

From the Sea to the Mountains: The Sierra Nevada Treasures

Area Description:

THE SIERRA NEVADA OF SANTA MARTA is a group of mountains separated of the Andes, with their snowy peaks, Colón and Bolívar, which are the highest in Colombia (5.775 m) situated just 42 km from the coast. The Sierra Nevada is the highest sea coast mountain chain in the world. These mountains slopes offer a diverse and complex ecosystem and a unique ecological niche on the planet.



The steep slopes of Santa Marta Sierra Nevada plunges into the sea like the fingers of a gigantic hand, between which there are bays and estuaries of singular beauty: Chengue, Gayraca, Cinto, Neguanje, Concha, and Guachaquita all with golden sandy beaches bordered by rocky atolls, mangroves, thickets and forests are bathed by the crystal clear waters of the Caribbean.

At the present, nearly 30,000 members from the Kogui, Arhuaco, Kakuamo and Wiwa (Arsarios) cultures live there. They are descendants of the Tayrona culture, a complex and interesting indigenous societies of pre-Hispanic America. They have a special connection with the Sierra Nevada.

Overview:

Explore with us the south of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, The highest coastal mountain in the world, and discover one of the most beautiful beaches in Colombia, see colorful fish, coral reef, experience the rain forest in the mountains with birds, streams, waterfalls, bamboo forest and beautiful views.



Highlights:

- **Explore** the Tayrona and Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta Natural Parks.
- **Discover** one of the most beautiful beaches in Colombia.
- **Discover** natural treasures in the highest coastal mountains of the world.

Itinerary:

Day 1:

At 6:00 a.m. we drive out of Cartagena towards Tayrona National Park to visit one of the most beautiful beaches in Colombia where we can swim and do snorkeling. At 1:00 p.m. approx., we have a typical lunch. At 3:30 p.m. we leave the beach to go towards Minca, in this town we enjoy the views of Santa Marta city and its bay. The evening time is free time, we can explore Minca, have dinner out or just relax at our accommodation.

Approximate driving time: 5,5 hours.

Approximate boat time: 20 minutes.

Day 2:

At 8:00 a.m. we leave our accommodation to visit a Coffee and Cacao farm where we learn everything about the Coffee and Cacao process in a tour, after this, we visit some waterfalls from the Sierra Nevada. At 12:30 p.m. we have lunch. At 1:30 p.m. we head to Cartagena.

Approximate driving time: 5 hours.

Approximate walking time: 2,5 hours

Details:

- Departure from Cartagena: 6:00 a.m.
- Return time to Cartagena: 7:00 p.m (Approx.)
- Duration of the tour: Two days and one night.
- Private trip
- Departures: On request.
- Price: 425 USD per person.
- Languages: English, Spanish.



Includes

- Private transportation.
- Trip leader.
- Two breakfasts.
- Two lunches
- Accommodation for 1 night.
- Snorkeling equipment.

Does not include:

- Hydrating beverages.
- Dinner.
- Services not specified in the plan and personal expenses.

Physicality, Travel Style & Cultural Shock:

These trips involve hiking or walking for up to three hours (4 miles approx.) a day at a slow pace on undulating terrain. The itinerary takes place in remote areas (with basic facilities), involve various types of transport and rough roads. To enjoy these adventures we suggest reasonable fitness and health, a moderately active lifestyle and have a positive attitude. Be prepared for potential variable weather conditions (Rain).

Due to the nature of the activities undertaken in this tour, pregnant women, children under 8 years old and minors unaccompanied by their parents or legal guardians are not allowed.



What to Bring:

- Your personal medication.
- Sunscreen and a cap.
- Insect repellent.
- A day pack for you to carry your personal items.
- Small bag as space is limited in the vehicle.



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- Comfortable clothes: Flip flops, t-shirts, swim clothes, shorts, long pants, sneakers and also clothes for 73 °F approx. in the night
- Bring a light rain jacket.
- Towel
- Flashlight
- For health and vaccination we recommend seeing the www.colombia.travel website.

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