



Connect.

KPMG US & Canada Ecuador Trip – Proposed Itinerary*

*Please note that this itinerary is subject to change. Details of specific trip inclusions/exclusions listed below with the sample costing. Quito accommodation subject to availability.

Day 1

Depart from North America

Arrival in Quito, Gateway to the Amazon

Welcome to Ecuador! Collect your luggage and make your way through customs to the arrival area of Quito's Mariscal Sucre International Airport, where your WE Facilitators will be waiting to greet you.

Settle into the Wyndham Hotel

Check in to your hotel for a good night's rest before your descent into the world of the Amazon. Enjoy a leisurely evening with dinner at the hotel restaurant or kick your feet up and order room service instead – the night is yours!**

**Depending on your arrival time, dinner or bar snacks are available on the premise. Not included.

Day 2

A Fresh-Baked, Fresh-Squeezed Start to Your Day

Fuel up for the journey ahead with complimentary breakfast.

Descend into the Amazon Basin

Take the road trip of a lifetime as you drive through the Ecuadorian landscapes, crossing through the cloud forest and finally entering the Amazon forest. Get your camera ready; this journey is one for the books!

Jungle Cruise River Expedition

Hop aboard for a quick motor canoe ride up the Rio Napo, an Amazon River tributary situated in one of the most bio-diverse regions on the planet. Feel the cool breeze on your face and watch the vibrantly colored birds fly above as your driver and cultural expert give you an insider's view of Amazon River culture.

Arrive at Minga Lodge

Alli shamushca capay – welcome! Step off the boat at Minga Lodge just in time to take in your first spectacular Amazonian sunset over the Rio Napo. Your lush tropical surroundings will be glowing pink and orange as you snack on local treats like plantain chips and yucca fritters, washed down with a glass of chilled guayusa tea.

Introduction and Orientation

Explore Minga Lodge, tucked into the jungle overlooking the river, and follow a WE team member along winding pathways and raised walkways to your cabin nestled into the natural hillside environment.

Welcome Dinner

Let the aromas of cumin, oregano, garlic and onion be your guide as you make your way back to the dining hall from your cabin, along meandering stone pathways and over a footbridge across the creek. Feast on Western favorites and local delicacies like heart of palm, stinging nettle and fish cooked in palm leaves. During dinner, WE Facilitators will welcome you to the trip, and begin with a short discussion of lifelong learning throughout the trip, and how to engage in the variety of available activities throughout the week.





Home.

Day 3

Optional Morning Hike

Hike into the rainforest with your jungle guide and be amazed by the richness of the fauna and flora that surrounds you. Learn about the traditional uses of different tree, plant, moss and mushroom species you discover along the way.

Breakfast & Country Talk Q&A with In-Country Staff

Rise and shine! While you have breakfast, learn about WE Village's development model and how it works within the unique local environment. During this customized activity, you will have the unique opportunity to have a Q&A session with our in-country staff, learning about their work within our communities, and building up a knowledge base prior to entering your first community activity. Points of discussion with our expert community mobilizers will include their work in:

- Education
- Water
- Health
- Food
- Opportunity

Community Orientation and Service Actions

After breakfast, join your group and a WE team member for a canoe ride to the nearby community upriver where you will help build local infrastructure as part of a WE Village's development project. Gain insight into the community mindset of the Kichwa people as you listen to the inspiring story of how Craig and Marc Kielburger witnessed a spontaneous and powerful community movement – a minga – years ago that inspired the formation of ME to WE, and of course the naming of Minga Lodge. Following this activity, our group will have the opportunity to participate in a 20-minute meet & greet session with a community member to discuss the progress this community has seen over the 5+ years of involvement with WE.

Lunch

Back at the lodge, sit down with new friends on the indoor-outdoor dining terrace and revel in the excitement and anticipation of upcoming opportunities and activities. During lunch, WE Facilitators will ask each participant to share one new piece of knowledge they have learned in during the morning's activities. Participants will share in small groups at their tables.

A Sweet Trip to the Cacao Farm

The production of cacao represents one of the main sources of income for the region's farmers. Meet with a cacao farmer who supplies beans to a French chocolatier, then sweeten your afternoon as you learn how to make chocolate from scratch using cocoa beans back at the lodge. Customize your very own chocolate to suit your taste buds by adding lemongrass, banana or get creative and spice things up with your very own concoction!

Dinner

Share stories and photos with friends over a stunning sunset dinner perched above the Rio Napo. Tune in to your senses and enjoy the warm breeze on your skin, the richness of spices in your mouth, and the emerging sounds of jungle fauna all around.

Kichwa/Spanish 101

After dinner, gather around the bonfire and make smores as you learn key Kichwa phrases that will help to foster your connection with new friends in the community. In this team-builder, you will challenge your senses with blindfolded taste tests and other interactive teaching tools, then partner up and practice your greetings with a fellow traveler. Following your Kichwa and Spanish lesson, our teacher and facilitator will share their story of engaging with WE, and how our work has impacted them.





Day 4

Optional Morning Yoga

Energize and stretch your body for the day ahead as you are guided through yoga poses on the terrace overlooking the Napo river.

A Day in the Life & Water Walk Activity

There's no better way to understand the ways of local people than by walking a mile in their shoes. Roll up your sleeves and join a local farmer to help carry out some of their daily activities, such as planting seeds, fetching water from the river and harvesting crops.

Lunch

Refuel for the afternoon with a freshly prepared lunch and energizing glass of chilled *guayusa* tea.

Education Talk with Scott Baker & Community Leaders

Travel upriver to Bellavista to visit the community and tour the school grounds while taking part in a discussion on education and the impact that literacy has in the surrounding area. Hear from community members on the impact that education can have on your family and future generations.

Dinner

Gather around the dinner table for a family style feast and some down time with the group.

KPMG Case Study

Alongside your colleagues and new friends, participate in a case-study led by Scott Baker to learn about, understand, and propose solutions to an on-going challenge we are seeing in this region of Ecuador.

Day 5

Free Morning

Choose between participating in a rainforest excursion, a traditional cooking class, continuing to work on the build site or relaxing at the lodge.

Optional Rainforest Excursion

Hike deep into primary and secondary rainforest to discover a myriad of flora and fauna, including seven species of toucan, long-tailed Potoos, gargantuan cebo trees and countless species of insects, spiders and snakes.

Optional cooking class: Kichwa in the Kitchen

Join our indigenous Kichwa chefs for a traditional cooking lesson and transform exotic and unusual local ingredients into delicious traditional dishes like fish wrapped in palm leaves. Enjoy the fruits of your labour for dinner!

Lunch

Reconvene with the group for lunch and a bit of down time before carrying on with the remainder of the day. Kick your feet up for a quick afternoon siesta in your hammock or join friends for a game of cards in the shade.

Service work at the build site & community soccer Game

Continue to make progress on the build site alongside your peers, how much can you complete? Make friends with the neighborhood children who will be curiously observing your progress and use this opportunity to practice your Kichwa phrases. While you're in the community, participate in one of the country's most beloved hobbies: soccer!

Dinner

Gather around the dinner table for a family style feast and some down time with the group.

Bonfire & Smoes

After dinner, come together around a bonfire to share stories and sing campfire songs as you enjoy some delicious gooey smores.



Day 6

Optional Morning Yoga

Start your day off with some relating and energizing yoga poses with your fellow early birds.

Shamanic Ceremony and Weapons Training

Let a local shaman guide you and your fellow travelers to a nearby vantage point high above the river for a traditional cleansing ceremony and blessing. For an ethereal and earnestly Amazonian experience, close your eyes and allow the divine smoke to be wafted over you, propelled by large jungle leaves. Next, channel your inner Kichwa hunter and learn firsthand from an indigenous weapons expert how to throw a spear and shoot a blowgun. Test your precision alongside a friend as you both take aim at targets of papayas mounted on sticks.

Lunch

Refuel for the afternoon with a freshly prepared lunch and energizing glass of chilled *guayusa* tea.

Optional activity: Women Artisans Round-Table

In smaller groups, spend 1-on-1 time with our incredible local artisans who have empower themselves, their families, and their communities across the Amazon. These women will join us at the Minga lodge to discuss the work they do to lift themselves out of poverty, the sustainable impacts they are participating in, and provide insight into their day-to-day lives. This is a unique opportunity to learn about our economic empowerment pillar from the source and ask in-depth questions alongside a translator.

Optional service work at the build site

Continue with your tasks on the build site - everything you complete while you are here directly support's hundreds of community members in the surrounding area who are working together to create a better future.

Dinner

Gather around the dinner table for a family style feast and some down time with the group.

Post-Trip Group Engagement Brainstorming

Following dinner, you will have the opportunity to spend 1 hour brainstorming how to stay engaged, as a group, after the conclusion of the trip. Led by a WE Facilitator, you will spend time in small groups and ultimately present your ideas to the group at large.

Day 7

Optional Early Morning Bird Watching

Travel to our 300-hectare forest reserve and look to the trees, where it's not unusual to spot more than 30 species of birds in one hour, including local celebrity species like White hawk and Black hawk eagles.

A Day in the Life

Spend the morning with a community elder and their family, learning about their day-to-day life in the Amazon region, and their relationship with education, water, food, health, and economic opportunity.

Lunch & Post-trip Group Engagement Presentations

Reconvene with the group back at the lodge for lunch and enjoy the view from Minga Lodge as you savor your meal. During lunch, each group will have the opportunity to present their ideas for a post-trip group engagement to be voted on at the conclusion of the trip.

Service work at the build site

Freshly fueled after lunch, finish up your tasks at the build site during your last afternoon in the community.

Farewell Celebration

Celebrate your week of new experiences and meaningful contributions to community development projects alongside friends and team members with one final family-style feast.

Dance Night!

Enjoy a night of traditional Ecuadorian dance performed by the Mondana Dance Group.

Recharge.

Day 8

Depart for Quito

After one last breakfast at the Minga lodge, say goodbye to the steamy Amazon and its amazing people and way of life, as we drive to higher ground back to the city of Quito.

Visit Historic Quito

Explore Old Quito, the first UNESCO World Heritage Site, on a walking tour of the area. While your tour leader enchants you with stories of Old Quito's rich culture and history, feast your eyes on 17th and 18th century Spanish colonial architecture. Often referred to as Latin America's best tourist destination, Ecuador's capital city boasts countless beautiful old churches, striking architecture and winding cobblestone streets with mountains and hills surrounding the downtown proper.

Check into the JW Marriott Hotel

If you are leaving this evening, check into a day room at the JW Marriott to freshen up and rest before your journey home. Otherwise, you will check into your room for your last night in Ecuador.

Dinner at La Hacienda Restaurant

Share one last meal and reflect on your experiences as a group while you savour the flavours of Ecuadorian cuisine or opt for some western-style comfort food.

Drive to Quito's Mariscal Sucre International Airport

Your driver will pick you up from dinner, and drive you straight to the airport for your flight back home.

Depart Quito for Your Flight Home

Hasta luego! Thank you for joining us for a life-changing adventure with the people of the Amazon and making a difference in generations of lives in Ecuador.

Or

Overnight at the JW Marriott Hotel

Return to your hotel for the night and get a full night's sleep before your flight home.

Day 9

Morning Departure to Mariscal Sucre International Airport

Your driver will pick you up and drive you straight to the airport for your flight back home.

Depart Quito for Your Flight Home

Hasta luego! Thank you for joining us for a life-changing adventure with the people of the Amazon and making a difference in generations of lives in Ecuador.