

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/>

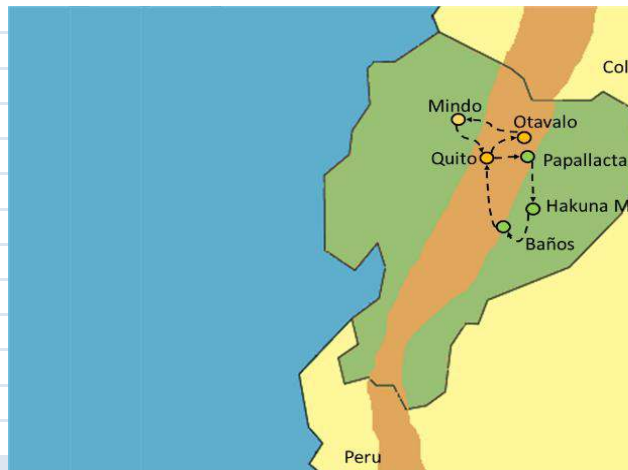
Family trip -7 days Andes + 4 days Amazon - STANDARD

Guide price 1 453 USD per person (based on min. 2 people)

ITINERARY

- day 1 arrival in Quito - transfer to Otavalo
- day 2 Acclimatization (market visit - Peguche waterfall)
- day 3 On horseback to Lake Cuicocha
- day 4 to Quito (colonial center and "active equator museum")
- day 5 via Papallacta to Amazon rainforest
- day 6 day 2 Amazon
- Day 7 Day 3 Amazon
- day 8 day 4 Amazon - to Baños
- day 9 The route of the waterfalls
- Day 10 Rafting on the Rio Pastaza - Beginners and transfer to Quito
- day 11 Transfer to the airport and flight back

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.

Stay with a local family with breakfast and dinner (double)

In the cozy village of La Calera, just outside Cotacachi, you will stay on the farm of an indigenous family. You will have a small but comfortable house with private bathroom with hot water and a fireplace. The inhabitants of La Calera live from horticulture (vegetables, corn and beans), and from weaving. You will have breakfast together with the family and get the chance to really go 'local'. If you want you can participate in the daily activities of this family.

There is no better way to get to know the life of the local community! La Calera has a pleasant spring climate, so would you like to have lunch or dinner with the family? You can coordinate this perfectly with them.

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.

Stay with a local family with breakfast and dinner (double)

day 3

On horseback to Lake Cuicocha

On horseback, enjoy the vistas of the Andes, indigenous villages and a visit to Cuicocha Lake. By carriage, we trek to the village of La Calera, where our horseback ride (5 hours) begins through the countryside and past indigenous villages. When we get to Lake Cuicocha, we rest for a while and take a walk or (optional) a short boat ride on the lake. Then we return to the farm and from there by car to the starting point.

Difficulty: moderate

Duration: approx. 7 hours

Included: English speaking local guide, private transport, horse with equipment

Required: sun protection, fleece or pullover, water, minimum experience with horses

Recommended: camera, clothing that can get dirty

Stay with a local family with breakfast and dinner (double)

day 4

Transfer from Otavalo to Quito in private car

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

Colonial Quito and the Equator Museum

First you visit the historic colonial center of Quito, its churches and squares, the modern city and the panoramic point of the Panecillo hill with the English-speaking guide. Then we drive to the monument at the equator Mitad del Mundo and the Intiñan museum, where several tests show that we are indeed on the equator line. Also fun for children!
Included: English speaking guide and transport in private car.
Not included: entrance to museums and meal en route.
Duration: 5 to 6 hours

San José de Puenbo - colonial room double with breakfast

In rural Puenbo - a 20-minute drive from the airport - you will find this rural hacienda with 4 hectares of greenery and gardens. The hotel has 78 rooms of 4 classes (Colonial, Superior, Suite campestre and Cottage). There is a swimming pool, a gym and a good restaurant. You can go horseback riding and rent bicycles.
For more info see www.sanjosedepuenbo.com

day 5

Transfer from Quito to Archidona in private car - with visit to Papallacta (SP-language driver)

This road trip first leads you high into the Andes - where we stay for a time in Papallacta - before descending into the Amazon jungle, towards Archidona. Papallacta is a small village located on the edge of Cayambe Coca National Park. It is best known for its beautiful volcanic thermal baths. You can also hike there very nicely. You will spend a few hours in Papallacta where you can choose to hike in the National Park or relax in the thermal baths (the entrance to the baths at a cost of 8 USD is not included). Duration: 3 hours driving and 2 hours stop in Papallacta.

Hakuna Matata - Family trip 4D/3N Cabin double

This 150-hectare private hacienda is the place to enjoy the upper Amazon jungle to the fullest. Hakuna Matata is located on the banks of the crystalline Inquillaqui River, between 600 and 850 meters above sea level. The temperature there is ideal. There is a large swimming pool of 22 by 27 meters, a good restaurant with bar and you will also find several marked hiking trails. All rooms have their own terrace and bathroom with hot shower. You can go for nice walks, organize excursions or just lie by the pool.
All included from dinner on day 1 to breakfast on the last dy.
For more information, see www.hakunamatata-ecuador.com

day 6

Hakuna Matata - day 2

[View the attached program](#)

day 7

Hakuna Matata - day 3

day 8

Hakuna Matata - day 4

Transfer from Archidona to Baños in private car

This car ride of 3 to 4 hours takes you through the Amazon forest via Tena to Puyo, at the foot of the Andes. From there it is a one and a half hour steep climb up the Andes to Baños.

Isla de Baños - standard room double with breakfast

Hotel Isla de Baños is located in a quiet neighborhood on the outskirts of Baños and is surrounded by a beautiful tropical garden. There is a good Argentine restaurant (closed on Mondays and Tuesdays) and a nice spa. There are 26 rooms in total, both standard rooms and suites The staff is very friendly and helpful. There is a laundry service and you can rent bikes. The price includes the use of the wooden "sauna tubs". The spa has a small extra cost.
For more info see www.isladebanios.com

day 9

The route of the waterfalls

Today the guide will let you discover several beautiful places in and around Baños by car. You will be able to visit the beautiful waterfall El Pailon del Diablo, cross the Pastaza with a cable car and visit la Casa Del Arbol, where the famous swing is located.
Including: transport, English speaking guide, snack and entrance to the visits
Duration: 7 hours

Isla de Baños - standard room double with breakfast

day 10

Rafting on the Rio Pastaza (level 3 - beginners)

You can make this trip both in the morning and in the afternoon. We leave by car from Baños to Cumandá, where there is a short explanation about the safety regulations. The descent along the river takes about an hour and a half. Then we will have a small lunch and return to Baños.
Difficulty: easy.
What to bring: bathing suit, towel, mosquito spray, sun protection and dry clothes. Included: neoprene suit, life jacket, helmet, water shoes, kayak, guide, transport and packed lunch.
Duration: half day

Transfer from Baños to Quito in private car

This 4-hour drive through the Andes will take you to Quito via Ambato (you will first pass through the Salasaca Indian area) and Latacunga.

San José de Puenbo - colonial room double with breakfast

day 11

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

You will be picked up at the hotel and taken to the airport

Return flight from Quito

Total price of this travel proposal per person
1.453 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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Explore Ecuador - Descubre-Ecuador

Calle Rio Arajuno E6-124

Tumbaco - El Arenal

Quito - Ecuador

Phone +593 99 593 4900

Whatsapp +593 99 593 4900

info@explore-ecuador.com

www.explore-ecuador.com

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& GALAPAGOS

TAILOR MADE TRAVEL