

EXTENSION

# ECUADOR

Quito



*Classic*  
JOURNEYS



“Classic Journeys provides unbeatable access to experiences around the globe.”

— *Travel + Leisure*

## Exploring Ecuador's Capital

Extend your time in Ecuador with time in the vibrant capital. On this fascinating guided visit, you discover the beating heart of a city that carpets the Andean foothills in light and life. The city sits squarely on the equator, but the divide isn't just hemispheric. Quito offers dramatic contrasts – from the rich history of the colonial center, to bustling markets, to the peak of the Panecillo where the panoramic views of the city are breathtaking.

DAILY ITINERARY  
ECUADOR | QUITO | EXTENSION

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DAY 1

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QUITO

- Take a guided walk in Quito's Old Town
- Marvel at the views from atop the Panecillo
- Learn about all things equatorial at the Intiñan Museum

The day begins with a walk in the Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with a fascinating collection of grand colonial buildings and monuments. At the heart of it all is Plaza Grande, ringed by the Presidential Palace and the Metropolitan Cathedral. You also step inside Iglesia de la Compañía, one of South America's grandest churches with a central nave virtually coated in gold.

In the very heart of the city, the volcanic hill known as El Panecillo is said to resemble a loaf of bread reaching for the sky. At the stands a 150-foot-tall statue of a Madonna where you get the very best views of the wide-spread city. Because Quito literally lies atop the Equator, you visit the obelisk that stands at Latitude Zero and the Intiñan Museum

filled with solar candles and demonstrations of how the Coriolis effect changes as you move between hemispheres.

Late in the afternoon, you check in to your hotel, and then the evening is all yours to get your first taste of Quito. Restaurants, shops and nightlife are all just outside your door.

**OVERNIGHT: QUITO**  
**MEALS: L**

DAY 2

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QUITO / GALÁPAGOS

- Wave goodbye to the capital as you fly to the Galápagos

With fantastic memories of the city's capital, you transfer to the airport for your flight to the Galápagos.

**MEALS: B**

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## Tour Hotels



### Hotel Patio Andaluz

Dating back to the 16th century, this lovely boutique hotel has been declared an official national treasure. The glass-covered central courtyard is a wonderful place to dine. The rooms are decorated in classic colonial style.

**OVERNIGHT: QUITO | NIGHTS: 1**

## Tour Dates & Prices

Tour Dates	Price per Person	Price per Person
	Double Occupancy	Single Occupancy
March 28-29, 2020	\$595	\$790
April 11-12, 2020	\$595	\$790
June 20-21, 2020	\$595	\$790
July 18-19, 2020	\$595	\$790
October 17-18, 2020	\$595	\$790
November 21-22, 2020	\$595	\$790
December 21-22, 2020	\$595	\$790
December 27-28, 2020	\$595	\$790
February 13-14, 2021	\$595	\$790
March 13-14, 2021	\$595	\$790
April 3-4, 2021	\$595	\$790
May 15-16, 2021	\$595	\$790
June 12-13, 2021	\$595	\$790
July 10-11, 2021	\$595	\$790
September 4-5, 2021	\$595	\$790
October 2-3, 2021	\$595	\$790
November 6-7, 2021	\$595	\$790
December 27-28, 2021	\$595	\$790

Want a different date? Or your own date? Visit [CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE](https://CLASSICJOURNEYS.COM/PRIVATE) to learn more about private journeys.

## Trip Essentials

**TRIP LENGTH:** 2 Days, 1 Nights

**START:** 9:00 AM Lobby of pre-tour hotel, Quito, Ecuador

**END:** Quito Airport, Quito, Ecuador

**TERRAIN:** Easy to moderate on good trails and paths.

## What's Included

- Memorable accommodations for 1 nights
- 1 breakfast and 1 lunch
- Full-time experienced guide
- Admissions to historic sites and scheduled events as detailed in the daily itinerary
- Gratuities for meals
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

- **Privileged Access Events**

READY TO BOOK?  
CLICK TO MAKE A RESERVATION

Or give us a call

1-833-387-1210

Mon-Fri 8:00AM – 5:00PM PST

[moreinfo@classicjourneys.com](mailto:moreinfo@classicjourneys.com)



### TRAVEL WORRY-FREE!

It's easy with insurance from Travel Guard. Your policy can cover trip cancellation, travel delays, lost luggage, medical emergencies, and more. If you are traveling with kids, add them to your policy at no extra cost. [Click here](#) or call 800-826-4919 for details.

### AMBASSADOR CLUB

As a Classic Journeys guest, you are invited to join the Ambassador Club after your first Classic Journeys tour. As a member, you'll have access to a [whole suite of Ambassador benefits](#) you can use immediately and as often as you like.

### ENJOY THE UNEXPECTED

When you travel with Classic Journeys, you can expect handcrafted surprises built into every trip, but some things just can't be anticipated. Unusual weather, a once-a-year festival or an unscheduled site closing will inspire us and your local guide to improvise and modify this itinerary. Likewise, the hotels named here are used on the majority of our trips, but occasionally one of them can't accommodate us. If that happens, you can count on us to let you know before departure and make sure you're in a hotel of equal or better quality. It's our goal to make your trip exceptional!

\*\*Any discount offered cannot be combined with other offers, and only applies to published (regularly scheduled public) departure dates in our catalogs or on our website.

# “Enthusiasm is Contagious”

AS TRAVEL + LEISURE NAMES CLASSIC JOURNEYS THE WORLD'S BEST TOUR OPERATOR FOR 2019, FOUNDER EDWARD PIEGZA REVEALS HOW IT FEELS. ENTHUSIASTICALLY.



*EDITOR'S NOTE: Just before publication of this issue, Travel + Leisure magazine announced that its readers have voted Classic Journeys the World's Best Tour Operator for 2019. It's the second time Classic Journeys has won that recognition and the 14th consecutive year the company has been in the Top 10.*

### **Congratulations! How did you get the news?**

I received a top-secret email and phone call from the editor of *Travel + Leisure* a few weeks ago with orders not to tell ANYONE. Friends and neighbors must have wondered why my smile has been so extra big lately. Now they know.

### **And how does it feel to be the World's Best Tour Operator again?**

Awesome. Humbling. So, so satisfying. Deeply gratifying to learn that we have achieved what we set out to do which is to handcraft trips of a lifetime for every guest who travels with us. I'm known as long-winded, so I could probably come up with 10 or 15 more ways to describe it if you want me to keep going.

### **Why do you think *Travel + Leisure* gave you this recognition?**

Actually, it isn't the *T+L* editors who make the decision. That's the best part. Their readers cast the votes. So the people who do the traveling, the guests who explore the world with us and our competitors — they are the ones who raised their hands to tell *T+L* that Classic Journeys is the World's Best Tour Operator based on their own experiences. Let me say it right here: "To all of you who voted for us, you are the World's Best Guests!"

### **What do you think makes your guests the World's Best Guests?**

That's easy. They are curious. They care about connecting with people of different cultures and immersing themselves in the world. They treasure experiences more than things. Like the old ad slogan went, they go for the gusto and crave the chance to have one-of-a-kind moments. They are incredibly interesting and interested people, and all of us at Classic Journeys count it as a real privilege to share in their passion for travel. And we feel that way on the

other 364 days of the year when we're not celebrating recognition like this.

### **I guess this is what you meant when you told me that "Enthusiasm is contagious."**

Absolutely. That's not our official motto, but it could be. We love what we do. We enjoy helping guests figure out how to invest their precious time and budget. I can honestly say that all of us feel that way — the Guest Services folks who interact with you while you're planning your trip, the Tour Operations team members who plan all of the logistics, the local guides who lead each one of our trips full time. There's just a huge amount of positive energy in what we do, and I think it truly is hard to resist. We'd climb into every one of our guest's suitcases and go along with them if we could. Because we can't, we call each guest while they're on tour just to be sure they are having a trip of a lifetime.

### **Has anyone ever called Classic Journeys obsessive?**

I hope so, because we are. Everything is in the details. For instance, we've created a special tour for the total eclipse of the sun which is going to pass over parts of South America in 2020. We've already analyzed likely traffic patterns in the most remote areas and figured out how to structure our itinerary so that our guests will be in place in the path of totality while the people who don't plan ahead will be stuck in jams on remote dirt roads. We enjoy obsessing about details like that so that our guests never have to.



### **How can you top this?**

Oh, we never let ourselves think of it that way. We just continue to approach every single guest on each and every departure like the most important guest we've ever had. It seems to be working! Of course, we keep looking for new ways to win more converts. For 2019, we've launched a new series of Classic Journeys that are based from

## **"I voted for you!"**

We've heard that expression so many times lately from guests who registered their votes with *Travel + Leisure*. Given the results, we know it's true ... and you know that your votes really count!

### **STAFF AND GUIDES**

"I always feel like I'm traveling with a best friend. I prefer your local guides to the ones that other companies fly in."

### **ITINERARIES AND DESTINATIONS**

"If it's on my bucket list, you always seem to go there. Of course, with so many options you always seem to make my list longer and longer!"

### **ACTIVITIES**

"On your trips, I've cooked with Michelin chefs, sung songs with Quechua schoolchildren, and walked on glaciers with the descendants of Vikings. Fun doesn't begin to describe it."

### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

"How you manage so many 5-star properties on these trips shocks me. But please, please, please keep it up!"

### **FOOD**

"I have never eaten so well so often so happily. When you people claim that you are foodies, you aren't kidding."

### **OVERALL VALUE**

"We have never had a better vacation at any price."

river cruise boats. On a different note, seeing how many travelers can't always find as much vacation time as they really want, we have developed a series of 6-day or shorter quick trips that go as far afield as Iceland, the Galápagos and Morocco.

### **Final thoughts?**

It's always an honor to win recognition. But, for all of us at Classic Journeys, the biggest privilege is to share the dreams of our guests and make those dreams come true. That connection is the best feeling of all.