

TOUR OPTION TO ANDES PRESBYTERY



ANDES PRESBYTERY - What's there to see?

Andes Presbytery is divided into two distinct sections; this tour is of the churches in the coffee-growing region. There is another proposed tour to the Medellin region (by plane).

The trip to the hotel that begins this adventure is a study in contrasts: first speeding through the flat stretch of Cauca Valley along roads lined with sugar cane plantations, and then climbing up into the mountains where slowly low-land vegetation gives way to coffee plantations that line the sides of the road.

The Combia Hotel is a working coffee farm that has been upgraded to house visitors. There is a long (several mile) hiking tour of the coffee plantation that is only for the very athletic as the farm is at about 5,000 feet of altitude. The hotel can also provide a mini-tour about coffee and its growing process that does not involve major walking. There is also a coffee-tasting bar and, since the hotel has a contracted master basket weaver, some comment was made on the possibilities of him showing off this art.

Due to time restrictions we will not visit the Armenia Church, but the church will come to visit us at the hotel with a serenade by the youth who will stay to talk and share a while with the visitors.

The trip from the hotel to Manizales is mainly by very modern, divided highways that loop through the central section of the Andes Mountains. A major point of interest is the helical bridge that loops back over itself twice and provided an impressive view of the countryside.

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/diegotorquemada/5744777901/>

Manizales is a city built on a mountain ridge – in many places along the main road, down is the only other option. The Manizales CPC is in the center of the city where narrow streets and steep hills are the norm. The present church installations are relatively new and were built under the oversight of missionary Rev. Lynn Thomas. The church houses a Colegio Americano in its upper floors. Manizales sponsors a New Church Development project in the neighboring town of Chinchiná. Although the project does not yet have its own installations to visit, the leader and some members of that project will be on hand to share their experience through testimony and graphics.

Dosquebradas is an industrial city semi-attached to Pereira. The church there is also occupied with a New Church Development in the neighboring town of Santa Rosa. In our short visit, besides a tour of the installations, the church will have a PowerPoint presentation of its work. On the trip from Dosquebradas to Pereira the visitors can admire the hanging bridge that significantly shortened trip time between the two cities. <https://foursquare.com/v/viaducto-cesar-gaviria-trujillo/4d96007f97d06ea83247f80a>
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C%C3%A9sar_Gaviria_Trujillo_Viaduct

Pereira is the largest of the three "sister cities" (Manizales, Pereira and Armenia) founded in the 1800's by colonizing families travelling on foot from the Antioquia region. It is only 15 minutes from Dosquebradas and, like Manizales, has a Colegio Americano. Although our visit is during school vacation, some of the students are planning to be on hand to guide a tour through the installations and talk about their school and their church while the visitors enjoy their lunch.

Cartago, founded in colonial times, is the oldest city in the area. However, the church is new, having been rebuilt after damage sustained in the 1999 earthquake. Cartago is internationally famous for its embroidery handcrafts and the Women's Ministry plans to have an exhibition of its members' work with some items for sale. The road from Cartago is once again through the flat lands of Valle, homeward bound to Cali and light fruit refreshment will be provided en route.

Besides these five organized churches, this section of Andes Presbytery also has three Fellowships: Quimbaya, La Virginia, and Aguadas. Because of the shortness of our trip we will not be able to visit these churches (Aguadas is a four-hour trip from Pereira over a very rough road!)

If you're interested:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manizales>

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dosquebradas>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pereira,_Colombia

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cartago,_Valle_del_Cauca

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armenia,_Colombia

WEDNESDAY	Leave from Cali – trip time 3 hour	
Arrive at the hotel in Calarcá Afternoon – recreational activities	Just before noon	Sign in; lunch; varied activities Coffee trail for the very athletic Mini coffee tour for the less athletic Coffee tasting session Perhaps exhibition of basket weaving Pool time
evening	The youth of the Armenia Church will bring a serenade and stay to share a while with the visitors information on the church work in Armenia	
THURSDAY		
Announced departure time from the hotel in Calarcá	7:45 am + 15 min. to load on bus	Destination Manizales 1 hour 45 min. travel - MOUNTAINS
time limit for departure	8:00 am	
Arrival Manizales CPC	9:45 am	A presentation about the work the church is doing, especially its NCD project in Chinchiná by the leader and some attendees there; tour the installations, especially the Colegio; light refreshment such as juice & empanadas
Time in Manizales	45 min. + 15 min. to load on bus	
Departure from Manizales	10:45 am	Destination Dosquebradas 45 min. projected travel time - MOUNTAINS
Arrival Dosquebradas CPC	11:30 pm	Presentation about the work the church is doing, especially its NCD project in Santa Rosa
Time in Dosquebradas	30 min. + 15 min. to load on bus	
Departure from Dosquebradas	12:15 pm	Destination Pereira 15 minutes projected travel time
Arrival Pereira CPC	12:30 pm	Tour the installations, especially the Colegio; presentation by the Colegio Americano students while lunch is served
Time in Pereira	45 min. + 15 min. to load on bus	
Departure from Pereira	1:30 pm	Destination Cali via Cartago 45 minutes projected travel time
Arrival Cartago CPC	2:15 pm	Exhibition/sale of embroidery handcraft
Time in Cartago	30 min. + 15 min. to load on bus	
Departure from Cartago	3:00 pm	Destination Cali 2 ½ hours projected travel time
A LIGHT REFRESHMENT OF CHOPPED FRUIT WILL BE PROVIDED ON THE BUS IN ROUTE		
Proposed arrival in Cali	5:15 pm	Cali

This schedule recognizes the possibility of minor delays; there are 30 minutes of flexibility allowed since the participants arrive at the Colegio Americano by 5:45 at the latest

Since the Organizing Committee in Cali has opened negotiations with the hotel, they are responsible for room reservations, rates, and activities at the hotel outside of the evening serenade by the Armenia Church. Likewise, it is much more economical to hire the transportation in Cali for the round trip, so the Organizing Committee will be responsible for this also. Andes Presbytery will coordinate the travel and food on the portion of the trip to visit the churches.

The church in Manizales is in an area where vehicles are restricted by license plate number; therefore it's necessary to coordinate with the bus company. At present the restriction for Thursdays in Manizales is for numbers ending in 7 and 8, however shortly before the even the Committee will need to confirm that this information is unchanged. All the other churches are outside restricted areas. Neither Cartago nor Dosquebradas has restrictions at the moment. The restricted numbers for Pereira on Thursdays are 6 and 7 and for Armenia, 7 and 8. This information should be shared with all the visitors as some may want to travel by private car.

When leaving on Wednesday each bus should have a cooler filled with ice and small bottles of water. More bottles will be carried for use on Thursday and the ice will be refreshed that day. Toward the end of the trip, in Cartago the coolers will be filled with the fruit refreshment to be eaten on the way to Cali.

It is expected that each bus will have a bi-lingual guide to comment on points of interest.

HACIENDA “PARADISE”

USD \$70

INCLUDES:
TRANSPORT
AND LUNCH





One hour away from Cali is one of the favorite destinations of foreign tourists visiting Valle del Cauca. **Hacienda El Paraíso** (now a museum) is the icon of this Colombian region, world famous for being the setting of the summit novel of Latin American Romanticism: “*Maria*” by Jorge Isaacs.



SUGAR CANE MUSEUM

USD \$30

INCLUDES:

- TRANSPORT
- LUNCH
- GUIDED TOUR



The **Sugar Cane Museum** is part of the Hacienda “Piedechinche” and is located 45 minutes away from Cali. This area of the Valle del Cauca was the birthplace of the first major mills that gave rise to the sugar industry. the museum offers collections of Technology and botanical science monographs and 15 information modules all about sugar cane. Also native, exotic, medicinal and aromatic plants are sold.



NATURE RESERVE “NIRVANA”

USD \$30

- INCLUDES:**
- TRANSPORT
 - LUNCH
 - GUIDED TOUR





Nirvana is a Center for Environmental Education and Ecotourism preserving a valuable sample of the flora and fauna of the biogeographic province of Cauca. 12 miles of trails in the Andean forest allows visitors to have spectacular views of the Andean valley of the Cauca River and wonderful moments of contact with wildlife. The Reserve has a botanical garden, native forests and nature trails, apiary, trout farming, frizzy roots, a museum, crafts, a meeting room and many more surprises.



TOUR OPTIONS IN CALI AREA (CAUCA VALLEY PRESBYTERY)





**WE'LL HELP YOU TO MOVE AROUND THE CITY SO
YOU CAN HAVE THE BEST TIME IN CALI**

MUSEUMS TOUR

This tour will be taking place on Thursday, June 25th. It costs USD \$35 and lasts approximately 3 hours. Includes:

- Transportation
- Guided tour
- Entrance to the museums
- Evening at the zoo

Places to Visit:

- Gold Museum “Banco de la República”
- Archaeological Museum “La Merced”
- Modern Art Museum “La Tertulia”
- Cali Zoo







Shopping Tour

This tour will be taking place on Thursday, June 25th and Friday 26, The cost is USD \$35.

Includes:

- Transportation
- Guided tour

Places to visit:

- ✘ Jardín Plaza Mall
- ✘ Unicentro Mall –
Ramírez Silver Store
- ✘ Artisanal Park “Loma de la Cruz”
- ✘ Jairo Varela’s Plaza
- ✘ Chipichape Mall



City tour

Visit the most emblematic sites in Cali.

This tour will be taking place on Monday, June 22nd and Tuesday 23rd. It costs USD \$35 and includes:

- Guided tour on a bus
- Refreshments

Places to visit:

- ✘ Northwest district
- ✘ Historical Downtown
- ✘ You will be able to get off the bus and take pictures



