



Landmark #21 Rock of Guatapé Colombia



The Rock of Guatapé is a **monolithic formation** located in the town and municipality of Guatapé, **Antioquia, Colombia**. The **Tahamí people**, former inhabitants of this region, worshipped the rock and called it in their language "mojarrá" or "mujará" (meaning 'rock'). Currently, the ownership of the rock has been disputed for a long time by two towns, that is, **Guatapé** and **El Peñol**. On the northern face of the stone there are painted large white letters, a "G" and an incomplete "U" (only the single vertical stroke was completed): this bears witness to when the residents of Guatapé decided to settle the matter by painting the town's name on the rock in huge white letters. It did not take long for the residents of El Peñol to notice the work, and a large mob was assembled to stop it. **The rock was first climbed officially in July 1954**. In **2006**, Luis Villegas, Pedro Nel Ramirez, and Ramón Díaz climbed the rock in a five-day endeavor, using sticks that were fixed against the rock's wall. **A new species of plant was found** on the top of the rock, subsequently named ***Pitcairnia heterophylla*** by a German scientist. Today the rock can be explored by ascending a 650-step staircase: for sure it takes a while to climb it, but the view from top must be worth the effort...

Click on the Pictures for a **VIDEO** and an **ARTICLE** on the Rock of Guatapé