

## Dirt Bike Tour of Quito

The most complete tour of the city



### Overview:

- **Time required:** minimum 5 hours / maximum 24 hours (*at your own pace*)
- **Dual Sport Adventure:** 25% unpaved road / 75% paved road
- **Total Distance Covered:** 81 miles / 131 kilometers
- **Elevation changes:** from 8500 feet (2900 meters) to 15,000 feet (4500 meters)
- **Highlights:** GuaGua Pichincha Volcano, El Panecillo, Quito's Historic Centre, Guapulo, Guayasamin Museum, Inti-nan Solar (equator) Museum.
- **Departures:** Daily - *anytime 10 am - 6 pm*

### Description:

This is the most complete tour of Quito you can do and you will do it on your own. We provide you with the dual-purpose (dirt/street) bike of your choice equipped with a pre-programmed GPS. You just follow the GPS instructions as it takes you to the most amazing parts of Quito. The tour starts by taking you to the historic colonial centre of Quito, the world's first UNESCO world heritage site. Then you will rise up to 15,000 feet in altitude, climbing a dirt road to the Gua Gua Pichincha Volcano for some mind-blowing views of the city. Then you will ride to the middle of the world and visit the Intinan museum at the equator to play with the effects of gravity. Then you will visit Quito's best art museum and Quito's offbeat artistic neighborhood of Guapulo. The tour takes a minimum of about 5 hours but you can stop and start when you want. You will have a full 24 hours to complete the tour. There is no funner or more complete tour of Quito!



You will start the tour in our offices, conveniently located in the Mariscal near many hotels and shops. We will outfit you with the bike of your choice equipped with a Garmin GPS with a pre-programmed route. We will give you a briefing on the driving styles and rules of the road in Quito, both written and unwritten.

The first part of the tour will take you to the colonial center of Quito, which was the world's first UNESCO world heritage site. You will get to ride around the traffic of the old town, able to see much more of the city in less time than any bus or taxi. You will see the Plaza Grande, Presidential Palace, San Francisco Plaza, Church of the Merced and the beautiful Calle Ronda. Then you will head up the cobblestone road to the winged Madonna that overlooks the city called "el Panecillo" and you will get some great views of the colonial city below.



Then you will ride to the "Cerro Unguï" Park - a beautiful park on a steep hill that overlooks the city. Then head out on the road behind the park that takes you through some breathtaking country landscapes - with no suburban sprawl and just pastures and farms, you won't believe you were just in Quito a few minutes ago. You'll continue a few miles on this beautiful back road and then pass through the small town of Lloa and then begin climbing the footholds of the Gua Gua Pichincha volcano. The Gua Gua peak is the highest peak of the Pichincha volcano at 15,696 feet/. Beware! This is an active volcano. It last erupted in 1999, covering Quito with a think layer of ash. It could go off again at any time.



Your ride will take you close to the peak of the volcano, to an elevation of 15,000 feet, giving

you incredible vistas of the surrounding country and the city far below. Be sure to bring an extra layer of clothing because it can get chilly, especially if the sun goes behind the clouds.



The next stop will be in the middle of the world. The Intiñan museum is situated directly on the Equator. Intiñan means "path of the sun" in Quechua, a native language of Ecuador. Take a tour of this magical site, a place that the indigenous peoples have revered for thousands of years. You will learn how the ancient people came to understand that this was the center of the world, centuries before "modern" geography or GPS devices. You can have a chance to play with gravity here and perform some experiments to learn about the Coriolis effect caused by the Earth's rotation. Directly on the red line of the equator you will see water go either clockwise or counter-clockwise down a drain, depending on which side of the equator you are on. You will also get to know how the indigenous populations of Ecuador live and visit some typical indigenous homes. After the visit at the Intiñan museum, you will be officially out of the Quito metropolitan region and riding in the Northern Hemisphere. Stop to view the beautiful Pululahua Crater Geobotanical reserve. This crater was formed by a volcano that erupted 2500 years ago.

Then you will head back into the city and stop at the [Fundacion Guayasamin](#), which is one of Quito's best art museums. Take some time to enjoy the exhibits of some of Quito's best contemporary artists. Then you will head down a steep cobblestone path on the eastern cliffs of Quito, and into the bohemian village of Guapulo. Here you will see a statue of Francisco de Orellana, who left Quito on foot towards the Amazon in search of the fountain of youth and cinnamon. Guapulo was his first stop on his way out of the city. Guapulo is known for its great restaurants, bars and art galleries and for its magnificent church that overlooks the Cumbaya

valley below.

You'll head back up the cobblestone switchbacks and return the bike to our shop, with a complete view of Quito that you can only get on a dirt bike!

### **Recommended Bikes and Pricing (24 hour rental with unlimited mileage + GPS Tour )**

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- On a Yamaha XT250: \$110
- On a Suzuki DR650: \$150
- On a Suzuki V-Strom 650: \$170
- On a BMW G650 GS: \$180
- On a Yamaha Ténéré XT660: \$200
- On a KTM 690 Enduro R: \$210
- On a Husqvarna 701 Enduro \$210
- On a BMW F700 GS: \$200
- On a Triumph Tiger 800XT \$210
- On a BMW F800GS: \$210
- On a Honda Africa Twin: \$220
- On a KTM 1050 Adventure: \$240
- In a Volkswagen Biturbo Diesel 4X4 Pickup Truck: \$250
- In a Jeep Wrangler Rubicon 4x4: \$280
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Passenger Pillion Charge: **Free! (bring a friend!)**

**\*\*NO TAX FOR TOURISTS TO ECUADOR\*\***