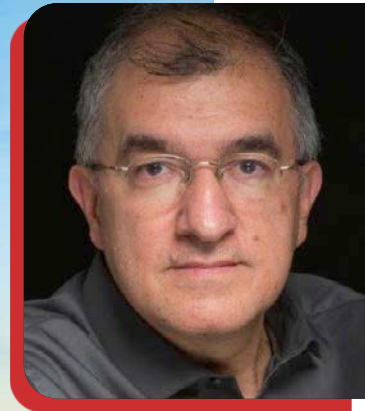


# ISH BIENNIAL SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

## Cartagena de Indias: The beautiful and historic city that will host the ISH in 2024

DAGNOVAR ARISTIZABAL

Executive President, ISH 2024, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia  
On behalf of the Local Organising Committee



We recently visited Cartagena de Indias for the XIII International Symposium of Cardiology of the Colombian Cardiac Society, a successful meeting with renowned speakers from Europe, US and Latin-America. We experienced Cartagena firsthand as a world class meeting venue. Throughout the year, Cartagena hosts a variety of events that showcase the city's unique character and draw visitors from all over the world. After this delightful time there, we thought of telling you more regarding this great destination, where our next ISH meeting will be held in 2024.

Cartagena de Indias is a stunning coastal city located on the Caribbean coast of Colombia. With its rich culture, fascinating history, and beautiful beaches, it's no wonder that this city has become a popular tourist and meeting destination. Here will explore the accessibility, safety, and accommodation options in Cartagena de Indias.

[ish2024@bcocongresos.com](mailto:ish2024@bcocongresos.com)  
[www.ish2024.org](http://www.ish2024.org)





## Accessibility

Cartagena has an international airport, Rafael Nuñez, which serves as a gateway to the city for travelers. The airport is located just 10 minutes from the historic district, where the main tourist attractions and accommodation offers are located, making it easy to get to your hotel or meeting venue. Many airlines offer direct flights to Cartagena, including JetBlue, KLM, LATAM and Avianca (see graph). Cartagena de Indias is well connected to many international hubs around the world. Here are some of the international flight destinations that have connections with Cartagena de Indias and Bogotá:



**Miami:** American Airlines and Avianca offer direct flights

**Fort Lauderdale:** Jet Blue and Spirit offer direct flights

**New York:** JetBlue and Avianca Airlines offer direct flights

**Madrid:** Plus Ultra Airlines offers direct flights

**Amsterdam:** KLM Airline offers direct flights

**Panama City:** Copa Airlines and Wingo offers direct flights

**Orlando:** Spirit Airlines offer direct flight

**Lima:** Latam Airlines offer direct flights

**San José:** Avianca Airlines offer 4 flights weekly

**Sao Paulo:** Avianca Airlines offer 3 flights weekly

**Santiago:** Avianca Airlines offer 4 flights weekly

**Guayaquil:** Avianca Airlines offer 3 flights weekly

**[ish2024@bcocongresos.com](mailto:ish2024@bcocongresos.com)**  
**[www.ish2024.org](http://www.ish2024.org)**



### Security/Safety

Cartagena de Indias is a safe city for visitors, and the government has taken measures to ensure the safety of tourists and locals alike. The city has a dedicated tourist police force, which patrols popular tourist areas, such as the historical center and the beaches. Additionally, many hotels and meeting venues have their own security measures in place, such as gated entrances and 24-hour surveillance. However, like any city, it's important to exercise caution and be aware of your surroundings, especially when traveling alone or at night.

### Accommodation

Cartagena de Indias offers a range of accommodation options to suit different budgets and preferences. There are around 200 hotel establishments with around 20,000 beds. From luxury hotels to budget-friendly hostels, there is something for everyone. Many hotels are located in the historic center of the city, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and a popular tourist destination. However, there are also hotels located in other areas of the city, such as the beachfront corporate neighborhood of Bocagrande. Overall, Cartagena de Indias offers great value accommodation options for business travelers and tourists alike.

### Scientific Venues

Cartagena de Indias ranks 12th in America's ranking of number of meetings per city made by the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA). The city has a main international convention center, where our congress will be happening and other smaller meeting venues

located in exclusive hotel chains. Both the infrastructure of these convention centers and the number of luxury and boutique hotels in the city make Cartagena a great destination for hosting major events.

### Tourism

Of course, no trip to Cartagena de Indias would be complete without experiencing the city's rich culture and history. With its cobblestone streets, colorful colonial architecture, and UNESCO World heritage Site designation, the city is a feast for the senses. Visitors can take a stroll around this open air museum of the Spanish colonial period and explore the stunning plazas, churches, and museums. You can also indulge in the local gastronomy, which features a mix of African, Spanish, and indigenous influences, and attend traditional music and dance performances.

This stunning coastal city, on the Caribbean Colombian coast, is a fantastic tourist destination with many cruise ships arriving each week. For those looking for a more secluded experience, there are a number of smaller islands around Cartagena de Indias that can be reached by boat just minutes away. These islands offer pristine beaches, crystal-clear waters, and a chance to get away from the crowds and enjoy some peace and quiet. Whether you're looking for adventure or relaxation, Cartagena de Indias beaches and islands offer something for everyone.

In summary, Cartagena de Indias is the ideal destination for tourism, and also for meetings and conferences. With its convenient location, impressive venues, world-class hotels, and rich cultural experiences, it has everything you need to make your stay an unforgettable memory.

We hope to welcome you in Cartagena de Indias in September 2024!

Dagnovar Aristizabal – [dagnovar@une.net.co](mailto:dagnovar@une.net.co)