

Your Boquete Panoramic Tour Information eBooklet



Touring some of the most beautiful sites in the coffee mountains of Boquete!





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Your 7-hour Panoramic Tour

What makes your tour different from most tours:

What a perfect tour! A little of everything, in one of the very most beautiful areas of Panama, all neatly packaged just for you!

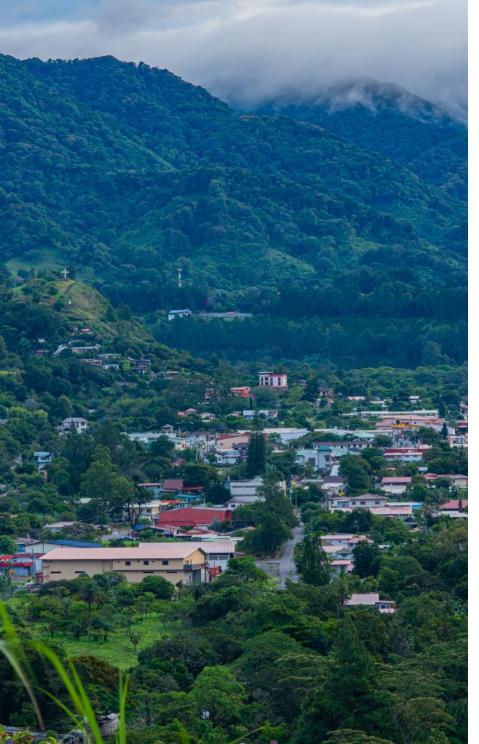
The Panoramic Tour really is the easy tour that has it all! Lots of stops, lots of great activities, a wonderful meal, this is the quintessential 'perfect tour'.

Activities include unique architecture, amazing rock and volcanic material formations, cascades and a waterfall, a coffee plantation, a delicious lunch, and a chance to see a local company produce delicious food! How can you go wrong here?

At 7 hours, the Panoramic Tour is a reasonable length tour with many great fun activities. We drive you everywhere, and the walking you will do is short and mild.

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Boquete

Boquete, in the highlands of Panama's Chiriquí province yet just a 45-minute drive from Panama's second largest city, David, has a population of 4,000, and lies on the east side of Volcán Barú, Panama's tallest point. Coffee plantations and other agricultural lands are laid into the hillsides surrounding Boquete, with tourists and friendly locals are busy in town. Boquete's surrounding natural and cultivated beauty is astounding.

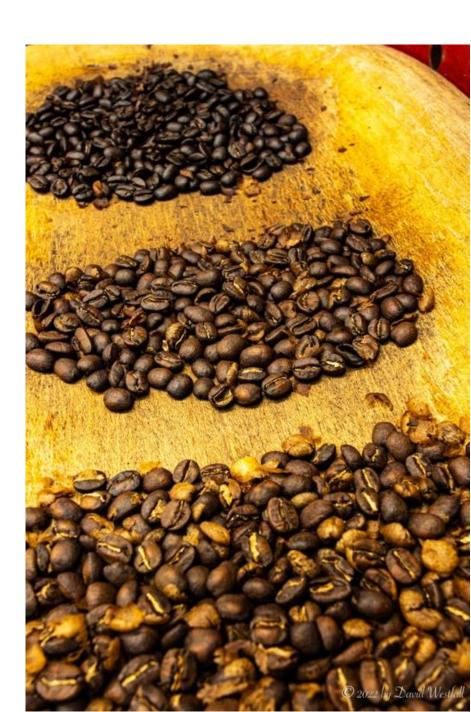
Boquete is renown throughout Panama and neighboring Central American countries for its coffee, oranges, and annual flower festival. Boquete is about 20% ex-Pats, making it somewhat a retiree community, with many new to Panama choosing to live in the hills just outside of town. Nonetheless, Boquete has retained its uniquely picturesque small-town charm, and continues to be a refreshing place to visit.

Boquete occupies a lush valley, bordered on the west by Volcán Barú and on the east by the Río Caldera. Boquete downtown is composed of parks, cafes and restaurants, and an assortment of shops. As one wanders out of the downtown area, the scenery and experience of nature grows more and more exceptional.

Boquete

Getting into the countryside affords opportunities to explore coffee plantations, take a coffee tour, look for the wildlife visible from the road and paths, take a photography tour, see some of the most lush and unique vegetation imaginable, or take a hike tour through this vegetation and wildlife with a trained, licensed and professional guide on one of the many Cloudforest Tours available.

If Hiking is your thing, we can guide you through hikes from the least physically demanding all the way to ascending to the top (over 11,000 feet) of Volcán Barú. If you love photography, we can guide you to some of the area's most picturesque locations, including beautiful cascades and breathtaking waterfalls. If you love seeing unique and exotic birds, our Expert Guide can take you to them, point them out to you, even help you recognize their calls. Let us help you fully enjoy this amazing part of Panama!





Questionnaire and Waiver

When you complete online payment, you will virtually immediately be sent an email confirming payment. This is the first step in the booking process. The second is that this email contains a link to an online **Questionnaire** and a link to the **Waiver and Release of Liability**, which needs to be completed immediately and submitted. The third and final step is that this email also contains a link to the **Workshop eBooklet**, which you should read before your workshop. Steps 2 above needs to be completed right away, and is required to be completed and submitted back to us a *minimum* of 18 hours before your workshop time. **Remember**: **one Questionnaire** and **one Waiver and Release of Liability** must be completed

by **EACH** participant, regardless of age.

Physical Exertion Level This Excursion Requires

This workshop is designed to require the minimum physical exertion possible for this location. We try to keep the elevation changes on the trails no more than 30-100'. In those areas where there is some elevation change (all classified as "Easy"), we will travel at a pace which accommodates every participant's physical abilities. This workshop is **NOT SUITED** to those requiring walkers, wheel chairs, or other devices beyond walking sticks.



What to expect and how to prepare

The physical exertion for our clients is as published on the previous page of this document. We implore you to stay on the path set by your guide, and do not vary from that path without conversing with your guide first. If you are concerned about physical exertion, please let us know as early as possible and we can work to accommodate you best we can. Please also be sure that you bring something which can hold all that you will be bringing. You are solely responsible for the welfare and security of your belongings, so keeping them secure in one place which you can carry on a trail is essential.

Please also be prepared for exposure to the elements. First, the sun. Direct sunlight is not common in this area, but it does happen on occasion. Come prepared and bring sunscreen and wear clothing appropriate to your needs; bring a hat, consider long sleeves, etc. No matter what the weather is, bring **WATER** to keep hydrated! Be prepared with repellant or spray for probable bug bites. Lastly, pay attention to your guide, who may have occasion to point out any potentially dangerous plants or animals in your area.

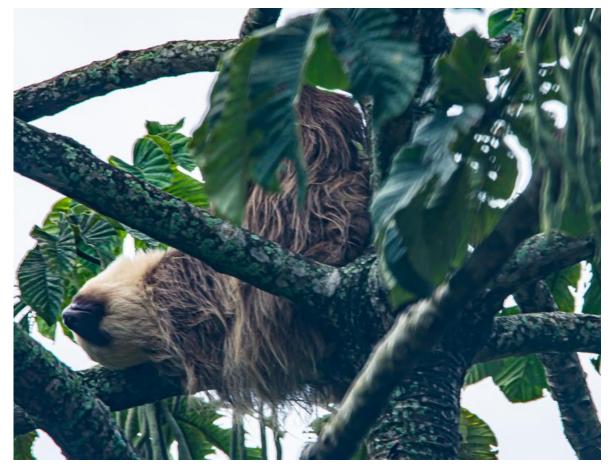


Wildlife

DO NOT APPROACH WILDLIFE

We are headed to what wild animals call home. We also are headed to animal water and shelter areas, which all wildlife

require for survival. The potential is significant that wildlife may see you. You may not see them, but they **WILL** see you. So, in case an encounter occurs which you may not welcome, you need to be prepared. Be prepared with Bug Spray or Repellant for the extra small wildlife. Consider wildlife in what you wear. Do not bring food into the wild with you (outside a vehicle, except in approved locations). Do not give unwelcome wildlife reason to be interested in you. And make a point to be just a little noisy on the trail; if they know far enough in advance that we are coming, they will almost always attempt to avoid an encounter. In some environments, we tie bells to our shoes to be sure they know we're coming! And in over 15 years of regularly conducting tours in wilderness areas, we have **never** had an encounter with wildlife that led to any harm to any human or animal.



What IS Included

- We will be providing transportation from the workshop Meet-Up, which is the Hotel La Serrania, Boquete,
 Chiriquí, Panama, and transportation back to the Meet-Up. More details later in this eBrochure
- We will be providing bottled water, but also recommend you plan for your own hydration. It is critical that **ANYONE** venturing into wilderness area **MUST** plan for their hydration; whether the venture is guided or not.
 - Bring with you enough water to keep you hydrated and safe!
- We provide you with a great lunch, and great conversation throughout that meal!
- Lots of knowledge. Be sure to take advantage of the group discussions, and of all the individual help we offer. Don't hesitate to ask! The point of this tour is you taking home great experiences and lots of new knowledge!





Rain & Nature

There is always a danger of flash flooding in Boquete, and sometimes other potential reasons to need to immediately leave an area which has become dangerous. You should be very cautious and prepared to leave if heavy rain is in your area, or is occurring upstream from you. Pay attention to the weather reports. Your guide will be aware of the weather, is versed in what to look for regarding flash flooding, and other situations and signs of an immediate need to

leave. If you are asked to leave an area immediately, do not argue or hesitate. FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS EXACTLY.

Also, be aware that we respect and adhere to a policy of leaving no evidence ('Leave no trace') of our presence in nature. This includes walking carefully through plant life, and no littering. In fact, we make it a practice to pick up litter we encounter and pack it out with us. Your guide will be carrying a trash bag. This is a very meaningful way of 'giving back' to nature, which has been regaling you with her beauty throughout the workshop!



Weather

The weather in Boquete is very unique. With the exception of a couple of months at the end of the year (*Panama's summer*), it rains almost every single day. You may have heard talk of a rainy season and a not-rainy season. To not be fooled! The difference between these two seasons is not IF it will rain; it is HOW MUCH it will rain. There is no cut-and-dry pattern to the rain, but on the most part it rains in the afternoons and evenings.

You will receive a weather forecast by email about a week prior to your workshop date so you can plan, and a second forecast by text the day before. But Boquete weather is virtually impossible to forecast, it just does what it wants. Be prepared!



Clothing

Please dress prepared to handle all possible weather conditions which may befall you in this workshop. We recommend

layers, so you can add or take away clothing as needed by the weather of the moment. The temperature will be between 60 - 78 degrees Fahrenheit (15-26 degrees Celsius), which sounds so pleasant! But the humidity will likely be between 75% and 95%. Be prepared for high humidity!

Be sure you are wearing good quality hiking boots with warm socks

Remember a hat, and maybe long sleeves for one or more of your layers







Your Panoramic Tour Guide

Your Primary Coach for your Panoramic Tour is either **Raul, Cesar**, or **Alexander**.





