

Fact sheet about Bogotá

Bogotá is the capital city of Colombia, the country's cultural and development epicenter. Thanks to its geographical location, the city has a unique landscape where an outstanding structural complex meets the Eastern Cordillera of Colombia. It is a diverse city with a wide range of options for business tourism. Below, we will share some essential tips to keep in mind during your visit:

Bogotá at a Glance

What is the official language in Bogotá?

Our official language is Spanish.

What is the population size of Bogotá?

Bogotá is the largest city in Colombia, a place where people from all over the country converge. It has a population of nearly 11 million inhabitants, including its metropolitan area, representing diverse origins, cultures, and accents. The city is divided into 20 localities (which are understood as districts). The most well-known and touristic ones include Chapinero, Usaquén, Barrios Unidos, Teusaquillo, and La Candelaria.

What is Bogotá's climate like?

Located at 2,640 meters above sea level in the Eastern Cordillera of the Colombian Andes, Bogotá enjoys an average temperature ranging between 10-19°C, giving it a spring-like feel throughout the year. However, cloudy skies and occasional rainfall are common.

How are phone numbers written in Colombia?

The international dialing code for Colombia is **+57** for mobile phones. The city code for Bogotá is **+601**, followed by the landline number.

Mobile and local signal coverage is generally strong, especially in urban areas. However, in mountainous or forested regions, the signal may be intermittent. SIM cards are easy to find in local stores and cost approximately **\$5–10 USD**.

In Bogotá, you can find the following mobile operators: **Claro, Movistar, Tigo, WOM, ETB, Virgin Mobile, Móvil Éxito, Flash Mobile, and Suma Móvil**.

Getting Around Bogotá

Where can I find tourist information about Bogotá?

Bogotá has **tourist information offices**, which are a network of free, bilingual service points where both domestic and international tourists receive personalized assistance. These offices are staffed



by tourism professionals with extensive knowledge of the city's attractions, routes, tour operators, landscapes, cultural activities, shopping areas, administrative procedures, walking and biking tours, and many other services visitors may need.

PIT (Tourist Information Office – Tourist Information Point) "Templete al Libertador"

(City center, near Universidad de los Andes)

- Hours: Monday to Saturday: 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM / 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Sundays and public holidays: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

PIT "Centro Internacional" (Near Hotel Tequendama)

- Hours: Monday to Saturday: 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM / 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM Sundays and public holidays: 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Mobility

In Bogotá, there are various transportation options to get around the city. “TransMilenio” public transit system is one of the most widely used, offering rapid buses that connect a large part of the city. To use TransMilenio in Bogotá, get a **TuLlave card**, top it up, and tap it at the station entrance. Check route maps or apps to find your bus. Board through designated doors and exit at your stop. You can also use the same card for SITP buses to connect across the city.

In Bogotá, it's not recommended to hail taxis (in Colombia are yellow cars) on the street, as safety and fare consistency can vary. The best and most widely used option is ride-hailing apps. These services offer safer rides, allow cash or card payments, and provide trip tracking for added security. Apps such as Cabify, Uber, Taxis Libres, and Didi provide a comfortable and safe way to travel, allowing users to choose the type of vehicle according to their needs.

For those looking for an eco-friendly and active option, **TemBici** is an excellent alternative, offering public bicycles for city commuting. These options cater to different needs, depending on time, budget, and comfort.

Emergency numbers

+123: This is the national emergency number for any situation.

+155: This is the Purple Line, where any woman experiencing violence can seek help.

Police Presence and Reinforced Security

Bogotá has over 19,000 police officers, with constant patrols in busy areas. There are neighborhood security fronts and apps like Policía Bogotá to report emergencies. In areas such as Zona T, Parque de la 93, and Usaquén, police presence is high. Tourist spots like Monserrate and La Candelaria (during the day) have permanent security operations.



Many shopping centers and restaurants have private security and surveillance cameras. Safe paths for cyclists and pedestrians are expanding, with better lighting and more cameras.

Additionally, you can use apps like Alerta Bogotá or the emergency button on DiDi/Uber if you feel in danger. Bogotá also has initiatives like Red de Apoyo Ciudadana, where neighbors and business owners collaborate to report incident

How to Use Your Money in Bogotá

The currency used in Bogotá is the Colombian peso. Although most establishments accept MasterCard and Visa credit and debit cards, it is always advisable to carry a reasonable amount of cash, especially in smaller denominations such as 5,000, 10,000, and 20,000 pesos, as some places, like the National Museum, only accept cash payments.

However, payments can also be made via bank transfers, usually through QR codes displayed on official bank plaques. The most commonly used QR codes are issued by Bancolombia and Davivienda. These transfers are typically made through apps like Nequi, Daviplata, Nu Bank, , or Movii.

Additionally, payment gateways such as PayPal, Mercado Pago, Wompi, PayU, and Cedibanco are widely used. Most card terminals also support digital cards, so there is no need to worry about whether you can pay using your mobile phone.

Tourism in Bogotá

Candelaria: A Guide to Bogotá's Most Historic Area

A large part of Bogotá's oldest areas can be found in La Candelaria neighborhood. Located in the city center, its streets and buildings evoke the city's colonial era. To this day, its well-preserved houses and structures feature colonial balconies, hallways, and interior courtyards.

Chorro de Quevedo

The Plaza del Chorro de Quevedo, considered the birthplace of Bogotá, is probably the most iconic site in the area. This spot, where the city was founded in 1539, is now a popular destination for both locals and visitors, who gather in its cafés, bars, and restaurants.

Frequently, musicians and storytellers draw a crowd of locals to entertain passersby.

Plaza de Bolívar

Just a few streets away from Chorro de Quevedo is Bogotá's main square, Plaza de Bolívar. Dating back to the city's founding, it is one of Colombia's most famous public spaces.

Today, the square is surrounded by government buildings, including the National Capitol, the Palace of Justice, and the City Hall. It is also flanked by the Primatial Cathedral of Bogotá, which was built in the early 19th century.

Gold Museum



During pre-Hispanic times, Colombia was home to various Indigenous tribes. Much of their artistic legacy is preserved in the Gold Museum, which houses 34,000 gold pieces and 20,000 artifacts made from other materials. The archaeological collection includes jewelry, ornaments, ceramics, and textiles, among other objects.

Botero Museum

Fernando Botero is one of Colombia's most renowned artists. His style, known as Boterismo, depicts people and animals with exaggerated proportions and volumes. While his paintings and sculptures can be seen in countries such as Spain, Armenia, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States, among others, the Botero Museum remains the largest collection of his work, with 208 pieces. There, you can also admire works by other renowned artists, such as Dalí, Picasso, and Monet.

Monserrate

Monserrate Hill is the natural and spiritual emblem of Colombia's capital, an iconic landmark that your clients must discover. Standing at approximately 3,152 meters above sea level, it is one of Bogotá's eastern hills, crowned by a beautiful sanctuary at the summit. The ascent covers 2,350 meters, leading to the highest point of Monserrate Hill.

This journey is one of the best ways to appreciate the region's flora—including orchids, ferns, bromeliads, and quiches growing among towering eucalyptus trees—as well as its fauna, such as red-tailed squirrels, weasels, various hummingbirds, and over 100 bird species.

Visitors can reach the top by taking a trail with irregular steps (1,605 in total), a cable car, or a funicular, all offering access to one of the most breathtaking panoramic views of Colombia's capital.

Green Bogotá

- **Bike Routes:** Bogotá is the Latin American city with the highest number of daily bicycle trips. Today, the bike route network spans nearly 600 kilometers, with an estimated one million daily trips along this corridor, in addition to the cycling groups and collectives that travel between Bogotá and nearby municipalities.
- **Botanical Garden “Jose Celestino Mutis”:** The Bogotá Botanical Garden is a lush urban oasis spanning approximately 19 hectares. It features the Tropicario, an impressive greenhouse showcasing diverse ecosystems, along with themed gardens and conservation areas that highlight Colombia's rich biodiversity.
- **Simón Bolívar Park:** The green lung of Bogotá, featuring vast green spaces, a lake, and venues for concerts and events. It is the perfect place to enjoy outdoor activities and leisure time in the city.

Gastronomic Offer

Bogotá offers a vibrant and diverse culinary scene, blending the richness of traditional Colombian



cuisine with international influences. Each district in Bogotá offers a unique experience. From the traditional elegance of “Usaquén”, the “G Zone”, and the modern “T Zone”, to the bohemian vibe of “La Macarena” or “Parkway” and the lively atmosphere of Parque de la 93, the city invites visitors to explore its rich culinary landscape. For those seeking a more authentic experience, local markets showcase Colombia’s incredible biodiversity through a stunning variety of fresh fruits and regional products.

#3 El Chato: Chef Álvaro Clavijo surprises with a constantly changing tasting menu, using local products and global techniques. Also it ranked 25th position worldwide

#10 Leo: A journey through Colombian biodiversity in 8 or 12 steps, where flavors from the sea, land and soil merge in a unique gastronomic experience (No.8 Latin America's 50 Best Restaurants 2023) photo

#45 Humo Negro: A relaxed atmosphere with small plates to share, combining Latin American, Nordic and Japanese flavors with local ingredients (No.44 Latin America’s 50 Best Restaurants 2023). Photo

Nightlife

This growth has positioned Bogotá as one of the most promising gastronomic capitals in the region. Not only do its restaurants rank among the world’s best, but its bars have also been recognized among the The World’s 100 Best Clubs 2024, making the city a must-visit destination for food and cocktail enthusiasts alike, complemented with recognized GastroBar where the nightlife will make you live the Latin Music such as Andrés D.C or Gaira Cumbia House

#68 Theatron

73 Clandestino

#82 Octava

