

AZZARENKO INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Casa San Agustin – Cartagena, Colombia

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Cartagena has become a must visit destination in Colombia, with its beautiful beaches, stunning architecture and warm people aplenty. A visit to the city isn't one to be missed, neither is a stay at the Hotel Casa San Agustin, has been voted top hotel in the city and for good reason, housed within the walls of the Old City, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The luxury boutique hotel features 20 guestrooms and 10 spacious suites across three restored XVII century whitewashed Colonial-era homes.

A short taxi ride from the local airport will have you within the walls of the old city and upon first walking into the hotel you are met by a beautiful lobby high wood-beamed ceilings, elegant tile accents all evoking 17th century Spanish designs.

An L shaped pool lies at the centre of the hotel, with sun loungers and seating surrounding it. Sunlight flows into the space thanks to an open top, perfect to top up your sun tan before hitting the local beaches. If you want to venture out further afield then the helpful staff at reception can also help you organise excursions and tours.

Rooms fuse the hotel's Colonial past and contemporary touches, spacious with a huge comfortable king size bed, living area and a small patio for some private outdoor space. The rooms, like the hotel itself, offers a great secluded getaway from the sometimes lively city. A library room also offers tranquil space during your stay in the hotel, with snacks and drinks available.

Though the city offers many great restaurants, included the amazing Candé nearby (recommended by staff) the hotel's own Alma Restaurant is a great choice. Headed by Chef Heberto Eljach, one of the most celebrated chefs in Colombia. The menu fuses Colombian flavours with an international twist and is set a stunning courtyard setting, and if you go on certain days during the week the live music will be on show.

Though the hotel is beautiful, we do recommend exploring the surrounding area, guests can see varied architecture, from Colonial homes draped in bougainvillea, to the church and Plaza San Pedro Claver, the first saint of the new world for his work with slaves. Another point of interest is Cathedral of Cartagena de Indias, one of the oldest Episcopal churches in the Americas. Late at night horse carriage tours are available and very well priced, which give you a ride around the main areas of interest within the walled city.

Though small the hotels offers plenty, with top notch service by a warm and helpful staff. Very highly recommended to anyone thinking of visiting the city, with friends, family or as a lone traveller.

For full information and current rates visit [here](#)

By Cristian Burbano

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