



TRIP CODE
ECTSHOC
DURATION
6 Days
LOCATIONS
Ecuador
×

INTRODUCTION

Explore the highlands of Ecuador staying in beautiful lodges and historic haciendas. Enjoy the Avenue of the Volcanoes with snowcapped peaks that seem to touch the sky, experience the culture and lifestyle of people living in the countryside of Ecuador and truly appreciate a wonderful combination of history, scenery and unique luxury.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival in Quito

After the arrival, our guide will welcome and transfer us from the airport to the hotel and accommodation, overnight in Quito.



NO IMAGE AVAILABLE



DAY 1: Quito

Sitting at 2,850 metres above sea level high in the Andean foothills lies Quito, the capital of Ecuador. The city, a short distance from the Equator and with an amazing backdrop of snow-capped mountains, is known for its stunning colonial architecture and art-work. Founded in the 16th century on the ruins of an Inca city, Quito has one of the largest, least-altered and best-preserved historic centres in the Americas. It was declared a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site in 1978.

DAY 2: City Tour and Middle of the World

Visit Independence Plaza flanked by the Cathedral, the Presidential Palace, the Municipal Building and the Archbishop"s Palace. Continue to the Church of San Francisco, one of the greatest religious buildings of the New World. Its impressive façade and atrium lead to its gild interior, a Baroque influence by Moorish style, with the winged Virgin of Quito at its main altar. Then we will drive approx. 25 km North of Quito to the Middle of the world. Here the 30 m tall monument will tell us of the French-Spanish geodetic expedition of 1736-1744, which determined the position of the equator under the direction of Charles de la Condamine. Here we can stand with one leg on the northern and with the other leg on the southern hemisphere of the earth. In the late afternoon we will continue our trip to Otavalo. Overnight in a beautiful hacienda.

DAY 3: Otavalo - Papallacta

We will spend the day in Otavalo. The indigenous people set up a market in which a bartering manner of shopping is taken. This is one of South America's most famous Indian markets. It offers an excellent selection of woven tapestries, blankets, hand-knit sweaters, pottery and more. It's a paradise for souvenirs. From Otavalo we will drive in the late afternoon to Papallacta. A small mountain village famous for its natural hot springs. Overnight in Papallacta.



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DAY 4: Papallacta - Cotopaxi - Hacienda

In the morning we can take some time to visit the springs or go on a walk in the morning. Afterwards we will continue the journey along a scenic stretch of road which takes us to the majestic Mountain Cotopaxi and the National park. In the meantime we will stop at the hacienda "San Augustin" to have lunch. During our staying at the National Park we will visit the museum which informs of the natural environment of the place, the animals and plants. Then we will stop at the Limpiopungo Lake. In the late afternoon we will reach the hacienda Alegria. Overnight in the hacienda.



After breakfast we will get introduced into the spirit of the Andean Haciendas and their daily works. Visit the grounds and get suited for an approximately two hours horseback riding along old cobblestone roads and trails leading to a great view point of La Viudita which overlooks the entire valley. Along the way panoramic views. Return to Hacienda house and freshen up to enjoy a typical lunch hosted by the Hacienda owner. After lunch get ready for an exciting demonstration by the Chagras, on their riding and working skills.

DAY 6: Departure

Transfer to the International Airport Quito for your international flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Standard



Inclusions	 5 nights first class accommodation 1 night at Patio Andlauz in Quito, 1 night Hacienda Cusin in Otavalo, 1 night Termas de Papallacta Resort & Spa in Papallacta, 2 nights Hacienda La Alegria in Rumipamba 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 4 dinners Transport & sightseeing as outlined in the tour itinerary 	TRIP CODE
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		DURATION
		6 Days
Difficulty Rating	1 (easy)	LOCATIONS
Single Surcharge	Available upon request	Ecuador
Notes	Price based on minimum number of 2 passengers travelling.	×
	Single price available on request. This itinerary can be tailored or extended to suit your individual requirements. Combine this tour with a trip to the Galapagos Islands	
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability	

SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximize local employment opportunities and minimize carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.

2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximize the return to the local community.

3) Chimu's "Pass it on" program has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organization), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.

4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimize your impact on both local environments and communities.

5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programs to help staff minimize their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.