Community engagement trip

Ecuador

- Work on the Pacific coast
- Ecuador: tranquility and amazing diversities
  - Accommodation within families
- Practice of Spanish, the 2nd international language
  - Experienced multilingual guide

Culture Manteña of Agua Blanca

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More about the country

Sitting on the Equator between Colombia and Peru, Ecuador is the smallest of the Andean nations, covering an area no bigger than Nevada. Despite its size, the country is packed with startling contrasts of scenery, from steaming tropical rain forests and windswept highlands to ice-capped volcanoes and palm-fringed beaches, all within easy reach of Guayaquil.

ECUADOR IN SOUTH AMERICA

Ecuador’s mainland is divided neatly into three distinct parallel regions that run the length of the country.
In the middle is the Sierra, which is formed by the eastern and the western chains of the Andes.
East of the sierra is the Oriente, a sparsely populated area.
West of the sierra is the coastal region, a fertile alluvial plain bordered on its Pacific seaboard by a string of beaches.
Almost a thousand kilometers of ocean separate the coastlines from the Galápagos archipelago.
Galápagos tortoise

Pelican in the Pacific
The Cotopaxi, the highest active volcano in the world

Parrot in the forest
Accommodation

2 nights at « the Park hotel » in Guayaquil

3 nights within the community of Agua Blanca

2 nights at Itapoa lodge in Puerto Lopez
"Agua Blanca" is a rural community located in the province of Manabi, on the Pacific coast of Ecuador. It is located 12 km from Puerto Lopez, known for its access to the island of Plata. The community is located within the park Machalilla. The main activity is ancestral agriculture (bananas, papayas) associated with the crafts and the preservation of archaeological pre-Inca culture "Manteña."

Health
There’s no reason to be paranoid about contracting tropical diseases. In reality, most are rare and pose much more of a threat to residents, especially those from poorer communities with limited access to clean water and healthcare, than tourists. Consult your doctor or a travel clinic at least two months before you leave to discuss whether you need vaccinations or malaria prophylaxis.

Climate
There’s no real summer and winter in Ecuador and its weather generally varies by regional geography, with temperatures determined more by altitude than by season or latitude. In the lowlands it can get particularly hot on clear days. But as there have been noticeable recent changes in the world’s climatic patterns, the wet and the dry season are not anymore really distinct.

Only bring banknotes worth no more than 20 usd for you own purchases.

We use a private bus for all our transports.

Drinking water is provided during all your trip.
This trip offers the opportunity to a young institution (association, school, college, university) to collaborate on a project of sustainable development. We participate in community work and we fund part of it. We stay 3 nights with family in the community of "Agua Blanca".

During the other part of the trip we discover Guayaquil, the main city of Ecuador, we visit local artisans in Monte Cristi, and we spend a day on the island of La Plata, which has a vegetation similar to the Galápagos and a large population of boobies and frigates (possibility to observe whales between June and October).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>ACTIVITIES</th>
<th>NIGHTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D 1</td>
<td>We receive you at the Guayaquil airport, bus to our hotel</td>
<td>Hotel in Guayaquil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 2</td>
<td>We visit Guayaquil, the cathedral, the square of iguanas, etc.</td>
<td>Community of Agua Blanca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 3</td>
<td>Community work for the project, meals with the families</td>
<td>Community of Agua Blanca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 4</td>
<td>Day hike (5 or 6 hours) between dry forest and rain forest</td>
<td>Community of Agua Blanca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 5</td>
<td>We visit the archaeological site and the museum, farewell party</td>
<td>Guest house in Puerto Lopez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 6</td>
<td>Boat to the island of La Plata, observing wildlife and flora</td>
<td>Guest house in Puerto Lopez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 7</td>
<td>Beach los Frailes, visit Monte Cristi, back to Guayaquil</td>
<td>Hotel in Guayaquil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D 8</td>
<td>Transfer by bus to Guayaquil airport for the return trip</td>
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Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive in Guayaquil where you are met on arrival and transferred to our hotel in the new town.

Day 2: We visit the main city of Ecuador, the square of iguanas, the Cathedral and walk along the river Guayas. After lunch we go by bus to the community of "Agua Blanca", where we take contact with our host families.

Day 3: We participate in work whose need has been established by the entire community (agricultural, renovation, construction, maintenance of the archaeological site, for example). All meals are made within families in the community. The project is under the direction of the President of the community.

Day 4: Day hike between dry forest and rainforest average altitude still in the wild with the possibility to observe monkeys and vegetation completely opposite between the two ecosystems.

Day 5: In the morning, we visit the archaeological site and the museum. In the afternoon, we participate in a cultural exchange before leaving our families. Overnight at a lodge in Puerto Lopez which participates in activities to protect the environment.
Day 6: Day at the Isla de la Plata, 1h30 away by boat, it has the same kind of vegetation that the Galápagos Archipelago. We walk on the island and we learn about the flora and fauna. Snorkelling in the afternoon. The Isla de la Plata is the only site in Ecuador, including the Galápagos Islands, home to three species of blue-footed boobies, masked, red-footed. Return to Puerto Lopez in the evening. Whale watching between June and October. Second night in our lodge.

In the boat to the isla de la plata

Day 7: We spend the morning on the beautiful beach of Los Frailes. In the afternoon, we visit a workshop of Monte Cristi, capital of Panama hat, one of the world’s most renowned. Then we go back by bus for our last night in Guayaquil.

Day 8: We leave our hotel to get to Guayaquil International Airport for your return flight.
Price list

You can deposit at this bank account with the SWIFT code:

NAME OF THE BANK: BANCO PICHINCHA C. A.
Banking account: calle Imbabura y tarqui- Cotacachi
Swift code: PICHECEQ
Country: Ecuador

NAME OF THE BENEFICIARY: ROUZAUD Thierry Nicolas Hervé
Identity card: 171670706-0
Address: San José de Chaltura, Granja la pradera
City and province: Chalturita, Imbabura
Country: Ecuador
Telephone: 09 99 58 13 21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prices do not include:</th>
<th>Prices include:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Air ticket</td>
<td>• All the mentioned activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• A meal in Quito (about 30 $)</td>
<td>• Accommodation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tips</td>
<td>• Food (except one meal in Quito)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Extra drinks (juice, soft drinks)</td>
<td>• Guided tour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Local transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Museums and park entrance fees</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Mineral water for the day</td>
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«COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TRIP ON THE PACIFIC COAST » (7 NIGHTS)
Minimum number of participants: 30 with 3 free
Prices per person
450 USD

Contact us for payment terms (fondationtio@hotmail.com)
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