

Homestay Study in Quito, Ecuador

2008 Dates & Prices

Dates: June 29—July 26

Four week program: \$2,400
Airfare not included



Welcome to Quito, Ecuador!

Experience the diverse cultures and ecology of Ecuador! Your program will be based in Quito, the vibrant capital of the country. Day trips to Otavalo, Cotopaxi National Park, and the Cloud Forest Reserve let you explore three distinct ecosystems, the volcanic, the highlands of the Andes Mountains, and the cloud forest. You will also be learning about daily life in Ecuador by living with a welcoming host family and by visiting the indigenous community in Otavalo. The program includes 20 hours of Spanish classes per week, host family accommodation, and activities and excursions.



Sample 3-week Itinerary

Week 1

Monday: Orientation and City tour
Tuesday: Tour of Equatorial line
Wednesday: Trip to Vivarium reptile museum & movie night
Thursday: Dance Lessons
Friday: Volleyball or soccer game
Weekend: Trip to the Otavalo Indian market

Week 2

Monday: Ice Skating
Tuesday: Free afternoon for internet & movie night
Wednesday: Ceramics and dance classes
Thursday: Visit to Quito Andean Zoo
Friday: Talent show
Weekend: Trip to the cloud forest (2 days)

Week 3

Monday: Free afternoon
Tuesday: Visit to the Basilica
Wednesday: Soccer game
Thursday: Shopping and dance lessons
Friday: Hike to the Metropolitan Park
Weekend: Trip to the Cotopaxi Volcano (2 days)



See the FAQs →

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the requirements for this program? Students must be at least 15 years old and have the equivalent of two years or more of high school Spanish.

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

What is a "host family"? A host family may be two parents with children (from infant to adult), single mothers or fathers, couples without children, grandparents, or single individuals. All host families are screened by the local organization and provide warm, welcoming homes for international students. Most families also host other teens who are studying at the school.

Are host families paid? Yes, for most of the homestay/study programs families receive a small weekly stipend to help cover their expenses. You will find that they are very welcoming hosts who are experienced at sharing their culture and helping you learn their language and customs.

When will I get information about my host family? You will receive information about your family prior to departure.

What if I have a problem with my family? Talk with the homestay coordinator of your program. They want you to have a rewarding homestay experience and will help with any problems or questions you might have.

When should I book my flight? Do not book your flights until you have been officially accepted into the program. Information about the arrival city and arrival/departure times will be included in your acceptance packet.

How will I get from the airport to my host family? You will be met at the airport by school personnel and taken to your host family.

Will I get any orientation materials? Yes. In the spring you will receive a parent/student orientation packet with detailed information about everything from packing and insurance to passports and culture shock.

Do I need to get a visa? US citizens do not need a visa. You are responsible for getting your own passport.

How much spending money should I bring? We recommend that you bring about \$100 for each week of your stay.

What if I get sick? All students are covered by a comprehensive medical insurance policy. You will receive an insurance booklet and claim form before departure. If you need to see a doctor or visit a hospital, take these along.

When is the final application deadline? The final application deadline for all summer programs is May 1st. However, some programs fill earlier and summer flights fill quickly. We suggest applying as soon as possible, both to insure your place in the program and to give yourself more time to prepare for the experience.

How do I apply? Complete the initial application form and return it to Andeo with a \$250 deposit. We will then send you the homestay application packet that will be used to match you with your host family. This packet includes details about your hobbies and interests, a medical form, and reference forms for your teachers. We will also ask you to write a "Dear Host Family" letter in Spanish. All of this information helps our homestay coordinators in Ecuador make a great family match for you.

When are payments due? The first deposit of \$250 is due with your initial application form. An additional payment will be due a month later with your completed application packet. You will receive a schedule of the remaining payments and details of the cancellation policy in your application packet.

Who should not apply for this program? In order to assure a successful experience for students and for the host families, students who are currently experiencing excessive behavior problems, drug or alcohol abuse, or eating disorders; or students who have experienced these issues within the past year should not apply. Students who develop these problems prior to departure will not be allowed to participate.

Are there any scholarships? Unfortunately not. We are a non-profit organization and we try to keep our prices as low as possible for all students. However we can send you some helpful information about fundraising; some students have raised up to \$2,000 using our fundraising suggestions!

Can I talk with students who have participated in your program? Of course! Please contact us at 503-274-1776 (in Portland), 1-800-274-6007 or info@andeo.org. We will be happy to give you the contact information of previous participants and their parents.

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