

Medellin Travel Guide

Medellin - City of Eternal Spring
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Things to do in Medellin

Landmarks & Monuments

Iconic structures that define Medellin's skyline and heritage, representing the city's journey from past to present.



Must See
Catedral Basilica Metropolitana
45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

One of South America's largest brick cathedrals, featuring Neo-Romanesque architecture and beautiful interior design. This magnificent religious structure dominates the center of Medellin and remains an active place of worship and cultural significance.



Top Pick
Monumento a Los Fundadores
20 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

An impressive public monument honoring the founders of Medellin in the heart of Plaza Mayor. This iconic statue stands as a symbol of the city's founding heritage and is surrounded by the historic core of downtown Medellin.



Notable
Iglesia de San Alejo
30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

Historic colonial church located in the Parque Berrío district. Known for its stunning architecture and serves as an important religious and cultural landmark in downtown Medellin's architecture heritage.

Tips for Landmarks & Monuments

- Visit early morning for fewer crowds and better photography light
- Most landmarks are free to visit but donations are appreciated
- Guided walking tours often include multiple landmarks
- Downtown can be crowded on weekends; weekday visits are recommended



Museums & Galleries

World-class collections showcasing Colombian art, innovation, and interactive experiences that celebrate creativity and cultural heritage.



Must See

Museo de Antioquia

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Colombia's finest art museum featuring masterworks by Fernando Botero and a comprehensive collection of Colombian art spanning colonial to contemporary periods. The museum offers both permanent exhibitions and rotating contemporary shows across multiple floors of gallery space.



Must See

Plaza Botero

1 hour No Booking Needed



Map

An open-air sculpture museum featuring 23 monumental bronze sculptures by master artist Fernando Botero, surrounded by the museum building. Located in downtown Medellin, it provides a unique outdoor art experience combining public space with cultural education.



Top Pick

Museo Casa de la Memoria

1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A powerful and moving museum dedicated to remembering victims of the armed conflict in Colombia. Features interactive exhibits, personal testimonies, and educational programs that document the city's complex history and path toward peace and reconciliation.



Top Pick

Museo de Arte Moderno

1.5 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Contemporary art museum showcasing modern and contemporary works from Colombian and international artists. Features rotating exhibitions and a strong focus on experimental and innovative artistic practices in a renovated industrial building.

Tips for Museums & Galleries

- Many museums offer free entry on Sunday afternoons
- Book guided tours in advance for better insights and context



- Museums typically close Mondays; check hours before visiting
- Student discounts available with valid ID
- Photography policies vary; ask before photographing



Religious Sites

Sacred spaces reflecting Medellin's spiritual heritage and architectural grandeur, from colonial churches to modern religious centers.



Top Pick

Basilica de Sagrario

30 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

A stunning baroque-influenced religious monument featuring ornate architecture and impressive interior design. This significant spiritual center serves the local community and welcomes visitors interested in colonial religious architecture and ongoing religious ceremonies.



Notable

Ermita Church

25 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

The oldest church in Medellin, dating back to the colonial period. The Ermita represents the city's earliest religious heritage with its simple yet elegant Neo-gothic architecture. Located near the historic center, it remains an important pilgrimage site and architectural landmark.

Tips for Religious Sites

- Respect prayer times and ongoing services
- Dress modestly when entering churches
- Many churches have free admission but donations are welcome
- Photography may be restricted during services
- Visit during less busy hours for peaceful contemplation



Squares & Streets

Vibrant public spaces that serve as the heart of urban life, where culture, commerce, and community converge in distinctive atmospheres.



Must See

Plaza Mayor

45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

The central plaza of Medellín's historic downtown, surrounded by important civic buildings and monuments. This bustling square is the city's traditional gathering place, featuring the Monumento a los Fundadores and serving as a hub for both tourists and locals exploring the city center.



Top Pick

Paseo Peatonal Junín

1 hour No Booking Needed



Map

Medellín's main pedestrian shopping street extending through the city center. Lined with shops, restaurants, and street performers, this vibrant thoroughfare captures the energy of downtown life and serves as the primary commercial corridor connecting major plazas and attractions.



Top Pick

Parque Bolívar

45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

An elegant urban park named after South American liberator Simón Bolívar, featuring tree-lined pathways, statuary, and peaceful green spaces. The park provides respite from downtown activity and is surrounded by interesting architecture and cultural institutions.

Tips for Squares & Streets

- Visit squares in daytime for safety and to experience vibrant street life
- Street vendors offer authentic snacks and beverages
- Weekday mornings are quieter for photography
- Nearby metro stations provide easy access and exit
- Watch personal belongings in crowded areas



Neighborhoods & Districts

Distinct districts each with unique character, from trendy cultural hubs to bohemian quarters, revealing the authentic soul of Medellin.



Must See

Book Ahead

Comuna 13

2-3 hours Book Ahead



Map

Once a dangerous neighborhood, now transformed into a vibrant street art mecca. Colorful graffiti murals cover hillside buildings, and the narrow staircases are adorned with incredible artistic expressions. This remarkable transformation symbolizes Medellin's urban renewal and has become the city's most Instagram-famous district.



Must See

Poblado

4+ hours No Booking Needed



Map

Medellin's most developed neighborhood featuring upscale restaurants, bars, shops, and galleries. Popular with tourists and young professionals, El Poblado offers excellent dining, nightlife, and accommodation options while maintaining distinct Colombian character and charm.



Top Pick

Parque Arvi

3-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A modern neighborhood developed on the mountains accessible via cable car from the city center. Features innovative urban design, green spaces, restaurants, and museums. Offers panoramic views of Medellin and represents the city's commitment to urban renewal in previously isolated areas.



Top Pick

Laureles

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A popular residential and commercial neighborhood known for its tree-lined streets, local restaurants, and bohemian atmosphere. Home to Plaza Bolívar and various independent cafes and shops, Laureles offers an authentic glimpse of daily Medellin life away from tourist centers.

Tips for Neighborhoods & Districts

- Join a guided neighborhood tour for safety and cultural insights
- Each neighborhood has distinct vibes; pick based on interests
- Poblado is most tourist-friendly; others require local guides
- Best explored during daylight hours with guides or locals
- Try neighborhood restaurants for authentic local cuisine



Parks & Gardens

Green sanctuaries offering respite from urban energy, natural beauty, and recreational opportunities throughout the city.



Must See

Arví Park

3-4 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A large metropolitan park accessible by cable car system offering stunning views of the city and valley. Features walking trails, recreational areas, museums, and restaurants in a mountaintop setting. The park represents innovative urban development and ecological preservation within the city limits.



Top Pick

Botanical Garden

1.5-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A magnificent 14-hectare botanical garden featuring diverse plant collections, beautiful landscaping, and serene walking paths. The garden includes orchid species, native plants, and peaceful water features. It's a tranquil escape perfect for nature lovers and photographers seeking natural beauty within the urban setting.



Top Pick

Metropolitan Park

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A large urban park serving as a cultural and recreational hub for the city. Features open green spaces, recreational facilities, and regular cultural events. The park is designed for public gathering and offers a peaceful retreat while remaining central to city activities.

Tips for Parks & Gardens

- Early morning visits offer best weather and fewer crowds
- Bring sunscreen and water for outdoor exploration
- Paths are generally well-maintained and safe during daylight
- Parks host seasonal events and cultural activities
- Local guides can enhance botanical knowledge



Fountains & Public Art

Artistic installations and sculptures that add character to public spaces, celebrating Colombian creativity and urban beautification.



Must See

Fernando Botero Sculptures

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Monumental bronze sculptures throughout the city featuring Botero's distinctive round figures. Located in public spaces and plazas, these artworks are instantly recognizable and celebrated for their whimsical interpretation of human form. Plaza Botero offers the largest concentration of these internationally renowned sculptures.



Must See

Street Art Murals

2-3 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Elaborate murals and street art covering buildings throughout Medellin, particularly in neighborhoods like Comuna 13. These colorful artistic expressions represent urban culture, social messages, and international artistic collaboration. The street art movement has transformed Medellin's aesthetic and cultural identity globally.



Top Pick

Flower Festival Plaza Installations

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Seasonal floral art installations and arrangements throughout Medellin during the annual Flower Festival. Decorative displays transform public spaces into botanical showcases. These temporary installations celebrate Colombian floriculture and are created with thousands of fresh flowers.

Tips for Fountains & Public Art

- Street art tours provide historical and cultural context
- Photography is encouraged; these are public artworks meant to be enjoyed
- Visit multiple neighborhoods to see different artistic styles
- Murals are constantly changing; no two visits are identical
- Support local artists by purchasing prints and merchandise



Transportation

Modern urban transit systems including innovative cable cars and metro networks, offering both practical transportation and scenic experiences.



Essential

Metro Cable Car System

30-45 minutes No Booking Needed



Map

A revolutionary cable car system connecting downtown Medellín to hillside neighborhoods, revolutionizing transportation accessibility. The cable cars offer stunning aerial views of the city and surrounding valleys. This system is both functional transportation and a popular tourist attraction, considered an engineering marvel of urban development.



Recommended

Medellín Metro System

Varies by route No Booking Needed



Map

A modern metro system connecting major areas of the city with efficient service and affordable fares. The metro is the primary transportation method for locals and offers a safe, clean way to experience the city like residents do. Stations feature artistic installations and cultural displays.



Recommended

Monorail Scenic Tours

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Dedicated scenic monorail routes offering panoramic views of the city and surrounding geography. These tourist-focused routes combine transportation with sightseeing, passing through modern neighborhoods and providing photographic opportunities of Medellín's urban landscape and natural surroundings.

Tips for Transportation

- Purchase a Civica card for convenient metro and cable car travel
- Early morning and late evening have fewer crowds
- Cable cars offer the most scenic transportation experience
- Metro staff can provide directions in Spanish and English
- All systems are safe and frequented by locals and tourists



Tours & Activities

Guided experiences and specialized activities that reveal hidden gems, cultural insights, and adventure opportunities throughout Medellin.



Must See Book Ahead

History & Transformation Tour

3-4 hours Book Ahead

Guided tours focusing on Medellin's transformation from past challenges to modern renaissance. Knowledgeable guides provide historical context while visiting significant sites, neighborhoods, and community projects. These tours highlight resilience, innovation, and positive social change throughout the city.



Must See Book Ahead

Coffee Region Day Trip

8-10 hours Book Ahead

Full-day excursion to surrounding coffee plantations in the Colombia coffee triangle. Visit working farms, learn production processes, and taste freshly roasted coffee. The scenic drive through mountain landscapes and authentic farm experiences provide deep cultural immersion and world-class coffee education.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Food Tour & Cooking Class

3-4 hours Book Ahead

Explore Medellin's culinary scene with guided food tours covering local markets, traditional restaurants, and street food. Cooking classes teach preparation of classic Colombian dishes. These experiences provide cultural immersion and direct interaction with local culinary traditions and modern foodie trends.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Art & Culture Tour

4-5 hours Book Ahead

Comprehensive tour of Medellin's artistic scene including museum visits, street art exploration, and visits to galleries and artist studios. Guides provide context on Colombian and contemporary art movements, cultural development, and the city's role as a creative hub in South America.

Tips for Tours & Activities

- Book tours through reputable companies or hotels in advance
- Group tours offer social opportunities; private tours provide flexibility
- Most tours include pickup and transportation from accommodations
- Guides fluent in English are standard for tourist-oriented companies
- Morning departures allow full day experiences with good daylight



Day Trips & Excursions

Nearby destinations offering distinct experiences from mountain villages to natural attractions, perfect for expanding your Medellin experience.



Must See Book Ahead

Guatapé & Rock

8-10 hours Book Ahead



Map

A colorful village famous for its vibrant buildings and the massive El Peñol rock formation offering 360-degree views after climbing 740 stairs. The village features artisan shops, restaurants, and a picturesque lakeside setting. Located 2 hours northeast, this popular day trip combines culture, adventure, and spectacular photography opportunities.



Top Pick Book Ahead

Santa Elena Township

6-8 hours Book Ahead



Map

A rural township in the highlands offering authentic rural Colombian culture, agricultural experiences, and homestays. Visitors experience traditional farming, local hospitality, and stunning mountain views. The township provides genuine cultural immersion away from urban Medellin, approximately 45 minutes from the city center.



Top Pick

Arví Cable Car & Hiking

4-6 hours No Booking Needed



Map

A mountain excursion via cable car followed by hiking trails through cloud forest. The journey offers panoramic city views, nature immersion, and interaction with local communities. The area features restaurants serving traditional mountain cuisine and observation points for landscape photography.

Tips for Day Trips & Excursions

- Book day trips through hotels or established tour operators
- Bring sun protection, comfortable shoes, and water
- Early starts allow maximum daylight for exploration
- Transportation is typically included in organized tours
- Guides provide valuable cultural and historical context



Practical Information

Essential visitor information for planning a smooth and enjoyable Medellin experience.

Tips for Practical Information

- Peak season is December-January and July-August
- Spanish is the primary language; English spoken in tourist areas
- Medellin's nickname is 'City of Eternal Spring' due to consistent mild climate
- The city is safer in tourist districts; follow local guidance
- Tourist information centers available at airport and city center



Food & Dining

Real, highly-rated Restaurants in Medellin, sourced from Google Places (rating above 4★).

Must See

Mombasa Restaurante Medellín★★★★★ 4.9 (2,010)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Mombasa Restaurante Medellín is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.9★ from 2010 reviews. Located at Vía Primavera, Cra. 37 #8A-83, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Tuesday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Wednesday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Thursday: 6:00 PM – 2:00 AM
- Friday: 6:00 PM – 2:00 AM
- Saturday: 6:00 PM – 2:00 AM
- Sunday: 6:00 PM – 12:00 AM

Must See

MOJITOS RESTAURANT BAR★★★★★ 4.9 (3,994)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

MOJITOS RESTAURANT BAR is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.9★ from 3994 reviews. Located at Cra. 36 #10b 28 Segundo Piso. Local 201, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Tuesday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Wednesday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Thursday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 12:00 PM – 1:00 AM
- Saturday: 12:00 PM – 1:00 AM
- Sunday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM



Must See

360 Rooftop Bar & Restaurante★★★★★ 4.9 (2,705)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

360 Rooftop Bar & Restaurante is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.9★ from 2705 reviews. Located at Cl 10A #36-29, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM
- Tuesday: 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 7:00 AM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 7:00 AM – 2:00 AM
- Saturday: 7:00 AM – 2:00 AM
- Sunday: 7:00 AM – 11:00 PM

Must See

Restaurante Idílico - Cocina de Producto Local★★★★★ 4.9 (1,405)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Restaurante Idílico - Cocina de Producto Local is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.9★ from 1405 reviews. Located at Cl. 12 #43d-21, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 2:45 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 2:45 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 2:45 PM, 7:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 2:45 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 2:45 PM, 7:00 – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: 7:00 – 10:00 PM

Must See

Casa El Ramal★★★★★ 4.8 (1,117)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Casa El Ramal is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.8★ from 1117 reviews. Located at Cra 43D #10 - 72, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: Closed
- Tuesday: Closed
- Wednesday: 5:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 5:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Saturday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM



Must See

Zombra - Restaurante El Poblado Medellín★★★★★ 4.8 (631)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Zombra - Restaurante El Poblado Medellín is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellín, rated 4.8★ from 631 reviews. Located at Cra. 40 #10a 22, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Sunday: Closed

Must See

Máximo Marea Cocina Mediterránea - Medellín★★★★★ 4.8 (803)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Máximo Marea Cocina Mediterránea - Medellín is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellín, rated 4.8★ from 803 reviews. Located at Cra. 35 #10B-66, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 8:00 PM

Must See

BELISARIO / BAR / RESTAURANTE / EL POBLADO / PROVENZA★★★★★ 4.8 (8,814)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

BELISARIO / BAR / RESTAURANTE / EL POBLADO / PROVENZA is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellín, rated 4.8★ from 8814 reviews. Located at Cra. 35 #7-114, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 4:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Tuesday: 4:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Wednesday: 4:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Thursday: 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM
- Friday: 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM
- Saturday: 12:00 PM – 2:00 AM
- Sunday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM



Must See

CIERTO ROOFTOP MEDELLÍN★★★★★ 4.8 (570)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

CIERTO ROOFTOP MEDELLÍN is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.8★ from 570 reviews. Located at Cl. 13 #43D-84 Loc 101, 102, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 4:00 – 9:00 PM
- Tuesday: 4:00 – 9:00 PM
- Wednesday: 4:00 – 9:00 PM
- Thursday: 2:00 – 10:00 PM
- Friday: 2:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Saturday: 2:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Sunday: 2:00 – 9:00 PM

Must See

Simah restaurante★★★★★ 4.8 (1,423)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Simah restaurante is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.8★ from 1423 reviews. Located at CARRERA 9 NO, Av. Las Palmas #16 A SUR - 42 INT 102, Casaloma, Medellín, Santa Elena, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 1:00 – 3:30 PM, 5:30 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 1:00 – 3:30 PM, 5:30 – 10:00 PM
- Wednesday: 1:00 – 3:30 PM, 5:30 – 10:00 PM
- Thursday: 1:00 – 3:30 PM, 5:30 – 11:00 PM
- Friday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Saturday: 1:00 – 11:00 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM

Must See

Romero Cocina Artesanal★★★★★ 4.8 (3,361)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Romero Cocina Artesanal | Restaurante en La 10, Poblado, Medellin is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.8★ from 3361 reviews. Located at por carrera 33, Cl 10, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 9:00 AM – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 9:00 AM – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: 9:00 AM – 9:00 PM



Must See

Romero Artesanal Cuisine - Laureles★★★★★ 4.8 (4,429)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Romero Artesanal Cuisine - Laureles is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.8★ from 4429 reviews. Located at Av. Nutibara #74b-17 63, Laureles - Estadio, Medellín, Laureles, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 9:30 PM

Must See

Egeo★★★★★ 4.8 (2,363)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Egeo | Restaurante Mediterráneo Medellín is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.8★ from 2363 reviews. Located at Hotel Click Clack, Cl. 10b #37 29, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 5:00 – 10:00 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 11:00 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Friday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Saturday: 12:00 PM – 12:00 AM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 10:00 PM

Must See

Mar y Fuego- Medellín★★★★★ 4.7 (1,098)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Mar y Fuego- Medellín is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.7★ from 1098 reviews. Located at Cra. 37 #10b-4, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Saturday: 11:00 AM – 11:30 PM
- Sunday: 12:00 – 9:00 PM



Must See

Restaurante La Provincia★★★★★ 4.7 (1,610)

1-2 hours No Booking Needed



Map

Restaurante La Provincia is a highly-rated restaurant in Medellin, rated 4.7★ from 1610 reviews. Located at Cra. 42 #3 Sur 81 Loc 303, El Poblado, Medellín, El Poblado, Medellín, Antioquia, Colombia.

Opening Hours

- Monday: 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:30 PM
- Tuesday: 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:30 PM
- Wednesday: 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:30 PM
- Thursday: 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:30 PM
- Friday: 12:00 – 3:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:30 PM
- Saturday: 1:00 – 4:00 PM, 6:30 – 10:30 PM
- Sunday: Closed

Practical Information

Best Time to Visit

Medellin offers pleasant weather year-round due to its eternal spring climate. The city sits at high altitude (1,500m) ensuring comfortable temperatures averaging 20-24°C (68-75°F).

Ideal Months: December-January and July-August offer the warmest, driest conditions and coincide with Colombian holidays when cultural events peak. These months experience less rain and excellent visibility for city and mountain views.

Rainy Seasons: April-May and September-November see increased rainfall, but this doesn't prevent exploration. Rains are typically afternoon showers, with mornings remaining clear. Green landscapes and fewer tourists make these seasons attractive for budget-conscious travelers.

Feria de las Flores: The internationally renowned Flower Festival occurs in early August, transforming the city with floral displays and cultural celebrations. Book accommodations well in advance if planning to attend.

Getting Around Medellin

Metro System: The modern metro operates with three lines covering major areas. Purchase a Civica card at kiosks for convenient travel. Single trips cost approximately 3,000 COP. The system is clean, safe, and frequented by both locals and tourists.

Cable Cars: The innovative cable car system offers both practical transportation to hillside neighborhoods and scenic experiences. Cable car lines connect metro stations to elevated areas, providing stunning aerial views and access to tourist attractions like Parque Arví.

Taxis & Ride Services: Official yellow taxis are plentiful and inexpensive; use Uber or DiDi apps for convenience and safety. Ride costs range from 8,000-20,000 COP depending on distance. Night travel is safest via app-based services.

Walking: Central neighborhoods like El Poblado and downtown areas are walkable. Use designated pedestrian streets and stay in well-populated areas during daylight hours.

✈️ Airport Transfer

José María Córdova International Airport (MDE) to city center:

- **Airport Shuttle Bus:** Direct service to Poblado/city center in about 45-60 minutes, roughly 12,000-15,000 COP



- **Colectivo (shared van):** Shared minivan to San Diego terminal in 45 minutes, around 11,000 COP per person
- **Taxi:** Metered or flat-rate taxi to El Poblado in 35-50 minutes depending on traffic, about 90,000-110,000 COP
- **Private Transfer:** Pre-booked private car direct to your hotel in 40 minutes, typically 130,000-180,000 COP

Shopping & Local Crafts

Shopping Districts: Centro Comercial features major retailers and Colombian brands. Paseo Peatonal Junín is the traditional shopping street with boutiques and shops. El Hueco, the warehouse district, offers bulk goods and textiles (exercise caution in this area; visit with locals or guides).

Local Crafts: Purchase authentic Colombian handicrafts including handwoven bags, ceramic pottery, and traditional textiles from artisan markets and galleries throughout the city. Support local artists by buying directly from independent shops rather than tourist-oriented stores.

Coffee & Products: Juan Valdez coffee shops and specialty roasters offer premium Colombian coffee, the perfect souvenir. Juan Valdez stores throughout the city provide authentic coffee products, chocolate, and gift items representing Colombian craftsmanship.

Street Markets: La Éclat market in Parque Bolívar operates Saturdays and Sundays with art, crafts, and antiques. Feria de las Flores during August features spectacular flower arrangements and related products. Mercado del Hueco is a massive wholesale market; navigate carefully with local guidance.

Bargaining: Street markets and casual vendors allow friendly negotiation. Department stores have fixed prices. Always ask prices before purchasing from street vendors.

Festivals & Events

Feria de las Flores (August): The international Flower Festival celebrates Colombia's floriculture with concerts, parades, exhibitions, and floral displays transforming the city into a botanical showcase. This month-long celebration attracts visitors worldwide and showcases Colombian culture, music, and artistic expression.

Festival de Cine de Medellín (September): A major international film festival featuring Colombian and Latin American cinema alongside international productions. The festival promotes cultural exchange and showcases regional filmmaking talent.

Noche de Galerías (Monthly): Art galleries throughout the city host special exhibitions and openings on designated nights. This free cultural event brings together art enthusiasts, collectors, and artists for evening explorations of contemporary and traditional art.

Semana Santa (Easter): Holy Week celebrations include religious processions, traditional events, and special services. The religious calendar significantly influences the cultural atmosphere during this period.

New Year & Christmas: Elaborate holiday celebrations feature decorations, concerts, and special events throughout December and early January. The city celebrates with fireworks, concerts, and festive atmosphere creating a vibrant holiday season.

5-Day Sample Itinerary

Day 1 - Historic Downtown: Begin with Plaza Mayor and Monumento a los Fundadores. Visit Catedral Basilica Metropolitana and Basilica de Sagrario. Explore Paseo Peatonal Junín for shopping and street food. End with sunset views from Parque Bolívar. Evening dinner in nearby restaurants.

Day 2 - Art & Culture: Morning visit to Museo de Antioquia and Plaza Botero to see Fernando Botero's sculptures. Lunch in downtown restaurants. Afternoon exploring galleries and street art in El Poblado neighborhood. Evening visiting local cafes and shops. Optional: Jazz or live music venue.

Day 3 - Transformation & Street Art: Full day exploring Comuna 13 with a guided tour of colorful murals and street art. Experience the neighborhood's cultural transformation and interact with local artists. Lunch at local restaurants.



Return to El Poblado area for evening dining and nightlife.

Day 4 - Cable Cars & Nature: Morning cable car ride to Parque Arví for panoramic views and hiking. Visit museums and restaurants in the park. Afternoon cable car to barrio experiences and lookout points. Evening relaxing in botanical gardens or park areas. Sunset observation of city lights.

Day 5 - Day Trip Option: Full day excursion to Guatapé and El Peñol rock, or coffee region tour from Medellín. Experience rural Colombian culture, climb the 740-step rock for 360-degree views, or learn about coffee production. Return to Medellín for final evening exploring remaining attractions or favorite neighborhoods.

Best Photography Locations

Golden Hour (Sunrise/Sunset): Parque Arví cable car offers stunning city panoramas during golden hour with excellent lighting. The mountain viewpoints provide unobstructed views of the entire valley and city skyline. Arrive 30 minutes before sunset for optimal lighting and clear skies.

Street Art & Murals: Comuna 13 staircases and buildings provide vibrant, colorful compositions especially striking under midday sun. Early morning or late afternoon light creates dramatic shadows on murals. Wide-angle lenses capture the scale of massive installations.

Downtown Historic Sites: Plaza Mayor and surrounding colonial architecture photograph well in morning light before crowds arrive. The Catedral Basilica offers dramatic architectural details and interior photography opportunities. Overcast days reduce harsh shadows on historic buildings.

Botanical Garden: The lush green spaces, orchid collections, and water features create stunning nature photography opportunities. Macro photography works well for flower details. Cloudy mornings reduce sun glare on foliage and create soft, diffused lighting.

City Skyline: El Poblado neighborhood viewpoints and hillside parks offer excellent skyline shots. Nighttime photography captures city lights transforming the urban landscape. Tripods useful for long exposures of evening cityscapes.

Candela Street: Pedestrian-only street in El Poblado features colorful buildings, shops, and vibrant street life. Street photography captures authentic daily life and cultural atmosphere. Best photographed during daytime hours with natural light.

Electricity & Electronics

Voltage & Frequency: Colombia uses 110V, 60Hz electrical current, matching North American standards. Devices from the US and Canada work directly without conversion.

Plug Types: Colombia uses Type A and Type B plugs (flat two-prong North American style). These are the standard outlets found in hotels, restaurants, and public spaces. European devices require adapters.

Adapters: Travelers from countries using different plug types (UK, Europe, Australia) need universal travel adapters available at electronics stores, airports, and many hotels. Purchase adapters before arrival or at international airports.

USB Charging: Many modern hotels and cafes provide USB charging ports. Portable power banks are recommended for all-day exploration as outlets are not always available in public spaces.

Electronics Safety: Surge protectors are recommended for expensive devices due to occasional power fluctuations. Hotel safes provide secure storage for valuable electronics when not in use.

Colombian Cuisine & Dining

Must-Try Dishes: **Bandeja Paisa** is Medellín's iconic dish featuring beans, rice, meat, chicharrón, and fried egg. **Ajiaco**, a hearty potato soup with corn and avocado, is perfect for cool mountain mornings. **Patacones**, fried plantain slices, serve as appetizers or sides throughout the country.



Street Food: Empanadas (fried pastries with filling), arepas (corn cakes), and fresh fruit juices are affordable street foods. Bandeja de quesos (cheese board) and fresh tropical fruits showcase Colombian agricultural bounty. Street vendors offer authentic, economical dining experiences.

Restaurant Scene: El Poblado and downtown areas offer international and Colombian restaurants. Fine dining establishments serve contemporary Colombian cuisine with innovative presentations. Market-adjacent restaurants near La Minorista provide authentic local flavors and fresh ingredients.

Coffee Culture: Medellin offers exceptional coffee experiences beyond Juan Valdez chains. Independent specialty cafes showcase single-origin Colombian beans with expert preparation. Many cafes host cultural events, art exhibitions, and live music.

Dining Tips: Restaurant prices are very reasonable compared to North American standards. Lunch is the main meal; dinner (cena) is lighter. Tipping 10% is appreciated but not mandatory. Markets like Éxito and D1 supermarkets offer affordable snacks and beverages for budget travelers.

Tourist Passes

Civica Card (Metro & Cable Car Pass)

A rechargeable card system for all metro and cable car travel in Medellin. Single journeys cost approximately 3,000 COP. Purchase cards at metro kiosks and charge with desired amounts. The most economical way to navigate the city's extensive public transportation system. Valid for unlimited transfers within two hours of initial journey.



www.metrodemedellin.gov.co

Museum Package Pass

Many museums offer combined packages or discounts for multiple visits. Museo de Antioquia and Casa de la Memoria provide special pricing. Check with individual museums for multi-museum passes or partner discounts. Most museums are free or discounted on specific days (usually Sundays).



www.museodeantioquia.org

Tourist Card (3-Day City Pass)

Some tour operators offer comprehensive 3-day passes including metro/cable car unlimited travel, museum entries, and tour discounts. Prices vary based on operator. These passes provide good value for tourists exploring multiple attractions over several days, combining transportation and major attractions.

