

ECUADOR



Country Dialling Code: ++593

Ministry of Tourism: Avenida Eloy Alfaro N32-300 y Carlos Tobar, Quito, Ecuador
Tel: (2)-507-562 Fax: (2)-229-330 E-mail: subtur@ec-gov.net Website: www.pub4.ecua.net.ec/mintur

Capital: Quito **Time:** GMT - 5

Background: The "Republic of the Equator" was one of three countries that emerged from the collapse of Gran Colombia in 1830 (the others being Colombia and Venezuela). Between 1904 and 1942, Ecuador lost territories in a series of conflicts with its neighbors. A border war with Peru that flared in 1995 was resolved in 1999.

Location: Western South America, bordering the Pacific Ocean at the Equator, between Colombia and Peru

Map References: South America

Area: total: 283,560 sq km land: 276,840 sq km water: 6,720 sq km note: includes Galapagos Islands

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

Terrain: coastal plain (costa), inter-Andean central highlands (sierra), and flat to rolling eastern jungle (oriente)

Population: 12,920,092 (July 2000 est.)

Nationality: noun: Ecuadorian(s) adjective: Ecuadorian

Ethnic Groups: mestizo (mixed Amerindian and Spanish) 65%, Amerindian 25%, Spanish and others 7%, black 3%

Religions: Roman Catholic 95%

Languages: Spanish (official), Amerindian languages (especially Quechua)

Economy: Ecuador has substantial oil resources and rich agricultural areas. Because the country exports primary products such as oil, bananas, and shrimp, fluctuations in world market prices can have a substantial domestic impact. Ecuador joined the World Trade Organization in 1996, but has failed to comply with many of its accession commitments. In recent years, growth has been uneven due to ill-conceived fiscal stabilization measures. The aftermath of El Niño and depressed oil market of 1997-98 drove Ecuador's economy into a free-fall in 1999. The beginning of 1999 saw the banking sector collapse, which helped precipitate an unprecedented default on external loans later that year. Continued economic instability drove a 70% depreciation of the currency throughout 1999, which eventually forced a desperate government to dollarize the currency regime in 2000. The move stabilized the currency, but did not stave off the ouster of the government. The new president, Gustavo NOBOA has yet to complete negotiations for a long sought IMF accord. He will find it difficult to push through the reforms necessary to make dollarization work in the long-run.

Industries: petroleum, food processing, textiles, metal work, paper products, wood products, chemicals, plastics, fishing, lumber

Currency: 1 sucre (S) = 100 centavos

Railways: total: 812 km (single track) narrow gauge: 812 km 1.067-m gauge

Highways: total: 43,197 km paved: 8,165 km unpaved: 35,032 km (1999 est.)
Waterways: 1,500 km

Ports and Harbors: Esmeraldas, Guayaquil, La Libertad, Manta, Puerto Bolívar, San Lorenzo

Airports: 182 (1999 est.) Airports - with paved runways: total: 57 over 3,047 m: 2, 2,438 to 3,047 m: 5, 1,524 to 2,437 m: 17, 914 to 1,523 m: 13, under 914 m: 20 (1999 est.) Airports - with unpaved runways: total: 125, 914 to 1,523 m: 36, under 914 m: 89 (1999 est.)

Heliports: 1 (1999 est.)

Visa: a passport valid for 6 months must be carried at all times. Visa required by all if visiting for more than 3 months

Duty Free: permitted goods: 300 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 200g of tobacco, 1 litre of alcohol, a reasonable amount of perfume, gifts, and personal effects.

Health: a yellow fever vaccination is required from passengers over 1 year of age coming from infected areas. Vaccination strongly recommended. Cholera, typhoid, and polio risks also

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GUAYAQUIL

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HM INTERNATIONAL HOTEL, Kennedy Norte, Alberto Boorges y 1er Pasaje, Guayaquil, Ecuador, Tel: 593 4 2280806, reservas@hmhotelec.com, <https://www.hmhotelec.com>

HOLIDAY INN GUAYAQUIL AIRPORT, Tel:00800 311 1216, info@holidayinnge.com, <http://www.ihg.com/holidayinn/hotels/us/es/quayaquil/gyeap/hoteldetail>

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OLMEDO PLAZA HOTEL, Avenida Olmedo, 309 y calle Chile, Tel: 593 04 400127, Fax: 593 04 400 515, reservaciones@olmedoplazahotel.com, <http://www.olmedoplazahotel.com>

SHERATON GUAYAQUIL HOTEL, Av. Constitucion, Plaza Del Sol, Frente Al Mall Del Sol, Guayaquil, Ecuador, Phone: 593 4 2082088, reservas@sheratonguayaquil.com, http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1159&language=en_US

SONESTA HOTEL GUAYAQUIL, Av. Joaquín Orrantía y L. Benítez, Guayaquil, Ecuador, Tel: 593.4.259.5900, Fax: 593.4.259.5990, <http://www.sonesta.com/guayaquil>

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UNIPARK HOTEL, Tel: 593 4 2327 100, [ccruz@uniparkhotel.com](http://www.uniparkhotel.com), <http://www.uniparkhotel.com/asistencia-unipark-hotel>

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QUITO

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HOTEL ORO VERDE 9 de Octubre Y Garcia Moreno (Esquina) P.O.Box 09-01-9636 Guayaquil, Ecuador GUAYAQUIL ECUADOR TEL: (593-4) 327-999 FAX: (593-4) 329-350 ecovg@gye.satnet.net

HOTEL PATIO ANDALUZ, Garcia Moreno N6 52, Entre Olmedo y Mejía, Quito, Pichincha, 170401, Ecuador, Tel: 593 2228 0830, info@hotelpatioandaluz.com, <http://www.hotelpatioandaluz.com>

SAN JORGE ECO-LODGE & BOTANICAL RESERVE, Rafael Almeida e Hidalgo de Pinto N42-191, PO BOX: 170150, Quito Ecuador, Phone: 33 90 403 -or- 2 247 549, magic.birding@gmail.com, <http://www.sanjorgeecolodges.com>

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TRANSPORTES AEREOS MILITARES ECUATORIANAS, Region: South America, Address: PO Box 8736 Avenue Amazonas 1354 y Colon Quito, Tel: 00593 2 50 93 92, Fax: 00593 2 50 95 94, Web site: www.tame.com.ec, Main Base: Quito

QUITO - MARISCAL SUCRE AIRPORT, Ecuador, Ave Amazonas y de la Prensa s/n, Casilla 17-01-7082, Quito, Tel: +593 (0)294-4900, Fax: +593 (0)294-4906, +593 (0)294-4900, Email: quiport.telecom@quiport.com, Website: www.quitoairport.com

BUS & RAILWAY STATIONS

CRUZ DEL SUR, Av. Javier Prado 1109, La Victoria - Lima Perú, Tel: 72 0444 ,0801-11111, <http://www.cruzdelsur.com.pe>

ECUADOR RAIL - COLUMBUS TRAVEL, Quito, Ecuador, Tel: 593 2 2226612, info@ecuadorrail.com, <http://www.ecuadorrail.com>

TRENECUADOR, Ecuador 1800 TRENES (873637) ,USA 888 LUX RAIL (5897245) ,AUSTRALIA 1800 (156671), <http://trenecuador.com/crucero/en>

VIAJERO CONTENTO, Azuay E2-247 & Amazonas, Quito, Tel. 02 600 8344, info@latinbus.com, <http://latinbus.com>

VIAJEROS INTERNACIONAL, En Av. España y Sebastian de Benalcazar, Terminal Terrestre, Tel: 593 7 2842107, Cuenca - Ecuador, secretaria@viajerosinternacional.com, <http://www.viajerosinternacional.com>

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SURTREK TOUR OPERATOR, San Ignacio E10-114 and Placido Caamaño, Quito, Ecuador, Ecuador: 593 2 2500660, info@surtrek.com, <http://www.surtrek.com/ecuador-travel-guide/quito-day-tours/exclusive-helicopter-tour.html>

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SILVERSEA CRUISES, SILVER GALAPAGOS, Tel: 377 97702424, <http://www.silversea.com/ships/silver-galapagos>

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Cuisines: European Turkish Grill,

info.lammhaus@gmail.com,<http://www.lammhaus.com>

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PAPALLACTA

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