

VENEZULA



Introduction:

Bismillahir Rahman Raheem. All praise is due to ALMIGHTY ALLAH, the SUSTAINER, NOURISHER and CHERISHER of the universe, Peace, Blessings and Salutations be upon our beloved Master and Leader, NABI MUHAMMED MUSTAPHA ﷺ.

Islam in VENEZULA

Venezuela is a predominantly [Christian](#) country, with [Islam](#) being a minority religion. There are approximately 100,000 **Muslims in Venezuela** which make up 0.4 percent of the nation's population. Venezuela has a small but influential [Muslim](#) population. Many of them are [Arabs](#) of [Lebanese](#), [Palestinian](#), [Syrian](#) and [Turkish](#) descent.

The capital city [Caracas](#) has a Muslim population of 15,000. The Masjid of Sheikh Ibrahim Al-Ibrahim in Caracas is the second largest mosque in [Latin America](#). This historic [masjid](#) features a dome, [minaret](#) and portal to signal its presence in the urban landscape, and devices such as the octagonal hall rising up from a platform to a circular dome to achieve the transition between the street and the interior of the prayer hall. It was constructed with funds from the Ibrahim bin Abdul Aziz Al-Ibrahim Foundation . There is also a masjid in [Punto Fijo](#) built in 2008.

HISTORY OF VENEZUELA

After the first contacts between Europeans, specifically Portuguese and Spanish conquerors, there were several events which produced a reaction between 1515 and 1528, the biggest event that happened after 1528 was the [German Colonization of Venezuela](#). This event occurred because of a business between Charles V and the banking family of the Augsburg. Charles V gave the family of the Augsburg most of the territory of the province of Venezuela, which after the concession was called by the Germans "[Klein-Venedig](#)" which means "Little Venice". The Germans in Venezuela were mostly explorers and their mission was to find [El Dorado](#). At the same time, the German explorers founded two standing cities in actuality, [Maracaibo](#) and Neu-Augsburg, which is known as [Coro](#) nowadays

My Experience in Venezuela

With the Grace and Mercy of Almighty ALLAH my wife and I visited Venezuela in 2015. It was during the holy month of RAMADAN, our South African ulama were doing sterling work there. Ulama that was present at the time was Moulana Muhammad Munshi, Moulana Abdullah Osman, Moulana Randeree and Moulana Abdul Khalick Vawda and many other ulama. These ulama were spread out through different parts of the country. The weather was very beautiful and people were very warm-hearted and welcoming. We also visited Valencia and there was a Palestinian family who moved in the 50s and they were basically poor but ALMIGHTY ALLAH enriched them through his grace and mercy but the problem was that the majority went very far from deen. The youngest brother's name was **HAZIM** and hazim was very influenced by the tabligh jamaat, He became very active, he went for 3 days, 40 days, 4 months and his parents were quite upset with him. Similarly his siblings as well. They felt that they are Arabs and they know better. Hazim even entered the Baitullah. One day he told his wife that he is going to the masjid and he will take her to the Nikah and enroute to Masjid Aqsa in Valencia he met in an accident in his early 20s and his wife was pregnant. When it was time for janazah, hundreds of people came and people were crying and sobbing. The brothers were very far from the masjid, they were spread out all over the world. When they arrived and seen all of this, that was a turning point in their life and thereafter they dedicated their lives to dawat and tabligh and today the whole of South America one will find Madrassatul Hazim. It is named after him and the father Abdul Hamid and the family, they sponsor it and finance it. May Almighty ALLAH accept his efforts and grant him Jannatul firdaus. Ameen. One town in particular which really caught my attention was Mendoza. This city has so much of Islamic ethos that one would think that they are in a Muslim country, men and young boys are adorned in Kurthas, women wearing the hijab and niqab. They have a masjid called Masjid e Khulafa e Rashideen. I delivered the Jumah lecture there and They were elated and delighted and requested of me to deliver the Eid Salaah and khutbah. They also have a boys and girls hifz madrassa. **The president of Venezuela HUGO CHAVEZ, died in 2013** but his policies of

the country has still been followed through, the petrol and diesel prices were still very cheap. The country was still suffering from a lot of problems. There was an incident when I visited the local market and I observed people were flocking to purchase toilet rolls, to my amazement at this scene I enquired "*Is the toilet roll on special?*" The answer I received shocked me that the country did not have a simple necessity like toilet rolls for 6 months. There was a major shortage of certain items in the country. We visited a place called Santa Rosalia, there are many Arab brothers present there and they requested that ulama from South Africa should come do the work of dawat and tabligh. In the capital Caracas, they is a massive masjid but few people frequent it.



Mosque Ibrahim Ibin Abdul Aziz Al-Ibrahim

The **Mosque Ibrahim Ibin Abdul Aziz Al-Ibrahim** or **Caracas Mosque** is a [mosque](#) in the El Recreo district of [Caracas, Venezuela](#). It is the second largest mosque in [Latin America](#) after the [King Fahd Islamic Cultural Center](#) in [Buenos Aires](#). Mirroring modern [Venezuela](#)'s religious tolerance and its oil realpolitik the construction of the mosque began in 1989 by Sheikh Abdulaziz Bin Ibrahim Al Ibrahim. The mosque designed by architect [Zuhair Fayez](#) occupies an area of 5000 m². Construction of the mosque was completed in 1993. The mosque can hold accommodate 3500 musallees . Rising higher between the Catholic Cathedrals a few blocks away and the Caracas Synagogue, the minaret is the highest in [the Americas](#).

Tourist Attractions:



Angel Falls

The waterfall has been known as Angel Falls since the mid-20th century; they are named after [Jimmie Angel](#), a U.S. aviator, who was the first person to fly over the falls. Angel's ashes were scattered over the falls on 2 July 1960.

The common Spanish name *Salto Ángel* derives from his surname. In 2009, President [Hugo Chávez](#) announced his intention to change the name to the purported original indigenous [Pemon](#) term ("*Kerepakupai-Merú*", meaning "waterfall of the deepest place"), on the grounds that the nation's most famous landmark should bear a [indigenous](#) name.

Angel Falls is a waterfall. It is the [world's tallest uninterrupted waterfall](#) with a height of 979 meters (3,212 ft), and a plunge of 807 m (2,648 ft). The waterfall drops over the edge of the [Auyán-tepui](#) mountain. A [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) in the [Gran Sabana](#) region of [Bolívar State](#).



[Médanos de Coro National Park](#)

Médanos de Coro National Park (*Parque Nacional Los Médanos de Coro*) is a [Venezuelan national park](#) located in the state of [Falcón](#), near the city of [Coro](#) on the road that leads to [Paraguaná](#). The National Park was created in 1974. The park is easily reached by bus or taxi from Coro.

The Médanos park protects part of the [Paraguana xeric scrub](#) ecoregion.^[1] It lies on the [Médanos Isthmus](#) and covers 91 km² (35 sq mi) of desert and coastal habitat, including salt marshes. It is made up of three zones: an alluvial plain, formed by the delta of the [Mitare River](#) and some smaller streams; an aeolian plain, composed of three types of dunes; and a littoral plain with a belt of mangrove swamps. The massive sand dunes, known as Médanos, spread over an area of approximately 5 by 30 km (3.1 by 18.6 mi). They can reach 40 m (130 ft) in height and are constantly transformed by the unrelenting wind.

Rainfall is rare. However, during the severe floods that struck Venezuela in December 1999 ("Vargas tragedy", being especially devastating in Vargas State), the heavy rain formed four lagoons in the dunes; a circumstance that the park guards had never witnessed before.

Flora consists of little more than thorny shrubs. The park is a Important Bird Area with some 21 species including Yellow-shouldered amazon.