



CATTELEYA MAXIMA TOUR

ECUADOR BIODIVERSE

Ecuador's perfect location has made this country one of the most biodiverse places in the world.

From the coast with its beautiful beaches, which invite you to a beach holiday, it goes up to 4000m high into the Andes. Crossing it, you will reach the Amazon Basin, full of plants and animals, waiting for your discovery. In addition to approximately 1600 species of birds, countless colorful insects and 4,200 orchid species have been described in Ecuador. 16 ethnic groups enrich the trip with an incredible cultural diversity.



ENJOYING NATURE IN ECUADOR

9 DAYS/ 8 NIGHTS

DAY 1

26th nov **GUAYAQUIL - GUALACEO:**

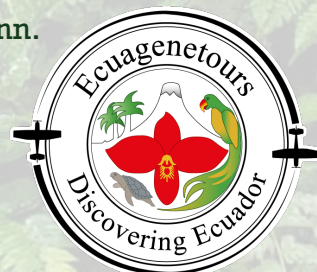
Embark on an exciting journey: Our adventure begins as we head to Gualaceo, home to Ecuagenera's main nursery and species propagation laboratory. On the way, we will pass through the picturesque El Cajas National Park, where a wide variety of flora awaits our appreciation. Before enjoying the majestic mountains, delight your palate with the juiciest and freshest fruits available along the way. Our botanical quest includes captivating species such as Epidendrum, Masdevallia, Lepanthes and Stelis. At the end of the day, we will savor a delicious dinner and rest at the Uzhupud Garden Inn.



DAY 2

27th nov **GUALACEO:**

A botanical and cultural adventure awaits: Today we will embark on an exciting journey to explore the Ecuagenera Gualaceo nursery, where a captivating variety of araceae and orchids awaits our discovery. Here, amidst the lush vegetation, you will witness first-hand our meticulous species preservation and propagation program. After lunch, our expedition continues to Chordeleg. In more recent times, Chordeleg has become renowned for its jewelry industry, particularly for its exquisite gold and silver filigree jewelry. The very name of the town is significant: "Chordeleg" means "waterfall of gold," a nod to its historical relationship with precious metals. As you wander its streets, you'll find skilled artisans and merchants who continue to uphold this rich tradition. Whether it's intricate silver jewelry or other exquisite crafts, you'll find unique souvenirs to treasure. When the day comes to an end, find rest and comfort at the cozy Uzhupud Garden Inn.



DAY 3

28th nov **GUALACEO - EL PANGUI**

Exploring Orchids in the Amazon: From Gualaceo to El Pangui. After a hearty breakfast, our adventure begins as we head into Ecuador's lush Amazon region. Our mission? To search for the exquisite *Phragmipedium besseae*, a rare and captivating orchid species. But that's not all: this region is a veritable treasure trove of floral wonders, as we head southwest, prepare to be enchanted by a wide variety of orchids, such as: *Telipogon*, *Epidendrum*, *Sobralia*, *Oncidium*, *Prosthechea*, *Maxillaria*.



El Pangui: Our destination: When the sun begins to set, we will arrive at El Pangui. As night falls, we will rest surrounded by the sounds of nature: the distant buzzing of insects, the rustling of leaves, and perhaps even the elusive call of a nocturnal bird. We will spend the night in El Pangui.

DAY 4

29th nov **EL PANGUI - ZAMORA:**

Today we will embark on a journey from El Pangui to Zamora, winding through the captivating Cordillera del Condor. This eastern range of the Andes runs along the international border between Ecuador and Peru. As we traverse its rugged terrain, we will encounter a botanical paradise.

Rodriguezia, *Epidendrum*, *Masdevallia* and *Oncidium*: these enchanting orchids will adorn our path. Their delicate petals and vibrant hues add a touch of magic to this high altitude landscape.

At sunset, we will arrive in Zamora, to rest and get ready to continue exploring nature the next day.





DAY 5

30th nov **ZAMORA - CATAMAYO:**

We will leave the lush Amazon region and make our way back to the majestic Andes. Along our journey, we will find a fascinating variety of orchids along the roadside. Look for species such as *Masdevallia*, *Sobralia*, *Eriopsis*, *Maxillaria* and *Prosthechea*. Overnight in the charming town of Catamayo.

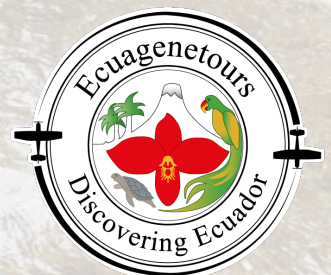
DAY 6

1st dec **CATAMAYO - SOZORANGA - CATAMAYO:**

Today is dedicated to *Cattleya maxima*. This is a stunning orchid species known for its captivating beauty and vibrant colors. Native to South America, especially regions such as Ecuador and Peru, this orchid grows in a variety of habitats, including cloud forests and dry forests.

Cattleya maxima is characterized by its large, showy flowers, which can reach up to 15 centimeters in diameter. We will explore its ideal habitat, where we can discover a multitude of fascinating variations. In addition, we will venture into the dry forest, encountering a diverse range of captivating flowers.

Our day will conclude with an overnight stay in Catamayo.





DAY 7

2nd dec CATAMAYO-GUALACEO

Today, as we journey back to Gualaceo, our route will be adorned with the delicate beauty of roadside orchids. Look out for species such as *Trichoceros*, *Oncidium*, and *Telipogon*. Our night's rest awaits at the charming Uzhupud Garden Inn.

DAY 8

3rd dec GUALACEO - CUENCA:

Today we will visit Cuenca, a city located in the southern highlands of Ecuador, is famous for its rich cultural heritage and natural beauty. Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Cuenca boasts a unique blend of historic architecture, traditional arts and crafts, and breathtaking scenery.

We will spend the night in Uzhupud Garden Inn.



DAY 8

4th dec GUALACEO- GUAYAQUIL:

After breakfast, we will head to the Guayaquil airport. On the way, we will take a detour to visit the fascinating ruins of Ingapirca. These ruins are a testament to the rich history of the Inca and Canary Island civilizations. The site is home to the largest known Inca ruins in Ecuador and features the Temple of the Sun, an elliptical-shaped building built around a large rock. The stones were carefully chiseled and shaped to fit perfectly, and the temple was placed according to their beliefs and knowledge of the cosmos. Researchers have observed that the Temple of the Sun was situated in such a way that on the solstices, at the exact time of day, sunlight fell through the center of the doorway of the small chamber at the top of the temple.



9 DAYS / 8 NIGHTS TOUR

	SINGLE ROOM	DOUBLE ROOM
PRICE PER PERSON	2000	1800

INCLUDES:



Hotel accommodation



Food and non alcoholic beverages (breakfast, lunch and dinner)



Transfer Airport-Hotel-Airport, tour guide.

NOT INCLUDES:

Alcoholic Drinks, Extras not specified here or tips.

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

- PayPal: paypal@ecuagenetours.com (Add 6% fee)

- Bank Transfer

Ecuagenetours Cia. Ltda.

Address: Km2 Via a Cuenca, Gualaceo - Azuay.
01011110

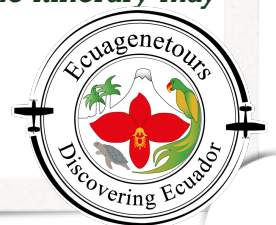
Bank: Banco del Pichincha

Account: 3484459104

Aba Code: 066012867 Swit Code: PICHECEQ

Bank Address: Av. Solano y 12 de Abril, Cuenca -
Azuay

- * *For bookings 50% payment is required, difference can be paid once you arrive. For total refund on your payments, cancellations has to be made at least 3 months before the start of tour, after that we will have to charge the total payment.*
- * *Tour and prices are designed for groups of minimum 5 people. If you would like to personalice it please ask for more information to tours@ecuagenera.com*
- * *The itinerary is subject to change, due to operational or climatic reasons. The itinerary may vary.*



RECCOMENDATIONS:

- All countries (except Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Eritrea, Ethiopia, China, Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Somalia) **do not require a VISA**. A passport with at least 6 months validity is required.
- The local currency is USD and you will find Currency Exchange points at the airports. We recommend you travel with cash and credit card. Travellers checks are not accepted.
- In order to avoid inconvenience during the trip we suggest you bring: waterproof walking shoes or **rubber boots**, rain coats, mosquito repellent and sunscreen, as well as basic medication for general problems such as altitude sickness and stomachache. Bring your personal medication; it could be difficult to find the same here.
- We recommend you to be prepare for the variation of climate. We are going to experience the chill of high altitudes and warmth and humidity of Amazon. The weather in our country is unpredictable; it could be sunny and 5 min later rainy.

IMPORTANT: According to the regulations of the Ministry of Environment of Ecuador, is not allowed to collect or extract seeds, plants, or any biological resource from nature.

