



Steph's Quick Budget Fact Sheet

Ecuador - Quito

Quick Facts

- ✓ **Capital:** Quito
- ✓ **Language:** Spanish
- ✓ **Sq km:** 37239
- ✓ **Population:** ± 2,7 mln
- ✓ **Currency:** American dollar \$
- ✓ **Country code:** +593 (2)
- ✓ **Visa:** Fore some countries, [check!](#)
- ✓ **Alarm codes:** 911
- ✓ **Vaccinations:** Hep-A / Hep-B / Typhoid / DTP / Yellow fever / Malaria prevention

History Recap Over 1 Drink

Tribes, hunter-gatherers → Formative period (developed society). 15th century: Inca invasion. Fierce resistance in Cuenca (Cañari tribe), Inca Civil War. 1531: Spanish arrived (Pizarro), defeat Inca's → Colonialisation. Slavery organized in *encomienda* system. 18th century: independence sentiments (Criollo). 1822: Sucre under Bolivar defeats Spanish at Battle of Pichincha: Ecuador part of independent Gran Colombia (with Colombia, Panama, Venezuela). 1830: Ecuador fully independent. 1941: Peru invades El Oro. 1948-60: Banana boom. 1963: President Monroy deposed by military junta: economic reforms → 1966: Interim government, Gomez. 1968: Valesco dictatorial power. 1972: Lara president, oil boom. 1979: Return to democracy. 1981: Border war with Peru → 1998: peace treaty signed. 1982: Falling oil prices: economic & social problems. Presidents to follow: Bucaram Ortiz – Alarcon – Mahuad Witt – Noboa – Gutierrez – Correa corruption. 2000: American \$ to beat inflation. 2004: Jail crisis (hostages to improve jail conditions). Wikileaks Assange: offered asylum in Ecuador.

Travel Seasons

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Dry												
Wet												
Best												
Budget												

Altitude: 2800m.

Bucket List For Free

- ☺ Go hiking! F.e.: Pasachoa Forest Reserve, the trail from the Teleferico to the volcano, up to El Panecillo.
- ☺ Free museums: Palacio de Gobierno (incl.free tour), Museo Nacional, Museo de la Ciudad, [Museo de Santiago](#).
- ☺ Plaza de la Independencia & Plaza San Francisco .
- ☺ Church-alert: Iglesia de San Francisco, Catedral, La Merced, Santo Domingo, San Augustin.
- ☺ Laid-back parks: Metropolitano, La Carolina, El Ejido, Jardin Botanico, Itchimbia.

Worth The Extra \$€¥

- 👍 Museums: [Capilla del Hombre](#), [Guayasamin Museum](#), [Casa de Alabado](#), [Museo Intinan](#), La Casa Museo Maria Augusta Urrutia, Museo de Arte Moderno. Bring your (fake) student card for discounts.
 - 👍 [Maquipucuna Cloud Forest Reserve](#) ecolodge.
 - 👍 Visit the equator: [Mitad del Mundo](#).
 - 👍 Hire a guide and climb up to Cotopaxi!
- Check the full list [here!](#)

Tourist Trap Alert

⊗ Unless you are disabled or over 70 years old, you can't be in the tourist bus without losing your dignity.

Budget Bites

⌘ El Mercado: Cheap fruit, veggies and meals... and a sneak-peak in Ecuadorian culture.

⌘ Streetfood is dirt cheap. Tasty in Ecuador: Carne en polito, chuzos, pinchos (skewers), tamales, humitas, choclo con queso, churrasco, fritada (pork), llapingachos. Do try morocho!

⌘ Splurge a little bit at Calle La Ronda, a bohemian gringo pleasure.

Festivals

⚙ Festival International Quito Jazz: Feb.

⚙ Festival Teatro Experimental: Oct.

⚙ Fiestas de Quito: 6-Dec.

Mama Said

⚠ Watch your bag, buy a lock. Smartphones are popular. Pickpockets operate tourist areas.

⚠ Be careful with taxi's: Check the orange number plate and municipally stamp. Better: Let your hotel call one.

⚠ Take day buses. Night buses are more dangerous in sense of accidents, robberies and hijackings. Put your bag on your lap.

⚠ Dangerous: area near Hospital Militar, La Ferroviaria, La Bota.

Next?

➔ In Ecuador: Galapagos, Baños, Montanita.

➔ International destinations closeby: Colombia, Peru.

Sleep Cheap

❖ Colonial House, +593 23163350, Olmedo 4-32.

❖ Community Hostel, +59322285108, Pedro Fermín Cevallos.

❖ Go [Couchsurfing!](#)

Nights Best Spent

◆ Bungalow 6, Jose Calama y Diego de Almagro.

◆ Huaina, Calama / Juan León Mera y Reina Victoria.

◆ Sesaribó, El Giron.

... Seated Down

◆ Casa de la Musica, Valderrama N32-307 y Av. Mariana de Jesus.

◆ Teatro Sucre, Guayaquil y Flores.

◆ El Centro Cultural Metropolitano, Gabriel Garcia Moreno y Espejo.

Knowledge I'm Taking Home

📖 Hable español: [Simon Bolivar](#).

📖 Dance the salsa: [Ritmo Tropical](#).

📖 Cook like an Ecuadorian: [Viator](#).

Free-Riding?

■ The separate districts are perfectly walkable. But to get from district to district it's advisable to take public transport.

■ Quito has three electric bus routes: Trole, Ecovía and the Metrobus. They take you everywhere around town and outside the inner-city, but get seriously crowded. Ask locals which one to take.

■ Taxi's are cheap, but take your precautions. Foreigner = money, which can attract robbers. Check the orange number plate and municipally stamp.

Tip: Download the free Triposo Ecuador app for an offline map, offline guide & more. Load Google Maps when you have wifi and leave it open, you will still be able to use it offline.