



After exploring the remote and beautiful San Blas Islands in Panama, or coming from the jet-set pace of Florida or the Eastern Caribbean, you will find your stay in Cartagena, Colombia, to be unique and enriching. This magnificent city offers safe streets, friendly people and an amazing array of things to see and do. From touring the city's many historical sites, taking in some culture at the theater, sampling from the myriad of fantastic and reasonably priced restaurants, or spending a day at the beach, "boredom" will not be part of your itinerary here! We hope that this guide will assist you during your stay.

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If receiving contractors at the marinas make sure the admins are informed and that these contractors have professional risks insurance (ARL..not expensive) .

## 1. Checking in – What to do first

*Cartagena's port captain does not deal with any yacht captain directly and will insist on the use of an agent. You will need to talk to your agent any time you would like to move your vessel, be it for pleasure (going to the Rosario Islands) or work (going to the yards).*

Note: all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone



### **MARITIME AGENT CHOICES (AGENCIA MARITIMA): IN NO PARTICULAR ORDER!**

**Ocean Blue.** Sra. Falon. [oceanbluemaritimeagency@gmail.com](mailto:oceanbluemaritimeagency@gmail.com) Cel/WA: +57 300 5324240. Also +57 301 4159087

**Alpemar.** Eduardo Tamayo WA +57 310 366 8571

**Assistant:** Isabela Tejada (also with good English) WA 57 316 8651235

**Rymar.** Jose Bonillo has a well established, good reputation [bonillajosedavid@gmail.com](mailto:bonillajosedavid@gmail.com)  
Cel/WA: + 57 301 2445623

**Logimar.** Maria Pelenque <http://www.logimarsas.com> Cel/WA +57 317 5161714  
( exclusive for the Club de Pesca)

**Rymar.** David Arroyo has been working with cruisers for many years. Speaks good English. [arroyod511@gmail.com](mailto:arroyod511@gmail.com), His assistant Nicole is seen most days at Club Nautico ( Cel/WA + 57 313 523 0742 (David) (Asst: Nicole WA +57 301 3761512)

**Alaida** (Rymar agency) WA +57 314 5764750 (very good reputation amongst the backpacker sailboats)

**Other agency choices are available.** Those mentioned have been recommended by prior cruising visitors. By all means contact other Maritime Agencies but seek clarification of all charges and services offered. Current agency charges do seem high but much relates to official visit and inspections, certification charges from Immigration, Health authority, and the Port Captain's office.

On arrival you will be issued with a 90 day tourist visa. This can be extended to a maximum stay of 6 months (actually 180 days) per calendar year. Your boat can stay for a year. Normally this can be extended for at least 6 months additionally.

For those planning a 10 day (or less) stop-over the agency fees should be significantly less. A 'Certificado de Permanencia' (Cruising Permit) and associated costs are not usually required in these cases.

If arriving from another Colombian port district (ie. Sta Marta) where you had completed your national customs and extended stay documentation, a local maritime agent will still be needed for the port entry procedure. And also to obtain your departing zarpe (sailing orders ) and passport exit stamps when needed.

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**NOTE:** Pet owners should also be aware that there are entry requirements applicable to pets : ask your agent for clarification. There may be additional charges for vessels over a particular displacement tonnage or length. Clarify with your agent.

### **TEMPORARY IMPORTATION FOR YOUR VESSEL**

On arrival, if you plan (or contemplate) a stay of more than a week your agent will need to apply for a **one-year Temporary Importation Permit issued by customs together with a Permanent stay certificate/Cruising Permit (Certificado de Permanencia).**

A vessel may be asked to leave if the application is not completed on time. This 1 year temporary importation permit can be extended for a further year in most cases.

**PORT CAPTAIN'S OFFICE** BCH Building, 5<sup>th</sup> floor (Multi-story office building facing Parque Centenario) La Matuna, Av. Daniel Lemaitre, CENTRO.

## **Immigration**

**Upon clearing with immigration you will normally be issued a 90-day tourists' visa.** This can subsequently be extended for a further 90 days for a total of **180 days (not necessarily 6 months) per 12-month period.** Remember the clock still runs if you leave Colombia to return after a period away. The only advantage is that the time away will be added to the original visa expiration date.

**If you are planning to be here for longer than 90 days, remember to renew your visa before the 90 days runs out. This can now be processed on line:**

<https://theunconventionalroute.com/extend-colombia-tourist-visa/>

Before going to Immigration for your visa renewal at the end of your initial 90 days (note: not 3 months), stop at a nearby bank to pay the fee.

**Banco de Bogota**, Caribe Plaza (Mall) or **Bancafe** Pedro de Heredia, Sector Lo Amador, # 19-204. Payment is made to Account No. 14299001-9, Codigo 103. Lines/queues in the bank can be long so plan on going early. ("Prorrogar Turismo" = "to renew a visa") The counter at the entrance has the deposit forms and a sample of how they should be completed. **(If you have any doubts contact your 'Agencia Maritima')**

**D.A.S. (Immigration Office)**, Pie de la Popa, Sector Lo Amador **Tel: 656-2524** (prefix 605 if calling from a cellphone). There are many PUBLIC holidays in Colombia, so it's a good idea to call first to make sure they are open. Forms are in Spanish, so take a dictionary if necessary. Your 'Agencia Maritima' will be happy to assist with any immigration issues.

**American Consulate.** Alfredo (Freddie) Gonzales Rubio, Agente Consular de los Estados Unidos de America, Calle 77B No 57-141 Oficina 511, Barranquilla. **Tel: 075 3532001 Cel: 310 632 3870.**

**E-mail:** [agrpersonal@enred.com](mailto:agrpersonal@enred.com)

**American Citizen Services, US Embassy**, Bogota, Colombia. e-mail: [ACSBogota@state.gov](mailto:ACSBogota@state.gov) (US Embassy warden in Cartagena: Adriana Michele) **Cel: 315 731 9050. E-mail [Adriana@gmail.com](mailto:Adriana@gmail.com)** **Panamanian Consulate:** Centro, Plaza San Pedro Claver. **Tel: 655 1055.**

**Consulado Italiano:** Centro, Calle de Colegio 34-75 piso 2. **Tel: 664 1583.**

**Allianza Colombo Francesa:** Centro, Plaza Fernando de Madrid. **Tel: 664 7344.**

**Germany (Alemania): Frank Bolle.** Crespo, Cra.2 No. 67-143 piso 1, Edificio Cielo Mar. **Tel: 656 6080.**

**España:** Centro, Calle Don Sancho No. 36-79, **Tel: 664 1644.**

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An interesting and helpful link on visas: <https://medellinguru.com/colombian-visa-mistakes/>

## 2. Club Nautico Marina

Welcome to our family-run marina.

Some do's and don'ts:

**If you don't want to lose your dinghy** while at anchor **never** leave it in the water at night— raise it up and secure the outboard with a chain to the mother ship (also remove the fuel tank).

The **Coast Guard** patrols the anchorage but don't take them for granted. You can take effective measures to protect your property. Club Nautico occasionally has its own launch to assist with night patrols. Coast Guard listens to VHF 16/14 . also cell 323 4866106 (control tower)

**Bio Security measures still remain applicable in several places including shopping malls, banks and some restaurants: face masks may remain a requirement so at least have one available just in case.**

**PLEASE** dress with consideration for the conservative residential barrio where we are located. We have to respect our neighbours.

**PLEASE** keep your pets on a leash and clean up if they should poop anywhere in the marina. Throughout Cartagena pet owners are required to clean up.

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL** of unscrupulous persons trying to engage you in dubious activities, particularly prostitution. **Child prostitution is totally prohibited** and strong action will be taken against any involved. Help Colombia fight this serious problem.

**DO NOT** wear expensive jewelry while walking around town.

**DO NOT** deal with money-changers on the street.

**DO NOT** try to bring people from the street to work on your boat. They will not be permitted to enter . Many of the workers (not all) recommended in this guide can access the marina at no additional cost. They have a history providing honest help and assisting the marina when asked. **Anybody contracted to work (whatever the color of their collar) at the marina will need professional risks insurance (ARL) before being allowed to enter.** All work planned must be previously approved by the marina office (some repair work can only be undertaken within a dedicated work yard with the proper approvals). Contractors must leave the marina no later than 18.00 weekdays and by midday Saturdays. Sundays and public holidays contractors may not be allowed to enter the marina.

**DO NOT** undertake major repair work while on the dock. Other than routine maintenance undertaken by the registered crew onboard all work planned must be approved by the marina office before it can be undertaken. No welding (except under the strictest of conditions), no grinding/sanding of fiberglass, no painting (other than varnishing). The boat yards have the necessary facilities, permits and contingency plans for such work to be undertaken. **DO NOT** employ minors (less than 18 years old) for any reason. It is illegal.

**BERTHING** (Club de Pesca, Club Nautico Marina, Manzanillo Marina Club)

**The Port Captain's office insists the marinas carry copies of all required paperwork. Before berthing ( or immediately afterwards) you should provide copies of the following documents:**

**Boat registration**, **Captain's passport** (principal page), **Acta de Visita** (initial arrival acknowledgement from Port Captain's office), **Temporary Importation Permit** (customs document provided through your agent) and the **Certificado de Permanencia** (akin to a Cruising Permit).

**The latter 2 documents can take up to 8 days to obtain. In most cases your agent can obtain a special permit to allow your boat to come on the dock (or get hauled out) pending some of the needed documentation. New visiting arrivals are welcome to berth here pending completion of the necessary documentation.**

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## LEAVING YOUR BOAT:

If leaving your boat for an extended period please set up a custodial arrangement with someone the marina can trust. A minimum requirement is that he/she should be capable of attaching a line to an underwater mooring (free diving). We will be happy to recommend suitable caretakers. If leaving the country get a letter from your maritime agent declaring that your vessel is here to avoid showing a return ticket on return (airlines can be pedantic so still might need to purchase a refundable return ticket)

## GENERAL NOTES:

We do provide security in keeping with our desire to maintain a degree of informality. However, the 'Club' (Club Nautico Cartagena Ltda) will not be held responsible for you personally, nor your crew/guests. Neither will the Club be responsible for your property during your stay here. At all times the Captain/Owner remains responsible for all matters concerning his/her vessel and property.

## TYING UP:

We are happy to help but finally the responsibility remains with the vessel's captain. Electricity is either AC 110 or AC 220 (at 60 HZ). **Please check voltage and polarity with the assistance of our electrician before utilizing sensitive electrical equipment.** ALSO, low voltage (and voltage spikes) can occasionally occur: take measures to protect against this. The Club will not be responsible for consequential damages resulting from power surges (which may last just milliseconds) and voltage fluctuation.

## GETTING CONNECTED

**Cruisers' VHF Hailing Channel** in Cartagena – Channel 68 .

**Club Nautico:** VHF 69 .

**Club de pesca:** VHF 72 /71 WhatsApp +57 310 6017349

**Phone Calls** - To call a local land line phone (in Cartagena or Barranquilla) from a cell phone you must use the prefix 605. See **\*Telephones**

## 3. Money

**DO NOT USE MONEY CHANGERS ON THE STREETS!** Such operations are illegal and you will likely be cheated.

The monetary unit in Colombia is the peso. At the time of this writing, the official exchange rate is aprox 4200 pesos to \$1 U.S. Numerous banks and ATMs (cajeros), are conveniently located throughout the city. There are good ATM machines nearby (eg. Just inside the local Carulla supermarket and the nearby Banco Colombia).

Most ATMs give only 600,000 pesos per withdrawal. **The ATM at Citibank in Centro near the Exito supermarket allows withdrawals of up to 2,000,000 pesos as a single transaction.**

Colombian banks do not accept telegraphic transfers unless you have a checking account with them. You can however pay marina bills through bank transfers.

If you really need US Dollars, **Western Union** can help: at the basement floor of the Caribe Plaza mall, but at a hefty fee.

**A really good and dependable money changer (casa de Cambio) is Pedro and Jackie Osorio (Jackie used to run the marina bar) cel 301 6788959 or 3172588578. Jackie used to run the bar at Club Nautico (pre 2011) so knows and appreciates cruisers (Pedro too!)**

Security note:

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**Please be careful taking large sums out of banks.** Bancolombia (Bocagrande branch) and Banco Occidente (Centro near the Clock Tower) are good choices due to their location. **Do not use the banks in outlying shopping malls for large withdrawals.**

## 4. Transportation

Try **The Elite Taxi service**, cel 302 3341133, 304 6376118, 322 6139343.

Also Taxi **ROY** (recommended by United Cruisers WA net) +57 301 5052735 (WA)

**Taxi drivers in Cartagena are for the most part friendly and honest**, but check on the fare before you take off. The official rate from Manga to Centro is 8000 pesos, 10000 at night. Manga to Bocagrande, 13100 pesos. Centro to Bocagrande, 8000 pesos. Taxi to or from the airport is approx 20,500 pesos Centro to the Northern main Bus terminal 36,500 pesos.

An average hourly rate if you'd like your cab to wait while you do your errands is 40,000 pesos.

**Transcaribe:** (modern mass transport bus system) you will need to purchase a bus pass in advance **\*tarjeta transcaribe. (can be obtained at principal stations) Each journey will take aprox 2800 pesos from your card balance.**

**You will need to show your ID to obtain the bus pass (a copy of your passport should be sufficient).**

**Transport to Barranquilla**, a major industrial city 70 miles North East of Cartagena.

By Coach from **El Terminal de Transporte**

or **Colectivo door to door** (Transportes DOYFI Tel: (from cell phone prefix 605) 660 8118 Cel: 300 808 7725 or Barranquilla 370 2633).

Reasons for going: **American Consulate**, Carnival (Feb), Perkins parts, AB marine inflatables, and more.

### 4A. Car Rental. Several choices including below

**National Tel: 665 3336, Cel 315 751 4050** [www.nationalcarrentalcosta.com](http://www.nationalcarrentalcosta.com)

**Car Rent del Caribe: [reservas@carrent.com.co](mailto:reservas@carrent.com.co) cell WhatsApp +57 321 580 90 04**

**Executive rentacar** <http://www.executiverentacar.com.co/> **+57 5 692 5281**

Popular destinations in Colombia could be considered safe with a dose of commonsense. Driving in [Colombia](#) can be an adventure with windy roads, bottlenecks and craziness beyond the European and N. American norm.

## 5. Provisioning

If you're an early riser, you will hear the neighborhood of Manga come to life with the distinctive cries of the local street vendors hawking their wares—"Mango! Mandarina! Aguacate! Piña!" Don't hesitate to buy from them! You might also pick up a "tinto" from one of the boys toting the thermoses. Tinto is a tiny but stout cup of sweetened coffee for a mere 500 pesos.) Good quality produce, meats and poultry are available from the fine grocery stores throughout the city. Pork and beef are especially good here. Treat yourself to "Lomo fino" tenderloin, either "cerdo" (pork) or "res" (beef). There is not much variety in canned goods. Wines and liquors tend to be expensive in the grocery stores. Budget wine starts at about \$5.50usd a bottle

**Carulla:** Manga, 2 minutes walk from Club Nautico. Helpful packers can often help by bringing your shopping cart to Club Nautico.

☐ Bocagrande, Calle 14 and Av. San Martin. |

☐ Manga, "Carulla Express" 1 ½ blocks east of Club de Pesca.

**CARIBE PLAZA:** Modern large mall 15 mins walk from the marina. Well organized taxi rank in parking area to get your goodies back.

**JUMBO:** ☐ Large Chaín store similar to Walmart. Across the small bridge between Manga and

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Pie de la Popa, then right 100 yards. **Caribe Plaza** Mall (also Home Center).

**Exito** Large combination grocery / department store similar to Target in the states or Gigante in Mexico. ServiBanca ATM allows 400,000 peso withdrawal.

□ Centro, Sector San Diego near India Catalina statue by city wall. |

**Bazurto** □ | (Mercado Bazurto) - Cartagena city market. A huge market that sells almost anything. Inexpensive vegetables. Humble as it gets. For the adventurous! If you are looking for good used 5 gallon water containers they can be obtained for about \$2.50 usd.

**Makro** Cra. 59 #30D-21, Barrio Los Ejecutivos Cartagena de Indias, Provincia de Cartagena, Bolívar . For bulk purchases in particular.

## **BUTCHERS**

**A good butchers is accross the road from the neadby Carulla supermarket**

**Productores Carnicos Aliados (PCA)** Manga, corner of Calle California & Porta Av.. Good selection of meats and poultry. Will vacuum freeze pack with a day or two notice.

**Jorge Vega** Butcher for Donde Olano Cel: 310 659 1985. Really nice fellow and will deliver to your boat. You may need to meet him at the gate if staying at the Club de Pesca.

## **SPECIALTY FOODS**

**El Bistro** Carrera 7 between, Cl. 35 ##36, Carrera 7. Calle Primera de Badillo, Cra 7 35-41 (facing Olimpica mini super). www. <http://el-bistro.com/> Heavy breads - Oatmeal, whole wheat, rye, onion, linseed. Get there before mid-afternoon or it will be gone. <tel:0356602065> (whatsapp).

**Leon de Bavaria** Calle Arsenal No. 10-B-65, Centro w/ a blue awning, **664-4412. E-mail:**

[leondebavaria@hotmail.com](mailto:leondebavaria@hotmail.com). Stefan. German deli and restaurant offering fresh German sausages, German beers and canned foods.

**FRUTI DELICIAS** Juan Pablo Florez. Cel: **317 220-2850**). Vacuum packed concentrated fruit juices from the Valle de Cauca.

**Pacho:** Centro Comercial Getsamani, first store on left. **Wines** at prices less than in the grocery stores. Also, various other imported food items not otherwise available, at good prices. Also great for a lunchtime ceviche or ham (serrano) sandwich (with beer!)

**Italian Cheeses Giovanni:** Tel: **662-6138, Cel 316 275-2182 or 312 672-5992.** Buffalo Mozzarella, block of Mozzarella, ricotta fresca, provolone, provolone ahumado, parmesano, gorgonzola, sold in kilos. Prices: 23,000 to 35,000 per kilo, depending on cheese. He will deliver to clubs.

**Sodastream** refills: Try MIKASA STORE SODASTREAM (based in Bogota) Whats App +57 318 7288202 “WORKED FINE 143,000 COPs for 3 bottles plus delivery” Paid courier on delivery.

## **BOOZE**

The best values to be had for purchasing alcohol in Cartagena are the import stores located in “Contraband Alley” or “Centro Comercial Turistico”, that runs between Calle Larga and Av. Arsenal in Getsemani near the Convention Center. Prices are substantially less than in the grocery stores. You will also find good prices on various other imported food items not otherwise available.

## **6. Propane**

Take your bottles to the Porter at the entrance gate to Club Nautico. He will be able to arrange the fill Monday to Friday. Check for rates. The fill station is 25 mins taxi ride out of town. Small European Butane bottles will be filled with propane and may be returned only 75 % full. This is for safety reasons as propane liquifies at a higher pressure than Butane. Also, before filling these small

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European bottles check prices with the supplier (Club Nautico is simply facilitating the transaction for marina users).

## 7. Fuel (Diesel and Gasoline)

**Note: about 10% ethanol is used is diesel (locally referred to as ACPM. Aceite combustibile para motores):** BIO diesel is fine for most engines manufactured in the last 25 years that have been provided with suitably resistant fuel lines and seals. Ethanol is hygroscopic so in this humid climate fuel is better used than stored. Monitor your water separators. Have plenty of filters available if your vessel has been stored for any period. Better to filter fuel and clean tanks prior to departure (fuel polishing).

**Todomar Marina:** Gas and diesel at the dock opposite the Convention Center, where power boats are stacked 3-high in racks. Tel: +57 5 665 4177 Cel: +57 301 6052866

**Club de Pesca Fuel Dock:** Tel: 660 4597, 660 6615 “Estación de Servicio” CH 71 (VHF). Diesel, gasoline, lubricants, ice, water.

**Marina Sta. La Cruz, Manga,** just before container loading docks. Accessible by dinghy for diesel and gasoline, plus lubricants.

<b>Fuel and tank cleaning:</b> Try <a href="mailto:Hydrocleaner.ventas@gmail.com">Hydrocleaner.ventas@gmail.com</a> Cel # 315 545 6821
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## 8 . General Hands

For boat cleaning, varnishing, head overhaul, running errands, piloting, underwater work, obtaining parts and general repairs, there are quite a number of workers. Most of them are at Club Nautico on the docks, ready, willing and able!

**While these men are experienced and hardworking, it is important that you oversee the job to insure the job is completed to your satisfaction.**

The going rate for general unskilled boat work is 90 -150 mil pesos per day. (US\$28 - 26-38) **Negotiate the price before the job is started.** Underwater work (cleaning hull bottoms) can be significantly higher (average \$40US for a bottom clean lasting approx 1.5 hours).

**Please note that you may not bring in outside workers unless they have received prior approval by Club Nautico (the same applies to the Club de Pesca). It is more likely that permission will be granted for skilled rather than unskilled assistance. All outside workers, if accepted, must have ARL coverage (professional risks insurance).**

**Alberto Vasques,** Experienced seaman. Knowledgeable. Solid and trustworthy. Speaks some English. Great for underwater work, and hard deck work. Able dinghy repairs. **Cel. 310 6917073**

**Jose Cana.** Underwater hull cleaning, Varnishing specialist. Tidy. Dependable and knowledgeable.

**Eduardo Parra.** General. Dependable. Has access to a dinghy so can often provide a taxi assist to get you or your crew to your anchored vessel. **Cel 301 4297672**

### AT THE CLUB DE PESCA:

**Reynaldo Padilla** Cel: 312-617 8368 email: [reynsyst@yahoo.com](mailto:reynsyst@yahoo.com).. Hard worker, trustworthy and great at varnish.. \$25 a day. Reynaldo also finds hard-to-get stuff.

**Vicderno Chaberra Arroyo.** Cell: 310 635 3896; 314 585 4787. General work. Good attention to detail. (Recommended by SV Simpatica October 2009)

If at the Club de Pesca call their dockmaster Nestor. **Cell 314 5500169**

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## 9. Boatyards/Haulout Facilities

### **Ferroalquimar** [www.ferroalquimar.com](http://www.ferroalquimar.com)

Albornoz, via Mamonal,

Cel/WA +57 316 4709526 Waidelyn [gerenciadeproyectos@ferroalquimar.com](mailto:gerenciadeproyectos@ferroalquimar.com)

A well-organized and ordered yard with selected contractors. Nice clean restaurant catering to guests and workers alike. Comfortable internet TV room-. Decent bathrooms. Big 300 ton travel lift with bay that can receive vessels to 35 feet beam and 11 ft deep. Certainly worth discussing your project ideas with them. If you have a preferred contractor you will need to check whether they can access the yard.

Recent feedback suggests that you should not depend solely on the yard to provide contractor oversight.

Also be clear about the work to ensure you can step in and work yourself should you feel dissatisfied with the contractors provided. You could be billed for the work you do! Not atypical of commercial yard policy. Recent cruiser comments suggest they are good at coppercoat or copper epoxy bottom application.

Note: they have recently opened a marine supply service. Navi Supply (WA +57 315 4203554 Octavia)

### **Marina Portobello** [www.marinaportobello.com](http://www.marinaportobello.com)

Cel/Wa Luis Carrasquilla (marina manager) +57 320 5653277

New to the scene 2023. A major investment with a 120 ton travellift but wide to accommodate catamarans of up to 34 foot beam. The approach to the marina needs dredging as they can only receive boats with 7 ft draft or less but there are plans to increase this shortly.

Good clean modern yard with large covered building available for paint and other projects. At the moment they do not permit liveaboards but will allow you to work on your own vessels.

Luis, the manager, has considerable experience with a competing yard before joining Portobello. Talk to him!

### **Manzanillo Marina Club** [www.manzanillomarinaclub.com](http://www.manzanillomarinaclub.com) Cel/WA: 57 311 4299436

Tel: (035) 669 4180, 669 4067 [gerentemmc@gmail.com](mailto:gerentemmc@gmail.com)

Barrio Bosque, Calle Malaga Diag. No. 53-76 (Sector Zapatero)

Owned and run by water-sports enthusiasts Mauricio Lemaitre and sons. VHF Ch 78. Max draft 8 ft . Travel lift rated to 40 tons.

A ketch may need to remove its mizzenmast; a sloop must remove its forestay or backstay. Fax/ Internet service. They have a good team of recommended workers and are flexible in allowing contractors in (subject to daily fee). Gelcoat, Fibreglass, Woodwork, and Mechanical work can all be reliably contracted through the marina. Comfortable wash, lounge area. Wifi. Recently extended docks for in water storage (well protected).

Highly recommended by several cruisers recently. Marjory and Wim on S/Y Duppy were happy with a substantial hull repair completed in record time for a homeward North Atlantic crossing. Also a very positive recent youtube posting by Sailing Zingaro (Captain James).

### **Todomar.** [www.todomarchl.com](http://www.todomarchl.com) Albornoz via Mamonal (close to Ferroalquimar),

Carrera 56 No. 5-77. . e-mail Carlos at [csbogal@todomarchl.com](mailto:csbogal@todomarchl.com), Cel: 311 651 2977.

Manager Frank Londoño is a US educated engineer. Power boat orientated. Julio is Jefe del Patio. 45 ton travel lift. Slips will take a 10 feet draft (check that they have the stands to accommodate deep draft vessels). Good skills available on site. Good flat-bottomed stands. Big yard, good drainage, gravel so it can be dusty. One shower, one toilet. 20 minute ride from town.

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**Club de Pesca.** e-mail: [contacto@clubdepescadecartagena.com](mailto:contacto@clubdepescadecartagena.com) VHF 71

30 ton hydraulic lift . Boat stays in the cradle. Max draft 6'0". Two day haulouts only. Not often used outside the Club de PESCA membership.

**The use of a guide from Club Nautico (costing around \$30US) is recommended when taking your vessel from Club Nautico to the yards.**

### **FOR LARGER VESSELS**

**Naval Yard (Cotecmar):** Bocagrande. Contact: Capitan Garcia, Jefe Comercial. **Cel: 315 723 1521 Tel: 665 5354** (prefix 605 if calling from a cellphone) E-Mail [jcom@cotecmar.com](mailto:jcom@cotecmar.com). This yard cannot handle fiberglass vessels due to insurance restrictions.

See **Ferroalquimar** (above) with their 300 ton travel lift.

**Astilleros Vikingos:** e-mail [astivik@latino.net.co](mailto:astivik@latino.net.co) Excellent skills are available.

## **10. Surveyors**

**Fabio Zapata: Naval Architect & Marine engineer.** Cel. +57 3008005233 e-mail: [proyectos@khalela.com](mailto:proyectos@khalela.com) Recommended by SV Makai after a pre purchase survey on a Stevens 47 sailboat. (he did a bang up job!)

**Francisco Bernet Granado (Paco):** Surveyor for local insurance companies. Only available to Colombian registered vessels. Suggested by Francisco of Navega Colombia as a good choice for boat surveys required for insurance purposes. E-mail: [fbgseguros@gmail.com](mailto:fbgseguros@gmail.com) Cell 317 6586523

### **COMPASS ADJUSTOR**

Captain Victor M. Estevez. Tel: 665 1822; 665 6248.

## **11. Boat Brokerage and Yacht Delivery**

Looking out for more ideas and recommendations here!

### **Delivery Skippers.**

**Eugenio Montoya:** On board SV Platano anchored close to CN. (find him on Facebook)

**Fabian Arcila** Cel: 312 6707863.

**Francisco Acarria.** Passionate sailor (from Spain) who is co-director of Navega Colombia but really enjoys taking a break and delivering sailboats!

### **Delivery Crew**

**Alberto Vasquez** regularly on the docks at CN. Excellent crew, speaks some English. Has sailed to Aruba and beyond many times. Cast iron stomach. Practical and honest.

### **Yacht Transport.**

Sometimes a complicated process with thorough customs/police checks taking place on vessels leaving as cargo. An option for those with Motor Yachts to deliver to the States (primarily) talk to Fernando Nogueira of Yacht Transport Lines, INC. Tel 1 (305) 755-6628. FL 33316, EE. UU. We are looking for feedback on this. <http://www.yachttransportlines.com>

## **12. Mechanics**

### **DIESEL ENGINE AND TRANSMISSION REPAIR**

**Elvis (el Profe) . Taller Castro.** Cel: 320 4627653. Tel: (605 prefix if calling from cell phone) 674 6422, 661 9581. Has a very loyal following due to his ability, honesty and reliability. Specializing in sailboat engines to 300 Hp. Particularly experienced with Yanmar engines in the 8 hp to 120 hp range

**Note:** all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone

**Cesar Brun.** Cell 310 2814748, [cesaraugustobrun@gmail.com](mailto:cesaraugustobrun@gmail.com). A well informed and capable engineer with a loyal following amongst long term sailors in Cartagena. Particularly good if there are associated electrical issues. He can assist with refrigeration, electrical systems and sensors, Electro hydraulic. Specializing in Marine electronics and systems

**Diesel Precision:** Av. Pedro de Heredia, Sector Espinal #18B-198. Tel: 656 3060; 656 3085. Or contact rep. Luis Gomez, Cel: 312 621 6640, who speaks some English. Specializes in injectors. Highly recommended by cruisers, inc. They can also assist with major engine overhauls.

**Candelario Prieto (Nene) Bladimir Hernandez (Chino).** Cel: 321 7302628 Experienced in marine diesels (Yanmar, Ford Lehman, Perkins (not Prima), Volvo etc). Transmission repair, Jabsco pump repair. Motor alinement. . They used to be a team. Now they work independently. These mechanics have both solid supporters and also (it has to be said) detractors. They have more than 30 years experience working with mechanical repairs on sailboats.

**Propeller servicing (balancing etc).**

LJ Prop center +57 310 3646151

*As with everyone make sure you have a clear quotation before the job starts (from the yard or the contractor himself). If you don't ask the sky may be the limit!*

### **DIESEL PARTS**

**Carta Diesel Ltda.** Efraín Florez Vergara; Gerente Tel: 662 7392 Cel: 310-364 0490. Incl. starters and alternators, impellers, new and used.. ('Very helpful' from Cade SV Sandollar).

**Agro Diesel del Caribe Ltda.** Bosque. Tel: 662 3169; 669 1388.

**Todomar Marina,** Bocagrande and their marine store on Avenida Miramar, Manga. Yanmar parts.

**Marina Sta. La Cruz,** Manga, just before container loading docks. Volvo and Yamaha parts.

**Diesel Power.** Tel: 370 1512 Cel: 311 808 5420 Rusmiro Maestre Mejia Cummins, Caterpillar, FP, Mahle. Parts importers for larger diesels.

**Agro Ingles.** Barranquilla Calle 45 No. 46-141. Tel: 370 3604 E-mail: [mach@metrotel.net.co](mailto:mach@metrotel.net.co). Perkins.

### **Fuel Polishing.**

Often a boat laid up for a few months with have fuel problems. Particularly if using the local diesel with its added ethenol (hydroscopic). Fuel polishing is a simple way of recycling your fuel though filters to removed sediment, mold growth and water.

**[Hydrocleaner.ventas@gmail.com](mailto:Hydrocleaner.ventas@gmail.com)** Cel # 315 545 6821 They have been regularly at Club Nautico cleaning fuel on some of the larger yachts. Need prior approval from marinas before work.

## **13. Electrical /Electronics**

### **STARTER MOTORS & ALTERNATORS**

**MultiElectricos:** Pie de la Popa, Lo Amador, Cr.20 C34-32 (Opp. Home Mart) Tel: 656 2111. Lena speaks English. Excellent reputation amongst cruisers. Helpful and resourceful. Have workshop plus good source of fan belts (all diameters).

**Multiamperios:** AVENIDA CRISANTO LUQUE 40 21 A 27 BOSQUE . Tel de Taller Y Almacen Multiamperios Ltda es el (605)6690276

**Taller Reconstruin.** Av. Pedro de Heredia. Sector Cuatro Vientos No. 44c-80. Tel: 669 8101 Sr. Edwin Puente. Starter motor rewinding and repair.

**Turbinas y Mangeras,** Pie de la Popa, Lo Amador. Great with hydraulics and electric motor rebuilds.

**Note:** all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone

## REPAIRING MARINE ELECTRONICS

**Laboratorio Electronico Aleman:** Manga, Av. Jimenez, Calle No. 26-18 B19. **Cel: 316 312 7570. Tel/Fax: 660 4222. (Stands by on Ch. 68)** ‘Resourceful and very capable’ (Sven is German, speaks perfect English). **Highly recommended.** Has become a little frail recently but his mind remains brilliant! If dealing with battery chargers/invertors expect an inspection fee to cover the onerous time consuming work of disassembling (Mastervolt, Vectron and others): products generally designed poorly for access and repair. The modern way!

**ITEC Electronica Maritima,** Santa Lucia Shopping Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Oficinas 1 to 8. Centro Commercial. **Tel: 663 3909 Fax: 663 3643.** [www.iteccolombia.com](http://www.iteccolombia.com). (Standard call out charge +/- 100 mil pesos). Well-equipped HQ diagnostics. (Call Idiana and ask for Carlos). Very able.

**Radio Marine Group.** Was well established in Venezuela (Pto la Cruz) before relocating to Cartagena. Very experienced yacht technicians. **Agents for Raymarine, Simbrad, Newmar chargers and others.** **Cel +57 310 406 1045** . Particularly orientated towards complex yacht systems. **e-mail:** [ender.yr@radiomarinagroup.com](mailto:ender.yr@radiomarinagroup.com), [seviles@radiomarinagroup.com](mailto:seviles@radiomarinagroup.com)

**Ships Electronics.** Avenida Bosque, Urbanizacion Tacarigua 11, Manzana 1A Lote 13. **Cel: 312 6548348** [www.shipselectronicsctg.com](http://www.shipselectronicsctg.com)

## MARINE ELECTRICIANS

**Nestor Marriaga** is occasionally available weekends and public holidays (recommended by SV Pawnee 2019). Electro mechanical and systems. Very good at diagnostics. Assisting cruisers is something he is happy to do in his free time. Very capable. **Cel: 300 502 7461** [nestormarriaga@gmail.com](mailto:nestormarriaga@gmail.com). Remember that at Club Nautico special approval is required for contractors to enter on weekends. Except for emergencies contractors are not permitted to enter Club Nautico after Saturday midday until Monday (if not a public holiday)

**Cesar Brun.** **Cell: + 57 310 2815748 (WA)** [cesaraugustobrun@gmail.com](mailto:cesaraugustobrun@gmail.com) Recommended by Kenny (S/Y Makai) amongst others. Capable marine mechanical and electronic engineer .

**Emigdio Gonzalez.** Speaks good English and is recommended by Capt Alvaro of ‘Katana’, a 65foot Mason. **Cel: 311 7669369.** Did great work on Toto (105 ft Palmer Johnson). (also good with watermakers, hydraulics etc.

**Oscar Vergas.** Great with electronic and mechanical diagnostics (rebuilding starters and alternators too). Autopilot systems etc (similar to Nestor) **Cel: 314 5104829**

**Alex Gonzalez.** **Cel: 312 635 5673; 316 7778827.** ‘Great Electrician’ (SV Simpatica 2009) [alexgm410@hotmail.com](mailto:alexgm410@hotmail.com)

## ELECTRONIC COMPONENTS

**La Casa del Sonido** Matuna, Ave. Venezuela #9-45. **Tel: 664 5928, 664 5352, 660 1826.** Next to Exito. Switches, plugs, cables, adapters, connectors, jacks, etc.

**Electronica Cartagena** Centro, Av. Daniel Lemaitre 31-72, bajos del Hotel San Felipe. **Tel: 664 3268; 664 7091 Fax 664 3937.** (just off Parque Centenario).

Also note that purchases from **Amazon** work well with delivery and tax often included for order values between 35 and 200 usd. Averaging approx 10 days to deliver

## 14. Engineering workshops

**Ignacio Sierra:** Bosque, Calle de la Giralda, No. 53-16. **Tel: 669 4202.**

**WhatsApp** +57 300 8029135 (Edwin Villadiego)**E-mail:** [gspicker@hotmail.com](mailto:gspicker@hotmail.com). [www.fisltda.com](http://www.fisltda.com). Managers/Owners Srs. German and Vicente Spicker both speak good English. Well-equipped machine shop for marine fabrications. Also have swaging equipment. Good source for stainless fasteners, pure copper bar and laminates.

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**Taller Seridme:** Tv 54 :25-53, Nuevo Bosque. Good shop with CAD fabrication skills Recommended by SV Sorcery (Capt. Cor) 2024 . Camilo Whatspp 57 315 9288394

**Taller Palmer:** Calle 2da de Mamonal 21A-119. **Tel/fax 674 3019 Cel: 300 483 4229.** Javier Rios, Manager. Industrial and naval mechanical engineering. (Recommended by SV Stormbird 2007.)

**Taller Pinto:** Av. Cristante Luque. **Bosque Dg22 37-47** Ask for 'Lucho' A nearby basic alternative to above. No English. More steel fabrication but also good for custom brass/bronze machined fittings.

**Taller Gaviria:** Transversal 54 # 21b-12, Cartagena de Indias. (close to Manzanillo marina club)  
**Tel (605) 6690903 [www.tallergaviria.com](http://www.tallergaviria.com)**

**Taller industrial: San Isidro Calle #24-108 tel 6725403 cel: 310 7177370. Machine shop with Hydraulic press, Lathes. Understnading of hydraiulics, mechanical reconstriuction, fabrication of axles and bearings.**

**Fumcivilco: cel: 304 4889390. Precision lathe work, threading. Good recent work repairing substantial furling gear threads. Engineer Gilberto Barrios e-mail: [comercialfumcivilcosas@hotmail.es](mailto:comercialfumcivilcosas@hotmail.es).**

#### **14 A. CAD DESIGN AND FABRICATION:**

**Cristian Camilo Tabares (Director de Planta). Cel/WA +57 315 9288394**  
**[www.seridme.com](http://www.seridme.com) [ccamilotabares@seridme.com](mailto:ccamilotabares@seridme.com)**

**Bosque, sector San Isidro, Trsv. 54 #25-53. Recomendado by SV Sorcery (Sept 2023)**

### **15 .Stainless Steel & Aluminum**

#### **WELDING & TUBULAR FABRICATIONS**

Clearly 316 stainless is the best choice for this climate. Much more costly than 304. Check material availability as this can be a problem.

**Bianney Torres.. WhatsApp +57 311 7223294, 313 5125759.** (Assistant Julio Miguel). Bianney does very high quality work, consistently delivering what cruisers want. Highly recommended. 'Excellent steel work and mechanically knowledgeable' (Tom, SV Paradise 2019) . During low season (July to October) he may be able to offer a special rate..ask him!

**Todomar:** The in-house team at the haul out yard (see Marinas) seems pretty good. Specialists in aluminium welding.

**Anaclea Matuyo WhatsApp +57 313 5688309** specialist in Aluminium fabrications.

**Note:**If going outside the above recommendations you may obtain lower quotes but beware: the results could be disappointing.

#### **SUPPLIES:**

**Inox Caribe Ltda. Tel: 666 5975; 666 6374.**

**Tubocol.** Km 2 Cra.de Mamonal (just after the bridge).

**CartaVavula Mamonal** (316L tube available).

### **16. Chrome Plating & Anodizing**

**Niquelados Industriales. Freddy Gomez Navarro.** Pie de la Popa, Lo Amador, Calle El Progreso. **Tel: 656 5903.** Good work at reasonable per-piece prices (Akka & Attitude, 2009).

**Planta Industrial de Niquelados. Ing. Daniel Coronel Daniel.** Pie del Cerro, Av. Antonio Arevalo No.31B-174. (At the foot of Cerro San Felipe.) **Tel: 666 5124 Cel: 315 684 1004.** Also do silver and gold plate, electro galvanizing, anodizing.

**Aserorias Nicrometal CIA Ltda.** Barrio El Prado, Trans 33 No. 29B-54. **Roger Garcia Galvis**  
**Cel: 316 690 6541 .Excellent re-chroming , good value (SV Wild goose 2010)**

### **17. Welding Supplies**

**Soldar Ltda.** Bosque, Diagonal 21, by the 'Coko Rico Pollo' chicken restaurant.

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## 18. Foundry, bronze & aluminum

(When preparing molds be aware that shrinkage can be a problem!)

**Fumeco Ltda.** Bosque, Diagonal 20 Av. Pedro Velez, #52-14, **Tel: 669 4835**. Good for casting propellers.

**Ely Cardenas.** Calle Santa Fe, No. 18 to 40 **Tel: 666 1361**. Good detail work (SV Endless Journey).

## 19. Glass /Acrylic

Reported that (2019) the below are now dedicated to motor vehicles only: sign of the times! Pending better sources very soon.

**Vidrios Marum.** +57 312 6132524 (recommened via United cruisers WA net)

**New: Aluminios y Vidrios del Prado S.A.S.** Barrio Prado Calle 29 -32-60 , **Tel: 6625002**. Acrylic and tempered glass supplier.

## 20. Galvanizing Hot Dip

**Galvamar.** Bosque, Av. Pedro Velez No. 51-70. **Tel/Fax 674 1046**. Call Daisy (Directora Admin) **Cel:312 626 2229**. **Office: 310 355 0080**. **E-mail: [galvamar@hotmail.com](mailto:galvamar@hotmail.com)**. The work is done in Barranquilla. They pick up and deliver for aprox 6000 pesos per Kilo. The quality has been good with plenty of zinc (occasionally a chain link may stick because of this).

**Update 2022:** they should have zinc hot dip facility running in Cartagena.

## 21. Batteries

Several stores on the Avenida Pedro de Heredia.

**Pelaez hermanos, Pedro De Heredia #39 – 189**

**(5) 6769404** on Pedro de Heredia have D8 and D4 truck batteries at good prices.

**Energias Alternas.** **WhatsApp + 57 313 5852214**. . Fernando is very helpful; speaks English. T105 6 volt golf cart batteries for around \$200US. US and Trojan AGMs. May be able to supply VAT exempt (Foreign vessels) solar panels. Highly recommended by cruisers. Also very good with supplying solar panels and Victron controllers. Can also supply Lithium batteries.

**Lithium battery supplier** recommended by SV MAKAI on United Cruiser WA net Pandy Battery Girl (China) +86 175 1204 3013 (WA) **Li-Time**

**Solar Panels** can be obtained through Energias Alternas (above) and **La Casa del Panel Solar** (recommended on United Cruiser WA net) cel +57 304 5765438

## 22. Paint & Painters

*Antifouling options: Pintuco, Sika (better known for Sikaflex products) Hempel, Sigma and occasionally Ameron and International. The local product **Pintuco** in its ablative form for sailboats appears to be as good as the imported products. It is the popular choice amongst the local sailing community.*

**PINTUBOL:** Zona Industrial de Mamonal, KM3. **Jaime Villalba Olier, also Armanda Alvear Vasquez Tel: 668 5106 Cel: 311-539 0833**. This is an industrial yard behind locked gates. Wear long pants or you will not be admitted. Not a retail place and hard to find. Main distributor for **Pintuco** products, industrial and naval. **Also supplies International paints** which could now be considered their 'premium' product.

**Resinas y Pinturas:** Av. Pedro de Heredia Sector Toril 22A-141 **Tel: 669 2083**.

**SIKA:** Mamonal, Sector Albornoz. Good English speaking technicians. Good basic vinyl high copper antifouling tested by the military. They also have an ablative antifouling

**HEMPEL:** Mamonal, Sector Albornoz. **Tel: 665 0037**. Contact Ing. Carlos Corral **Cel: 315 7362973** (speaks English). Best results with Black ablative 55% solids. 3 coats

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or more recommended. They have a non TBT antifouling suitable for Alum boats (check the specs). New contact: Alberto. Cel: +57 317 6407404 (WA)

**SIGMA:** Bellavista, Cr. 56 5A-69. Tel: **667 3370; 667 2647**.

**Jaime Falquez: Cel: 310 3689116.** Epoxy anticorrosivos and vinyl antifouling (similar to SIKA) Also for antifoulings PINTUCO International, Sigma, Hempel, and Ameron (ablative 52% copper).

**Acripinturas del Caribe Ltda.,** Av. Pedro de Heredia, No. 18-A-25, sector Espinal, Tel: **666 3289**.  
DuPont paints.

**Decoraciones el Pintor:** Getsemani, Parque Centenario con Calle de La Magdalena. Tel: **664 3165**.  
They sell **Pintuco Epoxy similar to West System 4:1 mix** .

*(Please note that repainting work involving fibreglass/gelcoat grinding/sanding and gelcoat/ polyurethane finishing should be undertaken in the yards, not the marinas)*

## **PAINTERS:**

For polyurethane & gelcoat hull refinishing there are good choices but quality control vigilance is important. Keep a close eye on your project and an excellent job should be your reward at about 25 - 30 % US prices. These men can do excellent finishing work (but may indulge in short cuts so be warned).

*Please draw up a written agreement before starting any major project. Be wary of the lowest quotation since when a project starts it may be difficult to maintain the original agreement. Also, contractors employed at Ferroalquimar may be your responsibility, not the yard's. Unless contracting through the yard itself don't expect them to bail you out if things go wrong. Most of the teams need supervising on a 2 times per week basis (making sure commitments are kept).*

*Note: Most of the yards now insist on being the primary contractor so it may be advisable to negotiate directly with the yard (before agreeing to take your boat there) rather than those actually doing the work.*

**Janer Estrada WhatsApp +57 300 4425427** . General worker contractor

He has access to a private dock /workshop facility in Bosque (sector Cartagena) for extensive projects (in water).

**Flavit and Jaime: WhatsApp +57 320 2924954**

Recommended by SV Andromeda (major repaint plus sugar scoop transom fabrication(2008)). Also very highly recommended by Catamaran Simpatica (2009). recent work on mid sized motoryachts Taganga, Amos and Copacetic (Fiberglass and painting). Contractor with Ferroalquimar yard.

**Jorge Garcia Galvis: Cel: 315 629 3796 Tel: 662 4873.** Painting and fiberglass repair. A good crew based at Ferroalquimar yard.

**Alfonso Mendoza (some English) and Crew** based at the Club de Pesca and Ferroalquimar. Cel: **312 6555126**. Good work with SV's Contigo, Inshallah

**Jose Castro and crew: Cel: 311 679 3875.** Professional, Honest, Reasonable (SV Asylum).

**William Berrick: Cel: 315 201 4652.** Good worker. Finishes on time and estimates accurately.

**Manuel Ortiz:** Ask for him at Club de Pesca. He comes with excellent references.

## **Fine Varnish work.**

**Javier Padilla:** ('our Galley is like a mirror'. Old varnish completely stripped, Wood matched with careful use of stain and 7 coats of Epifanes (Steve on Orontes 11 , November 2023)

**WhatsApp +57 317 3064728**

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## 23. Hardware and Chandleries

**Home Center.** Caribe Plaza Mall, Av. de los Lagos, Pie de la Popa. This is a serious home improvement center 15 mins walk from Club Nautico.

**Ferreteria Industrial de la Costa.** Av. Pedro de Heredia #19-46 Tel: (605 prefix if using cell phone) 666 4286 Good selection of tools. Will also fabricate parts.

**Ignacio Sierra Taller (workshop).** Bosque. Dr. German Spicker. Tel: 669 4202; 6694242.

**Cel: 300 810 3869.** Stainless Steel / Bronze / Copper/ Aluminium hardware: bolts, screws, valves, zincs, cutlass bearings, Prop Shafts. [www.fissas.com](http://www.fissas.com) e-mail: [gspicker@hotmail.com](mailto:gspicker@hotmail.com).

**Torhefe** Av. Pedro de Heredia, #19-230. Tel: 666 1753. Large selection of stainless steel fastenings (incl. springs), as well as Stanley Tools. Also have machine shop in Barranquilla.

**La Casa del Tornillo,** Av Pedro de Heredia, Sector Los Alpes (just past the Castellana shopping mall). Tel 663 0138/ 651 3720. Responsive customer service.

### CHANDLERIES

**Marine Sport: Manga,** Av. Miramar Cra 17 Calle 14-6. (next to Club de Pesca, around the corner from the above.) Cel: +57 310 4646286 (WA). Cel: 315 733-1212. Yamaha outboards. Good selection of useful boat parts, zincs, sealants etc.

**Lalizas:** Av. El Bosque #41-35, oficina 305. Whats App +57 300 6292278 ( Sergio..fluent English) e-mail: [gerencia@lalizas.com.co](mailto:gerencia@lalizas.com.co) or [ventas@lalizas.com.co](mailto:ventas@lalizas.com.co) or [ventas@marinecenter.com.co](mailto:ventas@marinecenter.com.co)

If you have items to purchase from a major European boat safety equipment manufacturers and supplier. They can obtain Catalogue items within 2 weeks delivered free of sales tax to Yachts in Transit (provided the temporary importation documentation is completed). Their store carries a good practical selection at competitive prices. **Very good recommendation by Shaun on 'Three Ships' (April 2021)**

**Budget Marine:** Sector espinal. Avenida Pedro de Heredia (approaching centro). Cel 323 229 3652. Just started operations in March 2023. [www.budgetmarine.com](http://www.budgetmarine.com) cel: +57 297 594 1216 (WA) Sebastian Montoya.. Prices as per catalogue mas 19% local sales tax (maybe they can organize tax relief for certain purchases by visiting boats-worth investigating).

**Aquatico Surtidor Nautico:** Manga, Av. Miramar Calle 24 (next to Club de Pesca). Tel: 660 6418; 660 5338. Random selection of goods at "marine" prices, inc. Harken, Garmin, Perko brands. Tohatsu outboards.

**Todomar Chandlery** Avenida Miramar, Manga. Very close to both marinas. Supplier Raymarine electronics (plus navionics charts /Raymarine service center). Also decent West System epoxy selection

[www.todomar.com/tienda/](http://www.todomar.com/tienda/)

**Ferremarina:** Bosque, Diagonal 21, 40-75, Tel: 662 2663; 662 1101. Cel: 301 260-8155; 300 816-8612. E-mail: [ferremarina2@yahoo.com](mailto:ferremarina2@yahoo.com). General boat hardware including stainless steel cable and anchor chain (and used stuff!). Can source rigging at competitive prices. Has decent selection of used boat equipment: anchors etc

## 24. Bearings, (O-rings, gaskets, hose fittings)

**Multi-Caucho:** Pie de la Popa Cl 32, Av. Pedro de Heredia, Tel: 666 1773, Fax: 666 4839 (suppliers of Sikaflex caulking and 'Tip Top' dinghy glue). Can make seals, rubber gaskets to order.

**Multi Rodamientos Ltda.:** Av. Pedro de Heredia (next to Multi-Caucho, above) for bearings.

**Recorres y Mangeras:** Pie de la Popa, La Subida, Av. Pedro de Heredia. Hose fittings (incl. Hydraulic). Gaskets made while you wait.

**Empaques Cartagena:** (gasket makers). Lo Amador, Calle Santander No.20 D45. Tel: 666 0957.

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**Colsoportes (gasket makers).** Lo Amador Carrera 20c No 32-25. Beside MultiElectricos (highly recommended for alternator and starter motor repairs). Excellent head gasket made for SV Sea Adler.

## **25. Filters**

The following three shops are located next door to each other. What one place doesn't have, the others probably will. All the staff are very helpful. Limited English but eager to please.

**Lubricantes y Filtros** Av. Pedro de Heredia 21C-140. **Tel:(035 prefix if using cell phone) 6661935; Cel: 316 557 0487; 316 619 8169.** All types of filters: water and diesel. Shell Lubs. Sikaflex 221, Loctite, Mac Batteries, Racors. **Ing. Edwin Villareal.**

**Lubricantes Engranes y Mecanismos,** San Jose de los Campanos Cra.100A #35-10  
**cel: 310 704 7370 – 310 681 4773 – 320 462 7653.** Recently presented (Jan 2019) as option by well recommended mechanic Elvis Castro. Very keen to assist.

**Solofiltros** Pie de la Popa, Av. Pedro de Heredia C21-34, (next to Lubricantes). **Tel: 666 0808.**  
Big selection of filters.

**Filtros y Mas:** Pie de la Popa, Av. Pedro de Heredia (next to Lubricantes). **Cel: 312 6493615; 300 833 3487.** **Humberto Guerrero Rivera** very helpful. Has wide variety of paper filters and cartridges suitable for watermakers, plus gaskets and o-rings.

## **26. Dive Tanks & Stores**

**Buceo Cartagena Divers:** Calle del Jardin #39-190, Bocagrande

Cel: 300 817 6942 (suggested by OCC David Dec 2018). Good rate to fill dive tanks.

**Caribe Dive Shop (Buzos de Baru)** Hotel Caribe at Bocagrande. Cra la No. 2-87 Local No. 9. **Tel: 665 3517.** Also offers dive tours and scuba instruction and certification.

**Diving Planet.** Laguito, Edif. Alonso de Ojeda No. 2-50. **Tel: 655 0154** Beatriz Ossa (Marine Biologist and Advanced PADI instructor) Padi diving courses. Rosario and other sites.

## **27. Woodworking (incl: Galley counter mods)**

### **PILOT HOUSES, HARD DODGERS, INTERIOR REPAIRS AND REMODELING**

**Everildo Campo (cell 314 657 3343) and Stevenson Amaranto (cell 301 365 5193).**  
Actually these are part of a team of 4 to 5 workers usually working in teams of 2. 'Hard working, dedicated, trustworthy and a pleasure to deal with' (SV Paradise 2019). **'They are marine carpenters using excellent local materials'.**

**Maximo.** Cel: +57 310 6869188 (WA) Several recent recommendations but a detractor suggesting they used inferior deck sealant/caulk. Keep an eye on the use of caulk, and the application method. The carpentry itself is good.

**Edgardo Ortiz** cel: +57 312 7452281 (WA) Joinery work. Teak decks. Changing bulkheads. Veneer work (recommended 2023 United Cruisers WA net)

**Gaston Betruz Fernandez:** Tel: 665 8315 Cel: 315 688 7161 Recommended by SV Makai.

### **Fine Varnish work.**

**Javier Padilla:** ('our Galley is like a mirror'. Old varnish completely stripped, Wood matched with careful use of stain and 7 coats of Epifanes (Steve on Orontes 11 , November 2023)

**Cel/WA +57 317 3064728**

## 28. Wood Supplies

**Home Center:** (also listed under hardware.) **Caribe Plaza** Mall, Av. de los Lagos, Pie de le Popa. A serious home improvement center 15 mins walk from Club Nautico.

**Escaleras de Colombia:** Tel: 662 8392, Javier Camacho owns a teak farm. Good quality.

**Maderas Carillo:** Getsemani, Cr 10 B 25 -70 Plaza del Pozo, Tel: 664 2802.

There are also wood suppliers in the Bazurta public market; also close to the Manzanillo Marina Club(Boat Yard). Most likely a budget choice of local hard woods.

### PLYWOOD

**'Formaplac'** An exterior grade plywood with a waterproof glue.

### HARDWOOD INFORMATION

**'Abarco'** A resistant straight grained hardwood used in wood boat construction. Available everywhere. Sometimes, depending on how it is cut, twists a little on drying. Used on Club Nautico's dock.

**'Ceba Rojo'** Mahogany-like appearance. Resistant, particularly against termites. Takes an age to dry. More scarce than Abarco.

**'Cedro Rojo'** Red Cedar. Select carefully. A nice wood used for furniture.

**'Roble'** Oak. Not as hard as American white oak but seems consistently resistant.

**'Teca'** Generally teak is in very limited supply and not of the best quality.

## 29. Fiberglass, Minor Repairs & Materials (See also:Woodworking)

### Hull repair, modifying chainlockers, propane tank boxes, etc.

**Janer Estrada** Cel 301 2434825 . 300 4425427 Dependable contractors.

**Jose Castro and Crew:** Cel: 310 614 6557. Recommended for fibreglass, gelcoat and painting.

**'Tutti'.** Club Nautico's high quality mainstay in the past. Almost full time employed by owner of 40 ft Cheoy Lee based at Manzanillo Marina Club. If you are lucky....

### **MATERIALS**

**Resinas y Pinturas:** Bosque, Near Ron Tres Esquinas.

**Resinas Y Pinturas:** Av. Cristante Luque.

**Etonador:** Mercado de Bazurta, Av. Pedro de Heredia. Paint and resin/glass supplies. If you're timid take a 'hand' with you. This area is where the humble/astute do their bargaining.

## 30. Fire Extinguisher Recharging

**Seguridad Industrial de Colombia, LTDA:** Barrio Chapacua, Manzana H L 25. Gabriel Florez, Tel: (605 prefix if using cell phone) 663 0796.

**Seguridad Industrial Naval y Comercial:** Barrio San isidro, Cell 312 6195551

e-mail: [seginac@yahoo.es](mailto:seginac@yahoo.es)

## 31. Lifteraft Inspection

**ASTEMAR Safety Equip.** Cel: 315 702 1102 (Maria) Rudolfo de la Vega, Tech. Manager speaks excellent English. Certified RFD liferaft inspection center. 'Totally accredited and legit' (SV Philani 2018). Not all life rafts can be inspected (not Viking).

**SESSAS Colombia.** <https://sessascolombia.com> Another very good option for thoroughly servicing liferafts: Viking included! [ventas@sessascolombia.com](mailto:ventas@sessascolombia.com) or [lsa@sessascolombia.com.co](mailto:lsa@sessascolombia.com.co) Tel +57 (5) 676 5413 / 676 5464 / 676 5465. Also try **WA +57 312 6600548 (Ricardo)**. Recommended by Kenny on Makai after overseeing the servicing of a Viking raft. Modern very professional outfit. Cost was about 1000 usd.

**Note:** all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone

## 32. Outboard Motors, sales, parts, repairs

**Marina Santa La Cruz:** (Eduardo Londono, Ltda.. (5 mins walk South East from Club Nautico) Juan Manuel Diego, **Tel: 660 8385, Fax 660 7569 E-Mail [jdiago@eduardono.com](mailto:jdiago@eduardono.com)**. Yamaha spares.

**Aquatico Surtidor Nautico:** Manga, Av. Miramar Calle 24 (next to Club de Pesca). **Tel: 660 6418; 660 5338. Tohatsu and Neptune** outboards.

**Marine Sport:** Manga, Av. Miramar Cra 17 Calle14-6. (next to Club de Pesca, around the corner from the above.) **Tel: 660 8227; 660 8268. Cel: 315 733-1212. Yamaha** outboards.

### ....Fixing them!

**Delemiro Contreras:** Call Reynaldo Padilla for information. **Cel: 312 644 5883.** , “Delo” works out of Club de Pesca, excellent repairs on dinghy engines.

**Jaimito Rodriguez:** At Club Nautico. Always found fixing small outboards at the club! **Cel: 316 1575485. Not always easy to find the parts needed particularly for older 4 strokes. Usually very good at getting things going.**

**Plaza de los Borrachos (Barrio Bosque):** famous for finding personalities to fix outboards!

## 33. AB Inflatables

Manufactured in a modern facility in Barranquilla 70 miles up the coast from Cartagena. Unfortunately you may need to wait since they have manufacturing scheduled well in advance and they do not hold stock.

**Outstanding Hypalon quality.** Available with Aluminum or Fiberglass hull. Can be delivered directly to Club Nautico. [www.abinflatables.com](http://www.abinflatables.com).

**Tel (ABMARINE): (57 5) 379 5132. E-mail: [info@abmarinegroup](mailto:info@abmarinegroup).**

Also Try **BUDGET MARINE**..They usually have a Caribe 9 ft or 10 ft in stock (Hyperlon RIB)

### 33A. Dinghy repair

Options recommended on the United Cruiser WA Net:

**Sargento Camaro:** Cel +57 305 8779615 (WA) “Best guy in town for Dinghy fixes”

**Nelson:** Cel +57 318 3314452 (WA) **methodical: recommended by SV MAKAI**

## 34. Refrigeration & Air Conditioning

**Antonio Malo:** Av. Pedro Romero 29–130. **Tel: 669 3782, WhatsApp +57 311 402 8916.** Very solid reputation. Often seen at Club Nautico.

**Nestor Diaz:** Taller de refrigeración /air con. **Tel: 313 523 6142.** ‘Excellent worker, good value’

### REFRIGERATION PARTS

**Refrigeración La Mona.** Barrio Lo Amador 19#32-97. **Tel: (605 prefix if using cell phone)658 2899.** Luz Eida Graciano (La Mona). Original parts/spares.

## 35. Sail Repair, Canvas, Upholstery & Fabrics

**Renzon Herrera:** Barrio Paraguay, Diagonal 24 No. 24-26 (behind the Juan xxiii church).

**WhatsApp + 57 313 532 9894 .** Does very good work. Traditional sail repair, restitching and good dinghy and other canvas work. Also Margarita Herrera (+57 322 5050948 WA)

**Esteban Perez.** **WhatsApp +57 310 651 4545 (WA); 317 772 9940.** Excellent upholstery, dinghy covers and canvas work. He talks fast so try and get him to slow down to avoid misunderstandings (mas despacio por favor!). Very good detailed work. Understands fabrics.

**Note: all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone**

**Victor Herrera Cel: 315 704 2200 or 317 820 4411.** Meticulous work (sail repair, canvas and rope work). Highly recommended by SV Gypsy Wind (also ad-hoc Spanish instructor).

**Pedro Flores. WhatsApp +57 301 5364884.** Excellent with cushions. Yacht interior furnishings. Made a good speedy delivery start (United Cartagena Cruisers net recommendation 2023). Very skilled. Has even fabricated Stack packs.

**Orlando. WhatsApp +57 301 4266735 (WA)** Cockpit cushions and more (United Cartagena Cruisers net recommendation 2023)

**Pedro Leon Mejia Suarez. Tel 311 6601755, also 305 3118612** highly recommended **Tailor** (Susan Crowe)

**Monica Alvarez: WhatsApp +57 311 4243061, 315 773 9435.** Cushions, covers. Beautiful work.

**Sebastian Higuera: North sails** representative and technician (and professional race sailor). Spends more time as North Sails tech/rep in Salinas, Ecuador so may not be in Cartagena when you need him! Catch him if you can!!



Small clean and well lit Sail loft 5 minutes walk from Club Nautico (10 mins from the Club de Pesca)

Calle 26 #23-18 **Barrio Manga** (Street next to perimeter wall of the Port Authority).

**WhatsApp +57 320 2692705**

**WhatsApp +59 3997398317 also +593 99 7398317**

[sebastian.higuera@northsails.com](mailto:sebastian.higuera@northsails.com)

Repairs to high tech carbons and other laminates as well as traditional dacron sails (plus canvas work). Also agent for **Harken** hardware (has a small stock of blocks, stoppers, winch spares (pawls).

**Mauricio ???\*\_** Works with Colombian Armada's Tall ship Gloria **Cel 315 578 4640**

## **SUPPLIES**

**Calypso:** Centro, Av. Daniel Lemaitre #10C-22-28. (near Exito supermarket just outside the old city wall.) **Tel: 664 4582 Fax: 664 0777.** Big supply of upholstery and outdoor fabrics, foam rubber and Styrofoam. *Sunbrella available and excellent marine vinyls.*

**Las Nuevas Botas:** Centro, Centro Commercial El Cañonazo, Kra 11 No. 32C-49 Apto 19. **Tel: 664 0373 Cel: 315 682 7681.**

**CoralCosta: Pie de la Popa Cl. 30 ##18A-174 tel (5) 6562530**  
Large selection of household fabrics and decorating items.

## **SEWING MACHINE REPAIRS AND SERVICE**

**Taller de coser Hernandez.** Turbaco, Barrio Bellavista, Clle Principal No. 13B-76 **WhatsApp/cel: +57 302 4244179.** Denizar Hernandez will come to Club Nautico/Club de pesca. Excellent!

## **36. Seamstress**

**Creaciones ROXANA:** Centro Comercial Getsemani, N1A 07. 'Roxy' does fine work altering and/or making clothes for both ladies/girls and gents.

**Johana Fashion.** Inirida Diaz Angulo Nuevo Bosque Mza. 25 Lt 15 etapa 1a. **Cel: 300 804 7901.**  
email [johanafashion31@latinmail.com](mailto:johanafashion31@latinmail.com)

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## 37. Rigging

There is no (as yet) professional rigging shop in Cartagena (maybe things are changing—see below). The people mentioned below are willing assistants and can offer limited recommendations. We would advise that all cruisers check their rigging themselves, possibly with advice from other cruisers with greater experience.

**Alexander Jory WhatsApp + 57 321 5470094** . Complimented highly by owner of lagoon 42 Catamaran who compared him to some of the best he had encountered in the USA. This was for rig tuning. Also recommended for rigging repairs (including roller furling gear).

**GianLuigi WhatsApp +57 300 3421267** recommended by several local sailors. Italian spoken. Very knowledgeable.

More economical hands-on assistance (they climb the masts!):

**Mario Julio:** A rigger working at Club de Pesca.

**Eugenio Montoya: WhatsApp +57 311 4391026** a regatta enthusiast. A local gentleman sailor with considerable experience.

Often to be found near Club Nautico: lives onboard his anchored sailboat (Platano)

**Ariel Palacio: WhatsApp: +57 300 4210737** Source of willing and competent assistance. Usually brings kit to climb masts solo. Some English

### Rigging Fabrications.

**Ignacio Sierra Ltda.** Bosque, Av. Pedro Velez, Can fabricate many useful rigging items for good prices.

**Seridme (CAD Fabrications)** see Engineering above

Importing rigging can be arranged simply using ([www.sailingservices.com](http://www.sailingservices.com)) **Sailing Services (Florida USA)** delivered through a freight forwarder in Miami (see **Importing #43**). Should take no more than 2 weeks. Discuss best delivery options (#43) .

Sailing Services also has a branch in Connecticut (USA) that is sometimes preferred. Used by Defender marine. 316 stainless steel rigging wire supplied on 2 recent occasions (2021) tarnished over a few months so it is important to verify the source of the rigging wire beforehand.

## 38. Computer Repair/Supplies

**Centro UNO, Centro, Sector La Matuna, Av Venezuela** Second floor. Full of computer stores. Try **COMPULAGO** (REP. LUIS speaks English) Tel: **660 2294**. Good local technical support here

**Felix Malo: WhatsApp +57 316 9385000**. Capable: often assisting the marina. Felix fixes hardware and software problems including wifi configuration issues. Speaks reasonable English. Has a locale in the Centro Comerical Getsemani.

**Centro Commercial Getsemani.** The area off of Calle Largo is flourishing with repair facilities. Fair prices.

**COMPUCLINICA: Tel/Fax 664 1147 Cel: 316 816 6253**. Tech Javier speaks very good English..

## 39. Cleaning/Laundry

**Lavatu:** On the Arsenal bay side road (calle 24), close to Puente Roman. Convenient for those anchored nearby

**Quintas de la Real** : Intersection between Calle 25 and Carrera 18. Friendly and economical (ref SV Happy Hour 2023)

**Club Nautico Laundry service (LAVANDERIA NAUTICA) WhatsApp +57 300 1354760** 24 hr turnaround. Offsite. Pick up (at Club Nautico Marina) and deliver next day.

CARPET CLEANING

**Note:** all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone

**Lavamos C.H.** Manga, Av. Jimenez No.20-55, **Tel: 660 4020**, Sr. Cesar Herrera.

DRY CLEANING

**LavoMatic:** Manga, inside Carulla supermarket (also does regular laundry). Open 8 am – 8 pm, MonSat.

**Lava-seco:** Manga, Calle Real No.21-23, **Tel: 660 6131**.

**Costamatic:** Centro, Av. Daniel Lemaitre, Cl 32 No.9-60, beside Banco del Estado (multistory building). **Tel: 664 6488**.

### **Boat Cleaning:**

a new company is providing this service. Worth checking. Pending feedback

**ELI-te Cleaning services +57 315 4190034.**

## **40. Charts**

**Escuela Naval Hydrographic Dept.** CIOH, Manzanillo. **Tel: 669 4104**. They have a beautiful chart books (Colombian Charts) available at very reasonable prices. Charts are high quality. Remember that you can download free of charge the official recreational sailing guide to Colombia which includes charts:

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sxXWQjJ\\_f8kPg\\_t8FL9NI2Ff0cu2hXBF/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sxXWQjJ_f8kPg_t8FL9NI2Ff0cu2hXBF/view)

## **41. Radio Nets and Weather**

**David Jones Weather:** 0730 local time on 8104.0, 0800 local time on 12.365

**George.** 06.15 local 7241LSB switching to 7086 LSB at about 06.25 local.

[www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/swatlanticbrief.shtml](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/swatlanticbrief.shtml) This is the source of the above weather info.

## **42. Copies**

There are many places to get copies made in Manga, Centro, and Bocagrande. The internet café at the Carulla supermarket in Manga makes copies of regular-sized documents. For special needs:

**Ingenierio Y Deseno.** Centro Commercial Getsemani. **Tel: 660 2473**. Upstairs at Calle Larga entrance. Excellent value and quality and only a short walk from marinas. They can copy any size chart. Ask for Alvaro who speaks English.

**Aurora:** Centro, Calle de Colegio/Porvenir, next to the University law school.

## **43. Importing into Colombia**

**Yacht in transit status is not always recognised**

**Always check with your maritime agent before sending anything of value through the express carriers** (primarily Fedex and DHL).

Be very careful about importing items like sails. Imported textiles are seen as competing with local manufacture and subject to higher import charges. In this case we suggest you also talk to specialized forwarding agents based in Florida before deciding to use an express service such as Fedex or DHL.

Recommended forwarding agents include **Javier Hoyos** (see below) or **Costa Courier** (based in Miami but with no English spoken!!) who can arrange delivery and clearance with a minimum of fuss at very competitive rates.

For rigging we recommend Sailing Services in Miami or Conecticut (we had a recent very good experience with them: **Javier** arranging deliver though his company in Miami).

### **FREIGHT FORWARDER SERVICES BASED IN MIAMI (effective economical delivery solution)**

Rates vary between 3.00 usd per lb and 7.00us per lb delivered (no extras). Occasional limits of weight and value: check beforehand.

**Note: all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone**

**Javier Hoyos, WhatsApp +57 315 731 9614**

E-mail: [roundservice@gmail.com](mailto:roundservice@gmail.com) Javier has made importing into Cartagena comparable to services available in Panama.. Contact to receive mail and to import goods for yachts in transit. He speaks good English. Tell him exactly what you're planning to import (including dimensions) and whether insurance is required. **Follow his instructions to the letter.**

**Costa Courier: Tel: /WhatsApp +1 (786) 488 8637** similar to Javier (above) but communications through their Miami office (no English spoken!). Economical freight forwarder option recommended by Kenny (SV MAKAI). **Roughly 3.50 usd per lb delivered (a min charge is applicable)**

**Dima Cargo: Tel +1 (305) 7763058 (WA) "Mike Quintero from DIMA cargo can get things to you from the US ". Competitive! [www.dima-cargo.com](http://www.dima-cargo.com)**

**Fedex** is your clear choice for urgent deliveries, getting credit cards,

*For those staying long term in Cartagena the FLYBOX service operated through the national airline Avianca may be a good choice> <https://www.flybox.co/>*

**43A. LEGAL**

**Owen Taylor: +57 322 78433219**

**A Bogota based lawyer with a great reputation for assisting with immigration issues. (recommended SV Makai, SV Three Ships)**

**44. Medical**

A full range of medical facilities are available in Cartagena. Dental work is excellent value with the most up-to-date equipment; well trained dentists, many from the University of Cartagena with its national reputation as a center of excellence. Cosmetic surgery and skin cancer treatment are good, as is Lasik eye surgery, which corrects near and farsighted vision in an operation barely lasting 10 minutes; burning a surprisingly small hole in your pocket!

**Pharmacies are everywhere and you will find most of your prescription needs available and reasonably priced. Prices vary considerably among the pharmacies, and even among branches of the same pharmacy. It pays to shop around. Many drugs that are prescription only in other countries can be purchased over-the-counter in Colombia. Most pharmacies have reference books to find a generic equivalent of name-brand drugs.**

**HOSPITALS & EMERGENCY**

Before they will accept a patient **all hospitals require identification and some payment guarantee.** Basic observation and minor injury treatment (including precautionary X-Rays) at a mid-range clinic (Clinica Ami below) will cost roughly \$300US per day. In the case of **Clinica Ami**, a family member or friend must stay with the patient (and assist doctors and nurses) until observation period is concluded.

Costs for **Hospital Bocagrande** will be higher; **intensive care treatment can be multiple times higher! If patients (or their guardians) cannot show adequate financial means there is the risk of summary transfer to a poorly equipped public hospital.** Keep your international insurance up to date or affiliate yourself with a local insurance provider (or reserve adequate funds to self-insure).

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**House/Boat Calls.**

**Cartagena MD services. [WWW.CGNAMD.COM](http://WWW.CGNAMD.COM) (Informative website in English).**

**WhatsApp +57 305 2972972. E-mail: [contact@cgnamd.com](mailto:contact@cgnamd.com). 24 hr on call doctor.** Will do house/boat calls. Perfect English. Well connected to medical community for referrals

**Note: all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone**

(recommended by Michelle (Philani) **Dr. Robin Strosberg** WhatsApp +57 305 2972972 (good recent feedback from SV Sorcery and SV Celeste (2024)

**Agility Medical Care:** Another option for house/boat calls. Dra. Kimberley Frias Yepes.

WhatsApp +57 310 2382383 also 305 2102344 [www.agilitypremium.com](http://www.agilitypremium.com)  
[gerencia@agilitypremium.com](mailto:gerencia@agilitypremium.com)

#### Hospitals/Clinics.

**Medihelp Services Colombia:** Bocagrande, Cr.6 5-101 Tel: (605 prefix if using cell phone)665 2538, 665 2549. Best equipped, if cost is no object. **Best place for Covid test.**

**Hospital Naval:** Bocagrande, emergency clinic. A military hospital open to general public.

**Hospital Bocagrande:** Bocagrande, Calle 5 & Cra. 6.

**Hospital Universitaria del Caribe.** Barrio Zaragozilla, Cl 29 50 -50 tel 6724340 (prefix with 605 if calling from Cellphone) **Clinica Urgencias:** Manga, Av. Jimenez, Tel: 660 4588. 24 hr. emergency clinic.

**Clinica de Fracturas:** Manga, Calle 26 No. 15-73 across the street from Clinica Urgencias. Tel: 660 5652, 660 6011. (prefix 605 if calling from cellphone) Emergencies, x-rays, reconstructive surgery, lab.

**Dr. Miranda WhatsApp +57 312 6446577.** A Young doctor who sorted out a foreign object foot injury in minutes (when others were dalying with pre op protocol and tests). Bright, energetic and able. Limited English. Deserves a mention for those tired of medical procrastination with minor issues.

**Maria Auxiliadora: Clinica de la Mujer (Women's clinic)** Alcibia, Av. Pedro de Heredia, Tel: 662 4954. (prefix 605 if calling from a local cell phone)

#### **CARDIOVASCULAR**

##### **CLINICA AMI**

Carrera 21 #30-29, La Popa, Clínica Ami, Consultorio 207, Cartagena  
Teléfonos

+57 (5) 6562007 +57 (5) 6580300 +57 (5) 6664111 .

Note: If Calling from a local cellphone change +57 (5) for 605

e-mail: [uccltda@hotmail.com](mailto:uccltda@hotmail.com)

#### **CHIROPRACTOR**

##### **(Quiropraxis): ALSO Acupuncture, Homeopathy etc**

**SIMILIA.** Dra Katya Velez Garces and Dr. Aristides Alfonso Saldarriaga. **Pie de La Popa** (this barrio adjoins Manga), Callejon Lequerica, Transversal N20 -96 Tel. 660 1164  
Cel: 301 424 5011, 300 814 2949, 310 635 5722.

#### **DERMATOLOGIST**

**Luis Miguel Covo Segrera:** Bocagrande, Centro Medico, Calle 5 No. 6ª. Tel: 665 0410 (prefix 605 if calling from Celphone). WhatsApp +57 312 6697144. [lumico@costa.net.co](mailto:lumico@costa.net.co). Speaks English. Excellent references. However he has become so popular you may need to wait a few days for an appointment.

#### **DENTIST**

##### **In Manga**

**Ortostonrisas.** 23-25 Calle 25, Manga (actually just around corner on Cra 16 before Texaco gas station (heading to centro). **Open 24 hrs.** Cel. 3015168195. 10 mins walk from Club Nautico.

Comment from Catamaran Theis (2019): ‘**Pedro** did excellent work at unbeatable prices early a.m.’

**Yesica Fajardos, Dental Plus:** Manga, CrA 17 Av. Pastellilo. (next to Mimo's ice cream.). **E-Mail:**

[yesicafajardos@yahoo.com](mailto:yesicafajardos@yahoo.com) Tel: 660 5366. Cel: 300 271 3358. Great and convenient for routine dentistry and cleaning.

Note: all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone



**Andres Pineda. Edificio SEAPORT 3, Oficina 15-06, Manga calle 28 #27-23.** Great with root canals and metalless crowns. Modern well equipped. [apinedaodontologia@gmail.com](mailto:apinedaodontologia@gmail.com)

**WhatsApp +57 320 7497293**

Further afield with excellent reputations

**Ramirez Acosto Ricardo (known as Dr. Ricardo):** Centro Medico Los Ejecutivos (a good residencial area 15 mins taxi ride away (or an easy stop on the Transcribe bus (101, 106) leaving from the center), Consultorio 201. **Tel: 661 3455.** Speaks a little English only. A one-stop dentist: root canals and crowns a specialty. Very careful/methodical work, and great value. Great feedback.

**Dental Spa, Eduardo Covo Morales/Felipe Frieri:** Bocagrande (Castillo Grande), Av. Pinango Calle 5A #6-108. **Tel: 665 2778 Cel: 303 535 7602** [ffodontologo@yahoo.com](mailto:ffodontologo@yahoo.com). [www.felipefrieri.com](http://www.felipefrieri.com).

Best to contact by e-mail, suggesting a time/date; he responds quickly. Speaks English.

**Felipe Frieri and his associate Eduardo Covo Morales** are highly recommended by many cruisers for everything to from the essential to the cosmetic. High end.

## **ENDOCRINOLOGY (ENDOCTRINOLOGIST)**

**Villalba Yabrudy Ladina:** Centro Diagnostico Cardiologico, Castillo Grande Cl. 5 No.6-47. **Tel: 655 0515.** Some English.

## **EAR, NOSE AND THROAT**

**Luis Fernando Padilla, MD:** Centro Medico PRISMA Consultorio 501 **Tel: 665 6425.** Very well equipped, modern clinic. Very competent young doctor who speaks good English. Recommended by SV New Morning.

**Faustino Espana Fernandez:** Centro Medico Bocagrande, Calle 5 No. 6<sup>a</sup>-19, Consultorio 504. **Tel: 665 4900.** Had the grace to recommend the above when his English was found wanting. For Spanish speakers well recommended.

## **GYNOCOLOGY (GINECOLOGIST)**

**Orlando Bustillo Jr. MD:** Centro Medico Bocagrande, Unidad de Ginecologia y Obstetricia, Calle 5 No. 6<sup>a</sup>-19 Consultorio 308. Reservations **665 7095; Cel: 315 734 0835.** [www.gobustillo.com](http://www.gobustillo.com). He speaks English though his staff does not. Recommended by Patience, Akka, (2009).

**Dr. Nestor Martinez Pizarro:** Centro Medico Bocagrande, Ginecologo/Obstetra Consultorio 503. **Tel: 665 7369.** E-mail: [nemap152@yahoo.com](mailto:nemap152@yahoo.com) US trained.

**Note for women and those who love them:** There is a blood test for early detection of ovarian cancer called CA125. This is generally not available or ordered in the US because of possible false positive results. However, it is the only early warning test available, so. Understanding that a positive result may be false and a re-test should be performed, you may want to take advantage of the ability to have this screening while in Cartagena.

## **OPTOMETRY**

**Dr. Alvaro Perez MD: Centro de Glaucoma.** MANGA, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue No. 21-88 **Tel: 664-3011 6604531** Cel. 300-77979199 E-mail: [info@centrodeglaucoma.com](mailto:info@centrodeglaucoma.com). He is an ophthalmologist and his wife Dr. Linda Fernanda Moreno, an optometrist. ('I would highly recommend his services.' SV Will o the Wisp.)

**Optika Reflejos:** Centro, Calle Roman No 5-38. (Through the clock tower gate, it's the street on the far right of the big building of shops.) **Tel: 664 9634 , 664 0272. Dra. Gloria Amparo Diaz,** the owner, is charming and her exam was very thorough. Prices were 20 to 25% cheaper than Caribe Plaza Centro Comercial Bocagrande opticians. 'Service was quick and all of the staff went out of their way to help, despite language differences'. Very good value.

## **ORTHOPEDIC SURGERY**

**Jaime Valiente, MD:** Centro Medico Comfenalco. **Cel: 310 367 6817.** Very good English, Excellent care (Suzanne, SV Trio).

**Note: all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone**

**Edgardo Rivera, MD: Clinica AMI** , Pie de la Popa. **Tel: 656 2747**. Speaks very good English. Runs and attends med conferences in the US.

**Clinica ASIMED:** Manga, Av. Jimenez. **Tel: 660 9461**. Advisable to make an appointment before going. Some Spanish useful.

**Osteopath** <https://www.probodyone.com.co/osteopatia>

**Fabrice Lefèvre**

Posture, Sciatica, Back injuries, Neurological issue resulting from compression or pinched nerves. Osteopathy to assist digestive system.

Note. Recent request for this service. Need feedback. (Dec 2019)

(reminder: all 7 figure telephone numbers beginning with #6 require the prefix 605 if calling from a cellphone)

### **PLASTIC SURGERY**

**Dr. Pedro Camacho Lopez:** Centro Medico Bocagrande, Consultorio 507. **Tel: 665 2318, 665 1363 ext 57** Spanish speaking only but works closely with CN favorite Dermatologist Dr Covo Segrero who speaks excellent English.

**Luis Eduardo Bermudez:** **Tel: 483 7165; 213 5125; 691 9021 (in Bogotá).** **E mail:**

[bermudez@cirustetic.com](mailto:bermudez@cirustetic.com) [colombiaestetica@yahoo.es](mailto:colombiaestetica@yahoo.es) Works with clinics in Bogotá and Cartagena. Highly recommended by Australians Ernie and Julie (SV Sovereign 2).

### **LASIK EYE SURGERY**

**Clinica Oftamologica de Cartagena:** Pie de La Popa, Calle 30. **Tel: 656 0290; 656 0291,** **Email:**[clinoftaletgred.net.co](mailto:clinoftaletgred.net.co), Drs. Rolando Bechara & Carlos Alfonso. They are very experienced in Lasik eye surgery. Those thinking of eye surgery(at prices substantially less than the USA) should not overlook the internationally known centers of excellence in Bogota.

### **UROLOGY**

**UROHELP:** Bocagrande Centro Urologico Integral Cr.6A N0.5-101. **Tel: 665 7565. E-mail:**

[info@medihelpservices.com](mailto:info@medihelpservices.com) [www.medihelpservices.com](http://www.medihelpservices.com). Dr Gabriel de Leon Manotas. Very well-equipped and efficient. Dr Gabriel speaks some English and has an effective interpreter. **Dr. Antonio Velilla:** Centro Medico Bocagrande, Cr.6A N0.5. **Tel: 665 7290.**

### **PHYSICAL THERAPY**

**Jorge Vasquez Ramirez, MD** Manga, 4 Callejon #26-56. **Cel: 315 727-6415; Tel: 656-3701.** Close to Club Nautico. Orthopedist, specializing in foot and heel problems, Sets broken bones, does physical therapy. Highly recommended, 2009. Spanish only.

**Rehaz/Physical Therapy C. Mover:** (near Castillo San Felipe) Pie del Cerro, Barrio El Espinal, Calle 30 No. 14-43. **Tel: 646 4664 656 0494.** Excellent 1 on 1 care. Complete P.T. center with modern equipment. Spanish speaking only but usually there are English-speaking clients available to help out. Charges approx 30,000 pesos per session (\$15US) (info Suzanne, SV Trio.)

**Dra. Liliana Bajaire:** Centro Comercial Bocagrande.

**Sra. Ericka Zabaleta (massage therapist):** Manga, **Tel: 660 6592; 666 2509 (Casa).**

### **LABS/TESTS**

There are many labs from which to choose. Here are some suggestions:

**Laboratorio Clinico:** Centro Comercial, Getsemani, 2B-04 second floor. **Tel: 664 4546.** Dr. Javier Palacio Vargas speaks some English. All the usual tests: blood, urine, throat, cultures. Easy 10 minute walk. Results in 24 hours.

**Escanografia Bocagrande** Calle 5 #6-111 (across from the Centro Medico. **Tel: 665 7736; 665 3436. E-mail:** [escanobgde@telecom.com.co](mailto:escanobgde@telecom.com.co). Dr. Arnold Puello Benedetti. Latest equipment for mammograms and sonograms. Little English spoken by reception staff, but very

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accommodating to foreigners, offering discounts (mammograms for 130,000 pesos in 2009.) No referral (prescription) is needed.

## **INNOCULATION**

**CENTRO Integral de Vacunacion:** Edificio(building) Citibank, Piso (floor) 4. Cel: **300 818 7100; 316 317 3629**. Offers all the major vaccinations.

## **MEDICAL SUPPLIES**

**ORCA:** Next to **C.Mover** (See above under Physical Therapy).

### **Note concerning prostitution:**

*Club Nautico marina is against the use of our premises for soliciting and will disallow the entry of persons plainly engaged in prostitution. **We are is strongly against (as is the law) the involvement of minors (less than 18 years old) in prostitution. Identification may be requested in certain cases; tact being of secondary consideration.***

## **45. Veterinary Clinics**

**Note!** Heartworm is alive and well in Colombia! Be sure your pet is treated monthly. Also, ticks are plentiful here. "Frontline", an effective topical flea and tick medication that is applied every six weeks or so, is readily available at vet clinics and pet stores.

**Guau (woof in Spanish!).** Manga Cl 24 A 20-23 , Avenida Jimenez. (605) 6436149. Currently your top choice in Manga. Closest to the marinas.

**Mascotas:** Manga,. **Tel: 660 5026; 660 6344.** Dr. Santa Maria. Excellent clinic open 24 hrs. for emergencies with on-site lab and x-ray. Recommended by Verite,2009

## **46. Telephones.**

Colombia Country Code: **57**. Cartagena: **5**

CALLING LOCAL (Cartagena and Barranquilla) fixed lines from local cellphones: **Prefix 605 (for Bogota this would be 601, Medellin 604 etc)**

Sim cards and data packages can be purchased from local vendors **but must be registered within 2 days.**

You might be better off taking the 15 minute walk to Caribe Plaza and obtaining your sim card from PanAmericana where it can be registered at the same time. Your Maritime agency should be happy to assist you on this.

The restaurant MABARE (**MarinaBarRestaurant**) at Club Nautico has an open hotspot. Enjoy a cold one while calling home.

**To place calls to fixed line phones from a cell phone, dial 035 before the 7-digit number.**

**INTERNATIONAL CALLS FROM CELL PHONES.** International calls:

**Comcel:**       **00 444** (then country code and number)

**TIGO:**       **00 414** (then country code and number)

**Movistar:**   **00 9** (then country code and number)

## **47. Internet Cafes**

The restaurant MABARE (MarinaBarRestaurant) at Club Nautico has an open hotspot.

Enjoy a cold one while calling home.

**Carulla supermarket (close to Club Nautico):** still operates Internet booths

**Probably best to get a SIM card from the cell providers (Panamericana at Caribe Plaza is helpful and has agents working with most cell providers) . This sim card needs to be registered so best to do this at Panamericana.**

## **48. Post Office**

**The Postal Network 472 Colombia** Address: Cl. 32 #10B-04. **La Matuna**

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La Matuna area of old city dividing Getsemani from El Centro, close to Perimeter Road Cra. 11, Cl. 35 (not CL32 as published address would suggest).

**Teléfono:** (5) 6608777. 0900 to 1800 Monday to Saturdays. Much much cheaper than Fedex! Expect to wait a few minutes but worth it!

## **49. Tourist Information**

There is a tourist information booth just inside the Torre de Reloj gate to the Old City (Centro). The main tourist information office is in Plaza de la Aduana.

At the tourist information offices and at many hotels, you can get:

### **BACKGROUND READING ABOUT CARTAGENA**

**Cartagena de Indias, City of a Thousand Wonders** A tourist guide that can be found in small shops selling tickets for boat rides and in racks at newspaper and magazine stands.

**A Brief History of Cartagena**, by Eduardo Lemaitre. The green copy is in English and **available from El Palacio del Inquisicion in Plaza Bolivar**. An excellent, readable short history of the city from its discovery through to colonization with its gold, pirates, independence, and days of the republic.

### **TOUR GUIDES**

Many knowledgeable tour guides eagerly await your business. As “personality” factors into the success of a trip, be it a half-day city tour, eco tour, or emerald-buying spree. We feel it’s best to advise you to ask others who “have done it”, who they used and how they fared. Be sure you clearly state your desires—what you have in mind. Agree a price before going.

### **SOME HIGHLIGHTS**

You can spend weeks exploring this fascinating city. While every church is worth exploring, make a point of visiting San Pedro Claver in Plaza de San Pedro Claver, and the Cathedral in Plaza Bolivar. Here are some of the historical highlights that should not be missed:

**Museo Naval:** Located in Plaza Santa Teresa, just behind Iglesia San Pedro Claver. **Iris** is an excellent English-speaking tour guide and can explain the many interesting displays. He is also available to give a walking history tour of the center.

**Museo de Oro:** Plaza Bolivar. Free admission. With more than just gold, the museum has interesting models of Indian communities and an historic overview of the Zenu society and their amazing flood control, gold and weaving. You can ask for an English overview of each of the 3 exhibit rooms. Closed Sundays and Mondays.

**Palacio de la Inquisición:** Plaza Bolivar. Fascinating and gruesome.

**Castillo San Felipe:** The largest fort in the city, this makes for a great early morning walk. Beautiful view of the city. Seeing this on a “cruise ship day” should allow you to tag along and have a guided tour! Bring a flashlight—it’s riddled with tunnels!

**Museo de Arte Moderno:** Plaza de San Pedro de Claver. Beautiful gift shop next door featuring fine quality Colombian craftwork.

**Teatro Heredia:** Check for special cultural events in a classical setting.

**Centro de Convenciones:** Modern event center.

**El Convento de la Popa:** For its history and panoramic view of the city, La Popa is a must! A taxi can take you up; the drive is breathtaking! Do not walk up or down from here – the barrio at the bottom of the hill is said to be very dangerous!

**Casa del Marqués de Valdehoyos,** Calle de la Factoria. Colonial aristocrats’ house.



## 50. Spanish Lessons

**Universidad Tecnológico de Bolívar:** Manga, Calle del Bouquet Cra.21 No. 2-92. **Tel: 660 6041 Ext. 433 Fax. 660 4317. E-mail: [everano@unitecnologica.edu.co](mailto:everano@unitecnologica.edu.co)** Their base in Manga offers occasional intensive Spanish classes (summer school).

## 51. Haircuts, Manicures, Pedicures

**Caribian:** Manga, Av. de la Asamblea No.27-71. **Tel: 650 0040 Cel: 300 801 8571.** Contact: Delcy (no English). Unisex, Facials, foot/hand spas, sauna, etc. 5 mins walk to spoil yourself,

**Moustache.** Both men and ladies. Manga, 4<sup>th</sup> avenue Edificio Pertuz :20-66 300 8376530

## 52. Swimming

Feeling land-locked in the marina? For you water-lovers, there are some options!

**Bocagrande** The beaches on Bocagrande are all free and open to the public. They are, however, often overrun by vendors offering foods, body-rubs, sun-shades, etc. **La Boquilla:** You can spend a great day at the beach here too.

**Hilton Hotel** Bocagrande. Looks out-dated, but has several beautiful swimming pools and a very nice section of private beach. \$80,000 (\$25 usd) pesos buys you a day's access to their recreational facilities plus some small discounts on drinks and spa facilities.

**Hotel Caribe:** Bocagrande. Day pass (135,000 (\$40 usd) with buffet lunch included) Access to decent sized pool with swim lanes, lounge chairs, gym and showers. If staying long-term ask if there are special monthly rates.

## 53. Hotels (5 star!) and Hostals (2/3 star)

Hint: Hotel tour offices are a good way to book a day trip or week-long getaway.

**Hotel Caribe: Bocagrande, Tel: 665 0155; 665 1160.** The "Grand Dame" of Cartagena's hotels, it has 40's charm with modern facilities. Unique grounds with caged animals and birds. Laned swimming pool.

**Hotel Santa Clara:** Centro, Plaza San Diego, Calle de Toro, Cr 8 #39-29. **Tel: (035 prefix if using cell phone) 650 4700; 664 8040.** Exquisitely restored convent with fabulous grounds and services.

Don't miss at least seeing the bar with tombs down the stairs! If you need to ask the price....!!

Really close to the marinas:

**Hostal Plaza, Manga Cra. 19 # 24-02 Callejon,** cel 310 8167950, 301 5543243 . Literally 1 min walk from Club Nautico. Nice traditional house, Kitchen facilities, Bicycles to rent. Good staff. [www.plazahotel.com](http://www.plazahotel.com)

**Hotel (Hostal) Casa de las Palmas:** Getsemani, Callejon de las Palmas (40yds off Calle Larga, ).

**Tel: 6643630; 664 1765.** Family atmosphere. Nice ambience, Rooms incl AC, cable TV start at \$25,000 pesos (\$65US) inc. b'fast.

**Many new trendy hostel/hotels in Getsemani area.** Go and have a look.

## 54. Exercise Classes



There are a surprising number of opportunities to join an exercise class within walking distance to your marina! Call for times as they may change.

**Walk the Wall!** If you're an early riser you can make the perimeter of the entire old city before it gets too hot! Later in the day, wait until about 4pm. The walk from Manga around the wall and back is approximately 4 miles. Takes about 1hr.30 mins. Just the wall alone takes 50 mins. Very nice with all the birdlife and views (SY Stardust 2019).

**Yoga:** Manga, Centro Armonico de Desarrollo Humano, Callejon Santa Clara, Cra 19. 24-37. (A block from Club Nautico.) **Tel: 660 4827. Email: [cadh44@hotmail.com](mailto:cadh44@hotmail.com)**. Owner/instructor **Eduardo** teaches in Spanish with a smattering of English.

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Excellent manner and teaching style. Delivers the essence of yoga — nonjudgmental awareness, detachment, connection between the exterior and interior worlds. Also dance and martial arts classes, aromatherapy, acupuncture, Reiki treatments. MWF at 7 AM.

**Aerobics:** Aerobic class outside at the south end of the malecon, weekdays at 5AM.

**Yoga and T'ai Chi Classes:** Manga, 4 Callejon de Manga #27-82. **Tel: 660 0690.**

**Bodytech Centro Deportivo:** Caribe Plaza Mall. Very well-equipped and trendy exercise club.

**Fitness Venture Gym:** Bocagrande, Av. San Martin Centro Cial. El Pueblito, 2nd Floor. **Tel: 655 0792/ 665 5979.** (There is no sign so just go to 2nd floor). Very well-equipped, great atmosphere and instructors. Highly recommended by SV Bruja.

## 55. Theater & Movies

**CineColombia:** Caribe Plaza Mall. [www.cinecaribe.com](http://www.cinecaribe.com) for showtimes and reservations. Wear a sweater – the a/c is fierce!

**Teatro Heredia:** Centro, Cl 323 Plaza de Aduana. Check the local newspaper, El Universal, for concerts, dance and ballet. This elegant theater is located in a lovely part of the old city. The shows are often very special and worthy of a stylish night out.

**La Presentacion** (<https://lapresentacion.art/>) Informal concerts and performances 3 x weekly in the evening. Normally free in a nice setting. Glasses of wine available while you listen.(SV Stardust 2019)

## 56. Night Life

In Cartagena, the night is young at 11PM (after the current curfew hour of 10 PM), so if you partake of 'the night life', plan on staying up late! (And if you do, use good judgment and take a taxi back to the marina.) Bocagrande is the place to be for tourists' bars and discos. In Centro, the old city, you will find many off-beat places that cater to the large student population and the 'less packaged' visitors!

**Leon de Bavaria.** Calle Arsenal, Getsemani. A popular happy hour meeting point for cruisers every Thursday

**Baluarte de San Francisco** Centro, Plaza Santa Teresa with a bea**Art Gallery : Agua de Lluvia:** Calle del Santisimo No. 8-19. Excellent & unusual high quality crafts, fabrics, pottery, woodwork. utiful view on top of the wall across from the Hotel Charleston. A great spot to enjoy an after dinner drink, live music and Spanish dancing.

**La Tarzana:** Centro, Plaza de los Coches. 100% Salsa Club.

**Quiebra Canto, Café Galeria:** Getsemani, Cra 8B25-110, Edificio Puerta del Sol. **Tel: (035 prefix if using cell phone) 664-1372.** Beside the old Teatro Cartagena facing the avenue between Parque Centenario and Muelle Pegasus. Typical salsa bar. Plenty of local color and a good mix of people. Nice view from the balcony.

**La Havana:** Getsemaní, Calle Media Luna y Calle del Guerrero. [www.cafehavanacartagena.com](http://www.cafehavanacartagena.com). Live music in typical Cuban ambience. Good & of course, inexpensive mojitos. Dodgy neighbourhood in the past but going trendy upmarket quickly– use taxis to and from.

**Av. del Arsenal Playa:** The street along the waterfront in Getsemani on the way to Centro has many clubs, bars, and eateries.

**Area surrounding the Trinidad church in Getsemani:** popular for bars, classy restaurants, and people watching.

## 57. Restaurants

Where to begin? With such a variety of restaurants in Cartagena—Chinese, French, Italian, Spanish, Middle Eastern and more, deciding to eat out poses a problem--“Which restaurant tonight?” Most restaurants here charge a 8% tax and the standard tip (“propina”) is 10%. Many restaurants add the propina onto the bill – it’s your responsibility to check. Like other Latin American countries, it is necessary to ask for ‘la cuenta’, the bill, in order for it to be brought to your table when you have finished your meal. Don’t plan on eating dinner much before 7PM as many restaurants don’t even open till then or later, and you’ll likely be the only occupied table at that time!

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**Small restaurants throughout town advertise ‘comida corriente’.** This is typical Colombian fare, usually a complete meal including soup, rice, patacones (fried plantain) and meat, chicken or fish, for a very reasonable price-- \$3-4 US. Great for lunches! Following is a small sample of some favorites among cruisers and locals. Each ‘\$’ symbol represents approximately \$10 US per dinner. “Buen provecho!” **(And yes, you can drink the local water: it’s quite good & cheaper than the small bottles available.)**

#### **A small sample!**

- \$ Narcobollo:** Avenida Jimenez, Manga. 5 min walk from marina. **Mostly a lunch place.** Good variety of TYPICAL local food. **Name hides a fascinating history.**  
[www.narcobollo.com/narcobollo](http://www.narcobollo.com/narcobollo)
- \$ Chiladas: Burritas and Nachos.** A great place to grab a bite in the day or evening. Infront of Club Nautico Or: Av Venezuela, Cl. 35 #8b-05, (Very close to the clock tower and Parque Centenario) **Cel: 300 8198498**
- \$ Mi Dulce Café:** Bocagrande, Calle 6-A, Carrera 6 #3-2. **Tel: 665 2827 Sylvia.** Good food.  
Also a training center for women in distress. A day care for worker’ children is behind the restaurant.
- \$ Crepes and Waffles.** Two locations: Bocagrande, Calle 3 No. 4–76 and Caribe Plaza Mall. If you’re in the mood for a gourmet ice cream sundae, this is the place. But there’s also a huge selection of main course crepes, pitas, dessert crepes, blintzes, entrée salads. Cruisers’ favorite and extremely reasonable.
- \$\$ Mabare. Actually the Club Nautico marina bar restaurant.** A haven away from the midday heat. Great Pepper and Sizzler steaks. Comfortable and with free open wifi internet.
- \$\$\$ El Mardeleva** Centro, San Diego, Cra. 9 ## 37-16, Cartagena, Good seafood restaurant with lovely ambiance. Cel 320 2468870
- \$\$\$ San Pedro** Plaza San Pedro. ‘Their Tiramisu was to die for’. Excellent TEL(035 prefix if using cell phone): 664 5121
- \$\$\$ Quebracho** Centro, Calle Baloco 2, near Hotel Charleston (Sta, Teresita), 664 1300, 664 1190 wonderful “Lechoncito,” roast baby suckling pig, good chicken dishes, osso buco. Great atmosphere. Ask for Rosita, who speaks excellent English.
- \$\$\$\$ La Vitrola** Calle Baloco, Centro. Great ambience including occasional live music. Excellent. TEL 6648243
- \$\$\$\$ Hotel Santa Clara** Centro, Plaza San Diego. A super Sunday brunch buffet starts at 11:30.  
Very good.

## **58. Shopping**

There are simply too many fine stores to list in depth, and discovering them on your own is part of the fun. Following are some shops that have been recommended more than once by cruisers. **Buyer beware!**

### **LOCAL ARTS & CRAFTS**

**Artesanias Tradicionales Colombianas(ARTC):** Centro, Calle Sta. Teresa, Casa Mapfre, Local 3 **Tel: 6662541 Cel: 300 312 8101** e-mail [marypz\\_2@latinmail.com](mailto:marypz_2@latinmail.com). Mola bags, molas, cushion making etc (Mary).

**Las Bovedas:** Centro, in the wall at the waterfront. A huge “mall of stalls”, somewhat repetitive but there are some fine things to be had. Avoid cruise ship days. Store #13, **El Cacique**, is owned by **Luis Restrepo**, a very nice, helpful man who speaks very good English.

**Art Gallery : Agua de Lluvia:** Calle del Santisimo No. 8-19. Excellent & unusual high quality crafts, fabrics, pottery, woodwork.

**Gallery del Cano:** Centro, Plaza Bolivar next door to the Gold Museum. Finely crafted true Colombian crafts. Also beautiful copies of pre-Colombian jewelry. Higher prices. A smaller store is located in the Hotel Santa Clara.

**Art Cartagena:** Centro, Claustro de la Merced (beside the Teatro Heredia). **Cel: 315 718 9483; 315 557 6088. E-Mail: [normauparela@hotmail.com](mailto:normauparela@hotmail.com); [www.artcartagena.com](http://www.artcartagena.com).** Norma Uparela Brid.

Select gallery showing some of Cartagena’s best creative talent.

**Artesenias El Sinuano:** Centro, Calle de la Iglesia #35-68. Wither and Milton Martinez. Excellent selection of older, better quality molas, both Panamanian and Colombian. Good people

### **CIGARS**

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**Cava del Puro**, Centro, Calle de Las Damas no.3-106, Pasaje de la Candelaria Local 1-3, Tel 664 9482. Careful! What is being sold on the streets is NOT what you get! For real Cuban cigars, come here. Also try their Colombian cigars. Very good & reasonably priced.

## CLOTHING

The street between the Charleston Hotel and Plaza Santo Domingo has a variety of fine women's boutiques. You will find good clothing in all price ranges throughout the city.

## COFFEE

**Coffee Boutique** Centro, Calle Estanco del Aguardiente (first left past the University of Cartagena heading NW). Something new and worth a try (friend of Sr. Jesus Hoyos, Club N's photographer).

**Juan Valdez** Centro, Corner of Calle de la Universidad and Calle San Agustin. Great coffee, even iced and they serve (and sell) decaf as well. A bonus, next door is a Brian Zola ice cream shop. **Coffee And...** Bocagrande, Pierino Gallo Shopping Center, Upstairs. Very special coffee even for Colombia!

***\*Remember, you're in Colombia! Good coffee is not hard to find! And by the way, there really IS a Juan Valdez***

## 59. Emeralds

You won't get far walking down the streets in Old Town without being approached by someone who has, by far, without question, the absolutely very best buy on emeralds! AND, he'll probably promise you a "special price today!" The fact is, emeralds are a great buy in Cartagena. But you need to do some homework. Don't rush, and enjoy the shopping experience.

**Mr. Emerald:** Tel:(035 prefix if using cell phone) 665-6781. Cel: 300 817 0606. E-mail: [Leland@MisterEmerald.com](mailto:Leland@MisterEmerald.com). Owner Lee Miles (also a keen sailor on his passport 40 Garabato and local host for the OCC and SSCA) will take time to show you what to look for in an emerald with no obligation to buy. He has a large, high quality inventory and offers substantial discounts to cruisers.

**Lucy's Jewelry & Emerald Store:** Centro, Calle Santo Domingo & Calle de la Iglesia #3-77. Tel:6600973.E-mail:[lucysjewelry@hotmail.com](mailto:lucysjewelry@hotmail.com), [www.lucysjewelry.cartagenainfo.com](http://www.lucysjewelry.cartagenainfo.com) Lucy has an excellent reputation among cruisers for her warm personality, patience and business ethic as well as her ability to supply beautiful jewelry. **Ask for Lucy personally.**

## 60. Travel Agencies & Airlines

**La Tienda del Turismo:** Bocagrande, Cra 3 No. 8-156. Tel: 655 1919. Cel: 315 6829370 (Airport Tel: 666 3640 6666757) e-mail: [info@latiendadelturismo.com](mailto:info@latiendadelturismo.com)

**Avianca Airlines:** Bocagrande, Cra. 3 No. 8-129. Tel: 665 1950.

**Copa Airlines:** Centro, Calle Castelbondo No. 2-107. Tel: 664 8289.

If going to Panama look for good deals on **WINGO** . <https://www.wingo.com/es>

## 61. Out-of-town

If you are planning to travel within Colombia, it is important to keep in mind that while security has greatly improved throughout much of the country, some journeys by road continue to present a risk! It may be safer to fly, and/or make arrangements with a tour operator!!!

**Islas de Rosarios:** If you don't want to sail to these beautiful islands yourself, boats are available for hire from the fishing dock just outside the clock tower, for day trips. Also at Club Nautico in Manga (ask someone at the entry gate).A popular stop in Rosario is the Oceanarium (<https://oceanario.co/>). There are several full service chalet facilities available to enjoy a 'crystal water' break.

The **Santa Clara Hotel** (5 star) owns **Hotel San Pedro de Majagua**-- beach bungalows. Make travel arrangements and reservations at the Santa Clara Hotel in the city.

Also check out **Isla Kalua** (near the Oceanario) for a special treat. Cel: 311 635 2117. E-mail [kaluaisland@yahoo.com](mailto:kaluaisland@yahoo.com) . Another great place for a weekend relax is the Island Cabaña hotel complex on **Isla Pirata** (the Eastern end of the Island group).

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**Horticultural Gardens:** Turbaco. Day excursion a taxi ride away. Get together with the gang at Club Nautico and turn the visit into a party (and save).

**National Aviary:** <https://www.aviarionacional.co/> via Baru, Cartagena, Bolivar.

**Santa Marta:** The town is a 3 to 4 hour long bus ride away. Museums, beaches, restaurants. Gets you out of the hustle and bustle of Cartagena. Hike to the Lost City (5 days).  
<https://lostcitytrekcolombia.com/> <https://www.parquetayrona.com/en/>

**Villa Babilla** Ecological tour, croc farm, ½ day trip, reported to be well worth the effort!  
Contact **Juan Carlos Lopez**, tour guide. Tel: 663 9068, 663 9058.

FURTHER AFIELD. Cartagena can be your base for exploring. So much to see!!

*Many cruisers have compiled information for this guide over the years, with coordination and assistance from John Halley, working with Club Nautico marina. Feedback from cruisers is both welcome and needed to keep information current. Provide your input to John at Club Nautico, and help others in your wake enjoy their stay. Thank you!*

## CRUISING THE COLOMBIAN COAST TO PANAMA

Report of meeting organized by Lee Miles (Mr. Emerald), and Doug and Linda (SV Que Linda). Some 40 cruisers were at Club Nautico for the meeting held January 2007.

**VHF CHANNELS 16, 13, 11**

**57(605) 655-0315**

[ceguc@fnc.armada.mil.co](mailto:ceguc@fnc.armada.mil.co)

[gradc3i.eguc@fnc.armada.mil.co](mailto:gradc3i.eguc@fnc.armada.mil.co)

**WhatsApp +57 323 4686106**

**146 (CG emergency) from local cell phone**

**From International Phone 57 318 4406227**

**The Port Captain's office and the Coast Guard are happy to see cruisers making intermediary stops at the Islas Rosarios, Islas San Bernardo (Is. Tintipan), Punto San Bernardo, Isla Fuerte and Zapsurro Bay (on the Colombian Panamanian border).**

Between Cartagena and Panama there are Coast Guard Stations at Islas del Rosario, Coveñas (which covers both Islas San Bernardo and Isla Fuerte), and Turbo in the Gulf of Urabá (which covers Zapsurro Bay). There are significant gaps in the coverage of VHF along the coast, although the fixed stations are supplemented by Coast Guard units that are constantly on patrol.

**The Coast Guard asks that you help them support you by:**

1. Filing a VOLUNTARY float plan or itinerary with Port Captain's office.
2. Reporting your departure upon getting your anchor up in Cartagena.
3. Reporting any suspicious vessel or activity anywhere you see it.

### **1. File a VOLUNTARY float plan (By e-mail when getting your zarpe)**

Planned itinerary from Cartagena until leaving Colombian waters. Those boats leaving the Netherlands Antilles or elsewhere headed for Colombian waters may do so as well, e-mailing to the same address.

Port Captain's Office e-mail: [jefcp0505@dimar.mil.co](mailto:jefcp0505@dimar.mil.co). CC [amerc.cp05@dimar.mil.co](mailto:amerc.cp05@dimar.mil.co)

**Note:** You can fill out the Spanish version of the format below and cut and paste it into a message to the Port Captain's Office.

**FORMAT TO REPORT FLOAT PLAN (ITINERARY) TO PORT CAPTAIN'S OFFICE, CARTAGENA**

E-mail To: [jefcp05@dimar.mil.co](mailto:jefcp05@dimar.mil.co) CC [amerc.cp@dimar.mil.co](mailto:amerc.cp@dimar.mil.co)

**Note:** all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone

ubj: Reporte Itinerario de embarcación extranjera Text:

PARA: EMBARCACIONES MENORES, CAPITANIA DE PUERTO, CARTAGENA FORMATO REPORTE ITINERARIO DE EMBARCACION EXTRANJERA

ESTA ES LA EMBARCACION DE NOMBRE

(Name of Vessel)

DE BANDERA

(Country/Flag)

TIPO

(Velero (Sailboat), Motoryate (powerboat))

AGENCIA MARITIMA

(Ship's Agent in Colombia if known)

ITINERARIO

tentative itinerary in Colombian waters, approximate dates)

PUERTO DE ORIGEN Y FECHA

(Port you are leaving from and ETD)

NOMBRE DEL CAPITAN

(Captain's name)

2. Reporting suspicious activity

Call at any time on VHF channels 16, 13, 11.

Between Cartagena and Panama there are Coast Guard stations at Islas del Rosario, Coveñas (which covers both Islas San Bernardo and Isla Fuerte), and Turbo in the Gulf of Urabá (which covers Zapsurro Bay).

You may send a confidential e-mail to <cp05@dimar.mil.co >. This address can be used for communications relevant to all locations along the Colombian Caribbean coast from Venezuela to Panama.

Telephone: +57 (5) 655-0316 Satellite Phone: 881631710707

or e-mail: [jefcp05@dimar.mil.co](mailto:jefcp05@dimar.mil.co) cc [amerc.cp05@dimar.mil.co](mailto:amerc.cp05@dimar.mil.co)

To: cp05@dimar.mil.co

Subj: Reporte de motonave sospechosa u otra anomalía (suspicious vessel or other anomaly)

Text:

REPORTE DE MOTONAVES SOSPECHOSAS AL ESTACION DE GUARDACOSTAS CARTAGENA

ESTA ES LA EMBARCACION

(Name of your vessel)

EN POSICION LATITUD

(degrees/minutes Lat.)

Y LONGITUD

(degrees/minutes Long.)

RUMBO

(your course in degrees)

VELOCIDAD

(your speed in knots)

SE A VISTA UNA EMBARCACION SOSPECHOSA

(‘I have seen a suspicious vessel’)

TIPO

(description suspicious vessel: Fishing boat (NavePesquero), Fiberglass skiff with outboard motor(s) (Lancha con Fuera Bordas, etc)

COLOR DEL CASCO

(hull color of suspicious vessel)

COLOR DE LA SUPER ESTRUCTURA

(superstructure color)

RUMBO

(its heading in degrees)

VELOCIDAD

(its speed)

POSICION LATITUD

(Position of vessel :Degrees, minutes Lat.)

Y LONGITUD

(Degrees, minutes Long.)

HORA EN QUE SE VIO

(Time of sighting local time)

LA EMBARCACION

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# Get to know your immediate surroundings

Barrio's MANGA, CENTRO, SAN DIEGO, LA MATUNA and GETSEMANI.



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# Official anchorages for recreational vessels.

The Port Captain has expressed concern that many sailboats are anchoring outside the designated anchorage area. Try to anchor within these designated anchorage zones or as close as possible to them.

**Be careful to allow frigates/cruise liners (plus tugs) maneuvering room to moor alongside the tourist dock . Tugs assisting them may not even notice your presence!**

## Area de Fondeo (Anchorage) No. 1 ( (special/quarantine anchorage área: not always allowed but has become popular)

1. Lat: 10deg 25' 5.6'' N Long: 75deg 32' 52.5''W(approx)
2. Lat: 10deg 25' 4.6'' N Long: 75deg 32' 53.8''W
3. Lat: 10deg 25' 0.4'' N Long: 75deg 32' 44.7''W
4. Lat: 10deg 24' 58.3''N Long: 75deg 32' 47.5''W

## Area de Fondeo(the main anchorage surrounding Club Nautico)No. 2 (marked out by following positions):

1. Lat: 10deg 24'49.7'' N Long: 75deg 32'' 41.o''W
2. Lat: 10deg 24'43.9'' N Long: 75deg 32' 34.9''W
3. Lat: 10deg 24' 39.8''N Long: 75deg 32' 26.7''W
4. Lat: 10deg 24' 38.0''N Long: 75deg 32' 28.0''W
5. Lat: 10deg 24' 41.2''N Long: 75deg 32' 37.1''W
6. Lat: 10deg 24' 48.6''N Long: 75deg 32' 42.4'' W



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## Emergency Calls (Numeros de Urgencia):

The following are free (no charge) phone numbers (can use any type of phone)

Emergency call center (Centro regulador de Urgencia) **125**

Policía Nacional **112**

Firestation. (Bomberos) **112, or 6421947/51/95** (prefix with **605** if calling from cellphone)

Traffic Police (Transito) **127**

The following are mostly fixed line phone numbers. To call a Cartagena (and Barranquilla) fixed line (7 digits beginning with # 6) from a local cell-phone first dial the **prefix 605:**

Calling a Bogota fixed line from a cellphone would require a **601 (1 for Bogota) prefix**

From outside Colombia this would be **+ 57 5(Cartagena) 6\*\* \*\*\*\***

or **+57 1(Bogota) 6\*\* \*\*\*\***

or **+57 4(Medellin) 6\*\* \*\*\*\* etc**

Tourist Info (if you need to talk in English) ..... **111, (605) 6550211**

Ambulance (Servicio de Ambulancia AMI) (prefix 605 if calling from local cellphone)

**(605) 665 3119, 665 3121**

Coast Guard ((estacion de Guarda Costas) (605) **655 0316 cel: + 57 318 4406227**

WhatsApp **+57 323 4686106**

Cartagena Port Control **146 – 152 (local free)**

always has fluent English speakers to assist VHF 16/14 approaching Cartagena.



**S/V Silva**

**Club Nautico Cartagena Ltda**

**19-50 Av. Miramar.**

**Manga, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia**

**Tel/Fax 57 5 6517121**

**[www.clubnauticocartagena.com](http://www.clubnauticocartagena.com)**

**Note: all 7 digit telephone numbers (beginning with #6) require a prefix of 605 if calling from a local cellphone**