

## Discovery of Ecuador within 9 days

Quito > Quito

9 days



This tour will make you discover, within 9 days, the Andes of Ecuador, its volcanic landscapes as well as the Amazon rainforest and its extraordinary biodiversity. Between culture, meeting people and natural parks, we will together discover a wonderful country.

Day 1	Quito > National Park Cotopaxi	Day 6	Flight to the Amazon rainforest
Day 2	Cotopaxi > Banos > Pailon del Diablo > Monkey forest (Paseo de los monos)	Day 7	Amazon Rainforest
Day 3	Banos > Chimborazo volcano > Riobamba	Day 8	Amazon Rainforest
Day 4	Riobamba > Train Nariz del Diablo > Ingapirca > Cuenca	Day 9	Amazon Rainforest > Flight back to Quito
Day 5	Visit of Cuenca > Flight back to Quito		

## Day 1 – July 23th 2011 : Quito > Cotopaxi National Park

Accommodation : Comfort : *Cuello de Luna* // Superior : *Hacienda La Cienega*

In the morning, we will meet our guide in Quito in order to start our tour through the Andes. We will start with the visit of the Cotopaxi National Park where the highest active volcano of the world is, with its 19.320 feet of altitude.

This beautiful volcano Cotopaxi, meaning in Kichwa crescent moon, will keep an eye on us while we are hiking in the park. Between 1 hour and 6 hours hike depending on our wish, through lunar and typical Andean landscapes. During this day, we will observe the Andean Páramo vegetation made of High herbs and the wild horses as well as the Chagras, name given to the farmers riding horses in Ecuador while taking care of the livestock. We will also go to the *Limpipungo* lagoon where many Andean birds reproduce.

*The Cotopaxi National Park* is one of the most beautiful and impressive place in Ecuador. This represents one of the strength point of the tour ! Diner and night next to the Cotopaxi park.

*Repas : LD*

*Transportation duration: 2h // Visit duration: de 1h à 6h*



## Day 2 – July 24th 2011 : Cotopaxi > Banos

Accommodation : Comfort : *Monte Selva* // Superior : *Hacienda Leito*

We will leave the region of the Cotopaxi after breakfast to take the road of the very charming town of Banos. Being at a lower altitude (6.000 feet), Banos offers a warmer climate than any other city in the Ecuadorian Andes. The volcano *Tungurahua* overhang the town and pour its sulphurous water into swimming-pools where we will have the possibility to have a bath ! (optional activity).

From Banos, we will drive towards Puyo, one city which represents a « door » to the forest. On the road between Banos and Puyo, we will stop by the « Pailon del Diablo ». We will observe spectacular and famous cascades. At *Manto de la Novia*, we will have the possibility to go on a « tarabita » (tyrolean crossing) and therefore cross the valley and enjoy an unforgettable view !

Then, we will continue driving on the same road to visit the « Paseo de los monos », a rehabilitation center for monkeys from the Amazon rainforest. This is an unforgettable moving experience.

Diner and night in Banos.

*Repas : BLD*

*Transportation duration: 5h // visit duration : 5h30*



## Day 3 – July 25th 2011 : Banos > Riobamba (Chimborazo vulcano)

Accommodation : Comfort : *Monte Carlo* // Superior : *Hacienda Abraspungo*

After breakfast, we will take some good time and walk around the nice and calm streets of Banos. Many little shops can be found in Streets and will allow us to buy some souvenirs.

Then, we will leave Banos to drive to Riobamba. We will discover there the highest summit of Ecuador, the vulcano Chimborazo and its 20.700 feet of altitude ! Once we will have entered the Chimborazo park, we will drive on the slopes of the vulcano. We will observe some gree landscapes, typical of this region of the Andes.

After an approximative 2 hour walk, we will reach the Whymper refuge which is today the highest guarded refuge in the world with its 16.400 feet of altitude. Up there, we will be able to observe all the landscapes surrounding this vulcano. A magic moment will be waiting for us at this refuge.

Diner and night in Riobamba.

*Repas : BLD*

*Transportation duration: 3h // Visit duration: 3h*



## Day 4 – July 26th 2011: Riobamba > Nariz del Diablo > Ingapirca > Cuenca

Accommodation : *Hotel Victoria*

Today, we will keep on driving on the famous pan - american highway. On the way, we will stop by the charming Church of *Balbanera* which has been built in the 15th century. This is the first Church built in Ecuador by the Spanish conquistadores.

Then, we will take the direction of the village of *Alausí* where we will get on the mythic andean train. During our train ride, we will pass the famous site *Nariz Del Diablo*, a 2.500 feet abrupt cliff. Previously called *Ferrocarril Transandino* and built at the beginning of the 20th century, the railway used to link Quito to Guayaquil. This railway used to be essential for the transportation of goods between the Andes and the Pacific coast.

In the afternoon, our guide will take you to the visit of *Ingapirca* which is the biggest Inca site in Ecuador. Ingapirca has been built under the Inca domination on the Cañaris in the 15th century. At the end of the day, transfer to Cuenca.

*Meals : BLD*

*Transportation duration: 6h30 // Visit duration: 3h*



## Day 5 – July 27th 2011 : Visit of Cuenca > Quito

Accommodation : Comfort : *San Francisco* // Superior : *Patio Andaluz*

The visit of the colonial city of *Cuenca*, elected World Heritage by UNESCO, will be one of the strong points of our tour. Considered as the most beautiful city in Ecuador, *Cuenca* will open its doors to make us discover its numerous colonial houses and buildings of the city center.

The city has been built in the 16th century by spaniards who discovered vestiges of the grandiose Inca city of *Tomebamba*. These vestiges can still be seen in a few colonial buildings.

In addition of the suspended houses above the *Tomebamba* river, we will visit together some churches richly decorated as well as the Aboriginal cultures museum. In the day, we will also visit a *Montecristi* hats factory also called *Panama* hats. Light and made of *Toquilla* palm, the *Montecristi* hat is an Ecuadorian speciality.

At the end of the afternoon, our guide will take us to the airport of Cuenca in order to take a flight back to Quito. In Quito, a driver will be waiting for us at the airport and will drive us to our hotel.

*Meals : BL*

*Transportation duration: 1,5h // Visit duration: 5h*



## Day 6 – July 28th 2011 : Quito > Amazon rainforest

Accommodation : Comfort : *Cuyabeno Lodge* // Superior : *Napo wildlife center*

After a good breakfast, a driver will pick us up at our hotel in order to drive us to the airport of Quito. From there, we will take a flight to Coca, one city of the amazon region. A driver will be waiting for us in Coca and will take us to the lodge. A short canoe trip will be necessary to reach the lodge located in the primary rainforest.

A drink will be offered to us when we will arrive at the lodge as a welcome present and all information will be given to us by the local guides.

In the afternoon, we will leave in the forest for a first hike and a familiarization with the forest. Our guide will show us an important diversity of animals and flowers.

*Remark : The program in the Amazon rainforest can vary according to the lodge chosen and the weather situation. Therefore, this is a non-exhaustive program.*

*Meals : BLD*

*Transportation duration : 5h // Walking duration: 3h*



## Day 7 – July 29th 2011 : Amazon rainforest

Accommodation : Comfort : *Cuyabeno Lodge* // Superior : *Napo wildlife center*

For our first day in the Amazon rainforest, we will go for a walk in the jungle in order to discover a luxuriant wildlife. We will be able to observe many animals such as birds or insects, as well as plants. A unique biodiversity is waiting for us in the forest. The calm and peaceful atmosphere which reigns in the forest will easily captivate us.

Moreover, we will have the possibility to swim in the clear water of tributaries of the Amazon river, accompanied by a local guide trained by biologists, knowing perfectly the wildlife of the park. At the end of the afternoon, we will go back to the lodge.

*Remark : The program in the Amazon rainforest can vary according to the lodge chosen and the weather situation. Therefore, this is a non-exhaustive program.*

*Meals : BLD*



*Walking duration: 3h*

## Day 8 – July 30th 2011 : Amazon rainforest

Accommodation : Comfort : *Cuyabeno Lodge* // Superior : *Napo wildlife center*

In the morning, after breakfast, we will take a canoe in order to reach a small village and meet a Kitchwa indigenous family where we will discover their customs and traditions.

We will discover the lifestyle of these families who will show us corn, manioc, coffee and papaya fields. We will also be taught how to prepare the « chicha » which is a local alcoholic drink made of Yuca. The Yuca, basic food of many indigenous people is a plant root which owns a lot of virtues. It looks like a potatoe. Finally, our host will teach us how to use a blowpipe, hunting weapon of the indigenous people of the amazon rainforest.

After this visit, we will go back to the lodge for lunch. In the afternoon, we will paddle on the river to discover many species of endemic animals.

*Remark : The program in the Amazon rainforest can vary according to the lodge chosen and the weather situation. Therefore, this is a non-exhaustive program.*

*Meals : BLD*



*Walking duration: 3h*

## Day 9 – July 31th 2011 : Amazon rainforest > Quito

Accommodation : /

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**A**fter breakfast, we will leave the lodge and will drive to the airport of Coca in order to fly back to Quito.

**End of the tour!**



*Transportation duration: 5h*

*Meals : B*

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**B** : Breakfast // **L** : Lunch // **D** : diner

## Price/person (in US dollar)

Number of persons	Price per person in "Comfort" accommodation	Price per person in "Superior" accommodation
<b>1</b>	2890	4090
<b>2</b>	1790	2290
<b>3</b>	1520	2050
<b>4</b>	1450	1990
<b>5 or 6</b>	1320	1880
<b>7 or 8</b>	1210	1750
<b>9 or 10</b>	1160	1690
<b>From 11 to 13</b>	1120	1630
<b>From 14 to 16</b>	1060	1590
<b>From 17 to 20</b>	1040	1560
<b>From 21 to 30</b>	995	1540
<b>Single room additional charge</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>505</b>

*\*Prices 2011*

*Note : The hotel list depends on the availability of the rooms when the reservation of the tour is made. The agency can modify one or several hotels if needed.*

Price includes	Price does not include
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All transfers, vehicle and guide / driver</li> <li>• Accommodations as indicated in the program based on simple occupation for 1 person and double occupation for more than 1 person</li> <li>• Meals as indicated in the program.</li> <li>• Visits included in the program.</li> <li>• Flight Quito – Coca (Amazon rainforest) – Quito</li> <li>• Flight Cuenca - Quito</li> <li>• Entrance fees in museums and national parks licenses.</li> <li>• <b>An English speaking guide / driver</b>, his expenses and fees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International flights</li> <li>• Individual equipment</li> <li>• Visits indicated in the program as optionals</li> <li>• Drinks in cities, restaurants, hotels and bars.</li> <li>• Meals not indicated as included in the program.</li> <li>• Tips.</li> <li>• International airport taxes (41 USD in Quito)</li> </ul>

### Remarks

- Continental part: All terrain vehicle or private bus depending on the size of the group. Private English speaking guide from Quito to Quito (except in the Amazon rainforest : English speaking guide shared for the clients of the Lodge.
- Transportation durations for each day of tour are given approximately



## Presentation of accommodations :

### Cotopaxi National Park >>

« Comfort » Accommodation	«Superior» Accommodation
<p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.cuellodeluna.com/">Cuello De Luna</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.cuellodeluna.com/">http://www.cuellodeluna.com/</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.hosterialacienega.com/">Hacienda La Cienega</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.hosterialacienega.com/">http://www.hosterialacienega.com/</a></p>
<p>The Cuello De Luna inn is located 4 kilometers away from the Cotopaxi park entrance. Very comfortable and calm, Cuello de Luna is the perfect place for travellers willing to stay in contact with nature at night. Rooms are very pleasant.</p> <p>Hotel : 25 rooms Restaurant/bar Garden</p>	<p>La Cienega is one of the oldest haciendas of Ecuador. La Cienega welcomed Charles-Marie de La Condamine, a French scientist who led the Geodesic mission between 1736 and 1744.</p> <p>Hotel : 32 rooms Restaurant/bar Swimming pool Chapel</p>

Baños >>

« Comfort » accommodation	« Superior » accommodation
<p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><u>Monte Selva</u></a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.monteselvecuador.com/"><u>http://www.monteselvecuador.com/</u></a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#"><u>Hacienda Leito</u></a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://www.haciendaleito.com/"><u>http://www.haciendaleito.com/</u></a></p>
<p>Large hotel overhanging Baños, the Hotel Monte Selva will welcome you in charming wooden cabins. You will have the possibility to enjoy a SPA, the swimming-pool as well as massages to chill out.</p> <p><b>Hotel:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 37 rooms</li> <li>- Restaurant / bar</li> <li>- SPA</li> <li>- Swimming-pool</li> </ul>	<p>Located 12 miles from Baños, the Leito hacienda is located in one of the most picturesque regions of the Ecuadorian Andes. The Leito hacienda will welcome you with spacious rooms and in a peaceful atmosphere.</p> <p><b>Hotel:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 29 rooms</li> <li>- Restaurant / bar</li> <li>- SPA</li> <li>- Swimming-pool</li> </ul>

Riobamba >>

« Comfort » accommodation	« Superior » accommodation
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="#">Monte Carlo</a></u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="http://www.hotelmontecarlo-riobamba.com/index_eng.html">http://www.hotelmontecarlo-riobamba.com/index_eng.html</a></u></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="#">Hacienda Abraspungo</a></u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u><a href="http://www.haciendaabrapungo.com/">http://www.haciendaabrapungo.com/</a></u></p>
<p>Colonial hotel located in the city centre of Riobamba. This hotel is very convenient when you have to take the Andean train early in the morning. The Monte Carlo offers some clean and comfortable rooms.</p> <p><b>Hotel :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 27 rooms</li> <li>- Restaurant</li> <li>- Internet</li> </ul>	<p>Located in the suburb of Riobamba, the Abraspungo hacienda is the most beautiful place you could stay in Riobamba. The decor is elegant, the living space is pleasant, and the rooms are spacious. You will enjoy the numerous gardens.</p> <p><b>Hotel :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Restaurant</li> <li>- Internet</li> <li>- Gardens</li> </ul>

Cuenca >>

<b>Accommodation</b>
<u><a href="#">Hotel Victoria</a></u>
<u><a href="http://www.ecuadorboutiquehotels.com/hotelvictoria">http://www.ecuadorboutiquehotels.com/hotelvictoria</a></u>
<p>Located downtown Cuenca, the Victoria hotel was built within an old colonial residence. The brand new interior offers pleasant rooms for your next tour or trip in Ecuador. You will enjoy the overview on the river from the restaurant.</p> <p><b>Hotel :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 23 rooms</li> <li>- Relaxing room</li> <li>- Restaurant / bar</li> </ul>

Quito >>

<b>« Comfort » Accommodation</b>	<b>« Superior » Accommodation</b>
<u><a href="#">San Francisco</a></u>	<u><a href="#">Patio Andaluz</a></u>
<u><a href="http://www.sanfranciscodequito.com.ec/">http://www.sanfranciscodequito.com.ec/</a></u>	<u><a href="http://www.hotelpatioandaluz.com/">http://www.hotelpatioandaluz.com/</a></u>
<p>The San Francisco hotel is a colonial building located in the historical city center of Quito. The hotel offers 29 comfortable and colonial styled rooms.</p> <p><b>Hotel :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 29 rooms</li> <li>- Restaurant / bar</li> <li>- Internet connection</li> </ul>	<p>Very beautiful colonial hotel located in the old Quito. The Patio Andaluz will charm you during your custom tour thanks to its pleasant patio and its spacious rooms. ITK advises you this hotel to enjoy a nice stay right in the heart of Quito.</p> <p><b>Hotel :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 31 rooms</li> <li>- Restaurant / bar</li> <li>- SPA</li> </ul>

Amazon Rainforest>>

« Comfort » accommodation	« Superior » accommodation
<p align="center"><a href="#"><u>Cuyabeno Lodge</u></a></p> <p align="center"><a href="http://www.cuyabenolodge.com/"><u>http://www.cuyabenolodge.com/</u></a></p>	<p align="center"><a href="#"><u>Napo Wildlife Center</u></a></p> <p align="center"><a href="http://www.napowildlifecenter.com/"><u>http://www.napowildlifecenter.com/</u></a></p>
<p>Cuyabeno lodge is located in the Cuyabeno Park in Ecuador. There are amazing natural resources that will allow you a pleasant stay surrounded by the sounds of the Amazon Rainforest.</p> <p><b>Hotel :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 12 rooms</li> <li>- Restaurant / bar</li> <li>- Library</li> </ul>	<p>The Napo Wildlife Centre Lodge is located in the Cuyabeno Park in Ecuador, deep inside the heart of the Amazon Rainforest. If you wish to enjoy a high quality tour in the Amazon Rainforest, with an adventurous spirit, the Napo Wildlife lodge is the best alternative.</p> <p><b>Hotel :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 12 rooms</li> <li>- Restaurant / bar</li> <li>- Watchtower</li> <li>- Laundry Service</li> </ul>

## **Payment terms and tour cancellation**

*Payment can be done either by bank transfer or by Paypal (4% extra commission) in US dollar.*

### Payment terms :

- A down payment of 30% of the total price will be asked at the reservation of the tour.
- The balance will have to be paid 30 days before the arrival in Ecuador.
- If the reservation is made less than 30 days before the arrival in Ecuador, 100% of the total price will have to be paid at the reservation.
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### Cancellation charges :

- If the tour is cancelled more than one month before the departure date, the 30% down payment will be kept by the agency.
- If the tour is cancelled less than 30 days before the departure date, the total sum will be kept by the agency.