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## General information

This region contains the majority of Colombia's population and is the most economically active. It is a culturally heterogeneous area, with a great diversity of climates, terrain, and populated areas.



**Climate:** Temperate alpine climates, with the exceptions of some cities at lower elevation and in the region's southern area, where the climate can be very hot.



**Location:** The region is located in the center of the country, but represents a large number of municipalities that cross the country from southwest to northeast.



### Cities within the region:

- Bogotá
- Tunja
- Manizales
- Medellín
- Bucaramanga
- Neiva
- Cúcuta
- Armenia
- Pereira
- Ibagué
- Popayán





# North Andean Region

## Medellín



**Climate:** Average temperature between 60°F and 78.8°F.



**Population:** About 2.5 million people (similar to Minneapolis). **Large city.**



**More info:** It is a very diverse city in terms of identity.

### Universities located in Medellín



#### Institución Universitaria ITM



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 2



**Type of institution:** Public



#### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private

## Rionegro



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 55°F to 71°F and rarely drops below 52°F or rises above 75°F.



**Population:** About 135,000 people, commuter town in the Medellín metropolitan area. **Small town.**



**More info:** It has a great transportation system. It is less than an hour away from Medellín.

### Universities located in Rionegro



#### Universidad Católica de Oriente



**Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Degree Program



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private

## Bucaramanga



**Weather:** Average temperature between 68°F and 81°C, rarely drops below 64°F or rises above 86°F.



**Population:** About 1.1 million people. (similar to New Orleans). **Large city.**



**More info:** City surrounded by nature. It has many towns around it for extreme sports.



## Universities located in Bucaramanga



### Universidad Santo Tomás

 **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center

 **Number of ETAs:** 1

 **Type of institution:** Private




### Universidad Industrial de Santander

 **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center

 **Number of ETAs:** 5

 **Type of institution:** Public

 **Other satellite campuses hosting ETAs:** Barranca, Barbosa, Socorro, and Malaga



### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia

 **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center

 **Number of ETAs:** 1

 **Type of institution:** Private

## San Gil



**Weather:** Average temperature between 68°F and 81°C, rarely drops below 64°F or rises above 86°F.



**Population:** About 59,670 people.  
**Small city.**



**More info:** Small town surrounded by nature.

## Institutions located in San Gil



### SENA

 **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus

 **Number of ETAs:** 1

 **Type of institution:** Public



# Central Andean Region

## Bogotá D.C.



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 44°F to 66°F and rarely drops below 37°F or rises above 70°F.



**Population:** About 7,1 million people (similar to Chicago). **Large city.**



**More info:** A city full of artists, museums and cultural diversity.

## Universities located in Bogotá D.C.



### Fundación Universitaria Compensar



**Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program



**Number of ETAs:** 5



**Type of institution:** Private



### Universidad Antonio Nariño



**Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private



### Institución Universitaria Colombo Americana



**Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private



### Universidad EAN



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private



### Universidad Nacional de Colombia



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 2



**Type of institution:** Public



### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private



## Other Institutions located in Bogotá D.C.



### SENA

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Public



### Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia - UPTC

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program
-  **Number of ETAs:** 2
-  **Type of institution:** Public

## Tunja



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 41°F to 62°F and rarely drops below 33°F or rises above 68°F.



**Population:** About 206,000 people.  
**Small city.**





**More info:** A city with a lot of Colombian history. The whole city has a colonial infrastructure.

## Universities located in Tunja



### Universidad de Boyacá

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program
-  **Number of ETAs:** 2
-  **Type of institution:** Private

## Duitama



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 41°F to 62°F and rarely drops below 33°F or rises above 68°F.



**Population:** About 126,670 people.  
**Small town.**



**More info:** The town has a colonial infrastructure.

## Universities located in Duitama



### Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia - UPTC

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Public



## Other institutions located in Duitama



### SENA

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Public



### Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia - UPTC

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Public

## Sogamoso



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 41°F to 62°F and rarely drops below 33°F or rises above 68°F.



**Population:** About 200,021 people.  
**Small town.**



**More info:** The town has a colonial infrastructure.

## Universities located in Sogamoso



### Universidad de Boyacá

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Private

## Chiquinquirá



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 41°F to 62°F and rarely drops below 33°F or rises above 68°F.



**Population:** About 72,274 people.  
**Small town.**






**More info:** A city with a lot of Colombian history. The whole city has a colonial infrastructure.



## Universities located in Chiquinquirá



- **Universidad Pedagógica y Tecnológica de Colombia - UPTC**
-  **Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Public

## Other institutions located in Ibagué



### SENA

-  **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Public

## Ibagué



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 62°F to 82°F and rarely drops below 60°F or rises above 87°F.



**Population:** About 529,000 people (similar to Lexington). **Medium city.**



**More info:** It is a medium-sized city in continuous growth. It has a good quality of life.

## Universities located in Ibagué



- **Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia**
-  **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center
-  **Number of ETAs:** 1
-  **Type of institution:** Private

## Villavicencio



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 68°F to 90°F and rarely drops below 60°F or rises above 93°F.



**Population:** About 552,000 people (similar Harrisburg). **Medium city.**



**More info:** It is a medium-sized city in continuous growth. It has a good quality of life and the cost of living is very cheap.

## Universities located in Villavicencio



- **Fundación Universitaria Compensar**
-  **Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program
-  **Number of ETAs:** 2
-  **Type of institution:** Private





### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Private

## Other Institutions located in Villavicencio



### SENA

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Public

## Pereira



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 63°F to 79°F and rarely drops below 61°F or rises above 84°F.



**Population:** About 467,269 citizen (similar to Des Moines). **Small city.**



**More info:** The cost of living is very cheap. It is part of Eje Cafetero and near the city there are many tourist spots.

## Universities located in Pereira



### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Private

## Other Institutions located in Pereira



### SENA

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Public

## Manizales



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 57°F to 73°F and rarely drops below 53°F or rises above 77°F.



**Population:** About 458,442 citizen (similar to Gainesville, FL). **Small city.**



**More info:** The cost of living is very cheap. It is part of Eje Cafetero and near the city there are many tourist spots.



# Institutions located in Manizales



## SENA

 **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus

 **Number of ETAs:** 1

 **Type of institution:** Public



# South Andean Region

## Neiva



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 73°F to 91°F and rarely drops below 71°F or rises above 96°F.



**Population:** About 357,000 people.  
**Small city.**



**More info:** The cost of living is very cheap. Near the city there are many tourist spots.

## Pitalito



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 62°F to 78°F and rarely drops below 60°F or rises above 82°F.



**Population:** About 135,711 people.  
**Small town.**



**More info:** The cost of living is very cheap. Near the city there are many tourist spots.

## Universities located in Neiva



### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private

## Institutions located in Pitalito



### SENA



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Public



# Caribbean Region

## General information

People from this region are known as costeños and maintain a culture that is highly influenced by Afro-decedent traditions and a common identity connected by the Caribbean Sea.



**Climate:** Tropical dry and dry climates (in Guajira and Cesar).



**Location:** The region it is located in the northern area of this country-- the most northern point of South America.



**Cities within the region:**

- Barranquilla
- Cartagena
- Santa Marta
- Montería
- Sincelejo
- Valledupar
- Riohacha





## Barranquilla



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 75°F to 90°F and rarely drops below 73°F or rises above 93°F.



**Population:** About 1,2 million people. (similar to Austin). **Large city.**



**More info:** This a city with great festivals and carnivals.

## Universities located in Barranquilla



### Universidad del Norte



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 2



**Type of institution:** Private

## Cartagena



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 75°F to 88°F and rarely drops below 73°F or rises above 91°F.



**Population:** About 914,000 people (similar to Tucson). **Medium city.**



**More info:** One of the most touristic cities in Colombia. It has some of the best beaches in Colombia.

## Universities located in Cartagena



### Universidad de Cartagena



**Office supported by ETA:** Foreign Language Program



**Number of ETAs:** 2



**Type of institution:** Public

## Montería



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 73°F to 95°F and rarely drops below 71°F or rises above 100°F.



**Population:** About 490,000 people. **Small city.**



**More info:** Near the city there are many tourist spots. The city offers local gastronomic dishes (coming directly from the countryside, the river and the sea) and beautiful local handicrafts.

## Universities located in Montería



### Universidad de Córdoba



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 3



**Type of institution:** Private





### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Private

## Other Institutions located in Montería



### SENA

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Public

## Santa Marta



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 78°F to 86°F and rarely drops below 73°F or rises above 91°F.



**Population:** About 499,000 people (similar to Reno). **Small city.**



**More info:** City surrounded by nature and many beaches. It has many towns around it for extreme sports.

## Universities located in Santa Marta



### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Private

## Other Institutions located in Santa Marta



### SENA

- Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus
- Number of ETAs:** 1
- Type of institution:** Public

## San Andrés Islas



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 78°F to 86°F and rarely drops below 77°F or rises above 87°F.



**Population:** About 55,291 people. **Small city.**



**More info:** City surrounded by nature and many beaches. It has many spaces around it for extreme sports.



## Institutions located in San Andrés



### SENA

 **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus

 **Number of ETAs:** 1

 **Type of institution:** Public

## Sincelejo



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 71°F to 93°F and rarely drops below 73°F or rises above 96°F.



**Population:** About 277,773 people.  
**Small city.**



**More info:** City surrounded by nature close to several well-known beaches.

## Institutions located in Sincelejo



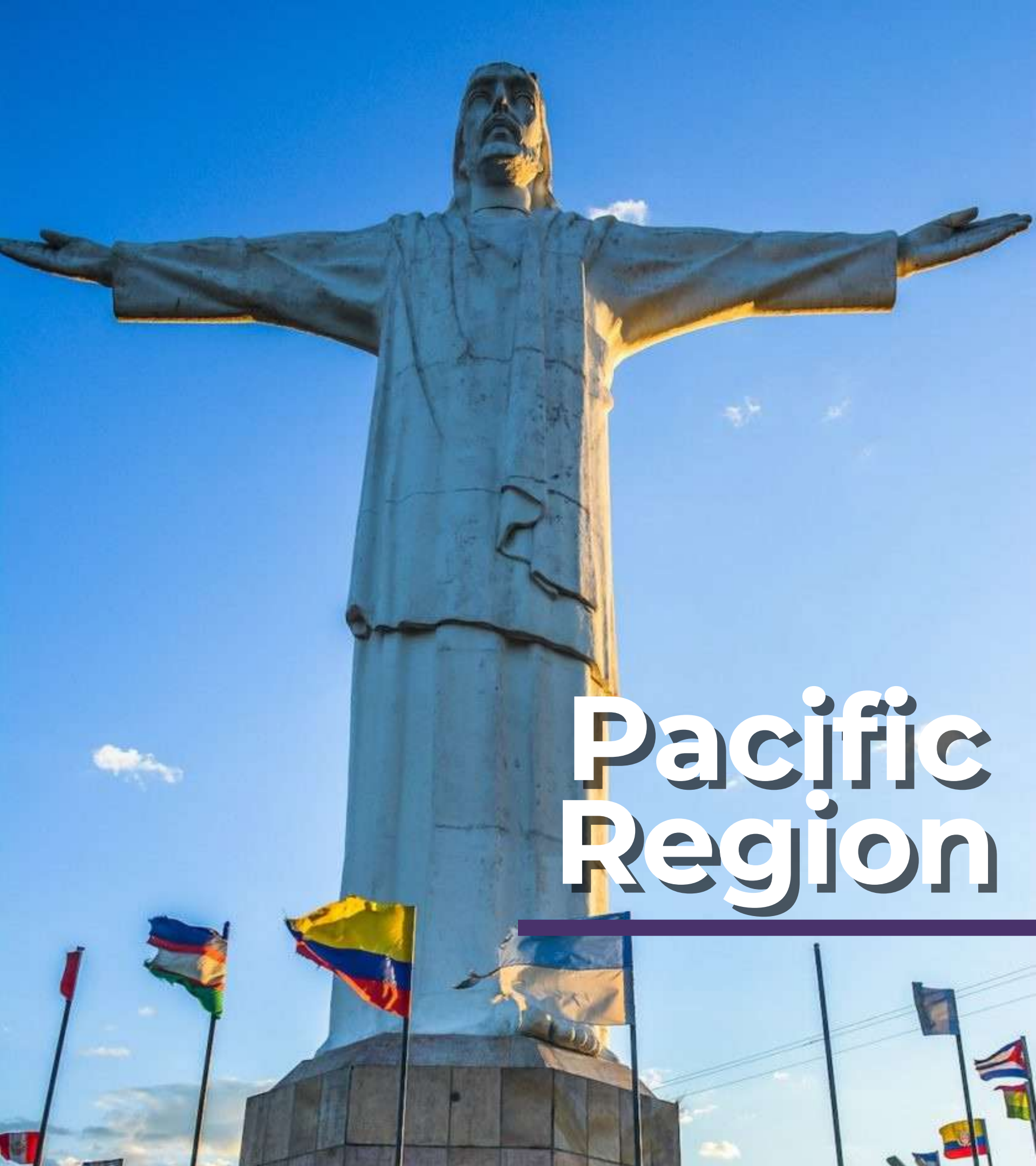
### SENA

 **Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus

 **Number of ETAs:** 1

 **Type of institution:** Public





# Pacific Region

## General information

This region, straddling the Pacific Ocean, is the area with the largest Afro-Colombian population in the country and the ancestral territory of many Indigenous communities. In this region you can also find the biodiverse jungle of Chocó.



**Climate:** Tropical humid and rainy.



**Location:** The region it is located on the western side of the country, bordering Panama to the north.



**Cities within the region:**

- Cali
- Quidbó
- Pasto





## Cali



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 66°F to 84°F and rarely drops below 64°F or rises above 90°F.



**Population:** About 2,2 million people (similar to San Diego). **Large city.**



**More info:** The city of salsa, urban dance and festivals.

## Universities located in Cali



### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private

## Pasto



**Climate:** Temperature generally varies from 57°F to 77°F and rarely drops below 55°F or rises above 81°F.



**Population:** About 490,000 people. **Small city.**



**More info:** The cost of living is very cheap. Pasto celebrates one of the most important festivals in Colombia.

## Universities located in Pasto



### Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Private

## Other Institutions located in Pasto



### SENA



**Office supported by ETA:** Language Center - Multicampus



**Number of ETAs:** 1



**Type of institution:** Public



# Additional Information



## Cities with biggest LGBTQ scene:

- Medellín
- Bogotá
- Cali
- 

**Note:** Other cities, like Barranquilla and Bucaramanga, have emerging gay and queer scenes, but the general culture remains less progressive as compared to the country's three principal cities.



## Cities surrounded by nature (for outdoors lovers):

- Santa Marta
- Bucaramanga
- Cartagena
- Pereira
- San Andrés



## Most expensive cities:

- Cartagena
- Bogotá
- Medellín



## Cities with the hottest weather:

- Sincelejo
- Montería
- Neiva





### **Cities with most Indigenous cultural influence:**

- Pasto
- Popayán
- Santa Marta



### **Cities with strong Afro-Colombian culture:**

- Cali
- Cartagena
- San Andrés
- Montería
- Barranquilla



### **Chilliest cities:**

- Tunja
- Pasto
- Manizales
- Ibagué
- Bogotá



### **Rainiest cities:**

- Villavicencio
- Pereira
- Bogotá D.C.



### **Off the beaten path medium-size cities:**

- Barranquilla
- Bucaramanga
- Villavicencio



### **Smallest towns/cities:**

- Duitama (town)
- Chiquinquirá (town)
- Pitalito (town)
- Manizales (city)
- Neiva (city)
- Montería (city)



## What's the difference between a public university and a private one?

The main difference is that public universities are subsidized by the government, while private universities do not depend on the State. As a consequence, public universities are much more affordable than private universities, and in some cases they are practically free.

- In general, in private universities, there is a hierarchy and a very marked ideology. On the other hand, in public universities, professors have more freedom to exercise their work as educators.
- In Colombia, public universities may stop all academic activities due to student demonstrations and strikes. And this does not usually happen in private universities.
- It is also common to see that the infrastructure of public universities in Colombia is a bit older and not all of them have the same resources for their students.

Nevertheless, the quality of education in both types of institutions remains high.

