

# Ecuador Organic Farm & Reforestation

*Assist by working in the organic fruit and vegetable gardens, take care and manage the animals and work in the tree nursery and with the reforestation projects.*

Ecuador is a pocket-sized slice of beautiful South America. Despite its diminutive size, it is bursting with vibrant culture, mesmerising landscapes, exotic tropical wildlife and pristine habitats. It encompasses the all-consuming emerald Amazon, rich in natural resources and home to a wealth of fascinating creatures. Ecuador has a picture-perfect capital painted in pastel colours, alive with cafés, clubs, bars, churches and museums. Markets where friendly locals sell their wares are surrounded by the hustle and bustle of traditional street life. In contrast, the peaceful and serene Andes provide a home for indigenous mountain communities and enigmatic mountain creatures alike. This captivating country contains a culture that is expressed in an abundance of wholesome and delicious cuisine, diverse musical forms and colourful festivals that will enliven your senses. Whilst it is one of South America's tiniest countries, it has everything you could possibly want, including stretches of white sand beaches, expansive plains, steamy jungles and spectacular mountains. All this and more is waiting to be discovered on your spectacular Ecuadorian adventure!

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover a pocket-sized slice of beautiful South America
- Work on an organic farm in the stunning northern Andes
- Immerse yourself in a new & exciting culture

## PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum age of 18 years
- Basic Spanish recommended

## FAST FACTS

<b>Location</b>	Ecuador
<b>Activities</b>	Working in the organic fruit & vegetable gardens Taking care & managing animals Working in the tree nursery Working with the reforestation projects
<b>Transport</b>	Airport pick-up
<b>Accommodation</b>	Shared volunteer house

## WHAT DOES THE PROJECT DO?

Ecuador is a very poor country and fluctuating oil prices, the 1990s Asia crisis, and the effects of the El Niño climate phenomena, which cause considerable damage to the infrastructure and harvests have led to a decline in living standards for much of the population. In 1999, according to the World Bank, 69% of the population live below the poverty line, of these 34% in absolute poverty.

The Frontier-Ecuador Ecuador Project aims to build skills in poor rural and urban communities throughout the country, giving them better chances to succeed in the future. It also aims to foster environmental regeneration by improving facilities for ecotourism.

## **WHAT WILL I BE DOING?**

You will work and learn on an organic farm and reforestation project in the northern Andes. The cultivation of thousands of native trees provides the means for the communities to undertake essential reforestation activities, as well as develop sustainable agriculture projects as alternatives to environmentally destructive agriculture and industrial practices. Reforestation projects assist in the control of erosion, improving water supply and soil quality, and bring important biodiversity back to the region. The reforested areas have the capacity to neutralise or absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide, one of the greenhouse gases contributing to global warming and climate change. This project also operates as an organic farm, cultivating fruit and vegetable and livestock, and testing out and employing methods of sustainable agriculture.

Volunteers are essential to the success of this project. Volunteers assist by working in the organic fruit and vegetable gardens, taking care and managing animals and working in the tree nursery and with the reforestation projects. Whilst undertaking this work, volunteers learn about organic agriculture, agro-forestry, animal management (cows, pigs, llamas, guinea pigs etc.) and the conservation of native forests.

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE?**

You'll fly into Quito where you'll be met by the friendly in-country project staff. After acclimatising and receiving orientation you will be transferred to your project location, 1.5 hours north of Quito in the Andes.

## **WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?**

You will stay in a comfortable shared volunteer house at the farm. The house has basic facilities and is located close to where you will be working.

## **WHAT WILL I BE EATING?**

You will be provided with three meals a day based on freshly harvested organic vegetables grown in the garden. Your diet will consist of a variety of nutritious and delicious local dishes. Vegetarians will delight in the varieties of rice and bean combinations that are available!

## **COSTS**

2 weeks	US\$ 1,195
Extra week	US\$ 345

## DEPARTURE DATES

Monthly (please arrive on the first Monday)

**This project is not available on the following dates in 2019:**

### PUBLIC HOLIDAYS FOR 2019.

The school will be closed on these days:

New Year: 1 January

Carnaval: 4-5 March

Good Friday: 19 April

Labor Day: 1 May

Battle of Pichincha: 24 May

Independence Day: 10 August

Guayaquil Independence Day: 12 October

Day of the Dead: 1 November

Cuenca Independence Day: 03 November

Christmas: 25 December - 01 January the school is closed

## DURATION

You can join this for a minimum of 2 weeks

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

### Before you go

- Pre-departure support
- Travel & medical advice & documentation
- Discounted medical kit
- Free Frontier t-shirt

### In-country

- Accommodation
- Food
- Airport pick-up
- Ground transfer to project site
- Local orientation
- Project training
- In-country emergency support
- 24-hour international HQ backup

## **AIRPORT INFORMATION**

Nearest airport(s): Quito (UIO)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Call us on 020 7613 2422 (UK) / 1 949 336 8178 (US)

Mail us on [info@frontier.ac.uk](mailto:info@frontier.ac.uk)

Check out our social media here:

*Project details were correct at the time this document was generated. Price, dates and other details are subject to change. Please see our website for current details for this project.*