

Chapter 1 : Travelogue vacation Colombia - Off the Beaten Track travel story Colombia

Here are some off the beaten track places you maybe never have considered to be adventure sport capitals. Adventure Activities in Nimaima This relatively small historic and colonial destination is located 75 km or 45 minutes from Colombia's capital Bogota.

She frequently spent weekends in Pasto and traveled to many other towns in the region. Medellin, Cartagena, Bogota, Salento. But what about the rest of the country? Southwestern Colombia is full of rural towns and natural beauty, often only looked at as a stop on the way to the border “but in reality, the region is worth so much more than that. Pasto, the surprisingly large capital of roughly half a million inhabitants, the border city of Ipiales, and the beachside Pacific coast city of Tumaco. In between are mountainside towns that conserve indigenous culture and traditions much more than many other parts of Colombia, making it a unique stop during your travels in Colombia. Often described as the most important cultural event to happen in Southern Colombia, the traditional event has its origins in celebrating the racial and cultural diversity of the region. The festival happens each year from January , though there are pre-Carnaval activities starting just after Christmas, including a day for everyone to grab some chalk and color the roads in their city. The floats are massive, and extremely vibrant and colorful. The gray-stone church is built into a gorge over a rushing stream with a bridge extending high above the water to the other mountainside. All around, vendors are selling traditional lunches and souvenirs, while below the church itself sits as a museum explaining the history. The story goes that a mother and her young daughter were seeking refuge during a storm and became trapped in the mountains. The daughter, who was said to be deaf and mute, spoke for the first time to tell her mother that the Virgin del Rosario had appeared above them, in the spot that would eventually become the sanctuary. By Rafal Cichawa The church is breathtaking and you can easily spend a couple of hours there. However, other than that, Ipiales has little to offer in the way of tourist activities. The city is largely sleepy and filled with local shops, restaurants, and bars that the local community enjoy. Laguna de La Cocha The little lakeside hamlet just 45 minutes outside the city of Pasto seemingly transports you to another time. Laguna de La Cocha consists of a series of canals that lead to the main lake. Hop into the restaurants serving freshly caught trout, and pick up a hand-made Alpaca fur sweater in the shops across the water. In the middle of the lake sits Isla Carota, a small island housing a wood-paneled church and an ecological park. Galeras Volcano Pasto sits right at the base of Volcan Galeras, a volcano rising about 14, feet above sea level. It is the most active volcano in Colombia. For an outdoorsman, this is a perfect adventure. The full climb can take up to a total of 12 hours up and down, though parts of the trail are often closed due to dangers on the paths. Volcan Chiles sits literally on the border of Colombia and Ecuador, just a few hours south of Pasto. The hike is only slightly less challenging than Galeras. The volcano is 17, feet above sea level, and the summit can reach near freezing temperatures, but the hike has lower paths that can be fit for anyone. Volcan Cumbal is another popular climb, a few hours from Pasto, closer to Ipiales. Just below the base is an Ecological park and lake you can explore if the hike is too much. Cuy Cuy translates to guinea pig. Yes, we are suggesting you eat guinea pig. Restaurants will fry or roast the cuy over a traditional open fire before serving. The meat is most often compared to chicken, with the bone consistency of a fish dish. Cuy is a staple in Pasto, Ipiales, and most of the small towns around. By anna mori 6. Vendors usually sit on the streets churning up this fun treat by hand. Helado de Paila comes from a time before refrigerators and freezers were in the region, causing the need to make ice cream using natural ice when it hailed. The flavors are usually fruity and the texture is more like a sorbet than a typical ice cream. The best place to get the ice cream in Pasto is a little shop called La Paila Heladeria. By robert gibson z.

Chapter 2 : Off the track - Review of Iglesia de Egipto, Bogota, Colombia - TripAdvisor

Off the beaten track Colombia: San Agustin and the Amazon 12 days from £2,pp. Price excludes international flights at the beginning and end of the trip.

We listed the ones that we personally stayed at above, but if you want to stay somewhere else, check the options below: We ate at all types of restaurants, from tiny hole-in-the-wall joints to nicer lounges and boutique eateries. If you decide to buy groceries and cook at your apartment or hostel, you can save even more money as groceries are good value in Colombia. When booking your hotel or hostel, look out for free breakfasts. Some touristy bars have a cover charge like Havana Bar in Cartagena. There are limited varieties of wine when compared to places like Chile and Argentina, but there are a lot of different beers including some great craft breweries. For all of these costs you can usually find discounts at happy hour. Many restaurants and bars have signs posted out front where you can get 2 for 1 or buy one get the second half off. Keep your eye out for these signs and you can save quite a bit on your alcohol bill. In fact, the servers will ask you if you want to include the tip, or not. In many places you can actually spend USD, including restaurants, hotels and some small shops. You can use your credit card almost everywhere in Colombia including cafes, restaurants, grocery stores, clothing stores, malls and hotels. Almost all banks in western countries and China will be usable. Use your travel rewards credit card for direct purchases as much as possible to accrue points and save on these ATM costs. Charles Schwab Bank is a good option for people from the US to avoid banking fees while travelling. The landscape and activities are so diverse and with over 1. Here are some places that you should definitely not miss. We stayed in the Chapinero area and it was great. Keep in mind that taxis and especially Uber jack up their prices around rush hour 7: But it is lovely and definitely worth a visit when travelling Colombia – either by day trip, or for a night on the way up to other nice towns further north. Here you can explore the cobblestone streets, visit a nearby dinosaur fossil, a crazy house and a nice viewpoint. But the real reason to come here is the plethora of adventure activities on offer around San Gil. Top activities include white water rafting, paragliding, hiking, caving, trekking, bungee jumping and more. The best part of the city is the vibe and energy that you can feel buzzing on the streets. Make sure you get out of the chaos of the Antioquian capital and explore some of the beautiful barrios that surround the city. Check out our Guatape Video: This beautiful farm town in the infamous coffee region Eje Cafetero was definitely the highlight of our entire backpacking trip in Colombia. There are a lot of things to do in and around this small colonial town including hiking the Cocora Valley, horse back riding, coffee tours, games of tejo, waterfalls and just enjoying the stunning natural scenery. The rooms are set in gorgeous farm houses with views out over rolling hills and the service and food here is impeccable. It was worth the trip to Salento on its own. Check out our Salento Video: Cartagena Another one of our favourite cities in Colombia and probably one of our favourite places in the entire world. Cartagena is a buzzing colonial town with an intoxicating Caribbean flare. The old town is absolutely stunning with colorful balconies and countless parks and plazas. The town boasts some of the best food in the country and there is something going on here almost every weekend. From concerts and festivals to street parties and carnival, you will never be bored in Cartagena. Cartagena is a highlight of backpacking Colombia for sure. Basically you throw a heavy lead disc across a long alley and try to hit little packets of gun powder which are set atop a bed of clay. Excessive beer and explosives, what could possibly go wrong? You can opt to do the trek in 3 or 4 nights but most people choose to do it in 3. The old trail was once used by the indigenous Guane people, then later by the Spanish to transport goods between the two villages. We already wrote plenty about why we love this place above, but it truly is an experience. We did and had an awesome time in the city together, plus met up again later in Cartagena! Within an hour we felt like we had known them forever. It connects much of the city to the surrounding barrios and also helps the commerce spread outward from the wealthier city center. Having some drinks and dancing with the locals will surely be one of your favourite memories from backpacking Colombia! This trip comes highly recommended by many travellers, but when backpacking Colombia, we wanted to get a little off-track. Watch a Live Football Soccer Match There are some bitter rivalries around the country and the best way to experience the clash of these

national cultures is to go to a football soccer game in Colombia. Football is by far the most watched and loved sport around the country and you can really see how passionate Colombians are about the sport when you enter a stadium packed with 50, screaming fans. Watching a football match is one of the coolest experiences you can have when backpacking Colombia! Must-Try Dishes Jump To:

Chapter 3 : Off the beaten track in Colombia: Tierradentro "Gone once again

For those already heading down to the boundary with Ecuador, a must see on any tour of Colombia before crossing the border is Las Lajas Sanctuary close to the town of Ipiales in the southern Colombian department of Nariño.

Santuario de Las Lajas in Ipiales was built on a bridge. Finally Cartagena with city walls and forts. Only the airplane ticket and the first two nights in a hotel are booked. Apart from those, everything is open. It has a few "must see" exhibits, like the Balsa Muisca, a gold raft. It was found in a cave by farmers, together with some other gold objects. I take a bus to Neiva and ask the driver to stop in Aipe. There should be a ferry to Villavieja. After some asking around, the villagers direct me to an unpaved path and a little later I stand at the Rio Magdalena, alone and desperate. And here should be a ferry? Just when I decide to walk back to the village, a man approaches who also needs the ferry; he takes me with him. Through the bushes we arrive at a tiny beach, where a really narrow boat arrives a little later. I would never have found this by myself. This is what I call "traveling off the beaten track". When we arrive at the other side, in Villavieja the man offers me to sit on the luggage carrier of his moped and takes me to a hotel. I immediately book tours there. Tonight we go to an observatory and tomorrow to the Tatacoa Desert. Javier Fernando Rua Restrepo is the local astronomist who gives lectures in Spanish about the stars. The stars are wonderfully visible here in the Tatacoa Desert, because there is hardly any light pollution. The observatory has some very strong telescopes; you can see the craters in the moon and even Jupiter. The next day I visit the extraordinary desert landscape. Typical for the Tatacoa Desert are the fantastic rock formations, shaped by erosion, and the many meters high cactuses. But there also are small bulbous cactuses with red fruits, which I taste. I walk with a guide through the red-brown landscape where temperatures can reach the fifties centigrade. A jeep takes me to grey rocks in which you can see - with some imagination - a dog and a tortoise. The tour ends where it started, in Villavieja. A little farther south are the prehistoric finds of San Augustin. These mostly ceremonial pre-Colombian burial places are scattered over a surface of square kilometers and are on the World Heritage list of Unesco. I book a tour on horseback. For the first time in my life I sit on a horse. My travel companion on this tour is Sammy, a Canadian who is already a year on the road with his motorbike. We gallop through the green, mountainous landscape and visit some burial sites and statues. I stay in this area for a few more days because I want to take a jeep tour to see some wild nature. We also visit more graves and statues, and three waterfalls which are dozens of meters high. To get there, I have to ride an ancient bus on an unpaved road. Every now and then giant American trucks pass on the other side of the road. Both the bus and they have to go back and forth a few times to be able to pass each other on the edge of hundreds of meters deep ravines. I look down, frightened. If the vehicle slips and goes down the ravine, bus and passengers may never be found. But I arrive safely, though a little late, in Pasto where I will spend the night. The next morning I find the bus to Las Lajas. Another trip over a mountain road, this time asphalted. The final destination, Las Lajas, is breathtaking. A river runs through a canyon with waterfalls, over which a bridge is built with on it an impressive Gothic Revival basilica: Santuario de Las Lajas. The harmony between architecture and nature is wonderful. There are many footpaths around it, so you can see it from all sides. Las Lajas is a popular destination for pilgrims. Countless gratitude notes along the entrance path make that clear. To find out more about the history of the church there is a small museum. The church can be visited as well. Again a spectacular mountain road with dizzying mountain passes. I plan to get to bed early after this day of travel, but two nice ladies ask me out for drinks in town. It has racks on the walls with countless old vinyl singles in yellowing covers. After visiting here we go to a dancing. I take a day to wander around in the streets and museums. A visit to the hot-water baths of Termales Aquatibia is a nice excursion. Hot water from the volcanic area is directed through a pipe system to the baths. I take a pick-up truck taxi there, together with an Irishman, Englishman and a Spaniard. We also take four mountainbikes, because we are going back by bike. After the hot bath we zip down through the fresh-green landscape. Salento Hiking and biking I continue on my trip to Cali. In the hotel I meet a German in his early sixties. He had his motorbike flown to Los Angeles, rode it to Panama, put the motorbike on a plane again and is now discovering South America. He really is enjoying his retirement. Leaving crowded Cali I travel farther north to

the rural Salento, a picturesque village surrounded by green nature. I find a homey hotel which looks more like a museum. There are hiking options here and you can visit a coffee plantation. The paths are soggy because of the large amounts of rain lately, but you can rent rubber boots. A jeep takes me with a group of tourists to the nearby Valle de Cocora, a valley in the central Andes which has several hiking trails. I take the longest route, which leads to lake Estrela de Agua. The rubber boots come in handy, especially at the start, where the paths are no more than muddy gutters, because the local population rides here on horseback every day. I find three horseshoes, which I take home as souvenirs. This area has the tallest wax palmtrees in the world, up to 60 meters high. The hike to Estrela de Agua is tough, also because you get to an altitude above 3,000 meters. At the summit stands a dilapidated little house, where a young couple offers me tea and food. The surroundings of Salento are inviting to stay one more day. Together with Sander, another Dutchman, we rent mountain bikes and take a nice bike route, following the map the bike rental place gave us. Until my bike breaks. After some walking, I get on my bike and let it roll downhill. We arrive at a busy road with a bus stop. I put the bike in the luggage space and return to Salento by bus. Sander continues on the route. In the evening we drink a good glass of beer and tomorrow I will continue on my trip. The only point of interest is the museum of the painter and sculptor Fernando Botero. I want to get out of here quickly. Traveling by bus is almost always perfect. There are several bus companies which can take you everywhere in the country. At the sometimes huge bus terminals there are always friendly Colombians to help you and even take you to the right bus if necessary. Villa de Leyva is a relaxed village that looks like an open air museum. It makes sense that it was used as a backdrop for the television show Zorro. There are many restaurants and bars, especially around the large square at the center of the village. In the middle of the square is a fountain and the Iglesia Parroquial parochial church looks out on the cobblestones of the square and the surrounding streets. Most of the homey houses are white and have red roofs, soft-green window panes, balconies and shutters. The town is very peaceful. No wonder that many Bogotans like to spend a weekend here. There are pretty hiking routes in the surroundings. Today, I walk to Laguna Iguaque, tough on the calves with steep parts. Sometimes I have to cross fast-flowing streams over rickety bridges made of tree trunks.

Chapter 4 : Colombia Off The Beaten Track | Look at our World

Colombia Off The Beaten Track Below you will find all the categories in the category above. If you come across any article that shouldn't be in this section please do let us know by dropping us an email via our Contact Form.

Transfer to your hotel in the Candelaria district. Overnight at Abadia Colonial hotel in Classic room. Walking through its cobblestoned streets, you will discover colorful restored colonial mansions, splendid carved wooden balconies as well as churches built in baroque style. It brings together around Those artifacts come from different civilizations: Quimbayas, Taironas, Muiscas or Tolimas. The Museum contains both his works around a hundred of drawings, paintings and sculptures as well as his private collection with no less than 85 masterpieces of well known artists, such as Dali, Renoir, Chagall, Picasso, Miro Botero Museum is closed on Tuesdays. Free afternoon to enjoy Bogota as you desire. Domestic flight to Villavicencio. Descriptions of the tours are therefore indicative only; the order and content are subject to change. In addition, the site is highly protected. Access to the sites where the algae are, is only permitted from the second day of excursion. It is forbidden to use sunscreen. Appropriate equipment will be recommended before departure. Hotels in La Macarena city are all basic comfort, maximum two stars. Departure from Bogota at 6: Overnight at La Cascada hotel in Standard room. Depending on the paths opened by the park that day, you will discover several waterfalls with poetic names: You will discover the famous river known for its hundreds of shades of red and green. Return to La Macarena walking, boat and 4x4 and end of day free. Lunch in La Macarena and transfer to the airport for your domestic flight. Departure from La Macarena at 2pm by light aircraft. In Villavicencio, connection with a regular flight to Bogota. At the airport, you would have to pay a local tax of 5 COP per person. Domestic flight to Bogota. Arrival at Bogota El Dorado International airport. Overnight at Casa Deco hotel in Standard room. Domestic flight to Leticia. Arrival to Leticia and transfer by private boat on the Rio Amazonas to reach the lodge. After 1h30 of navigation, check into your lodge. After dinner, night jungle walk to soak up noise, and discover species of insects and animals that only come out at night. The Calanoa lodge is an Ecolodge which works closely with local communities. Located in the heart of the Amazon rainforest, it functions ecologically: The activities are generally organized as follows: A second one is planned between 3 and 5 PM. The order of activities may be reorganized with your guide depending on weather conditions or your interests. Starting at the lodge the next day. The lodge only has 4 bungalows, so the group never exceeds 6 to 8 people. For a private tour with a private guide, please contact us. Overnight at Calanoa Lodge in Bungalow. Calanoa Reserve After breakfast, visit of the indigenous community of El Vergel. This community is composed mainly of the Tikunas tribe. Meeting with the Indian ancestral culture and discover their crafts. Lunch at the lodge. In the afternoon, walking in the nature reserve surrounding the lodge. Your guide will show you the secrets of the flora and fauna, medicinal plants, giant trees, the adaptation of different plants to the jungle. You might cross families of micos monkeys , parrots, armadillos and many tropical birds. You can then return to the lodge by canoe, through the Quebrada Matamata, the limits of Amacayacu Park. We cross Tarapoto lake, a favorite spot for pink dolphins in the Amazon. One can also observe several species of caimans, many birds parrots, toucans Here it is possible to swim. End of the day free in the village. You can then reach the airport located 10 minutes from the city in "Cocotaxi". Arrival at Medellin and transfer to your hotel. End of the day free to enjoy the city of "eternal spring". Overnight at Diez hotel in Standard Double room. Medellin This day will be dedicated to Medellin City tour. You will start the day by a guided walking tour of Carabobo district to discover the different types of architecture of the city: In the afternoon, a ride on the Metrocable will take you up to the hills of the city to enjoy Medellin from above. Then, you will head to the beautiful botanical garden before visiting Santo Domingo district. Optional visit of Antioquia museum. Located in the Grand Art Deco Palacio Municipal, this museum houses the largest collection of works donated by Medellin native Fernando Botero as well as pre-Colombian, colonial and modern art collections. Entrance fees are not included. Overnight at El Cantil hotel in Bungalow room. Arrival at Bogota El Dorado airport and connexion for your international flight. All have large windows that make them very bright. An American breakfast is served daily. Italian and Colombian specialties can be enjoyed in

the hotel restaurant, which offers views of the hill of Monserrate. The 4 bungalows of this property have been imagined by Diego Samper combining traditional techniques and a more contemporary approach. A building of majestic beauty, decorated with taste and quality is the guarantee of a successful stay in the capital of Antioquia. Each room at this hotel offers spectacular views of downtown and promises unforgettable sunsets over the mountains. Between the greatness of the Pacific Ocean and the tropical jungle of Choco department, this hotel transforms into your home for a stay alongside nature in one of its 7 bungalows. Here, very little network and no electricity in the rooms: Also, there is no hot water in the bathrooms, but this is generally lukewarm due to the climate of this region. And you will appreciate even more a fresh shower after a good hike in this tropical region!

Chapter 5 : Colombia off the beaten track

Day 1: ARRIVAL IN BOGOTÁ• Today you start your Colombian adventure in which you will visit some of the country's most amazing off the beaten track destinations!! You will arrive in the international airport of Bogotá where a driver will await you and bring you to your charming hotel.

Anke Roosendans The Desierto de la Tatacoa was just a short detour to the North for us, because once back in San Augustin the Mexican and me would continue our way South. Also, this would be the only time Ale correctly calculated the time necessary to reach his destination! Those calculations gave me a bit of time to do some travelling on my own. The only picture I took in La Plata. Sitting and using wifi in the central square. The day started with packing, breakfast and a quick stop at the bank for Ale before we went both our ways, Ale jumping on his bike and me showing him which way to go. Which was the wrong direction, I realized when sitting comfortable in my first colectivo direction Pitalito. I would only go to La Plata that day, I needed a place with internet to make an international phone call. Since I still have a job in summer "the same one since I went to Montenegro, which gives me the opportunity to take time off in winter to travel" I have to be available from time to time to sign my contract or, in this case, to take a German test. I decided to find a place to sleep in La Plata "where I was literally the only white girl in town" and move towards Tierradentro the next morning after I made my phone call. Even though staying in Tierradentro is way nicer than La Plata. Anyhow, I said goodbye to the only "quiet" backpacker in the colectivo and headed to the cheapest private room I could find in Colombia, which was just around the corner of the bus station. My German test had to wait until Mocoa. View upon the mountains in Tierradentro. Entrance to the National Park at the right side. Mountains are the hike and the way to El Aguacate. But why did I want to go there in the first place? Coming from San Augustin, Ale and me visited already a good chunk of pre-Columbian burial sites, but Tierradentro tops them all. Yes, I loved spending a day in the National Park and see all those beautifully carved antropomorphic statues, but Tierradentro is next level. The National Park there lies in the middle of the mountains, with the entrance of the park in the village of San Andres de Pisimbala. Several mountains and hills have been used to make beautifully painted pre-Columbian hypogea, basically tombs inside the top of the mountains and hills in the area. Each tomb lays between 5 and 8 meters underground, with giant spiralling stairs to reach the bottom and its main burial chamber, with several smaller chambers surrounding it, each holding a corpse. All painted lively with antropomorphic and geometric patterns, one tomb prettier and better preserved than the other. Which was exactly where I came for. Now, the colectivo La Plata "Tierradentro. The ride took at least 2 hours, with several stops in order to let the workmen to their job. Besides that, the views were utterly stunning. Valleys, rivers, mountains, Mother Nature did a good job in this part of the world. I booked a room and discovered I picked the only hostel with occasional free wifi, which came in handy later on. Hungry, I took some lunch in one of the only restaurants along the road, before heading to the National Park where I visited the museum "only visitor" to then climb up to the Alto de Segovia, the most famous part of the park. Way to Segovia, where the old bridge had been washed away a couple of months before. My little guard dog and me on the way up to Segovia. Views along the road are not that bad. Not that bad at all. Really not that bad. I loved the views up there. During my walk uphill "a steep way with little shadow, prepare yourself better than I did" I got the company of a dog, following me from the village all the way up to the entrance of the tombs. No chasing or barking this time, "remember our adventure in San Augustin, when looking for a waterfall? The staircases are made for giants, huge blocks spiralling down in the darkness and you need to be very carefull when walking down. Those are the stairs. My iPhone is not used to shooting in the dark. But you do recognize a head! Figures and geometrical paintings. Only a thousand years old. Some of the prettiest tombs. People are friendly and polite, let me keep my space. He explained me how everything worked and showed me around the first tombes without any issues. When reaching one of the tombs further up, which were promising to be the prettiest ones, with more paintings, the guard asked me if I wanted to enter one of the burial chambers. The moment he asked me if I wanted to enter the chamber, I knew something was off. He told me I could climb over it and would help me a hand. Only when he reached for my

hips and almost swung me over the fence I realized this was something I was not supposed to do at all. It was just a cheap excuse to touch me. I felt so so stupid. Sadly, this really ruined my visit a bit. After visiting all the tombs " me refusing to get over the fence again, telling him I could take enough pictures from behind it as well " he asked me if he needed to bring me to another part of the park, he could drive me there on his motorbike and I would be able to see the sunset. Politely refusing, I got the hell out of there. Somehow, the dog was still waiting for me, having followed me to every single tomb I descended into. When I left, he followed me again and I had the impression that somehow, he was there to keep me safe, to make sure that I was alright. He accompanied me all the way down to the village and once I reached my hostel, he was gone. Later on, I heard the dog has been doing that a lot, mainly accompanying solo travellers up the hill. It was already late in the afternoon at that point and thirsty as I was, I decided to have a guanabana drink at the hostel. Time for a conversation with another Mexican. Fernando " the other Mexican " was stunned. Working in anthropology, he knew what the value of those tombs is and knows that, in no possible way, regular visitors are allowed to step inside. Stand alone being encouraged by the guys guarding and guiding the place. Discussing got us both hungry and we were still not done talking, so obviously we went to eat something together. We said our goodbyes at the entrance of the hostel and after a quick shower, I went to bed, ready to conquer El Aguacate the next day. Start of the hike up to El Aguacate. All the way up. Path that you follow up the mountain. Quite easy to see. Views from the top. Proud to have reached the top. Just follow the white columns up and the path would be clear. I also asked if they could arrange me a seat on the last colectivo passing to La Plata and she promised me I would have a first class seat in the front of the car. First, you walk to the entrance of the Museum at the right side of the road, where some arrows point you in the right direction. Then you have this huge green hill rising in front of you and if nobody told you to follow the white columns, this should be the moment to find out. Besides the steep climb up, I mean. Anyhow, I was glad I started early in the morning, since the sun was coming up and it proved to be a sunny, but hot day. Somewhere, in the middle of the hike up, I decided it was time to twist my foot. I mean, things were going great, I was really enjoying my trip, found a nice travel partner, so why should everything be so good and easy? I took a wrong step on one of the rocks, tried to keep my balance and twisted some muscles in my foot while doing all this. I made it all the way up and the feeling was great. There was this little bamboo fence, leading to a road a bit further; I had no idea if I was meant to open it or not. Views on the way down. Kind of the same as when going up. Last hill down before I reached Tierradentro again. Most painful part for my foot. Around noon, I reached the hostel, where I sat down on the bench in the front porch to try and catch the wifi and connect with Ale. To my big surprise, my work had send me the next destination I would be working at the next summer, my number one choice: Hell, I could only place the tip down and jump half limping around without crying out in pain. Half limping and half crying I managed to go out and eat, only to end up at my bench again. In the end, I managed to have a small messenger conversation with Ale, who told me that he would be reaching Mocoa probably ahead of me the next day and who would wait for me at the hostel. Luckily, the lady of the hostel told them that I already paid " her husband made the reservation for me in the village " and that I was supposed to have the front seat. I survived the ride without bursting out in tears and the nice driver drove me all the way to La Plata, almost right in front of my hostel. Wondering if I could use my foot ever again? Stay tuned for my next blogpost: Until the end of the world in Mocoa: Both in Colombian pesos and euros. Transport Bus San Augustin " Pitalito:

Chapter 6 : Off the Beaten Track in British Columbia | Frommer's

Tagged in: Colombia Off The Beaten Track, Colombia Travel Tips, The Best of Colombia 2 thoughts on " 21 places you won't believe are in Colombia " Franz on March 27, at am.

By Manon Koningstein on Sunday, January 21, Sometimes, when the valley is very clear, we can see from our little house in Cali the mysterious mountains on the other side. These are the mountains behind the city of Palmira in the Central Mountain Chain, some 50kms away. So, last Sunday, we decided to go for it and explore this area that is called La Buitrera de Palmira , and the close by Reserva Natural Nirvana. We decided to take our bikes for a little ride though. The first 10 kilometers crossing Cali is never fun, even though it was a Sunday and traffic is not that bad, but the traffic lights made even Thomas lose his patience. Pandebonos on the road for my hungry cyclist. Renting a bike If you do not have your own bike with you, but you do would like to rent one, your best bet in Cali is in San Antonio. They rent pretty good mountain bikes, and also organize bike tours. After that we did the first 30 kilometers, we had to make a little stop to feed Thomas. I have learned to put in enough of these stops, before the monster comes out. But luckily, in Colombia, a little bakery with some pandebonos is never far away and juices can be found on any streetcorner. From here on, we continued through the city of Palmira. We are always surprised how many bikes there are in Palmira.. Cycling towards the high mountains Anyways, after that, it was finally time to come out of the valley and climb up the mountains. We now moved from the Cordillera Occidental the western mountain chain , where our little house is located, to the Cordillera Central the central mountain chain. There is always food and drinks in Colombia Reserva Natural Nirvana There we met some friends, who are lucky enough to actually live up there, for lunch. Fresh trout with garlic, and a pineapple juice! The typical thing to eat is fresh trout yes, I do eat fish, every once in a while and of course the famous Colombian patacon fried plantain. From there on we went to explore the Natural Reserve. Cycling our way up to La Buitrera The entrance to this is basically at the end of the road to Buitrera and the fee is We were thinking that this was a wild piece of forest with lost tracks, but really.. There are signs, and numbers, and little explanation signs of animals and trees you can see. From here you can see all across the valley of the Cauca river and across towards Cali. Unfortunately we had quite a lot of clouds, fog and rain to look at, but somehow it still makes it very mystical. The way down was quite slippery but we knew there would be a little Colombian coffee down there!

Chapter 7 : Off the beaten track Colombia: San Agustin and the Amazon - Journey Latin America

Discover Colombia Off the Beaten Track. Guadalupe is a tiny town in the Santander region of Colombia. It is no longer a secret in Colombia though, and at the weekends bus-loads of visitors from Bucaramanga and the surrounding areas arrive - usually just for the day - then disappear as quickly as they came.

Chapter 8 : Off-The-Beaten-Path in Colombia - RealWords

Off the beaten track Colombia experiences (top ten destinations-colombia) Colombia, the country that has given me so much, it has well deserved this short but full of love video in which I show.

Chapter 9 : Off the Beaten Track Travel: Things to Do In Pasto, Colombia - The AllTheRooms Blog

Off the Beaten Path in Bogota, Colombia It was the perfect exchange to sum up four days spent checking out Bogota, Colombia's capitol and a landlocked city deep in the Andes Mountains that.