



# Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

## Colombia - Palomino

### Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Bogotá
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish
- ✓ **Population:** ± 3900
- ✓ **Currency:** Colombian Peso's (COP)
- ✓ **Country code:** +57
- ✓ **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](#).

Sierra Nevada: 17000 sq km.

### 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 → Palomino battle-ground FARC/drugs gangs/paramilitary. 2014: Peace negotiations.

### Travel Seasons

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

Altitude: 2m. Climate: Tropical humid.

### Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Take public transport to Flamenco Sanctuary (no entrance fee) and walk. Ignore the men implying you need to take a canoe to enter, it's a lie.
- ☺ Stroll over the tranquil and beautiful beaches.
- ☺ Palomino is located on the foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountains, close to San Salvador mountains, Tayrona NP & Quebrada Valencia Park. Go for a hike/climb!
- ☺ Go for an overnight trip to Cabo La Vela or Punta Gallinas.

### Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 Highlight: Rent a tube and float 3 hours down the river. Absorb the tranquility and check out the tropical wildlife. (Easily negotiated down to COP15000).
- 👍 Surf's up: Finca Escondida, Casa Surf Mar Azul Hostel or [Costeno Surf](#).
- 👍 Visit [Reserva Natural El Matuy](#).
- 👍 Go horseback riding. Ask [La Sirena](#).

## Tourist Trap Alert

⊗ Tourism is upcoming but undeveloped. However, some tours are offered. Ignore them, you can easily organize it by yourself.

## Budget Bites

⌘ Walk via the 'main' dirt road to the village (± 20min) and eat there. About 1/5 of the price of the beach restaurants.

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

⌘ Enquire about 'menu ejecutivo' (set menu).

## Mama Said

💀 Watch your bag, buy a lock. Smartphones are popular, also in tiny villages like Palomino.

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

💀 Bring cash, there's no ATM.

💀 Palomino seems peaceful, but it's also located on the transnational drugs route to Venezuela. Stay alert.

💀 The current can be deadly. Watch out where you swim! Mind the red flags.

## Sleep Cheap

❖ La Ola, +573183113985, Via Playa Donaire.

❖ La Sirena, +573107184644, Playa Palomino.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing](#) or [house-sitting](#)! Or check [workaway](#).

## Free-Riding?

■ The village exists of 2 streets: A dirt road (Via Playa Donaire) and an asphalt road. The rest is beach. Everything is walkable.

■ Buses go in both directions and are privately owned, the destination on the front. Walk to the asphalt road and hail one down. Prices are not fixed and up for negotiation.

■ If you're resistant to heat: Rent a bike.

■ Motortaxi's are the way of getting around in the village, no matter how much luggage you carry. To get from the asphalt road to the beach should cost COP4000 or less.

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: Minca, Santa Marta, Barranquilla, Cartagena.

➔ International destinations closeby: Venezuela, Brazil, Panama.

## The Earth Becomes My Throne