



Responsible Travel Policy and Guidelines

[Colombia Inspira S.A.S](#) is committed to making as environmentally and culturally friendly as well as sustainable as possible. Every place in Colombia we visit is very different, from the Pacific coast, Caño Cristales, Amazonía, Guainía, and others, and the small towns in the remote areas around Colombia. Therefore, different traditions, cultures, customs and political situations make planning and managing trips a diverse experience. *There is no one approach.*

Beyond ECO- Tourism

Our cultural and sustainability policy aims to go beyond Eco-tourism to use a 'Learning for sustainability' method that is made up of two key branches. The content and narrative of the trips (Schedule); and 2, the daily experiences and practices of the trips (practices).

1. Programs or schedule - Contents and narrative

All [Colombia Inspira](#) visits and engagements are designed to educate and engage participants on global cultural and environment issues by learning about the challenges that our host countries face and visiting local projects that empower local people to create culturally relevant and sustainable change in their communities. We aim to support genuine friendship building between participants and the host communities including ongoing contact, support and sharing that results in capacity building for the *local community and a mutual exchange of world changing ideas* that are sensitive to local issues.

2. Practices - Daily Experiences

Everyone has a role to play in fostering good tourism. Governments, business and communities are all important, **but as a guest** you can make choices for change in the right direction. We can influence things such as the products and services we select, making decisions based on knowledge gained from local information and multiple visits and the way we choose to interact as a group with the environment and people around us. But there are some things we cannot influence, as sustainable products and services may not be available and participants that come on trips *are also responsible for their own behaviors and consumption habits.*

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Sustainability and regeneration Code of Conduct

Travel and Tourism is best planned and experienced as a means of collective fulfillment. When undertaken with an open mind, it's a fundamental component of self-education, mutual Exchange, understanding and learning about the diversity between people and different cultures.

Travelling with an open mind and heart to other cultures, places and traditions will transform your experience.

Colombia Inspira Responsibilities

- **Economic empowerment:** Empowerment of local communities through tourism to help improve education, health services, water supplies and sanitation whilst also reducing dependence on non-sustainable livelihoods such as deforestation.
- **Local employment:** We use local leaders and guides so that we learn about the culture and way of life directly from those who live it and put money into local hands and economies. In particular, we learn from indigenous rural communities about their relationship to the land and their sustainable practices.
- **Ecological impact:** Providing opportunities for participants, where possible, to reduce their ecological impact.
- **Local Transport:** Booking, where possible, more sustainable forms of transport, and Using local public transport wherever we can to reduce fuel usage per passenger.
- **Local Services:** Engage locally-owned and operated services thereby supporting local people and avoiding long and carbon-intensive supply chains.
- **Purchasing:** Where possible consider the life cycle of the product and their impact in the local context. Endeavour to reduce the '*embodied energy*' (energy consumed through production and transport) of the food and goods purchased by our passengers. *BUY LOCAL PRODUCTS.*
- **Food:** Where possible eat at locally owned eateries where the food has been locally sourced, therefore reducing food mile emissions and supporting local economies. Providing only vegetarian meals in most locations.
- **Water Conservation:** Support initiatives that encourage conservative use of water. Educate participants on local water uses and issues (many of the places we visit have limited access to and supply of water). *VALUE AND CARE FOR OUR WATER RESOURCES.*
- **Water bottles:** Access to safe and sustainable sources of drinking water is our first priority. Where possible we provide bulk water to refill water bottles or filtering options. We encourage our participants to avoid unnecessary purchasing of bottled water and the subsequent waste disposal.
- **Recycling:** Provide travelers with awareness on how they can practice principles of reduce, reuse, recycle and appropriate waste disposal at their destination. Many of the countries we

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visit don't have waste disposal infrastructure set in place that deals with waste in a healthy or environmentally sound way.

- **Learning:** Foster a culture of learning within the group from locals, traditional elders and ancient knowledge.

Participant and travelers Responsibilities

- Try to minimize purchasing bottled drinks and plastic bottles.
- Be aware of the products you take with you including soaps, shampoo and conditioners insect repellents, clothes washing products and more, and choose **natural biodegradable products** wherever possible.
- Be wary about toilet paper use and girls think about disposal of sanitary products (*We recommend to use menstrual cup*)
- **Be water wise!**
- Think about the type and amount of transport you use each day - when are you responsible about these things. Much can be seen from **walking or use bicycle. :D**
- Think about the products you dispose of and where they go in the country you are in. Many countries we visit don't have waste disposal infrastructure set in place that deals with waste in a healthy or environmentally sound way.
- Try to learn as much as you can about the community you will be visiting so that you are aware of cultural norms and different ways of behaving.
- Learn some language. Even a very small amount of local language can go a long way and demonstrates respect and an active interest in the country you visit.

TRAVEL, INSPIRE YOU AND TRANSFORM.