

10 'SECRET' REASONS TO LOVE CARACAS



1. **WEATHER.** Caracas is situated in a tropical valley at an elevation of about 3000 feet above sea level. Our city experiences sun over 300 days per year, assuring superior weather for a wide range of outdoor activities – and beaches are only 30 minutes away.
2. **TRAVEL.** Caracas is the starting point for world-class domestic travel that includes Angel Falls, Los Roques Islands, Canaima Falls, hiking over Roraima, many Caribbean Beaches, Anden Foothills, the Orinoco Delta, surfing, diving, fishing, and so much more.
3. **CHOCOLATE & COFFEE.** Caracas is home to a range of globally-recognized producers of organic chocolate - considered to be among the best in the world. In addition, regional farmers produce some of the hemisphere's best coffee.
4. **WILDLIFE.** Venezuela hosts some of the most diverse and abundant ecosystems found anywhere on Earth. On campus, it's easy to see birds like parrots and hummingbirds daily, and on our street we have had numerous sloth sightings.
5. **CLEAN AIR.** For teachers who have worked in places like China and India, it's great to know that Caracas has among the cleanest air of any major city worldwide. Our sky is particle-free and deep-blue almost every day of the year.
6. **THE CAPITAL.** As the nation's capital and population center, Caracas enjoys the most stable services for daily life in Venezuela. Here, we are proud to have international foods, night life, restaurants, internet, and more constantly available.
7. **THE AVILA AND BOTANICAL GARDENS.** Within the City, there are many opportunities to experience the botanical wonders and outdoor life. Hiking on the Avila, relaxing in Topotepuy, and strolling in botanical gardens are just a few local opportunities.
8. **SAVINGS.** Teachers report significant savings (up to 60%-75%) during their time in Caracas due to exceptionally low living costs. At the same time, teachers manage to enjoy life here and experience far more freedom than media typically reports.
9. **VOLUNTEERING.** There are dozens of school-based opportunities to help those in need, and there are many organizations that encourage expats to participate in the community, from orphanages and non-profits, to educational support projects.
10. **THE PEOPLE.** The Venezuelan culture is open, participatory, and resilient. People here are usually friendly to expats, patient to those developing their Spanish skills, and inviting to those of us new to the region. Friendships are quick to develop and integration into local life is rapid.