

**2016 ELECTRI International  
Cross-Border Meeting  
Cartegena, Columbia**

March 16-18, 2016



**ELECTRI Columbia Post- Meeting Tour**  
March 19-25, 2016

*Dear Electri members and guests:*

*American Travel offers Cartagena meeting goers the chance to travel further into Columbia to discover a country full of magical experiences. Join us after the meeting for visits to the floral center of Medellin, the coffee region of Pereira, and the exciting capital city of Bogotá.*

- ◆ *Visit flower and coffee farms*
- ◆ *Tour the inside of a salt cave*
- ◆ *Deluxe hotels*



**American Travel Association**

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## Itinerary



### March 19, Saturday *Cartagena to Medellin*

- D
- Morning 1-hour flight from Cartagena to Medellin.
  - Noon arrival and short transfer to Saint Elena for lunch on your own. The national dish of *bandeja paisa* is sure to please the hungry! This afternoon we tour a flower farm and meet a silletero who will explain the history of how flowers became so important to this area. Each year the artists prepare their own large flower sculptures with their family before carrying them in the colorful Medellin floral parade.
  - Late afternoon return to the Intercontinental Medellin
  - Welcome dinner tonight

### March 20, Sunday *Medellin*

- B,D
- Morning City tour of Medellin with a local guide during which we'll hear about Medellin's incredible turn-around into a thriving metropolis now known for its innovative environment.
  - Lunch on your own in a traditional restaurant.
  - Afternoon guided visit to the Pueblito Paisa (Little Town) that replicates a turn-of-the-century Antioquia town complete with a traditional stone fountain in the middle of the town square surrounded by the church and rectory, the mayor's office, a barber shop, and a one-room school house.
  - Tonight we'll experience more local foods.

### March 21, Monday *Medellin to Coffee Region*

- B,L,D
- This morning we drive into the center of Columbia's coffee plantation region.
  - Pereira, Columbia's best known coffee region, is our destination. We'll stay at Sazagua Boutique Hotel. Sazagua is family owned and recently restored. Here we'll spend two days and nights getting to know the local people and culture, which is very different than in the big cities.
  - Lunch and afternoon visit and tasting at a traditional coffee farm. We'll learn about Columbia's treasured harvesting and producing process from seed to cup and how to select and prepare a perfect cup of joe.
  - Check in and dinner at the Sazagua.

### March 22, Tuesday *Pereira/Salento*

- B,L
- Morning visit to the Cocora Valley. Here grows Columbia's national symbol, the wax palm, which measures 60 meters in height.
  - Following a Colombian-style lunch- try the local trout and plantain chips- we visit picturesque Salento, with typical *paisa* architecture. Our afternoon coffee boost will be available in a local café.
  - Afternoon return to our hotel where dinner is on our own tonight

### March 23, Wednesday *Pereira to Bogotá*

- B, L
- Early departure for our 1-hour flight this morning to Bogotá.
  - We will start our tour with a cable car ride for the spectacular view from Montserrat before enjoying lunch in one of the restaurants in San Isidro. After we descend, we'll take a short walk through winding streets in the historic Colonial Quarter of La Candelaria with an anthropologist and history buff. Finally we'll stop in to view the world's greatest collection of pre-Hispanic Indian gold crafts at the Gold Museum
  - Afternoon check-in at the newly renovated and just opened Casa Medina Four Seasons Hotel.
  - Dinner is open tonight.

### March 24, Thursday *Bogotá and Zipaquirá*

- B,L,R
- A short coach ride take us to the colonial town of Zipaquirá to see the Salt Cathedral where religious sculptures and cavernous pools are found in tunnels under the Halite Mountains. We'll tour the town's main plaza and continue to scenic Cajica, nicknamed "the Stone Fortress", where we can enjoy panoramic views and a traditional lunch.
  - Afternoon return to Bogotá
  - Farewell reception at the Casa Medina Four Seasons.

### March 25, Friday *Home*

- B
- Morning at leisure or optional activities until your flight.
  - Departure from Colombia.



## **TOUR INCLUSIONS for Electri International Post-Meeting Columbia tour**

- \* Four and five star hotel accommodations
- \* Two nights Hotel Intercontinental Medellin Executive level
- \* Two nights Sazagua Boutique Hotel, Pereira
- \* Two nights five star Casa Medina Four Seasons Hotel, Bogota
- \* Two dinners in Medellin
- \* One dinner at the Sazagua Boutique Hotel
- \* Farewell reception at the Casa Medina Four Seasons
- \* Four lunches while touring per itinerary
- \* Breakfast daily
- \* Guided tours with entrance fees in Medellin, Pereira and Bogatá per itinerary
- \* Transportation by deluxe motorcoach, with local English speaking guides
- \* Hotel taxes and service charges; hotel portorage
- \* Services of an ATA tour director and local national guide throughout
- \* Guides of Colombia plus Final Advice Memo with detailed travel information on weather, clothing, currency, airport procedures and much more .....

## **Tour Price for the Post-Meeting tour**

\$ 3,380 per person double occupancy

\$ 4,491 per person single occupancy

**Not Included in Either Tour:** Intra Columbia flights Cartagena-Medellin, Pereira-Bogata, items of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone; meals and beverages—alcohol, soft drinks, coffee, tea unless otherwise specified.



## CONDITIONS

**Reservations and Payment for the Post-Meeting Tour :** Reservations are confirmed by American Travel Association (ATA), upon receipt of the Reservation Form and deposit. Reservations require a **\$300 per person per tour deposit** to accompany the Reservation Coupon. Receipt of final payment is due in the office of ATA no later than **January 15, 2016**. For any reservations received after January 15th, the full payment is due with the Reservation Form. All payments must be made by check payable to American Travel Association or by Visa, MasterCard, Discover Card or American Express.

**Cancellation: Land Package:** A \$150 per person administrative fee will be charged regardless of the reason for cancellation. Penalty on cancellations received between January 15th and 30th will be 50% of the tour price; after January 30, 100% of the tour price depending upon the amount recoverable from the suppliers to whom payment had been sent. Cancellation penalties are required to offset non-refundable hotel and supplier payments made by ATA in advance of the tour. There will be no refunds once the tour has begun. *Cancellations* must be made in writing to ATA. To avoid discrepancies, ATA will not act on information given over the phone until written notice has been received (see Cancellation Insurance below).

**Weather: Mid-March** brings early fall to the southern hemisphere with variable, comfortable temperatures. The average March high in the Medellin/Bogotá region is 68, the average low 50, and 14 days of the month have some rain. Cartagena will be affected by the Caribbean and milder.

**Health:** The Participant(s) represent(s) that neither he nor she nor anyone traveling with them has any physical or other condition or disability that could create a hazard to themselves or other members of the tour. This program involves walking over uneven surfaces and climbing stairs at locations that are not handicap accessible. A letter of explanation of any physical or mental condition which may require medical attention or special equipment (wheelchair, for example) must be enclosed with the Reservation Form. The walking surfaces can include steep stairs and cobblestone walks. Please prepare to wear flat shoes with non slip soles for those occasions. Bogotá and Medellin are both at high altitudes, Bogotá is the highest, at 8,500 feet, about the same as Mount St. Helens, Washington. We will plan plenty of pauses during the tours to allow for those who might be affected by the altitude.

**Airline Contract:** The usual passage contract when the ticket is issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airline and the tour participant. ATA shall not be liable for airline cancellation penalties incurred by purchasing non-refundable tickets.

**Trip cancellation insurance:** can be obtained from Allianz [www.allianztravelinsurance.com](http://www.allianztravelinsurance.com) either on-line or over the phone (800-284-8300). The airlines also have good insurance options. Trip cancellation insurance is a good idea because it offsets non-refundable air, hotel, and operator charges. Please note the Pre-Existing Conditions Exclusion. If one exists, you need to purchase the insurance within 14 days of your first payment.



**Insurance (continued):** Allianz has a number of plans. For most, the Basic Plan is fine. However, everyone has different needs, and Allianz agents are available to assist you. Also check with your insurance agent to see what is covered under your existing homeowners and medical policies. For example, suitcases and contents are probably covered under your homeowner's policy.

**Prices:** The tour price is subject to change due to land cost increases and foreign exchange fluctuation. ATA reserves the right to change the price for such reasons or changes in the number of participants (16) upon which the tour costs are based. All prices are based on rates and tariffs in effect on October 30, 2015.

**Responsibility:** American Travel Association (ATA), the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and/or their employees or agents, act only on behalf of the owners and contractors providing means of transportation or other services such as hotels and restaurants to purchasers of this tour and their travel companions (Participants), subject to any and all items and conditions under which any transportation or any other services whatsoever are provided by such owners and contractors. ATA and NECA, their affiliates and their employees and agents (collectively ATA and NECA) shall not be liable or responsible to Participants for the acts or omissions of the aforesaid owners, contractors and employees thereof supplying transportation or other services hereunder, including but not limited to breach of contract, intentional or negligent delay or bodily or property loss, injury or damages. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they're provided. ATA and NECA shall not be liable or responsible to Participants for any loss, injury or death, or other damages caused by or resulting from acts of God, fire, breakdown or defects vehicles, machinery or equipment, acts of governments and other authorities, wars, strikes, riots, thefts, epidemics or quarantines, monetary crisis, diseases, terrorism or novel conditions. Participants shall have the responsibility to be aware of and determine the validity of any travel advisories, which may exist. Unless the term "guaranteed" is specifically stated in writing on any invoice or reservation itinerary, ATA and NECA do not guarantee any of such suppliers' rates, bookings or reservations. The Participants' retention of air tickets, reservations or bookings after issuance shall constitute consent to the above terms and conditions. In addition, Participants shall be responsible for conveying the terms and conditions hereunder to travel companions. If, due to weather, flight schedules or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend additional nights before or after the tour, participants will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, meals and related costs. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. ATA and NECA reserve the right to cancel any itinerary or any part thereof and to make such alterations in the itinerary they deem necessary or desirable.

**Travel Advisories/Warnings:** The areas we're visiting are generally safe although a State Department warning does exist at this time. It is the responsibility of the Participant to become informed about the most current travel advisories and warnings by referring to the U. S. State Department's travel website at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) or by phone at 1-888-407- 4747. In this case of an active State Department Travel Warning, should the Participant choose to travel, notwithstanding this State Department Travel Warning, the Participant assumes all risk of personal injury, death or property damage that may arise out of the events like those advised or warned against. The State Department's travel information will be sent by American Travel with the welcome letter, and ATA will monitor and update if advisories change.

**Tax Deductibility:** Current U.S. tax regulations allow deductibility for travel and subsistence expenses incurred in travel related to trade or business. It is the responsibility of the traveler to become familiar with and adhere to the specific reporting requirements imposed.



## NECA Columbia Post-Meeting Tour Reservation Form

\* Please correspond to the following \_\_\_ office \_\_\_ home address:

**Company (if applicable)** \_\_\_\_\_



**Name/s as they appear on your passports** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(If children coming please give ages and let us know if they will share a room with you)**

**Street** \_\_\_\_\_ **Apt/Suite** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Postal Code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cell Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other preferred Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail** \_\_\_\_\_

**First** or preferred name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact Name/s** \_\_\_\_\_

**e-mail address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Relationship** \_\_\_\_\_

**Hotel Rooms** \_\_\_ I/we prefer 1 king bed; \_\_\_ I/we prefer a two-bedded room  
\_\_\_ if no kings available, Queen is fine or \_\_\_ two-bedded room please

**Deposit** A deposit of \$300 per person is due with the Reservation Form. Payments can be by check, Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express credit cards. Make checks payable to American Travel Association and confirm the amount of your enclosed check or the amount to charge your card here:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* If you wish to wish to use credit card:**

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address of cardholder **if different** from above  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand the conditions set forth in this brochure. Reservations will not be accepted without signature here \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Internal air flights will need to be booked with your international flights. They are:**

*March 19, 2016, Cartagena to Medellin, AV #9761, 10:35am-11:48am*

*March 23, 2016, Pereira to Bogotá, AV #8404, 9:06am-10:01am*

**Return form to:** American Travel Association, 2126 Piedmont Lake Road, Pine Mountain, GA 31822

**Secure Fax:** 706-225-2551, **or scan/e-mail to:** *travelata@aol.com*