

# ESSENTIAL INFORMATION COLOMBIA

## PASSPORT AND VISA INFORMATION

Your passport needs to be valid for **at least six (6) months** after your journey ends, and should have a minimum of one (1) blank visa page for entry and exit stamps.

Holders of U.S. and Canadian passports are not required to obtain a tourist visa for entry into Colombia for stays of up to 90 days.

All visitors must pre-register online at [apps.migracioncolombia.gov.co/pre-registro/en/DatosViaje](https://apps.migracioncolombia.gov.co/pre-registro/en/DatosViaje) within 48 hours of boarding their international flight to Colombia and then again within 48 hours prior to boarding their international departure flight from Colombia.

### Reciprocity Fee for Canadian Passport Holders

Canadian passport holders must pay a reciprocity fee of COP 256,000 (approximately CAD \$87) to customs officials upon arrival. This fee is payable in cash in US or Canadian dollars or major credit card.

Our partner VisaCentral offers easy, efficient U.S. passport and visa processing. Visit them online at [visacentral.com/abercrombiekent](https://visacentral.com/abercrombiekent) or call 844 823 1224 and reference A&K's account number 73001. Service fees apply.

Citizens of other countries should contact the appropriate consular office for entry requirements pertaining to their journey.

## COVID-19 COUNTRY ENTRY REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL ADVISORIES

Colombia currently has no COVID-19 vaccination or testing requirements for entry for U.S. and Canadian residents. Visit the U.S. Department of State at [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) or the Government of Canada at [travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories](https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories) for up-to-date information.

## LOCAL HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

If your journey includes travel to Bogotá and other high-altitude Andean destinations in Colombia, you may experience altitude sickness. Please consult your healthcare provider for suggestions on prevention and treatment.

## YELLOW FEVER VACCINATION

A yellow fever vaccination is only required to enter Colombia if you are arriving from Brazil, Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Uganda. The CDC and WHO each provide a current list of all affected countries. Proof of yellow fever vaccination is also required for travelers to Yellow Fever endemic regions in Colombia including Amazonas, Santa Marta, La Guajira, Chocó (Pacific Coast) and Meta (Caño Cristales). Local airline officials will ask to see an International Certificate of Vaccination prior to your boarding domestic flights to these regions. Proof of Yellow Fever vaccination is not required locally if your itinerary only visits the cities of Medellín, Bogotá, Pereira and Cartagena. If vaccination for yellow fever is necessary, you must carry an International Certificate of Vaccination provided by your physician; you may be denied entry without it.

If your physician advises against receiving the vaccination because of your personal medical history, he or she can provide you with the necessary documentation for the country/countries you are visiting.

## CASH & CREDIT CARDS

The U.S. dollar may sometimes be accepted however, expect the price of your purchase to go up. Be wary, as there is a large amount of counterfeit U.S. currency in circulation. Major credit cards such as Visa, MasterCard are widely accepted (American Express less so) in urban areas. ATM access is limited to the larger cities. When visiting rural areas (coffee regions) you should ensure that you have enough cash to last you until you arrive in a larger city. Banks/ATMs will allow cash withdrawals on Visa, MasterCard and Cirrus. Try to use ATMs located in banks during the daylight hours, if possible.

## PACKING LIST & BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

On flights within Colombia, each traveller is limited to one (1) checked bag with a maximum weight of approximately 50 pounds (23 kilograms). Dimensions of checked baggage should not exceed 62 linear inches (158 centimeters) height+length+width. For carry-on baggage, each passenger is limited to 1 piece of luggage with a maximum weight of approximately 22 pounds (10 kilograms). Dimensions of your carry-on bag should not exceed 13 inches (33 centimeters) x 9 inches (23 centimeters) x 21 inches (54 centimeters). You may also bring one (1) personal item (such as a purse or laptop). Any additional or overweight pieces will be charged on check-in and excess baggage fees are the traveller's responsibility.

Please use the provided A&K luggage tags, even if your bags already have ID tags. This makes it easier for A&K staff to find and manage your luggage for you.

### Clothing

Choose versatile, casual clothing that can be layered if the weather (or level of air-conditioning) requires. Temperatures will change as altitudes and time of day change, so it's best to bring shorts as well as long trousers. Smart casual attire is appropriate for evenings. Formal clothing is not necessary.

- Casual slacks
- Walking shorts
- Polo shirts, casual short-sleeve shirts or blouses
- Long sleeve shirts or blouses
- Comfortable walking shoes with low or no heels
- Brimmed hat for sun protection
- Lightweight raincoat or jacket
- Personal garments
- Sweater or fleece jacket
- Swimwear/cover-up
- Sleepwear
- Socks

### Other Recommended Items

- Face masks and hand sanitizer
- Sun block and lip balm
- Simple first-aid kit
- Sunglasses
- Prescriptions and medications (in their original bottles and/or packaging)
- Mosquito repellent
- Extra eyeglasses/contact lenses
- Smartphone
- Charging cables for electronics
- Global travel adapter

#### Optional Items

- Small LED flashlight
- Foldable walking stick
- Lightweight binoculars
- Small waterproof daypack

Laundry service is available at most hotels and dry cleaning is available in larger cities. Check costs and return times before using these services.

#### TIPPING GUIDELINES

While decisions regarding tipping rest entirely with you, we suggest the following gratuities (noted in U.S. dollars) depending on the type of journey:

	<b>All Small Group Journeys and Pre/Post Tour Group Extensions</b>	<b>Tailor Made Journeys</b>
Resident Tour Director or Group Extension Guide	\$15 per person, per day	Not applicable
Local Guides	Included	\$15 per person, per day (full day)
Drivers	Included	\$10 per person, per day (full day)
Airport Transfer Drivers	Included	\$5 per person, per transfer
Hotel Porters	Included	\$2 per bag
Housekeepers	Included	\$2 per person, per night
Included Meals	Included	Included
Restaurants or Room Service on Own	10-15% unless already added	10-15% unless already added

For extra nights or Tailor Made services added to a Small Group Journey, please follow the Tailor Made Journeys guidelines for these days only.