



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Colombia - Cali

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bogotá
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish
- ✓ **Sq km:** 564
- ✓ **Population:** ± 2,4 mln
- ✓ **Currency:** Colombian Peso's (COP)
- ✓ **Country code:** +57 (2)
- ✓ **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								Hot!				Feria
Budget												

Altitude: 1018m. Climate: Hot & humid.

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Go hiking in Fallarones National Park (west), La Cumbre area (north). Chill in Ecoparque de las Garzas.
- ☺ Free museums: [Museo la Tertulia](#) (excellent), open air art: Gato de Tejada along the Rio Pance.
- ☺ Church-alert: San Antonio, Catedral San Pedro, La Ermita, San Francisco, Catedral Metropolitana.
- ☺ Drive up to Cristo del Rey for a panoramic view of the city. Watch out: walking up can be dangerous.
- ☺ Free music and dancing @ Artesania, San Antonio.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 Museums: [Museo Cana de Azucar](#), [Caliwood](#) (only for the enthusiasts), Natural Sciences Museum, Museo de Arte Colonial Religioso.
- 👍 Animals: Visit [Andoke](#) butterfly farm or [Zoologico de Cali](#).
- 👍 Chill at Cane waterpark or further outside Cali.
- 👍 Hiking, climbing, air dance, slackline and wu-shu at [Destina Escalada](#).

Tourist Trap Alert

⊗ Unless you are disabled or over 70 years old, you can't be in the tourist bus without losing your dignity.

Budget Bites

⌘ Market: Galeria a la Meda.

⌘ Streetfood is dirt cheap. Tasty & greasy: Buñuelos (deepfried bread), pan de queso, chicharon (fried fat), arepa's with cheese/meat/chocolate etc., empanadas (deepfried pastries), obleos (sweet), perros calientes (literally: hot dog), kumis (yoghurt). Healthy: Corn (sin mantequilla), mango with lime, coconut, guanabana.

⌘ Supermarket: Exito, La 14.

Festivals

⚙ Petronio Alvarez: Music / Gastronomy, Aug.

⚙ Ajazzgo: Music, Sep.

⚙ Feria de Cali: Christmas / Salsa, Dec.

Mama Said

☠ Watch your bag, buy a lock. Smartphones are popular. Pickpockets work tourist areas like San Antonio.

☠ Colombians don't walk around at night, not even the smallest distances. Don't test it.

☠ Be careful with taxi's. →

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

Next?

➔ In Colombia: Popayan, Bogotá, Armenia, Salento, Manizales.

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

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostal Encuentro, +578902464, Calle 2 Oeste 4-16.
- ❖ Colombian Hostel, +573157052343, Calle 3BIS # 35A-7.
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing!](#)

Nights Best Spent

- ◆ Chiva bus: 9PM, Parque las Banderas.
- ◆ Head to Avenida Sexto for clubs & bars.
- ◆ Kukuramakara, Calle 28N No 2 Bis-97 N (beautiful women).

... Seated Down

- ◆ Teatro Municipal Enrique Buenaventura, Carrera 5 #6-64.
- ◆ Cinemateca La Tertulia (COP 2-5.000), Avenida Colombia No. 5-105 Oeste.
- ◆ Teatro Esquina Latina, Calle 4 Oeste # 35-30.

Knowledge I'm Taking Home

📖 Hable español: [Universidad Santiago de Cali](#) & [Universidad de Valle](#).

📖 Salsa capital of Colombia: El Manicero, Calle 5 #39-71.

Free-Riding?

■ Separate areas are walkable, but to get from area to area alternative transport is recommendable. Due to heavy traffic: biking not recommendable.

■ MIO: Masivo Integrado de Occidente. The metro system (with blue buses) are the heartbeat of central Cali. More information [here](#).

■ Taxi's are cheap, but take your precautions. Foreigner = money, which can attract robbers. Call official radio-taxi's or use the Easy Taxi app.

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