



EDUCATIONAL
TOURS

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This is also your tour number

ECOSYSTEMS OF ECUADOR

11 days | Quito | Santa Cruz Island | Isabela Island | Tena

Ecuador is home to four major ecosystems: the rough and jagged landscapes surrounding the towering Andes, the misty and mysterious cloud forests, the tropical rainforests of the Amazon, and the sunny, white-sand Galápagos Islands. Soak up local culture and customs as you dive deep into the region's awe-inspiring scenery, and glimpse magnificent sunsets just outside your door.

EVERYTHING YOU GET:



Full-time Tour Director



Sightseeing: Comprehensive sightseeing of natural attractions



Entrances: Mindo Cloud Forest; Butterfly Garden; Charles Darwin Research Centre; whitewater rafting; indigenous visit; Cotapaxi National Park.



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



All of the details are covered: Round-trip flights on major carriers; internal flights and boats; comfortable motor coach; 9 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms; breakfast and dinner daily; lunch on days 3-5



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 travellers on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, or delving deeper into your destinations with our personalized learning experience, **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.

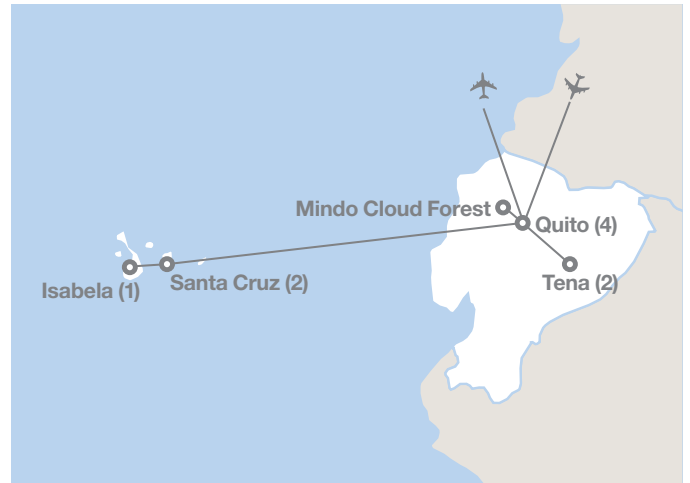
When your journey is over and you're unpacking your suitcase at home, you'll realize the benefits of your life-changing experience do not end. They have just begun.

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

— MELISSA, TRAVELLER



Via Twitter



CHECK OUT WHAT A TOUR IS ALL ABOUT

Watch the videos at
eftours.ca/

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 Ecuador.
- Arrive in Quito, the warm and relaxed Ecuadorian capital carved into a narrow plateau high above the Andean valleys, beneath the peaks of the Pichincha Volcano.

Day 2: Quito

- Continue on to the Mindo Cloud Forest, a diverse natural landscape nestled on the slopes of the Pichincha Volcano on the southern edge of the Choco-Andean Corridor. Mindo is home to over 300 different species of tropical birds and nearly 400 types of orchids, which you will see as you stroll through an orchid garden on your way to a nearby waterfall.
- Visit a butterfly garden.

Day 3: Quito | Baltra Island | Santa Cruz Island

- Fly to Baltra Island.
- Travel to Santa Cruz Island.
- Visit the Twin Craters and the lava tunnels.
- Visit a tortoise ranch in the Santa Cruz Highlands to see wild tortoises.
- Visit the Charles Darwin Research Station and see the breeding centre for the giant tortoises from which the islands took their name.

Day 4: Isabela Island

- Continue on to Isabela Island, the largest of the Galápagos Islands. In 1959, the archipelago was declared a national park in order to protect the flora and fauna that Charles Darwin observed while formulating his theory of evolution. Critical to his studies were the islands' iguanas, penguins, flightless cormorants, and 13 species of finches, whose beak sizes and shapes provided invaluable insights into the process he called natural selection.
- Visit Los Humedales, a wildlife reserve that formerly housed a prison colony.
- Take an excursion to a pink flamingo habitat.
- Visit a tortoise breeding centre.
- Enjoy a snorkeling activity where you'll see animals like sea turtles, sea lions, and exotic fish. You'll also participate in a boat excursion that brings you to the Tintoreras Islet, made entirely out of lava. While exploring Tintoreras you'll view the large colonies of black marine iguanas.

Day 5: Isabela Island | Santa Cruz Island

- Travel by boat to Santa Cruz Island.
- Enjoy a hike in Tortuga Bay.
- Go swimming in the water-filled canyon of Las Grietas.
- Visit the Playa de los Alemanes.

Day 6: Santa Cruz Island | Baltra Island | Quito

- Enjoy free time on Santa Cruz Island.
- Travel to Baltra Island.
- Board your flight to Quito.

Day 7: Quito

- Experience Ecuador's wealth of volcanic history during an excursion to Cotopaxi National Park with a short hike in the shadow of Cotopaxi volcano.

Day 8: Tena

- Transfer to Tena, a city in the Amazon rainforest and the charming capital of the Napo Province. Nicknamed "the cinnamon capital," the city is home to a popular spice known to the region since Incan times called *ispinku*. Today, the spice is a key ingredient for traditional specialties like *mazamorra morada*, or purple pudding.
- Participate in an Amazon hike.

Day 9: Tena

- Enjoy a whitewater rafting excursion.

Day 10: Quito | Depart for home

- Visit a small, indigenous village to immerse yourself in local culture and customs.
- Transfer to Quito to board your return 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, TRAVELLER

“ Tour review

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

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

— The easiest ways to —
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Mail your Enrolment Form to:
EF Educational Tours
80 Bloor Street West, 16th Floor
Toronto, ON M5S 2V1

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



Tour review

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.

- **We always offer the lowest prices** so more students can travel.
- **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.



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