

★ PASS-GUIDE



ECUADOR LIKE NO OTHER PLACE ON EARTH



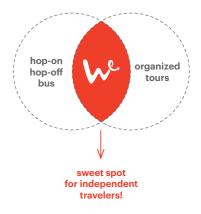
Why wander with us?

We have developed a travel experience for independent travelers, the sweet spot between a hop-on-hop-off bus and an organized tour.

Our experiences include all paid activities and give you the freedom to stay in our destinations for as long or as short as you need. We take care of organizing the logistics, so you can focus on the fun stuff.

We mean it when we say it: there is NO PLACE like ECUADOR! This is a country where magic happens. In the blink of an eye, the changing geography will thrust you into a completely different world from where you were just moments ago.

The secret? The Ecuadorian Andes – colossal mountains, among the highest in the world – are located in the heart of the Tropics. This means you can reach every climate zone of our planet in one country! You can literally be in snow on a mountain top one moment and find yourself amid lush tropical forests teeming with birds of all colors in another! It's as simple as taking a short ride down slope. Wander with us to discover the wonders of kaleidoscopic Ecuador!



BE THE ULTIMATE NOMAD

• With Wanderbus, experience the best independent travel and connectivity that Ecuador has to offer.

• Visit our National parks, cacao farms, cloud forests, volcanic peaks, crater lakes, deep-rooted indigenous communities, and dip your toes into the warm Pacific Coast waters!

• We are the only operator that shows you all of Ecuador from our must-see destinations and heritage cities to off-the-beatentrack hidden gems that only Wanderbus visits.

• Leave a positive impact when you travel! By choosing Wanderbus, support local communities in their plight to protect ancestral traditions and their spectacular heritage natural realms.



FLEXIBILITY AND DIVERSITY

Take 2 days or more, the choice is yours because we offer the flexibility to add more days! Our loop-style itinerary guarantees you will not repeat activities, unlike our competition.

	PUBLIC BUSES	TOUR OPERATORS	OTHER HOP OPTIONS	Wanderbus ECUADOR
All activities included		$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	\checkmark	***
Safety	\checkmark	$\checkmark\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark \checkmark \checkmark$	***
Off-the-beaten-track locations	\checkmark	$\checkmark\checkmark$		***
Meet the locals	$\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$	\checkmark	***
Sustainable travel		\checkmark		***
Connecting the country	$\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$	\checkmark	***
Flexibility	\checkmark	\checkmark	$\checkmark\checkmark$	***
Hotel & hostel pickup		$\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$	**
Fast & direct transportation	~~~	$\checkmark\checkmark$	$\checkmark\checkmark$	- 🔅
Price	\$	\$\$\$\$	\$\$	000



How it works

Wanderbus provides visitors with an authentic experience of Ecuador—as if through the eyes of a local. No matter the destination, be it in the most popular or the most off-the-beatentrack, Wanderbus partners with small- and mediumsized providers, to make the world a better place through travel. You too can visit, connect, and contribute.

WHERE THE MAGIC HAPPENS

Mainland Ecuador is a true rollercoaster ride, moving from mountains to forests, to beaches, to different climate zones... There is no other operation that truly gives you the gist of such a megadiverse corner of the world like us. These are some of the sights that await when traveling Ecuador with Wanderbus.











WHERE NO ONE ELSE GOES

Wanderbus gives you the chance to enjoy Ecuador in a way no other operator can. Truly experience all Ecuador has to offer. Get to remote places, meet indigenous people and try their regional specialties, something that you would not experience with a hop-on-hop-off bus or traditional organised tour.





🛛 Quilotoa

Rolling hills and mountains topped off by one of Ecuador's most stunning postcards: a beautiful turquoise lake set in the heart of a volcanic crater.

Cotopaxi National Park

Ecuador's most elegant volcano, visit this perfectlyconical snow-capped mountain home to stunning wildlife and unbelievable views.

Osogoche lakes

A world tucked deep within the folds in a most remote corner of the Andes with over 45 paramo lakes and native rural communities.

Cloud forests

On the western slope of the Andes, spectacular forests with recordbreaking biodiversity offer a unique connection with nature!

Indigenous markets

The color and craft of Ecuador's most talented artisans are on display in the streets of small towns surrounded by mountains.

Cuenca

Hailed as Ecuador's "prettiest" city, one feels transported to a different continent in this urban enclave filled with beautiful rivers and stunning architecture.

The Pacific Coast

Tropical beaches galore: white sand, great food, chocolate-making adventures, and the ancestral culture that created the misnamed "Panama" hat!

Chimborazo volcano

The farthest point from the center of the Earth... yes, farther than Mount Everest! A beguiling scenery at the top of the world

Baños

A land of waterfalls, fuming volcanoes, and rainforests, known by all as the Gateway to the Amazon.

Amazon rainforest

The Amazon Basin begins in Ecuador, where lush jungles surrounded by rivers are home to iconic faunal and floral species: orchids, jaguars, monkeys, etc.

ECUADOR AT A GLANCE

Size: 283,560 km² (slightly larger than the State of Colorado or the UK)

Population: 18.2 million

Language: Spanish and Quichua

Capital: Quito

Currency: US Dollar (\$)

Budget: For your typical backpacking budget expect to spend a minimum of US\$30/day for food and accommodation, rising to a minimum of US\$60 with activities factored in.

Time zone: Mainland: GMT/UTC -5 /

Galapagos: GMT/UTC -6

You could cross the whole country (either north-south or east-west) in about 10 hours flat – but with so many amazing things to see and do in Ecuador we don't advise it!

WANDER PASS Loop around Ecuador

See ALL of Ecuador. Only with Wanderbus will you go on and off the beaten track to experience the hidden gems of our country, and live new experiences every day.



- 20 activities included
- Departure day: Mondays

Includes:

All entrance fees and those activities that are part of the scheduled itinerary, private vehicle, bilingual guide, transportation.

Not included: All meals and accommodation

Note: Our buses run with a minimum of four passengers. Confirmation time can take several hours. If the route is not confirmed, we will suggest the next best available departure date.





DAY 1 QUITO TO BAÑOS

Departure day: Monday.

Depart from Quito (6 AM) from the selected pick-up point. We stop for breakfast just before arriving in Cotopaxi National Park, home to one of the world's highest active volcanoes, where we hike and visit Limpiopungo Lagoon. In the afternoon, we take a guide-led tour of Quilotoa, where we explore the beautiful, turquoise, 3km-wide volcanic crater lake. We taste the delicious traditional fresh-fruit Salcedo ices and continue on our way to our final destination of the day, we stop for Ecuador's ice cream and arrive in Baños (7 PM), home to steaming volcanoes, explosive waterfalls, and thermal hot springs.

DAY 2 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add JUNGLE TOUR)

Enjoy a free day in Baños, the adventure playground of Ecuador, you can go bungee jumping, rafting, or take a bike ride. Alternatively, join our full-day tour to the Amazon Jungle, the most biodiverse region in the world, for just an additional fee.

+ JUNGLE TOUR

Visit the Yanacocha Animal Rescue Center; hike through the jungle to stunning "Hola Vida" waterfall and visit the lookout at Indichuris (breakfast and lunch not included; pick up and drop off in Baños at the Basílica).

DAY 3 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add CHIMBORAZO TOUR)

Enjoy a free day in Baños... or our full-day tour to Chimborazo Volcano, the highest volcano in Ecuador for just a small additional fee.

+ CHIMBORAZO TOUR

Visit Chimborazo Volcano; a guide-led hike up to the refuge to discover amazing landscapes at the top of the world; as well as the Palacio Real community project (breakfast and lunch not included; pick up and drop off in Baños at the Basílica).

DAY 4 BAÑOS TO CAGUANAPAMBA

Departure day: Thursday.

Depart from Baños at the Basílica (6 AM) heading to the "heart of the nation", Riobamba (pick up/ drop off for those wishing to stay here at 7:45 AM). We breakfast at a native Puruhá community. We then head to the traditional market of Guamote, one of the countries largest and most colorful. By afternoon we hike the hills of Ozogoche, exploring an area with over 45 lagoons, spotting highland wildlife amid formidable landscapes. We finally arrive at Caguanpamba (6:30 PM).

DAY 5 CAGUANAPAMBA TO CUENCA

Departure day: Friday.

We start the day early in the Caguanapamba Kañari community to share some activities with the locals, then we head to the Ingapirca Ruins for a visit of the archeologic site and return to the Kañari community for lunch. In the afternoon, we stop at the majestic Biblian Sanctuary to visit the place and enjoy the view. Our day ends in Cuenca at (6:00 PM)



We partner with communities all over Ecuador, so your time with us leaves a positive impact. We are a B-Corporation, meaning we are serious about our social and environmental impact.







DAY 6 FREE DAY IN CUENCA

Enjoy a free day in Cuenca, Ecuador's cultural gem, you can go explore its streets, museums, or its rivers. Alternatively, join our morning tour to Gualaceo and Chordeleg or our afternoon tour to Pumapungo ruins and the Turi viewpoint, for just a small additional cost.

+ GUALACEO, CHORDELEG and/or PUMAPUNGO RUINS

Pick up in Cuenca, at Parque Calderón for our morning tour; visit the traditional villages of Gualaceo and Chordeleg, famous for their jewelry and arts-and-crafts, as well as a workshop of ancestral "ikat"-style weaving techniques.

Pick up in Cuenca, at Parque Calderón for our afternoon tour around the Inca Pumapungo ruins and end the day at the wonderful Turi viewpoint, the best views of Cuenca from above.





DAY 7 CUENCA TO MONTAÑITA

Departure day: Sunday.

Pick up in Cuenca (6:45 AM) at Parque Calderón and head out to El Cajas National Park for a wet and wild adventure surrounded by over 200 lakes! Experience how to create your own chocolate at a local cacao (Finca Cacao y Mango) hacienda in the coast and lunch. Arrive in Guayaguil at 2:45 PM for passenger drop off/ pick up. IIn the afternoon, we lounge the coast admiring the many beautiful beach towns as we make our way to Montañita (6:30 PM).

DAY 8 FREE DAY MONTAÑITA / (or add WHALE-WATCHING or FOREST WALK)

Enjoy a free day in Montañita. Alternatively, take our full-day whale-watching tour or Forest walk.

+ WHALE-WATCHING TOUR

Stand meters from breaching whales during Ecuador's fabulous whale-watching season (July thru September); we take a yacht out to see to peek at one of natures most glorious spectacles. Drop-off in Montañita.

+ FOREST WALK

Enjoy a light hike in a beautiful coastal forest within the limits of Machalilla National Park, Ecuador's only coastal national park, to discover unique equatorial vegetation. Drop off in Montañita.





DAY 9 MONTAÑITA TO MANTA

Departure day: Tuesday

We head up the coast, visiting fascinating sights along the way We take a light hike at the ancestral Agua Blanca community; explore the wilds of Ecuador's most pristine beach at Los Frailes and before reaching our final destination in Manta, stop by Montecristi, where we learn the process of weaving toquilla straw hats (known as Panama hats).

DAY 10 MANTA TO SANTO DOMINGO

Departure day: Wednesday

Leaving Manta, we visit the community of Chorrillos to learn about the dying trade of cabuya-making and continue to La Segua, one of Manabí province's treasures, wetlands filled with birds. Our lunch features emblematic dishes like fried chame and a delectable chicken tonga. We finally arrive in the evening at Mushily, a native Tsáchila tribe community project in Santo Domingo.

DAY 11 SANTO DOMINGO TO QUITO

Departure day: Thursday

Pick-up after a traditional Tsáchila breakfast and we head to the eco-tourism hub of Mindo for fantastic hummingbird-and-tanagerwatching in a Hummingbird Garden, a walk inside an Orchid forest, and coffee-creating experiences and tasting, making our way up the western slope to the arid highlands surrounding Mitad del Mundo, the Equatorial Monument, where you will experience being in both hemispheres at once. Arrive in Quito (6:30 PM).

Wanderbus gives you the chance to enjoy Ecuador in a way no other operator can. Truly experience all Ecuador has to offer. Get to remote places, meet indigenous people and try their regional specialties, something that you would not experience with a hop-on-hop-off bus or traditional organised tour.

WANDER PASS EXPRESS from

Andes to Amazon

Wanderbus offers the best connectivity between Quito and Baños, with experiences along the way. From the Andes to the Amazon, a cacao farm and the luxurious Papallacta thermal hot springs do not miss a thing!

Minimum recommended days: 3 days

Ò

- 6 activities included
- Departure days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

Includes:

All entrance fees and those activities that are part of the scheduled itinerary, private vehicle, bilingual guide, transportation.

Not included: All meals and accommodation

Note: Our buses run with a minimum of four passengers. Confirmation time can take several hours. If the route is not confirmed, we will suggest the next best available departure date.

(for full itinerary description, see days 1-3 of the Wanderpass, pp. 6-7)





DAY 1 QUITO TO BAÑOS

Highlights: Cotopaxi National Park, Quilotoa.

Depart: 6 AM – selected pickup points.

Arrive: 7 PM - Baños Basilica.

DAY 2 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add JUNGLE TOUR)

Jungle Tour Highlights: Jungle Tour Highlights: Yanacocha Animal Rescue Center; Hola Vida Waterfall; Indichuris.







DAY 3 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add CHIMBORAZO TOUR)

Chimborazo Tour highlights: Chimborazo Volcano, Palacio Real community project for lunch.

The faster you travel, the less there is to see. With Wanderbus we give you the time to delve deeper into culture, traditions, and immerse yourselves in everything the beautiful country of Ecuador has to offer with complete convenience.

DAY 4 AMAZON ROUTE BACK TO QUITO

Departure days: Saturday, Tuesday, and Friday.

Pick-up at Plaza Basílica in Baños (6:30 AM); we head out to the Amazon frontier town of Puyo for breakfast. Visit Paikawe Lake for a canoe ride and wildlife observation and reach Santa Rita at noon for a cacao-farm adventure and traditional lunch. Afternoon visit of the beautiful Papallacta hot springs (includes entrance to the thermal spa); arrival in Quito at 7 PM.



JACAMAR PASS QUITO TO BAÑOS

Only with Wanderbus, get from Quito to Baños hassle-free and with fun experiences along the way. Unlike our competition, with Wanderbus you get inside Cotopaxi National Park, walk around Quilotoa Lake, all before arriving in adventure capital Baños for dinner.

- Minimum recommended days: 1 days

 $\langle \circ \rangle$

- 3 activities included
- Departure days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

Includes:

All entrance fees and those activities that are part of the scheduled itinerary, private vehicle, bilingual guide, transportation.

Not included:

All meals and accommodation

Note: Our buses run with a minimum of four passengers. Confirmation time can take several hours. If the route is not confirmed, we will suggest the next best available departure date.

(for full itinerary description, see days 1-3 of the Wanderpass, pp. 6-7)



DAY 1 QUITO TO BAÑOS

Highlights: Cotopaxi National Park, Quilotoa.

Depart: 6 AM – selected pickup points.

Arrive: 7 PM - Baños Basilica.

WHEN IN BAÑOS...

add our tours of fascinating nearby destinations.

Our Jungle Tour takes us to the heart of the jungle, to the inspiring Yanacocha Animal Rescue Center, Hola Vida waterfall hike and stunning Indichuris viewpoint. Or add our Chimborazo Tour: hike the highest Ecuadorian volcano and visit a native Puruhá community project for lunch.



DAY 1 QUITO TO BAÑOS

Highlights: Cotopaxi National Park, Quilotoa.

Depart: 6 AM – selected pickup points.

Arrive: 7 PM – Baños Basilica.

DAY 2 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add JUNGLE TOUR)

Jungle Tour Highlights: Yanacocha Animal Rescue Center; Hola Vida waterfall hike; Indichuris.

DAY 3 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add CHIMBORAZO TOUR)

Chimborazo Tour highlights: Chimborazo Volcano, Palacio Real community project for lunch.

DAY 4 BAÑOS TO CAGUANAPAMBA

Departure days: Monday, Thursday

Highlights: Puruhá community Guamote, Osogoche.

Departs: 6 AM – Baños Basilica Pick-up/drop-off Riobamba: 7:45 AM

Arrives: 6:30 PM -Caguanapamba

*Guamote market only takes place on Thursdays.



DAY 5 CAGUANAPAMBA TO CUENCA

Departure days: Tuesday, Friday

Departs: 8:30 AM – Caguanapamba

Arrives: 6 PM – Parque Calderón

Highlights: Caguanapamba Kañari community, Ingapirca, Biblian church.

*Ingapirca is closed on Tuesdays.

DAY 6 When in CUENCA...

... add our tours of the city and nearby craft towns.

A stay in Cuenca, Ecuador's cultural gem, is a blast! Explore its streets, museums and beautiful urban rivers. We also organize tours to Gualaceo and Chordeleg, the Pumapungo ruins and Turi viewpoint, for an additional fee.

+ GUALACEO, CHORDELEG and/or PUMAPUNGO RUINS

Pick up in Cuenca, at Parque Calderón for our morning tour; visit the traditional villages of Gualaceo and Chordeleg, famous for their jewelry, artsand-crafts, and a traditional "ikat"-style weaving workshop.

Pick up in Cuenca, at Parque Calderón for our afternoon tour round the Inca Pumapungo ruins and end the day at the wonderful Turi viewpoint, the best views of Cuenca from above.



COLIBRÍ PASS QUITO TO CUENCA

Zig zag the Andes with ease, experience local markets, indigenous communities, Inca ruins and Ecuador's National Parks on your way to Ecuador's second World Heritage Site, the beautiful city of Cuenca.

Minimum recommended days: 5 days

Ò

- 10 activities included
- Departure days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

Includes:

All entrance fees and those activities that are part of the scheduled itinerary, private vehicle, bilingual guide, transportation.

Not included: All meals and accommodation

Note: Our buses run with a minimum of four passengers. Confirmation time can take several hours. If the route is not confirmed, we will suggest the next best available departure date.

(for full itinerary description, see days 1-3 of the Wanderpass, pp. 6-7)



TANGARA PASS QUITO TO GUAYAQUIL

Wanderbus offers the easiest and safest way to get from Quito to Guayaquil through the Andes with a visit to Colonial Cuenca! Explore local markets, meet indigenous communities, wander Incan ruins and end your journey in Guayaquil, where you can travel on to Galapagos, back home, or the rest of South America!

Minimum
recommended days:
7 days

Ó

- 12 activities included
- Departure days: Mondays and Fridays

Includes:

All entrance fees and those activities that are part of the scheduled itinerary, private vehicle, bilingual guide, transportation.

Not included: All meals and accommodation

Note: Our buses run with a minimum of four passengers. Confirmation time can take several hours. If the route is not confirmed, we will suggest the next best available departure date.

(for full itinerary description, see days 1 thru 7 of the Wander Pass, pp. 6-8)

DAY 1 QUITO TO BAÑOS

Highlights: Cotopaxi National Park, Quilotoa.

Depart: 6 AM – selected pickup points.

Arrive: 7 PM – Baños Basilica.

DAY 2 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add JUNGLE TOUR)

Enjoy a free day in Baños, Ecuador's adventure playground: bungee jump, learn rafting or bike surrounded by lush rainforests. Alternatively, join our full-day tour to the Amazon Jungle, the most biodiverse region in the world, for just an additional fee.

DAY 3 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add CHIMBORAZO TOUR)

Enjoy a free day in Baños... or our full-day tour to Chimborazo Volcano, the highest volcano in Ecuador for just a small additional fee.

DAY 4 BAÑOS TO CAGUANAPAMBA

Departure days: Monday, Thursday

Highlights: Guamote, Ozogoche

Departs: 6 AM – Baños Basilica Pick-up/drop-off Riobamba: 7:45 AM

Arrives: 6:30 PM -Caguanapamba

*Guamote market only takes place on Thursdays.

DAY 5 CAGUANAPAMBA TO CUENCA

Departure days: Tuesday, Friday

Departs: 8:30 AM – Caguanapamba

Arrives: 6 PM – Parque Calderón

Highlights: Caguanapamba Kañari community, Ingapirca, Biblian church

DAY 6 FREE DAY IN CUENCA

Enjoy a free day in Cuenca, Ecuador's cultural gem or join our morning tour to Gualaceo and Chordeleg and afternoon tour to Pumapungo ruins and the Turi viewpoint, for a a small additional cost.

DAY 7 CUENCA TO GUAYAQUIL

Departure days: Sunday, Thursday

Departs: 6:45 AM – Parque Calderón

Arrives: 2:15 PM

Highlights: El Cajas National Park, cacao hacienda.



DAY 1 QUITO TO BAÑOS

Highlights: Cotopaxi National Park, Quilotoa.

Depart: 6 AM – selected pickup points.

Arrive: 7 PM – Baños Basilica.

DAY 2 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add JUNGLE TOUR)

Enjoy a free day in Baños, the adventure playground of Ecuador, you can go bungee jumping, rafting, or take a bike ride. Alternatively, join our fullday tour to the Amazon Jungle, the most biodiverse region in the world, for just an additional fee.

DAY 3 FREE DAY IN BAÑOS (or add CHIMBORAZO TOUR)

Enjoy a free day in Baños... or our full-day tour to Chimborazo Volcano, the highest volcano in Ecuador for just a small additional fee.

DAY 4 BAÑOS TO CAGUANAPAMBA

Departure days: Monday, Thursday

Highlights: Guamote, Ozogoche.

Departs: 6 AM – Baños Basilica Pick-up/drop-off Riobamba: 7:45 AM

Arrives: 6:30 PM – Caguanapamba

*Guamote market only takes place on Thursdays.

DAY 5 CAGUANAPAMBA TO CUENCA

Departure days: Tuesday, Friday

Departs: 8:30 AM – Caguanapamba

Arrives: 6 PM – Parque Calderón

Highlights: Caguanapamba Kañari community, Ingapirca, Biblian church.

*Ingapirca is closed on Tuesdays.

DAY 6 FREE DAY IN CUENCA

Enjoy a free day in Cuenca, Ecuador's cultural gem or join our morning tour of Gualaceo and Chordeleg and afternoon tour to Pumapungo ruins and the Turi viewpoint, for a small additional cost.

DAY 7 CUENCA TO MONTAÑITA

Departure days: Sunday, Thursday

Departs: 6:45 AM – Parque Calderón, Cuenca

Arrives: 6:30 PM – Los Caminantes, Montañita

Highlights: El Cajas National Park, cacao hacienda (Finca Cacao y Mango)

DAY 8 WHEN IN MONTAÑITA...

... add our special tours

Enjoy your stay at this bustling beach town or visit nearby Puerto López. Join our full-day Los Frailes beach tour, or visit up to four spectacular beaches along Ecuador's Pacific Coast.

+ WHALE WATCHING TOUR and FOREST WALK.



CONDOR PASS QUITO TO MONTAÑITA

Quito to the Pacific Coast via Cuenca! Take in our most popular destinations —Cotopaxi, Quilotoa Lake, Ingapirca, Cuenca, and Montañita as well as culturally unique experiences with local communities, cacao farms, and traditional markets. Do this all in just 8 days!

 $\mathbf{\hat{O}}$

 Minimum recommended days: 7 days

- 12 activities included

- Departure days: Mondays and Fridays

Includes:

All entrance fees and those activities that are part of the scheduled itinerary, private vehicle, bilingual guide, transportation.

Not included:

All meals and accommodation

Note: Our buses run with a minimum of four passengers. Confirmation time can take several hours. If the route is not confirmed, we will suggest the next best available departure date.

(for full itinerary description, see days 1 thru 8 of the Wander Pass, pp. 6-8)



www.wanderbusecuador.com