

# EXPLORE ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS

TAILOR MADE TRAVEL

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This is a sample trip!!! The order of travel, excursions, hotels, .... it can all be adjusted.

A different hotel? Look at the range of hotels per region or city: <https://explore-ecuador.com/the-mainland/hotels-in-ecuador/>

A different excursion? You can choose per region or city: <https://explore-ecuador.com/the-mainland/excursions-in-ecuador/>

## Hacienda tour - 6 days Andes - LUXURY

Guide price 2 128 USD per person (based on min. 2 people)

### ITINERARY

- day 1 arrival in Quito + transfer to Otavalo
- day 2 on your own: visit indigenous market / waterfall of Peguche
- day 3 hiking tour Lake Cuicocha
- day 4 Visiting indigenous villages - transfer to Cotopaxi
- day 5 excursion to Cotopaxi National Park
- day 6 transfer to Quito

GOOGLE MAPS? CLICK ON THE MAP



### day 1

Arrival in Quito

Transfer from Quito to Otavalo in private car (SP-language driver)

You will be picked up by a Spanish-speaking driver at the hotel (or airport) and taken in a private car to the hotel in Otavalo. This drive through the Andes Mountains takes about 2 hours.

Hacienda Zuleta - standard room double with breakfast, lunch and dinner

Hacienda Zuleta dates back to the 17th century and is located at an altitude of 2,800 meters, between Cayambe and Otavalo. The hotel is about a two-hour drive from Quito. The hacienda is an active farm and includes 2,000 hectares of farmland. The hotel was once the working farm of a former president of Ecuador. Today, the hacienda is still owned by the well-known Lasso family. There are seventeen unique guest rooms, all with wood-burning stoves. You can eat well in the renowned kitchen with homegrown products: there is an in-house dairy, an organic garden, a trout farm, etc. The hacienda offers several excursions. For example, you can explore the beautiful, centuries-old gardens on foot or on horseback.

For more information see [zuleta.com](http://zuleta.com)

### day 2

Acclimatization - we suggest two activities that can be done on one's own:

*Otavalo - visit to the indigenous market (on your own)*

*This market in the Plaza de Ponchos is without a doubt the most famous indigenous market in Ecuador. You will find a huge selection of artesanate. The best day to visit this market is on Saturday. There are 4 markets going on simultaneously in different parts of the city. But the artesanate market now also goes on the other days of the week - it is much quieter then. This in turn has its advantages.*

*Hike to Peguche waterfall (on own)*

*The 18-meter-high Peguche waterfall is located 4 kilometers south of Otavalo in a beautiful natural park... The local population of Otavalo celebrates the solar festival of Inti Raymi there on June 21. During several days purification rituals are held here. But also during the rest of the year the park is worth a visit.*

Hacienda Zuleta - standard room double with breakfast, lunch and dinner

### day 3

#### Hiking around the crater lake of Cuicocha

Cuicocha is one of the most famous lakes in Ecuador. With a private car we drive to the entrance of the reserve Cotacachi-Cayapas, where we start a 5-hour hike that goes between 3100 and 3500 meters above sea level. Along the way we enjoy the biodiversity, the views of the picturesque Lake Cuicocha with its two islets and the view of the peaks Cotacachi, Imbabura and Cayambe.

Difficulty: moderate

Duration: approximately 7 hours

Included: English speaking local guide, private transport, meal or packed lunch

Required: good walking shoes, sun protection, mosquito repellent, fleece or pullover, water (min. 1 liter)

Recommended: camera, binoculars, rain jacket, reasonable physical condition also at altitude

Hacienda Zuleta - standard room double with breakfast, lunch and dinner

### day 4

#### The villages of Cotacachi

A tour of indigenous villages, visiting workshops, organic gardens, a school and Cuicocha Lake.

We begin this tour with a brief explanation of the Cotacachi region, then we visit a weaving workshop in the village of Carabuela. Then we will visit an organic garden and learn about the vegetables and medicinal plants of the Andean region. We continue to La Calera where we visit a small school and a family that makes embroidery. After lunch we finish with a visit to Lake Cuicocha where we take some time to walk or take a short boat trip (optional).

Difficulty: light Duration: approx. 7 hours Included: Guide, private transportation, lunch, entrance

Recommended: camera, water, sun protection, fleece or pullover

#### Transfer from Otavalo to Cotopaxi in private car

You will be picked up by a Spanish-speaking driver at the hotel and taken in a private car to Cotopaxi. This drive through the Andes takes 3 to 4 hours.

#### Hacienda San Agustin - standard room double with breakfast, lunch and dinner

This small beautiful hacienda is located among the fields at the foot of the majestic Cotopaxi volcano. You will spend the night here in an original Inca building, unique in Ecuador! The original Inca fort is integrated into the main building, the chapel and the dining room. The main building (Casa Inca) is located around the patio and has 2 suites and 3 standard rooms. Casa del Callo is a separate building with 1 suite and 2 standard rooms plus a common area with kitchen and is therefore more suitable for families. Casa Cotopaxi is a beautifully restored stable with 2 suites and has views of Cotopaxi. The suite at Casa de Callo also has a view of the volcano. Ije gets here an extensive tour of the estate. Also feeding the llamas is included in the package.

Included are the three meals, a welcome drink and the use of bicycles.

For more info see [www.incahacienda.com](http://www.incahacienda.com)

### day 5

#### The Cotopaxi volcano

The driver will pick you up at the hotel in the morning. The National Park is an hour's drive from Quito. On clear days you can admire the mountain from afar. After a short stop at the Mariscal Sucre information point, where you will receive some explanation about the region and the volcano, we continue to 4500 m altitude. From here we go to the refuge which is 365 meters higher. It is a very steep walk that takes us at least an hour due to the high altitude. Then we descend to the Limpiopungo Lake which lies at the foot of the volcano. This lake is fed by a volcanic glacier; you often see wild horses grazing and Andean foxes hunting. Then we return to the hotel by car.

Difficulty: light-moderate.

What to bring: sun and rain protection, water, sports footwear, camera and warm clothes.

Duration: 6 hours

Includes: English speaking guide, transport and lunch box

Hacienda San Agustin - standard room double with breakfast, lunch and dinner

### day 6

#### Transfer from Cotopaxi to Quito in private car (SP language driver)

**Total price of this travel proposal per person**

**2.128 USD**

#### Notes

\* Prices quoted are in US Dollars and apply only when paying in USD directly to our Quito - Ecuador office. Transfer costs are borne by the customer.

\* All transfers are done with a private car and Spanish-speaking driver unless otherwise stated

\* Listed trips and excursions are examples from a wider range. Check out our website for more choice.

\* This travel proposal is based on 2-person standard rooms, unless stated otherwise. Supplements for single or deluxe rooms are available on request.

\* This travel proposal is non-binding, depending on the travel period and subject to availability.

\* The final travel program must take into account certain fixed days of activities, such as native markets, departure dates of cruises and flights, etc. We do everything possible to optimally insert mentioned activities into the program.

#### Included

\* All hotel stays with breakfast, transfers, domestic flights and excursions as mentioned in the program.

\* Lunch and dinner in accordance with the program if stated.

### Not included

- \* Drinks, tips and expenses of a personal nature.
- \* **International flights to and from Ecuador.**
- \* Travel or cancellation insurance.

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