

Volunteer work in Ecuador, with the foundation children of Ecuador.

Foundation children of Ecuador:

First of all we want to comment that we are a foundation and not an organization. The foundation offers help to Ecuadorian projects with the help of volunteers and buying materials. The foundations also start their own projects. Besides that we offer help to the Spanish teachers and host families by receiving volunteers and students. With your arrival as volunteer/student you do not only offer help to a project but also, by taking Spanish classes and living with a family, de local people.

Spanish classes:

You receive classes in the home of a teacher. This is in the south of Quito in a nice and safe neighborhood named Chillogallo. When there are more students there is the possibility you receive classes with two people but on your level. In busy periods there are more teachers working. All teachers have experience in giving Spanish classes and they can all use these incomes for their home situation. When you do not have any knowledge of the Spanish language we advice you to follow the base course of 80 hours. This is divided over 1 month, what means you have 4 hours classes a day. This is quit intensive, and besides that you receive homework. Lessons are from Monday to Friday.

Lodging:

With an Ecuadorian family: all the families live in the South of Quito, close to the house of the teacher. Walking distance about 5 to 20 minutes, and bus distance about 15 minutes.

- The families offer two meals a day.
- The families only speak Spanish, so a good practice.
- Most families have children (young to teenagers, twenties).

We have selected families living outside the commercial part of Quito, to give you a good view of the real Ecuador. Those families do not have much money and can use the extra money by receiving volunteers, so they can handle the daily costs. They offer you a lot of fun and a safe and warm home. In the evaluations from old volunteer's shows that living with a family for the period of one month is more then enough. We advice you for a stay longer than one month with a family, to think with care. A good combination is: during Spanish classes living with a family and after that lodging in an apartment. First of all that you experience living with an Ecuadorian family and you can practice your Spanish. Besides that all families live close by the teacher

The volunteer/student house: A nice apartment that you share with other volunteers or students who are in Ecuador for the same reason as you are. There is a shared kitchen, shower and living room. There are joined bedrooms (2 persons). In this way you get to know other volunteers and students with whom you can do nice things in your time off. The apartment is in the North of Quito (non commercial part) in a nice neighborhood with everything you need nearby. The apartment offers room to 6 volunteers/students.

When the apartment is full then we place you in another apartment with Ecuadorians. Those young Ecuadorians are carefully selected. You get your own room and share the rest of the house.

Attention: When you live with a family that doesn't mean they are obligated to do things with you. So don't be disappointed when they don't. Simply because they don't have the time or the money for it. Be prepared to do things on your own or with other volunteers or students.

Volunteer work:

Within the volunteering there are a lot of possibilities. All the projects are carefully selected and very happy with your help. The foundation supports other foundations/projects in

Ecuador and starts own projects. When you do volunteer work at one of the projects this project, of course, is supported by our foundation. Once in a while we check what is necessary at each project to provide the projects of materials. But we want to keep it small so we can show that with little we can do a lot in Ecuador. The help of volunteers is very welcome because we can give so much more attention to the children who really need it.

For more project information we advice you to check our website:

www.kinderenvanecuador.nl – www.kinderenvanecuador.com.

See projects.

The biggest task of a volunteer is giving attention to the children.

But that everyone can do or not? Besides that you are busy playing, organizing activities and helping the local workers. Never expect too much about the work you are going to do. In Ecuador it is very different then what you are used to and not everyting is taken very serious. You need to be flexible and be able to adapt yourself to the situation of the project of your choice. At all projects you work very independent. Often you wont find the person in charge . Melanie will tell you what your duties are and shows you around at your project. From there one you do it all yourself.

The work can be hard emotional sometimes. A lot of times you see things that are not normal. Important to know is that you can not change a lot for the children, therefore you need a lot more time. But in the time you work with the children you can teach them en give them something they will carry on for the rest of their lives. You can show them what can be different and give them positive attention. Know your work is valuable en hopefully you felt you made a difference.

The contact person in Ecuador is Melanie and she is always there to listen and talk. She keeps in touch with you to see how you are doing. Also your family can always get in contact with her if they have questions or in an emergency.

Travel time:

Traveling from lodging to project is sometimes a lot of time traveling. Quito is a big city long stretched from South to North. From the apartment to the projects is about 30 to 50 minutes of traveling (depends on the project). That's why we advice you to choose to stay with a family during Spanish classes (families and teacher = south-Quito) and then change to apartment (apartment and projects = North-Quito). But be prepared because the traveling makes your day harder.

Costs: (for the right price, fill in the form on the website)

This depends on your plans and the duration! The foundation intervenes between you and the family, project and teacher. Good to know is that:

- The selected families are very nice and everything is taken well care off in the house. The financial situation is not stable and therefore we select families who really need it.
- All the teachers are experienced. Because a lot of unemployment we choose to work with teachers who do not have a steady job.
- You in this way you deliver a positive contribution to an Ecuadorian family and teacher.

The money you pay goes to:

- The family (incl. 2 meals) or the volunteer/student house (excl. Meals),
- Spanish teacher
- Intermediation costs,

- Project costs

We take care off:

- A nice project to work on
- Guidance during your stay
- Airport Pick-up in Quito
- City tour
- Information about traveling in Ecuador etc.

Exclusive:

- Plain ticket
- Vaccination costs
- Meals in the apartment
- Travel insurance
- Excursions
- Travel money to and from work

Contact person in Ecuador:

Melanie is the contact person of the foundation in Ecuador en receives you as a volunteer or student on the airport in Quito. She or a student, who already stays in Ecuador longer time, will show you around Quito the first day. You can always call when necessary. We want to let you know that it is your own duty to make your time in Ecuador as nice as possible. Your experience depends on you and not on other persons. Melanie can and will guide you through nice and difficult times.

If you have more questions about anything please contact me:

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