



ECUADOR

LAGOONS & VOLCANOES
PHOTO EXPEDITION

JULY 10 - 21 2019

ITINERARY

ECUADOR



Ecuador is a dazzling array of wonders, from snow-capped volcanoes to colourful markets, all squeezed into this compact country.

The country's hospitable people, its traditions, enchanting villages and colonial architecture are the perfect recipe for a wonderful photographic experience, not to mention the delicious and varied cuisine.

Those are only a few of the reasons why we have come to Ecuador more than 10 times and we always come back for more. We want you to explore and discover why this Andean country is up on our list of countries we love to visit and photograph!

John Quintero & Pablo Villota

ITINERARY

DAY 1: JULY 10, 2019: QUITO, ECUADOR

Arrive in Quito at any time and check into our hotel.

7:00 PM: We will meet at the hotel reception to go for our welcoming dinner.

Meals included: dinner

Accommodation: Ikala Hotel

DAY 2: JULY 11: QUITO

Set out on a photo tour of Quito, Ecuador's capital city and fill your viewfinder with the colonial architecture of the Old Town, including some of the most well-preserved colonial churches of South America.

Visit Volcan Pululahua and the Ciudad Mitad del Mundo, located at San Antonio parish of the canton of Quito, 26 km north of the centre of Quito.

Sunset at El Panecillo for a beautiful view of Quito with some of the volcanoes in the background.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: Ikala Hotel

DAY 3: JULY 12: OTAVALO

Travel from Quito to Otavalo in the Imbabura Province. This city has a population largely made up of the Otavaleños indigenous group.

Mojanda Lagoons and Volcano at sunset.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Accommodation: El Indio Inn Hotel

DAY 4: JULY 13: SAN PABLO

We spend the morning around the most famous market in Ecuador, the Otavalo Market. The indigenous Otavalo people are famous for weaving textiles, usually made of wool, which are sold at this famous and colourful market.

After lunch we travel to San Pablo Lake and check in at our hotel, then we travel to Natabuela, a small town for an afternoon taking photos of people and daily life in this town.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Puerto Lago Hostería

DAY 5: JULY 14: CAYAMBE

Travel to Cuicocha, a 3 km wide caldera and crater lagoon at the foot of Cotacachi Volcano.

After breakfast, we travel to Cayambe and spend the afternoon taking photos around this quiet town with magnificent views of Cayambe Volcano.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Loma Larga Hostería

DAY 6: JULY 15: COTOPAXI

Travel to Cotopaxi National Park and take photos of the Cotopaxi Volcano and the fauna of the Andes. If we are lucky we will spot vicuñas, llamas and alpacas, as well as the iconic condor of the Andes.

If we have clear sky we can take photos of the Milky Way with Cotopaxi Volcano.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Hacienda Los Mortiños

DAY 7: JULY 16: SANTO DOMINGO DE LOS COLORADOS

Travel to Santo Domingo de Los Colorados, the fourth most populous city in Ecuador. The name, "de los Colorados", refers to a local ethnic group, the Tsáchila, and the custom of men in that tribe to dye their hair with extract of the achiote plant.

Afternoon shooting a traditional indigenous ceremony

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Grand Hotel Santo Domingo

DAY 8: JULY 17: SANTO DOMINGO DE LOS COLORADOS

Morning to take photos around the city.

In the afternoon, we visit some of the local indigenous villages.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Grand Hotel Santo Domingo

DAY 9: JULY 18: QUILOTOA

Travel in the morning to Quilotoa, stopping on the way for photos of farmers and indigenous people.

Afternoon around Quilotoa Volcano and crater lagoon.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Princesa Toa Hotel

DAY 10: JULY 19: HACIENDA LA CIÉNEGA

Morning to take photos around the Quilotoa Volcano and the local community.

Travel to Hacienda La Ciénega in Latacunga, one of the oldest colonial haciendas in Ecuador, with more than 400 years of antiquity.

Afternoon for reviewing photos and an Introduction to Adobe® Lightroom class.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Hacienda La Ciénega Hostería

DAY 11: JULY 20: QUITO

We spend the morning taking photos around the hacienda.

Travel to Quito.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
Accommodation: Ikala Hotel

DAY 12: JULY 21: QUITO

We take The TelefériQo, or TelefériQo Cruz Loma, a gondola lift in Quito, running from the edge of the city centre up the east side of Pichincha Volcano to lookout Cruz Loma. It is one of the highest aerial lifts in the world, rising from 3,117 m to 3,945 m

Back to the hotel for the checkout.

End of the expedition



NOTES



You will need to have an adventurous approach in both mind and body. The altitude will require participants to take things slowly and steadily. We will be walking through towns and villages, along well-defined trails and lakesides.

We will often photograph when and where opportunities arise. This requires a certain degree of spontaneity from participants.

If due to bad weather, road conditions or any unforeseen circumstances we need to change the route or the itinerary, this will be discussed with the group. The same applies if for any reason we encounter a festival or ceremony that we are not aware of and that we considered interesting enough to alter the itinerary.

We will travel across different altitudes, from 625 m. to 4000 m. and temperatures will oscillate from 0°C to 25°C.

Quito, the arrival city, sits high in the Andean foothills at an altitude of 2,850m. Please tell your doctor where you are travelling, in case you need altitude medicine.

We encourage you to read and investigate a bit more about the places here mentioned, this will help you to find information you might find useful for your experience travelling across the country.

Any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

John Quintero
Pablo Villota



Illustration by Ecuadorian artist ©JK Arts, based on a portrait by John Quintero and commissioned specially for our Ecuador Lagoons & Volcanoes Photography Expedition 2019