

## ECUADOR: Sample Itinerary



All itineraries can be altered in length, focus and style to fit school requirements.

DAY	DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
1		Depart Australia - Quito	The team will depart Australia early morning. Arrive Auckland. Depart Auckland. Arrive Santiago. Depart Santiago. Arrive Quito late evening. On arrival the team will be met and transferred to their pre-booked hotel.
2		Quito	Depending on flights arrive Quito. On arrival the team will be met and transferred to their pre-booked hotel. Today the team has a day to rest after the long trip over and acclimatize to the altitude in Quito. It's possible to see a few sights and prepare for the rest of the expedition.
3		Quito	Today the team has the day to explore the sights of Quito. In the evening the team could meet with our in country partner to discuss project objectives and transfer. Students may opt for a Andean or Amazon Jungle project during the plan stages in the month before departure.
4		Quito - Project	This morning the team will be transferred to their community service project. On arrival they will meet their hosts and receive an orientation to the community. The project may involve decorating, renovating and building of school buildings. There's also time for teaching/games with the local children.
5		Project	Whilst at the project the team will have all meals provided for them by their hosts.
6		Project	The team will be staying in traditional accommodation in the village and will assist local labourers during the project work.
7		Project	The team will also have plenty of opportunity to play games and interact with locals in the village.
8		Project	The team will have a final day to complete their project work. Students will delegate roles and jobs to ensure the project is completed and everyone has enjoyed the experience. Students will prepare a song and gifts for their hosts as a thank you and a farewell.
9		Quito	This morning the team will head back to Quito or direct to their trek. There's time to plan and prepare ahead of their trek through the Northern Andes of Ecuador. There's chance to visit some sights, pick up some supplies, organise future travel plans and pack for the trek
10		Quito - Trek	This morning the team will be transferred from Quito along the Panamericana highway through Ibarra and Irigunchi where they will begin their trek. Today's trekking will take the team through foggy forests and Paramo for 4-5 hours to their first camp at Churuloma at a height of 3600 mts.
11		Trek	Today the team will hike across rolling hillocks and past mountain lagoons through typical Andean Polilepis forests. Today's trekking will be 5-6 hours, the team will camp at 4000mts.
12		Trek	Today the team will trek through the Cotacachi-Cayapa reserve around the edge of the famous volcano. Today is a great day for wildlife spotting with condors and teiled deer calling the area home. Today's hiking will be for 6-7 hours, camp will be at 3800 mts.
13		Trek - Otavalo	On the final day of the hike the team will trek for 5-6 hours to Timbuyaku at 3000 mts where they will be met and transferred to Otavalo. On arrival the team will need to arrange accommodation.
14		Otavalo	The team has today to explore the beautiful town of Otavalo, famous for it's indigenous markets and local handicrafts.
15		Otavalo - Mitad Del Mundo - Quito	The team will need to arrange private transport today to return them to Quito. Along the way they can stop at Mmitad Del Mundo - the Centre of the Eart and plant their feet on both hemispheres at once. On arrival in Quito the team needs to arrange accommodation.

16		Quito - Banos	Starting early again the team needs to arrange transport to the lovely town of Banos which is a great central place for trekking, cycling and rafting.
17		Banos	This morning the team might look to cycle together through along roads cut through stunning canyons and past beautiful waterfalls.
18		Banos - Quito	The team has another morning to explore Banos. In the afternoon the team needs to arrange transport to Quito.
19		Quito	The team has a final day in Quito to do some last minute shopping at the markets. In the afternoon the team needs to arrange transport to the airport. Depart Quito mid evening.
20		Santiago, Chile	Arrive Santiago early morning. The team has a day to explore the beautiful city of Santiago, ringed by the Andes mountains. In the early evening the team needs to arrange transport to the airport in time for their flight home. Depart Santiago
21		Transit	Transit
22		Return Australia	Arrive in Auckland early morning. Depart Auckland. Arrive Australia mid morning.