



**U.TRAVEL VACATIONS.** license : 11/07022

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## Ecuador: Full program 15 Days & 14 Nights – 2014

**TOUR CODE : EC112103ZF**

### **Day 1: Quito**

Upon arrival at the airport you will be welcomed and transferred to your hotel.

### **Day 2: Quito**

After an early breakfast, the tour will begin by the historic center of Quito, declared in 1978 Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. We will start with a panoramic viewing of Alameda Park and the Basilica and then go through the street of the Seven Crosses. You also visit the Presidential Palace, Independence Square, the main Cathedral, the Church of La Compañía, the church of San Francisco and its area. Later in the morning the tour will continue to the north of the city to the equator line to visit the Center of the Earth. You can choose to visit the Ethnographic Museum or the Museum of Intinyan. They are both located close to the equator line monument. You will then go back to Quito.

### **Day 3: Otavalo**

After breakfast you will go to the province of Imbabura. On the way, you will stop in Calderon Guayabamba to watch the manufacturing figures and taste the typical products. Later, you will visit the observation deck of Santa Rosa de Kusubamba towards Cayambe where we will open a majestic view of the "Avenue of the Volcanoes". In Cayambe you will be able to taste many traditional products. From the observation deck Miralago you will be able to enjoy wonderful views of the Imbabura Volcano and Lake San Pablo with their communities Aledanyas. Around noon we will arrive in the city of Otavalo, where we will have the opportunity to visit the famous Ponchos area with the largest Indian market in all of South America. You will be able to bargain and buy handmade Native American items. The tour will then continue to the settlement of Cotacachi, famous for the production of leather garments. We will then return to Quito.

### **Day 4: Cotopaxi Volcano & Riobamba**

After breakfast we head south to the Cotopaxi National Park. On the way, we pass by different villages such as Sangolki, Aloag and Machachi. We continue our way south to the city of Ambato and visit its original Indian market. Later in the morning we will arrive to the National Park, tourists will carry out a short hike and visit the Cotopaxi National Park and the lagoon Limpiopungo. Cotopaxi is the highest active volcano in the world (5,897 meters). Records of its activities date back to the year 1534, when the conquistadors arrived on the scene now known as Ecuador. It is home to various species of animals, such as the Andean wolves, mountain lions, deer and marsupial mice. In the afternoon you will continue your journey to the city of Riobamba, where we walk through the park and visit the curious monument of Neptune. We also visit the school Pedro Vicente Maldonado and the central square with the Cathedral, City Hall and Government House.

### **Day 5: Riobamba & Ingapirca Cuenca**

After breakfast the day begins with a journey by train from Riobamba to Alausi to the famous "Nariz del Diablo" (Devil's Nose). Along the way we will make a few stops at the church Balbanera, Colt and Indian Lake City Guamote. After the "Devil's Nose" we will continue the journey to the ruins of Ingapirca. The ruins of Ingapirca are the largest and most important archaeological site of the Inca Empire in Ecuador, whose ruins date from the XV and XVI centuries AD. The real story of the ruins still remains a mystery. After visiting the ruins, we will finish our journey on the road to Cuenca. Note: The train does not operate on Mondays.

### **Day 6: Cuenca**

After breakfast, you will have a tour of the city of Cuenca, Ecuador's most beautiful city, declared Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO in 1999 for its colonial architecture. Cuenca is famous for its cobbled paths, colonial houses with



balconies, plazas, Indian markets with the Indian handicrafts production. We visit the area of flowers, old and new Cathedral, the Place Abdon Calderon, observation deck Turi and typical art gallery. Take advantage of this opportunity and buy rugs, jewels of silver or incorrectly called Panama sombreros, which are produced only in Ecuador.

#### **Day 7: Cajas National Park & Guayaquil**

After breakfast you will go to Cajas National Park, located 30km west of Cuenca. Located at an altitude of 3,000 meters above sea level, the region still shows signs of intense volcanic activity. From the highest point, which is called the Three Crosses, you can see the water is dividing into two areas, one of which flows into the Pacific Ocean, and the second is flowing to the Atlantic Ocean.

#### **Day 8: Guayaquil**

After breakfast you will have a city tour in Guayaquil with panoramic visits and walks through the city. The first stop will be made to the Administrative area, surrounded by City Hall, Monument Sucre and Seminario Park, also known as the Iguana Park. Later we will head to South Quay Malecon 2000, where you can appreciate the Union Square with its famous South Market or the Crystal Palace, and then we will go to the Plaza de Olmedo, a very famous and important monument of Jose Joaquin Olmedo, a well-known poet of Guayaquil and ex- President of the Republic. Our third stop will take us along different important monuments of the city's history, from the Tower of the Moriscos. Then we head to the monument Rotunda, which consists of statues Simon Bolivar and San Martin.

#### **Day 9: Galapagos Islands**

After breakfast we fly from Quito to Baltra Island. Then we take the public boat to the island of Isabela for 3h. After a short rest go to the Flamingo Lagoon. This location is the largest of the coastal lagoon located in the Galapagos and one of the main reproductive sites for the majority of flamingos. Diner is included.

#### **Day 10: Isabela Island**

After breakfast, we will go on a tour to the volcano Black Earth. This volcano is located 13 miles from the Port Villamil and is the world's second -largest crater, measuring 6 miles in diameter and 300 feet high. We will walk through the crater and enjoy the beautiful view of the beach. In the way a light lunch will be provided. After lunch we return to the hotel and later we will have the opportunity to do snorkeling in Concha Perla. All meals are included.

#### **Day 11: Isabela Island**

After breakfast we will go to a breeding center for giant tortoises. From 1946 to 1959, the island of Isabela was a place for the colonies of the Ecuadorian government. The prisoners who were in those places were required to build the walls of the huge lava blocks. Due to the hard work and the harsh conditions in which the prisoners were held, the place is known as "El Muro de las Lagrimas". In addition, we will visit a small lava tunnel and another flamingo lagoon. After lunch we will sail to the Island Tintorerias. We can observe penguins, sea lions, marine iguanas and swim with colorful tropical fish while enjoying the beaches of the island of Isabela. All meals are included.

#### **Day 12: Santa Cruz**

At 6, we will take the public high-speed boat from the island of Isabela in Port Ira where you will be transferred to your hotel where you can have breakfast. Then we will visit the Highlands of Santa Cruz Island. Here we can enjoy the beautiful view, and see the giant tortoises in their natural habitat. After lunch we return to the Highlands to Port Ira and go to the Charles Darwin Research Station and the Interpretation Centre. Here we have a wonderful opportunity to see the "Lonesome George", the last of the tortoises of the Galapagos of its kind. All meals are included.

#### **Day 13: Floreana Island**

After breakfast we will go to the dock and take our speed boat to Floreana Island, which is about 2 hours. The first stop will serve for scuba diving on Floreana Lauber. Then you will see caves that were used by pirates as a shelter many years ago, a peaceful haven and habitat Witmer, one of the first inhabitants of the island. Then we'll see how people extract fresh water on the island, and we will be able to taste this vital liquid.



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**Day 14: Santa Cruz Island, Crater Twins & Quito**

After breakfast we go to the Baltra airport, on the way we will stop at Craters Twins, two similar craters that were formed by the decay of the earth because of the lava flows that pass underneath. The tour will end after arriving at the airport where we fly to Quito.

**Day 15: Quito**

After breakfast you will be transferred to the airport in time for your flight.

Ecuador Program - Land Tour & Galapagos 15d/14n (2014)						
TOUR CODE : EC112103ZF						
Category Hotel	1 pax	2 pax	3-5 pax	6-10 pax	11-16 pax	Single Supp
Tourist	\$7.990	\$4.865	\$4.630	\$3.535	\$3.120	\$285
Tourist Superior	\$8,680	\$5.305	\$5.070	\$3.975	\$3.560	\$520
First Class	\$9.960	\$6.365	\$6.440	\$5.035	\$4.620	\$650

**Including:**

- Transfers specified in the program
- Accommodation
- Meals specified in the program
- Taxes and fees

**Not including:**

- Meals and services not included in the program
- Flights
- Entrance to Galapagos National Park USD 115 per person \*
- Payment for card Inga USD 12 per person \*
- Tips
- The payment for the dock on the island of Isabela \$ 5.00 USD per person \*
- Horse Island
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages
- Any other unspecified services