



Quito – Guayaquil | 4 days – 4 nights | Saturday to Tuesday,  
**Starts at Quito on Sep 09<sup>th</sup> and arrives at Guayaquil on Sep. 12<sup>th</sup>.**

*Our journey begins in the northern Andes of Ecuador, in the valley of Otavalo, where we will discover traditional cultures, handicrafts, and modern export-class rose plantations. From Quito we will start our trip to the coast, first climbing to the Chimborazo volcano moorlands along the Avenue of Volcanoes.*

*The Mythical “Devil’s Nose” pass awaits with its vertiginous zig-zag. Riding along the Chanchán river canyon we leave the highlands behind. We cross a cloud forest, then ride along the tropical plantations to the end of our trip in Guayaquil. We reach the shores of the Pacific Ocean after 504 km or rail and a 12,000 ft. descent to the sea.*

## Day 1 – Saturday

Quito – Otavalo – Ibarra – Quito

We depart Quito early in the morning for a one-and-a-half drive north. In Otavalo, home of a millenary market, a carefully restored steam engine awaits us.

At a slow pace we will discover the many wonders hidden in this part of the country: musicians, painters, weavers and the skillful woodcarvers who keep the renowned Quito School style alive. After a tasting of traditional Andean cuisine and a visit to very special export-class rose plantation we return to Quito.

### Booking information

**Agent** Patricia Calero | **e-mail** pcalero@trenecuador.com | **phone** +593-2-265-0421 or +593-2-3992-100 ext. 1176

## Day 2 – Sunday

### Quito – Urbina

We board our convoy at Quito Chimbacalle station and begin our journey south along the Avenue of Volcanoes. If the weather permits, you can spot up to twenty volcanoes from the train –most extinct or dormant for centuries.

Here, the Andes range splits into two arms that run parallel down south. The fertile valley trapped between these stonewalls hosts a treasure trove of biodiversity. From the comfort of our panoramic cars we watch the change of vegetation and landscape as we slowly climb the Andean highlands to Urbina, the highest point in our itinerary at 11,800 feet above sea level. In the skirts of mount Chimborazo we meet the last ice-merchant and learn the story of his ancestral trade.

## Day 3 – Monday

### Riobamba – The Devil’s Nose – Bucay

We depart Riobamba towards Colta, where the Spanish conquerors built their first settlement in Ecuador. We cross colorful-quinoa fields painted in purples, yellows and reds, alternating with endemic species of flora and wildlife, indigenous settlements and the remains of ancient cultures.

We visit a pristine Andean community to learn about their traditions before continuing south towards the mythical Devil’s Nose pass. A vertiginous descent of 450metres zigzag takes us from the Andean highlands down towards the coastal plains.

We continue our descent along the narrow Chanchán river gorge and crossing an impressive cloud forest towards the temperate city of Bucay.

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## Day 4 – Tuesday

### Bucay – Guayaquil

The landscape changes again as the train leaves the tropical forest behind. Rice, sugar cane, pineapple and banana plantations pass before our eyes.

We have lunch at a traditional hacienda, where we can learn about the growing and harvesting of the best cocoa bean in the world. Later, the steam engine whites its way across the fields towards the shores of the Pacific Ocean and the end of our trip in a hotel in Guayaquil for overnight.

### **Rate: US\$ 495pp – only available for buyers**

#### **What is Included?**

The program includes transportation aboard Tren Crucero, all meals during the trip, snacks and soft drinks on board, guide in Spanish and English\*, excursions according to the itinerary, transportation by bus/van during the program for excursions and accommodation based on single/double occupancy (rate applies for both types of accommodation). In the Quito to Guayaquil route, once the train has arrived at Duran station (Guayaquil), you will be transferred to the hotel for overnight (included at Wyndham Hotel\*)

#### **What is Extra?**

Alcoholic beverages (Tren Crucero offers wine, beer and whiskey), meals and excursions not included in the program, air tickets, personal expenses, gratuities or transfers to hotels different from the ones listed here. Passengers are recommended to purchase travel insurance.

\*For Day 4: Dinner is not included. Breakfast included for the next day.

#### Travel Tips

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**CLOTHING:** Wear layers: a jacket for cold weather and a light coat for the rain (coast). Comfortable walking shoes, hat, sunscreen with high SPF, repellent, sunglasses. Don't forget your camera!

**ALTITUDE:** It ranges from 80 to 3,610 meters above sea level. The temperature ranges from 14 ° to 35 °C.

**IMPORTANT:** Duran station is 30 minutes away from Guayaquil. Take it into account to ensure you arrive on time for check-in. In Quito, Swissôtel is located in the city of Quito, Avenida 12 de Octubre y Luis Cordero. Unused services are not refunded. Consult with our sales department about the possibility of boarding Tren Crucero Train of Wonders (southbound) in Otavalo.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** All itineraries are subjected to change due to force majeure or technical, operational circumstances. Please check our policy regarding refunds and cancellations. At Tren Ecuador we are committed to providing the best possible travel experience.

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