



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

### **Mandatory requirements to entry Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands:**

**As of December 01st, 2021**, a negative RT-PCR test and the Vaccination Card are mandatory upon entering Ecuadorian territory, there are no exceptions, according to the following detail:

All travelers over 16 years of age entering the country must present the vaccination card against COVID-19 with at least 14 days of validity after completing the scheme and the negative result of the qualitative real-time RT-PCR test carried out until 72 hours prior to embarking on your flight to Ecuador

- Children between 2 and 16 years of age, must present a negative RTPCR qualitative test result performed up to 72 hours prior to embarking on your flight to Ecuador.
- Prohibition of entry to the national territory to any person whose point of origin, stopover or transit is South Africa, Namibia, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Eswatini, Mozambique and Egypt.
- In case the passenger presents symptoms compatible with COVID-19, he/she should report it by calling 171 of the Ministry of Public Health for follow-up and management.
- All passengers arriving in Ecuador must report to the Ministry of Public Health the presence or absence of symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 in themselves or in their direct contacts by any means of communication.
- Any passenger entering Ecuador who presents symptoms related to COVID-19, (thermal rise, cough, general malaise, loss of smell, loss of taste, among others), regardless of the result of the RT-PCR test, will be evaluated by the personnel of the Ministry of Public Health.



If it is determined to be a "suspected case", a rapid antigen test (nasopharyngeal swab) will be performed, if positive, ten (10) days of isolation should be carried out after the date of sampling at home or at any place of accommodation of the traveler's choice and at the traveler's expense. For follow-up, he/she shall report contacts. This information should be included in the Traveler's Health Declaration. In the event that the rapid antigen test is negative, the traveler should not perform isolation, but should report symptoms suggestive of COVID-19.

## **DISCLAIMERS**

- The only type of test authorized for entry into the country is the qualitative real-time RT-PCR test, which must be submitted regardless of the length of stay in Ecuador.
- Any person who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 and who after one month continues to obtain a positive result in the RT-PCR test, must present a medical certificate issued in the country of origin that certifies that he/she is not in the contagious phase for entry into Ecuador, as long as he/she has no symptoms.
- For national tourists: all tests for detection of COVID-19 must be performed in laboratories authorized as RT-PCR processors, sample taking and COVID-19 rapid tests by the Agency for Quality Assurance of Health Services and Prepaid Medicine - ACESS. ([http://www.calidadsalud.gob.ec/laboratorios- authorized/](http://www.calidadsalud.gob.ec/laboratorios-authorized/))
- For foreign tourists: testing for COVID-19 should be performed in certified laboratories in each country of origin.

## **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](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.



## GETTING INTO THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

YES. You can visit the Galapagos Islands without going into quarantine.

Regardless of where you are from it is possible to enter without a quarantine if you comply with the COVID19 travel restrictions mentioned above:

Identity document (identity card or passport)

Roundtrip air ticket

Traffic control card issued by the Governing Council of the Special Galapagos Regime (You can get it online at least 24 hours before your flight). Here is the official form to be filled:

[https://siiws.gobiernogalapagos.gob.ec/siicgg\\_web/](https://siiws.gobiernogalapagos.gob.ec/siicgg_web/)

Traveler's Health Declaration Form to identify the places that will be in your stay. (This is given to you during your flight).

For foreign nationals, compulsory health insurance is mandatory.

Here is a short video of a traveler entering the Galapagos Islands following all the COVID Protocols:

[https://youtu.be/kB8Sp\\_1FBSM](https://youtu.be/kB8Sp_1FBSM)

Disclosure: We try to keep this page up to date, but you should always double check official information at the Special Regimen of the Galapagos Government Council, Ministry of Tourism, and the Ministry of Public Health:

<https://www.gobiernogalapagos.gob.ec/wp-content/plugins/download-monitor/download.php?id=6624&force=0>

**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.

<https://ec.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information-ecu-2/>

## 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.

### CONTACT US

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