Colombia in 3 Weeks

Colombia is not only a very beautiful, but also a pretty large country. And since of course not everyone has unlimited time to visit the country I put an itinerary together how to make the most of three weeks in this magical country. Of course I don't want you only to see many breathtaking places but also have an eye on your budget.

Obviously, it is nice to have a little more time at hand and therefore I added some alternative recommendations at the end of this document, in case you will be able to stay a little longer in Colombia.

Most places are linked to the relevant blog posts in case you require more specific Information.

Please note that this is only a suggestion!

Day 1 Arrival in Bogota

The first day you will most likely need to have a little rest and fight off your jetlag

Day 2 Sightseeing in Bogota

During the day: Now you will be able to do some sightseeing.

Check for instance the following sights:

- Cerro de Monserrate
- La Candelaria
- Botero Museum
- Gold Museum
- Salt Cathedral

If you prefer taking it a little more relaxed just choose maybe up to 3 attractions.

If you are planning to go to the Salt Cathedral you should almost count in an entire day

In the evening:

Go to the Zona Rosa for a drink and enjoy Bogotas Nightlife and Entertainment program.

Day 3-4 Trip to Villa de Leyva

Villa de Leyva is located 2,5 hours from Bogota. Here you can relax , walk through the alleys of this gorgeous colonial village and take some gorgeous pictures of the Plaza Mayor. Buses to Villa de Leyva depart from the Terminal de Transporte in Bogota. *Day 5* Another day in Bogota where you can get to know the capital of Colombia a little better.

Day 6 - 7 Rio Claro

Now you can proceed by bus from Bogota to the amazing Rio Claro. Here the weather is tropical warm and you take out your swimming short for the first time. After a night in the Refugio de Rio Claro you can proceed straight to Medellin

More information about Rio Claro and how to get there you can find here

Day 8 – 10

In Medellin you can spend two days staying at the Black Sheep Hostel and visit the following places:

- Metrocable und Parque Arvi
- Jardin Botanico
- Check out the nightlife in Parque Lleras, Parque El Poblado, La 33 and La 70
- Plaza Botero in the city centre of Medellin

For more information and tips for Medellin check this post.

Day 11

Daytrip to Guatape or Santa Fe

There are some typical Colombian pueblos (villages) near the Capital of Antioquia. Two of the most beautiful ones are Guatape and Santa Fe.

The bus to Guatape leaves from the Terminal Norte

The Bus to Santa Fe de Antioquia leaves from the Terminal del Sur

Day 12 – 14 Coffee Zone (Salento/Valle de Cocora)

The best way to get there is via night bus to Armenia from Medellin and from there you can take another bus going to the beautiful village of Salento. From here you can start your excursion to the amazing Valle de Cocora and see the astonishing wax palm trees.

Day 15 With the bus you can go from Armenia to Pereira and from there you can take a plane of the Cheap Flight Airline Vivacolombia to Cartagena.

Things you can do in Cartagena

- Isla de Rosario
- Playa Blanca
- Stroll the Centro Historico
- Hang out in Getsemani and the Plaza de Trinidad

From Cartagena you can take a van of the company Marsol which will take you in 3 – 4 hours to Santa Marta

Day 18 Santa Marta

Things you can do in Santa Marta:

- Centro Historico/Parque de los novios
- Rodadero
- Taganga
- Playa Blanca

Day 19 – 20 Tayrona Park

From Santa Marta you can take the bus from the market (Carrera 11 and calle 11) to the famous Tayrona Park. The drive up to Tayrona takes about 45 minutes

Day 21 Return flight

From Tayrona you can easily go back to Santa Marta and take a plane of Vivacolombia to Medellin or Bogota from wherever your plane departs back home

Additional week:

If you have one more week of time, I recommend you that from the Tayrona Park you head a little further north to Palomino in the Departamento La Guajira. There you can relax on a beautiful beach or take part in different activities. More about Palomino you can read here in my post.

If you still don't have enough of Colombia and I bet, you won't then simply go up even further north to Cabo de la Vela. You can book trip to Cabo de La Vela and Punta Gallinas in Palomino, in Rio Hacha or even in Santa Marta. If you like it a little more adventurous you can even do the trip by yourself. How to manage that you can read here.

I believe I stop here as there are so many more amazing places to see in Colombia such as the Amazon, Choco on the Pacific and Caribbean coast or the Tatacoa desert. Feel free to check more place on my blog

I hope you find the perfect planning for yourself and have a great time in Colombia.