

ECUADOR VOLCANOES

CAYAMBE 18,996' | COTOPAXI 19,347' | +CHIMBORAZO 20,561'



Top of Cayambe (photo: Romulo Cardenas)

CLIMB THE ECUADOR VOLCANOES WITH IMG

IMG has been leading expeditions to Ecuador since the early 80's and the contacts and relationships we've built over the years make this program unique! Our Classic program includes ascents of Cayambe and Cotopaxi, and for the interested and capable climber, we offer a summit attempt of Chimborazo as an optional 3-day extension.

On our 12-day Camaybe & Cotopaxi trip, we will try to sample as much of this beautiful country as possible! Our enhanced Ecuador program offers luxury hotels, haciendas and restaurants. Your journey is enriched exploring Quito before and after our ascents, visiting cathedrals and markets and sampling local cuisine. We will also sightsee the famous Indigenous market in Otavalo while spending time with local long-time friends of IMG, and your efforts on Cayambe will be rewarded with a night at the famous Papallacta hot springs! Our goal is to make this trip so much more than just a mountaineering expedition!

THE CLIMBS

Our acclimatization schedule includes two mountains. We hike Fuya Fuya (13,986') and Imbabura (15,190') prior to our Cayambe attempt. Additionally, we do a basic technique review on the slopes of Cayambe and spend two nights at the Oleas-Ruales-Berge Refuge prior to our climb. After our summit bid we will drive to the jungle town of Papallacta, where we can soak in the hot springs for which this town is famous.

DATES & PRICES

Cayambe & Cotopaxi \$4600

Oct 30 – Nov 10, 2025

Add Single Supplement \$300 (in hotels as available)

+Add Chimborazo \$1600

Nov 11 - 14, 2025

We offer a modified itinerary for your accompanying, non-climbing spouse, contact our office for details.

PREREQUISITES

Previous mountaineering experience including ice axe arrest, cramponing and rope team travel are required.

QUICK LINKS

[Ecuador General Information](#)

[Program Itinerary](#)

[Gear List](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

REGISTER

- [IMG Application Package](#)
- Application Fee \$1500
- Passport copy

FEE SCHEDULE

Non-refundable application fee is due at registration and applies to program fees. **Balance of all fees are due 120 days prior to trip departure.** Please refer to the application package for payment instructions. Program fees are quoted in US dollars. All fees and payments are non-refundable and non-transferable. Payments must be received by IMG on or before the due dates.

CONTACT US

(360) 569-2609

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Cotopaxi is next, which may just be the most picturesque volcano in the world. The team will climb from the José F. Ribas Refuge located at 15,973'. After climbing Cotopaxi, we spend a night at the hacienda of La Cienega. We wrap up the trip with lunch, historic tours including Inca Ruins followed by an early team dinner before departure. Those staying on for the Chimborazo Extension will travel to Chimborazo to climb, then enjoy more hot springs and local food at Baños.

THE GUIDES An IMG Senior Guide leads each of these programs and is joined by some of the finest and most experienced local Ecuadorian guides.

THE ITINERARY This itinerary is subject to change due to weather and conditions, tour availability, etc.

Day	Date	Classic Cayambe & Cotopaxi Itinerary
1	Thursday, October 30, 2025	Depart home for flights to Quito. Most flights arrive at Quito just before midnight (Day 1) or just after midnight (Day 2). Hotel in Quito.
2	Friday, October 31, 2025	Morning gear checks followed by a hike above Quito via the Teleferico (Gondola). Afternoon will be spent seeing famous churches, the Mindalae Museum and other sights in Old Town Quito, continue to Otavalo. Hotel in Quito.
3	Saturday, November 1, 2025	Early morning departure from Quito. We will visit the famous indigenous Otavalo Market, lunch in Otavalo. Continue to Hacienda Pinsaqui to check in and drop off our belongings, then afternoon visit to Lake Cuicocha with a short hike along the lake. Overnight at the historic Hacienda Pinsaqui.
4	Sunday, November 2, 2025	After breakfast at hotel, hike to the top of Fuya Fuya (13,986'). On the way to cabañas San Clemente, visit the local indigenous cemetery during festive "Día de los Muertos" celebration. Overnight in San Clemente.
5	Monday, November 3, 2025	Early morning to hike and scramble to the summit of Imbabura (15,109'). Spend the night at Cabañas Cayambe where we will sort our gear and pack for Cayambe.
6	Tuesday, November 4, 2025	Drive to the Oleas-Ruales-Berge Hut (15,092') on Cayambe. The group will spend the afternoon relaxing at the hut and discuss topics including high altitude and expedition climbing.
7	Wednesday, November 5, 2025	Training day on the lower slopes of Cayambe. Review to include basic cramponing, proper use of the ice axe and roped travel. Second night spent at the hut.
8	Thursday, November 6, 2025	Summit attempt of Cayambe (18,997'). Return to the hut, pack gear and transfer to Papallacta for the night at the famed hot springs and hotel.
9	Friday, November 7, 2025	A nice recovery day spent visiting old historic haciendas, tasting Ecuadorian food and fruits at San Cuco and taking photos on the way to Hacienda los Mortiños (just in front of Cotopaxi volcano). Visit Guango (hummingbird observation), visit hacienda Las Herrerias. We'll meet Jorge Anhalzer, famed Ecuadorian explorer, climber, photographer, journalist, ultra-light pilot and old friend who occasionally flies over the top of the mountains when we are climbing. Nice views of the mountain, perfect altitude location before climbing Cotopaxi, excellent food and perfect resting place.
10	Saturday, November 8, 2025	After breakfast, we start preparing our staff for climbing Cotopaxi. Lunch at noon followed by a 20-minute drive to the Cotopaxi parking area, (15,092'). From here we take about 40-minute hike to the hut where we will serve dinner around 6 pm, then go to our bunks to rest.
11	Sunday, November 9, 2025	Midnight wake up, climbers enjoy hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate) before starting the summit attempt of Cotopaxi (19,347'). It takes us around 7 hours up and 3-4 hours down. Next, we'll head to another incredible hacienda, La Cienega to overnight.
12	Monday, November 10, 2025	We'll visit some Indian painters and have lunch in San Agustin amongst the historic ruins built at least 600 years ago by the Inca. Visit to old Hacienda Tilipulo, tour a flower plantation and finish with an early team dinner at Inca Hacienda. Those traveling home will depart for the airport in the afternoon while those climbing Chimborazo will spend another night at the hacienda in La Cienega. For those headed home, any flight after 8pm of Day 12 will work.

Day	Date	Chimborazo Extension Itinerary
13	Tuesday, November 11, 2025	Travel day to Chimborazo. Depending on the weather and conditions, we may stay at the Carrel Refuge (16,000ft) at the end of the road, or we climb to high camp for the night (17,400ft).
14	Wednesday, November 12, 2025	Summit attempt on Chimborazo (20,561') if weather allows. Long day of climbing followed by travel to Baños for famous hot springs and nice food.
15	Thursday, November 13, 2025	Contingency summit day for Chimborazo with travel back to Quito in the afternoon. If we summit on this day, then we will go straight from Chimborazo to Quito and be back in time for flights after midnight.
16	Friday, November 14, 2025	Travel day home. Any flight after midnight on Day 15 will work well.

THE DEAL: Here is what is included and not included in your land cost fee.

Included

- IMG Leadership & local guides/cultural expert
- Group climbing equipment
- Double occupancy in hotel & haciendas for dates indicated in itinerary
- Shared accommodations in refugios and in tents while climbing
- Group transportation in-country as indicated in itinerary
- All meals for the trip during the published itinerary except for snacks while climbing
- Tours and sightseeing described in itinerary
- Permit fees and park entrance fees
- Papallacta hot springs
- Tip pool contribution for local guides and staff

Not Included

- International airfare/tax/baggage fee
- Transportation to/from airport
- Hotel accommodations after program and early arrivals
- Single supplement accommodations in hotels/haciendas
- Snacks while climbing, meals before/after program
- Beverages and alcoholic drinks, and personal sundries
- Personal gear/climbing equipment (rentals not available)
- Required Travel Insurance: evacuation, hospital or medical costs
- Covid tests (if required for travel), any Covid-related expense resulting in delays or quarantine
- Optional but customary IMG guide gratuities (pay direct to guide, USD cash)

THE ODDS & ENDS:

Single Supplement

Accommodation is double occupancy. If you would like a single room in the hotels and haciendas as stated in the itinerary, this is available for an additional \$300. Single accommodation may not always be available and are not available in the huts or refugios. If we cannot pair you with a roommate, you will be charged the single supplement fee.

Travel Insurance

Emergency evacuation coverage and emergency medical expense coverage are required for International Programs. IMG strongly recommends the addition of trip cancellation/interruption coverage due to the IMG refund policy. The information can be found on our [website](#).

Flights

Flights typically arrive just before midnight on Day 1 of the itinerary, or very early morning on Day 2. We encourage you to book your flights early if possible. For best service and support, we recommend that you work with a knowledgeable travel agent that can assist you quickly should you need help while traveling.

Passport & Visa

Your passport must have at least 6 months validity at time of entry to Ecuador and one full page required for entry stamp. Currently no visa is required to enter Ecuador for visits less than 90 days. Familiarize yourself with Travel Advisories and

entry requirements available on the U.S. State Department website.

Immunizations + Covid

Participants are required to comply with the Covid-19 vaccination and documentation requirements of the destination country or area. For the most up to date information on Covid-19 vaccination requirements and any other immunization requirements, visit the website of your destination country embassy in the USA, US Embassy website for your destination country, the CDC, and US State Dept Travel pages. Requirements are subject to change. Currently Ecuador has no Covid-related entry requirements for US citizens.

QUESTIONS:

[Email](#) us or call (360) 569-2609