

Santa Marta, Colombia

Colombia's oldest surviving city, set between the Sierra Nevada mountains and the Caribbean — gateway to Tayrona's jungle beaches, the Lost City of the Tayrona, and the house where Simón Bolívar breathed his last.

Docked at Sociedad Portuaria

Typical call: 8–10 hrs

Colombian Peso (COP)

Spanish

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Sociedad Portuaria / Puerto de Santa Marta

To center: 5-min walk to Parque de los Novios

Best For: History · Nature · Beaches

Don't Miss: Tayrona National Park

Getting around: Taxi \$5–\$7 USD · Rideshare Uber, InDrive

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Tayrona National Park** — The crown jewel of the Colombian Caribbean — a UNESCO-protected mosaic of jungle, coral reef, and turquoise coves where the Sierra Nevada meets the...
- Quinta de San Pedro Alejandrino** — The colonial hacienda on the outskirts of Santa Marta where Simón Bolívar, Liberator of South America, spent his final days and died in December 1830.
- Minca Cloud Forest & Waterfalls** — A 45-minute drive into the foothills of the Sierra Nevada brings you to the village of Minca, surrounded by coffee farms, bird-rich cloud forest, and...
- Historic Centre & Taganga Village** — Walk the cobblestone streets of Colombia's oldest city — the Catedral de Santa Marta (one of South America's oldest), Parque de los Novios, and the...

BEST WALKS

- Port to Parque de los Novios & the Cathedral** ~1.5 km · 45 min · easy — Head straight from the pier along Calle 10 into the historic centre.
- Simón Bolívar statues & Malecón waterfront** ~2 km · 1 hr · easy — Follow the renovated Malecón waterfront promenade past the Estatua de Simón Bolívar and the old customs house.
- El Rodadero Beach** ~3 km by taxi · 2 hrs · easy — A short taxi ride south of the port brings you to El Rodadero, Santa Marta's most popular beach resort area.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr	87°	78°	8d
Jun	86°	79°	17d
Aug	87°	79°	19d
Sep	86°	78°	20d
Oct	85°	77°	23d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:45AM–6:08PM · Jun 5:34AM–6:20PM · Aug 5:46AM–6:15PM · Sep 5:46AM–5:57PM · Oct 5:46AM–5:38PM

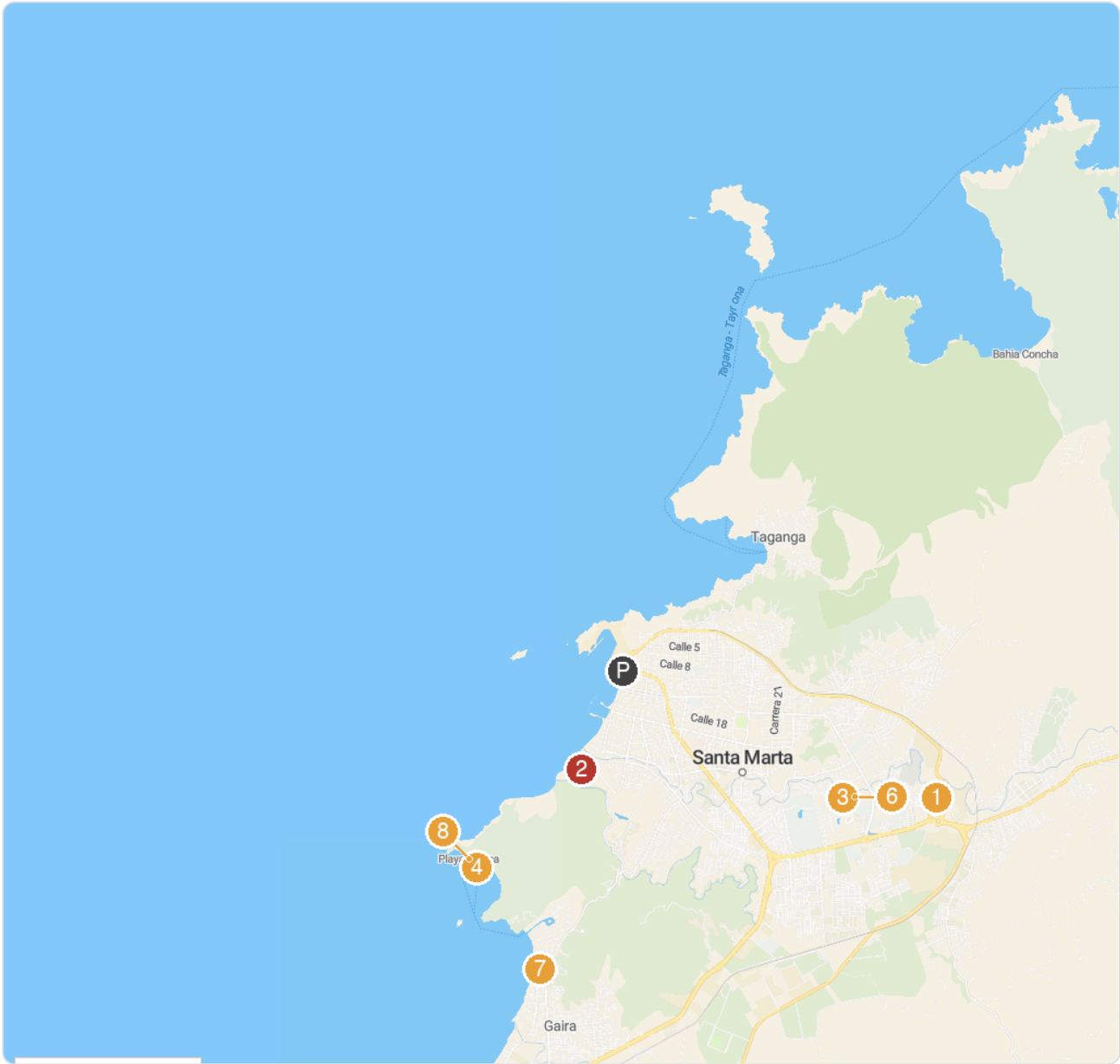
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Carry small bills in pesos. USD is rarely accepted outside big hotels. ATMs are available in the city centre — withdraw COP pesos for taxis, street food, and park entry fees.
- Sunscreen and insect repellent are non-negotiable. The Caribbean heat is intense year-round and Tayrona's jungle paths bring mosquitoes — apply both before you leave the ship.
- Book Tayrona early — it has daily visitor limits. The park caps entries each day. Arrange your excursion through the ship or a licensed operator in advance, especially during peak season.
- Negotiate taxi fares before you get in. Santa Marta taxis don't use meters. Agree on the price first — the ride to El Rodadero should be around COP 15,000–20,000 and to Taganga around COP 20,000.
- Eat on Parque de los Novios. The square's surrounding restaurants serve great arepas de huevo, coconut rice, and fresh ceviche at local prices — far better value than tourist traps near the port gate.

Santa Marta, Colombia — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Iglesia de Mamatoco | Historic church where Simon Bolivar's heart was kept. | 2 San Fernando | A quiet residential neighborhood with a local park. |
| 3 Altar of the Fatherland | A monument honoring Simon Bolivar, the Liberator. | 4 Acuario Rodadero Santa Marta | An aquarium showcasing Caribbean marine life and dolphins. |
| 5 Condominio Marino Cabo Tortuga | A modern marina and luxury condominium complex. | 6 Quinta de San Pedro Alejandrino | Historic hacienda where Simon Bolivar spent his last days. |
| 7 Acuario Mundo Marino | An aquarium featuring diverse marine species and exhibits. | 8 Playa Blanca | A beautiful white sand beach accessible by boat. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |