



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Colombia - Manizales

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bogotá
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish
- ✓ **Sq km:** 572
- ✓ **Population:** ± 439,000
- ✓ **Currency:** Colombian Peso's (COP)
- ✓ **Country code:** +57 (6)
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 123
- ✓ **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										wettest		
Best												
Budget												

Altitude: 2160m. / Los Nevados are cold and snowy.

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ For nice sunsets: Area around Torre Panoramica de Chipre. Check out the Los Colonizadores monument.
- ☺ Necessary to get from the bus terminal into town, but nice-views-approved: Cable Aéreo.
- ☺ Free church-checking: Catedral de Manizales (check out the statues in front), Templo San Pio X, Nuestra Senora de Fatima / & Rosario, Corazón de Jesús, Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepción.
- ☺ More nature: Reserva Ecologica Rio Blanco or Los Yarumos (small fee).

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👉 The attraction: Los Nevados National Park. Daytrips include Nevado del Ruiz, Nevado Santa Isabel or Nevado del Tolima. **ONLY GO WITH GOOD WEATHER**, it's a waste of money when misty. Don't go with Ecosistemas if you don't like the cattle-mass-tourism.
- 👉 If you missed it in Salento: you can do a coffee tour here as well: [Recinto del Pensamiento](#) & [Hacienda Venecia](#).
- 👉 [Termales el Otono](#).

Budget Bites

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

⌘ Self-catering: Several supermarkets in main street.

⌘ Chuzos al Carbón y Más, Carrera 23 #63-22 Local 4.

Festivals

⊛ Feria de Manizales: Folklore, 2-Jan.

⊛ Grita Rock: Music, 14-Aug.

⊛ Festival Internacional de Teatro: Theatre, 5-Sep.

Mama Said

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

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

☠ Be careful with taxi's. →

☠ In the hills lives the poorer population. Not the best place to wander around alone as a tourist, especially not at night.

Sleep Cheap

- ❖ Hostal Kaleidoscopio, 005768901702, Calle 20 # 21-15.
- ❖ Mirador Andino Hostal, [reserve here](#), Carrera 23 #32-20
- ❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting](#)! Or check [workaway](#).

Free-Riding?

- Manizales is quite small. Everything in the centre is walkable, don't let a cab driver tell you otherwise.
- Buses connect all places in the city. Ask a local which one to take.
- To get to the centre from the bus terminal: Cable Aéreo. There are 2 routes: ask upfront which one to take.
- 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.

Next?

- In Colombia: Cali, Armenia, Salento, Medellin, Jardín.
- International destinations closeby: Ecuador, Venezuela, Brazil, Panama.

The Earth Becomes My Throne