

# **COLOMBIA LUXURY TOURS**

Exclusive insider journey to Colombia's highlights

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# **JOURNEY OVERVIEW**

Begin your tailor-made luxury tour of Colombia with your international arrival into the capital of Bogota, where grand colonial architecture meets the contemporary urban lifestyle. Explore the highlights of the city with your local guide, including the Gold and Botero Museums, Paloquemao Market, and the colorful Candelaria neighborhood. Your Colombia private tour continues after a short flight into the heart of the Coffee Region. This the perfect setting for a variety of outdoor adventures. Enjoy an exhilarating Jeep Willy ride, hiking among the world's tallest palm trees in the Cocora Valley, or horseback riding in the lush landscape filled with coffee plantations and fruit trees. End your adventure in the seaside city of Cartagena, visiting the vibrant colonial center with its storied past. Partake in a private rum tasting or salsa class in an exquisite colonial mansion, or explore the Rosario Islands in a chartered motorboat, so that you can swim, snorkel, and relish a delicious picnic lunch amidst the crystal clear waters of the Caribbean.

#### A Taste of Blue Parallel's Insider Access

- A visit to the Botero Museum with artist's nephew
- Exclusive accommodation amongst bamboo forests and rolling hillsides in the Coffee Region
- Salsa class in a privately-owned 16th-century home in Cartagena
- Private yachting excursions to deserted islets
- Exclusive rum tasting with expert sommelier in a private 16th-century home in Cartagena
- Private cooking class with esteemed local chef in Cartagena

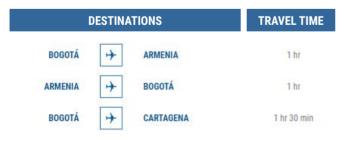
#### **The Discovery**

- Bogotá
- Coffee plantations
- Valle de Cocora
- Cartagena
- Rosario Islands

#### **The Adventure**

- Horseback riding
- Mountain biking
- Hiking
- Yachting
- Snorkeling

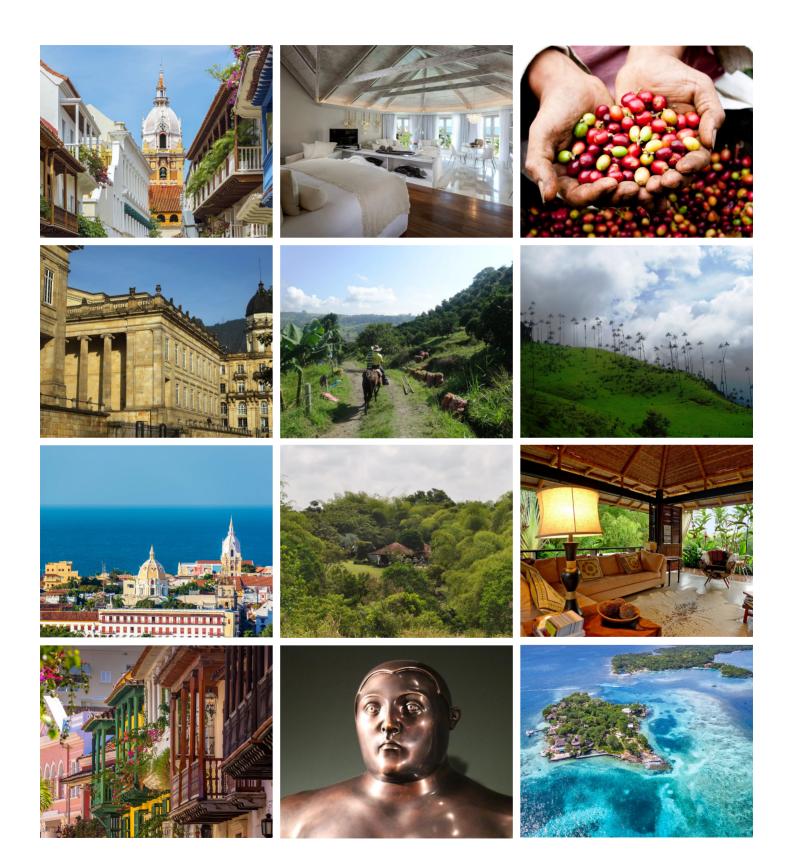








# **PHOTOGRAPHY**





# **PRIVATE TOUR COLOMBIA**

Please note this private Colombia tour is an example, as all of our luxury journeys are custom-made. You will find below a summary outline.

Please contact us to start planning your custom-made private adventure of a lifetime.

# Bogotá (2 nights)

Begin your luxury tour of Colombia with an international evening flight arrival into Bogotá. Greeting by your personal host and private transfer to your hotel located in Zona G, where world-class dining, shopping and sightseeing opportunities abound. Spend the evening at leisure as you settle in.

The following day, begin your morning by visiting Bogota's famous Paloquemao market, which dates back to 1946 and engages all 5 senses by featuring flowers, fruits, vegetables and aromatic herbs. Later, with your expert guide, visit the Botero Museum in La Candelaria neighborhood. This first-class museum showcases Fernando Botero's famous voluptuous, over-the-top, Renaissance-inspired portraits. Later, stop by Bogotá's Gold Museum, home to the world's biggest selection of pre-Hispanic gold artifacts. Then enjoy dinner at one of the superb restaurants in Zona G or Zona Rosa, the famous gastronomical neighborhoods of Bogotá. Additionally, you will have the option to explore the city's graffiti art scene by bike.

# **Coffee Region (2 nights)**

After a direct morning flight to Armenia, you will be taken by private transfer to enjoy a horseback riding excursion with your expert guide. During the ride, you'll see indigenous crops, ranging from pineapple, sugar cane and other citrus fruits, to colorful heliconia flowers and an extensive bamboo forest. Relax over a leisurely picnic lunch by the river as you take in your lush surroundings.

During your time in the Coffee Region, we recommend a local 8-bedroom hacienda for couples or smaller families where you can connect with nature and have easy access to the area's highlights. For larger groups seeking more privacy, we recommend an exclusive 4-bedroom estate set in the picturesque countryside, nestled between bamboo forests and rolling hillsides. The property features a swimming pool filled with fresh water from the nearby stream, as well as a yoga area and landscaped garden. There's also Blue Parallel staff on hand should you require any assistance. Every evening, Blue Parallel will organize a special dinner in one of the estate's many outdoor dining areas. Whether it's a romantic candle-lit dinner for two or a lively family BBQ of traditional delicacies, these promise to be nights to remember.

The next day, depart for the Valle de Cocora located in Los Nevados National Natural Park, home to the national tree and symbol of Colombia, the Quindío wax palm. You'll also see a variety of other flora and fauna (some endangered).

Upon arrival at the national park, venture out on a spectacular 4-hour trek through the valley where you will see some of the tallest palm trees in the world. There are also options for a shorter, less strenuous hike. As you begin your ascent towards the high Andean cloud and pine forest, you'll spot numerous bird species such as hummingbirds and woodpeckers along the way. Once you arrive at the highest point, stop for lunch and enjoy the views over the rolling hills dotted with wax palms, then descend to the low valley river. As you cross hanging bridges and shrubs, you'll witness the vegetation change dramatically from forest to jungle.

Colombia is the king of coffee, therefore no luxury trip to Colombia would be complete without a private coffee tasting. After your trek, your expert guide will take you to Salento to experience a full sensory tasting which will increase your sensitivity to minute differences in Colombian coffee characteristics. In the evening, relax by the pool or gardens.



# Cartagena (3 nights)

On your arrival in the colorful city of Cartagena, you will be taken by private transfer to your hotel, located in the historical center. Accompanied by your expert guide, spend the afternoon on a sightseeing tour. Cartagena, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, enchants visitors with its cobblestoned streets and beautiful colonial architecture. Surrounded by Las Murallas and dotted with churches, monasteries, plazas, palaces and mansions, Cartagena's charming old town is a highlight of a luxury tour to Colombia.

The next day, enjoy a full day of private yachting to the Rosario Islands. Because Blue Parallel has selected the most beautiful secluded islets known only to local fisherman, your island experience is guaranteed to be authentic and exclusive. Spend the day relaxing on board, on white sand beaches or swimming in the pristine Caribbean water. On the way to the islands, pass through Bocagrande, a fortification built by the Spanish to safeguard this important port.

Salsa is an important part of Colombian culture, therefore a private class with professional dancers is highly recommended. Blue Parallel arranges a private morning class for you and your party in a privately-owned 16th-century home. You'll get to practice your newfound salsa skills in a Colombian salsa club later in the evening – a perfect end to your luxury Colombia trip.

Alternatively, Blue Parallel can arrange for a private rum & chocolate tastings in the same villa. Afterwards, explore the city outside the colonial walls and visit the ateliers of local artists. In the evenings, enjoy the best of Colombian cuisine, ranging from seafood specialties and Caribbean flavors at Cartagena's high-end restaurants.

Your luxury tour of Colombia ends with a private transfer to the airport to catch your direct flight back home.



# **ABOUT BLUE PARALLEL**

# Blue Parallel is a bespoke luxury travel boutique.



Our mission is to take discerning, time-constrained travelers to the most spectacular natural and cultural wonders of Latin America, the Mediterranean, and the Polar Regions.







Since launching in 2003, we have become the go-to service for luxury travelers searching for top-of-the-line experiential journeys. We have been selected as an A-list Top Travel Advisor by Travel + Leisure every year since 2009, and are proudly part of the leading luxury travel network Virtuoso and their Ultraluxe Community (a by-invitation-only membership for the industry's most exclusive services and providers). We have hosted numerous eminent travelers since our inception and are frequently featured in prestigious international publications.









Blue Parallel journeys feature breathtaking outdoor adventures led by expert guides or accomplished athletes. Scuba diving in the Belize Reef, biking through Berber villages in the Atlas Mountains, ice-trekking on the Perito Moreno Glacier, dog sledding in Lapland, rafting on the Pacuare River in Costa Rica, and hiking the fjords of Norway are only a few examples of the extraordinary outdoor adventures we incorporate in our tailor-made itineraries. We take great satisfaction in designing custom-made adventures of a lifetime.

At Blue Parallel, we open doors to unique opportunities that match our travelers' interests. Our team travels year-round, seeking out the most intriguing insider experiences. Over the years, we have developed invaluable relationships with esteemed scholars, acclaimed artists, Olympic athletes, renowned chefs, directors of historical and natural landmarks, as well as with local leaders in politics and business, to name just a few examples.

Privacy has always been a top priority in all aspects of a Blue Parallel journey. Exclusive accommodations range from remote, fully-serviced villas in Iceland, a lighthouse on a private island in Norway, or a luxury private camp in the Sahara Desert. Examples of private custom experiences include an after-hours tour of the Alhambra in Andalucia, chartering a luxury yacht in the Galapagos Islands, or taking a private train ride to Machu Picchu. We can provide all these ultimate exclusive experiences and more so that our travelers can have the option to enjoy some of the world's most spectacular sights without the crowds.

Blue Parallel travelers are assigned a dedicated team comprised of:

- A personal travel expert
- A personal host in each destination
- Expert on-site guides and scholars

– Behind-the-scenes logistical experts to monitor every step of the journey We are on call for our travelers 24-hours a day during their trip, ensuring a smooth and stress-free experience. Whatever happens, our team is one step ahead, and we provide the flexibility to change the program during the journey, if need be.

#### **CERTAINTY IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD**

Blue Parallel's expertise and our obsession with details offer certainty in an uncertain world. We have almost 2 decades of experience handling unforeseen circumstances, and the recent pandemic has only increased the significant value of having our dedicated teams offer limitless support to our travelers before, during, and after their journeys.



# **OUR DESTINATIONS**





# **BLUE PARALLEL IN THE MEDIA**

Bloomberg		Traveler	DEPARTURES	elite <i>tnaveler</i>	Forbes
FOOD&WINE	LUXURY	NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC	Robb Report	TRAVEL+ LEISURE	VOGUE

# **START PLANNING**

We are experts in creating inspiring tailor-made itineraries. We will take your vision, try to enhance it, and then make your dream trip a reality. You can call us at 1-301-263-6670 Monday-Friday | 9 AM - 5PM ET, or send us an email to info@blueparallel.com.

# How it all works

#### **Contact us**

Give us a call or send us an email in order to connect with one of our expert travel advisors.

#### **Initial Consultation**

We will ask you questions about your dream trip, make recommendations, and answer any questions you may have.

# Summary Itinerary Outline

We will check availability for your preferred travel dates with our favorite accommodations and then provide you with a recommended summary trip outline.

# **Detailed Itinerary Proposal**

Upon your approval of the summary outline, we will make tentative reservations and create a detailed custom-made itinerary with pricing documentation for your review.

#### **Booking Procedures**

If you would like Blue Parallel to secure your itinerary, we will email you our booking procedures and kindly request a deposit payment.

# **Pre-Trip Support**

Closer to your travel dates, we will mail you a personalized travel package to ensure you are fully prepared for your journey.

# **During the Trip**

While you are traveling, our team will be available to assist you with anything you may need at any time.

# **Post-Trip Debrief**

After your journey, we would kindly ask to schedule a "debriefing call" to hear your feedback. Alternatively, you could fill in an online survey.

We will do our very best to surpass your expectations every step of the way. Most of our travelers are repeat travelers - we take great pride in forging long-term relationships with our savvy guests.

