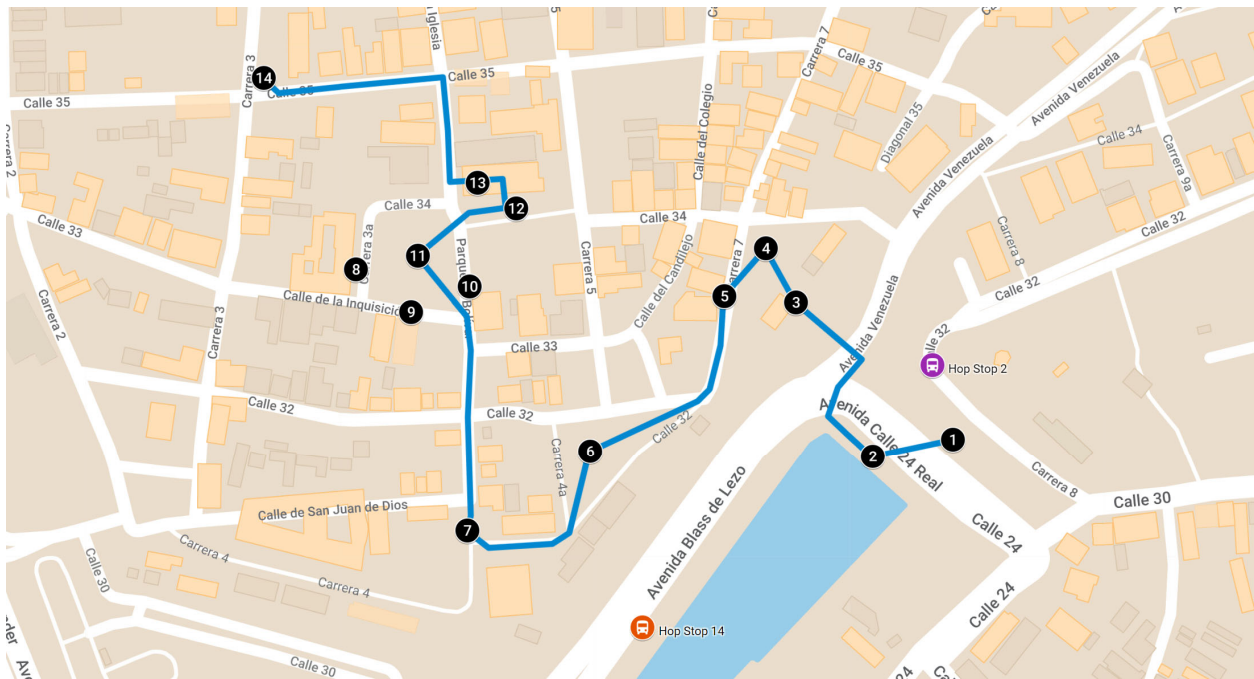




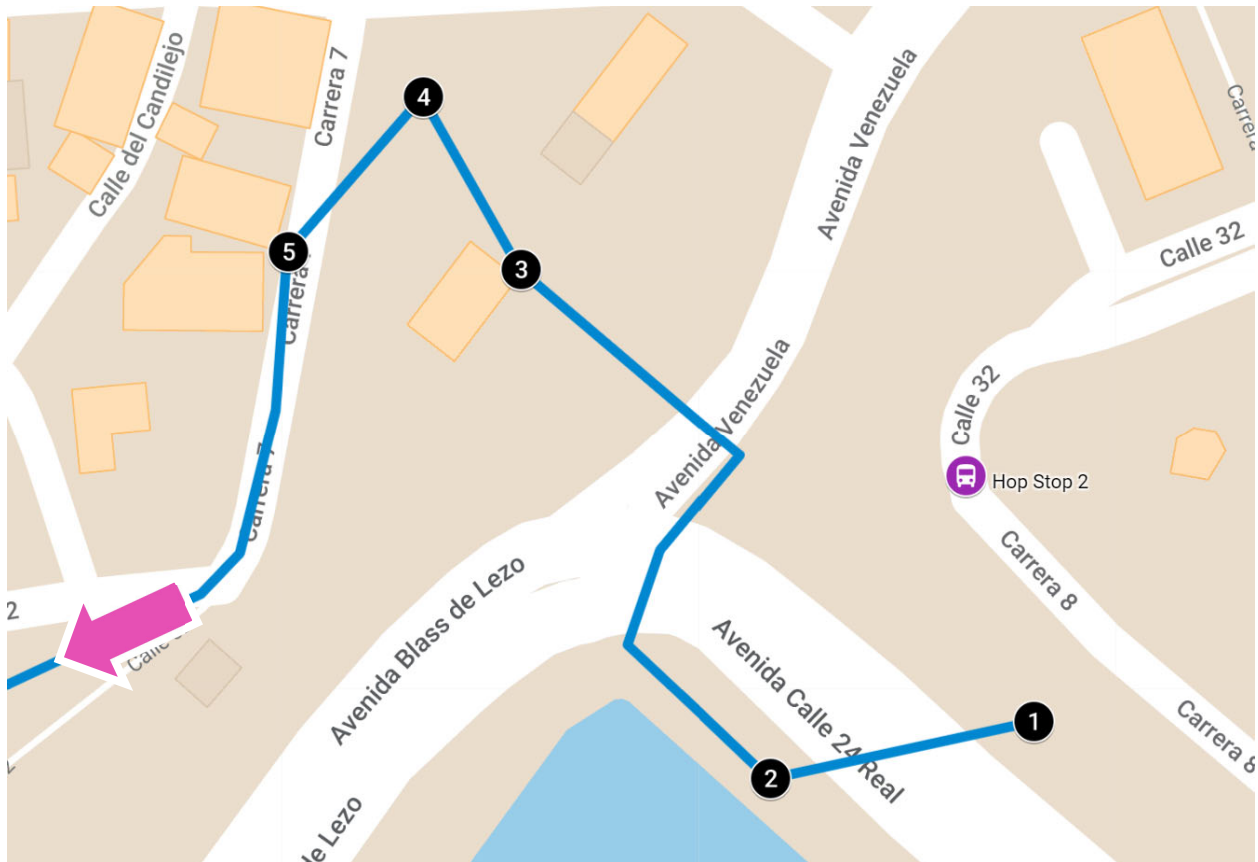
TRAVEL ADVISORY: Always be vigilant and constantly aware of your surroundings when exploring any port on your own. Reduce your risk by leaving jewelry and other valuables on the ship. Check the U.S. State Department Travel Advisories before deciding to explore a port on your own: <https://travel.state.gov/traveladvisories>

CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

Port Guide Map

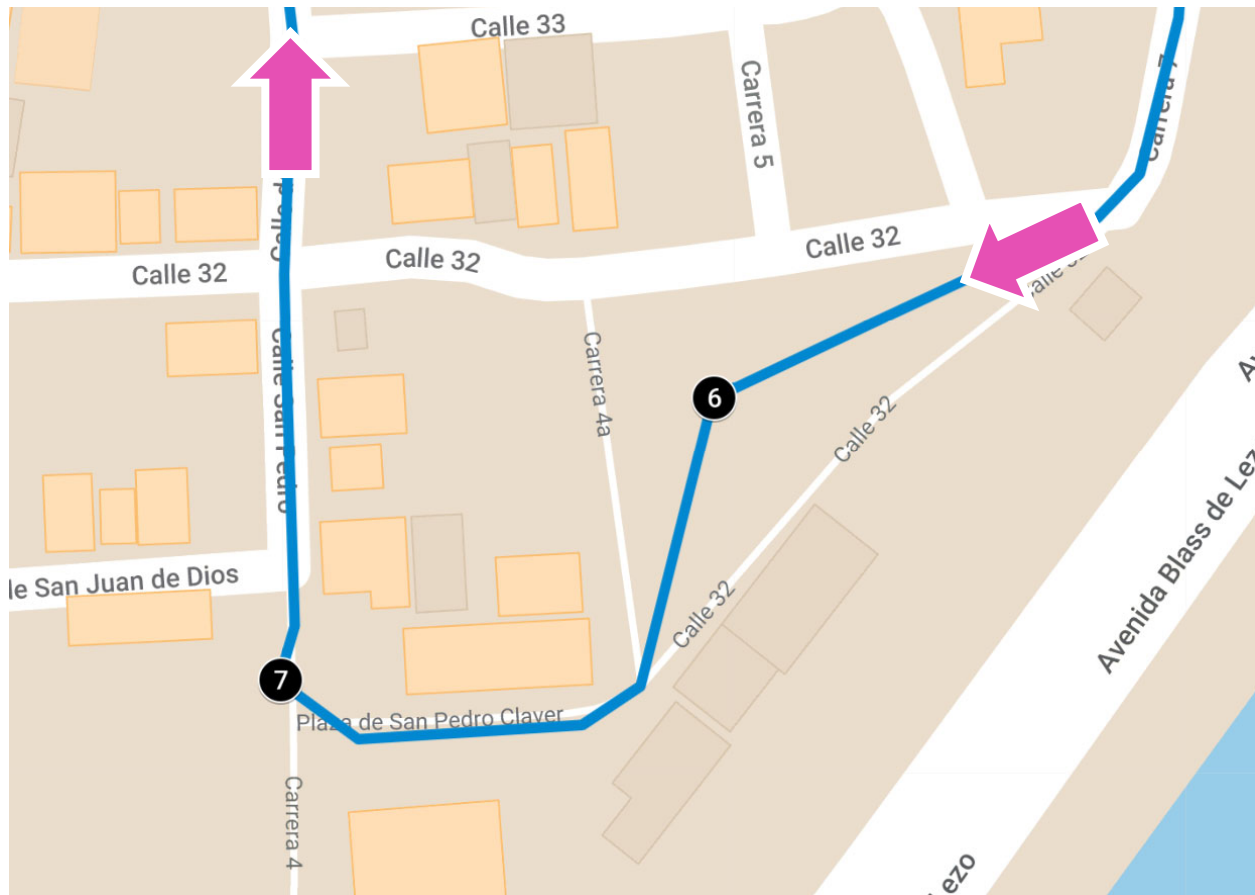


Cartagena is a port city located on the Caribbean Coast of Colombia. The city was founded in 1533 and was named after another port city located in southeast Spain. Cartagena is very popular with tourists and is best known for its beaches; colonial architecture; and historic, walled Old Town, which was designated a Unesco World Heritage Site in 1984. In our Cartagena Cruise Port Guide, we provide an overview of the points of interest we explored while visiting Cartagena on a cruise ship.



Near the Church Tower (#2) stop for the Hop On, Hop Off Bus route, you'll find:

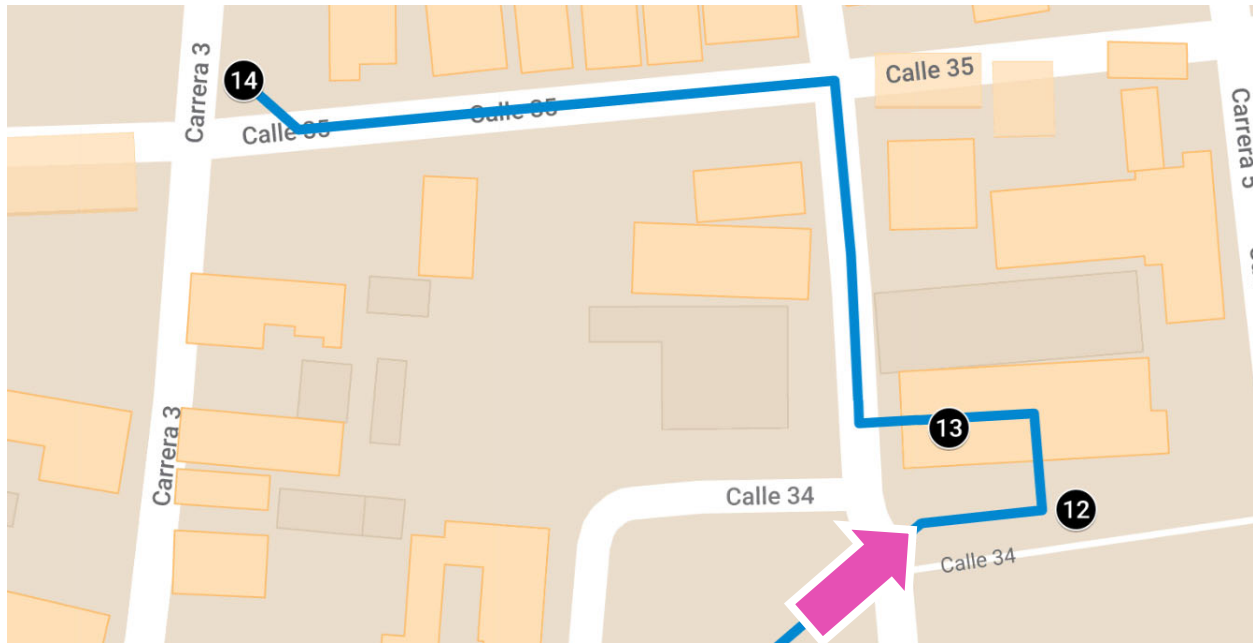
1. *Camellón de los Mártires*: Martyrs Square was dedicated to the nine martyrs of independence that were executed in 1816. The name of the centerpiece monument roughly translates to "Don't touch me," signifying that Cartagenans are always ready to defend their freedom.
2. *Muelle de los Pegasus*: Pegasus Pier featured two large statues facing the waterfront. There is no definitive history of the origin of the pier's name and subsequent addition of the statues, but the large statues make for a fun and interesting photo op.
3. *Monumento Torre del Reloj*: The Clock Tower was the main gate of the walled Old Town and different parts of it were constructed over the centuries, dating back to the 1600's. The clock – which gave the tower its name – was added in the 18th century.
4. *Plaza de los Coches*: inside the plaza was a statue of Pedro de Heredia, the Spanish conquistador who founded Cartagena.
5. *Portal de los Dulces*: a covered walkway where local women were selling homemade sweets.



6. *Plaza de la Aduana*: the plaza is the oldest and largest in the walled Old Town and is lined with banks and government buildings. A statue of Christopher Columbus was located in the plaza.
7. *Santuario de San Pedro Claver*: the church and convent of San Pedro Claver, a Spanish Jesuit priest who dedicated his life to caring for slaves. The “Equal Human Rights” he enacted eventually led to the abolition of slavery in Colombia. In addition to the church and convent, there was also a museum and a statue of Claver with a slave. About half a dozen metal statues created by Eduardo Carmona were located in the plaza in front of the church and depicted various scenes of Colombian life. While in the plaza, look for the many upturned corner tiles on the roofs of the surrounding buildings. The tiles were added during the time of the Inquisition as they were believed to prevent witches from landing on houses.



8. *Palacio de la Inquisición*: The Palace of the Inquisition was located on the western side of the plaza and was originally used for trials during the Spanish Inquisition. It is now the home of the Cartagena Museum of History. The building is considered one of the city's "best examples of late colonial, civil architecture." A small window on the side of the building is a relic from the days of the Inquisition and was used to provide anonymous tips of alleged acts against the Catholic faith.
9. *Concurso Nacional de Belleza*: the building appeared to be the home of the Miss Colombia beauty pageant, with photos and information of past winners displayed on the ground like a Miss Colombia Walk of Fame.
10. *Museo del Oro Zenú*: the Zenu Gold Museum – which was located in an appropriately-colored yellow building – was temporarily closed due to construction. In the past, the museum was free to enter and had air conditioning and bathrooms available.
11. *Plaza de Bolívar*: named after Simon Bolivar, who led Colombia and other neighboring countries to independence from the Spanish Empire in the early 1800's. The plaza featured a statue of Bolivar riding a horse and was full of shady trees.



12. *Plaza de la Proclamación*: the location for the signing of Colombia's Declaration of Independence. A statue located in the northeast corner of the square commemorated the 1996 visit of Pope John Paul II.
13. *Catedral de Santa Catalina de Alejandría*: the cathedral was constructed in 1575, but was attacked and destroyed by Sir Francis Drake in 1586. The cathedral was rebuilt and completed in 1612 and the original limestone exterior is still in place. The cathedral features an 18th-century gilded altar and a marble pulpit.
14. *Monumento de Botero-Gertrudis*: Legend has it that touching the sculpture's buttocks will bring you good luck and touching the sculpture's chest will bring you lasting love.