



# LADATCO TOURS

South & Central America, Falkland Islands & Antarctica



## TOUR DESCRIPTIONS

### *Cartagena, Colombia*

#### **CITY TOUR: Half day**

Enjoy a morning visit with your guide to what may just be one of Latin America's most beautiful cities, a romantic reminder of its splendid past. Nobel Laureate, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, used the walled city as the backdrop for his novel, "Love In The Time Of Cholera;" high-profile visitors date back from Greta Garbo and Marlon Brando to Jack Nicholson and President Bill Clinton.

Highlights will include La Popa, the hilltop monastery and La Candelaria Chapel; La Bovedas, the old dungeons that were used for provision storage by the Spanish and today are totally refurbished to house shops of handicrafts, souvenirs, jewelry and other shops.

A walking tour of the cobble-stone, narrow streets lined with flower clad balconies, ornate churches and small charming restaurants, belie the fact that La Murallas (The Walls) protected the city from marauding pirates of the 16th, 17th, 18th centuries and defended it during the wars of independence in the 19th century.

#### **MAJAGUA: Full day tour with lunch**

Full day excursion to one of the 27 off-shore islands known as the Rosario Islands, 24-miles away, about 45-minutes by boat from Cartagena for a day in white sanded beaches with marine coral floors. Enjoy kayaking, snorkeling, or just relaxing on the beach! Beachside lunch included.

#### **SANTA MARTA CITY TOUR:**

Santa Marta is probably the oldest city on continental America, founded in 1525. It once served as a major port for the shipment of bananas and coal; still today it is a maritime hub. It is here at Quinta de San Pedro Alejandrino that the famed Simon Bolivar died. Nearby lies Tayrona National Park, with the snowy peaks of the Sierra Nevada in the background.

#### **TAYRONA NATIONAL PARK**

Just about 30-minutes from Rodadero Beach in Santa Marta lies the pristine Tayrona National Park, some 3000 hectares of land hugging the coastline producing some of South America's loveliest beaches, bays, coves, that are home to howler and titi monkeys, iguanas, birds and all sorts of marine life. Enjoy the day hiking in the tropical forest and beaches. Lunch is included en route.

#### **SANTA MARTA-CARTAGENA with stop at Aracataca:**

Today your private guide will drive you to one of the continent's most beautiful colonial cities, Cartagena, the country's Jewel of the Caribbean. While the drive is between 3-4 hours, you will do it more leisurely, stopping at Aracataca, a river town, 80-miles south of Santa Marta, birthplace of renowned Nobel Laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez. It is widely believed that he used his birth town as the model for the mythical "Macondo" of his novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude."

Continue on to Barranquilla, founded in 1629 is the country's main river and seaport. Well-known for its Afro-Caribbean flavors in song, dance, cuisine it "rocks" at Carnival time. Lunch will be included here before driving the last leg to Cartagena.