



Ecuadoran Country Guide

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Tourist Entry Conditions

Australian ordinary passport holders do not usually require a visa to enter Ecuador as a tourist for a period of up to 90 days. Passports should be valid for at least six months beyond the period of intended stay.

Travellers should be able to produce documentation confirming their ability to financially maintain themselves during their stay, as well as tickets and entry documents for their next destination.

Additional conditions apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact an Ecuadorian mission on the details below for further information and to ensure their specific circumstances make them eligible to enter Ecuador without a visa.

Persons travelling via the US are reminded of their obligation to comply with US entry and transit requirements.

Current DFAT Travel Advice

This advice is current for Mon, 5th November 2018.

Exercise a high degree of caution in Ecuador due to the risk of violent crime. Pay close attention to your personal security at all times. Reconsider your need to travel to the border provinces of Sucumbios and Esmeraldas in northern Ecuador because of the threat of kidnapping and other violent crimes by armed groups in these areas. Do not travel to within 20 kilometres of the border with Colombia, except for the official border crossing at Tulcán, due to serious security risks. See [Safety and security](#). Violent crime, including assault and armed robbery, is common. Travellers have been injured resisting robbery. See [Safety and security](#).

Kidnappings have occurred, including in major cities such as Quito, Guayaquil and Cuenca, and places frequented by foreigners. See [Safety and security](#). By law, you must carry identification at all times. See [Laws](#). Penalties for drug offences are severe. See [Laws](#). Since August 2018, it is compulsory to have travel insurance if you are visiting the Galapagos Islands. See [Local travel](#). Several volcanoes in Ecuador are active. Eruptions could occur at any time. See [Natural disasters](#).

The above information is an edited excerpt of the Travel Advice Summary from The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Travellers are encouraged to read the travel advice in full, subscribe to updates to this advice and to register their presence in Ecuador at www.smartraveller.gov.au.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Ecuador. Frequent or long stay travellers should consider vaccination against hepatitis B. Vaccination against rabies (particularly if working with animals) and typhoid (particularly when travelling to areas with poor sanitation and hygiene) should be considered by travellers to Ecuador. There is a medium risk of malaria in Ecuador; dengue fever and the zika virus also occurs, thus insect avoidance measures and anti malarial medication may be necessary depending on a travellers itinerary. Ecuador is listed as a zika category 1 country. For information on the risks the zika virus poses to pregnancy, including up to 6 months following the exposure of either parent, see www.who.int/csr/disease/zika/en/. Yellow fever vaccination is usually required. Travellers returning to Australia (or entering many countries) within six days of visiting Ecuador will be required to present a yellow fever vaccination certificate (see www.health.gov.au/yellowfever for further information). Care with food and beverage selection is recommended in Ecuador.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations including a recent annual influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Ecuador should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas, the zika virus and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Ecuadorian Representation in Australia

Embassy of Ecuador, Canberra

6 Pindari Crescent
O'MALLEY ACT 2606
Tel: (02) 6286 4021
Web: www.ecuador-au.org

Honorary Consulate of Ecuador, Adelaide

8 Redden Court
ROSTREVOR SA 5073
Tel: (08) 8336 1867



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Time Differences between Ecuador and Australia

Ecuador is Greenwich Mean Time -5 hours. Daylight saving time is not observed. The applicable time zone is called "Ecuador Time" (ECT). The following times in Australia are a day ahead of the time in Ecuador, for instance if it's 12 noon on a Sunday in Ecuador, it's Monday morning in Australia. The Galapagos Islands are an hour behind the time in mainland Ecuador

Ecuador, 12 noon, December = Perth 1am; Darwin 2:30am; Brisbane 3am; Adelaide 3:30am; Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 4am.
 Ecuador, 12 noon, June = Perth 1am; Darwin, Adelaide 2:30am; Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 3am.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Ecuador: +593
 To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>

Travelex Card Services:
 Call the US on +1 954 838 8294.

Visa Global Assistance:
 Call the US on +1 303 967 1090.

MasterCard: Call the US on (+1 636) 722 7111.

American Express Travellers Cheques:
 1800 999 119, then 888 937 2639.

American Express Card Services:
 Call Australia on (+61 2) 9271 8664.

Emergency Services:
 Quito and Ibarra - 911
 Guayaquil, Cuenca, Loja - 112
 Elsewhere dial 101 for Police, 102 for Ambulance and Fire or 131 for the Red Cross.

The Emergency services may not always have English speakers available. In this case, you should have a Spanish speaker call on your behalf or contact the Australian Embassy.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _____
 Name: _____ Passport #: _____

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _____
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _____

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Ecuador

Honorary Australian Consulate, Ecuador

Edificio SBC Office
 Center - Oficina 1-14, Primer Piso
 KM 1.5 Vila, Samborondon
 GUAYAQUIL

Tel: (+593 4) 601 7529

Canadian Embassy, Ecuador

Av. Amazonas 4153y Union Nacional de Periodistas
 Eurocenter Building 3rd floor
 QUITO

Tel: (+593 2) 245 5499
 Web: www.ecuador.gc.ca

Australian Embassy, Chile

Tel: (+56 2) 550 3500
 Fax: (+56 2) 331 5960

Web: www.chile.embassy.gov.au

The Australian Embassy in Chile is accredited to Ecuador. The Honorary Australian Consulate in Guayaquil or the Canadian Embassy in Quito may provide limited assistance to Australians. Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305. Australians are encouraged to register their presence in Ecuador with the Canadian Embassy as well as the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade via on-line registration at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances

Allowances when entering Ecuador by air:
 Alcohol: Up to 3 L of alcoholic beverages.
 Perfume: Up to 300ml.
 Tobacco: 20 packs of 20 units.

Allowances when entering Australia:
 Alcohol: 2.25 L.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Goods: Up to a value of \$900 (\$450 if under 18 years).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Ecuador and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions before crossing the borders of either country. For information on Ecuadoran customs please visit www.aduana.gob.ec, or for information on Australian customs please visit www.border.gov.au.

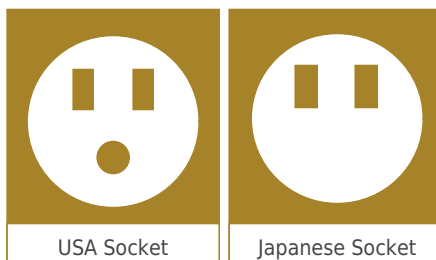
Electrical and Telephone Adaptors

Electrical Socket type: USA and Japanese

Voltage: 110-120 volts (different to Australia, voltage/frequency converter required).

Modem Plug: USA.

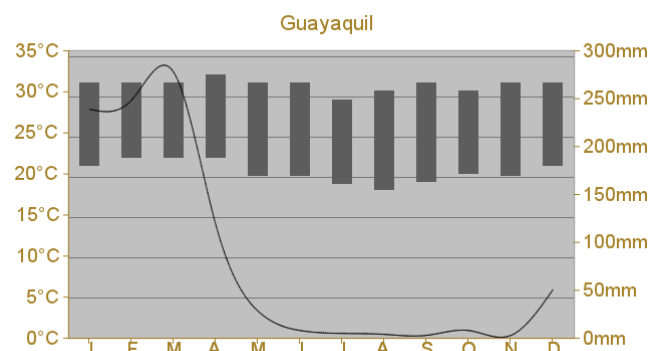
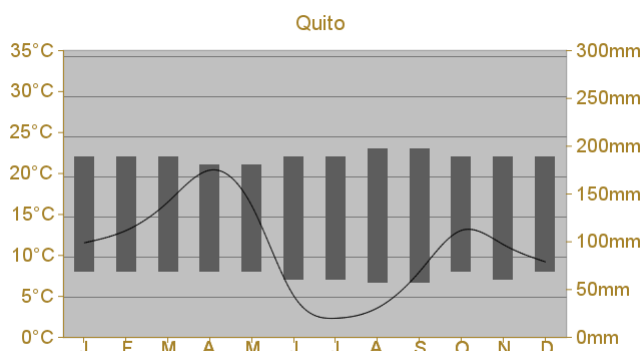
Source: Korjo Travel Products. To purchase electrical adaptors, or for further information, please go to www.korjo.com.au.



Ecuadoran Public Holidays 2018

01 Jan: New Years Day	10 Aug: Independence Day
12 Feb: Carnival Monday	09 Oct: Guayaquil Independence
13 Feb: Mardi Gras	02 Nov: All Souls Day
30 Mar: Good Friday	03 Nov: Cuenca Independence
30 Apr: Labour Day	25 Dec: Christmas
25 May: Battle of Pichincha	

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Ecuador



Source: Instituto Nacional de Meteorologia e Hidrologia. For 5 day local forecasts please go to www.bbc.com/weather.

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Exchange Rate with Ecuador

Interbank Rate
 1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 0.72 US Dollars
 1 US Dollar (USD) = 1.39 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin
 1 Australian Dollar (AUD) buys 0.69 US Dollars
 1 US Dollar (USD) will cost 1.45 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These currency rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Currency Cheat Sheet

\$0.50 USD = \$0.72 AUD

This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.

\$1 USD = \$1.45 AUD	\$10 USD = \$14.46 AUD	\$100 USD = \$144.61 AUD
\$2 USD = \$2.89 AUD	\$20 USD = \$28.92 AUD	\$200 USD = \$289.22 AUD
\$3 USD = \$4.34 AUD	\$30 USD = \$43.38 AUD	\$300 USD = \$433.83 AUD
\$4 USD = \$5.78 AUD	\$40 USD = \$57.84 AUD	\$400 USD = \$578.44 AUD
\$5 USD = \$7.23 AUD	\$50 USD = \$72.31 AUD	\$500 USD = \$723.05 AUD
\$6 USD = \$8.68 AUD	\$60 USD = \$86.77 AUD	\$600 USD = \$867.67 AUD
\$7 USD = \$10.12 AUD	\$70 USD = \$101.23 AUD	\$700 USD = \$1,012.28 AUD
\$8 USD = \$11.57 AUD	\$80 USD = \$115.69 AUD	\$800 USD = \$1,156.89 AUD
\$9 USD = \$13.01 AUD	\$90 USD = \$130.15 AUD	\$900 USD = \$1,301.50 AUD
		\$1000 USD = \$1,446.11 AUD

Ecuadoran Currency

The official currency of Ecuador is the US Dollar. Ecuador does not print its own banknotes, instead using US notes in day to day transactions alongside Ecuadoran and US coins. Ecuadoran coins (called centavos) are the same size, shape and weight as US coins and can be used interchangeably.

The following units of currency are the most common but other versions and denominations are also in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images prior to travelling.





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About Ecuador

Full Name: Republica del Ecuador

Size: 283,561 sq km (20% larger than Victoria).

Population: 15.5 million total. Guayaquil 2.3 million; Quito (capital) 1.6 million.

Ethnicity: Mestizo (Amerindian/European mixed) 72%, Black 7%, Amerindian 7%, White 6%.

Language: Spanish 93%, Quechua 4%.

Religion: Catholic 95%.

GDP Per Capita: US\$10,600 (Australia US\$40,800).

Significant Dates:

- 1450's AD - Incas from Peru invade and conquer the Caras people.
- 1526 - First Spanish settlements.
- 1532-34 - Spanish conquistadores under Francisco Pizarro arrive and overthrow the Incas. The area comes under Spanish rule.
- 1822 - Battle of Pichincha. Ecuador achieves independence from Spain and joins Gran Colombia.
- 1830 - Ecuador gains independence.
- 1835 - Charles Darwin visits the Galapagos Islands.
- 1941-42 - Peru invades. Ecuador cedes 200,000 sq km of land to Peru.
- 1948-60 - Banana trade brings prosperity.
- 1970's - Ecuador becomes one of the worlds largest oil exporters.
- 1998 - Peru and Ecuador end border dispute which had been running since 1821.
- 2000 - US Dollar becomes national currency to stabilise economy.
- 2008 - New constitution introduced, the 20th since independence.

