



## **Islas del Rosario**

Fronting both the Caribbean, Colombia is blessed with countless sun-toasted stretches of floury sands plus pristine, picture-perfect islands. The 1760km Caribbean coast is home to the country's best beaches, from backpacker hotspots like raucous Taganga to the rarely visited Punta Gallinas with its massive dunes. **Playa Blanca at Isla de Barú** is located southwest of Cartagena, found on a small island easily accessible from the mainland.

It is time to step outside the walls of Cartagena and experience the beauty of one of the many islands located in Islas del Rosario.

The Rosario Islands are located about 30 miles away from the city. An archipelago formed by coral reefs with small white sand beaches, and clear Caribbean waters that invite you to appreciate the diverse marine life. These small islands have been protected by the authorities since 1977, when they were declared a National Park. The park's coral reefs, mangrove habitats and lagoons support more than 1,300 different species in nearly 500 square miles.

The day starts at your hotel in Cartagena where you will be picked up and transferred to the port. The boat usually departs at 9:00 am. You will head out from the port into open water for a 60 minute ride, or more (depending on the island) approximately to the chosen island, you can either enjoy a full day or stay a couple of nights at one of the lovely hotels or private properties of the area.

You can sit on the small beach and rest, enjoy a walk around the island, sign up for a diving course in the coral reefs, swim or relax with a massage session. The hotels usually have a beach front bar and snacks can be purchased throughout the day. You will be arriving back to Cartagena between 4:00 and 4:30 pm.

Locations examples:

**Punta Faro** is a beach resort hotel located two hours by boat from Cartagena, at Múcura Island in Islas del Rosario National Park, is the farer island of the archipelago from Cartagena and it's beach is exclusive for hotel guests.

The hotel offers several activities to do as kayaking through mangles, snorkeling, tennis court, scuba diving, etc. The hotel is designed and planned to relax, what implies that there are not disco's or all-night-long bars for example.

Punta Faro has a bar that serves alcoholic beverages until 2:00 am. and dinner is served every night in a different place of the hotel. The property area occupies a third part of the island, which is populated by local fishers in another third part. The rest, is natural environment with walking/biking paths that passengers can join when they wish to.



The boat to the island departs daily at 10:30 am. from Cartagena's "La Bodeguita" dock and from Isla Múcura at 11:00 am. We suggest to overnight in Cartagena the day before going to Punta Faro and the day after coming from the island.

### **Hotel Las Islas**

A place to rest in the middle of the nature, facing a turquoise sea with white sand beaches.

The hotel offers its guests the possibility to stay in some of its 54 bungalows, (22 at sea level and 32 in height between trees) plus 1 presidential suite. Each bungalow has the name of a Colombian island.

It has three restaurants, four bars, a café, fresh water pool, water-sports center, spa, gym, crafts store and trained personnel under the standards of hospitality and quality that characterizes affiliated establishments of "The Leading Hotels of the World".