

...a wild adventure

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Galapagos Island and Ecuador - 13-Day Adventure

Apr 17, 2026 - Apr 29, 2026

12-nights Quito, Ecuador and Galapagos Islands Adventure
Land Tour, Small Group

Trip Summary

April 17 - Fri - Arrival into Quito

Arrival into Quito - Transfer and Rest

Quito - The City

April 18 - Sat - Exploring Otavalo, Cotacachi & Cuicocha

Exploring Otavalo, Cotacachi, & Cuicocha

April 19 - Sun - Cayambe Reserve & Papallacta

Discovering Cayambe Reserve and Relaxing in Papallacta

April 20 - Mon - Papallacta to Amazon - Huasquila Lodge

From Papallacta to the Heart of the Amazon at Huasquila Lodge

Check in at Huasquila Amazon Lodge - Huasquila Amazon Lodge

April 21 - Tue - Baños' Natural Wonders - Return to Quito

Exploring Baños' Natural Wonders and return to Quito

Check out from Huasquila Amazon Lodge - Huasquila Amazon Lodge

April 22 - Wed - Flight Quito to Santa Cruz Island

Santa Cruz Island: Highlands & Charles Darwin Research Station

April 23 - Thu - Speedboat to Isabela & Cycling Adventure

High Speed Boat to Isabela and Cycling Adventure

April 24 - Fri - Snorkeling in Los Túneles' Unique Lava Formations and Speedboat to Santa Cruz Island

Snorkeling in Los Túneles' Unique Lava Formations and Speedboat to Santa Cruz Island

April 25 - Sat - Journey to the Galápagos - San Cristóbal Highlands

Journey to the Galápagos - San Cristóbal Highlands

April 26 - Sun - Wildlife Encountering at Lobos Island

Wildlife Encountering at Lobos Island

April 27 - Mon - Day at Leisure on San Cristobal Island

Day at leisure on San Cristobal Island

April 28 - Tues - Flight from San Cristobal Island back to Quito

Return to Quito from San Cristobal Island

April 29 - Wed - Quito City Tour & Transfer to Airport

Quito City Tour & Transfer to Airport

Homebound Flight



Plaza de la Independencia



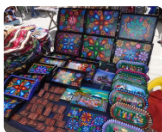
Plaza San Francisco



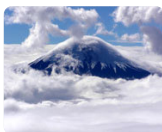
Museo del Banco Central



El Mitad del Mundo



Otavalo



Cotopaxi National Park



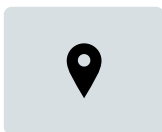
Cuenca



Banos



Quito - Airports



Quito Airport

April 17 - Fri - Arrival into Quito



Arrival into Quito - Transfer and Rest

Welcome to Quito! Upon landing at the city's international airport, you will be greeted and transferred to your accommodation in Tababela. Relax and prepare for an incredible journey through Ecuador's rich landscapes and culture.

Meals included: None

Group type: Private group

Start point: Quito, Pichincha, Ecuador



Quito - The City

Tucked between the green, misty peaks of the Andes and blessed with a warm, welcoming character, the lively city of Quito brings rich history together with modern energy. Those who visit will find everything from overflowing market stands and shamanistic healers to a nightlife that features, among other things, upscale clubs, charming lounges and salsa dancing.

History buffs will enjoy the Old Town, where the architectural influence of Spanish colonisation shows in the red-tiled roofs lining steep, cobblestoned streets. The area is a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site and visitors will relish seeing its ornate buildings and vibrant plazas. Bustling New Town has a more eclectic, business-oriented atmosphere, with its clubs, cafe-lined streets, hotels, offices and shopping centres. The diverse food scene features everything from local Ecuadorian dishes to international fare, and the area has a variety of art galleries and live music venues.

Quito is the cultural centre of the country and Indigenas make up a large proportion of the population. Evidence of their culture is all over the city, from the handicrafts displayed on street corners and ramshackle shops selling traditional everyday goods to the women in thick woollen clothing and felt hats queuing for bus tickets. The Quechuan language rings through streets and central plazas throughout the city.

The destination is rich in historical churches, monasteries and convents, many of which house religious paintings and sculptures dating back to the 16th century. There are also a few museums worth visiting in Quito. Among them, the Museo del Banco Central (beautiful pre-Colombian artefacts), the ethno-historical Museo Mindalae, and the contemporary art museum Museo Guayasamin stand out.

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April 18 - Sat - Exploring Otavalo, Cotacachi & Cuicocha



Exploring Otavalo, Cotacachi, & Cuicocha

Start your day with a scenic drive to Otavalo, home to one of South America's most famous artisan markets. Wander through vibrant stalls filled with handcrafted textiles, jewelry, and other local treasures.

Continue to Cotacachi, a charming town renowned for its high-quality leather goods, and enjoy some free time to explore the shops.

Conclude the day with a visit to Cuicocha Lagoon, a stunning crater lake nestled amidst volcanic peaks.

Overnight in Otavalo.

Meals included: Breakfast



April 19 - Sun - Cayambe Reserve & Papallacta



Discovering Cayambe Reserve and Relaxing in Papallacta

Journey to the Cayambe Coca Ecological Reserve, a diverse flora and fauna haven. Enjoy breathtaking views of snow-capped mountains, cloud forests, and pristine rivers.

Afterward, travel to Papallacta, famous for its natural hot springs.

Spend your evening soaking in the warm, therapeutic waters surrounded by serene Andean landscapes.

Overnight in Papallacta.

Meals included: Breakfast



April 20 - Mon - Papallacta to Amazon - Huasquila Lodge



From Papallacta to the Heart of the Amazon at Huasquila Lodge

Depart Papallacta and descend into the Amazon rainforest.

Arrive at Huasquila, where you will experience the wonders of one of the most biodiverse regions on Earth. Participate in guided activities such as nature hikes or cultural encounters with local communities.

Overnight in Huasquila Amazon Lodge.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Check in at Huasquila Amazon Lodge

Location

This lodge is located in Cotundo. The nearest airport is Quito (UIO).

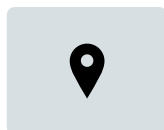
Facilities

The hotel has 20 rooms. The friendly staff at the reception desk are happy to answer any questions. Guests can store valuables in the safe. Wireless internet access is provided in public areas.

A garden provides extra space for rest and relaxation in the open air. Additional facilities include a TV room.

Guests arriving by car can park their vehicles in the parking lot for no extra charge.

Further services and facilities include a transfer service, room service, a laundry service, a coin-operated laundry and a hotel shuttle bus.



Huasquila Amazon Lodge

Via Huasquila km 3,5, Cotundo, Ecuador

April 21 - Tue - Baños' Natural Wonders - Return to Quito

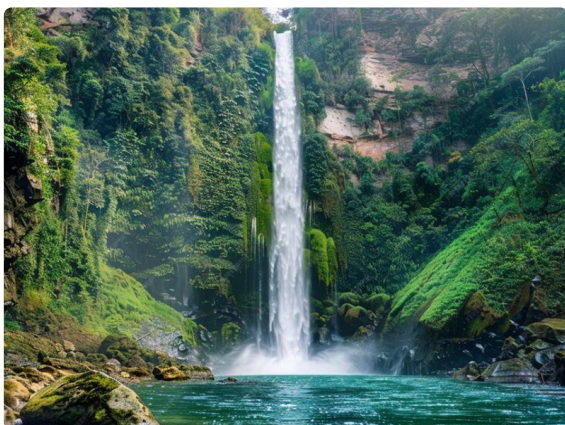


Exploring Baños' Natural Wonders and return to Quito

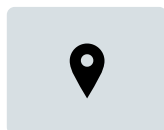
Travel to Baños, a vibrant town known for its adventure activities and stunning surroundings.

Today we explore the *Trail of Waterfalls*, thru the *Pailón del Diablo*, and *Manto de la Novia*.

Baños is also an excellent place to enjoy the local cuisine and connect with the welcoming community. Overnight in Quito.



Check out from Huasquila Amazon Lodge



Huasquila Amazon Lodge

Via Huasquila km 3,5, Cotundo, Ecuador

April 22 - Wed - Flight Quito to Santa Cruz Island



Santa Cruz Island: Highlands & Charles Darwin Research Station

After a delicious breakfast, you will take your flight to go to the Galapagos Islands where your first stop is a local farm in the highlands of Santa Cruz. Here, you will find yourself surrounded by dozens of giant tortoises that roam freely in their natural habitat.

Please take a moment to appreciate these majestic creatures as you wander around the farm, observing their behavior and learning about their importance in the Galapagos ecosystem.

You will enjoy a delicious lunch before taking part in a reforestation project in a nearby area where you'll be planting a tree of native species to help protect the beauty of those highlands.

In the afternoon, head to the Charles Darwin Research Station, a world-renowned institution dedicated to the conservation of the Galapagos Islands.

Witness firsthand the work of international scientists who come to the Galapagos to carry out critical environmental projects. Learn about the unique ecosystem and the ongoing conservation efforts being made to protect it.

Your final stop for the day is the Fausto Llerena Breeding Center, where giant Galapagos tortoises are bred and cared for in a safe and controlled environment.

This is the best place on the islands to see different tortoise species and learn about each one. Observe the tortoises up close and marvel at their size and unique features.

As your day comes to an end, you will have experienced the wonders of Santa Cruz Island and gained a deeper understanding of the importance of conservation efforts in this unique ecosystem.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Duration: 5 hours



April 23 - Thu - Speedboat to Isabela & Cycling Adventure



High Speed Boat to Isabela and Cycling Adventure

Embark on an unforgettable day of discovery with our 36-passenger Speedboat to Isabela Island & Wetlands itinerary. Departing from Santa Cruz Island, you'll experience the thrill of a high-speed voyage across the cerulean waters of the Galápagos archipelago, bound for the captivating shores of Isabela Island.

Upon arrival, settle in and prepare for an afternoon of exploration. You will all hop on a bike and visit the Wall of Tears, a historic site with a poignant backstory.

Continue your ride to Tintoreras, where you can observe dozens of large marine iguanas, white-tip sharks, and other fascinating wildlife.

Overnight on Isabela Island.

Meals included: Breakfast



April 24 - Fri - Snorkeling in Los Túneles' Unique Lava Formations and Speedboat to Santa Cruz Island



Snorkeling in Los Túneles' Unique Lava Formations and Speedboat to Santa Cruz Island

Discover the natural beauty of Los Túneles, a labyrinth of lava tunnels formed by volcanic activity.

During a guided snorkeling tour, marvel at the abundant marine life, from seahorses to manta rays, and admire the surreal landscape both above and below the water.

In the afternoon, take a 36-passenger high speed boat from Isabela Island to Santa Cruz Island. Enjoy the evening in Puerto Ayora.

Meals included: Breakfast



April 25 - Sat - Journey to the Galápagos - San Cristóbal Highlands



Journey to the Galápagos - San Cristóbal Highlands

Hop on a speedboat from Santa Cruz Island to San Cristobal Island and get ready for a thrilling ride!

Feel the salty breeze on your skin and marvel at the stunning scenery as you zip across the Pacific Ocean. This is the perfect opportunity to experience the breathtaking beauty of the Galapagos Islands.

We visit the Interpretation Center to learn about the fascinating history, geology, and conservation efforts of the archipelago.

Overnight on San Cristóbal Island.

Meals included: Breakfast



April 26 - Sun - Wildlife Encountering at Lobos Island



Wildlife Encountering at Lobos Island

Lobos Island is aptly named after the many sea lions that reside here resting and playing along the rocky shores. It is also home to many different birds like pelicans, frigate birds and their nests, yellow warblers, and more. Within the small channel, the waters are very clear, making it easy to find sea turtles, sea lions, stingrays, and perhaps even white-tipped sharks.

Galapagos Islands are a series of volcanic islands located in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, off the coast of Ecuador. With its unique wildlife and stunning landscape, it is no wonder the Galapagos Islands have become a popular destination for families.

One of the most visited islands is Lobos Island, located in the northernmost part of the archipelago.

The island is home to a large variety of wildlife, including sea lions, sea turtles, rays, and a variety of marine birds. With its abundance of wildlife, Lobos Island is the perfect spot for snorkeling, kayaking, and swimming.

In addition to its wildlife, Lobos Island is also home to stunning landscapes.

The island is made up of two sandy beaches and a tranquil lagoon, all surrounded by lush vegetation. You can take advantage of the calm waters and explore the many coves and inlets that make up the island. The island is home to a number of hiking trails that offer breathtaking views of the surrounding area.

Back in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, you can take a nice walk along the gorgeous beach; take a break to relax and enjoy the scenery; or read by the ocean.

Meals: Breakfast Included. Box Lunch

Duration: 5 hours



April 27 - Mon - Day at Leisure on San Cristobal Island



Day at leisure on San Cristobal Island

Today you will live as a local, with your time at leisure and in peace.

The day is yours to enjoy—whether you prefer a leisurely stroll along the waterfront, exploring the area around your hotel, or simply unwinding and soaking in the stunning scenery.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Group type: Self-guided

As optional activity which is not included, you could take a Full-Day Tour to embark on a once-in-a-lifetime snorkeling trip to Kicker Rock, a volcanic formation rising dramatically from the sea. Swim alongside colorful fish, rays, sea turtles, and even sharks in crystal-clear waters. The area's marine life and underwater scenery make it an unforgettable experience. Return to San Cristóbal for the evening.

Meals included: Lunch

Group type: Shared group

April 28 - Tues - Flight from San Cristobal Island back to Quito



Return to Quito from San Cristobal Island

As the sun rises on your final day in San Cristobal, you savor the last bites of a delicious breakfast, knowing that soon it will be time to bid farewell to this enchanting island.

But fear not, for your adventure is not over yet!

Your driver is waiting to whisk you away to the San Cristobal Airport, where you will take your return flight to mainland Ecuador.

As you make your way to the airport, take a moment to reflect on the incredible experiences you've had here on San Cristobal. The pristine beaches, the crystal-clear waters teeming with exotic marine life, the lush forests alive with the calls of exotic birds...it's no wonder that so many travelers have fallen in love with this magical place.

At your arrival in Quito, your transfer Driver and Guide will be waiting for you to go to your hotel in Quito.

Afternoon at leisure in Quito City.

Overnight in Quito.

Meals included: Breakfast

Group type: Private group

April 29 - Wed - Quito City Tour & Transfer to Airport



Quito City Tour & Transfer to Airport

Today, after breakfast, your tour will start in the colonial center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site home to numerous historic buildings and squares.

You will see the Mitad del Mundo (Middle of the World) monument to stand on the line of the equator.

Strike a pose with one foot in each hemisphere and see how your balance is affected at latitude zero.

Then, enjoy the Intinan Interactive Museum.

And take the Cable car to Volcano Pichincha.

After the tour, you will be transferred to the airport to catch your international flight.

This day is designed for you to enjoy the best of Quito before departing, with enough time for your flight.



Homebound Flight

Most flights are late-night flights - around midnight.