

Ecuador

Travel Facts



US State Dept Travel Advisory

The US Department of State currently recommends US citizens exercise increased caution in Ecuador due to civil unrest, crime, and kidnapping. Some areas have increased risk..

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>

Passport/Visa Requirements

For the latest passport and visa requirements for this country, please consult the U.S. State Department's "Learn About Your Destination" search tool, available through the link below.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html>

US Embassy/Consulate

[593] (2) 398-5000; US Embassy Quito, E12-170 Avigiras Ave. and Eloy Alfaro Ave., Quito, Ecuador; <https://ec.usembassy.gov/>; ACSQuito@state.gov

Types of Travelers

Additional travel considerations can be found on the US Dept of State International Travel page.

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel.html>

Telephone Code

593

Local Emergency Phone

Ambulance: 131; Fire: 102; Police: 101

Vaccinations

The CDC and WHO recommend the following vaccinations for Ecuador: hepatitis A, hepatitis B, typhoid, yellow fever, rabies, meningitis, polio, measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), chickenpox, shingles, pneumonia, influenza, and COVID-19. <http://www.who.int/>

Climate

Tropical along coast, becoming cooler inland at higher elevations; tropical in Amazonian jungle lowlands

Currency (Code)

US \$ (USD)

Electricity/Voltage/Plug Type(s)

110 V / 60 Hz / plug types: A, B



Type A



Type B

Major Languages

Spanish (Castilian), Quechua

Major Religions

Roman Catholic, Protestant (Evangelical, Adventist, other Protestant), Jehovah's Witness, other, none

Time Difference

UTC-5 (same time as Washington, DC, during Standard Time); note: Ecuador has two time zones, including the Galapagos Islands (UTC-6)

Potable Water

Opt for bottled water

International Driving Permit

Suggested; additionally, if you plan to drive in Ecuador, you will need an Inter-American Driving Permit issued by the AAA

Road Driving Side

Right



Tourist Destinations

Galápagos Islands; Quito historic center; Cuenca historic center; Cotopaxi; Cajas National Park; Guayaquil Boardwalk (Malecon 2000); Nariz del Diablo; Qhapaq Nan/Andean Road System

Major Sports

Soccer, cycling

Cultural Practices

Ecuadorians are more formal in their business dealings than many other cultures. Shake hands when meeting someone and when leaving.

Tipping Guidelines

Tipping 10% is common in restaurants, usually handed directly to the server. Round up the fare for taxis. Hotel bellhops receive \$1-2 (USD) per bag and housekeepers about \$1 (USD) per day.

Souvenirs

Coffee, llama wool products, woven baskets and straw hats, carpets, tagua vegetable and wood carvings, non-edible dough figurines, leather goods, sheepskin paintings; tribal instruments, masks, jewelry, and fabrics

Traditional Cuisine

Ceviche — raw fresh fish marinated with lime juice and mixed with chilies, onions, tomatoes, and cilantro; typically served with patacones (thick fried green plantains), chifles (very thin fried green plantain chips), corn nuts, or popcorn

March 2024

