Cruise Details

Name:	Magic of Colombia (Christmas Day Celebration)
Reference:	AMASB261223GBC
Operator:	Ama Waterways
Cruise Type:	River
Cruise Rating:	Luxury
Ship:	AmaMelodia
Regions:	Magdalena
Departs On:	23 Dec 26
Departs From:	Barranquilla
Arrives On:	30 Dec 26
Arrives At:	Cartagena
Cruise Nights:	7
Total Vacation Days:	7

Itinerary

Day 1: Barranquilla (Colombia)

BARRANQUILLA – EMBARKATION. Arrive in Barranquilla and settle into your stateroom as you prepare for your journey along the Magdalena River. In the evening, enjoy a special Carnaval celebration, bringing the full traditional experience exclusively to AmaWaterways' guests all-year round. Widely considered one of Colombia's most important folkloric celebrations, the Carnaval of Barranquilla has also been declared a UNESCO Masterpiece of Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity, and you will get to revel in this truly authentic experience as you learn the Carnaval's motto: Quien lo vive, es quien lo goza (Those who live it are those who enjoy it).

Arrives On: 23 Dec 26

Day 2: Port information not found

SITIO NUEVO. Today, visit a local village along the river. 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

are on display and taste the local delicacies as you embrace this village and its unique culture. (B, L, D)

Arrives On: 24 Dec 26

Day 3: Magangué (Colombia)

MAGANGUÉ REGION - MOMPOX. Experience the vibrant sounds and sights of Colombian nature from one of our intimate excursion boats as you immerse yourself in the wild beauty of Boca de Tacaloa (the mouth of Tacaloa) – a striking natural wonder surrounded by rich landscapes, local legend and untamed energy in the Magangué region. This nature tour offers a rare opportunity to encounter fascinating species, such as beautiful birds that are unique to this region of the country, making for an unforgettable immersion in wildlife. Then, enjoy scenic cruising en route to the island town of Mompox. There you will be welcomed with open arms and lively music as local musicians treat you to an exclusive jazz performance. (B, L, D)

Arrives On: 25 Dec 26

Day 3: Santa Cruz de Mompox (Colombia)

Arrives On: 25 Dec 26

Day 4: Santa Cruz de Mompox (Colombia)

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. While visiting the largest inland island in Latin America, journey through the beautiful wetlands, exploring the massive lake that is home to a variety of flora and fauna native to the region, with opportunities to birdwatch at sunrise, early morning and sunset. In either the morning or the afternoon, you can choose to take a stroll through this storied town on a guided tour beginning with a tuk-tuk ride from Plaza de San Francisco, visiting key landmarks. You may also visit a filigree workshop in either the morning or afternoon, witnessing the intricate jewelry artistry that defines Mompox’s renowned craftsmanship. 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)

Arrives On: 26 Dec 26

Day 5: Santa Cruz de Mompox (Colombia)

MOMPOX - SANTA BARBARA DE PINTO. Bid farewell to Mompox before embarking on a scenic cruise. Later, embark on one of our private excursion boats to visit Santa Barbara de Pinto, a typical Magdalena riverside village. Enjoy an immersive tour of the town that includes learning the traditional craft of fishing net weaving and watching skilled artisans hand roll tobacco. You will also visit a historic church. Plus, shop for intricate handmade wares crafted by local townspeople while delighting in the pastel-toned Spanish architecture throughout the town. If you prefer a more active adventure, exploring the natural beauty surrounding this riverside town on a guided hike through its lush landscapes. Later in the day, we will invite on board 20 local families from El Banco who are keepers of La Cumbia – the soul of Colombian music and the heart of this region. You will have the chance to experience this cultural treasure firsthand, right on board, with authentic music, stories and celebration. (B, L, D)

Arrives On: 27 Dec 26

Day 5: Pinto (Colombia)

Arrives On: 27 Dec 26

Day 6: Calamar (Colombia)

CALAMAR - MAHATES (PALENQUE). In the morning, board a paola (a bicycle taxi for two) for a historic tour of Calamar, starting with a scenic ride along the Malecon to the House of Culture. Later, depart Calamar and cruise to Mahates, your gateway to 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, from symbolic hairstyles to ancestral medicine, which are so distinct that UNESCO declared Palenque to be a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. You will also visit a local home during this excursion. An important piece of Palenque’s heritage is the music and rhythmic style that was developed in this city, which you will enjoy during a special that brings the town’s spirit to life. (B, L, D)

Arrives On: 28 Dec 26

Day 6: Palenque (Colombia)

Arrives On: 28 Dec 26

Day 7: Cartagena (Colombia)

CARTAGENA. 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. Start your day with a 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. In the afternoon, witness the incredible UNESCO-designated San Felipe Castle, the fortress that defended Cartagena from French and British attacks. You will also enjoy a tour through the breathtaking Getsemaní neighborhood. 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.

Arrives On: 29 Dec 26

Day 8: Cartagena (Colombia)

CARTAGENA – DISEMBARKATION. Bid your ship and crew farewell as you disembark and prepare for your flight home.

Arrives On: 30 Dec 26

For more information on this cruise, please call +44 (0)1202 767926.

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