



Educational Tours



MEANINGFUL. SUSTAINABLE. UNFORGETTABLE.

Set foot on the equator, explore the capital of Quito and ascend high into the Andes Mountains as you embrace indigenous customs and culture. While you connect with local Andean communities, you'll gain insight into the local challenges they face, like extreme poverty, access to education and economic opportunities for women. Together with community members and Free The Children, you'll work side by side building sustainable solutions to these problems. From supporting local girls' clubs to working with women's centers and building projects in a school community, every project you touch will help strengthen the community for generations to come.

15

Estimated service hours

YOUR SERVICE PROJECT THEMES

We work with the award-winning charity Free The Children to better understand the needs of each community and then focus projects on those issues. Themes include:

- Education
- Health
- Clean Water and Sanitation
- Alternative Income and Livelihood
- Agriculture and Food Security

SUPPORTING WOMEN IN ECUADOR'S ANDEAN COMMUNITIES

10-14 days, estimated 15 service hours

What to expect on this Service Learning Tour

MEANINGFUL SERVICE

Working side by side with locals, you'll gain insight into the challenges they face and build lasting solutions to help empower the community.

Projects include:

- Planting community gardens to improve food security
- Working with local women's centers so they have a safe space to learn trades, work and sell their crafts year-round
- Restoring schools so that students have a safe and clean place to learn

CULTURAL IMMERSION

Live near the communities you serve—celebrating customs and forming lasting connections with locals.

Activities include:

- Visiting a local women's co-operative group and meeting Maria Angela Pacheco—the first female leader of her community
- Exploring an authentic Ecuadorian market to meet locals and understand the economic realities of the community
- Visiting a Girls Club and meeting its young members

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

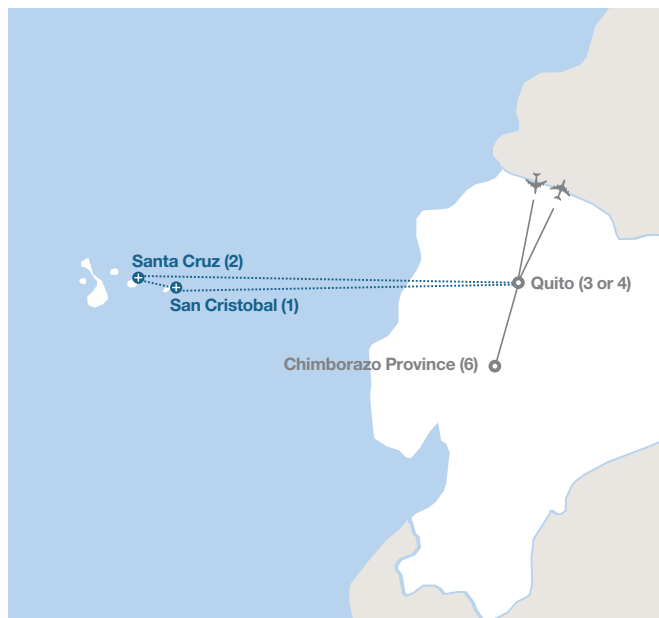
Your Field Director takes your global service experience even further, developing and strengthening leadership skills through activities and workshops.

Exercises include:

- Investigating global issues, exploring social issues and building leadership skills in expert-led workshops
- Contextualizing the day's events through thoughtful discussion and group dialogue
- Reflective journaling to deepen the service experience



Students separate wool to be spun at a local women's center





A young local child meets one of the students volunteering in town



Students and local children share smiles and photos as they get to know one another

10-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive in Quito

Meet your Field Director at the airport and travel to your accommodations.

Day 2: Quito

Take a guided tour of historic Quito, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site.

- Tour the Intiñan Solar Museum and witness the natural forces at work near the equator.

Day 3: Travel to Chimborazo Province

Travel with your Field Director to the Free The Children community you'll be working with. Together you'll visit and meet with local school children at their school. In the evening, learn about Free The Children's unique Adopt a Village program model.

Days 4-8: Service Project—Chimborazo Province

As communities evolve so do their needs. We'll work closely with Free The Children to understand the challenges locals face in the Chimborazo Province. Since projects are determined closer to your actual tour date, here's a glimpse at what a typical day might look like:

- Each morning, you'll begin your service project in a nearby village.
- Spend afternoons immersed in cultural activities.
- Evenings are a chance to reflect, discuss events as a group and draw connections between the day's work and relevant global issues.

Day 9: Travel to Quito

Day 10: Depart for home

☛ Add days 10-14: Galápagos Islands

Day 10: Fly to Baltra

- Fly to Baltra and continue to Santa Cruz island, the second largest of the Galápagos Islands.

- At the Charles Darwin Research Station, see the breeding center for the giant tortoises from which the islands took their name.

Days 11-12: Galápagos Islands

- Enjoy two full-day boat excursions to other Galápagos Islands where you'll enjoy snorkeling activities.

Day 13: Fly to Quito

Day 14: Depart for home



LOCAL INSIGHT AND SUPPORT

Your Field Director deepens your connection to the land, people and culture. With local perspective on community challenges and skilled training in service leadership, they'll provide insight and global context, as they:

- Lead skill-building workshops and meaningful group reflections
- Connect you with local non-profits and nearby villages
- Facilitate group orientation and safety training
- Handle all on-tour details, from meals to transportation



Everything you get: 9 overnight stays, 13 with extension; Round-trip flights on major carriers; Daily breakfast and dinner; Lunch on days 2-9, 11-12; Local ground transportation; Full-time Field Director; Sustainable service project with Free The Children; Service hours that count towards academic credit; Sightseeing tours led by expert guides; Entrance fees



The panoramic views of Chimborazo Province



Andean women wear traditional garments while demonstrating a popular regional dance



Students go for a walk to explore the community they are serving

Your partners in global education

EF EDUCATIONAL TOURS

For over 50 years, EF has worked with educators across the world to help millions of students become citizens of the world through one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. With more than 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, our staff can respond in person wherever you are, 24 hours a day. We're also an accredited educational institution, offering students the option to earn high school and college credit.

ME TO WE

ME to WE is an innovative social enterprise that provides people with better choices for a better world. It measures the bottom line—not by annual dollars earned, but by the number of lives changed and the positive social and environmental impact made. Half of ME to WE's annual net profit is donated to the Free The Children charity, and the remainder is reinvested to further the social mission of their enterprise.

START PLANNING

To enroll on this tour, ask your teacher for the tour number and visit eftours.com/enroll or call 800-665-5364