

Community Engagement in Ecuador

From \$2,440 for 14 days*

Based on 12 students.

(Faculty Cost: \$2,240)



Day 1:

Arrive at Quito International Airport and meet our in-country coordinator. Transfer to accommodation followed by orientation. In the evening the group will enjoy a welcome dinner in a typical Ecuadorian restaurant.

Day 2:

In-depth orientation with our local coordinator, followed by a tour of Quito, including stops at the *Basílica del Voto Nacional*, *Plaza de la Independencia*, *La Compani Church*, *San Francisco Church and Square*, *La Ronda Street*. The group will finish the tour on top of *Panecillo Hill*, for dinner with a view.



Day 3:

Full day trip to Santo Domingo de los Tsachilas to visit an indigenous tribe. Spend the day learning about their traditions and eat a local lunch with members of the tribe. Stops at *Diablo de Tandapi*, *Alluriquin Town*, and a waterfall on the way back to Quito.

Day 4:

Morning spent volunteering with a local NGO helping immigrants from Venezuela adapt to life in Quito. Afternoon speech about Ecuador including a discussion about Shamanism followed by visit to theater.

Day 5:

Morning spent volunteering with a local NGO helping immigrants from Venezuela adapt to life in Quito. Afternoon Salsa lesson.

Day 6:

Morning spent volunteering with a local NGO helping immigrants from Venezuela adapt to life in Quito. In the afternoon the group will join a Traditional Andean Cuy (Guinea Pig) BBQ.

Day 7:

Morning spent volunteering with a local NGO helping immigrants from Venezuela adapt to life in Quito. Goodbye lunch with NGO, followed by soccer game to test fitness in the altitude of Quito.

Day 8:

Full day trip to Cotopaxi National Park. If weather permits, the group will hike up the volcano to 5,000metres (16,000ft) above sea level.

Day 9:

Transfer to Cotacachi area and meet with local indigenous families. In the afternoon, the group will assist with various projects throughout the village, such as renovating the local community center or painting the school. Stay with host family.

Day 10:

Morning spent assisting the host family with their agricultural or craft work, followed by community assistance in the afternoon.

*Price is subject to change

Day 11:

Day trip to Cuicocha Lake, Cotacachi Cayapas reserve, and the city of Otavalo to visit one of the largest indigenous markets in South America. Opportunity to witness a traditional egg examination with a local shaman.

Day 12:

Morning spent assisting the host family with their agricultural or craft work, transfer back to Quito in the afternoon.

Day 13:

Full day trip to Baños, including visits to *Pailon del Diablo* and the *Casa del Arbol*. Farewell dinner to follow in the evening.

Day 14:

Transfer back to Quito International Airport for flight home.

Program Features

A. Pre-Departure Support

Comprehensive pre-departure support from World Endeavors staff members, including a pre-departure orientation or webinar as requested. Participants will also receive a personalized pre-departure handbook.

B. 24-hour Ecuador-based support

Our experienced Quito-based coordinators will be available 24 hours a day to provide support for the group and translate as necessary.

C. In-Country Orientation

In-Depth in-country orientation introducing the group to Ecuadorian culture, health and safety issues, and the schedule for the program.

D. Group Accommodations

Quito - Students will stay in dormitory rooms in a local hostel, separated by gender. Faculty will have private rooms. Cotacachi – Students will stay with host families, with 2-3 students per family.

E. Meals

Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be included each day, with the exception of arrival and departure days. Arrival (just dinner), Departure (just breakfast)

F. Entrance Fees

All entrance fees will be included.

G. In-Country Transportation

The group will travel to the volunteering projects using public transport and will use a mixture of public and private transport for the trips outside of Quito.

H. Airport Reception and Drop-off

Transfers to and from Mariscal Sucre International Airport in Quito.

I. Tips

Tips included for tour guides, drivers as required in group activities.

J. Liability Insurance

World Endeavors will name your institution as insured on our liability insurance policy, which has a \$5,000,000 overall limit and \$2,000,000 general policy.