

# People's Travel Advisory for Colombia



The Colombian government has launched many campaigns to change the image of the country and present it as a safe and fun place for all the family, indeed, a tourist paradise. That is a lie, given that one of the worst human rights crises in the world is in Colombia.

We have two simple and sincere demands:

- An end to the genocide against the social movements and the rural, indigenous, and Afro-Colombian communities;
- Fulfillment of the government's obligations with respect to the Peace Accord.

**We know this, that Colombia IS NOT a safe country, but a dangerous country for every person who desires a just peace!**

Colombia is dangerous:

- For the more than 730 human rights defenders and social leaders who have been murdered since the implementation of the Peace Accord in 2016. They are being killed at a rate of one victim every 30 hours. The assassins are military and paramilitary troops that act with impunity.

- For the ex-insurgents who have laid down their weapons in order to participate in the peace who, since the implementation of the accord, have lost more than 150 persons murdered by enemies of the peace.
- For the indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities who constitute more than 40% of the victims of right-wing violence.
- For the Marcha Patriótica popular movement for peace, whose members also are more than 40% of the victims.
- For the more than 6,100 indigenous children in the Department of La Guajira, who have died from hunger and thirst, and the Wayúu communities who do not have food security while foreign mines rob their water and the Colombian and US government ignore them to invest in militarization and use their territory to foment interference and prepare for war against Venezuela.
- For the more than 8 million forcibly internally displaced and more than 5.5 million of Colombian refugees in Venezuela. The majority of these are rural families and social leaders displaced due to the threats and assaults against them by the military and paramilitaries, and from the dispossession of their territories to satisfy the greed of big landowners, narco-traffickers, and foreign corporations.
- **For the tourist who dares to deviate from the official path. If a tourist wants to see the beautiful mountains and forests of Cauca, she may find herself in the midst of a military incursion against a rural community. If a tourist wants to learn about the rich traditions of the Wayúu people in La Guajira or César, he can find himself in the line of fire of paramilitaries assaulting an indigenous leader. If someone wants to celebrate the Afro-Colombian culture in Buenaventura, they will find themselves in a place without emergency medical attention, in a place where union leaders are under constant threat.**

We are activists who have marched and demonstrated repeatedly for Colombia's peace. We have written letters, called the authorities, visited their offices, signed declarations. But the Colombian government does not listen to us and does nothing to stop the genocide. The US government adopts policies that undermine the Peace Accord even more and enlist Colombia in internal wars and threats against her Venezuelan neighbors, but does nothing to support the peace.

**Therefore, September 27, at Colombian embassies, consulates, and offices of tourism, we will observe the International Day of Tourism with international demands for Peace in Colombia. Our message is: Colombia will not be safe for tourism, neither for the Colombia people, until the right-wing violence against peace is terminated and Colombia becomes a land at peace.**

**For more information**

**Coalition for Peace in Colombia website: [coalitionforpeaceincolombia.org](http://coalitionforpeaceincolombia.org) .**

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