

Ecuador - Signature Ecuador

Trip Code
ECLTSIGE
Departure



Introduction

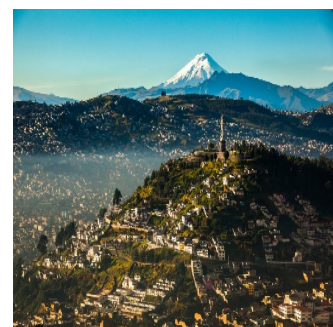
On this trip you will discover the magic of Ecuador, travelling overland from Quito to Guayaquil. Start your trip in Quito, with a stay in a boutique hotel in the old town. Travel to Cotopaxi and Chimborazo NP and enjoy the stunning scenery and then continue into the highlands to explore Riobamba and Cuenca. A highlight of the trip will be a visit to the indigenous town of Saraguro where you will enjoy a weaving workshop before having lunch at Shamuico. The head chef Samuel Ortega is a native from Saraguro who spent several years in Spain, where he studied gastronomy and worked at many high-end restaurants.

If you would like to explore more of Ecuador this tour can easily be combined with a trip to the Galapagos, Amazon or Ecuadorian Cloud Forest.

Itinerary

DAY 1: Arrival in Quito

You will arrive in the city of Quito, the capital of Ecuador. The city is situated 2,850 metres above sea level within the Andean foothills and is known for its snow-capped mountain backdrop, colonial architecture and artwork. Once part of the Incan Empire, Quito has been declared a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site thanks to its well-preserved historic centre. Transfer to your boutique hotel, located in the old town and you're free to explore on your arrival.



Ecuador - Signature Ecuador

Trip Code

ECLTSIGE

Departure

Daily

Duration Quito Six Senses Tour

9 Days

Locations Today you will enjoy a tour of the charming City of Quito. The tour will tick off all of the main sites, including Independence Square, the Government Palace, the busy street of La Ronda and some of the beautiful baroque churches that the city is famous for. You will also enjoy a range of experiences. These will vary depending on the day and the time of year, but can include things like market visits, empanada or ice cream making (and tasting), working with an artisan to make your own Panama hat or even helping to restore colonial art! Your tour will end with a cocktail at a rooftop bar where you will have the perfect view over the old town and Panecillo hill. (B)



DAY 3: Cotopaxi National Park

Today you will head south from Quito to visit Cotopaxi National Park. Cotopaxi is the highest active volcano in the world. Despite the altitude, the park is home to numerous birds and varied plant life. Weather permitting, there are spectacular views from the north face of the mountain. The surrounding scenery includes volcanoes like Pasochoa, Ruminahui and Sincholagua. You will also have the opportunity to visit a local indigenous market. At the end of the tour you will transfer to your charming Hacienda accommodation nearby for an overnight. (B, L)



Ecuador - Signature Ecuador

Trip Code

ECLTSIGE

Departure

Day 4: Chimborazo National Park

Duration

9 Days Enjoy an excursion to Chimborazo National

Park a sanctuary of Ecuador's natural

Ecuador Witness the imposing presence of

Chimborazo volcano and explore the park's

history at the Visitor Center. Ascend to the

Andean highlands for panoramic views of

snow-capped peaks and pristine lakes,

guided by an expert naturalist. Conclude

your day with a transfer to your hotel in

Riobamba and overnight. (B)



DAY 5: Riobamba to Cuenca

Enjoy a scenic drive to Alausi, stopping at the historic 'Balbanera' Church, Ecuador's first Catholic church dating back to 1534.

Continue to the charming village of

Guamote, visiting the Inti Sisa community's

educational center. Here, delve into the

traditional art of weaving as a local artisan

demonstrates the intricate process of

crafting ponchos from sheep and alpaca

wool. Gain insight into the daily lives of

mountain-dwelling communities by stepping

into an authentic Andean house, or Choza.

After a picturesque 45-minute drive, arrive

in Alausi to enjoy panoramic views from San

Pedro hill and a folkloric presentation,

followed by a leisurely stroll through the

Valley. Continuing onwards to Cuenca,

marvel at the awe-inspiring Inca Ruins of

Ingapirca, a remarkable fortress blending

Inca and Cañari architecture. Arrive into

Cuenca, and check into your boutique hotel.

This evening immerse yourself in the cities

vibrant cultural tapestry. (B,L)



Ecuador - Signature Ecuador

Trip Code

ECLTSIGE

Departure

Days: 6: Cuenca

Duration

9 Days city tour of Cuenca, starting your

Take a day with the breathtaking views from the

location in Ecuador.

9 Days city tour of Cuenca, starting your
Take a day with the breathtaking views from the
location in Ecuador.

Wander through the picturesque 'Barranco' district, lined with terraced houses along the Tomebamba River, before delving into the rich cultural heritage of the city at the Pumapungo Museum. Witness the artistry behind Panama hat crafting at a local factory, where 'Paja toquilla' fiber hats are intricately made. Explore Cuenca's Historical district, discovering vibrant markets, the grand 'New Cathedral,' and the timeless beauty of Colonial and Republican architecture in the main square. (B)



DAY 7: Saraguro & Pucara

Departing Cuenca, traverse through the Andes and enjoy the tranquil beauty of rural villages, expansive cattle farms, and quaint farmlands. Upon reaching Saraguro visit the quaint and traditional village of Guera. Here, you'll gain insights into local culture with a visit to a charming house museum, sampling the region's typical drink, 'Uahango.' Continuing your exploration, visit Pucara, a historically significant site revered for its strategic importance as both a war observatory and spiritual sanctuary. Marvel at the sweeping vistas of the Yunguilla Valley. Return to Saraguro to explore the region's rich textile heritage at a traditional workshop, where skilled artisans demonstrate intricate loom techniques. The highlight of today will be lunch at Shamuico restaurant, led by Chef Samuel Ortega, a Saraguro native with extensive culinary expertise garnered from Spain. (B,L)



Ecuador - Signature Ecuador

Trip Code

ECLTSIGE

Departure

Day 8: Cuenca to Guayaquil via Cajas NP

Duration

9 Days Following a hearty breakfast, venture
west towards the captivating expanse

Ecuador of Cajas National Park. Upon arrival, a
plethora of activities awaits, including
invigorating hikes, immersive bird-watching
experiences and tranquil lakeside walks.
Marvel at the diverse flora and fauna. A
highlight of the park visit is exploring the
Interpretation Center nestled beside La
Toreadora Lake. Your journey continues
towards the vibrant city of Guayaquil, with
travelers treated to breathtaking mountain
scenery and delightful transitions in
vegetation as we approach the enchanting
Ecuadorian coastline, promising a sensory
feast for all. On arrival check into your hotel
and the rest of the day is yours to relax or
explore.



DAY 9: Depart Guayaquil

Take the included shuttle from your hotel to
the airport in time for your onward
departure.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation Hotels

Ecuador - Signature Ecuador

Trip Code
ECLTSIGE
Departure
Daily
Duration
9 Days
Locations
Ecuador

Inclusions

Private transfers throughout with a local driver and/or guide
Shared transfer from Mindo to Quito
Accommodation with breakfast daily
Other meals where stated
Sightseeing with local English-speaking guide as detailed in the itinerary
Small group sightseeing while in Mindo at Jungle Lodge

Inclusions

Exclusions

International and internal flights not indicated
Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)
Travel Insurance
Beverages unless otherwise specified
Personal expenses
Gratuities for tour guides/drivers
Any items not mentioned as included

Difficulty Rating

2 (Light Adventure)

Single Surcharge

A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

Prices are based on per person, twin share.

Notes

Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.

All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Price Dependent upon Seasonality, currency fluctuation, and availability at time of booking.

Sustainability