

From cities to highlands, discover vibrant Ecuador. Hop on a colorful chiva bus and explore Riobamba. Grab a rooftop seat on the Nariz del Diablo (Devil's Nose) train for a winding ride down the mountainside. In the colonial city of Cuenca, learn how to dance the salsa before joining local families for dinner —just one of the cultural immersion activities you'll experience.

# **EVERYTHING YOU GET:**



Full-time Tour Director



**Sightseeing:** 1 sightseeing tour led by an expert, licensed local guide (3 with extension); 1 sightseeing tour led by your Tour Director (2 with extension)



**Entrances:** Santo Domingo Monastery; Equatorial line; Intinan Museum; Nariz del Diablo train; Ingapirca; Cajas National Park; Cocoa plantation; *With extension: Isla de la Plata National Park; Snorkeling* 



Experiential learning: Cultural immersion activities; Salsa lesson



weShare: Our personalized learning experience engages students before, during, and after tour, with the option to create a final, reflective project for academic credit.





All of the details are covered: Round-trip flights on major carriers; Comfortable motorcoach; 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (10 with extension); Breakfast and dinner daily





Anyone can see the world.

# YOU'RE GOING TO EXPERIENCE IT.

As you can see, your EF tour includes visits to the places you've learned about in school. That's a given. But it's so much more than that. Immersing yourself in new cultures—surrounded by the people, the language, the food, the way of life—creates inspirational moments that can't be listed in an itinerary. They can only be experienced.

And the experience begins long before you get your passport stamped and meet your *Tour Director* in your arrival city. It begins the moment you decide to go. Whether it's connecting with other travelers on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, or delving deeper into your destinations with our online learning platform, *weShare*, the excitement will hit you long before you pack your suitcase.

When your group arrives abroad, everything is taken care of so you can relax and enjoy the experience. Your full-time Tour Director is with your group around the clock, handling local transportation, hotels and meals while also providing their own insight into the local history and culture. *Expert local guides* will lead your group on sightseeing tours, providing detailed views of history, art, architecture or anything you may have a question about.

When your journey is over and you're unpacking your suitcase at home, you'll realize the benefits of your life-changing experience do not end. They have just begun.

**@EFtours** I attribute my college semester abroad to the love for travel I discovered on an EF Tour in high school **#traveltuesday** 

- MELISSA, TRAVELER





# CHECK OUT WHAT A TOUR IS ALL ABOUT

Watch the videos at **eftours.com/** 

Your teacher's Tour Website









# What you'll experience on your tour

### Day 1: Fly to Ecuador

- Meet your Tour Director at the airport in Quito, the Ecuadorian capital carved into a narrow plateau high above the Andean valleys, beneath the peaks of the Pichincha Volcano. On your guided sightseeing tour, explore the colonial quarter of Quito, where wrought-iron balconies and majestic stone pillars grace 300-year-old plazas, churches and palaces. The area was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978. See Independence Plaza and the Government Palace, and visit the Dominican Santo Domingo Church. Then, visit the Intinan Museum, which explores how the Incas determined the middle of the Earth. Pose for a photo on the equator, the namesake of Ecuador. If you've ever wanted to stand in both hemispheres at the same time, this is your chance.

#### Day 2: Quito

- Take a tour of Quito: Independence Plaza;
   Government Palace
- Visit the Santo Domingo Monastery
- Take an excursion to the equatorial line
- Visit the Intinan Museum

#### Day 3: Riobamba

- Travel to Riobamba
- Participate in cultural immersion activities

## Day 4: Alausi | Cuenca

- Travel to Alausi
- Enjoy a ride on the Nariz del Diablo train to Sibambe
- Enjoy a local performance
- Visit Ingapirca
- Continue to Cuenca, the colonial jewel of the south and Ecuador's third largest city. Declared a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site in 1999, Cuenca's historic area is a neat grid of cobblestone streets and whitewashed buildings. But the city also embraces modern life, which you will discover at its cafés, galleries and shops.

# Day 5: Cuenca

- Take an expertly guided tour of Cuenca:
   Old and New Cathedral; Flower Market
- Participate in a salsa dance lesson
- Enjoy dinner with local families

### Day 6: Cuenca

- Spend the day with a local community outside Cuenca
- Visit a ceramics shop

# Day 7: Guayaquil

- Visit Cajas National Park
- Visit a cocoa plantation
- Travel to Guayaquil
- Transfer to the airport for your overnight flight home.

### Day 8: Arrive home

# **9 3-DAY TOUR EXTENSION**

### Day 8: Puerto Lopez

- Travel via the Ruta del Spondylus to Los Frailes Beach and Puerto López, a small fishing village set against the warm waters of the Pacific that is renowned for its friendly atmosphere and biological diversity. Most famously, it is the headquarters of Ecuador's Machalilla National Park, whose reach includes Isla de la Plata just off the coast of Puerto López. You'll visit this former pirate hideout, which today has been described as the "Poor Man's Galapagos." As you explore the island's rugged geography, you'll meet a number of creatures known to nhabit the Galapagos, including the blue footed booby and the albatross. In its coral reef, you'll get the chance to snorkel with a wide, colorful array of fish. Make sure to bring your camera.

### Day 9: Puerto Lopez

- Enjoy a boat ride to Machalilla National Park
- Take an expertly guided tour of Isla de la Plata
- Snorkel off Isla de la Plata

# Day 10: Dos Mangas | Guayaquil

- Take an expertly guided tour of Dos Mangas
- Hike in the coastal rainforest
- Enjoy lunch with the local community
- See a handicraft-making workshop
- Travel to Guayaquil
- Transfer to the airport for your overnight flight home.

# Day 11: Arrive home

Traveling to Quito in Ecuador was an amazing experience. Quito is a unique city with lots to see.

- JOHN. GROUP LEADER



This trip was so awesome. Now I want to live in Ecuador.

- RACHEL, TRAVELER



# TOP THREE THINGS I WILL SEE, DO, TRY, OR EXPLORE

2.			
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My daughter has gained such an amazing view of the world and history from this experience. She has not stopped talking since I picked her up at the airport. Thank you for all the organization, helpful hints, flexible payment plan and knowledgeable tour guides.

-CHARLOTTE. DAUGHTER TRAVELED JUNE 2014



# THE WORLD LEADER IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

For over 50 years EF has been working toward one global mission: *Opening the World Through Education*. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence. What's more:

- We always offer the lowest prices, guaranteed so more students can travel.
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   We have more than 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries around the world, so local EF staff members can react quickly and in person wherever you travel.
- Your full-time Tour Director is with your group every step of the way on tour, providing insight about your destinations as well as great local tips.

