

San Felipe de Barajas and the city's other defensive battlements. They stand today having never been captured.

The Holy Office Court of the Spanish Inquisition was established in Cartagena on February 5th, 1610. From Cartagena the Roman Catho-

lic Church spread its power throughout the Caribbean and Central and South America for over 200 years. In 1821, under the leadership of the great liberator Simon Bolivar, Cartagena and much of Latin America was freed from Spanish rule.



PLACES OF INTEREST

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1 Casa de Marqués Valdehoyos is a beautiful example of the architecture of colonial Cartagena. The Marqués gained his incredible wealth in the African slave trade. It was in this house that the great Simon Bolivar recuperated during an illness.

2 Teatro Heredia was built in 1911. It is considered by many to be one Latin America's most beautiful theaters.

3 Las Bovedas is also known as The Dungeons. Built in the late 1700s they were not places of torture but rather barracks for the troops. It is most likely that the troops bestowed the "dungeon" moniker.

4 Iglesia de Santo Domingo is the oldest church in the city. The church doubled as a defensive fortification and watch tower.

5 The Inquisition Palace represents one of the most horrific parts of Latin American history. It was from this building, beginning in 1610 and lasting for over 200 years, that the Roman Catholic Church accused, tortured and publicly dispatched those from throughout South America who ran afoul of the all-powerful Catholic institution. The palace has an interesting museum.

6 Plaza de Bolívar is named after the great liberator. The plaza is a popular place to stroll or relax and just people watch.

7 The Gold Museum has a great collection of pre-Colombian pieces and gold jewelry. The displays give visitors a good understanding of the history of Cartagena.

8 Coach Square is the site of the former slave market. Cartagena was designated by the Spanish Crown as one of only two cities that could trade in slaves throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. In this market countless thousands of Africans were branded, bought and sold.

9 The Naval Museum traces Cartagena's seafaring history. The city was one of the most important ports in Latin America and gained its wealth from its strategic position on South America's Caribbean coast.

10 Fort San Felipe de Barajas is one of the best preserved Spanish fortifications in the Latin America. Construction, by slave labor, was begun in 1639. The fort is part of an extensive defensive network that was designed to protect the city from the very real threat of pirate attack.

SHORE EXCURSIONS To make the most of your visit to Cartagena and surrounding areas we suggest you take one of our organized Shore Excursions. For information concerning tour content and pricing, consult your Shore Excursion Brochure, Shore Excursion TV Channel or contact the Shore Excursion Desk. When going ashore, be advised to take with you only necessary items and secure any valuables on-board.

LOCAL CUSTOMS Bargaining: Prices are usually fixed.

Tipping: If a service charge is not included, 10% is a good guideline.

LOCAL CUISINE AND DRINK SPECIALTIES Tortilla de Huevos Criolla is a ham and cheese omelet with chopped onion, tomatoes and corn. Ajiaco is a chicken stew with potatoes, peas and carrots. Colombian Tamales are dough, topped with a filling of marinated meat, carrots, potatoes and hard boiled eggs then covered with a mixture of garlic, onion and lemon sauce, wrapped tight in banana leaves and steamed.

Columbia is not known for its breweries however some Colombian beers include Club Colombia, Aguila, Costeña, Cristal Oro, and Pilsen.

SHOPPING FACILITIES One of the most popular shopping areas in the city is the Pierino Gallo Mall. Beautiful leather goods and handi-crafts are among many of the items for sale.

LOCAL CURRENCY The national currency is the Colombian peso (COP). ATMs are available. Master Card and Visa are widely accepted.

POST OFFICE AND TELEPHONE FACILITIES Post Office, FedEx, Mail Boxes and DHL offices are located in the Bocagrande area: Ave. San Martin, 20 min from the pier by taxi.

Dial the following access numbers to use a personal calling card:

AT&T: 01.800.911.0010

MCI: 01.800.916.0001

TOURIST INFORMATION is called Corporación Turismo Cartagena de Indias and is located downtown at Ave. Blas de Lezo Muelle Turistico La Bodeguita.

TRANSPORTATION Taxis are generally available near the Pier.

USEFUL WORDS AND PHRASES

Yes - Si

No - No

Good Day - Buenos Dias

Good Bye - Adios

Thank-you - Gracias

You're welcome - De Nada