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Late January 2027 - Wonders of Colombia

7-NIGHT CRUISE WITH 3 NIGHTS IN MEDELLÍN, 2 NIGHTS IN CARTAGENA PRE CRUISE AND 3 NIGHTS IN PANAMA CITY POST CRUISE

Immerse yourself in the wonders that this South American country holds as you journey along the magnificent Magdalena River. Step through the streets of Palenque, the first free city in Colombia, moving to the rhythms of *cumbia* and *vallenato*, world-renown musical styles. Delight in the colorful neighborhood of Getsemani in Cartagena, drinking in the vivid colors and culture displayed so artfully on the walls of homes, cafes and family-owned shops. Discover how Spanish and pre-colonial cultures combined to bring us the music, minds, and culture that exist in the country today. Let these breathtaking destinations inspire you as you embrace the soul of this mesmerizing river and the heart-warming people who live alongside it.

OVERVIEW:

DAY	DESTINATION	ACTIVITIES	
1	MEDELLIN	Hotel Check-in	OPTIONAL PRE-CRUISE TOUR
2	MEDELLIN	Full-Day Coffee Region Tour & Tasting	
3	MEDELLIN	Medellín City Tour	
4	CARTAGENA	Flight to Cartagena Walled City Walking Tour	
5	CARTAGENA	San Felipe Castle Visit Gold Museum and Caribbean Naval Museum	
6	CARTAGENA	Hotel Check Out The Vaults Walking Tour	
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EMBARKATION			
Getsemani Tour			
Sundown Cruise			
7	GAMBOTE - PALENQUE	Drum Rhythms and Freedom Historic Tour by Paola	
8	SANTA BARBARA DE PINTO	Walking tour Exclusive Jazz Street Performance	
9	MOMPOX	Cienega Pijiño exploration Historic Walking Tour	
10	MOMPOX	Scenic Cruising through the La Mojana Region Walking tour Shoreside Dinner and Exclusive <i>Cumbia</i> Performance	
11	MAGANGUE	Birdwatching tour OR Cienega visit Scenic Cruising from Magangue to Nueva Venecia	
12	NUEVA VENEZIA	Stilt-House Village Tour Exclusive "Carnaval" Celebration	
13	PANAMA	DISEMBARKATION	
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Flight to Panama			OPTIONAL POST-CRUISE TOUR

		Old Town Panama
14	PANAMA	Full-Day Panama Canal Tour
15	PANAMA	Rainforest and Emberá Excursion
16	PANAMA	Return flight home

ITINERARY DETAILS:

Day 1, MEDELLIN. Arrive in the city of Medellín, the second largest city in Colombia. Named the most innovative city in the world by the Urban Land Institute in 2013, this fascinating city combines modern conveniences with colonial history. Check into your hotel and enjoy your first night in this unique city.

Day 2, MEDELLIN. The region's ideal climate and soil conditions, combined with the skill and passion of local farmers, make for a unique and delicious coffee experience, which you can learn about and enjoy for yourself during a guided excursion. Before the majority of coffee farms moved south, the state of Antioquia was where coffee growth in Colombia first began, planting the seed of tradition and culture strongly in this region. The coffee beans grown in Medellín are known for their rich and complex flavor profiles, with notes of dark chocolate, caramel, and berries. This delightful coffee is also certified by organizations such as the Rainforest Alliance, which ensures that the coffee is grown in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way. On your way back, ride a cable back into Medellín, taking in picturesque views of the city you will explore more closely tomorrow. (B, L)

Day 3, MEDELLIN. Though the city was once known for violent campaigns, Medellín has undergone impressive social transformations, and you will get to examine the drastic differences as you tour one of the city's neighborhoods. Once a setting of political corruption's influence on the city, the neighborhood has now been elevated to a place of strengthened community, music and art. See this vibrant atmosphere for yourself on your guided tour. (B)

Day 4, CARTAGENA. In the morning, check out of your hotel and fly to Cartagena, the beautiful capital of the Bolivar region located on Colombia's Caribbean coast. Take the day to delight in the beautiful coastal city of Cartagena. Many Spaniards flocked to this location when they heard tales of gold found in the tombs of indigenous leaders, expanding this small port into a thriving city. As you tour the city, you may witness iconic landmarks such as the Catedral de Cartagena or the stone walls built to protect the city from the plundering of pirates, although they did not stop Sir Francis Drake from holding the city for ransom in 1586. (B)

Day 5, CARTAGENA. Start your day by exploring the incredible UNESCO-designated San Felipe Castle, the fortress that defended Cartagena from French and British attacks. As you walk through Cartagena, learn more about emeralds and the impact of these precious gemstones on the city's history. In the afternoon, delve deeper into the enriching history of this Caribbean city as you visit the Gold Museum, which features ancient gold artifacts from the indigenous cultures found in this region. You will also visit the Caribbean Naval Museum. Follow the story of this fascinating country and its incredible naval history from pre-Hispanic times until the present. (B)

Day 6, CARTAGENA - EMBARKATION. Before checking out of your hotel, tour the famous vaults of Cartagena. These vaults have gone through many transformations – from being Spanish headquarters to a prison for those seeking independence from Spain to the art galleries, restaurants and shops you can witness today. After settling into your stateroom, enjoy a tour through the breathtaking neighborhood of Getsemani. With the vibrant colors of the homes and street art as well as the mouthwatering local delicacies that can be found throughout the area, this historic neighborhood will delight all your senses. In the evening, watch the sun set on Cartagena as we set sail on your magical Magdalena River journey (B, D)

Day 7, GAMBOTE - PALENQUE - CALAMAR. In the morning, experience the town of Palenque, the first "free town" in the Americas. Founded by those who fled a life of slavery during colonial times, the spirit and appearance of this town has been preserved through time. In 1713, the Spanish crown issued a Royal Decree that officially freed the people of Palenque from slavery. Immerse yourself in the town's deeply rooted culture and traditions, which are so distinct that UNESCO declared Palenque to be a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. An important piece of their heritage is the music and rhythmic style that was developed in this city, which you will enjoy during a special performance by local musicians. Later in the day, visit Calamar. Located at the entrance of the Canal del Dique, this town was first settled in 1840. Witness historic sites such as the Iglesia de la Inmaculada Concepcion as you tour this beautiful destination by *paola* (a bicycle taxi for two). (B, L, D)

Day 8, SANTA BARBARA DE PINTO - MOMPOX. Spend your morning in Santa Barbara de Pinto, located on the banks of the Mompox arm of the Magdalena River. Enjoy a walking tour through this traditional town, where you may see local landmarks such as the Santa Barbara Church and enjoy intricate hand-made crafts created in the town. In the afternoon, arrive at the island town of Mompox, where you will be welcomed with open arms and lively music during an exclusive jazz performance played by local musicians. (B,L,D)

Day 9, MOMPOX. A town frozen in time, Mompox embodies the appearance of what many villages looked like during colonial times. Founded in 1540, this remote village became an important Spanish trading post. Some Spaniards found Mompox to be a haven for keeping gold and other treasure protected from the pirates that pillaged coastal cities like Cartagena, and with this precious metal and the work of skilled artisans from Spain came beautifully crafted artifacts. Since then, the town has become famous for its incredible filigree jewelry, which you can learn more about during your tour of this town in the afternoon. While visiting the largest inland island in Latin America, journey through the incredible ecological Ciénaga Pijiño region, exploring the massive lake that is home to a variety of flora and fauna native to the region. In the afternoon, take a stroll through this storied town on a guided walking tour. With stunning colonial churches, breathtaking nature surrounding the town, and delicious local delights such as *capa* cheese and *butifarra*, Mompox is sure to be a highlight of your journey along the magnificent Magdalena River. (B, L, D)

Day 10, MOMPOX - EL BANCO. Bid farewell to Mompox before embarking on a scenic cruise down one of the most breathtaking stretches of the Magdalena River – a picturesque part of the *La Mojana* Region – and reaching the town of El Banco, nestled at the intersection of the Magdalena and César rivers. Founded in a

location strategic for both the native people and the Spaniards, the town was repeatedly destroyed in their struggles and then rebuilt atop its ashes. In 1749, a freed black slave named José Domingo Ortiz led a group of settlers to this special location, carrying with him a statue of the Virgin Mary, staking this place as their new home. Because of this connection, the Virgin of Candelaria, a special invocation of the Virgin Mary, is specially venerated in this region. Embark on a guided walking tour of this incredible destination and learn more about its history as the birthplace of *cumbia*, an iconic genre of music and dance that has now been popularized around the world. What began as a courtship dance practiced by African slaves later incorporated American steps and European and African instruments has become a world-wide sensation, which is especially popular in the Andean region of Colombia. In the evening, enjoy an exclusive dinner in town and witness an incredible *cumbia* performance by locals. (B, L, D)

Day 11, MAGANGUE. Witness the sights, hear the bird calls, and watch the wildlife around you as spend the day docked near Magangué. Immerse yourself in the presence of Colombian nature surrounding this city on a birdwatching tour, giving you a unique opportunity to see birds only found in this specific part of the country. You can also choose to explore the picturesque Ciénaga, teeming with Colombian life, on another fascinating excursion. (B,L,D)

Day 12, NUEVA VENECIA - BARRANQUILLA. In the morning, visit the Floating Village of Nueva Venecia. A charming town filled with inviting locals, Nueva Venecia, or “New Venice,” can only be navigated by boat. With its beautiful colonial houses, vivid architecture and local sanctuary protecting the native flora and fauna, this town highlights the beauty and warmth of Colombia. Witness its splendor as you tour the village. While here, explore this village and learn more about the lives of its people during a guided tour. Enjoy the traditional crafts and art that is on display, learn about the techniques the fishermen of Nueva Venecia use, and taste the local delicacies as you embrace this village and its unique culture. Later in the day, venture to the beautiful seaside city of Barranquilla, a vibrant destination home to notable musicians, writers and artists. Immerse yourself in the warmth and culture of the city’s atmosphere as you venture through this magnificent location, where you may visit famous landmarks such as the *bocas de cenizas*, the point at which the magical Magdalena River meets the breathtaking Caribbean Sea, and the “Carnaval” Museum, which showcases the unique history of this incredible festival. In the evening, enjoy an exclusive “Carnaval” celebration just for AmaWaterways guests as we bring the full traditional experience to our guests all-year round. (B,L,D)

Day 13, PANAMA - DISEMBARKATION. Disembark your ship and fly to Panama City, famous for the canal that separates North and South America. Start your Panama journey in Panama Casco Viejo. Located in the middle of skyscrapers, this charming UNESCO World Heritage Site still conserves its initial mystical flavor. Casco Viejo preserves the first institutions and buildings that laid the foundation for the Panama that we know today. Explore the city walls that were built to protect the city from pirate attacks. Walk through Plaza de Francia, a beautiful public square that pays homage to France’s role in building the iconic Panama Canal, and Plaza Carlos V, named for the most powerful monarch in Europe during the 16th century. Take in the stunning la compañía architecture prominent in this historic area of the city, showcased in breathtaking buildings such as the Catedral Basílica Santa María la Antigua de Panamá. Immerse yourself in the vivid colors of Casco Viejo as you make your way to your hotel, where you will be staying during your time in this incredible city. (B)

Day 14, PANAMA. Take in the man-made majesty of the Panama Canal during this full day of incredible excursions. Before this marvel of engineering was constructed, ships were forced to sail to the southernmost tip of South America along the Drake Passage or the Strait of Magellan. Once the Panama Canal was opened in 1914 after over 30 years of construction directed by multiple countries, international trade changed forever. Visit the building where the chief engineer, George W. Goethals, centralized the canal’s administrative activities before embarking along this legendary canal for yourself. Journey along the Panama Canal as you witness the breathtaking Gatun Lake. Known as the largest artificial lake in the world, this body of water is surrounded by the beauty of petrified trees frozen in time, tropical rainforest, and the unique flora and fauna found along its banks. Enjoy a delicious lunch at the Gamboa Rainforest Resort and discover more about the history, biodiversity and operation of the Panama Canal during a private tour of the Miraflores Locks and Visitor Center. (B, L)

Day 15, PANAMA. Be dazzled by a breathtaking rainforest near the Chagres National Park, taking in the amazing scenery that surrounds you. Navigate the Gatun Lake through this magical jungle before continuing to an Emberá village. The Emberá are a riverine people of Panama, historically building their houses along banks of rivers. These people came from another location when Gatun Lake was created, finding a new home next to this bridge of water. Savor a traditional Emberá tasting experience that is sure to delight your taste buds. Immerse yourself in the ritual dances, local music, handicrafts and more as you experience and embrace this unique culture. (B)

Day 16, DEPART PANAMA. Bid Panama farewell and prepare for your flight home. (B)

DECK PLAN

[ENLARGE DECK PLAN](#)

1	Main Lounge
2	Pool
3	Fitness Room
4	Massage Room
5	Main Restaurant
6	Reception
7	Wheel House

