



Colombia



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History

- The language spoken is **spanish**.
- Colombia is the only country in South America that has coastlines on both the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.
- La Quinta de San Pedro Alejandrino is one of the most important tourism parts in Colombia.
- Colombia is known for its aromatic Arabica coffee, superior quality emeralds, and exotic fruits. The Latin American country is also known for having a knack for throwing the best parties and it's passionate people.



Colombian Traditions

“El Día de Las Velitas”

One of the main Colombian tradition is “El Día de Las Velitas” . Día de las Velitas (Day of the Little Candles) is a Colombian tradition of lighting rows and rows of candles on the night of December 7 to celebrate the proclamation of the Immaculate Conception.



Carnaval de Negros y Blancos

The Black and White Carnival is when private homes comes together as collective individuals to display the art of the carnival. A wide range of people from all over the country come together to express their views of life. The festival is especially important as the expression of a mutual desire for a future of tolerance and respect.



Quemar el año viejo (Burning the 'old year' doll)

A puppet that is dressed in ancient clothing and burnt to bring luck in the New Year is known as a "old year," or Ao Viejo. This long-standing custom, which is primarily practiced in small communities, serves as a metaphor for letting go and holding out hope for a better future.



Colombian food

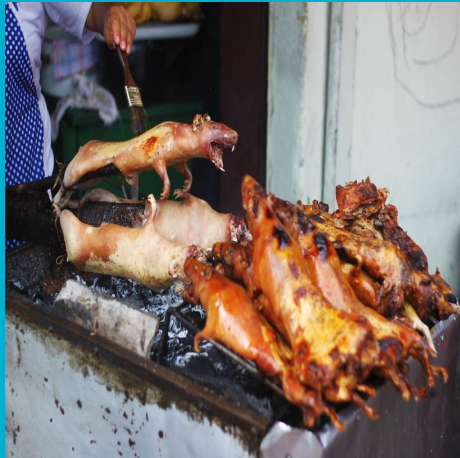
Colombian cuisine is rich and diverse depending on the region of the country.

Exotic:

Roasted Ant

Guinea Pig

Fried Intestines



Traditional:

Bandeja paisa

Fritanga

Lechona

Hogao



Colombian Clothing

Colombian attire is very bright and colorful !

- In the coastal region clothing is loose and colorful
- In the cooler region, people wear woolen/ heavy cotton “ Ruanas”.

Clothes depends on climate/location. **The most popular costume is the Pollera Colora.** The Ruana is the most common item in the cooler regions.

Typical clothes would be shorts, t-shirts and dress due to the weather.



Music/Dance

Colombia's music/dance are separated into four distinct zones. (**The Andes**, **The Atlantic**, **The Caribbean** & **The Pacific**.)

Andes: Bambuco

Atlantic: Cumbia/Salsa

Pacific: Guasa/Mapale

Caribbean: Cumbia/Vallenato

1. Vallenato was originally a means of spreading news.
2. Music and dance in Colombia are a mix of many cultures: the Indigenous, Spanish & African.
3. Traditional dances uses happen at carnivals/fiestas.



Crafts

There are numerous types of crafts created by the Colombians. These significant crafts comes in different variations that are similar to the regions in the country.

Materials used: Clay, beads, wool, wood, precious metals

Examples of Crafts: Hammocks, Gold Pieces, Bags, Basketry & Hard-Knit articles

Many of these handicrafts are exported abroad and many people buy them as luxury items.