

Homestay Study Program in Ecuador

2010 Dates and Prices

Dates: June 27–July 24

Choose the length and dates of your program.
Arrive any Sunday and stay for 2-4 weeks!

Two week program: \$1,490
Three week program: \$2,050
Four week program: \$2,550
(airfare not included)



Program Highlights

- small-group language classes
- exciting cultural activities and excursions
- homestay with a welcoming host family

Quito, Ecuador

Spend your summer in Quito, the vibrant capital of Ecuador! The beautiful historical buildings in the old city center will give you a glimpse into previous centuries, while the surrounding mountains invite you to enjoy the country's natural treasures. Quito is a great place to try out your Spanish skills because the local way of speaking is very clear, so you will soon be able to follow conversations.

The Classes

Every weekday morning, you will have four hours of Spanish classes at a language school in a charming colonial building, located in the residential area of La Carolina. As a student, you can take advantage of the library, the sports court, and the interior patio. In your small-group classes you will have plenty of opportunities to participate and practice.

Cultural Activities and Excursions

Deepen your understanding of Ecuadorian culture and explore Ecuador's diverse ecosystems through afternoon activities and weekend excursions! Day trip destinations may include Cotopaxi National Park, the cloud forest, and the indigenous community of Otavalo. Of course, you will also get a chance to stand in the middle of the world, with one foot in each hemisphere!

Accommodations

A homestay with a local family is the best way to immerse yourself in the daily life in Ecuador. Host families come in all shapes and sizes, but what they all have in common is a strong interest in sharing their culture. Breakfast and dinner are included.

"Visiting the Otavalo market and learning about its history was great. I enjoyed the stay a lot and learned mucho!"
~Kelly~

Sample 2-Week Itinerary

Week One

Monday - orientation and city tour
Tuesday - equatorial line
Wednesday - dance lesson
Thursday - hike to the metropolitan park
Friday - soccer game
Weekend - 2-day trip to the cloud forest

Week Two

Monday - free afternoon
Tuesday - basilica of Quito
Wednesday - dance lesson
Thursday - Quito Andean Zoo
Friday - talent show
Weekend - 2-day trip to Cotopaxi volcano



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ANDEO International Homestays - a nonprofit organization since 1981.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who can apply for this program? This program is open to students 15 and older who have studied Spanish for the equivalent of at least two years in high school. We recommend this program for teens who already have some experience with international traveling.

What does the price include? Tuition for the language course, study materials, homestay placement with meals (lunch will be provided at the language school), cultural activities and excursions, travel insurance, pre-departure orientation materials, and on-site support in Ecuador.

What is a host family? A host family may be two parents with children (from baby to adult), a single mother or father, a couple without children, grandparents, or a single person. All host families are screened by our partner organization in Ecuador and provide warm, welcoming homes for international students. There may be another international student sharing the homestay with you.

Will my family speak English? They might, but they know that you are coming to use and improve your Spanish skills, so they will encourage you to speak their language.

When will I receive my host family placement information? You will receive host family details and contact information in the week prior to your arrival date, possibly earlier.

How will I get from the airport to my host family? A local program representative will meet you at the airport in Quito and take you to your host family's home. You will also be escorted to the airport at the end of your stay.

Will there be an orientation? Once you are accepted into the program, we will send you comprehensive orientation materials that cover everything from packing suggestions to dealing with culture shock.

Can I get high school credits for this program? Possibly. Talk to your teachers before the end of the school year about the option of completing an independent study project during or after your stay abroad.

What travel documents will I need? That depends on the length of your program, your citizenship, and other individual factors. Entry requirements change frequently, so we strongly recommend that you contact your nearest Ecuadorian embassy or consulate to get up-to-date information. Generally, U.S. citizens need a passport, but not a visa for a 2- to 4-week stay. It is your responsibility to obtain all necessary travel documents for your stay in Ecuador.

Can I speak to people who have participated in the program before? Definitely! Please contact our office and we can provide you with the email addresses of students who have been on this program.

How do I apply? Complete the initial application form and return it to ANDEO with a \$500 deposit. We will then send you a detailed application with questions about your family and interests, a medical statement and release form, an agreement that spells out behavior expectations, directions for writing a letter to your host family, and three reference forms. You will have about 3-4 weeks to complete this. The decision to accept you into the program will be made based on your completed application. If for any reason we cannot accept you into the program, your deposit will be refunded in full.

What is the application deadline? The deadline is May 1st. However, we recommend that you apply as soon as you feel that all your questions have been answered and you have decided that this is the right program for you. Courses sometimes fill up early.

Who should not apply for this program? Students who are currently experiencing excessive behavior problems, drug or alcohol abuse, eating disorders or other psychological disorders that might interfere with the program, or students who have experienced these issues in the past year should not apply.

When should I book my flight? After you have been officially accepted into the program. Information about arrival and departure times will be included in your acceptance letter.

Are there any scholarships? No, ANDEO is a non-profit organization and we try to keep prices as low as possible for all participants. For students who want to fundraise for their program abroad, we have compiled some ideas and suggestions. You can find them on our website at www.andeo.org.



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Like having options? Take a look at our other homestay study programs in Costa Rica, France, Germany, Japan and Spain! We also offer homestay immersion programs in France, Germany, Mexico, and Spain.

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