



Travellers Worldwide is a leading International Provider of
Volunteering Programmes, Work Experience Internships
and Cultural Courses Abroad

ECUADOR



VOLUNTARY WORK WITH STREET KIDS IN QUITO

Work with a recently formed NGO that was founded by two psychologists who want to help children, youth and adults living on the streets of Quito. The main objective of this project is to help people in desperate situations, by giving them a safe environment to eat, shower, relax, meet peers, make friends and learn new skills in.

This project is incredibly rewarding. The street children are crying out for love and attention. The assistance that you give by volunteering on this project is also invaluable as they severely lack funds.

Thank you for your interest in volunteering on this Project. Below is a description of what you can do and expect. You can volunteer whether you're taking a gap year, on a career break, retired, or on a holiday with a purpose. No matter what your age or experience, we look forward to welcoming you to the team!

WHAT DO YOU GET?

SELF-DEVELOPMENT:

- New skills, more confidence, a greater understanding of a different culture, invaluable personal and professional development.
- The enormous satisfaction of helping disadvantaged children and knowing that you made a difference to them.
- An entry on your CV or résumé that will put you head and shoulders above most others in the job market.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

- Your safety is our top priority. We risk-assess all destination countries, projects, accommodation and more to ensure that they are stable and safe.
- We have experienced local staff with 24/7 back-up and support who are there to assist you and look after you, starting with an in-depth induction on your arrival.

AN ADVENTURE!

- An exciting, never-to-be-forgotten adventure into the fascinating culture of Ecuador, and best of all ... **an unforgettable experience!**

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Prices: From £650 excluding flights. See our [Full Price List Online](#)

Duration: From 1 week to 12 weeks subject to visa requirements

Start Dates: Availability all year round – you choose your start and finish dates.

You should ideally arrive at the weekend, between 8.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m.

Requirements: Minimum age 17, no qualifications necessary (just a good dose of enthusiasm!). You'll need a little Spanish to do this project, but if you have no knowledge of Spanish at all, you can combine your project with a 1-week intensive Spanish Course in Quito prior to starting your project.

What's Included:

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| ▶ Arranging your Programme, | ▶ Full pre-departure support and assistance, |
| ▶ Payment Protection insurance | ▶ Accommodation |
| ▶ 24-hr emergency support. | ▶ Transfer to your accommodation |
| ▶ Meeting you at the nearest airport | ▶ Local in-country team support and backup |
| ▶ Certificate of Completion | ▶ Weekly Salsa Class and drink in Quito |

What Not Included: Flights, Insurance, Cost of Visas (if a visa is required), Food (unless living with a host family, when food is provided Monday to Friday), Return transfer to airport.

SUMMARY

PROJECT OVERVIEW

WORK CONTENT

You'll work with a not for profit NGO that specialises in the investigation, prevention, attention and treatment of the population that live in extreme marginal situations. It is their belief that a child is born good, but society corrupts them. They strive to reverse this trend by offering a safe and secure environment in which they can relax and feel at home. The street children also have the chance to meet others in their situation and learn skills that will help them turn their backs on the life of poverty and deprivation that they've been accustomed to by living on the streets.

The NGO works with Children, Adolescents, Youth of the Streets and Street workers. These are the CAYSaS. The CAYSaS are found on the streets in urban areas. They are faced with problems such as: working and living on the streets, contact with their families and lack of education, risk of permanent and total exclusion from local communities.

The children and young adults are at a very high risk of being totally excluded from local communities as a large number turn to solvent abuse and drugs to escape their problems, which can lead to a life of crime and violence to pay for these habits. Most of the children on the projects sell candy on the streets to support their most basic expenses. The project has created a carpentry workshop and various training courses to teach the youth and adults, new skills that will improve their quality of life.

The **key areas** that the NGO offer help with, are:

- Giving them attention, treatment and refuge. The treatment is given for behavioural problems, education problems and (drug) addiction.
- When CAYSaS are in the process of moving to the street the NGO tries to prevent this by offering other options.
- Help with strengthening of character, pedagogical recuperation, and returning to school.
- Promoting suitable use of their free time.
- Education on sexual orientation, family planning, prevention of STDs and health education.
- Establishing the reintroduction of family, social life and work into the children's lives.
- Younger children are sent to school, with the help of sponsors.
- Older children are offered opportunities to learn skills such as carpentry to help themselves.



YOUR WORK

You will mainly work as an assistant. The children will really appreciate any attention you give them! Some of the tasks that you may participate in, will include:

- Helping the children with their homework
- Helping them in the carpentry workshop
- Helping in the kitchen
- Visiting the schools
- Playing with the children
- Preparing activities for the children (sports, outings to the theatre, museums, the zoo, teaching the children songs, role play games etc.)

The project has also had a new house donated to them. If you wish to, there may be the chance to really get your hands dirty and help finish the painting and decorating for this house so that it can be put to use more quickly!



This project is extremely rewarding and your help is greatly appreciated. If you have any special talents the children would love you to share them or teach them! However, please be aware that it is emotionally draining and requires strong characters to volunteer here. You must be incredibly self-motivated and independent and must not be afraid, although it will seem daunting at first. You must be prepared for what you will be faced with - there will be dirt (these children live on the streets!), the children lack education so you must be very patient and many of them have deep-seated emotional issues, nevertheless you must remember that this NGO is doing phenomenal work helping these children overcome the hardships that they have been dealt in life. YOU can play an important part in that!

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:

The exact dates of the school holidays in Ecuador are usually only announced a few months before the holidays start. However, please see below for approximate dates of the school holidays:

- Summer Holiday – beginning of July to beginning of September
- Christmas Holiday – 24th, 25th and 31st December only
- Spring Holiday – Beginning of February to 3rd week of February

SPANISH LESSONS:

If you have no previous knowledge of Spanish, you can include 2 weeks of Spanish lessons at a well-established Spanish school in Quito. If you choose this option...

- You'll have 4 hours of group Spanish classes in the morning during the first week of your placement, and will work at the project in the afternoon.
- For the second week of your project you will have 2 hours of private Spanish lessons.

If you'd like to, we can arrange for you to continue taking Spanish classes once your two weeks of lessons have been completed (please see the prices page for the supplemental cost for this).

All the teachers at the school have taught Spanish for 8 or more years and between them they have developed a great many resources to make the lessons lively and fun. They also periodically organise interesting and enjoyable activities in order to introduce the Ecuadorian and Latin culture to their students - most recently they've been cooking Ecuadorian dishes in classes! It's a great, fun way to learn!

“Overall I had an incredible nine weeks in Ecuador. I loved working with children there and learning about how the foundation started and the problems they currently face. I am really pleased with the improvement in my Spanish.”

Lucy Carmichael

ACCOMMODATION

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You'll either stay in a house with other volunteers, in a privately run hostel, or with a host family depending on your preferences/availability. Staying with a host family or in the hostel does mean a small supplementary fee - please see the prices page for details of this.

The house is located in a tourist area, 'La Mariscal', near to where all Spanish lessons are held and where there is plenty of nightlife, restaurants and internet cafes. The house has 7 rooms and accommodates 13. There is a large, fully equipped kitchen, a TV room with a DVD player, wireless internet, 2 safety boxes and a garden with hammocks and a BBQ area. All bathrooms have hot water and there is a cleaning lady 5 days a week.

The hostel is located in the same area, just a 5 minute walk from the house. The cosy backpackers hostel has double rooms with private bathrooms and a small restaurant.



FOOD

Food is not included in this project (unless you choose to live with a host family, when food is provided on Mondays to Fridays).

Accommodation with host families means that you get to eat, sleep, work, socialise and generally live like an Ecuadorian! Many of our volunteers remain friends with their host families long after they leave Ecuador and in some cases they return to the country later especially to visit their family.

Whichever accommodation you choose, you're sure to enjoy a great stay in Quito!

WHY TRAVELLERS WORLDWIDE?

- Over 20 years' experience of sending thousands of participants overseas, plus the largest variety of flexible projects that are value for money!
- Accredited projects helps appeal to future employers
- Excellent support!
- Your own dedicated Project Co-ordinator to answer all questions before, during and after your trip of a lifetime!
- Detailed information on your project and country and suggestions, safety guide, tips and checklists, via our EXTRANET, available from anywhere, 24/7.
- 24/7 emergency helpline for you and your family
- Free pick up from the nearest airport.

"The trip was an amazing time and has made me eager to want to travel again in the future with Travellers."

Abby Poar

"I would definitely recommend Travellers Volunteering to anybody that wants a challenge and is ready to get stuck in."

Lizzie Faithfull

HOW YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

By joining a Travellers Program you enable us to keep donating money to worthwhile projects around the world; from clothing and feeding school children, building playgrounds or funding vital conservation research - your participation makes these donations possible. Donations to **Bridge the Gap Foundation**. This Foundation was set up by us to donate directly to particularly worthwhile and necessary projects for children and animals around the world, and partners with other NGO's to raise match-funding for worthy projects.

The price of this project is a reflection of the following costs:

- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Meeting you at the airport
- ✓ Transport to and from your project
- ✓ Local in-country team support and backup
- ✓ 24hr emergency helpline
- ✓ Full pre-departure support
- ✓ Weekly Salsa Class and drink in Quito
- ✓ Marketing (brochures, website design and maintenance, attending careers fairs, advertising, website listings and presentations)
- ✓ Project Research/Site Inspection
- ✓ Staff Training/Equipment
- ✓ UK administration
- ✓ Donations to worthwhile project

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Got any questions? Please email us: info@travellersworldwide.com

Once you have applied for a placement, we'll contact you and send you our Welcome Pack. You'll also receive Log-on details and password for our Volunteer Extranet where you'll have access to all the documentation and information which we've put together to facilitate preparations for your adventure!

Your Project Co-ordinator for your country will liaise with you throughout the arrangements process, as well as while you're on your placement and on your return home. The documents you'll have access to also include a Country Factfile, Safety Guide and any manuals that may assist you on your particular programme (for example, Teaching Guide, Sports Manuals, Enrichment Suggestions for Animal Care, etc.). We do all we can to make your stay one that you'll never forget.



As with all our destinations, the culture and heritage is different to what you're used to ... which, although one of the most exciting aspects of travelling, should be borne in mind. Self-reliance and independence are highly appreciated in all our destinations and will help you to make the most of this wonderful opportunity! This is a truly awesome, elegant and beautiful country.

THINGS TO DO IN ECUADOR

LOCATION:

The project is based in the centre of the city. You can either walk to it from your accommodation, or take the bus. Quito is very easy to get around. You can either use the buses, trolley buses or taxis, which are all very cheap and easily accessible.

QUITO:

Ecuador's capital, Quito, lies in the north of the country, some 15 miles from the equator and with the Andean Mountains and valleys as a backdrop. It's 10,000ft altitude keeps it cool, with spring like temperatures year round. It was declared a **UNESCO world heritage site** in the 1970's for its preserved historic **Latin quarter**. There is always something to do in Quito, whether you'd like to experience some culture or join in with the cosmopolitan, modern way of life. Cultural highlights include the old town, the cable car and the equator, along with a multitude of museums and monuments.

Modern highlights include a range of shopping malls, a zoo, an ice skating rink, and plenty of restaurants and bars serving wonderful cocktails and tasty food - you'll find anything from traditional Ecuadorian cuisine to Thai and Italian!

The city also contains a thriving 'new town' popular with younger generations for its restaurants, shopping and nightlife. There are lots of restaurants and "Patio de Comidas" where you can pick up an excellent value lunch or dinner.



GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS:

The Galápagos Islands lie some 600 miles from the coastline of Ecuador. Formed by volcanic eruptions into the sea, they contain species found nowhere else on the planet and are one of the most significant sites in the world; most notably because this is where Charles Darwin's theories of evolution were inspired and shaped. This rocky and at first glance inhospitable terrain is home to giant tortoise, swimming iguanas and fearless blue footed boobies.

The marine reserve here is equally impressive, boasting encounters for divers and snorkelers with penguins, marine turtles, manta rays and sea lions, amongst others. Around 90% of the islands are protected areas, with visitor numbers restricted and some sites off limits altogether to ensure conservation.

You'll be based on the island of San Cristobal, which is about a 2 hour flight from the Ecuadorian mainland. It is the 5th largest of the Galapagos Islands and its' primary industries are fishing, tourism and arable farming. The town has restaurants, shops and hotels. It is also fast-becoming a surfing hotspot, with a good beach just a short walk from the volunteer accommodation.

THE AMAZON:

The Amazon is the world's largest remaining tropical rainforest, occupying about one third of Ecuador. To get some idea of its scale, first you need to know that Ecuador's share of the Amazon represents just 2% of the whole rainforest; most of it belonging to Brazil (60%) followed by Peru (13%). Important nevertheless as the Amazon in Ecuador remains relatively untouched, has good infrastructure to make for easy visitation and is home to numerous indigenous settlements which welcome outsiders.

THE ANDES:

One of the greatest mountain ranges in the world, they split Ecuador in two running from the north of the country down. Indigenous communities have cultivated the land in the Andean Highlands for thousands of years, selling their produce in bustling market towns. Catch a glimpse of the abundantly colourful markets, showcasing traditions of ancient civilizations and Inca descendants.

Mountaineers will love the peaks of the 'Avenue of Volcanoes', an area in the central highlands with a number of active volcanoes. Whilst each climb is different and most are incredibly challenging, the rewards along the way are numerous. Dense forest, waterfalls and spectacular views across the valleys below await the intrepid few. Other hot pursuits in this region include walking, rafting, biking or camping.

HOW TO BOOK

TWO EASY WAYS ...

Complete a [booking form](#)
online.

Telephone
01903 502595 (UK)
or
1-603-574-4935 (USA)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR PROGRAMME!

We hope you'll join us!

Don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

We're happy to help you plan your exciting adventure!

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