

Colombia:
Cosmopolitan cities, Cultural Heritage, and Coffee
Photography Workshop With Arlene Collins

May 20 - 30, 2019

Itinerary

Day 1 Mon. May 20	arrive Bogota airport transfer to hotel and afternoon free time and evening group dinner (D)	BOG Hotel
Day 2 Tue. May 21	Bogota spend the day photographing in the colonial district of La Candelaria aka Centro Historico, Plaza Bolivar, the Museo del Oro (Gold Museum) home of the world's largest pre-historic gold work collection, Colonial Art Museum and end the day with a cable car ride up Monserrate hill to the famous monastery. (B)	
Day 3 Wed. May 22	Bogota – Manizales This morning we fly to the coffee district and after checking into our hotel we visit the Volcano Observatory in Manizales. Established after the Nov. 13, 1985 eruption of Nevado del Ruiz the observatory utilizes the most modern equipment including seismographs to monitor to all regional volcanic activity. (B)	Recinto del Pensamiento Hotel
Day 4 Thur. May 23	Manizales - Pereira Cocora Valley 4:30 am hotel check out and 2.5 H drive to Los Nevados National Park's mountain shelter for breakfast - continue for a 30 min. drive to an altitude of 4,100 m (13,400 ft.) where we begin a 3.7 km trek to the edge of the Las Conejeras glacier to photograph. (B & L)	Finca Sazagua
	Photograph the volcano's ecosystem, and this unique tropical glacier one of the last remaining in the world. The Nevados Natural National Park, located on the central cordillera of the Andean region and the location of the Nevado del Ruiz Volcano at 5,300 (17,400 ft.) meters high when on Nov. 13,1985 erupted generating a series of lava and mud flows killing over 23,000 people erasing the town of Armero.	

Note: wear long pants, jacket, gloves, comfortable hiking boots, gloves, sunglasses and sun block

Day 5
Fri. May 24

Pereira Cocora Valley
start the day in the heart of the Coffee Triangle - Eje Cafetero, in Salento an ancient town in the Quindio region to photograph the coffee fincas & the towering waxed palms. In town photograph pueblo life along Calle Real, and where we participate in a coffee tasting at Café San Martin. (B & L)

Finca Sazagua



Campechino with Mules, Nevado del Ruiz © 1986 Arlene Collins

Day 6
Sat. May 25

Pereira – Cartagena Sofitel Legend Santa Clara
this morning we fly to Cartagena and after arriving check into our hotel. Afternoon tour of the old town or Walled City photographing San Pedro Claver church and cloister and Palace of Inquisition or just explore and photograph on your own.

Cartagena de Indias was founded in 1533 and was one of the most important ports of the new world. Constantly under attack the city built walls to keep out the invaders. (B)

Day 7
Sun. May 26

Cartagena – Santa Cruz de Mompox La Casa Amarilla
This morning we depart early for a 6-hour drive plus a two-hour boat ride to La Casa Amarilla in the UNESCO colonial frontier town Santa Cruz de Mompox on the Magdalena River, located in the Mompos Depression – a large area of wetlands - and the largest freshwater island in South America. (B)

Day 8 Mon. May 27	Mompox spend the day photographing around this former trading center, now a sleepy colonial town, with its mansions, baroque churches, esplanade running along the river banks, and historic square filled with night life.	La Casa Amarilla
	This afternoon we take a boat ride on the Magdalena River to photograph the Pijino swamp, a tropical forest inhabited with unique varieties of birds, monkeys, iguanas and anteaters. (B)	
Day 9 Tue. May 28	Mompox – Cartagena today we return to Cartagena (B)	Sofitel Legend Santa Clara
Day 10 Wed. May 29	Cartagena Today we visit San Basillo de Palenque, and/or the Islands del Rosario and Baru, evening farewell group dinner (B & D)	Sofitel Legend Santa Clara
Day 11 Thur. May 30	Cartagena - USA depart for home (B)	

Workshop Fee

The workshop fee is \$7,750.00 and includes shared accommodations, group hotel transfers, all regional transportation, private touring, private English speaking guides, all breakfasts, welcome & farewell dinners, all gratuities for our guides and drivers, and on site photography instruction. A deposit of \$1,500.00 must accompany your Registration Form and the Liability Waiver. The final payment is due by Feb. 15, 2019.

Not included are international flights, single supplement accommodations, travel and medical evacuation insurance, visa fees, personal expenses and items, personal photography fees, and meals and beverages not indicated on the itinerary, and any optional activities. The single supplement charge is \$ 900.00

Who Should Attend:

You should be in good physical condition, able to walk on uneven terrain in the jungle and at high altitude, and attend their own luggage.

The above is subject to change.

Country Facts

Passport & Visa

A valid passport is required to visit Colombia. Visas are not required for citizens from Australia, Canada, France, Germany, South Africa, Britain and the United States.

Vaccinations

No vaccines are required, although it is a good idea to have vaccinations for hepatitis A & B, typhoid, and yellow fever.

Language

Spanish, except for a tiny percentage of rural indigenous communities

Currency

The Colombian peso (COL\$) in denominations of 1,000, 2,000, 5,000, 10,000, 20,000, and 50,000, and coins of 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500 pesos

USD\$ 1 = 3,066.00 COP

Electricity

Electric outlets accept U.S type plugs.

Time Zone

Colombia is 5 hours behind Greenwich Mean Time & does not observe Daylight Savings Time