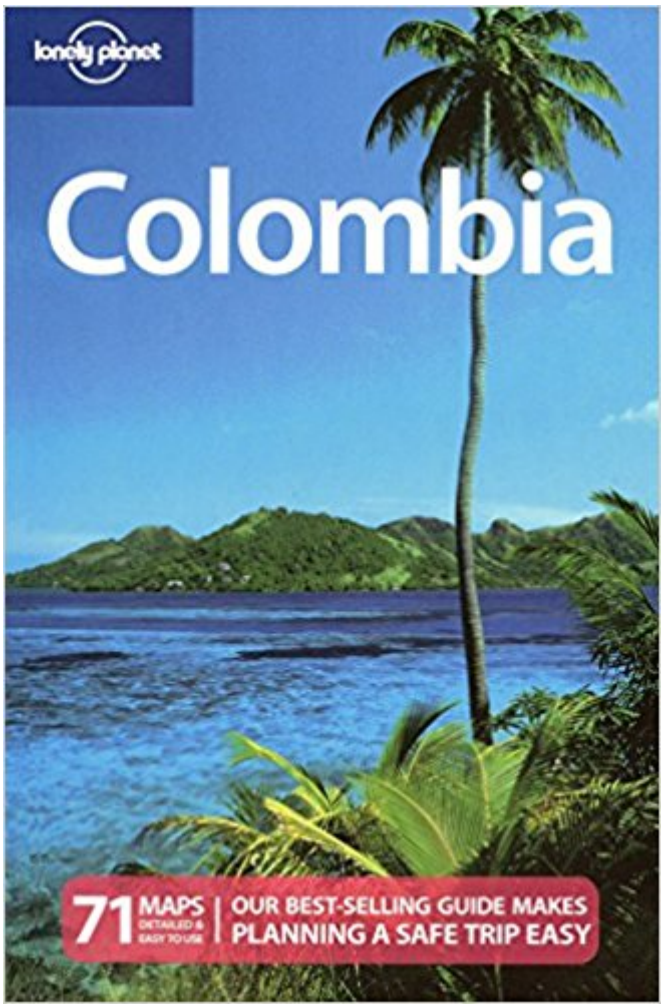
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Colombia (Country Travel Guide)



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Synopsis

Lonely Planet knows Colombia. Whether you want to strill the cobbled streets of colonial Cartagena, bask on a dazzling Caribbean beach, sample some of the world's finest java on a coffee plantation or show off your salsa moves at a packed Cali nightclub, our 5th edition takes you there.Lonely Planet guides are written by experts who get to the heart of every destination they visit. This fully updated edition is packed with accurate, practical and honest advice, designed to give you the information you need to make the most of your trip.In This Guide:Dedicated Outdoors chapter with trekking, diving and paraglidingSizzling nightlife and dining picks for Bogota, Medellin and CaliRevealed: La Guajira, the Pacific Coast and other emerging hotspots

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Lonely Planet guides are a must-packÃ¢â ¬Â• --Toronto Star, February 2006 --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Who We Are At Lonely Planet, we see our job as inspiring and enabling travellers to connect with the world for their own benefit and for the benefit of the world at large. What We Do * We offer travellers the world's richest travel advice, informed by the collective wisdom of over 350 Lonely Planet authors living in 37 countries and fluent in 70 languages. * We are relentless in finding the special, the unique and the different for travellers wherever they are. * When we update our guidebooks, we check every listing, in person, every time. * We always offer the trusted filter for

those who are curious, open minded and independent. * We challenge our growing community of travellers; leading debate and discussion about travel and the world. * We tell it like it is without fear or favor in service of the travellers; not clouded by any other motive. What We Believe We believe that travel leads to a deeper cultural understanding and compassion and therefore a better world. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

The guide is just adequate. It really does not give you a good feel for the area you are researching (Cartagena, in my case). While it gives you brief descriptions of sites and sights of interest, but does not provide any guidance as to the general location of the various options or how organize your day to visit nearby attractions in a logical way. There isn't a useful map (only a small 3/4 page map of the old town), no suggested walking tours, two paragraphs on "shopping", only one page on "eating" (which covers all price points), no color or black and white photographs of anything.Granted, it does give you some information as introduction and something is better than nothing. If you have never been there before, you at least get the names of places that sound interesting, and you can then research them on the web. There really aren't too many options available on Colombia travel guides (this one seemed the best of the bunch) and even the Cartagena Tourism Board website doesn't give a lot of detail (although it does at least have beautiful photography).I have read every page on Cartagena and my review is based exclusively on this portion of the book. The rest of the book, which I have only skimmed over, appears to be at the same level of superficial detail.

I am a loyal reader and user of the lonely guides. I am an avid backpacker and I have traveled all over the world using your books.I bought this book prior to my trip in Colombia, and I am currently in my 4th week of my trip.This book is really bad! This is the first time I write you about any book, and I hope you get my feedback.Obviously, I am not writing about the inaccuracy of prices etc: It is more than 2 years old and understandebly inaccurate.However, the book is really not meeting the standard of writing: it is extremely superficial. It fails to talk and mention important towns, cities and villages. For example, Doradal, a beautiful little town right outside of Rio Claro reserve, is not even mentioned! I met many travelers who cannot afford staying in Rio Claro, and end up in Doradal. this is just one example of many. Also, the exlplanations are poor: for example, the village of Guatape has a wonderful artificial lake that was created by a large dam that wiped out a whole village. no where this is mentioned. Also, often there are mistakes (Cabo de la vela is northwest of Riohacha!!??). Some of the most important places to tourists has no maps!! e.g. salento, san gil, manizales! there are many other reasons that I think that this book is terrible.I hope the new edition

will be much better than this disgrace of a guidebook.yair

I have used these guides on many trips, but I found the columbia version to miss a lot of info. I have traveled with it twice now, two years ago with the hardback and this past winter with the kindle version. I am only a fan of the kindle version because it is less weight to carry, but harder to navigate. my boyfriend and I found ourselves in many cool places in Colombia that the book barely mentioned, or not at all. I know a guide cannot contain every little town there is, but it seemed quite lacking. maybe similar to the chapter of Colombia in the lonely planet south America. when buying a guide for a specific country I would hope it has much more extensive info. and after two years the guide is already outdated with prices and hostels. Colombia is becoming more and more off tourist destination and changing quickly. I would have hoped the kindle version could have more updates.

I have just returned from Colombia (December 2006), using solely the Lonely Planet guide for 3 1/2 weeks. I followed the Essential Colombia itinerary, which the book states will take 5+ weeks, in 3 weeks fairly comfortably. I started in Ipiales, worked my way up to Cartegena and back down to Bogota. There were the usually small errors, but by the time I reached Mompos, I wondered if the authors had visited Colombia recently. Permit me to describe some of the errors in just Mompos.Mompos is reached by an 8-hour bus ride from Categena. The book describes that you may also reach Mompos more quickly by boat, and also leave upsteam by boat to El Banco. I checked with several locals in both Mompos and El Banco who stated there were no boats going to/from Mompos. I also did not see any boats along the river during my stay there. The book states that you can take a colectivo from Calle 18 (near the markets) at Plaza de Bolivar. Well, the colectivos moved from this location over two years ago. The local market moved 3 years ago. In sum, the material on getting and leaving town was dead wrong. Then there was the little stuff. The town can be walked easily, you don’t need a bike. I couldn’t find the bars listed in the book. I am a little surprised this was published in its present form. Senderos Felices!

typical mediocre lonely planet stuff on the ’beaten to death track" with no sense of realadventure or inspiration, huge parts of the country hardly covered and worse still:factual mistakes which show without a doubt that the writer haven’t been near thoseparts of the country he writes about.considering that the writer for an earlier edition confessed to having written it sitting inhis californian home, I believe his example was adopted.

i spoke with several great places i happened to come across and asked them why they weren't in the lonely planet. they said that lonely planet required a fee to be included in the book and they didn't want to pay. i was very disappointed, as i thought that lonely planet was built off journalism and making money through the purchase of the book rather than the fees generated by the places it evaluates. the best places i went to were not included in the book, so i would only give this book a middle of the road rating.

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