









TEACHER / GROUP LEADER TOURS
CUSTOMIZED ITINERARIES

COST and DETAILS

What is a Teacher/Group Leader Tour?

Our Teacher/Group Leader Tour can be designed as a multi-disciplinary experience that incorporates experiential learning, site visits, lectures, and personal reflections, to enhance student development and global awareness. Our goal is to contribute to the preparation of global citizens. This is accomplished by engaging students in guided activities and discussions with experienced guides and interactions with locals. We welcome teachers and group leaders with expertise from many fields, and can help you craft an itinerary that caters to the interests of your group. We can design several types of trips, helping you to create a unique experience for every student.

Tour Services	
	Private Furnished Apartments
	Great Value and Quality
	Private Van and Vehicles
	Private Airport Transfers
	Local Meals
	Free Wireless

Who can take part in this tour?

Our Teacher/Group Leader Tour is an ideal avenue to engage students, teachers, group leaders, communities, and organizations in meaningful cultural exchange activities. You can sit back and enjoy our pre-designed itinerary or you can work with us to create a unique tour fulfilling your group needs and expectations. For example we can craft an itinerary focusing on exploring Ecuador's flora and fauna, an adventure hiking and traveling across the country-side, a journey exploring Ecuador's colonial history, or a culinary expedition of ancient traditions. We are ready to support you and design an itinerary that fits your group needs. If you have an idea for a tour, please contact us to brainstorm and recruit some students!

We welcome participants from all over the U.S. and also international students. Each group will travel with a group leader/s and will work with our staff to supervise and enjoy one of our adventures.

Who can be a Group Leader?

Group Leaders are high school teachers, college professors, staff from zoos, high school coaches, Boy and Girl Scout Troop Leaders, and any other person with an organization who would like to travel with a group of participants. As a group leader, you promote the trip and select trip dates. Group leaders are rewarded with discount travel, free trips, or cash incentives for their commitment to global education and recruiting efforts.

How do I sign up as a group leader?

Each group leader must complete the group Leader application. Please contact us directly at info@myecuadortrip.com Provide your name, organization, and phone number. We will arrange a time to speak with and brainstorm potential trip ideas and dates. A member of our team will help you during every step providing recruiting advice, explaining all trip logistics, and answering all your questions. Each trip needs a minimum of 5 participants. You can continue to recruit and add participants throughout the year.

When should I contact My Ecuador Trip to plan a tour?

It is ideal that you contact us between 6-12 months prior to anticipated departure. This timeframe will enable our team to work with you to develop an itinerary, recruit participants, and plan for all logistics

What themes can be explored while in Ecuador?

Our study abroad and educational tours can be designed as a multi-disciplinary experience that incorporates experiential learning, site visits, lectures, and personal reflections, to enhance student development and global awareness. Our tours are designed for professors or teaching staff wishing to engage students on hands-on educational experiences in the field with an academic focus. We will be happy to help you identify your travel objectives and determine which tour and activities best fit your needs. We make a continuous effort to make sure you learn about Ecuador and also have a great adventure enjoying this country's natural beauty.

Potential Program Themes:

- ✔ Learn about Quito, the first city in the world named "Cultural Patrimony of Mankind" by UNESCO
- ✔ Learn about the best preserved colonial center in the world
- ✔ Study in 1 of 17 mega-diverse countries in the world
- ✔ Learn about Ecuador's culture and its people
- ✔ Explore and learn about the rainforest
- ✔ Discover new flavors and local food
- ✔ Explore rich ecosystems and learn about protecting this treasure
- ✔ Learn about history, politics, and culture, geography, or relevant current issues

What are the tour dates?

As a program leader you will select the program dates with help from My Ecuador Trip. You can organize a program anytime during the year. Please contact us to discuss the best available times. After this initial meeting, we will closely collaborate to understand and meet the policies and guidelines of your institution and design a successful program. Once we have agreed upon the program content (itinerary and focus), dates and trip cost, we will assist you with materials to recruit and reach students at your institution.

What are my responsibilities as a group leader?

Group leaders play an important role promoting, recruiting, and communicating with participants and in specific cases their guardians. In Ecuador, you will take the role of a chaperone and will help to maintain order. You will need to make sure participants are on time, follow trip rules and are not engaged in unsafe activities. Our staff will facilitate this process, but you play a critical role because of your connection to the students. Participants that cannot follow the rules or that pose a threat to the safety of the group will be sent home at their expense

What is my commitment as a group leader?

Your commitment after completing a Group Leader application form is to recruit participants and serve as the main point of contact to participants. Once you have secured 5 participants you will collect the \$300 initial deposit (Check: Made to My Ecuador Trip) to reserve a spot for each student. You are not committed to doing the trip until you send this initial deposit.

What do I pay as a group leader?

As a group leader, you play a key role recruiting students and later on serving as a group leader during the tour. For this service, as a group leader, you can receive major discounts, a free trip, or additional benefits such as bringing a guest / co-chaperone at a discounted cost. This is our THANK YOU for promoting global education and helping to recruit students.

Can I partner with a colleague from another school or organization to recruit students?

We encourage that you partner with a colleague at your school, organization, or in the community to recruit students. Both of you can work together, and enjoy the benefits of serving as a group leader.

As a group leader, can I bring a co-chaperone/guest?

We offer great incentives to recruit students. One of them is that you might bring one "guest" for a discounted tour fee or free* This guest does not count towards the minimum of 5 recruited students needed for each trip. You must contact us to check for space availability and to obtain permission to bring a guest. Your guest must not be below the age group of participants. Guests are not required to be teachers or professors. If you decide to partner with a colleague to recruit students, please let us know in advance.

*Details about payment and discounts will be discussed with each group leader

What is the estimated total budget for this tour?

ESTIMATED BUDGET	Individual Participants
Tour Fee	\$1,800
Roundtrip Airfare (Calculated from MIAMI)	\$600
Extra Spending Cash	\$200
Medical and Travel Insurance	\$50
TOTAL COST	\$ 2,650

***Accommodations:** Tour Fee based on double accommodations with shared bathroom. Our apartment style accommodations offer 1 full-bathroom per every two guests.

- Each two single rooms have access to one shared full bathroom.
- Each double room has a private bathroom
- Past participants report spending between \$100 - 200 (i.e., souvenirs, additional food and beverages, tips, miscellaneous).
- Larger groups (over 10 participants) will be booked in double or triple room accommodations

What is included in the price?

- ✔ Pre-Departure Orientation
- ✔ Fully furnished apartment accommodations
- ✔ Private Guided Daily Tours (English)
- ✔ Airport Transfers in Quito
- ✔ Entrance Fee for Local Tourist Attractions Included in Itinerary
- ✔ Meals (As Indicated in Itinerary - Delicious Ecuadorian Food)
- ✔ Bottled Water for Full Trip
- ✔ Free Wireless Internet
- ✔ 24/7 Local Support
- ✔ Unique/Authentic Tours



What is not included in the tour price?

- ✗ International Airfare
- ✗ Additional Snacks and Meals not Included in Itinerary
- ✗ Additional Transportation Services not Included in Itinerary
- ✗ Souvenirs and Miscellaneous
- ✗ Tipping and Gratuities
- ✗ Beverages and Alcoholic Drinks
- ✗ Travel and Medical Emergency Insurance (Price Range: \$30-70)



How about my airfare?

Airfare is not included on the price of this tour. Because our participants come from many different places, you will book your ticket on your own from the location is most convenient to you! Most participants will flight directly to Quito from MIAMI after their first connection (Quito is only a 3.5 hour flight from Miami). Participants will receive detailed flight information and arrival/departure time for guidance when booking this ticket. All participants must arrived and depart at indicated times.

Payment Plans?

The payment schedule below allows participants to pay in several installments. Each tour runs with a minimum of 5 participants. **DO NOT** purchase a ticket if you have not reserved a spot and/or received confirmation from us. Installments will be recalculated for participants that book the tour past the first payment due date. You may also pay the full amount at once. Students sign up for the tour by submitting the \$300 (applied towards the final payment) with the program application to you. (If the participant is not accepted to the program, the deposit will be returned to the participant). You can recruit participants at any time, as long as all deposits and payments are received prior the last payment date.



Installment Amount	Installment Dates		
	Payments (December Program)	Payments (June Program)	Payments (August Program)
\$300 (due w/ application)	October 15	March 15	May 15
\$700	November 1	April 1	June 1
\$800	December 1	May 1	July 1
TOTAL PAYMENT	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800

How do students reserve a spot?

Students reserve a spot by submitting the \$300 initial deposit and application to you. Once you have at least 5 participants, you can commit to do the trip by submitting the deposits to us. Students must submit application electronically to group leaders when submitting this deposit. During this process, we will be communicating frequently. If you do not have 5 students, there are ways to still reserve spots for your students, but this will not offer full benefits to you (free trip for tour leader).



Can students invite friends or family members from other states to join them?

These trips are designed for high school students and college students. We welcome participants from all over the U.S. and also international students. You as the group leader/s will serve as a group chaperone and will work with our staff to supervise and enjoy one of our adventures. All groups will travel with group leaders.

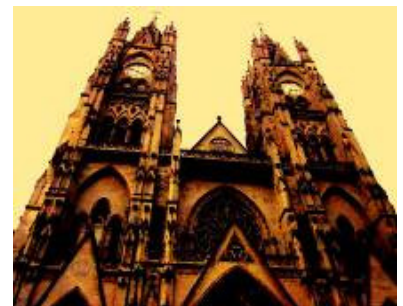
What is the typical recruiting timeline?

Most recruiters will select dates and will start promoting the trip 4-5 months before the selected trip dates. Recruiting often takes no more than 2 to 3 months, but we encourage group leaders to start as soon as they have selected trip dates to enable students to fully benefit from the payment plans, with low payments every month. We encourage group leaders to be proactive, to follow up with participants and their guardians. The success of the group depends on the amount of effort you put into the initial promotion and broadcast about the trip.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Where is the tour taking place?

On the imaginary line that divides the globe into North and South, Ecuador stands as one of only 17 countries on earth considered as mega-diverse. Ecuador is “home to about 3,300 species of orchids, more than 1,500 species of birds, 350 species of reptiles, 450 species of amphibians, and more than 20,000 vascular plants” This diversity is also reflected on its people, with an ethnically mixed population representing Spanish and indigenous roots. Ecuador is one of the smallest countries in South America and lies 9,000 feet above sea level. Quito, our host city, is the capital of Ecuador. Quito was the first city named by UNESCO a “world heritage” city in 1978, and received the honor of "cultural capital" of Latin American in 2011.



With a population of 2.4 million, Quito offers one of the best preserved colonial centers in the world, combining a rich history with a contemporary metropolitan image. **National Geographic named Quito one of the top 10 places to visit in 2013.**

What can we expect from the tour and activities?

The tour will be designed to truly introduce you to life in Ecuador. The tour has many aspects that are educational, recreational, cultural, and also offer activities to simply relax and have fun. Our guides and tour

leaders have a broad understanding of local politics, religion, history, globalization, economics, biology, and many other fun subjects. We make a continuous effort to make sure you learn about Ecuador and also have a great adventure enjoying this country's natural beauty!

What kind of activities can be organized?

When designing a program, you can do so based on the location, a particular subject, a historical theme, or design an itinerary based on a course you already teach (i.e., history, geography, globalization, international relations, culture and society, education, development). Depending on the theme of the program, our staff will work with you to educational, recreational, or cultural site visits, lectures, and exploration. Below, we have highlighted for you some potential destinations and/or activities:

- ♣ Volcano Observation
- ♣ Quito Zoo
- ♣ Handcraft Market
- ♣ Waterfalls
- ♣ Culinary Tour
- ♣ Visit local NGOs
- ♣ Middle of the World
- ♣ Hiking in the Jungle
- ♣ Volcano Crater
- ♣ Explore Agriculture
- ♣ Museums
- ♣ Soccer Games
- ♣ Visit local Universities
- ♣ Visit local businesses
- ♣ Hot Springs
- ♣ Colonial Cathedrals
- ♣ Museums
- ♣ Hiking the Andes
- ♣ Music
- ♣ Study Colonial Art
- ♣ Explore the Inca History

Do you have a sample itinerary?

We will be happy to help you design an itinerary for your group that incorporates activities that best fits your needs. As previously stated, when designing a tour, you can choose a tour based on the location, a particular subject, a historical theme, or travel as part of a course you already teach (i.e., history, globalization, culture and society, education, development). To give you an idea of what type of activities can be included in the Teacher/Group Leader tour, please refer to our tentative itineraries included on the website.

Additional Perks	
✔	Bottle Water for Full Trip
✔	Local Staff Support 24/7
✔	Expert Local Tour Leaders
✔	Unique/Authentic Tours
✔	Fluent Bilingual Tour Leaders
✔	Pre-Departure Info and Support

What is the degree of physical demand for the activities organized?

Excursions and Tours. Our tours involve moderate hikes in the city, rainforests, plains, and national parks. Our tour involves getting out of vehicles, walking on uneven terrain, and in some cases hiking in places with high elevation and some humidity. Our tours are suited for anyone who can walk up to 2-5 km (1.5 - 3 miles) per day. Some days there will be no walking and other days walking time may exceed 1-2 hours (broken up into shorter blocks). In the past, we have welcomed participants with different medical conditions. Please send us an email if you would like to find out more information about the level of activity and accommodation for each tour.



What can we expect from our accommodations?

Our Teacher/Group Leader Tours can be designed for small groups (5-10 participants) or for larger groups (over 10 participants). We can customize a tour with specific accommodations depending upon your needs and budget. Our staff will make sure you have a pleasant experience offering support 24/7. Our standard accommodations are modern apartments that have been carefully decorated and offer amenities such as a living room, dining room, and kitchen space to help you relax and enjoy your visit. We believe it is essential to provide not only comfort and safety, but also a special insight to the local culture. We offer intimate properties

for our guests to truly make this visit a unique experience for each visitor. Each property has a staff from My Ecuador Trip ready to assist all visitors.

How about our meals?

Coming to Ecuador is the perfect opportunity to experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available in this country. All meals included are clearly labeled in the trip description. With our expertise, we have selected a number of places that will offer you an authentic food experience, sampling local flavors, enjoying places where you will come face to face with locals, sharing traditions, and above all, eating like a local. To build rapport amongst participants, groups eat together.

Do you have additional questions?

Please contact us if you have any additional questions or would like to discuss tour details.

TRIP PREPARATION DETAILS

Do you need medical / travel insurance to participate in this tour?

All participants must secure medical travel insurance coverage PRIOR the trip. This insurance should cover you for the entire duration of the trip. While many participants may already be covered by a medical insurance policy, your policy for this tour must include travel, medical, emergency repatriation, overseas coverage, and travel/trip cancellation (For additional details and a description of risks, please refer to our liability contract).

All participants must present **proof of insurance** in writing to My Ecuador Trip prior departure (i.e., copy of online receipt/policy with your name). My Ecuador Trip does not endorse the following travel insurance providers but includes their contact information for your reference

iNext card: <http://www.inext.com/plans/supplemental/basic.aspx>

CMI Insurance Worldwide: <https://www.cmi-insurance.com/default.aspx>

STA Travel Insurance: <http://www.statravel.com/international-travel-insurance.htm>

Insurance Purchased Through Orbitz when you book your ticket

Health Considerations

Each participant should consult a doctor for up-to-date medical travel information before departure. We highly recommend that you carry with you all personal medications needed (e.g., headache tablets, antibiotics, etc). When booking this tour, please carefully read about the physical demands of the itinerary. Please note that Quito is a city in the Andes mountains with high altitude (medically defined as anything over 8,000 feet). We have not have any issues in the past, but because



everyone reacts to altitude differently, and only you know your health and fitness level, please consult with your physician prior the trip.

Do you need vaccinations prior traveling to Ecuador?

All our programs take place in locations where no vaccinations are needed. These areas have no risk of malaria or yellow fever.

Do you need a visa to visit Ecuador?

At the present time, U.S. citizens do not need a visa to travel to Ecuador for a period shorter than 90 days. If you are **not a U.S. citizen**, you must check with your own government agency and/or the consulates of all countries visited for entry and visa requirements for your nationality.

Should you bring cash to Ecuador?

Yes. Each trip details an estimated amount of cash participants will need to bring to cover additional expenses (i.e., souvenirs, alcoholic drinks, tips, miscellaneous). However, because every participant is different spending money requirements will vary. Please consider your own spending habits. In addition, it is always a good idea to have **extra cash/emergency fund** in case you find the souvenir of your dreams or need to make an unexpected purchase.

Ecuador's official currency since 2001 is the U.S. dollar. If you bring cash, please bring smaller bills (locals do not accept \$50 or \$100 dollar bills). We highly discourage bringing traveler checks.

Credit Cards: ATMs are available. However, you need to check with your bank before leaving to ensure that your card works internationally. Also, we recommend that withdrawing cash from an ATM will be for emergency purposes only, considering that our itinerary might take us to places where ATMs are not available.

What should I pack?

Every participant will receive detailed packing information prior departure. We will be happy to answer any additional question.

What is your cancellation policy?

Participant Cancellation:

Cancellation Policy: Refunds will be given for cancellations received in writing 60 days before the trip date less a \$300 processing fee. If you decide to cancel your participation in the tour 60 to 30 days before for any reason, we will refund 50% of your total payments (not including \$300 processing fee). Cancellations under 30 days before the trip dates will not be entitled to any refunds. No partial refunds are given for unused meals, hotel rooms, airport transfers, or other program activities, for any reason whatsoever. All requests for cancellation and refunds must be in writing to myecuadortrip2010@gmail.com.

Only cancellations under 30 days are eligible for credit for a future tour (travel, study, or volunteer tour) minus the \$300 application fee and any other expenses inquired by My Ecuador Trip. If credit is used, this tour must be booked within one year after the original tour date. No refunds will be given if the tour is not booked within that time frame. My Ecuador Trip will have no further liability with the participant.

Tour Cancellation:

The tour may be cancelled or postponed due to unforeseen circumstances by My Ecuador Trip. In this case My Ecuador Trip will refund all tour fees and has no further liability to the participant. My Ecuador Trip will not be

responsible for additional costs, charges, or expenses, including cancellation/change charges assessed by airlines, travel insurance, and/or travel agencies. Please note that under no circumstances My Ecuador Trip is responsible for any flight cancellation or flight change charges incurred. My Ecuador Trip is not responsible for weather or travel-related problems and will not reimburse registration fees for these issues. We would like to mention that we have never cancelled a trip.

Travel Warning Cancellation

In case of an act of war, terrorism, or the threat of an act of terrorism. Participants will receive a full refund (less the \$300 processing fee that will be applied for a future trip) should all of the following conditions be met: (a) a terrorist act, or threats of terrorist acts occur(s), which is directed against U.S. interests on U.S. soil or in U.S. airspace or directed against U.S. interests in any other country or in international airspace; and (b) as a result of these events, a formal Travel Warning is issued by the U.S. Department of State, stating that Americans should not travel to Ecuador and any other country or countries that are included in the participant's tour itinerary; and (c) the formal Travel Warning by the U.S. Department of State is issued within 30 days of the participant's departure.

Itinerary Disclaimer

Each participant will receive a detailed itinerary closer to the trip's dates. Each participant will also receive a detailed list of how to prepare, packing, and other pertaining information. While it is our intention to adhere to itinerary described for each tour, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into each itinerary and My Ecuador Trip deserves the right to make alterations when necessary and at the discretion of My Ecuador Trip staff. Travel can be unpredictable, and the itinerary is a general guide to the tour and region. In addition any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered and travel times will be changed according to local circumstances.



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