

EXPLORE ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS

TAILOR MADE TRAVEL

You can also book this trip together with a cruise on the Galapagos Islands. Take a look at the wide range of of cruises on <https://explore-ecuador.com/>

This is a sample trip!!! The order of travel, excursions, hotels, it can all be adjusted.

A different hotel? Look at the range of hotels per region or city: <https://explore-ecuador.com/the-mainland/hotels-in-ecuador/>

A different excursion? You can choose per region or city: <https://explore-ecuador.com/the-mainland/excursions-in-ecuador/>

Hacienda tour - 6 days Andes + 3 days Coast - **COMFORT**

Guide price 1 529 USD per person (based on min. 2 people)

ITINERARY

- day 1 arrival in Quito + transfer to Otavalo
- day 2 on your own: visit indigenous market / waterfall of Peguche
- day 3 hiking tour Lake Cuicocha
- day 4 Visiting indigenous villages - transfer to Cotopaxi
- day 5 excursion to Cotopaxi National Park
- day 6 to Riobamba - City Tour and visit to Guano
- day 7 transfer to Milagro - free afternoon
- day 8 free day at the hacienda
- day 9 transfer to Guayaquil

GOOGLE MAPS? CLICK ON THE MAP



day 1

Arrival in Quito

Transfer from Quito to Otavalo in private car (SP-language driver)

You will be picked up by a Spanish-speaking driver at the hotel (or airport) and taken in a private car to the hotel in Otavalo. This drive through the Andes Mountains takes about 2 hours.

Hacienda Cusin - standard room double with breakfast

Hacienda Cusin is a restored, 17th-century estate. The hacienda is located at an altitude of 2,600 meters, near Lake San Pablo and 5 minutes by car from Otavalo. You can stroll through the five acres of landscaped gardens with beautiful vegetation, ponds and patios. In addition, the hacienda offers views of the mountains Imbabura and Cotacachi. You can dine in the restaurant, with its own fruit, vegetables and spices, or in one of the restaurants located on the shores of the lake. For more info see www.haciendacusin.com

day 2

Acclimatization - we suggest two activities that can be done on one's own:

Otavalo - visit to the indigenous market (on your own)

This market in the Plaza de Ponchos is without a doubt the most famous indigenous market in Ecuador. You will find a huge selection of artesanate. The best day to visit this market is on Saturday. There are 4 markets going on simultaneously in different parts of the city. But the artesanate market now also goes on the other days of the week - it is much quieter then. This in turn has its advantages.

Hike to Peguche waterfall (on own)

The 18-meter-high Peguche waterfall is located 4 kilometers south of Otavalo in a beautiful natural park... The local population of Otavalo celebrates the solar festival of Inti Raymi there on June 21. During several days purification rituals are held here. But also during the rest of the year the park is worth a visit.

Hacienda Cusin - standard room double with breakfast

day 3

Hiking around the crater lake of Cuicocha

Cuicocha is one of the most famous lakes in Ecuador. With a private car we drive to the entrance of the reserve Cotacachi-Cayapas, where we start a 5-hour hike that goes between 3100 and 3500 meters above sea level. Along the way we enjoy the biodiversity, the views of the picturesque Lake Cuicocha with its two islets and the view of the peaks Cotacachi, Imbabura and Cayambe.

Difficulty: moderate

Duration: approximately 7 hours

Included: English speaking local guide, private transport, meal or packed lunch

Required: good walking shoes, sun protection, mosquito repellent, fleece or pullover, water (min. 1 liter)

Recommended: camera, binoculars, rain jacket, reasonable physical condition also at altitude

Hacienda Cusin - standard room double with breakfast

day 4

The villages of Cotacachi

A tour of indigenous villages, visiting workshops, organic gardens, a school and Cuicocha Lake.

We begin this tour with a brief explanation of the Cotacachi region, then we visit a weaving workshop in the village of Carabuela. Then we will visit an organic garden and learn about the vegetables and medicinal plants of the Andean region. We continue to La Calera where we visit a small school and a family that makes embroidery. After lunch we finish with a visit to Lake Cuicocha where we take some time to walk or take a short boat trip (optional).

Difficulty: light Duration: approx. 7 hours Included: Guide, private transportation, lunch, entrance

Recommended: camera, water, sun protection, fleece or pullover

Transfer from Otavalo to Cotopaxi in private car

You will be picked up by a Spanish-speaking driver at the hotel and taken in a private car to Cotopaxi. This drive through the Andes takes 3 to 4 hours.

El Porvenir - traditional double room with breakfast

This colorful hacienda lies at the foot of 2 volcanoes: the Cotopaxi and the Rumiñahui. On cloudless days you can see them majestic volcano shining behind the hacienda and on a clear night sky you can see thousands of stars. The hacienda has eight beautiful suites and five standard rooms. All rooms have private bathrooms. The suites have a fireplace and access to the spa. In the spa you will find a Jacuzzi, Temascal baths and you can get a massage. The hacienda rents horses and mountain bikes and has an extensive hiking network. For the children there is a nice climbing course and lots of space to play. There is a restaurant with Ecuadorian and foreign dishes.

For more info see www.tierradelvolcan.com

day 5

The Cotopaxi volcano

The driver will pick you up at the hotel in the morning. The National Park is an hour's drive from Quito. On clear days you can admire the mountain from afar. After a short stop at the Mariscal Sucre information point, where you will receive some explanation about the region and the volcano, we continue to 4500 m altitude. From here we go to the refuge which is 365 meters higher. It is a very steep walk that takes us at least an hour due to the high altitude. Then we descend to the Limpiopungo Lake which lies at the foot of the volcano. This lake is fed by a volcanic glacier; you often see wild horses grazing and Andean foxes hunting. Then we return to the hotel by car.

Difficulty: light-moderate.

What to bring: sun and rain protection, water, sports footwear, camera and warm clothes.

Duration: 6 hours

Includes: English speaking guide, transport and lunch box

El Porvenir - traditional double room with breakfast

day 6

Transfer from Cotopaxi to Riobamba in private car (SP language driver)

The driver will pick you up at the hotel and take you to the hotel in Riobamba. This drive through the mountains takes about 2 hours.

Riobamba city tour

Riobamba is not only surrounded by majestic mountains but also has some beautiful colonial churches. During this city walking tour, a guide will show you the most beautiful spots of the city and at the same time you will learn more about the history of Riobamba. We will visit the main city parks and get a tour of the city's cathedral. Our walk ends with a visit to the museum of Riobamba.

Difficulty: light

Duration: 4 hours

Includes: English speaking guide and transportation

Hacienda Abraspungo - standard room double with breakfast

This beautiful hotel is housed in an ancient hacienda. The hotel has thirty-eight comfortable rooms, all named after a mountain in Ecuador and decorated with a lot of attention to the colonial style. All rooms have direct access to the beautiful gardens. In the restaurant, the chefs surprise you with a culinary high-quality Ecuadorian kitchen. From the hotel you can participate in various activities, such as horseback riding, hiking, etc. You are here in a quiet suburb of Riobamba, about a five-minute drive from the center.

For more information see haciendaabraspungo.com

day 7

Transfer from Riobamba to Milagro in private car (SP language driver)

A Spanish speaking driver will pick you up at the hotel in Riobamba and take you in a private car to the hotel in Milagro.

Duration: approximately 3 hours

Hacienda La Danesa - free day at the hacienda

Check out the hacienda's website to choose from the numerous activities. See www.haciendaladanesa.com

Hacienda La Danesa - Heritage double room with breakfast (low season)

Hacienda La Danesa used to be a large cattle ranch. Now it combines this activity with operating a luxury resort with top-level service. You can eat fresh cheese (made from milk from the farm), attend chocolate workshops (with cocoa from the hacienda) or roll up your sleeves to help milk the cows. The hacienda is an hour and a half's drive from Guayaquil on the way to the Andes Mountains making it pleasantly warm. The property has six guest rooms, all with air conditioning, bathroom, hairdryer, dressing gown and slippers. You can book in-room massages. There is also the possibility of biking, hiking, tubing in the river, etc. You can go horseback riding, visit the nearby nature reserves, take cooking classes etc. La Danesa is a good place to actively relax.

For more info see www.haciendaladanesa.com

day 8

Hacienda La Danesa - free day at the hacienda

Check out the hacienda's website to choose from the numerous activities. See www.haciendaladanesa.com

Hacienda La Danesa - Heritage double room with breakfast (low season)

day 9

Transfer from Milagro to Guayaquil in private car (English speaking guide/driver)

An English-speaking driver will take you in a private car from the hotel in Milagro to the airport in Guayaquil.

Duration: approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes

Total price of this travel proposal per person

1.529 USD

Notes

- * Prices quoted are in US Dollars and apply only when paying in USD directly to our Quito - Ecuador office. Transfer costs are borne by the customer.
- * All transfers are done with a private car and Spanish-speaking driver unless otherwise stated
- * Listed trips and excursions are examples from a wider range. Check out our website for more choice.
- * This travel proposal is based on 2-person standard rooms, unless stated otherwise. Supplements for single or deluxe rooms are available on request.
- * This travel proposal is non-binding, depending on the travel period and subject to availability.
- * The final travel program must take into account certain fixed days of activities, such as native markets, departure dates of cruises and flights, etc. We do everything possible to optimally insert mentioned activities into the program.

Included

- * All hotel stays with breakfast, transfers, domestic flights and excursions as mentioned in the program.
- * Lunch and dinner in accordance with the program if stated.

Not included

- * Drinks, tips and expenses of a personal nature.
- * **International flights to and from Ecuador.**
- * Travel or cancellation insurance.

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