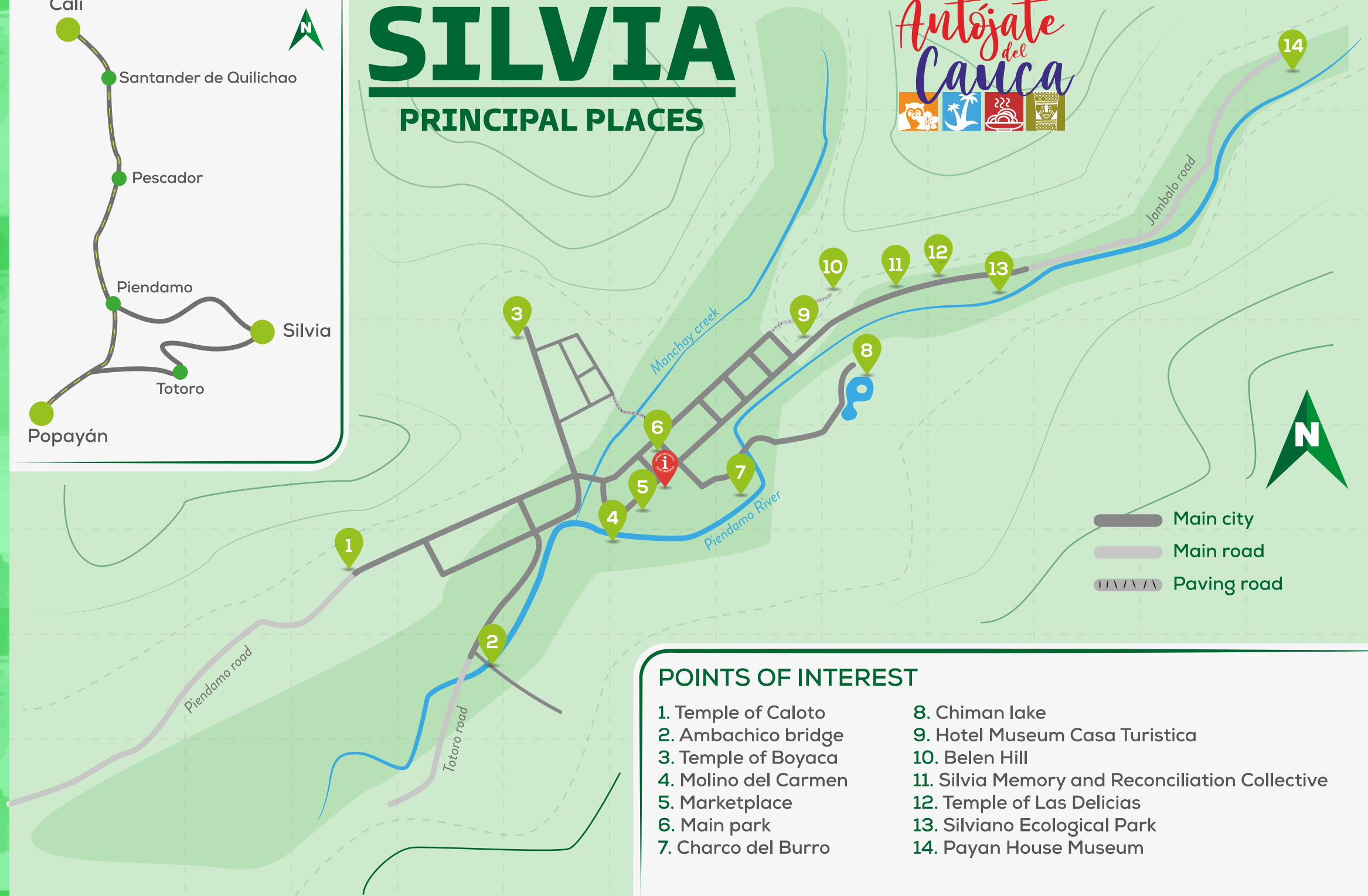
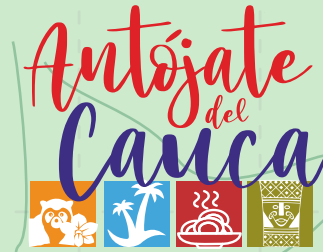




SILVIA

PRINCIPAL PLACES



Silvia

Silvia is a beautiful town located in the central valley of the central mountain range of Colombia (2.620 mt above the sea level). It's a unique mountain landscape, cold weather, cultural diversity and the kindness of their people, making region one of the best places to visit in Cauca.

It currently has a population of approximately 39,000 inhabitants and peasants, mestizos and seven ethnic groups live in its territory: Misak, Quizgo, Pitayo, Ambalo, Quichaya, Tumburao and La Gaitana.

It's a municipality rich in culture and tradition, sacred places, ancestral knowledge and intercultural traditions that are part of the main attraction of a place, that invites you to get to know the region or to take a few days off, in healthy reflection and coexistence with nature.

¿How to get there?

From Popayan (capital of Cauca), it is possible to arrive -by land- in a journey of about 60 minutes by pavement road (59 km away) by public transport; the vehicles leave daily, every hour, from the Transport Terminal starting at 6:00 a.m.

From Cali, (capital of Valle del Cauca), It is possible to arrive by public transport to the town of Piendamó, where you must take another vehicle that will take you to Silvia. In this case the journey will take 2 hours between Cali to Piendamó and 25 minutes between Piendamó and Silvia. (120 km)

Economy

The economy of the municipality is based on traditional agriculture, especially strawberry, cape gooseberry, vegetables and dairy production (cheese and yogurt). Fish farming has become more technical, being one of the strongest economic sectors in the municipality.

Gastronomy

Smoked trout is the typical dish of Silvia and many of the restaurants in the area not only offer you the preparation but also learn about fish farming. The typical drink is changuar, it is prepared in an artisanal way based on anise and is easily available in the urban area of the municipality.

Local communities



Misak community:

The Misak people, "children of water, words and dreams" base their worldview on the earth as the "moter" of all and on their community as those in charge of main taining the balance between nature and human being. It is a town that bases its economy on agriculture.

Nasa community:

It is considered one of the largest communities in Cauca that preserves its traditions. They base their economy on agriculture, the breeding of minor species and crafts, while preserving their mother tongue, Nasa Yuwe, essential for the cultural identity of the ethnic group.



Photography: Angelle Velasco

Activities

Intercultural Market of Silvia (Colorful market).

Traditionally tkaes place on Tuesday of each week, in this space the indigenous Misak and Nasa, mestizos and peasants converge. Here the various products offered by the countryside are mixed with cultural elements such as traditional cuisine, handicrafts and exchange (bartering), in a multicultural context where Spanish, Namtrip (namui wan) and Nasa Yuwe flow freely.



Photography: Manuel Reyes

Silvia Carnivals:

They are celebrated in the first holiday weekend of the year, during these festivities the residents manifest all their happiness through music, gastronomy, the exchange of knowledge and play with black and white talc and paints.



Photography: Manuel Reyes

Holy week:

A celebration inherited from the Spanish tradition and which has been held in Silvia for 130 years, has a very particular expression here, since the participation of the region's mestizo, peasant and indigenous populations has generated activities, rites and ceremonies full of authenticity and deep devotion. Holy Week includes processions, liturgical acts and concerts.



More information

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