



FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES  
**2522 4228**  
[packages@gcnanda.com](mailto:packages@gcnanda.com)

## COLONIAL ARCHITECTURE & ISLAND HOPPING IN SOUTH AMERICA

EXPLORE SOUTH AMERICA'S HISTORICAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE



### DAY ONE HOUSTON - BOGOTA

- Depart Houston to **BOGOTA** by UA 207 at 16:45 hrs, arrive Bogota 21:40 hrs. Overnight Bogota.

### DAY TWO BOGOTA

- Full day tour of Bogota city Visit the **MARKETPLACE TOUR**, an exploration of Colombia's extensive variety of fruits and vegetables.
- **FUNICULAR RIDE TO CERRO MONSERRATE** At the top of this hill is the shrine of the fallen Lord of Monserrate, made in 1640 by the artist Pedro de Lugo Albarracín.
- **BOTERO MUSEUM** See many of Botero's paintings, sculptures, etchings, plus his private collection featuring Picasso, Leger, Soutine, Ernst, Beckmann, Chagall, Van Dongen, Dali, Toulouse-Lautrec, Renoir, Monet, Villard, Pissarro, and Caillebotte.
- **OLD QUARTER OF LA CANDELARIA** founded in 1538 by the Spanish conquistador Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada y Rivera in an area known as El Chorro de Quevedo, now a magnet for street performers and college students.
- **PLAZA DE BOLIVAR** The heart of the original town. What it lacks in green foliage it makes up for in grandiosity. In the middle of the square is a bronze statue of Simón Bolívar (cast in 1846), the work of Italian artist Pietro Tenerani. This was the city's first public monument.
- You will also see the **GOLD MUSEUM, QUNITA DE BOLIVAR, MUSEO CASA DE MONEDA** and the **SEÑOR CAIDO**.



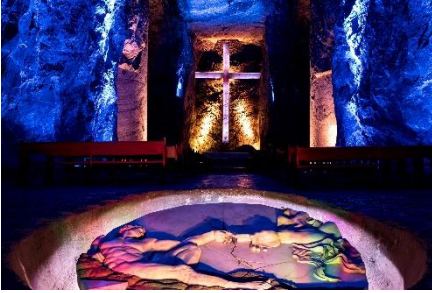
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### DAY THREE ZIPAQUIRA

- Drive to **ZIPAQUIRA** (approx. 2.5 hrs), a charming colonial town founded in 1600, known for being the home of the Salt Cathedral and its beautiful architecture
- Visit **CATEDRAL DE SAL** Which is 190m underground and was carved by removing 250,000 tons of salt; the resulting space is cinematically lit and packs many ecclesiastical wonders throughout its cavernous chapels and naves. It's highlight is the largest cross ever built in an underground church.
- You will also see a **Hacienda**, and an **Exhibition of famous Colombian Paso Fino**.
- Return to Bogota overnight



### DAY FOUR MATECANA

- **HUACA HUALLAMARCA** Nestled among condominium towers and sprawling high-end homes, the Huaca Huallamarca is a highly restored adobe pyramid, produced by the Lima culture, that dates to somewhere between AD 200 and 500. A small on-site museum, complete with mummy, details its excavation. The history of Lima can be traced back to long before its foundation by the Spanish in 1535. Evidence has survived in the form of huacas, truncated mud brick pyramids that now stand among modern buildings. Right in the heart of Miraflores and San Isidro, respectively, stand the imposing Huaca Pucllana and Huaca Huallamarca, which were built to serve as ceremonial and funerary centres by the ancient Lima culture. The remains of tombs, pottery and mummies have been excavated.



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### DAY FIVE MEDELLIN

- City tour of **MEDELLIN** The capital of Colombia's mountainous Antioquia province. Nicknamed the "City of Eternal Spring" for its temperate weather, it hosts a famous annual Flower Festival.
- **MEDELLIN MEMORIAL CENTRE** The site where once the Monaco building stood, home of Pablo Escobar. The government demolished the building and created a respectful place for the victims of this terrible period. The black wall of holes represent the more than 6000 victims.
- You will also see the **SCULPTURE OF FERNANDO BOTERO URBAN STREET ART**, and **SAN JAVIER BOULEVARD**.
- Additionally experience a flower tour. Visit an organic flower farm and experience the traditional peasant culture of Santa Elena. Get a peek behind the scenes of the annual Flower Festival to see how elaborate flower displays are made and learn about the history of the Silleteros.



### DAY SIX GUATAPE

- **GUATAPE** (2-hour drive) An Andean resort town in northwest Colombia, east of Medellín. It's known for its houses decorated with colourful bas-reliefs. It sits by the vast, man-made Peñol-Guatapé Reservoir, a busy water-sports centre. **PIEDRA DEL PEÑOL**, a giant granite rock southwest of town, has hundreds of steps to the top, where there are sweeping views.
- You will also see beautifully decorated houses, the big rock of Penol, and huge monolith lake.



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### DAY SEVEN CARTAGENA

→ Transfer to airport Medellin airport (MDE) to depart 12:08 hrs. for flight to **CARTAGENA** arriving at 13:16 hrs. Cartagena is a beautiful port city on Colombia's Caribbean coast. With a tropical climate, the city is also a popular beach destination and the undisputed queen of the Caribbean coast, a historic city of superbly preserved beauty lying within 13km of centuries-old stone walls. By the sea is the walled **OLD TOWN**, founded in the 16th century, with squares, cobblestone streets and colourful colonial buildings.

→ **CATHEDRAL OF CARTAGENA.** Work on Cartagena's cathedral began in 1575, but in 1586, while still under construction, it was partly destroyed by the cannons of Francis Drake. The structure wasn't completed until 1612, although the distinctive terracotta dome visible all over town was added later. Notable inside are the huge stations of the cross skilfully carved in stone on either side of the nave, and four saintly statues.

→ You will also see **SAN PEDRO CLAVER SQUARE, SAN PEDRO CHURCH**, and the **PLAZA DE BOLIVAR**.



### DAY EIGHT CARTAGENA

→ **SAN FERNANDO FORTRESS** A colonial-era Spanish fortress in. Built between 1756 and 1775, the fortress guarded Spanish interests in the-then Captainty General of Guatemala before being seized by the government in 1821.

→ **TRADES AND GRAFFITI IN GETSEMANI** A hip neighborhood of good restaurants and nightlife. See the colorful art in the streets of Getsemani. - one of the most traditional and popular sectors of the city. Take a panoramic guided walk visiting several craftsmen who show you trades, such as shoemaking, cabinetmaking/woodwork, and tailoring among others,



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### DAY NINE SAN BASILIO DE PALENQUE

→ **SAN BASILIO DE PALENQUE** The first 'free town' in the Americas, Palenque was founded by those who fled a life of slavery and has been preserved intact in Colombia. It's a unique place, famous for its culture, language, gastronomy and its history. Their culture and traditions have survived intact, which is why UNESCO declared San Basilio de Palenque a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity in 2005.

→ Head to Bogota airport for flight to **QUITO** (Ecuador) depart 15:00 hrs, arriving in Quito (Mariscal Sucre International Airport ) 16:40 hrs. Met you will be greeted with warm hospitality by our staff who will take you to your hotel for your check-in. Free at leisure wandering nearby parks and city. Ecuador's capital sits high in the Andean foothills at an altitude of 2,850m. Constructed on the foundations of an ancient Incan city, it's known for its well-preserved colonial center, rich with 16th- and 17th-century churches and other structures blending European, Moorish and indigenous styles.



### DAY TEN QUITO

→ The tour begins by visiting Quito's **DOWNTOWN**, the largest and best-preserved colonial centre in South America. Quito Historic Centre is also the first UNESCO World Heritage Site in Ecuador. You are going to find impressive sights during your city tour in Quito like **INDEPENDENCE SQUARE** or **PLAZA GRANDE**, surrounded by important historical buildings followed by a visit to the iconic **CHURCH OF THE COMPANY OF JESUS** and **SAN FRANCISCO CHURCH AND MONASTERY**. Visit the Equator Line Monument "Middle of the World" where the equatorial line divides the northern and southern hemispheres.



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### DAY ELEVEN SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

- Morning check out and head to Mariscal Sucre International Airport for flight to Baltra island airport in Galapagos (GPS airport) depart 10:17, arriving at 12:46 hrs.
- After arriving at the airport, a shuttle will transport you to the Itabaca Channel, where a 20-minute boat journey will take you to **SANTA CRUZ ISLAND**. Santa Cruz has the greatest number of plant and animal species of all the Channel Islands, including over 60 endemic, or unique, species. Begin the trip with an incredible journey across the island's many landscapes and view it's diverse animals. Additionally, you will travel through the Highlands and stop for lunch at one of the many ranches on Santa Cruz Island. Here you are going to have the chance to observe the giant tortoise which is an iconic animal of the archipelago. After this visit, we will head to Puerto Ayora to check into your hotel



### DAY TWELVE BARTOLOME ISLAND

- Following an early breakfast, you will have the opportunity to take a tour of one of the surrounding islands. **BARTOLOME ISLAND** The most visited and most photographed island in the Galapagos. Learn more about the richness of the Galapagos and be astounded by the abundance of breathtaking landscapes and geological rock formations, like Pinnacle Rock. Additionally, you'll get a chance to go snorkelling and see a wide range of aquatic animals in their natural environment.
- Overnight Santa Cruz



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### DAY THIRTEEN NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND

→ **NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND** Be ready for the most historical day on your visit to Galapagos. Today you will visit North Seymour Island which is the home of a massive variety of flora and fauna of the Galapagos archipelago. The most outstanding species of North Seymour Island are the Frigate Birds, Land Iguanas, the amazing Blue-footed Boobies, and Sea Lions, species beautiful to watch in the turquoise waters around the island.

→ Overnight Santa Cruz



### DAY FOURTEEN CHARLES DARWIN STATION

→ **CHARLES DARWIN** The main attraction of this place is the Tortoise Breeding Centre. Here you are going to have a briefing and historical lesson about the tortoises that habit in the Station. You can also take a walk around the station and get some wonderful photos of this place and the tortoises.

→ On time transfer to Guayaquil airport approx. 2.5 hrs. depart flight to Quito at 15:23 hrs arrives 16:15 hrs.



### DAY FIFTEEN QUINTO – HOUSTON

→ Depart flight to Houston 00:40 am. arrives 05:55 am.

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