

# What can I do in Villa de Leyva?

## ROUT 1: CULTURAL AREA – CITY TOUR



- Plaza Mayor: 3 blocks from the bus terminal. It is the biggest plaza in Colombia with 14000m2 area.
- Iglesia Parroquial: Located at the main square. Inside you can find many important antique art pieces.
- Casa Juan de Castellanos: Next to the city council. It was home to one of the most important writers of Spanish colony in Villa.
- Casa del Primer Congreso: In front of the city council. The First Congress of the Granada United Provinces was celebrated here in 1812.
- Museo del Maestro Acuña: across the Plaza from the church. Museum of artwork by Master Luis Alberto Acuña.  
He was a very important painter, sculptor and muralist in Colombia. Ask for the Prehistoric museum in the same house.
- Casa Museo Antonio Nariño: Cra 9na #10-39. House where the precursor of Independence died.
- Iglesia del Carmen: Located at Carmen Park. Admission only during mass times.
- Museo de Arte Religioso El Carmen: in front of the Cármen church. Open only weekends.
- Museo Paleontológico: 1km away from Villa. Exhibits fossils of the area.
- Molino Mesopotamia: The first construction in Villa de Leyva. Ask in the reception of the hotel to visit. Wonderful gardens and pool.
- Claustro de San Agustín: In front of the Plaza San Agustín. It was the first church in Villa de Leyva. Now house of Humboldt Institute.
- Museo Antonio Ricaurte: In a corner at the Plaza San Agustín. At this house was born the national hero Antonio Ricaurte.
- Real Fábrica de Licores: One block to the west of the main square. This was the first liquor factory in Colombia.

## ROUT 2: THE DESERT AND SURROUNDINGS



- Pozos Azules: 2km (from Villa de Leyva). Beautiful blue pools located in the desert. You can swim in one of them.
- Granja de Avestruces: 4km. Tourist farm where you can see ostriches and other farm animals. Restaurant.
- Fibas Jardín del Desierto: 4km. Wonderful garden with desert plants. A perfect place for meditation. Instructor required.
- Museo "El Fósil": 5km. Exhibits the fossils of 2 Pliosours, one of them in its original discovery place. Additionally it has a great variety of fossils and minerals of the region. In the same places also a butterfly house and exhibition of spiders.
- Centro de Investigaciones Paleontológicas: Permanent exhibition of fossils and place for paleontological researches of the region.
- Casa Terracota: 2km. Unique house made entirely out of clay.
- Archeological Park of Monquirá (Little hell): One of the most important places in Villa de Leyva, our Stonehenge with more than 2.000 years old. The columns were used by the Aborigines to identify solstices and equinoxes. Also phallus symbol of fertility.
- Viñedo Ain Karim: 10km on the way to Sutamarchan but from the Sta. Sofia road. Testing and explication of the production of wine.
- Monasterio del Santo Eccehomo: 14km on the road to Santa Sofia. Built in 1620, belongs to the Dominicans monks.

### FOR KIDS:

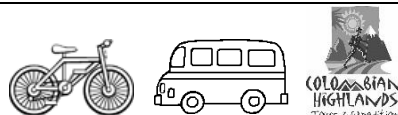
- In Town:** "El Recreo": a place with electronics games, also ping-pong, table games, remote cars, and others, close to the bus terminal.
- En el Desierto:** - Gondava: A park for kids with full-scale dinosaurios. On the way to Sutamarchan.
- Parque 1900: Discover the magic of the past, old cars and others. On the way to Archeologic Park of Monquirá (Infiernito).
- Granja de Avestruces: 4km from town. See ostriches, llamas, ponies, horses and buffaloes. Also restaurant.

## ROUT 3: IGUAQUE FLORA AND FAUNA NATIONAL PARK



The National Park, Iguaque's Flora and Fauna Sanctuary, is located 14km from Villa de Leyva. The most common walk goes to the first lake, Iguaque, which according to the Muiscas, was the place of origin for humanity. This lake is at 3600MASL in the *paramo*. In this park you will be able to explore the diversity of the ecosystems and the fauna and flora of the region. The walk takes 4 hours, but if you want to stay in the park and camp, you can visit the other six lakes in three days. The visitor's center offers a restaurant as well as cabins for overnight stays.

## ROUT 4: THE PERIQUERA WATERFALLS



The entrance to the waterfalls is located at 11km from Villa de Leyva. The circuit has 7 waterfalls but only four have easy access. The path has several view points of the region (High Andean Jungle) that makes this spot a beautiful and diverse place. Also, after visiting the waterfalls you can go to the nearby restaurant (2km from the waterfalls), which offers Chicha, a traditional drink. If you encounter a park guide, ask them where you can find the Muisca's Petroglyphs. Close to La Periquera enjoy the extreme park "El Mayoral".

## ROUT 5: THE ANGEL STEP



Located at 6km from Santa Sofia. It is a mountain ridge with two abysses, one on each side. With an amazing view and paths to waterfalls. Hike through native forests and original Muisca's paths, caves and rivers. You can also visit Santa Sofia, the national capital of the Curuba, a typical Colombian fruit.

## ROUT 6: ADVENTURE SPORTS



We offer Rappelling activities (abseiling), Canyoning (abseiling on waterfalls), caving, climbing. We also have whole day or half day trips. We practice these activities on the beautiful Guatoque waterfall, the amazing Romera whole and the Angel Step. All our tour guides are professionals and we have all the best equipments to practice these sports.

## ROUT 7: RAQUIRA - SUTAMARCHÁN, CRAFTS AND GASTRONOMY



Raquira is located in the road to Chiquinquirá at 30 minutes from Villa de Leyva. It's a colorful town and it is the main town in the elaboration of pottery. Also, in your return to Villa de Leyva, you can stop in the towns of Tinjaca and Sutamarchán where you can try and enjoy the typical longaniza and "fritanga boyacence". Recognized for cooking the best "fritanga" in Colombia.

**FARM MARKET:** It takes place at three blocks from the Main Square, walking in the direction to the mountains. Open on Saturdays from 5AM until 3PM (we recommend to go on the morning). Here you can taste the typical gastronomy of the region and also try different and delicious fruits of our country. There are also clothes, shoes and accessories on sale. A small Market from the farmers with some organic products from the surrounding area is open every Thursday in the morning.

**BARS:** In Villa de Leyva you will find different places to have fun talking, dancing or simply having a drink.

- Big Sky: Located at one side of the main church (Plaza Mayor).
- La Cava: Located at the "Calle Caliente", Carrera 9ª.
- La Cava de Don Fernando: Southwest corner of the Main Square.
- Boca de Chicle: Located at the intersection between the Carrera 10 and 9, Puente de la Bañadera.

**RESTAURANTES:** Villa de Leyva offers a great variety in the gastronomical sphere available to all publics.

- Savia: Casa Quintero shopping center. Organic, vegetarian and fusion. \$\$\$\$
- Zarina Restaurante: Located in Casa Quintero. Lebanese, Mediterranean and fusion food. \$\$\$\$\$
- Antique: Located at La Guaca shopping center, 2º floor. International and fusion food. Live music. \$\$\$\$\$
- Rincón Argentino: Empanadas, Argentinian food. Calle 14 # 9 – 67 \$\$
- Antony: one block from Ricaurte's Park. Carrera 9º # 14 – 14 \$\$\$\$
- Olivas & Especies: Located in the southeast corner of the Main Square. Italian food \$\$\$
- Aroma de la Villa: located in the intersection between Carrera 10 and 9, Puente de la Bañadera. \$\$
- Casa Blanca: Located at 2 blocks in the way to the hotel "El Duruelo". Typical and fusión food. \$
- La Tienda de Teresa: One and half block away in the way to hotel "El Duruelo". Typical food and desserts. \$
- Pastelería Francesa: Located at Calle 10, No 9-41. Authentic french bakery. \$
- Matilde Blain: Casa Quintero shopping center. Coffee and desserts. \$
- Casa Dulce: Located in front of the Carmen Church. Typical desserts. \$
- Rio: Half way from the Main Square in the way to the Police Station. Fruits, Desserts and Brazilian whims. \$
- Mirá Ve: Typical Colombian Empanadas. At the southwest side of the Plaza Mayor. \$

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Prices under \$12.000

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Prices between \$12.000 & \$17.000

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Prices between \$17.000 & \$20.000

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Prices between \$20.000 & \$25.000

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Prices between \$25.000 & \$35.000+



Tour & guide with Colombian Highlands



Walking tour without guide



Tour by horse with guide



Tour without guide using public transport (bus, taxi)



Tour without guide by bike