



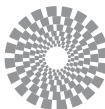
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ECUADOR

Safe Destination

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ecuador



love life

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NOTE:

In the middle of this guide, you will find the following maps:

- Tourist Map of Ecuador
- National Distribution of ECU911 Centers Map
- Police Infrastructure - National Police and the Ministry of the Interior Map
- Health Centers from the Ministry of Public Health Map



"La Compañía de Jesús" church, Quito, Pichincha province.



Ministry of Tourism, Quito.

This guide assembles essential recommendations that tourists should consider when travelling around Ecuador, to ensure that their stay will be totally enjoyable,

so Ecuador could position itself as a "Safe Destination" and world reference in sustainable tourism that offers visitors a unique life changing experience.



North view of Cotopaxi volcano, Cotopaxi province.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS



Travel Documents

Ecuadorians

- Passport or valid ID that accredits the Ecuadorian nationality.

Foreigners or residents

- Valid passport with the respective visa
- CAN and MERCOSUR: passport or ID
- Andean card

Citizens who require a visa to enter Ecuador

It is likely that the Migration Offices request a return ticket to verify that the stay does not exceed 90 days allowed for tourists.



- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Nepal
- Nigeria
- Pakistan
- Somalia
- Senegal
- Cuba

Vaccines

For your safety, it is necessary that you have the yellow fever vaccine.

VAT refund

Foreign tourists can apply to VAT refund for their consumptions of goods manufactured in Ecuador and accommodation services in

those establishments which are part of this process that can be identified with the logo shown below:



- VAT in Ecuador is 12%.
- VAT refund is applied in amounts exceeding USD 50,00 per invoice.
- From the amount to be refund, USD 3,00 will be deducted due to administrative costs.
- VAT accreditation to the applicant will be done through credit card (DINERS CLUB, MASTERCARD AND VISA).
- To successfully access to this benefit, the tourist must complete the refund form properly.

For more information please visit: <http://www.sri.gov.ec/web/guest/devolucion-del-iva-a-turistas-extranjeros>

Asset entry control

In compliance with the provisions of the Organic Law of Prevention, Detection and Eradication of the Crime of Money Laundering and Financing Offences, all passengers arriving to or departing from the country with cash equal or greater than ten thousand dollars of the United States of America (USD 10,000.00) or its equivalent in other currencies, must declare it to the competent authorities.



Malecón 2000, Guayaquil, Guayas province.

CITIZEN SECURITY



For Emergencies:

- If you travel with a Smartphone, you could install the free APP ECU 911 of the Integrated Emergency Service to be attended immediately.
- Dial 911 and report any emergency or if you witness any unlawful act.
- The system to receive theft complaints can be found on the following link: <https://www.fiscalia.gob.ec/denuncias-on-line-para-turistas/>

Safe Transport (Transporte Seguro)

Ecuador has a safe transport system, with vehicles registered and recognized by the National Transit Agency.



Recommendations to take a taxi:

- Request taxi services in your hotel or restaurant.

If you are going to take a taxi on the street, you should consider that:

- It must be yellow with an orange license plate.
- It must have a secure transportation logo.
- It must display the registration number on the doors.
- It should have a security camera and an emergency button.
- It must have a tariff meter (taximeter).



Recommendations for bus trips:

- For interprovincial or inter-cantonal

trips, you should take the transportation only in the bus terminals of each city.

- If possible do not sleep during the trip. If you need to sleep then put your belongings at the reach of your hands.
- If you leave your large backpack and / or suitcase in the cellar of the bus, ask for a voucher, ticket or receipt of your given luggage.
- Check that your luggage located in the overhead compartments is secure.
- If you put your backpack on the floor, place it in front of your feet.



Recommendation if traveling in rental cars:

Remember that the speed limits in Ecuador are:

- 50 km per hour in the city
- 90 km per hour on perimeter roads
- 100 km per hour on highways

Avoid paying fines if you exceed these limits



Recommendation to navigate:

- If you like navigation, either in the sea or in rivers, do it with a travel agency and/or tour operator that have updated operating permits.



In banks and ATMs:

- If you need to exchange money you should do it exclusively in banks and exchange houses. If possible, do it in a bank branch that is inside a Shopping Center.
- If you go to the bank or ATM, try to be accompanied.
- Use ATMs in well-lit public places.
- Do not accept the help or company of strangers.



In Protected Areas:

- All Natural Protected Areas in Ecuador are free of access, except for the Galapagos National Park. (May aware that environment ministry may change this policy any time).
- To visit the Protected Areas, you must do it through a Travel Agency or Tour Operator that provides guiding service with professionals certified by the tourism authority.

Other Recommendations

- Keep frequent communication with your family and friends.
- Always leave valuables in the hotel safety box.
- Be cautious when visiting busy places or when you go to bars or clubs.
- If you require information, ask for it at the hotel reception, tour operators or friends who live at the destination you are visiting. If possible do not consult with strangers.





Plaza San Francisco, Quito, Pichincha province.



Cathedral of Cuenca, Azuay province.

RISK MANAGEMENT



The Secretariat of Risk Management and the articulated entities work for a culture of prevention that allows society and national entities to be ready to face any adverse event.

It is important for tourists to be well-informed of all natural or anthropic risks that may occur while visiting the country. For this reason, it is recommended to use official channels in case of any event:

- Secretariat of Risk Management: <http://www.gestionderiesgos.gob.ec/>
- Geophysical Institute: <https://twitter.com/igecuador?lang=en>
- APP "Ecuador Seguro"

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF:



Earthquakes

- Lie on the floor, cover, hold on and place yourself under a desk or a sturdy table.
- Stay away from windows, glasses, mirrors, exterior doors or walls and everything that may fall over you like lamps and furniture.
- If there is no table or desk nearby, cover your face and head with your arms, bend over away from windows and shelves.
- If you are on the street, move away from poles and power lines.



Volcanic Eruption

- Pay attention to the information delivered by the authorities in charge of handling the crisis and follow their recommendations.
- Use mask and goggles if ash falls.
- Wear clothing that covers all the body.
- Keep calm and follow the instructions to apply the contingency plans.

- Take care of your personal safety before helping others.



Tsunami

- Go inland to a higher place. Do not wait for the official tsunami warning.
- Stay away from rivers and estuaries that lead to the sea.
- Never stay to witness a tsunami.
- Pay attention to the official information; do not listen to unsubstantiated rumors.



Landslides

- If you are in a mountain range area, do not stay near ravines.
- If you evacuate, do it to the places that authorities have determined as safe areas.
- If the landslide is near and you cannot evacuate to a safe area, search protection in the higher parts of any property (higher floors of houses, roofs and buildings).
- If you are driving and arrive to an affected area, avoid crossing it and distance yourself from there.
- Stay away from the area affected by the landslide because other landslides may occur.



Floods

- If you are near a lake, lagoon, river or ravine, and you witness an increase in the flow or flood, go to a high safe area.
- Disconnect all the electronic devices.
- Evacuate from where you are to a safe area. If you cannot, leave the lower floors and go to higher floors or structures.
- Do not walk in flooded zones or roads, it is recommended to do it in higher places free

of water.

- When authorities said so, return to your lodging.
- Do not drink water until the authorities advice you it is safe to do it.



Forest Fire

- If you see a fire or smoke in zones of vegetation please call 911.
- Keep calm and follow the instructions of the authorities and rescue teams.
- Disconnect all the electronic devices.
- Make sure to cover your mouth and nose with a damp cloth to not inhale smoke.
- Do not go back to a fire zone until the authorities give you the order to do so. The fire could reactivate.





Galápagos Islands.





HEALTH

To fully enjoy your trip be aware of the following recommendations:

- If you suffer from a disease, it is necessary to bring with you the medicine you need to take during your journey.
- The Public Health Network of the country is activated. In case of an emergency or if you need a personalized attention, you can go to the nearest health center.
- In the website GeoSalud, you may find at your disposal the georeferenced State Medical Network. You may look for the health establishment nearest to you at the following link: <https://geosalud.msp.gov.ec/>

To avoid other kind of diseases, it is important to be aware of the following recommendations:

- Wear protective clothing with long sleeves and trousers, especially at sunset and sunrise to avoid bug bites.
- Use nets or meshes in windows in places of high density of mosquitos.
- Employ mosquito repellent according to your skin type.
- Use sunscreen.

Basílica del Voto Nacional,
Quito, Pichincha province.



Railroad track near to Chimborazo volcano, Chimborazo province.

ADVENTURE MODALITIES



To safeguard the integrity of travelers that carry out adventure tourism in Ecuador, the Ministry of Tourism has created a regulatory framework, adequate and responsible to develop this activity.

The adventure modalities are classified according to the natural element where they are developed (land, water or air) and are:

Earth

- Horseback riding
- Canyoning
- Bicycle Touring
- Climbing
- Caving
- Mountain climbing
- Trekking

Water

- Recreational modalities with the use of motorized vessels (buoy, banana, parasailing and water skiing).
- Diving
- Sea/lake kayaking
- River kayaking
- Kitesurfing
- Rafting
- Snorkeling
- Surfing
- Tubing

Air

- Hang-gliding
- Canopying
- Paragliding

***To carry out each one of these modalities, it is necessary you consider the following indications:**

- Recognize if you have the required physical ability for each adventure modality.
- Hire a registered tour operator.
- Demand the use of the adequate security equipment.
- The consumption of narcotic substances and alcohol are forbidden.
- Use repellent and sunscreen in the mountains and tropical and warm zones.
- Wear the adequate clothes for each adventure modality.
- Bring along hydrating beverages and other items depending on the activities and requirements of the tour or planned visit.
- Inform the guides of any allergies or preexistent diseases.
- Confirm that the guide has its first aid kit to attend any requirements.
- Follow the indications of the guide.
- Verify with the tour operator the schedules, weather conditions, geography, obligatory equipment, minimum age and number of guides or instructors that are necessary to carry out each adventure modality.
- Keep in mind the complexity of the rivers, since the ones of grade IV and V are intended for professionals.



HIGH MOUNTAIN



Headlamp 1

2 Helmet

Sunglasses 3

Buff 4

5 Backpack

Mid layer

7

Retains heat, helps sweat drain. Material like Polyester, polypropylene or new generation wool.

6 Base layer

Removes sweat, prevents humidity and cold. Material like Polyester or polypropylene.

8 Outer layer

Waterproof jacket protects against moisture, wind and rain. Material gre-tex.

Gloves

9

Thermal

10 Harness

11 Mittens

Waterproof and breathable.

Carabiners 12

13 Pants

Waterproof gore tex.

Ice axe 14

15 Dynamic rope

Base layer leggings 16

17 Mountain gaiters

Protect from wounds, snow and sand.

Mountaineer socks 18

20 Mountaineering boots

Crampons 19

MID MOUNTAIN





CLIMBING



TRAIL RUNNING



OFFICES AT NATIONAL LEVEL



The Ministry of Tourism of Ecuador in coordination with the entities of response have an assistance and accompaniment protocol for foreign tourists in case of emergency. Should require assistance, please find below the details of the offices at national level:



QUITO, HEADQUARTERS

(Canton of Quito)

- Briceño E 1 - 24 and Guayaquil
- La Licuadora Building
- 170403 - Quito
- Telephone number: +593(2) 3999 333



ZONE 1 COORDINATION

(Provinces of Esmeraldas, Carchi, Imbabura and Sucumbios)

- Sucre 14-72 and Teodoro Gómez Av.
- Next to Instituto Médico de Especialidades
- 2nd Floor.
- 100101 Ibarra
- Telephone number: +593(6) 2958 547



ZONE 2 COORDINATION

(Province of Pichincha, except Canton of Quito; Provinces of Napo and Orellana)

- Chimborazo and Quito, Azriel Shopping Building
- 1st Floor.
- 220202 - Francisco de Orellana
- Telephone number: +593(6) 2881 583



ZONE 3 COORDINATION

(Provinces of Pastaza, Cotopaxi, Tungurahua and Chimborazo)

- Argentinos St. and Carlos Zambrano Av.
- Next to Chimborazo International Hotel
- 060107 - Riobamba
- Telephone number: +593(3) 2946 682



ZONE 4 COORDINATION

(Provinces of Manabi and Santo Domingo de los Tsachilas)

- Los Nardos St. and 15 de Abril Av.



Behind the Ecu-911



130102-Portoviejo



Telephone number: +593(5) 3043 711



ZONE 5 AND 9 COORDINATIONS

(Provinces of Guayas, Los Rios, Santa Elena and Bolivar)

- Francisco de Orellana Av. and Justino Cornejo
- Gobierno del Litoral Building
- 8th Floor
- 090506 - Guayaquil
- Telephone number: +593(4) 2068 508



ZONE 6 COORDINATION

(Provinces of Azuay, Cañar and Morona Santiago)

- 3 and Hermano Miguel
- (Escalinata House)
- 010203 - Cuenca
- Telephone number: +593(7) 2838 209 - 2839 557 Ext 2702



ZONE 7 COORDINATION

(Provinces of El Oro, Loja and Zamora Chinchipe)

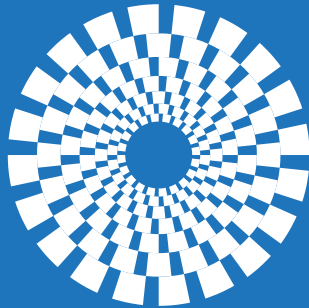
- Sucre 191-31 St and Quito Corner
- INPC Building
- 110101 - Loja
- Telephone number: +593(7) 2572 964



GALAPAGOS COORDINATION

(Province of Galapagos)

- Charles Binford St. and 12 de Febrero St.
- Reference: Ex IESS dispensary, House of Mr. Washington Martínez.
- 200102- Santa Cruz Island
- Telephone number: +593(5) 2526 174



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