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Hacienda el Paraíso. /Photo. Flickr user [JuliánH](#) . /

North of Cali, on the central road, there are many places worth visiting. In the first place, in the jurisdiction of the municipality of El Cerrito, there is the colonial Hacienda El Paraíso that inspired La María, the very famous novel by Jorge Isaacs. It preserves the rural life of the Valle del Cauca of the nineteenth century in a museum-style.

Not far, in the municipality of Anaimé, is the Hacienda Piedechinche. It houses the Museo de la Caña, or Sugar Cane Museum, that belongs to one of the largest sugar cane mills in the country.

Hacienda Paraíso is a place full of magic.

This beautiful museum shows the process of transformation of sugar cane into sugar from the sixteenth century to the present in the midst of colonial buildings and gardens.

Further north, but still close to Cali, is the town of Ginebra, famous for its typical regional food and for the best festival of Andean music in the country: [the Mono Núñez Festival](#) .