GEEO ITINERARY

Ecuador 6/19/2027

Day 1: Quito Arrive in Quito at any time. Meet your group for a welcome meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m.

Arrive at any time. There are no planned activities until the Welcome Meeting in the evening. This tour begins and ends in Quito, and the nearest airport is **Mariscal Sucre International Airport (UIO)**.

We highly recommend that you plan to arrive in Quito at least a day in advance. We can book extra hotel nights for you in Quito before and/or after the trip, as well as optional day tours and excursions in and around Quito.

Hotel Check-in and Welcome Meeting
Hotel check-in is normally between 2–3 p.m. Check with reception for the exact time and location of the group welcome meeting, typically between 5–7 p.m. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. If you're running late, send a message in the group WhatsApp or call the emergency number on your trip voucher so that your tour leader can let you know where and when to meet the group.

After the meeting, you might choose to get dinner at a nearby restaurant with your traveling companions and your tour leader to further get to know one another.

What to do in Quito: Located 2,850 m (9,348 ft) above sea level, the Ecuadorian capital of Quito enjoys a wonderful spring-like climate even though it is only a few miles south of the Equator. The old city is full of historic buildings and churches. We recommend spending an extra day or two in Quito. See our optional activities information below for a better idea of what there is to see and do.

> **Joining Instructions**
> Taxi from Airport: ($30 USD | ~1hr) Book at the official taxi stand immediately after customs/immigration. This is the easiest option and uses set rates. Avoid taxis outside the terminal—they're not part of the Taxi Airport Union and may charge more.
> Shuttle + Taxi: ($13 USD total | ~1.5hrs) Take an Aeroservicios bus ($8 USD) from the new airport to the old airport, then a taxi ($5 USD) to your hotel. Buses are comfortable and often include WiFi.
> Pre-Paid Arrival Transfer: If you purchased a transfer with us, a G Adventures representative will meet you in front of the arrivals section with a sign displaying your name and the G Adventures Logo. There are often many people holding signs, so take time to locate yours. If you're not met or cannot make contact, visit the H.A.T.S. counter (Hotel and Airline Transportation Services) directly in front of the international arrivals area next to the taxi stand, call the emergency number on your trip voucher, or take a taxi to the hotel.
> *Note: The airport is ~1 hour from the city center. Routes may seem long and indirect depending on time of day and traffic*.

Day 2: Quito/Baños Travel to Baños where you'll find an abundance of optional outdoor activities in the area like hiking, ziplining, and canyoning. Or you can choose to take it easy and relax in local hot springs.

Today we travel by local bus to Baños.

Nestled where the Andes begin their descent into the Amazon basin, Baños de Agua Santa earns its nickname — Gateway to the Amazon — but it's the hot springs that give the town its soul. Baño means "bath" in Spanish, and the thermal waters here have drawn visitors for centuries. At roughly 1,800 meters, Baños sits in a climatic sweet spot: warm enough to escape the highland chill, cool enough to escape the jungle's heat. The result is an almost perpetual spring — lush green mountains on every side,

a dramatic ravine below, and a town that feels like it was built for lingering. With just 14,000 residents but more hotel rooms than homes, Baños is unabashedly a traveler's town. It's one of Ecuador's most visited destinations, and the combination of thermal baths, stunning scenery, and easy access to the Amazon makes it easy to see why.

Once we arrive, you will have the rest of the day free to enjoy.

Approximate travel time: 4 hrs by local bus
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3: Baños Enjoy a free day to take full advantage of all the activities in this adventurous town.

Today's free for you to enjoy all the adventure this beautiful spot has to offer. Mountain biking, ziplining, horseback riding, whitewater rafting, canyoning, and hiking are all options. If you're after more of a relaxing day, enjoy the scenery and soak up the hot springs.

Day 4: Baños / Tena Travel by bus into the Amazon Jungle to visit the local Quichua community. Enjoy nature walks and learn about local culture.

In the morning, we'll travel by bus into the Amazon Jungle to spend two nights in rustic wooden huts with a Quichua community. They've introduced countless visitors to local living and a completely different way of doing things — one that may give you a different perspective on life.

You'll take part in a number of amazing activities. Hike through the rainforest, plunge into waterfalls, and learn the uses of tropical plants. Experience local tradition, and learn about Quichua history and culture.

Approximate travel time: 3.5 hrs by local bus, 45 minutes by private vehicle
Meals included: Lunch | Dinner

Day 5: Tena Enjoy a full day in the Amazon learning about local life in the jungle.

Spend the day enjoying the lush Amazon jungle as you experience life in the lungs of our planet. Spend the night in rustic jungle huts in a Quichua community.

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

Day 6: Tena / Papallacta Cycle to the nearby community of Shandia and discover the beauty of the Amazon with a member of the community as your guide. Later, take a local bus to Papallacta and relax in the natural mineral hot pools with volcanic views.

This morning, we'll cycle to the Indigenous Shandia community, a rural village surrounded by rivers and lush Amazonian landscapes. With the support of G Adventures and Planeterra, the community has developed new culturally immersive experiences led by the village's youth. Spend 40 minutes cycling from Shandia lodge stopping along the way to take in the beauty of the Amazon. These cultural tours are seen by the community as a way to rescue their indigenous culture and provide opportunities for the

future. This provides an economic opportunity for youth who traditionally would have left the community to find work. Leave Shandia community knowing your visit is creating opportunities for a new generation in the community and contributing to the preservation of their culture.

Later, take a local bus to Papallacta and relax in the natural mineral hot pools with volcanic views.

Approximate travel time: 3.5 hrs by local bus

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 7: Papallacta / Quito Enjoy a relaxing morning at the hot springs before traveling back to Quito.

Soak up more of that hot spring magic before the heat of the day hits and then we'll head back to Quito where you'll have some free time to explore.

Approximate travel time: 1.5 hours by local bus
Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8: Quito Depart Quito at any time.

There are no planned activities today, so you may depart Quito at any time. If you wish to extend your stay in Quito, consider requesting post-trip accommodation with us.

Please note that check-out time from the hotel is usually mid-morning, but luggage storage services are available at the reception desk.

Meals included: Breakfast

Want more adventure? Book two or more GEEO programs in the same school year and receive 10% off the lesser value program(s), up to 3 programs per year.
Interested in extending your time abroad? Beyond our educator programs, we can also help you book from G Adventures' extensive catalog of tours. These tours aren't tailored to educators the way our programs are, but booking through GEEO means you'll receive a discounted educator rate while supporting our nonprofit work.

Where you'll stay

The hotels listed below reflect the properties expected to be used for this program. Final accommodations are subject to change based on group size, availability, or seasonality. The confirmed start and end hotels are listed on your trip voucher:

Day 1 Quito (Jun 19): Hotel Stubel Suites

Day 2 Baños (Jun 20): Hotel La Floresta

Day 3 Baños (Jun 21): Hotel La Floresta

Day 4 Tena (Jun 22): Cabanas Pimpilala

Day 5 Tena (Jun 23): Cabanas Pimpilala

Day 6 Papallacta (Jun 24): Hotel Termas Papallacta

Day 7 Quito (Jun 25): Hotel Stubel Suites

__Itinerary Disclaimer__: While it is our intention to adhere to the routes described on our website, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable, to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The information on our website is a general guide to the tour and region, and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.*