



Signature Sabbatical Itinerary: Luxe Ecuador & Galapagos

Introducing LiNGER

We are an independent travel company, specialising in tailor-made sabbatical travel and extended holidays throughout the world.

Whether you are a solo traveller on holiday, a family with children on sabbatical, friends seeking an epic break or a couple celebrating a milestone, we would be thrilled to plan your trip.

LiNGER was born out of a passion for travel and a desire to do a little more to help protect our planet. Our philosophy is to engage you in a richly authentic and contrasting travel experience which balances meaningful, active and altruistic experiences.

Our travellers LiNGER longer, travel responsibly, immerse themselves in the culture, absorb, engage and explore.

Call, e-mail or request a call-back from us. We love to talk about travel and inspire you with our knowledge.

www.LiNGER.co.uk | travel@LiNGER.co.uk

ADVENTURE



AUTHENTIC



RESPONSIBLE



EXCLUSIVE



ETHICAL



Introducing Ecuador

Compact Ecuador packs a punch, with some of the most diverse landscapes and cultures per square footage that South America has to offer. Drive just a couple of hours from lively capital Quito and you can be amongst soaring Andean peaks or shrouded in the mighty Amazon Rainforest, meeting with indigenous communities whose centuries-old traditions remain intact. While the mainland is easy to traverse by road, hop on a 2-hour flight and you can be cruising or island-hopping in the enchanting Galapagos archipelago, home to some of the world's most fearless wildlife and vast numbers of endemic species.

How to Get to Ecuador

You can travel overland from Peru or Columbia as part of a longer South American itinerary.

If you're arriving by plane, you'll likely fly into Quito's Mariscal Sucre airport, though there's also an international airport in Guayaquil, the jumping-off point for the Galapagos Islands. There are no direct flights to Ecuador from the UK; flights go via the US or Europe and take approx. 15-18 hours. Direct flights from the US take approx. 4-13 hours.

From Quito you can take hopper flights around the country, a popular option as road travel is slow, and on a clear day you'll see volcanoes and rainforests below. If you'd prefer to travel overland, go by bus: the *autobús de lujo* (luxury buses) are air conditioned and comfortable.

When & Weather – Ecuador

Ecuador is on the equator, so its climate is fairly stable throughout the year, tropical and humid with temperatures falling at night.

High Season (Dec, Jan, June-early August) is the most popular time to visit, but prices are a lot higher. We'd recommend going in late spring (April and May) and late autumn (late-Aug and Sept) when temperatures are warm and the humidity is lower. Low Season is from October-May, and there's a lot of rain.

Temperatures range between 9°C (48°F) and 30°C (86°F).

Who will Ecuador Appeal To?

The country's breathtaking natural landscapes and superb wildlife are best suited to: Wildlife enthusiasts - Active travellers - Solo travellers - Photographers - Adventure seekers - Beach lovers - Culture vultures - Honeymooners - Families

Accommodation

We work with colonial city hotels, smaller boutique hotels, friendly guesthouses, eco lodges and beach cabanas.

Off The Beaten Path

Climb Cotapaxi, one of the world's highest active volcanoes

Photograph the pretty colonial town of Cuenca, which dates back to 1557.

Visit a clay lick on the Napo River to watch hundreds of colourful parrots lick the rocks to feed on minerals; a stunning natural phenomenon.

Hike through the beautiful, wild Paschocha Reserve, past herds of skittish llamas.

Wildlife

Spy Andean spectacled bears through the mist in the cloud forest.

The Ecuadorian rainforest is home to a wide variety of monkeys, as well as shy jaguars, 3-toed sloths, *kinkajous*, tapirs and beautiful ocelots.

Condors soar over Parque Nacional Cotopaxi at first light every morning, showcasing their vast 3m-wing span.

But if you're coming to Ecuador for wildlife, it's really about the Galapagos Islands.

Ecuador Experiences you shouldn't miss

Horseback riding through the Zuleta Valley

Bargaining for woollen blankets, bright ponchos and woven tapestries in the markets north of Otavalo

Bathing in the Banos hot springs

Introducing the Galapagos Islands

A remarkable collection of islands off the coast of Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands are defined by their haunting volcanic scenery and fearless wildlife, which seems completely unabashed by visitors. Get up close to giant tortoises, sea lions and blue-footed boobies on land, or snorkel alongside sea turtles, rays, penguins and sharks for an unforgettable experience.

This protected archipelago is 97% National Park, with just four inhabited islands and limited visitor numbers to protect the rich and unique ecosystems that exist here. Whether embarking on a cruise or opting for a land-based stay, it's possible to tick off sightings of most of the wildlife species here, both on land and in the water.

How to Get to the Galapagos Islands

The Galapagos Islands are reachable by air. You'll fly into Baltra or Isabela.

When & Weather – Galapagos

The Galapagos Islands are on the equator, so the climate is fairly stable throughout the year, tropical and humid with temperatures falling at night.

From December to May, the water and air temperatures are warmer but there is also a higher chance of rain. From June to November, the Humboldt current brings cold water and colder winds - however it also brings more plankton, attracting fish and birds. Both seasons have their unique benefits.

For travellers that suffer from seasickness, we recommend travelling from December to May to avoid the choppiest waters. Even a land-based stay will likely involve some boat trips.

For families, many cruise ships operate specialist family departures through July and August - child-friendly activities are available and there will be more kids or teens on board to socialise with.

Those keen to increase the chances of spotting specific wildlife species should plan ahead and travel according to nesting seasons - itineraries within the islands

are rigid to manage visitor numbers at each site so advance planning is required.

Land temperatures range between 9°C (48°F) and 30°C (86°F).

For divers, water temperatures range from 21°C (70°F) to 30°C (86°F) between December and May. From June to November they drop to between 16°C (60°F) and 24°C (75°F). You will definitely need a good wetsuit!

Who will the Galapagos Islands Appeal To?

The diverse volcanic landscapes and abundant wildlife are best suited to: Wildlife enthusiasts - Divers - Active travellers - Solo travellers - Photographers - Adventure seekers - Honeymooners - Families

Accommodation

We work with smaller boutique hotels, friendly guesthouses, eco lodges and a selection of small and mid-sized expedition cruising vessels.

Off The Beaten Path

Scuba dive with whale sharks, hammerheads and manta rays in the waters around Darwin and Wolf islands in the Galapagos.

Wildlife

On land, you'll walk past prowling iguanas, scuttling Sally Lightfoot crabs and nesting frigate birds.

You can dive with turtles, and boat past colonies of noisy sea lions and endemic Galapagos penguins. Most famous of all are the blue-footed boobies and giant tortoises.

Galapagos Experiences you shouldn't miss

A visit to the Charles Darwin Research Center to learn about conservation efforts on the islands.

Snorkelling alongside turtles, penguins and white-tipped sharks at Tintoreras.



Life Experiences & Encounters in Ecuador & The Galapagos Islands



Ecuador & Galapagos - Journey Map



Flight Details

Day	Airline & Flight Number	Departure City	Departure Time	Arrival City	Arrival Time	Class	Baggage Allowance	Journey Time
1				QUITO		TBC		
14		SHELL		KUSUTKAU		ECONOMY		
21		KUSUTKAU		SHELL		ECONOMY		
26		QUITO		GUAYAQUIL		ECONOMY		1 HR 40 MINS
29		GUAYAQUIL		BALTRA		ECONOMY		2 HR
36		BALTRA		GUAYAQUIL		ECONOMY		2 HR
38		GUAYAQUIL				TBC		

Your trip in a nutshell

Day 1

Arrive in Quito and transfer to your hacienda in the Andes. Evening at leisure.
Hacienda Zuleta

Day 2 - 3

Enjoy included activities in the hacienda grounds, from horseback riding to hiking
Hacienda Zuleta

Day 4

Travel through El Chota Valley and learn about the history of its communities
Hosteria y Spa Pantavi

Day 5

Continue to your lodge in the heart of an ecological reserve, where moorland and Andean forest meet. *Polylepis Lodge*

Day 6

Hike across moorland and learn about the flora and fauna of the El Angel Ecological Reserve *Polylepis Lodge*

Day 7

E-biking through Andean villages and afternoon craft lesson at a local hacienda
Hotel Otavalo

Day 8

Day at leisure in Otavalo
Hotel Otavalo

Day 9

Drive to Quito, stopping at a rose farm and the 'Middle of the World' monument, which sits on the equator *Hotel Mama Cuchara*

Day 10

Highlights of Quito, visit the home of artist Oswaldo Guayasamin and enjoy a chocolate tasting *Hotel Mama Cuchara*

Day 11

Ecuadorian cookery class with local chef and sunset cable car ride
Hotel Mama Cuchara

Day 12

Drive through the "Avenue of Volcanoes" to Baños, Ecuador's adventure capital. Hike to waterfalls and begin exploring the town *Hacienda Manteles*

Day 13

Hiking, horse riding or bird watching amidst Andean landscapes
Hacienda Manteles

Day 14

Travel to your lodge deep in the Amazon Rainforest and check in for 7 nights
Kapawi Ecolodge

Day 15-20

Included activities in the Amazon, including wildlife-spotting hikes, kayaking, and community visits *Kapawi Ecolodge*

Day 21

Final jungle excursion. Scenic journey to Quilotoa through the Andes
Cabañas Shalala Lodge

Day 22

Hike around the rim of Quilotoa volcanic crater and enjoy the views
Cabañas Shalala Lodge

Day 23

Stop to shop at the colourful Pujili market and continue to your lodge by the Cotopaxi Volcano *Cotopaxi Sanctuary Lodge*

Day 24 - 25

Outdoor adventures in the shadow of Cotopaxi Volcano
Cotopaxi Sanctuary Lodge

Day 26

Fly to Guayaquil & check in at a working hacienda in the tropical lowlands
Hacienda La Danesa

Day 27

Hike through the cloudforest and swim in natural pools. Afternoon to enjoy included farm activities at the hacienda *Hacienda La Danesa*

Your trip in a nutshell

Day 28

Hands-on beekeeping experience and afternoon horseback riding
Hacienda La Danesa

Day 29

Fly to the Galapagos Islands and begin exploring the volcanic landscapes of this wildlife-rich archipelago *Galapagos Safari Camp*

Day 30-32

Hike across unique landscapes and snorkel alongside penguins, sea lions, rays, and sharks as you explore uninhabited islands *Galapagos Safari Camp*

Day 33

Full-day fishing and snorkelling with a local fisherman
Galapagos Safari Camp

Day 34

Hike to a viewpoint and soak in island-scapes before a bike ride to the volcanic beach at Garrapatero for kayaking *Galapagos Safari Camp*

Day 35

Kayaking and snorkelling at Tortuga Bay, with rays, sharks, sea turtles, and other wildlife *Galapagos Safari Camp*

Day 36

Fly to Guayaquil and check-in for a final 2-night stay in mainland Ecuador
Hotel del Parque

Day 37

Full day to explore Guayaquil's museums, parks and churches
Hotel del Parque

Day 38

Depart Ecuador
N/A

Travelling Responsibly

At LiNGER we firmly believe that in travel we can do more to help protect our planet.

We take our responsibilities to the environment, local communities, customers, suppliers, partners and employees very seriously and our intention is to constantly review our policies and strive to make improvements where we can.

We offer the opportunity to Give Back by partaking in a meaningful activity in an area that matters to you or where you may have a skillset.

This could be as simple as a beach clean in Sri Lanka to help protect our oceans or caring for orphaned sloths in a wildlife sanctuary in Costa Rica.

LiNGER longer on a sabbatical and devote time to teaching in a village school in Nicaragua or help with a conservation project researching plant species in the Amazon. LiNGER and Enrich Life through Travel.

Our Responsible Travel Policy can be viewed on our website:

<https://linger.co.uk/responsible-travel/>



The Nitty Gritty

Included

- Accommodation on a double/twin basis
- Daily breakfast
- Other meals as described
- Local English speaking private guides
- Private and shared transfers with air-conditioned vehicles
- Entrance fees for included activities
- Private and small group excursions
- Domestic flights
- National Park fees

Excluded

- International flights
- Visas
- Tips / Gratuities
- Items of a personal nature - minibar, laundry, etc
- Any activity listed as optional
- Early check-in & late check-out at all hotels
- Meals and drinks where not mentioned in the itinerary
- Travel Insurance

Quotation

- From GBP £29,795.00 per person, based on two travelling together

Booking Terms & Conditions:

www.linger.co.uk/terms-and-conditions/

Start Planning

Our experienced team will guide you through a number of ideas based on how you would like to experience Ecuador & Galapagos.

No matter how long you have to travel, we'll guide you through the planning process to ensure a trip is carefully pieced together to suit your interests, pace of travel and budget.

Contact

Email: Travel@linger.co.uk

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Financial Protection

ATOL Protected Holidays

Many of the flights and flight-inclusive holidays are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. But ATOL protection does not apply to all holiday and travel services. Please ask us to confirm what protection may apply to your booking. If you do not receive an ATOL Certificate then the booking will not be ATOL protected. If you do receive an ATOL Certificate but all the parts of your trip are not listed on it, those parts will not be ATOL protected. Please see our booking conditions for information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: www.atol.org.uk/ATOLcertificate

Travel Regulation Insolvency Protection

LiNGER Travel Ltd is a company committed to customer satisfaction and consumer financial protection. We are therefore pleased to announce that, at no extra cost to you, and in accordance with “The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018” all passengers booking with LiNGER Travel Ltd are fully insured for the initial deposit, and subsequently the balance of monies paid as detailed in your booking confirmation form. The policy will also include repatriation if required, arising from the cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of Linger Travel Ltd. This protection has been arranged by means of a Trust Account held with Protected Trust Services.

Full details regarding Financial Protection can be viewed at: <https://linger.co.uk/financial-protection/>

Full details regarding the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 can be viewed at: <https://linger.co.uk/package-travel-regulations/>

Privacy Policy

LiNGER respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal data. This privacy notice will inform you as to how we look after your personal data when you visit our website (regardless of where you visit it from) or when you otherwise provide personal data to us via other means (such as over the telephone) and tell you about your privacy rights and how the law protects you.

Full details regarding our Privacy Policy can be viewed at: <https://linger.co.uk/privacy-policy/>



“Unrivalled, intimate knowledge of destinations way beyond the obvious, with a genuine focus on sustainability”.

Anna Guyer



Contact

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