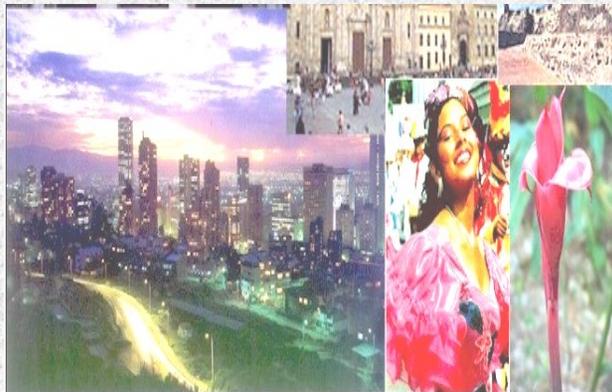


Places to visit

The city of Bogotá has a great variety of tourist places, with a combination of colonial buildings and skyscrapers. Points of interest in the city include: La Candelaria zone, with several museums, cultural scenery and art exhibitions and La Plaza de Bolívar, surrounded by government buildings representing several styles and eras.



The list of museums can be headed with the famous Gold Museum which is a testimony to native Indian culture. Among other places there are La Zona Rosa, for shopping fun, gourmet food and entertainment, and also the Planetario, Botanical Garden and Shopping centers, such as Hacienda Santa Barbara, Centro Comercial Andino and Unicentro.



Meet Colombia: *tourist Guide*



Meeting Colombia: *Tourist Guide*

Colombia officially the Republic of Colombia is a country located in Northeastern South America.



The word "Colombia" comes from the name of Christopher Columbus. The name was then adopted by the Republic of Colombia of 1819 formed out of the territories of the old Viceroyalty of New Granada.

Administrative Division

Colombia is divided into 32 departments and one capital district which is treated as a department. There are in total 10 districts assigned to cities in Colombia. Colombia is also subdivided into some municipalities which form departments, each with a municipal seat capital city assigned. Colombia is also subdivided into corregimientos which form municipalities.

Culture

Colombian culture lies at the crossroads of Latin America, and is distinguished by having a very multicultural society. European, African, Native American, American, Middle Eastern, and other Latin American cultural influences such as Mexico and the Caribbean are all felt in Colombia's modern culture. Due to Colombia's geography and years of social and political instability, Colombian culture has been heavily fragmented into five major cultural regions correspond to Colombian natural regions.



Food

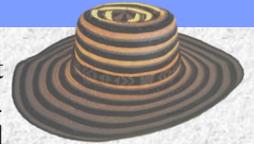
The Cuisine of Colombia developed mainly from the food traditions of European countries. Spanish, Italian and French culinary influences can be seen in Colombian cooking. American cuisine, the cuisine of neighboring Latin American countries, Mexico and the Caribbean, as well as the cooking traditions of the Native Americans have all influenced Colombian cuisine.

Music and Traditional Dance

Some of the most known genres of tradicional



music in the caribbean coast are vallenato and cumbia. One of the most recognized interpreter of tradicional caribbean and afrocolombian music is Totó la Momposina.



Traditional Clothes

Sombrero Vueltiao (Colombian Spanish for hat with laps) is a traditional hat Colombia and one of its symbols. It is made out of Gynerium sagittatum known locally as Caña Flecha a type of cane grown in the region.

When danced in shows for the public the dancers wear clothing that were used in old times: Men would wear white pants and shirts, a hat, a large colorful hankershift, handmade style sandals, and a machete. Women would wear colorful long skirts, a white short sleeved shirt with layers of weavy lines of fabric, the hair is put back, not loose, and they also wear sandals.

Tourist Attractions

Colombia has multiple celebrations and festivals throughout the year, with a majority stemming from Roman Catholic religious traditions. Prominent examples of festivals include the Ibero-American Theater Festival, Barranquilla's Carnival, Carnival of Blacks and Whites, Independence day on, Holy Week and Christmas.

