

CHANGE LIVES AND VOLUNTEER IN ECUADOR 2012 - 2013



Ecuador

Offering vibrant cultures amidst breathtaking volcanic landscapes, Ecuador will give you plenty to see and do. At this friendly day care centre volunteers help with the day to day running of the centre, play work, teaching basic levels of Maths and English, organising activities and helping out in the kitchen.

The centre provides a shelter, education and nutritional food for local children who may come from low-income or violent households or those who for various reasons cannot care for their children. The project works with parents and the local community to improve the quality of life of the children and families in the area.

Ecuador has it all, breathtaking scenery and sights with the stunning Andean Peaks and beautiful valleys to vibrant full of life festivals. There is plenty to see and do when in Ecuador, from visiting the infamous Otavalo market to hiking through the plains during your free time. You will never be short of things to do.

Highlights

- Immerse yourself in Ecuadorian culture
- Make a real difference to the lives of young children
- Stunning backdrop of the Andean Peaks

Volunteer in Ecuador / General information for volunteers



Your role as a Volunteer

There are many different tasks and activities that volunteers can get involved with. These include helping with music and arts and helping the children with their English. Volunteers not only have the chance to assist in these activities, but they are also given the chance to come up with and organise their own ideas as well. Volunteering in the day care centre in this poor neighbourhood gives volunteers the opportunity to make a huge difference; taking care of young children, educating them and ensuring the children learn how to actually enjoy themselves as children by playing with them and giving them general care and affection.

Skills and experience

No experience in any field is necessary when volunteering in Ecuador. As long as you bring plenty of energy, a bright and positive attitude and realms of enthusiasm, you will make a great volunteer and will enjoy your experience helping in Ecuador. Some knowledge of Spanish will also be a great help to you on your volunteering experience. The project co-ordinators can even organise Spanish lessons for you during your stay.

Overview On arrival

All volunteers are met on arrival at Quito and transferred to the hostel or to local family that you will be staying with.



Local support

There are always local co-ordinators close at hand should a volunteer need any help and assistance. Also, for volunteers staying in a home-stay with a local family, the family will always be around to help you with anything.

Accommodation included

Most volunteers stay in a hostel, which is organised for you and is a great way to meet other volunteers. A home stay is an alternative for anyone wanting to experience the Ecuadorian way of life and improve or practice their Spanish.

Getting around

Buses and taxis are the most used transport used in getting around Ecuador. All local transport is easy and affordable. Most volunteers travel together during their free time to explore



Food

For volunteers staying with a local family in their home, meals are provided by the family. Volunteers staying in the hostel are provided with breakfast each day and generally will eat out at local cafés in the evenings.

Free time

Volunteers take hikes through the valleys and onto the plains during their free time in Ecuador; it is a great adventure to explore; surrounded by beautiful backdrops including the Andean Peaks, and the breathtaking Amazon rainforest. Community life in Ecuador is vibrant and full of life and many festivals are held throughout the year that volunteers can experience. Participation on scenic tours are also available and your volunteer co-ordinator, along with the local tourist office can help you with setting them up.

Volunteer in Ecuador / General information for volunteers

Local facilities

Quito has all the usual facilities of any large modern city that are needed, including banks, doctors, shopping malls, cafes and other amenities.

Health

There is a doctor close by and a hospital should you need the use of one, the co-ordinators will help you with your transfer there.

What to take

Once you have applied and registered with Original Volunteers, you will receive an Information Pack via email that will have further details on the project in Ecuador; in this email there will be a list of items to take and items that are best not to take.

Not on your own

Although some volunteers travel with friends, the larger majority travel alone. It is possible to get in contact with other volunteers before you travel, and a lot of people tend to do this. Some volunteers even plan to travel together and set this up themselves before they depart.



How to apply

It is quick and easy to register with Original Volunteers. You can either do it online via our website www.originalvolunteers.co.uk or you can call us on 01603 627 007 and register over the phone.

It costs £125 to register and this registration lasts a whole year; which means you can go to as many placements as you want within that year without having to pay the £125 again. The registration fee also instantly books and reserves your place in any month you choose. We are very flexible however and you can always change your mind. Just let us know if dates change and spaces permitting we will put you on another list.

When to pay for this project

This project will need to be paid before departure.

Things that you will need to organise yourself

- Flights to Quito
- Travel Insurance
- Any resources you wish to bring
- Food



Fast Facts

Project Information

- Project Duration: Min 1 week - Max 12 weeks
- Location of project: Quito
- Arrival Airport: Quito
- Activities: Teaching children, organising and assisting different games and activities, helping in the kitchen of the centre and the care of poor children in Quito
- Working Hours: Full time – 5 days out of 7 day week.
- Getting to the project: Airport pick-up and transfer to the volunteer house is automatically arranged for all volunteers, once flights have been received.
- Requirements: Minimum age 18



Need some advice? Call us today: 01603 627 007 | www.originalvolunteers.co.uk |

2012 Original Volunteers Ltd. Company Registration No. 6917187 in England and Wales - ATOL Protected Number 9644

Volunteer in Ecuador / General information for volunteers



What's Included

- Accommodation: Volunteers stay in a hostel or home-stay as preferred
- Airport Pickup: Airport pick up is available.
- Training: During your stay you will be trained on the job informally via in-country orientation

What's not included

- Flights
- Insurance
- Return Airport transfer
- Local Transport during free time
- Meals

Ecuador

Ecuador, which literally means, Republic of the equator, is a representative democratic republic in South America. From the north it is bordered by Colombia, Peru on the east and south and from the west the Pacific Ocean. The capital city of Ecuador is Quito. Ecuador is a presidential republic and gained its independence in 1830.

Climate

Ecuador has a varied climate. The average summer temperature in Quito is 16 Celsius. The night-time low is 9 Celsius.