

Happy
Gringo



Ecuador Family Experience Tour



ECUADOR FAMILY EXPERIENCE TOUR : DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

Day	Description	Meals	Spanish Speaking Driver or English Speaking Guide
1	<p>Arrival Quito - our driver will meet you at airport arrivals and transfer you to the hotel. Free time to relax and acclimatise to your new surroundings.</p>	-	SSD
2	<p>Mitad del Mundo & Water Museum: Begin with a visit to the Equator line - stand with your family literally in the Middle of the World! We will also take you to the Inti Ñan museum where you can prove (or disprove) various scientific phenomenon that only hold true at the equator. In the afternoon we head to the Yaku water museum where you can play, discover and investigate about the importance of water to our planet. There are a range of fun and educational activities of which the most popular blowing giant water bubbles!</p>	B	ESG
3	<p>Guayllabamba zoo and transfer to Otavalo: We start with a visit to the Zoo in Guayllabamba, here you can see animals from all four regions of Ecuador including Andean Condor, rainforest macaws, Galapagos Giant tortoise and Iguanas from the coast. The zoo is situated in a beautiful tropical arid landscape and has trails for walks around the zoo. After this visit we travel further north to the town of Otavalo - for sure your kids will fall asleep in the car dreaming about lions and bears!</p>	B	SSD



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4	<p>Otavalo Animal Market + Condor Park and Back To Quito: In the early morning you visit the animal market (Saturdays only) where indigenous people from the surrounding villages gather together to haggle for all kinds of animals - from guinea pigs to ducks, horse and cows. It's an interesting sight and a lot of fun! Afterwards you will visit the colourful Indian handicraft market on the Plaza de Ponchos where you can admire a whole range of handmade crafts and textiles. On the way back to Quito we pay a short visit to the Condor Park where you will see a "falconry" demonstration where a few eagles do what they do best... fly over the beautiful mountains of Otavalo!</p>	B	SSD
5	<p>Boliche train ride, transfer to Hacienda: In the morning we take you on a historic train-ride from Quito to Boliche. On the way you can get off in Machachi to enjoy their culture, music and traditional dances. The train then continues to an incredible nature park, called El Boliche with beautiful dense forest at 3500 meters above sea level. You can enjoy a nature walk before we transfer you to an old historical hacienda close to the Cotopaxi national park.</p>	B	SSD
6	<p>Cotopaxi National Park - Transfer to Baños, Stay at a Hotel with swimming -pool: Early in the morning we will drive through the Cotopaxi National Park and admire the beautiful volcano and the surrounding lava formations. If you think you are in good shape, we can even drive you up to the parking lot from where you can hike up to the first refuge and even up to the glacier! After the Cotopaxi visit we will transfer you to the lovely little town of Baños.</p>	BL	ESG



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7	<p>Valley of the Waterfalls: In the morning you will have a spectacular trip through the beautiful Valley of the Waterfalls in a traditional Chiva, a colorful open air bus. You will visit The Pailon del Diablo (Devil's cauldron) the largest and most spectacular of the falls but other smaller ones are also impressive. The afternoon is free, and our driver is at your disposal to give you maximum flexibility in the visits you would like to make.</p>	B	SSD
8	<p>Transfer to Cuenca. Visit Ingapirca along the way: Today begins with a long drive down the Andes to the beautiful colonial town of Cuenca. Along the way we will make an unforgettable visit to the most impressive Inca Ruins within Ecuador Ingapirca. This place was built in the 15th Century on a strategic hilltop with excellent views over the surrounding countryside - kids can imagine how it would have been to live at this ancient site. A local guide will explain you all about the origin and purpose of the ruins as well as a full lowdown on Inca history in Ecuador. You will spend the night at a real hacienda close to Cuenca.</p>	B	SSD
9	<p>Cuenca Pottery Baking and Hat Factory: Early wakeup call to experience the life at the hacienda - collect fresh eggs from the chicken, milk the cows, and feed the farm animals! After breakfast we will take you on an interesting trip to the Panama hat factory - Cuenca is a very famous place for making these popular hats and there is a great showroom to try hats on. We will continue the trip visiting a ceramics artisan where you also have the chance to make your own artwork. Your piece will be baked and delivered to the hotel the following day.</p>	BL	ESG



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10	<p>El Cajas National Park Trip: A full day exploring the nearby El Cajas National Park - the lake district of Ecuador with beautiful carved glacial valleys, lakes and paramo landscapes. The perfect place to see the curious Polylepis tree (the world's highest altitude tree). At an extra cost we could organize a short horseback riding tour in the park as well.</p>	BL	ESG
11	<p>Half Day City Tour and Back to Quito: In the morning you will have a city tour amidst the white-washed buildings and cobbled streets of Cuenca. An introductory tour to the colonial highlights of the city including its handsome plazas and domed churches, followed by free time to explore the city by yourselves. An afternoon flight takes you back to Quito.</p>	B	ESG
12	<p>Transfer out: Your driver will transfer you back to the airport in time for your flight back to Quito.</p>	B	SSD



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Inclusions:

- ✓ Accommodation in double/twin rooms (or triple for odd-numbered groups who do not wish to pay any single supplement)
- ✓ Private transport with local Spanish-speaking driver throughout tour
- ✓ Meals as listed in itinerary
- ✓ Activities as listed in itinerary
- ✓ Boliche train ticket
- ✓ English speaking guide at Quito day 2, Cotopaxi, El Cajas, and Cuenca City Tour, as well as for Panama hat visit and pottery activity
- ✓ Cuenca/Quito flight

Exclusions:

- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Local entry fees
- ✗ Single supplement (applies for a single room for somebody travelling alone then please ask our staff for a solo traveler price quote)
- ✗ Personal expenses
- ✗ Tips



This program can be adapted to your personal needs - just let us if you would like to make any changes, we'll be happy to help!

NOTE: Licensed English-speaking guides are more expensive per day than Spanish-speaking drivers. For that reason this tour has a mix of both included, in order to balance trip cost with service level for you. Of course the mix is flexible, so if you would like to make changes then just let us know.



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