



## **Teen Summer Camp in Ecuador**

A learning camp in Ecuador, with a combination of wildlife projects and cultural and recreational activities.



Group size: 6 to 18 participants.

Price per person: €1650 (details at the end of the document)

## **Summary of proposed projects and activities :**

- Visit to Quito
- Project in an animal refuge in the Amazon rainforest
- Salsa lessons
- Mountain bike excursion
- Canopy tour
- Visit to Baños
- Visit to Lake Quilotoa
- Bike trip to Cotopaxi

## **Suggested Brief Itinerary :**

Day 1 : Arrival and private transfer from Quito airport.  
Day 2 : Treasure hunt in Quito city centre with a local guide  
Day 3 : Transfer from Quito to Puyo + Tree planting  
Day 4 : Project in an animal refuge in the Amazon rainforest  
Day 5 : Project in a wildlife refuge in the Amazon rainforest  
Day 6 : Project in a wildlife refuge in the Amazon rainforest  
Day 7 : Project in a wildlife refuge in the Amazon rainforest  
Day 8 : Project in a wildlife refuge in the Amazon rainforest  
Day 9 : Transfer from the refuge to the town of Baños + Salsa lessons  
Day 10 : Canyoning waterfall tour + mountain bike excursion  
Day 11 : Canopy tour + Treasure hunt in Baños  
Day 12 : Visit to Lake Quilotoa  
Day 13 : Bike trip to Cotopaxi + departure for Quito  
Day 14 : Private transfer to Quito airport for your return flight.

## **The project :**

Founded in 2006, this refuge aims to protect the flora and fauna of the Amazon region through the rescue and rehabilitation of endemic species. The animals at the centre have all been mistreated, neglected or abandoned. Some have been orphaned by hunting and poaching activities, others have been rescued from animal traffickers and still others have been confiscated from families who were keeping them in captivity. Some animals have been taken in and entrusted to the centre by the government authorities; others have been found in the surrounding area, and some have been brought in by families who have realised that wild animals should not be kept as pets.

## **Your Accommodation**

Accommodation is in shared cabins. Showers and toilets are located outside the cabins. The refuge also has a shared kitchen and a common area with hammocks and books. Bed linen is provided, and you will have access to Wi-Fi. The accommodation is basic, and it is your responsibility to keep your living space clean. On the project, you will receive three meals a day (Monday to Friday).

## **Detailed itinerary :**

Day 1 (Fri) : Arrival at Quito airport and transfer to accommodation.

Day 2 (Sat) : A treasure hunt will be organised during the day. An opportunity to discover the capital of Ecuador: Quito. This city, surrounded by magnificent natural landscapes, is renowned for its impressive Spanish colonial architecture. The city is home to numerous churches, monasteries and historic buildings, including Quito Cathedral and the Basilica del Voto Nacional.

Day 3 (Sun) : Transfer from Quito to the animal sanctuary in Puyo, where the group will have lunch. This will be followed by an orientation meeting to outline the activities for the following days. The afternoon will be devoted to tree planting.

Day 4 (Mon) : First day of the animal sanctuary project. On the programme: cutting fruit, preparing rations, feeding the animals, maintaining and cleaning the enclosures, additional work (repair work and building new enclosures, enrichment, gardening, improving paths, making signs for visitors, etc.).

Day 5 (Tue) : Second day of the animal sanctuary project.

Day 6 (Wed) : Third day of animal sanctuary project.

Day 7 (Thu) : Fourth day of the project in an animal shelter.

Day 8 (Fri) : Fifth and last day of the project in an animal shelter.

Day 9 (Sat) : We leave the refuge and head for the town of Baños. In the afternoon, we'll take part in a salsa class. Very popular in Latin America, music and salsa are pillars of Ecuadorian culture.

Day 10 (Sun) : In the morning, the group will participate in a very popular outdoor activity in Ecuador: the "Canyoning Waterfall Tour." This activity offers the opportunity to descend 4 waterfalls, including the tallest waterfall in Baños, which is 50 meters high! This experience allows you to enjoy spectacular panoramic views while having a thrilling adventure. In the afternoon, the group will go on a mountain biking excursion towards Baños. We will head towards the famous "Route of the Waterfalls." The route is mostly downhill, allowing us to admire the beauty of the landscape and the sites. We will end our excursion at the famous "Pailón del Diablo" waterfall in Rio Verde.

Day 11 (Mon) : In the morning, you will participate in a new activity in Baños: the Canopy Tour ! During this activity, you will explore the Amazon rainforest from several zip lines. Then, in the afternoon, you will take part in a treasure hunt in Baños, a must-see destination in Ecuador.

Day 12 (Tue) : Depart Baños to visit the famous Quilotoa lake. This crater, formed by the collapse of a volcano thousands of years ago, is now renowned for the colour of its water, which varies from emerald green to deep blue depending on the light of day. This colour is due to the high content of dissolved minerals.

Day 13 (Wed) : Departure for a tour of Cotopaxi by bicycle. Widely considered to be one of the greatest symbols of Ecuadorian geography, the Cotopaxi volcano is a unique sight and is reputed to be the fifth highest active volcano in the world. We climb up to the Jose Rivas refuge and then cycle down the volcano. This adventure takes us to the park's largest lagoon, Limpiopungo.

Day 14 (Thu): Private transfer to Quito airport to catch a flight home.

### **Included :**

- All projects and activities listed above.
- Accommodation in shared rooms
- Transfer from the airport.
- Orientation and training on arrival
- Breakfast every day
- 3 meals a day during the project in an animal shelter
- Local transport for all projects and activities.
- Dedicated group coordinator on all projects and activities.
- Local 24/7 emergency assistance

### **Not included :**

- International/local flights
- Meals not previously mentioned (4 lunches + 5 dinners)
- Optional or additional excursions
- Personal expenses
- Medical insurance