

Kat's Great Adventures

Colombia - The Colombian Condor Road Cycling Tour 2023

Guided Tour

16 Days / 15 Nights



The Colombian Condor Route is the experience any cyclist is eager to live. In these exuberant landscapes Colombian national cyclists train every day. The tour begins in the green mountains of the eastern Andes and ends in the warm waters of the Caribbean Sea. During this tour you will see beautiful landscapes, cross flagship towns of the colonial era, enriched by its culture and gastronomy, and finally you will reach Cartagena - the iconic walled city of Spanish colonization.

Kat's Great Adventures 1233 Tintern Drive, Greely, Ontario K4P 1R6 – Direct: 613-241-0111 Extension 6

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TICO # 50022092

Itinerary Day to Day

Day 1: Arrival to Bogotá

Arrival to Bogotá, airport pick up. In the evening we will gather with all the participants in order to go over the trip details. If you are already in Bogotá, we recommend you to enjoy a half day city tour in the historical center (extra cost).



Day 2: Chía – Tunja 120 km + 1746 m

This first stage is a good warm-up. You will start in Chia – a small town in the outskirts of Bogotá and you will pedal towards Boyacá department - this is where many famous Colombian cyclists come from. On the way to your first goal, you will visit the Bridge of Boyacá - a historical place, where the final independence battle of the New Granada (Colombia) took place. Soon after the Boyacá Bridge you will arrive at Tunja. Tunja is the highest Colombian city located at 2810 meters above sea level. In the evening you will visit The Plaza de Bolivar where the whole group will join for dinner. We will spend the night in a hotel in the center of the city.

Day 3: Tunja – Duitama - Santa Rosa - Sogamoso - Aquitania - Sogamoso – Paipa 166 km + 2382 m

Today's stage is where you can enjoy the majestic mountains and towns of Boyacá, this is where the Colombian best cyclists train every day. Today you will pass impressive landscapes. The stage begins in Duitama, 55 km from Tunja, and the main goal is to surround the magnificent lake of Tota, which is the largest in Colombia and the second highest and navigable in South America. Then you will focus to reach Paipa – a city famous for its thermal bath.

Day 4: Paipa – Combita - Moniquira - Villa de Leyva 130 km + 2348 m

At the end of this stage you will reach Villa de Leyva - a small town recognized for its white colonial buildings, cobbled streets and its huge main square. On the way you will pass another small town where the most important Colombian cyclist Nairo Quintana was born and raised.

Day 5: Villa de Leyva

Today is your free day in Villa de Leyva. This is a great place for some rest. You can relax in the hotel or stroll through the small streets of this beautiful colonial town visiting the souvenir stores and coffee bars. If you have enough energy, you can go hiking to Iguaque Lake. There is a legend which tells that in Iguaque Lake, the mother of the Muiscas (indigenous tribe) called Bachue gave birth to the humanity. During this hike you would be able to get familiarized with the particular ecosystem called Paramo which can only be met in some few countries in South America (this hike takes all day considering the driving and hiking time).



Day 6: Villa de Leyva - Oiba - Guadalupe 137 km + 2294 m

In this stage you will leave behind the department famous for its cyclists, farmers and miners. You will pedal into Santander department characterized by its fluvial valleys and rugged terrain, such as the rugged mountains of the Chicamocha Canyon. Today our goal is to reach a small town called Guadalupe where the culture and gastronomy are well known.

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Day 7: Guadalupe – Barichara 97 km + 1885 m

You will wake up early in the morning to do a short walk to the small river called “Las Gachas”. This is an idyllic place where you can find natural Jacuzzis with crystalline water. After a short swim, you will be ready to face the next challenge of 97 km in order to reach Barichara. This small town is famous for its particular architecture and single color. It tells lots of stories about the Guanes Indians. In the evening you will walk through the small streets of the town.



Day 8: Barichara – Giron 123 km + 2403 m

In this stage you will feel the sun shining stronger, the hot breeze and the humid weather. Today's goal is to reach Giron - located at 693 meters above sea level. This is the last stage of your effort crossing the vast east Andean mountains until you reach this beautiful city characterized by its white walls, huge ochre colored doors and paved cobbled streets. Giron is recognized as a National Monument of Colombia. During this stage, the guide will make a stop in order to enjoy the views of Chicamocha canyon.



Day 9: Giron / San Alberto – Banco /Mompox 183 km + 830 m

A new day, a new challenge. You will wake up early in the morning to have breakfast and the transportation will take you to San Alberto - where the longest of all The Colombian Condor Tour stage begins. You will cross three different Colombian departments (Santander, Cesar and arrive to Magdalena). You will do 183 km pedaling out of 356 km of the total today (including the transportation). The pedaling ends in Banco - and from there you will take again the transportation to get to Santa Cruz de Mompox. This time it is not the mountains that dominate the landscape, it will be flat terrain with intense and suffocating heat, infinite flats and lots of humidity. The reward will be to reach one of the most

emblematic places in Colombia, Santa Cruz de Mompox - world heritage city on the banks of Magdalena River (altitude 33 m.a.s.l.).

Day 10: Mompox

Free day in Mompox – this is a great place to have a resting day. You can get up and relax in the hotel or stroll through this beautiful city. We recommend that you walk around the town in the morning hours before the sun gets too strong. In the afternoon we recommend the navigation tour of the Magdalena River for bird watching and sunset.

Day 11: Mompox/Bosconia – Santa Marta 160 km + 590 m

Early in the morning you will be transported to Bosconia (150 km), a small town, where you will begin your pedaling stage to Santa Marta. You will make a short visit to Aracataca, the small town where The Nobel Prize Winner Gabriel Garcia Marquez was born. This is the most difficult stage in terms of hours which you will spend in a car and riding a bike. At the end of the day you will take a good rest with many amenities that the hotel can offer.

Day 12: Santa Marta – Palomino 72 km + 726 m

This day will be full of joy, this is the shortest stage of the entire

tour surrounded by green and exuberant vegetation where the birds will accompany us with their songs. The heat and the breeze will be determining factors. When you arrive at Palomino you will enjoy a delicious lunch in front of the beach where you can cool off and take a swim in the Caribbean Sea. In the afternoon if you still have energy you can enjoy a small “rafting” activity (extra cost), where you have to walk for half an hour and then descend on a tire appreciating the nature that springs from the jungle on the banks of this river that flows into the sea.

Day 13: Palomino – Barranquilla 169 km + 1030 m

Congratulations, there are only two stages left to crown the Colombian Condor Tour. This will be a hard stage on a flat road with oppressive heat and a breeze hitting our face. Today the city of Barranquilla is your goal. On the way you will cross the Cienaga Grande de Santa Marta.



Day 14: Barranquilla – Cartagena 118 km + 861 m

The last stage of the Colombian Condor Tour has arrived! After having pedaled 1500 km you have finally reached the jewel of the emblematic cities of Spanish colonization. As a gladiator you have crossed the Andes eastern mountain range, valleys, rivers until you reach this magnificent Caribbean city. Here you can enjoy the architecture of the Spanish colonial era. This city was strongly fortified against constant battles between pirates and settlers. Today it has become the top tourist destination of Colombia – this is where you will enjoy the well-deserved rest.

Day 15: Cartagena

Free day discovering Cartagena. We recommend a day tour to Islas del Rosario (by fast boat) in order to rest in some nice beach. In the evening do not miss a walk through the historical part of the city.

Day 16: Transfer to airport

End of service

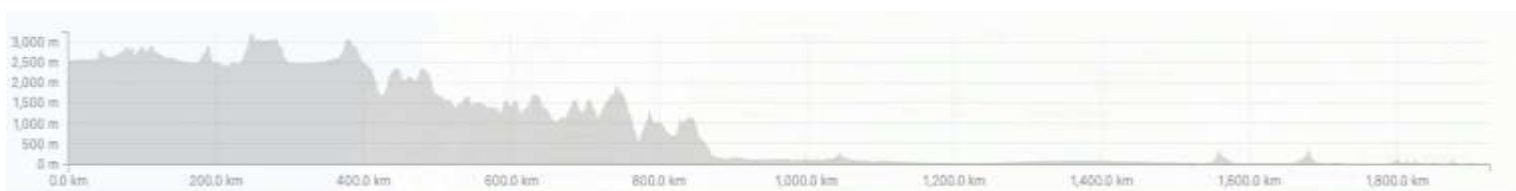


Route



Technical Characteristics:

Route Profile: Hard. Some long daily stretches with elevation changes and warm temperatures. Riding on 95% paved surfaces. Road bicycles recommended.



Distance: 1475 km

Travel Season: Departures on request January 4 to December 1, 2023

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Price per Person:

Double Occupancy	\$ 6100.00 USD
Single Occupancy Surcharge	\$ 750.00 USD
Extra Nights Bogota Double Occupancy	\$55.00 USD
Extra Nights Bogota Single Occupancy	\$90.00 USD
Extra Nights Cartagena Double Occupancy	\$130.00 USD
Extra Nights Cartagena Single Occupancy	\$215.00 USD
Surcharge for Specialty Diet*	\$230.00 USD

*Surcharge for speciality diet includes gluten free and vegan diets. Vegetarian diets are free of charge. Gluten free and vegan options are available only in specified cities of Bogotá, Villa de Leyva, Barichara, Mompox, Santa Marta and Cartagena

**Group rates available for this tour. As this is a guided tour, the pricing improves with more people participating. Please ask us for details.

Extra Experiences:

Cycling Tour downtown Bogotá - 6 hour tour (minimum 3 people), \$125.00 USD per person

Includes bicycles, visit to Paloquemao market, visit to see the street art, playing a national sport/game - Tejo, visit to Botero Museum, visit to Monserrate and Plaza de Bolivar.

Iguaque Lagoon, Villa de Leyva - 8 hour tour (minimum 3 people) \$100.00 USD per person

Includes transportation, professional Guide and entrance fee to the Flora and Fauna Sanctuary

Navigate Magdalena River for Birdwatching and sunset, Mompox - 3 hour tour (minimum 3 people) \$100.00 USD per person

Includes transportation, boat ride and a guide.

Islas del Rosario Excursion Cartagena - 8 hour tour (no minimum number of people) \$120.00 USD per person

Includes lunch, a beverage, snorkelling, and sailing in a catamaran to the Rosario islands



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Accommodation:

3* and 4* hotels, all with private rooms and washrooms. Rooms have double bed or two twin beds. Some boutique hotels stays as well, not rated on international system



Included:

- 15 nights based on double accommodation
- 15 X breakfast, 11x lunch and 1x dinner
- Airport transfer in and out (only if the group arrives and departs on the same flight)
- Cycling guide throughout the tour
- Mechanical assistance during the entire tour
- Transportation and luggage transfer during the trip
- Health insurance
- Accompanying motorcycle for a safe ride for groups over 4 people
- Support van
- Snacks during the cycle trip
- Water during the ride
- Jersey of the Colombian Condor Tour

Not Included:

- Airport transfer in and out for early arrival or extra days (if the traveler arrives on different flight from the rest of the group)
- Dinners and some lunches
- Bicycle with all the equipment
- Assembling or disassembling the bikes \$90.00 USD per bike
- Alcoholic beverages
- Lodging before and after the trip
- Personal items purchased during the trip
- Optional activities not scheduled or included
- Gratuities

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