



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Colombia - Salento

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bogotá
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish
- ✓ **Sq km:** 378
- ✓ **Population:** ± 7250
- ✓ **Currency:** Colombian Peso's (COP)
- ✓ **Country code:** +57 (6)
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 112
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / DTP / Yellow fever / Malaria prevention

Read more about the [FARC](#) and their [ideals](#), [Plan Colombia](#) and [Colombia's drugs war](#).

### History Recap Over 1 Drink

1525: Spain arrives. 1819: Bolivar defeats Spanish → Gran Colombia with Ecuador, Panama & Venezuela. 1829-30: dissolved. 1899-1903: War of the Thousand Days: 120000 die in civil war Liberals&Conservatives. '48-57 - 250000-300000 killed in civil war. '58: Conservatives&Liberals: National Front to end civil war. '65: Leftist ELN&EPL, '66: FARC, '71: M-19 guerrillas. '78: President Turbay: fight drug traffickers. '82: President Betancur grants guerrillas amnesty & frees political prisoners. '85: 101 people killed by M-19 in Palace of Justice → Patriotic UP founded. Nevado del Ruiz volcano erupts: 23000 killed. Right-wing paramilitary: murder campaign against UP / violence by left-wing groups/ death squads by drugs cartels. '93: Pablo Escobar (drug cartel) shot dead. '98: Arango president: Peace talks guerrillas → safe haven in south-east. '99: Earthquake kills 1000 people (Armenia/Pereira). 2000: Plan Colombia from US against drugs. 2001: San Francisco agreement FARC: ceasefire → after 3 years peace talks stop: explosion Bogotá. 2004: Right-wing AUC&government peace talks, 2005 with ELN. 2007: Many FARC freed → FARC frees hostages. Venezuela tensions. 2011: Country-wide protests against FARC. 2014: Peace negotiations.

### Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dry												
Wet												
Best												
Budget												

Altitude: 1895m. Climate: warm & humid.

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Hike the Valle de la Cocora, southern part of Los Nevados. Easy trail, accessible without guide.
- ☺ Climb the stairs up to the mirador for free panoramic views.
- ☺ Go for a run around town, the views are breath-taking.
- ☺ Go for a daytrip to Filandia (via Pereira).
- ☺ (Almost free): Visit [Kasaguadua Natural Reserve](#).

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 Go deeper into Los Nevados: Overnight tours from [Panoramo Trek](#).
- 👍 Coffee tour at [El Ocaso](#) (go there by foot, bike or taxi). Other options: Don Elias / Don Eduardo.
- 👍 Rent a bike and explore (f.e. @ Ciclo Salento).
- 👍 Check out butterflies at [The Plantation House](#).

## Tourist Trap Alert

⊗ Salento is a gringo town. Do we care? No, it's still stunning. For the purists: Check out Filandia.

## Budget Bites

⌘ Streetfood is dirt cheap. Tasty (and greasy) in Colombia: Bunuelos (deepfried bread), chicharon (fried fat), arepa's with cheese/meat/chocolate etc., empanadas (deepfried pastries). Healthy: Corn (sin mantequilla), mango with lime, coconut, guanabana.

⌘ Splurge a bit at Brunch de Salento for life-changing peanut butter brownies and burgers.

⌘ Vegan & delicious: The Veggie Place.

## Festivals

⚙ Salento Festival: 1st week of Jan.

## Next?

→ In Colombia: Popayan, Cali, Armenia, Manizales, Medellin, Bogotá.

→ International destinations closeby: Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil, Panama.

## Sleep Cheap

❖ Serrana, 00573162961890, Via Palestina KM 1.5.

❖ La Floresta Hostel, 00573128681808, Carrera 5 #10-11

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [House-sitting](#). Check [workaway](#).

## Mama Said

☠ Watch your bag, buy a lock. Smartphones are popular.

☠ Take day buses. Night buses are more dangerous in sense of accidents, robberies and hijackings. Put your bag on your lap.

## Free-Riding?

■ The whole town of Salento is walkable.

■ Minibuses go from Armenia to Salento (5:30AM-8PM). Jeeps take you to the beginning of the Cocora trail.

■ Private jeeps can be hired (with driver) and operate as taxi's.

Tip: Download the free Triposo Colombia app for an offline map, offline guide & more. Load Google Maps when you have wifi and leave it open, you will still be able to use it offline.

The Earth Becomes My Throne