

ECUADOR AND THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS ARE WAITING FOR YOU TO ENJOY



This is one of the few destinations around the world where U.S. citizens can travel at the present time without having to quarantine.

GETTING INTO ECUADOR (last update Sep. 10th 2021)

The National Emergency Operations Committee (COE) approved new guidelines for entering Ecuador by air. Travelers who carry a vaccination certificate, that proves they have received the complete COVID-19 vaccine doses, will be granted border entry without a negative PCR test. Travelers must complete a Health Declaration form

NEW ENTRY RULES FOR THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS (last updated Oct. 26th 2021)

The COE Resolution approved that from **October 26th, 2021**

- All passengers over 2 years of age must present a COVID-19 vaccination card with at least 14 days of validity after completing the vaccination schedule or a negative RT-PCR test result up to 72 hours prior to boarding the flight to Galapagos.
- Antigen tests are no longer accepted.

The tour operator or accommodation safe-passes, which used to be regulated by the Ministry of Tourism, will no longer be required; with the exception of the tour leader safe-pass established in the Tourist Guidance Regulations for the Government's Galapagos Special Council.

TRAVELERS FROM BRAZIL AND INDIA

Travelers arriving from Brazil and India, require a negative RT-PCR or antigen test result, with a maximum validity of 72 hours prior to their arrival to Ecuador. In addition, they must comply with a ten (10) day isolation period either at a residence, or at their choice of accommodation, covering their own expenses. The isolation period will not apply to those arriving from Brazil but presenting a Covid-19 vaccination certificate, with the same requirements mentioned in the above guidelines.

The new guidelines also consider procedures to be followed by people who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 for more than a month, but continue to have a positive result in their PCR tests. These cases, as long as they do not present symptoms, will be granted entry to Ecuador if they present a Medical Certificate guaranteeing they are in good health. This document must be issued in the country of origin.

Regardless of the PCR result travelers carry with them, everyone must go through a sensor that detects temperatures above 37.5° C. Likewise, those who present symptoms related to coronavirus will be evaluated by the Ministry of Public Health personnel to determine if there is a possible contagion and need to perform a rapid antigen test. If it turns out positive, the person must undergo isolation for a period of ten days at home or any other type of chosen accommodation. If it turns out negative, travelers will be able to continue their journey.

WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A PCR TEST UPON ARRIVAL?

You can take a test at the airport. The local government will require you quarantine yourself at a hotel, hostel, motel or any accommodation establishment that is authorized until your negative test arrives – there are labs that can deliver the test within less than 24 hours. With the negative test in hand you must contact the local authorities so you are allowed to resume your travel plans.

For your convenience, you can take a PCR COVID-19 Test at MedicalVIP at the airport in Quito. The cost is \$80 and the results will be ready in 48 to 72 hours.

Here is a shortlist of other local laboratories we can recommend:

Quito:

- **ECUAMERICAN** – Phone: 0995613302 (offers testing in 24 hours and can take the test at your hotel)
- **SISTEMAS MEDICOS DE LA USFQ** – Phone: 0984534943
- **HOSPITAL DE LOS VALLES** – Phone: 0991941758

Guayaquil:

HOSPITAL LUIS VERNAZA – Phone: (04)2560300

PLENISALUD S.A. – Phone: 0987067952

LABORATORIO ALCIVAR / HIPERBARICA – Phone: (04)3711980

For a full list of official labs, please check:

http://www.calidadsalud.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/24-09-2-Privados_compressed.pdf

IMPORTANT ADVICE: Get the Covid PCR test before traveling

If you test positive you will have to keep your quarantine for 14 days and necessary health care will be provided (at your expense), it is important to travel with health insurance (COVID treatment in Ecuador can raise a bill up to \$70000 USD)

We will try to keep this updated, but it is important you monitor official information at:

<https://www.gestionderiesgos.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/PROTOCOLO-PMU-COE-PIVAPSAPO-verion-2.0.pdf>

POST" COVID 19 TRAVELING AROUND ECUADOR (super brief details) :

Ecuador has ended it's state of health emergency starting on September 13th 2020, with two specific restrictions to be restored: freedom of movement and freedom of association.

- National Curfew is lifted after the end of the state of emergency.
- Freedom to move around Ecuador at any time is back in place.
- Business meetings, press conferences and academic reunions of up to 25 people are allowed.

MEASURES THAT ARE MAINTAINED:

- Mandatory use of a mask in public spaces and physical distancing.
- Public and municipal passenger transportation remains with 50% capacity.
- Conventional and executive taxis, mixed transport, tourism transport and light cargo can circulate every day without restrictions of their license plate number. (If renting a car, please ask your rental agent restrictions on private transport for each city).
- Food establishments can serve the public with 50% capacity.
- Activities in archaeological sites, zoos, museums, national parks (except Yasuní National Park), allow entrance of 30% of visitor capacity, for this, each institution must implement a protocol for this purpose best to book a trip in advance for each and ask our travel agent or tour operator.

YOU CAN REVIEW UP TO DATE DETAILS AT:

<https://www.gestionderiesgos.gob.ec/resoluciones-coe/> for specific resolutions for the most up to date information regarding curfew times and other restrictions.

WE CAN HELP PLAN YOUR TRIP TO ECUADOR AND GALAPAGOS

If you feel overwhelmed by all this information and want to enjoy a carefree vacation in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands we can help you. Our travel consultants are on call and up to date on all protocols and restrictions. Use our Ecuador and Galapagos travel planner or Contact us for advice.

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