



La Candelaria / Picture: [Marcelo Soto Montes](#)

Discover the wonders around Colombia's capital, Bogotá:

Historic downtownE The city's downtown area preserves its colonial architecture, and is the site of museums, historical monuments, libraries and the Archives Building. The tourist route weaves through alleys in the traditional Candelaria district, the birthplace of the city of Bogotá. Much of the colonial and republican architecture is still preserved here.MonserrateOne of the peaks overlooking the city, which many people climb in their pilgrimages to the chapel at the top. Architectural brick routeThe architectural brick route pays homage to one of the most celebrated Latin American architects, Rogelio Salmona, whose work is noted for its extensive use of Colombian red brick. Sites covered in this route are as follows: the Gabriel García Márquez Cultural Center; the Department of National Archives; the Santa Fe housing complex; the Environmental Axis on Jiménez Avenue, a significant project in public space recovery; the Museum of Modern Art of Bogotá; Independence Park and the Park Towers, a multi-family complex that won a national architecture award. The route then passes by the Universidad Nacional Graduate Schools and the Virgilio Barco Library.Shopping in Bogotá Bogotá is becoming one of the main business hubs in Latin America, and a prime shopping destination. It has numerous modern shopping centers, spread out across various city sectors, in which shoppers can find the best of national and international industry at affordable prices. Bogotá - region Leaving Bogotá, travelers can make stops in the picturesque savanna towns, passing by traditional dairy farms and flower crops. Heading north, they can travel to Zipaquirá, famous for its Salt Cathedral, or visit the sacred Guatavita Lake. This lake is where indigenous peoples of the region performed the ceremony of submerging the Indian chief, who was adorned in gold in honor of the gods. This is the origin of the Legend of El Dorado.