



Facatativá Archaeological Park

The Facatativá Archaeological Park, also known as the Piedras del Tunjo, is located in the department of Cundinamarca only 40 km from Bogotá. It has an area of 29 hectares where rocky shelters, cave paintings, and marvelous scenery may be admired. This is the only urban archaeological park in Colombia and one of the main natural parks close to Bogotá.

The park has a number of huge metamorphic rocks. They are the result of the geodynamic development of the lithosphere in this region and were probably on the bed of the lake that covered the savanna of Bogotá. The sixty murals are spread throughout the park.

This is the only archaeological park in Colombia located in an urban environment, and one of the most important natural parks near the city of Bogotá.

The Piedras de Tunja, or Tunja Rocks, are the main attraction in the town of Facatativá and the destination of tourists who come from other parts of Colombia. Aside from approaching pre-Hispanic cultures and encountering this archaeological heritage, tourists can enjoy picnics and rent boats to sail the lake. .

The Pictographs

Pictography is characterized by the use of a graphic visual code to express words and ideas. The advantage of this type of communication is that many people, even after many centuries have gone by and without understanding the language, can grasp the meaning; pictographs have no relation with the linguistics or phonetics of a language.

It is estimated that this practice has been used for over 30,000 years.

History of the Park

For more than 30,000 years, humans around the world have been painting on cave walls.

Prior to 1970, visitors could admire numerous pictographs on the surface of the rocks. Unfortunately, during the past three decades, the Park has been exploited as a place for active recreation, with a negative impact of the environment and the archaeological heritage. For this reason, most of the paintings are covered by graffiti.

The Recovery of the Park

Since 2009, The Facatativá Archaeological Park, also known as the Piedras del Tunjo is in charge of Municipality of Facatativá under the form of commodatum under the supervision of the Colombian Institute of Anthropology and History (ICANH) currently underway not only processes aimed at restoring rock art but also aimed at archaeological and anthropological research of the legacy left us by the early settlers of cundiboyacense plateau of Cundinamarca and especially the West.

The Facatativá Archaeological Park is one of the 5 archaeological parks in the nation, yet it is the uniquely located in town, which gives it the connotation of singularity.

Further information about your visit can be obtained through the [official website of the Archaeological Park](#)

If you are in Bogotá and its surroundings, take advantage of:

- Handicrafts:
[Ráquira ceramics](#) , [ruana](#)
- [Rural tourism at Bogotá and Cundinamarca](#)
- [Birdwatching in the Eastern Range of the Andes](#)
- [Natural Parks of the Andean Region](#)