, Guess and so on.

Address : Ak. 11 #82-71, Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 110321

Location : 4.666438, -74.05256700000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.17. Sterling Joyeros

Come here to buy some of the best quality emeralds at competitive prices. They have branches at 3 major locations in the city.

Address : Centro Comercial Santa Ana Local 101, Cra. 9 #9B-70, Bogotá, Colombia

Zipcode : 110111

Location : 4.690909, -74.0370747

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.18. Atlantis

Zipcode : 0

Location : 4.6661547, -74.05573720000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.19. Retiro

Zipcode : 0

Location : 4.6660952000000001, -74.05442040000003

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.20. Gran Estación

Zipcode : 0

Location : 4.6476233, -74.1016282

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.21. Centro Comercial Hacienda Santa Barbara

Zipcode : 0

Location : 4.6926074999999998, -74.0332472

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.22. Titán Plaza

Zipcode : 0

Location : 4.6947079999999999, -74.08618799999999

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.23. Calima

Zipcode : 0

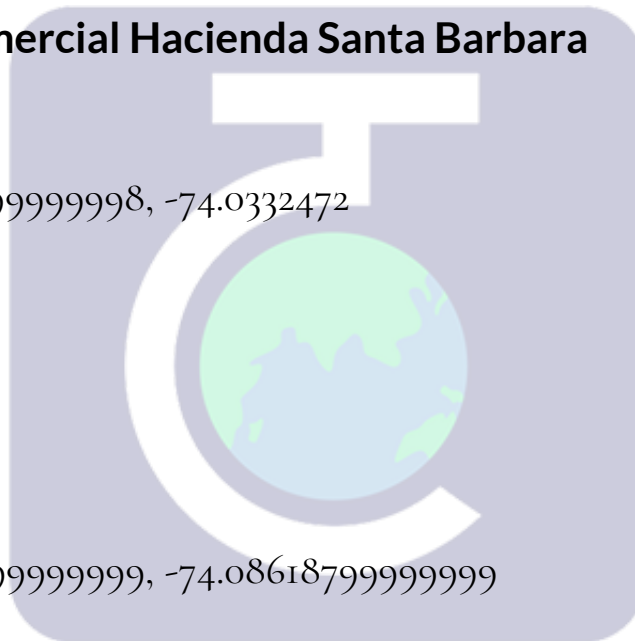
Location : 4.6184552, -74.08588370000001

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.24. Santafé

This is a major shopping mall that caters to the needs of people of every age. It is favored mostly by children due to the number of entertainment options it provides.



Address : Cl. 185 #453, Bogotá, Colombia

Zipcode : 110141

Location : 4.7624563, -74.04653619999999

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

### 7.2.25. Salto Del Tequendama

One of the country's major tourist attractions, the Tequendama Falls (or Salto del Tequendama) is a 515-feet high waterfall on the Bogotá River, located about 18 miles southwest of Bogotá in the municipality of San Antonio del Tequendama. Circa 10000 BC, El Abra and Tequendama were found to be the first permanent settlements in Colombia. The river surges through a rocky gorge that narrows to about 60 feet at the brink of the falls. During the month of December the falls become completely dry. The falls may be reached by road from Bogotá via car or bus. According to Muisca legend, the waterfall was created by Bochica, who used his staff to break the rock and release the water that covered the Bogotá Savannah. According to another legend, during the Spanish conquest in South America, in order to escape slavery the indigenous people of the area would jump off the Salto Del Tequendama and become eagles to fly to their freedom.

Address : San Antonio Del Tequendama, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Zipcode : 252627

Location : 4.5765854, -74.29643229999999

Contact : +57 315 8854047

Nearest Public Transport : 545A09\_ET Bus Station (Not Recommended)

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 Hours

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

## 8. Key sites sports & adventure

One can go for Paragliding in the city of Bogotá, fly over the sky to see the Capital of Colombia. It allows you to experience Bogotá in a whole new way. However as far as other Adventure sports are concerned, the options are limited to Scuba Diving, Snorkeling, Hiking, etc. But, one can drive to the nearby town of Villa de Leyva to satisfy their adrenaline rush.

- **Paragliding -**

Address : Calle 65 # 16-09, Bogotá - Bogota, Colombia

Location : 4.6531592,-74.066252099999

Contact No : +571 7534887

Website : <http://www.destinobogota.com/tour-operator/paragliding-parapente-flight-trip-from-bogota/adventure-and-outdoors>

Nearest Public Transport : Kr 17 - Cl 66 Bus Station

Entry Fees : Tours starting from COP \$417,000

Time Required : 4

Wait Time : 20-25minutes

- **Scuba Diving & Snorkelling -**

Address : Carrera 7 Bis A No. 124-51, Bogota 0000, Colombia

Location : 4.700455,-74.030069

Contact No : +57 1 213 54 68

Website : <http://www.diveandtours.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : AK 7 - Cl 124 Bus Station

Entry Fees : Courses starting from COP \$2,66,000

Open / Close Time : Monday-Friday 08:30hrs-19:00hrs, Saturdays 09:00hrs-14:00hrs

Time Required : 3

Wait Time : 20minutes

- **Adrenalina Bestial Paintball Reball Bogota -**

Address : Carrera 31 A # 7 - 36 PISO 3, Bogotá 111631, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.609439999999999,-74.098154

Contact No : +57 310 8191526

Website : <http://www.adrenalinabestial.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Av. Nqs - Cl 8 Bus station

Entry Fees : Price of a game ranges from COP \$20000-\$30000

Open / Close Time : Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 13:00hrs-22:00hrs Saturday, Sunday and holidays 08:00hrs-22:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Wait Time : 10-15minutes

- **Biking -**

Address : Cra. 3 #12-72, La Candelaria, Bogotá, Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.5974834,-74.0708086

Contact No : +57 312 5020554

Website : <http://www.bogotabiketours.com/>

Nearest Public Transport : Av. Circunvalar - CL 13 Bus Station (Not Recommended)

Entry Fees : COP\$40,000

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

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### 9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

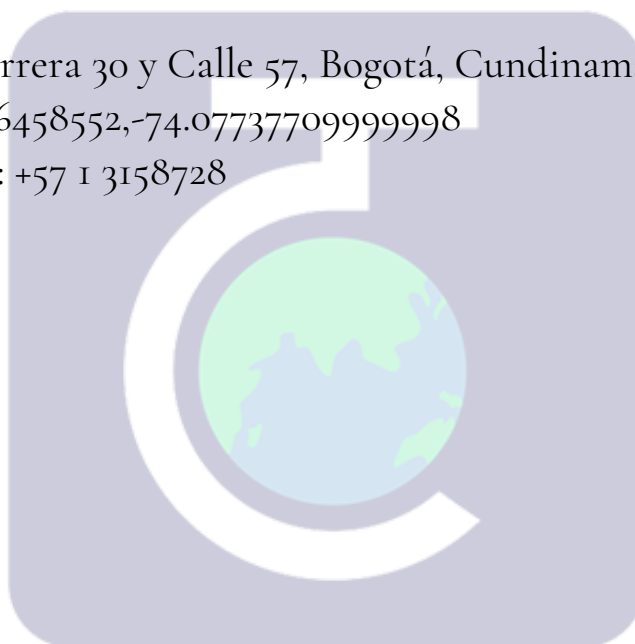
Football has been declared as the official sport of Bogotá and is played by the people of the city. The city includes three professional clubs namely, Santa Fe, La Equidad and Millonarios.

- **Estadio El Campín:**

Address : Carrera 30 y Calle 57, Bogotá, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.6458552,-74.07737709999998

Contact No : +57 1 3158728



## 10. Spas and relaxation

If one wants to relax and head out for Spa, Bogotá has got a lot of places in the hotels and resorts. It also has individual Spa centers. Some of the famous Spa centers include –

- **Lotus Thai Spa Boutique:**

Address : Calle 119 No11D-30, Bogotá 110111, Colombia

Location : 4.69878,-74.03896499999996

Contact No : +57 3045826892

Website : <http://www.lotusthaispa.com.co/>

- **JW Marriott Bogotá Spa:**

Address : Calle 73 #8-60, Bogotá 110221, Colombia

Location : 4.6567828,-74.05551839999998

Contact No : +57 14895247

Website:<http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-information/fitness-spa-services/bogjw-jw-marriott-hotel-Bogotá/>

- **Neutra Bienestar:**

Address : Carrera 14 # 86A-30, Bogotá 110221, Colombia

Location : 4.6708034,-74.05394960000001

Contact No : +57 16914569

Website : <https://www.neutrabieneestar.com/>

- **Chairama Spa:**

Address : Calle 95 # 11 A - 27, Bogotá 110221, Colombia

Location : 4.679157000000001,-74.04665299999999

Contact No : +57 1 623 0555

Website : <http://www.chairamaspa.com/>

- **Makura Beer Spa:**

Address : Cr 16 #140-60 | Cedritos, Bogotá 110121, Colombia

Location : 4.722371100000001,-74.04225759999997

Contact No : +57 1 3441476

Website : <http://makurabeerspa.com/>





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### 11. Key local guides and tours

With a professional guide, the trip to Bogotá becomes more memorable, since you will dive down into the knowledgeable pool of the traditions and culture of Bogotá. Some of the best guides to make this journey worthy are – a. Fabio Q – Majored his studies in Tour Guide, Fabio has been serving the tourism industry for over 20 years now. If you are looking for a private or a public tour, he's the man of the hour for you. If you are a traveller with special interests like Architecture, Colonial and Religious art, History or even Archaeology, he's got it covered. Fluent in the Spanish, English and Italian language, Fabio is the tour guide you have been looking for. b. Harold castle – With 10 years of experience working as a bilingual guide, Harold claims to have roamed his country from east to west, to coast to coast. His main motive is to keep his tourists safe and to show the best of the city. Fluent with Spanish and English, he offers personalized to public tours. When in Bogota, one must definitely not miss out on a number of tours this beautiful cultural city has to offer: a. Bogota City Tour: This tour is one of the most effective way to explore the relevant and memorable attractions like the Monserrate sanctuary, the cobblestone street of La Candelaria, the world's largest collection of the indigenous gold artefacts of native pre-Hispanic cultures at the Gold museum, etc. of the city. b. Helicopter Tour Bogota: Take a look of this savannah city from a different perspective with the Helicopter flight of the city. Experience the bird eye view of the spectacular landscapes of this city from high above. c. Colombia Emeralds Tour:

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### 12. Transportation hubs

**Airport:** Known as El Dorado International Airport, this airport is located in the city of Bogotá and is the 5th biggest airport in all of Latin American. This airport is one of the most important airports in Columbia, has about more than 45% of air traffic. The airport is home to both domestic and international flights and is located 15kms away from the city center to the west.

**Transmilenio:** This is the most revolutionary Bus rapid transit system in the city. Quick, accessible, efficient and affordable, buses under this system go through the most exclusive lanes and runs through all over the city. One can take this bus from the airport to the neighborhood to the outskirts of the city. The major Transmilenio stations in the city are Estacion Pradera de Transmilenio and Estación de Transmilenio Patio Bonito.

**Bus Station:** The main bus terminal is Terminal de Transporte de Bogotá, through which buses come in and out of the city. This terminal is mainly used from commuting from one city to another. At this terminal a lot of bus companies offer buses for different destinations to the country. Other Major bus terminals to commute within the city include: Portal Suba, Modelia and South Bus Terminal.

### 13. Transportation cost

Since Bogotá is a massive town, there are a lot of options from commuting from one place to another. Some of them are very convenient and efficient but taking taxis in the city can be unsafe at times, since the taxi driver might get an accomplice and try to loot you. Regular buses run every-day from the airport to Portal Eldorado where they further connect to the TransMilenio system. Although public transportation is quite affordable in the city, the list of price per transport is as follows - Buses – Buses and small buses are used for commuting within the city. The general fare costs around COP\$1400. Although the prices are slightly higher in the night after 8PM. Buses are not the most convenient mode of transport within the city due to the TransMilenio system, but it's still operational with buses and small buses, however small buses is being replaced with SiTP blue buses, namely azules. Around the city there aren't many bus stops, one just needs to wave their hands in front of the buses and the driver stops. Each bus displays the bus number and indicated the route. Transmilenio – The fare to the most convenient ride is at an affordable rate of COP \$2,000. It counts 12 lines and runs over 144 designated stations by passing the traffic in the city. Some of the buses have Wi-Fi and all the buses are safe and convenient. Taxi - Taxis run around the city, although supposed to be convenient, taxis in the city are considered unsafe, the minimum fair for the taxis start at 25 ticks.

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### 14. Baggage allowance

It is not suggested to carry heavy amount of luggage in the buses or Transmilenio since it can cause inconvenience to the travelers and people around them. One can travel with a small and light bag while commuting within, although carrying expensive items should be avoided.



## 15. Must try food and local savouries

Bogotá has a wide variety of food because of its rich cultural diversity, which speaks through, however some of the most bogotsatic must haves are – a. Bandeja Paisa – Originated in the town of Medellin and Antioquia, this dish is considered as Columbia's national dish and can be found throughout the country. Served with rice, beans, steak or ground beef with chorizo, arepa, avocoda, fried egg, platano and sometimes morciall, this dish is a mixture of various ingredients guarantying you to come back for more. b. Empanadas: c. Picada: One must definitely head to the countryside and try some picada that is a Colombian style barbeque. This concept is a simple fix of grilled meat and starchy goodies chopped into bite-sized pieces and served in a large tray. d. Ajiaco – One of the regionals dishes of Bogotá Ajiaco is made with Potatoes, Chicken and is served with a plate of rice. If you add everything into the soup, it becomes much more delicious e. Chiguiro – Served with Steak, Potatoes, Pork Ribs, Avocado and arepa boyacensa. Often mistaken with Pork, this dish is immensely good and popular, however it is difficult to spot a place that serves this eccentric dish f. Ensalada de Frutas – Colombia is famous for its fresh fruit salads, each bowl when served is accompanied by cream, cheese and more than a dozen of fruits, this desert is surly too keep you drooling. g. Arequipe – This desert has made its mark in the stomachs of the tourists. Often referred to as dulce de leche, cajeta and manjar Blanco, this dish is a traditional Colombian dessert which one may find almost in each and every street. h. Cocido Boyacense – This dish is for all the meat lovers in the universe. Slowly cooked for several hours with potatoes and heavy amount of meat, this dish originates from Boyacá. A mixture of Colombian beans, peas, fava beans and many other rich local flavours, this dish is finally served in a platter with rice and an avocado slice. i. Tamale – The most traditional dish of Bogotá. A paste that is made with meat/chicken, rice, carrot, chickpea and spices further steam cooked and wrapped in plantain leaves, this dish is one of the tastiest dish found in the city.

## 16. Restaurant & Nightlife

The cultural and climatic diversity of the country makes it possible to cultivate almost every vegetable and fruit on this fertile land. A perfect environment for every chef to experiment on every style of cuisine possible, the country's capital boasts of some exotic palates to munch on in whole of Latin America. Being an increasingly important hub in the continent, Bogotá has seen a tremendous rise in the dining scene as various new restaurants open their doors to tourists to fulfill one's hunger of gastronomy. The chefs to Colombia are experts in turning their exotic and addictive fruits into the most tantalizing juices. The Nightlife scene of this diverse city is unrivalled. It's no more a secret that the Bogotanos loves to Party. Everything from crazy hipster joints and swanky dance and cocktail lounges to top-notch bars are awaiting your patronage. So show off some dancing skills at the ever packed and happening areas of Zona T and Chapinero. Zona Rosa offers some of the best culinary experiences in the city. Some of the best places to dine are –

### Food -

The cultural and climatic diversity of the country makes it possible to cultivate almost every vegetable and fruit on this fertile land. A perfect environment for every chef to experiment on every style of cuisine possible, the country's capital boasts of some exotic palates to munch on in whole of Latin America. Being an increasingly important hub in the continent, Bogotá has seen a tremendous rise in the dining scene as various new restaurants open their doors to tourists to fulfill one's hunger of gastronomy. The chefs to Colombia are experts in turning their exotic and addictive fruits into the most tantalizing juices. The Nightlife scene of this diverse city is unrivalled. It's no more a secret that the Bogotanos loves to Party. Everything from crazy hipster joints and swanky dance and cocktail lounges to top-notch bars are awaiting your patronage. So show off some dancing skills at the ever packed and happening areas of Zona T and Chapinero. Zona Rosa offers some of the best culinary experiences in the city. Some of the best places to dine are –

- **Pastelería Florida:**

Address : Cra. 7 #21-46, Bogotá 110311, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.607362999999999,-74.07081199999999

Contact No : +57 1 3410340

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/PasteleriaFlorida/>

Open / Close Time : Open 24Hours

- **Mini Mal:**

Address : Tv. 4 Bis #57-52, Bogotá 110231, Colombia

Location : 4.6424916,-74.06043110000002

Contact No : +57 1 3475464

Website : <http://www.mini-mal.org/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Thursday 12:30hrs-15:00hrs & 19:00hrs-22:00hrs, Friday 12:30hrs-15:00hrs & 19:00hrs-23:00hrs, Saturday-Sunday 12:30hrs-23:00hrs.

- **Abasto:**

Address : Carrera 6 # 119B-52, Bogotá 110111, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.696529,-74.02982099999999

Contact No : +57 1 2151286

Website : <http://abasto.co/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Thursday 07:00hrs-22:00hrs, Friday 07:00hrs-22:30hrs, Saturday 09:00hrs-22:30hrs, Sunday 09:00hrs-17:00hrs.

- **Andres Carne de Res:**

Address : Calle 82 interior centro comercial el retiro #12-21, Bogotá 111631, Colombia

Location : 4.666205,-74.054518000000  
Contact No : +57 1 8637880  
Website : <http://www.andrescarnederes.com/>  
Open / Close Time : Daily 12:00hrs-03:00hrs

- **Circo:**

Address : a 8-98, Cl. 73 #82 Bogotá, Bogotá110221, Cundinamarca, Colombia  
Location : 4.65692450000000,-74.055588399999  
Contact No : +57 1 4816000  
Website : <https://www.facebook.com/CircoBogota/>  
Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 11:00hrs-15:00hrs & 18:30hrs-23:00hrs, Sunday 12:00hrs-18:00hrs

- **Pimento Cucina Italiana:**

Address : Bogota Marriott Hotel, Av. El Dorado #69B-53, Bogotá 110931, Cundinamarca,  
Location : 4.65960429999999,-74.108394299999  
Contact No : +57 1 4863888  
Website : <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/hotel-information/restaurant/bogmc-bogota-marriott-hotel/>  
Open / Close Time : Daily 06:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Matiz:**

Address : D.C., Cal. 95 #1117, Bogotá 110221, Colombia  
Location : 4.6789648,-74.046430600000  
Contact No : +571 520 200  
Website : <http://matizrestaurante.com/>



Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-15:30hrs & 19:00hrs-23:30hrs, Sundays closed

- **Nazca:**

Address : Cl. 74 #5-28, Bogotá 110221, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.656157,-74.0532779999999

Contact No : +57 1 3213459

Website : <http://www.restaurantenazca.com/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-16:00hrs & 19:00hrs-23:00hrs, Sundays closed

- **Fulanitos:**

Address : 61, Cra. 3 #8, Bogotá 110221, Colombia

Location : 4.5940671,-74.07309550000002

Contact No : +57 1 3520173

Open / Close Time : Monday-Thursday 12:00hrs-16:00hrs, Friday-Sunday 12:00hrs-17:30hrs

- **La Galerie:**

Address : Calle 81 # 8-72, Bogotá 110111, Colombia

Location : 4.6635780000000001,-74.05107699999996

Contact No : +571 211 1675

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-23:00hrs, Sundays closed

- **A Seis Manos:**

Address : Cl. 22 #8-60, Bogotá 110431, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.60845360000000,-74.0713875999999

Contact No : +57 1 2828441

Website : <https://aseismanosblog.wordpress.com/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-23:00hrs, Sundays closed

- **Bar Candelario:**

Address : Cra. 5, Bogotá 111711, Colombia

Location : 4.5989195,-74.07260830000001

Contact No : +57 1 7561199

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/candelario.restbar/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 11:00hrs-16:00hrs, Friday and Saturday 21:30hrs-02:40hrs, Sundays closed

- **La Villa:**

Address : Cl. 15 #5-85, Bogotá 110221, Colombia

Location : 4.668889500000001,-74.05520130000002

Contact No : +57 1 3424231

Website : <http://www.lavillabogota.com/>

- **Paisas Club:**

Address : SantaFe, Bogotá, Bogota 111411, Colombia

Location : 4.613128,-74.075489

Contact No : +57 300 7701664

- **El Castillo VIP Night Club:**

Address : Bogotá 110311, Cundinamarca, Colombia

Location : 4.6117,-74.07495

Contact No : +57 312 4700049

Website : <https://www.facebook.com/ElCatilloVipClub/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 19:00hrs-06:00hrs



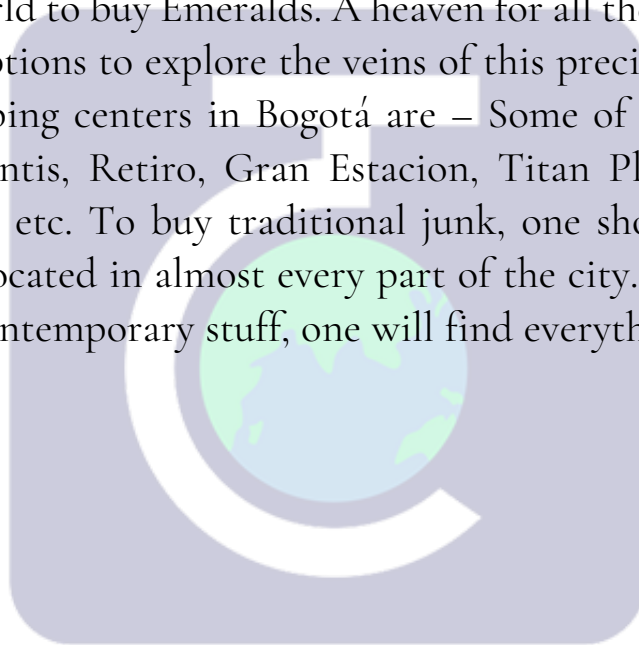
**Index****17. Average meal cost**

Economical Meal: COP \$8,000 – COP \$15,000 Mid – Segment Restaurant: COP \$20,000– COP \$30,000 Luxury Dining: COP \$50,000 and Above Domestic Beer (0.5litre): COP \$3,000 Water: COP \$1,500



## 18. Shopping

Shopping in Bogotá starts from high-street brands like Mango, Zara, Forever 21, Espirit, NAF NAF etc. Bogotá is also recognized for its street shopping and flea markets. If one wants to enter the luxury brand world, brands like Dolce & Gabbana, Guess, Coach and Louis Vuitton have made their mark in the city. As there are plenty of Emerald mines in the country, the capital city is one of the best places in the world to buy Emeralds. A heaven for all the gem bugs as the city provides plenty of options to explore the veins of this precious little gems. Some of the popular shopping centers in Bogotá are – Some of other good shopping centers include Atlantis, Retiro, Gran Estacion, Titan Plaza, Hacienda Santa Bárbara, and Calima etc. To buy traditional junk, one should head to the flea markets, which are located in almost every part of the city. From vintage record players to modern contemporary stuff, one will find everything at this place, in a better price.



## 19. Tourist benefits

The VAT charged in Bogotá, Colombia is 16%. However one can get a refund on the value added tax at the airport. However there are certain conditions like – Purchase has to be made from the credit cards and the total purchases should amount to more than \$250,000 COP. One can get the refund given the taxes have been properly paid in the last 6 months. Note – Refund will be given only on luxury goods, jewelry, electronics, perfumes and clothing and not on food, medical, alcohol or entertainment.



**Index****20. Essential local apps**

Whenever travelling to another country, one must download some applications on their smartphones for a better experience, or rather for their own conveniences. Below are some apps can assist you while you are touring in Bogotá – a. Tappsi – This app allows you to book a taxi at anytime and anywhere in the city. One can either pay through cash or pay through the app.



## 21. Driving

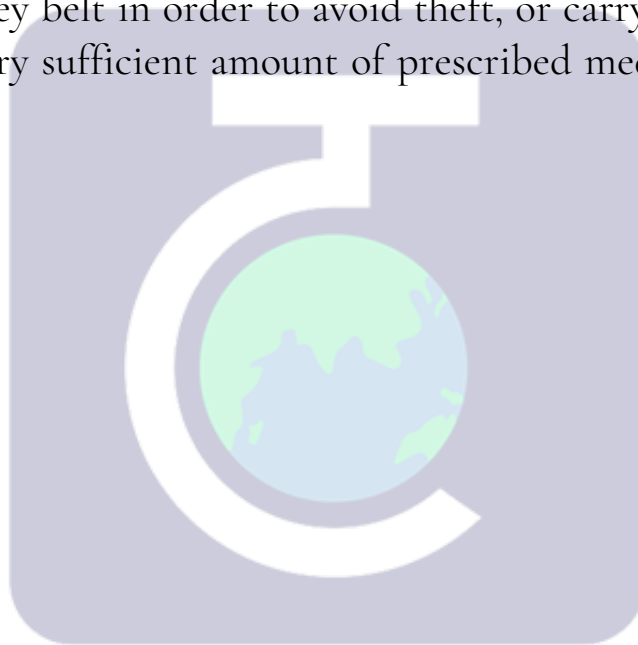
One can drive in the city of Bogotá without any stress, however there is traffic in the city and you will see bikes weaving in like ants, hence make sure to give them space without any brawl. The traffic lights that go (Red-Amber-Green) in the city can taste one's patience at times. Also, be ready to hear some honking on the roads and horrible rush during the weekends since the residents vacate the city during that time. Driving in Bogotá is easy. One needs a proper US/UK driving license and an International Driving permit to drive around the city. However make sure that you have your passport all the time, since sometimes the cops pull you over to check the required documents.





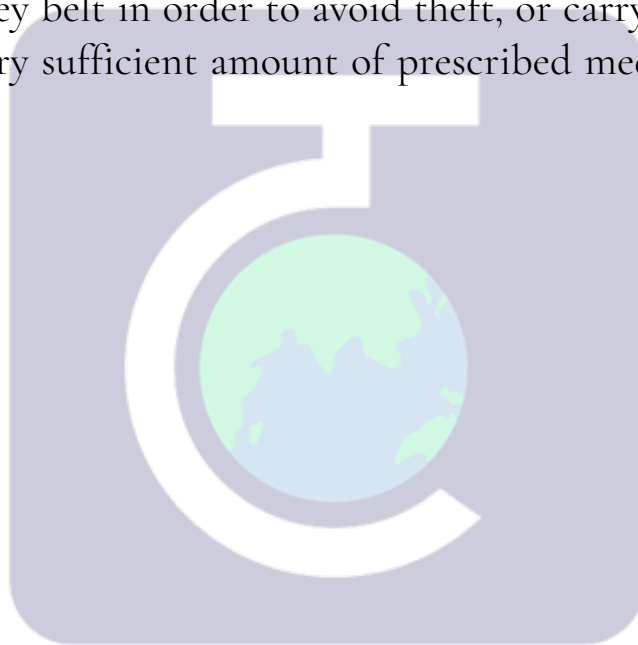
## 22. Travel essentials

When travelling abroad, it is a must to check certain things off your list in order for a pleasant stay. Hence make sure to carry the following things – a. Adapter/Plug – The standard voltage in Colombia is 110 V, followed by the standard frequency, which is 60 Hz. The adapters/plugs used in the country are of type A/B. b. Sun screen and mosquito repellents are highly recommended. c. One can also carry a money belt in order to avoid theft, or carrying a big bag. d. It is recommended to carry sufficient amount of prescribed medicines as OTCs may not be allowed.



## 23. Essential clothes

When travelling abroad, it is a must to check certain things off your list in order for a pleasant stay. Hence make sure to carry the following things – a. Adapter/Plug – The standard voltage in Colombia is 110 V, followed by the standard frequency, which is 60 Hz. The adapters/plugs used in the country are of type A/B. b. Sun screen and mosquito repellents are highly recommended. c. One can also carry a money belt in order to avoid theft, or carrying a big bag. d. It is recommended to carry sufficient amount of prescribed medicines as OTCs may not be allowed.



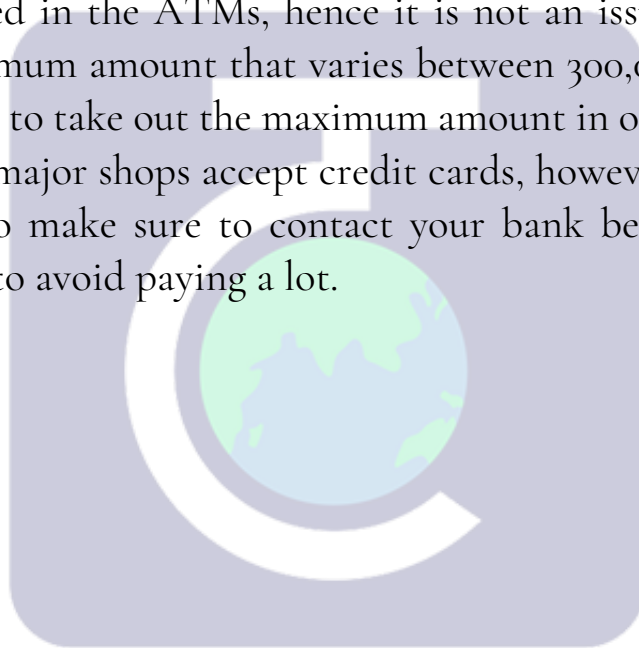
**Index****24. Local currency**

Colombia's national currency is PESO, where in 1 USD = 2916.00 COP. Make sure you exchange the money pre hand, since higher charges are likely to apply in the country or upon arrival at the airport.



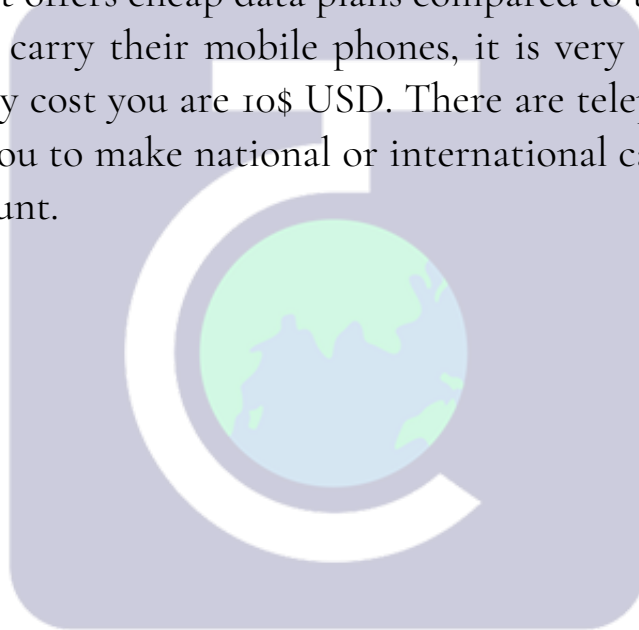
## 25. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Bogotá is a relatively large city; hence ATMs can be found all over the place, but one needs to make sure that the ATMs are hassle free and doesn't act unusual since card cloning is a major issue in Colombia. Most banks are likely to charge you with a foreign transaction fee whether in an ATM or in a shop, hence make sure to confirm with your bank about the fee charges prior to your travel. Most of the cards are accepted in the ATMs, hence it is not an issue, however, one can only take out a maximum amount that varies between 300,000 to 720,000 COP., so it is recommended to take out the maximum amount in one go. For credit card holders, most of the major shops accept credit cards, however a fee is charged on these transactions, so make sure to contact your bank before committing any transaction in order to avoid paying a lot.



## 26. Staying connected

The three major networks in Colombia are Claro, Tigo and Movistar. Staying connected through your phone in Bogotá is rather inexpensive when compared to other cities or countries of the world. Obtaining a Sim-card is very easy, one can either visit supermarkets, phone shops or to street vendors. Just make sure that you have proper documents for identification. The most popular carrier in Colombia is Tigo as it offers cheap data plans compared to the other networks. If one has forgotten to carry their mobile phones, it is very easy to buy a mobile phone which will only cost you are 10\$ USD. There are telephone booths around the city that allows you to make national or international calls without bombing you with a large amount.



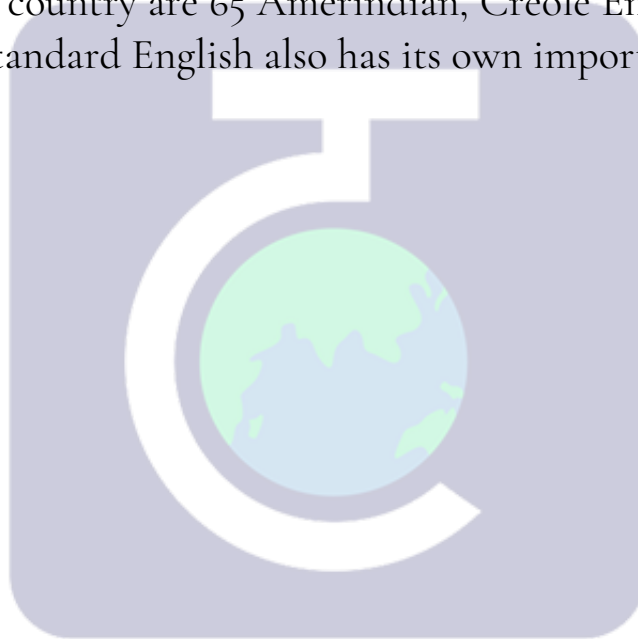
## 27. Time Zone

Colombia time zone: COT (UTC -5), which is 5 hours behind the coordinated Universal time.



## 28. Languages

Linguistically, more than 99% of the country speaks in Spanish, however Colombian Spanish differs from the traditional Spanish-originated countries. However within the country there are a number of regional dialects, which makes this spoken language a little distinctive from one region to another. The most popular dialect in the region of Bogotá is referred as cachao. Other languages that are recognized in the country are 65 Amerindian, Creole English Palenquero and Romani. However, Standard English also has its own importance in the country.



## 29. Political Scenario

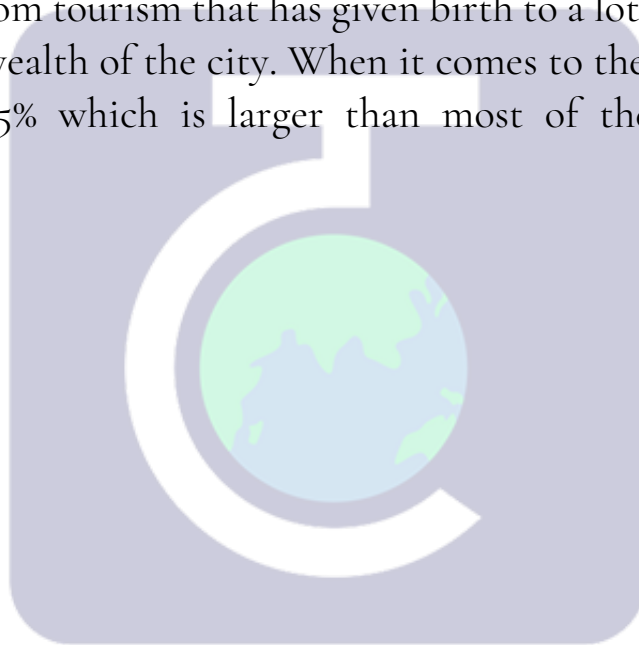
Housing the Supreme Court of Justice, Congress, the center of administrative execution and the President, this city also plays the capital to Republic of Colombia. Bogotá is governed by the Mayor and the city council that are elected by popular votes. The city is also divided into 20 localities, each one being administered by an administrative, which is elected by popular votes. It is further upon the Mayor to appoint local mayors from the administrative boards to continue with the city's work.





### 30. Economic Scenario

Bogotá has been tagged as a beta level city, which essentially means that the city is one of the most important cities that link its region to the world economy. The city is a major economic and industrial hub in Colombia and is home to major commercial banks. Bogotá is home to over 1000 multinational companies and has been ranked as one of the highest global cities across the globe. The city receives its major economy from tourism that has given birth to a lot of hotels and hostels, contributing to the wealth of the city. When it comes to the GDP of the city, the country stands at 25% which is larger than most of the countries in Latin America.



**Index****31. Religious belief**

Catholicism is followed by most of the population in Colombia, which constitutes about 75%, followed by a 13% of Protestants who are rapidly growing in the city. Other part of the population adheres to different religions like Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism Mormonism, Judaism and other Indigenous religions.



**Index****32. Visa requirements**

United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and Other European countries do not require a visa to travel to Colombia, however they just need a passport with a minimum six-month validity. Residents of the other countries do require a visa to visit Colombia; if the validity of the visa is more than three months then one has to register with Migración Colombia within 15 days of the arrival. They can do so by: <http://www.migracioncolombia.gov.co/index.php/es/> Transit travelers do not require a visa and are also not required to pay the departure tax, given they do not leave the airport and make it to the connecting flight within 24 hours. For more details, you can go to: [http://www.cancilleria.gov.co/en/procedures\\_services/visas](http://www.cancilleria.gov.co/en/procedures_services/visas)



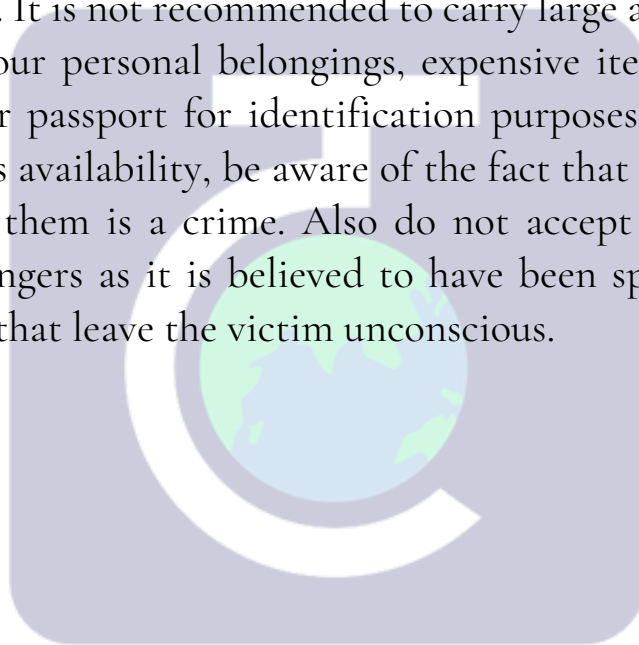
**Index****33. Essential vaccination**

It is recommended that before you travel to another country, get a routine checkup done for yourself from your general practitioner, however some of the most basic vaccinations that are suggested include – • Hepatitis A • Tetanus • Hepatitis B



**Index****34. Theft and Safety**

Violent crimes exist in the poor neighborhoods, but visitors are more likely to bump into pick pocketers or muggers. One also needs to be aware of the scams, since some people on the streets might pose as security offers asking for your passport and your identification details. Make sure that you are not a victim of counterfeit notes, as they do exist in the country; therefore get it thoroughly checked by the locals. It is not recommended to carry large amount of cash on the roads, hence leave your personal belongings, expensive items in the bag safely. Carry a copy of your passport for identification purposes. Colombia is widely known for high drugs availability, be aware of the fact that none of the drugs are legal and possessing them is a crime. Also do not accept cigarettes, snacks or drinks from the strangers as it is believed to have been spiked by some or the other tasteless drugs that leave the victim unconscious.



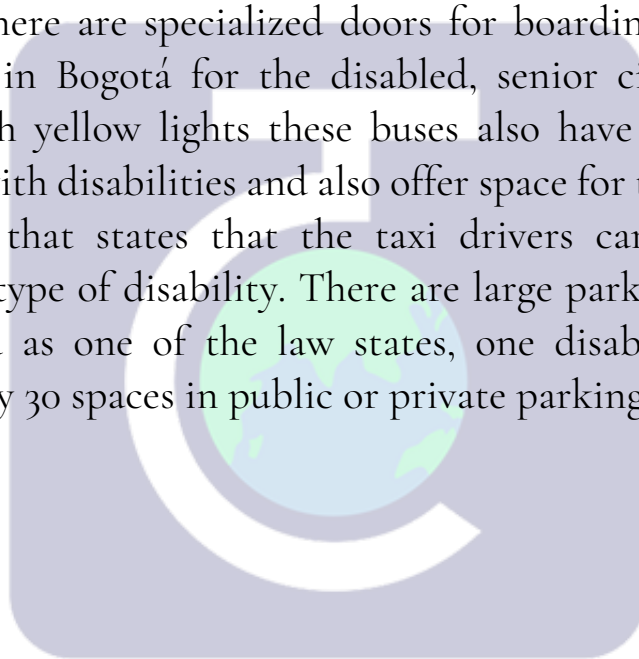
**Index****35. Embassy/Consulate**

Below is the link that provides the list of Embassies and Consulates in Colombia  
– <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-of/colombia>



## 36. Accessibility

Bogotá is a decent city when it comes to the services for the disables. Although with not a lot of choices, this city is still working towards the aid of disables. However following are some of the measures that have taken place – When it comes to Public transport, not all SITP buses are armed to handle the needs of the disables, however there are certain buses that are equipped for those with reduced mobility. There are specialized doors for boarding and leaving in the TransMilenio Buses in Bogotá for the disabled, senior citizens and pregnant women. Marked with yellow lights these buses also have blue seats especially reserved for people with disabilities and also offer space for the wheelchair. There is a law in Bogotá that states that the taxi drivers cannot refuse to carry passengers with any type of disability. There are large parking spaces for people with disabilities and as one of the law states, one disabled parking space is mandatory after every 30 spaces in public or private parking lots.



## Index

### 37. Emergencies

Bogotá is a well-established city and is known for its highly equipped hospitals with the most recent technologies and serving to the emergencies in a go. It is recommended that one pay a visit to private hospitals instead of the government ones, as Private hospitals are more operational. Some of the best medical centers include – a. Fundación Santa Fe De Bogotá – One of the best hospitals in the city, this hospital is widely acknowledged for its special treatments in the fields of heart surgeries, cosmetic surgeries, dental treatments etc. The doctors in this hospital are highly qualified providing best services. Address: Cl. 116, Bogotá, Colombia Phone: +57 1 6030303 b. Hospital Universitario San Ignacio– Again, one of the most recognized medical institution dedicated to the welfare of its patients, this hospital is very well structured with high end equipment. Address: Hospital Universitario San Ignacio NIT 860015536-1. Kra 7 No. 40-62 Bogotá, Colombia Phone– +57 1 5946161 Emergency numbers –The emergency numbers for Police, Ambulance and fire departments is, 123.



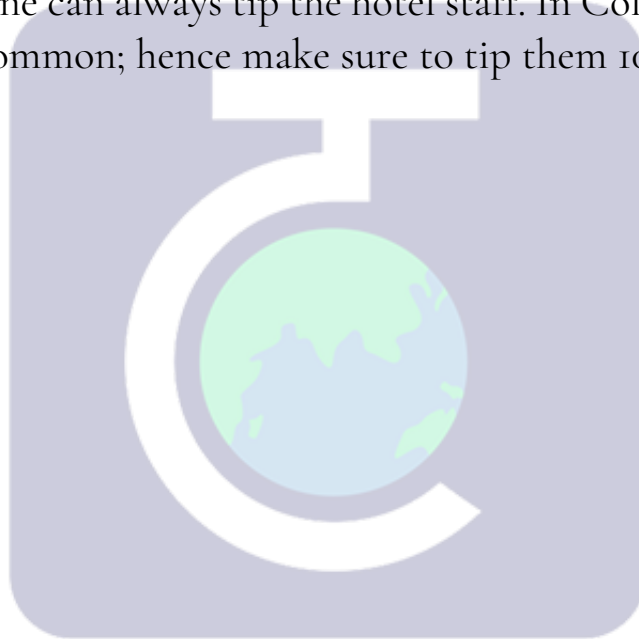
### 38. Do's and Don'ts

Do's: ● Visit Bogotá during the Carnival in the month of August ● Keep minimum cash with you and always carry an identification proof. ● Always keep an eye on your luggage when moving places. ● Go for second hand book shopping in el centro. ● Grab a drink at a Tienda (Shop) ● Do arrange for sufficient medicines to meet your personal medical needs. Check with the embassy of the country you are visiting to ensure your medicine is legal in the countries you are travelling to. Obtain a doctor's letter stating who the medicines are for, what they are, the dosage, and leave medicines in their original packaging

Don'ts: ● Do not walk on stranded roads after dark hours since muggers are waiting to rob you. ● Don't head south in the night, since the place is considered unsafe. Also, driving at night can be Hazardous. ● Don't accept drinks, snacks or anything from the strangers, as they are believed to be spiked with drugs. ● Avoid Land Border crossing between Panama and Colombia. ● Don't Hitch-Hike.

### 39.Tipping basics

It is not mandatory to tip in Bogotá, since a service charge of 10% is normally charged in the bill, however if you are happy with the services at a restaurant, you can tip how much ever you want and it is further shared by the staff. However a more lavish restaurant is likely to charge you with a 15% service tax, therefore it is recommended that you double check and pay the bill. Tips to taxi drivers are not at all necessary, but one can always tip the hotel staff. In Colombia, tipping to the hairdressers is very common; hence make sure to tip them 10% extra



**Index****40.Pet info**

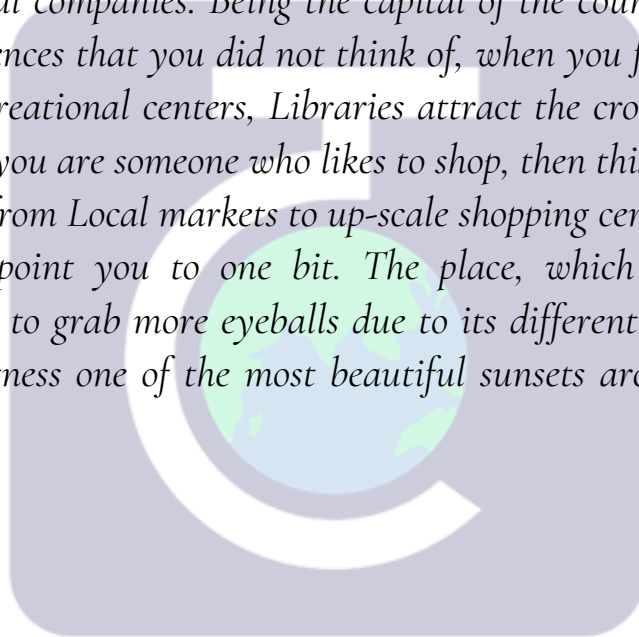
One can take their pets into Colombia only if they have been properly vaccinated against rabies, hepatitis, distemper, parvovirus and leptospirosis. Also required is a licensed certificate provided by the vet's assuring the proper health of the pet. However when travelling it is suggested that one leaves their pets at home.



## Index

### Conclusion – Why to select this destination

*Bogotá is becoming more and more popular among the radar of the travelers, all thanks to its rapid development, more safety and its colonial architecture. One will stagger upon the streets that are filled with restaurants, street performers, café's and some new trendy shops. The graffiti all over the background of the city makes it way cooler than you can probably imagine. Bogotá is the economic and financial hub of the city; hence it is a home to all the multi-national companies. Being the capital of the country, this city is sure to give you unique experiences that you did not think of, when you first stepped in. Various museums, Parks & recreational centers, Libraries attract the crowd towards this multi-cultural dominance. If you are someone who likes to shop, then this emerging city is one of the top places for you, from Local markets to up-scale shopping centers, the city's shopping centers will not disappoint you to one bit. The place, which is surrounded by the mountains, has started to grab more eyeballs due to its different festivals and carnivals and don't forget to witness one of the most beautiful sunsets around the world, in this city.*



## Index

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