

{rokbox title=|Gabriel García Márquez. Photo: Stepen Ferry|}images/stories/turistainternacional/Quehacer/gabo/garciamarquez4.jpg{/rokbox}

Gabriel García Márquez. Photo: Stepen Ferry

Since that time, *Gabito* (short for *Gabo*, the nickname given by family and close friends) gave evidence of his literary vocation. Yet the writer's decisive years and experiences took place between 1950 and 1953, when his occupation as a journalist opened huge doors to the talent of this writer of novels.

Gabito visited Barranquilla for the first time on November 9, 1929, on the occasion of his sister Margot's birth. Despite being only two and a half years old, he would remember the impression caused by traffic lights and their changing colors. Yet clearer memories arose from his second visit to the city on December 17, 1930, when his grandmother Tranquilina Iguarán Cotes took him to meet Aída Rosa, his newborn sister, who would become a nun.

Gabriel García Márquez lived in Barranquilla at various times, including his adolescence, when he attended high school at Colegio San José.

In 1939, his family moved to *Sucre*, but in February 1940, *Gabo* began high school at *Colegio San José* in the city center, beside the church by the same name. Here he met classmates who would later become great friends, like future journalist and director of *El Heraldo, Juan B. Fernández Renowitzky* . (...)

In 1941, he had to interrupt 8th grade because of health problems. He returned to his father and siblings in *Sucre* for his recovery. He later came back to his school in *Barranquilla*.

Eduardo Márceles Daconte

The Years at El Heraldo

"Once in *Barranquilla* (1950), he works on the editorial staff of *El Heraldo*, where he publishes a column entitled "

Jirafa

", under the pseudonym of

Septimus

. He meets

Ramón Vinyes

, the "Catalan Wiseman". With

Álvaro Cepeda Samudio, Germán Vargas, Alfonso Fuenmayor, Alejandro Obregón, Juan B. Fernández

, and other friends, he founds the sports-literary magazine

, and other mends, he founds the sports-literary ma

Crónica. Su mejor week end

[Chronicle.Your best weekend].

Conrado Zuluaga,

El vicio incurable de contar

, Panamericana, Bogotá, 2005 [The incurable vice of telling]

Consult the complete texts in in *Las rutas de García Márquez* guide, available at the following bookshops: *Librería Nacional* in *C*

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and

Barranquilla

and

Librería Ábaco

in

Cartagena

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