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TOURS

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This is also your tour number

# EXPERIENCE ECUADOR

8 or 11 days | Quito | Baños | Riobamba | Cuenca | Guayaquil | with extension to Puerto López

From cities to highlands, discover the vibrant culture and stunning landscapes of Ecuador. Learn how *melcocha* candy is made during a workshop. Visit with a local community in Riobamba, then learn how to dance the salsa in Cuenca. These are just a few of the many cultural immersion activities you'll experience in this beautiful country.

## YOUR EXPERIENCE INCLUDES

-  **Full-time Tour Director**
-  **Sightseeing:** 2 sightseeing tours led by an expert, licensed local guide on the extension; 3 sightseeing tours led by your Tour Director (4 with extension)
-  **Entrances:** Compañía de Jesús church; equatorial line; Intiñan Museum; *melcocha* workshop; cooking class; Baños hike; community visits; Ingapirca; Gastronomic Museum; Straw Hat Museum; salsa lesson; Cajas National Park; cocoa plantation; *with extension:* Isla de la Plata National Park; snorkeling
-  **Personalized learning guide:** 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 (boat ride with extension); 6 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (9 with extension); breakfast and dinner daily, lunch on days 4 and 6 (plus days 9 and 10 with extension).





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 personalized learning experience, 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 on 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



Learn from your Tour Director and expert local guides



**CHECK OUT WHAT A TOUR IS ALL ABOUT**

Watch the videos at [eftours.com/](http://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 Compañía de Jesús church. Then, visit the Intiñan 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 Compañía de Jesús church.
- Take an excursion to the equatorial line.
- Visit the Intiñan Museum.

### Day 3: Quito | Baños

- Travel to Baños.
- Take a tour of Baños and see the New and Old Cathedrals.
- Learn how *melcocha* is made and shaped at a local candy workshop.
- Try your hand at making traditional Ecuadorian dishes during a cooking class.

### Day 4: Baños | Riobamba

- Hike through the Baños forest on one of the city's many gorgeous hiking trails.
- Travel to Riobamba.
- Visit a rural community and enjoy lunch with the locals.

### Day 5: Riobamba | Cuenca

- Travel to Ingapirca to visit the ruins.
- 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 cobble-stone streets and whitewashed buildings. But the city also embraces modern life, which you will discover at its cafés, galleries, and shops.
- Learn how your food travels from farm to table during a guided visit to the Gastronomic Museum.

### Day 6: Cuenca

- Take a Tour Director-led walking tour of Cuenca, where you'll see the Old Cathedral, New Cathedral, and the flower market.
- Visit the Straw Hat Museum to learn about the history of this traditional accessory.
- Enjoy an interactive experience with a local community outside of Cuenca.
- Participate in a salsa dance lesson.

### Day 7: Cuenca | 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

## 🔗 3-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

### Day 8: Puerto López

- 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, which includes Isla de la Plata just off the coast of Puerto López. While visiting this former pirate hideout, you'll explore the island's rugged geography and meet a number of creatures known to inhabit the Galápagos Islands, including the blue-footed booby and 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 López

- 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

“ Tour review

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

– RACHEL, TRAVELER

“ Tour review

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

— The easiest ways to —  
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EF Educational Tours  
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Cambridge, MA 02141

*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, PARENT OF TRAVELER

“ Tour review

## THE WORLD LEADER IN INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

For over 55 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** so more students can travel.
- **We're fully accredited, just like your school**, so you can earn credit while on tour.
- **All of our educational tours feature experiential learning activities** and visits to the best sites.
- **We're completely committed to your safety.** We have more than 600 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.



Education First