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## GEEO ITINERARY

CARIBBEAN COLOMBIA - Winter

### **Day 1: Cartagena Arrive in Cartagena at any time.**

You may arrive in Cartagena at any time today. There are no planned activities, so check into our hotel and enjoy the city. We will have a group meeting in the evening around 6:00 p.m. There will be a note at the front desk to let you know the precise time of the meeting. The note will also tell you what time to meet in the lobby in the morning if you arrive too late for the meeting. If you miss this meeting, please don't worry; your tour leader will go over everything with you in the morning. Please note hot water is uncommon in the Caribbean region of Colombia. Showers are likely to only have cold water while visiting this area.

### **Day 2: Cartagena (B) Enjoy a city tour, visiting the colonial walled city and fortress, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy free time to take in the Caribbean vibe of the city and beach.**

This morning you will learn more about Cartagena's history from a bilingual guide on a tour of this lively city. Travel between sights by private transport and visit the clock tower, Plaza Bolivar, and the Castillo de San Felipe de Barajas. Take in sweeping views of the city from the hilltop Convento De La Popa and enjoy a walking tour from San Pedro Claver Church to Santo Domingo Church. Afterward, enjoy free time to take in the Caribbean vibe of the city and beach. See our optional activities section below for some suggestions on what to do with your free time.

### **Day 3: Cartagena/Minca (B) Travel to the small town of Minca, breathe in the fresh mountain air, and enjoy free time to explore.**

Travel to the small town of Minca, breathe in the fresh mountain air, and enjoy free time to explore. Go looking for unique birds, explore the area on foot, or hang out at a local café by the river. Approximate travel time: 4 hrs by private vehicle

### **Day 4: Minca/Parque Nacional Natural Tayrona (B, L) Head into Tayrona National Park for a moderate hike with a local guide. This is a perfect opportunity to experience nature and learn a little more about the rich, natural diversity of northern Colombia. Stay in a lodge close to the park.**

Get outside with a hike (3-5 hrs) into this beautiful park! Learn more about the rich diversity of Tayrona's natural heritage and explore Tayrona's gorgeous scenery with a local guide. Spend the night surrounded by nature in a lodge close to the park. Approximate travel time: 1 hr by private vehicle

### **Day 5: Parque Nacional Natural Tayrona (B, L) Spend the day with the Gotsezhi Wiwa indigenous community. Enjoy lunch prepared by women from the community. Learn about Wiwa customs on a village visit and then lounge in a hammock by the river or opt to explore nearby waterfalls.**

Visit the Gotsezhi community and enjoy a meal cooked by women from the community with local ingredients. Visit the nearby village where youth from the four indigenous tribes in the region come to school to learn about their cultural customs and languages. Upon entry into the village, experience a soul-cleansing ceremony and learn about traditional customs, stories, and handicraft methods from this region. After, jump in the river for a cool dip, visit nearby waterfalls and natural swimming pools, or rest in a hammock and reflect on your accomplishment before returning to Santa Marta.

### **Day 6: Parque Nacional Natural Tayrona/Taganga (B) In the afternoon, travel**

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**from Tayrona to Taganga. Orientation walk with your tour leader upon arrival.**

With your tour leader, take an orientation walk through this traditional fishing village and get acquainted with the main sites. Then, soak up the Caribbean feel of this coastal town with some free time. Be sure to indulge in the area's fantastic fresh seafood or hang out in one of the many cafés along the beach. Approximate travel time: 45 min by private vehicle

**Day 7: Taganga/Santa Marta (B) Take advantage of free time in this coastal town by relaxing on the beach or exploring the waters with a snorkel.**

With a free day at leisure, tour Taganga on foot or don a snorkel and mask and explore the water. This evening, travel to Santa Marta and join your group for an optional evening out on the town. Approximate travel time: 30 min by private vehicle

**Day 8: Santa Marta (B) Depart Santa Marta at any time.**

Our tour concludes today, and you may depart Santa Marta at any time. Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO trips in the same year and receive a discount! GEEO will give you 10% off of the lesser value program(s) (up to 3 programs). If you don't see a program that interests you that pairs with this trip but still would like to extend your time abroad, let us know. We will work with you to find a non-teacher trip from our tour operator's much larger catalog. Even better, if you are an educator, we can still offer you a discounted price on the trip you choose!