



# BIRDING & CULTURAL TOUR

DISCOVER AND ENJOY ECUADORIAN CULTURE WHILE ENJOYING

**BIRDWATCHING PARADISE!**



## PLACES YOU WILL VISIT

Andean Paramo, Antisana, Alambi, Mindo, Amagusa, Milpe, Otavalo, Middle of the World, Cayambe, Papallacta



## YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE MORE THAN 500 SPECIES OF BIRDS

Rare and endemic species like the Andean Condor, Carunculated Caracara, Black-faced Ibis, Hummingbirds, Cock-of-the-rock, etc.



# DISCOVER ECUADOR'S EXCEPTIONAL BIODIVERSITY

**and rich cultural traditions** on a  
**ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME JOURNEY.**

From the misty cloud forests of Mindo to the colorful markets of Otavalo and the high páramos of Papallacta, this tour blends birdwatching with immersive cultural experiences.

Whether you're drawn by the flash of a hummingbird or the sound of traditional Andean instruments, Ecuador will capture your senses.

BOOK YOUR TOUR NOW  
**BOOK YOUR TOUR NOW**



# HIGHLIGHTS

-  Expert birding and cultural guides
-  Visits to world-renowned reserves and indigenous communities
-  Workshops in traditional crafts and local cuisine
-  Small groups for personalized attention

## WHY ECUADOR FOR BIRDING?

With over 1,600 bird species, Ecuador is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world for birdwatchers.

You'll explore diverse habitats — from the Andean páramo to the tropical lowlands — accompanied by expert guides who know every feathered friend by name.



**11** DAYS  
from

***\$0,000 USD***

\* price per person

# WHAT'S INCLUDED



## TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- All accommodation
- All meals
- Full time guiding
- All transportation between locations during the tour
- Entry fees into reserves and workshops

## TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Flights to and from the trip start/end point (Quito)
- Travel insurance
- Items of a personal nature
- Tips

## OTAVALO MARKET: MORE THAN JUST A MARKETPLACE

One of South America's most vibrant indigenous markets, Otavalo is a feast for the senses. Every item tells a story—from handwoven textiles dyed with natural pigments to flutes and panpipes echoing ancient melodies.

But beyond the colors and crafts, the market is a living expression of the Otavalo people's identity. Families pass down weaving techniques through generations, and trading here is more than commerce—it's culture in motion.

Visitors can find ponchos, hats, jewelry, and more, but the true treasure is the connection to centuries-old tradition.



## CAYAMBE'S BIZCOCHOS: A DELICIOUS HERITAGE

Cayambe is known for its scenic volcano and... buttery biscuits? Absolutely.

Bizcochos are a beloved local treat—crispy, golden, and traditionally paired with dulce de leche or hot chocolate. The recipe may seem simple, but making them is an art. In Cayambe, workshops show you how locals roll, shape, and bake them using time-honored methods and clay ovens.

This isn't just about food—it's about identity. Sharing bizcochos is a family ritual, a social act, and a way of preserving Cayambe's culinary culture.



# ITINERARY

## DAY 1: ARRIVAL

Your adventure begins as you arrive at Mariscal Sucre International Airport in Quito, where you'll be warmly greeted by a tour representative.

A private transfer takes you to your hotel in Quito, where you can settle in and unwind after your journey.

In the evening, enjoy a welcome dinner and meet your fellow travelers while getting a detailed overview of the exciting itinerary ahead.

## DAY 2: ANTISANA ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

Start the day early with a scenic drive to Antisana Ecological Reserve, located in the high Andes.

This reserve is a birdwatcher's paradise, home to the majestic Andean Condor and other high-altitude species like the Carunculated Caracara and Black-faced Ibis.

As you explore the rugged landscape of the páramo, your expert guide will help you spot unique birds in this stark and stunning ecosystem.

Enjoy a traditional Ecuadorian lunch with views of the snow-capped Antisana volcano before heading back to Quito for a relaxing dinner.



## DAY 3: YANACOCHA AND ALAMBI RESERVES

After breakfast, head to the Yanacocha Reserve, managed by the Jocotoco Foundation.

This cloud forest sanctuary is teeming with hummingbirds and rare species.

Continue to the Alambi Reserve, famous for its spectacular hummingbird feeders that attract over 20 different species.

In the afternoon, journey to Mindo—a small, picturesque town nestled in the cloud forest.

Here, you'll begin your search for colorful species like the Golden-headed Quetzal and the elusive Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan.

## DAY 4: AMAGUSA RESERVE & CHOCOLATE TASTING

Spend the morning in the Amagusa Reserve, a biodiversity hotspot for Chocó endemics.

Keep your binoculars ready for birds such as the Glistening-green Tanager and Velvet-purple Coronet.

In the afternoon, indulge in a cultural treat with a chocolate tasting at El Quetzal, where you'll learn about the process of cacao cultivation and the art of chocolate-making in Ecuador.

Relax in the charming surroundings of Mindo over dinner and prepare for another full day of adventure.

## DAY 5: PAZ DE LAS AVES & MILPE RESERVE

Today begins with an early visit to the Paz de las Aves Reserve, known for its iconic Andean Cock-of-the-rock lek and several tame antpittas, which have been habituated to appear for visitors.

This is a rare and moving experience for any birder. Later, visit Milpe Reserve, where you'll observe forest species like the Club-winged Manakin and Rufous Motmot in a rich, mid-elevation habitat.

Return to Mindo for your final evening in this birding paradise.

## DAY 6: MINDO TO OTAVALO — MIDDLE OF THE WORLD

Today begins with an early visit to the Paz de las Aves Reserve, known for its iconic Andean Cock-of-the-rock lek and several tame antpittas, which have been habituated to appear for visitors.



This is a rare and moving experience for any birder. Later, visit Milpe Reserve, where you'll observe forest species like the Club-winged Manakin and Rufous Motmot in a rich, mid-elevation habitat.

Return to Mindo for your final evening in this birding paradise.



## DAY 7: OTAVALO CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Dive into the vibrant culture of Otavalo with a morning visit to its world-renowned artisan market, where you'll find intricate textiles, handcrafts, and vibrant colors at every turn. Then, join a music workshop to explore the traditional Andean instruments and rhythms that define local culture.

After a local lunch, spend the afternoon at a weaving workshop, where master weavers demonstrate ancient techniques still used today. End your culturally immersive day with dinner and an overnight stay in Otavalo.

## DAY 8: TOTORA WASI PROJECT & PAPALLACTA

After breakfast, visit the Totora Wasi project—a women-led initiative dedicated to preserving the art of totora reed weaving. Learn how these reeds, harvested from nearby wetlands, are transformed into baskets and mats using traditional techniques.

Following this experience, travel through scenic highland landscapes to reach the hot springs of Papallacta for lunch. Continue to San Isidro Lodge, nestled in the eastern Andean foothills, where you'll enjoy dinner and prepare for night birding opportunities.

## DAY 9: SAN ISIDRO LODGE & GUACAMAYOS RIDGE

Wake up surrounded by the lush cloud forest and enjoy morning birding in San Isidro's private reserve, home to a wide variety of species including the mysterious San Isidro Owl.

After breakfast, hike along Guacamayos Ridge, an ideal spot for observing mixed flocks, tanagers, and other elusive species. Lunch and dinner will be served at the lodge, allowing you to relax and take in the sounds of the forest.

## DAY 10: LA BRISA HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS - QUETZAL PROTECTED FOREST

Depending on the weather and bird activity, today's excursion will be to either La Brisa hummingbird feeders or the Quetzal Protected Forest.

Both locations offer excellent opportunities to see hummingbirds and other tropical species in their natural habitat. Return to San Isidro Lodge for lunch, followed by a relaxing afternoon and a farewell dinner.

## DAY 11: PAPALLACTA HIGH PÁRAMO & DEPARTURE

Your final morning takes you to the high-altitude antennas of Papallacta, where you'll search for high-Andean specialists like the Ecuadorian Hillstar and other hardy birds adapted to the thin air.

After lunch in Papallacta, you'll be transferred to Quito International Airport for your departure, taking with you unforgettable memories of Ecuador's birds and culture.



## END OF THE TOUR

This Birding & Cultural Tour is more than a trip—it's a journey through the heart and soul of Ecuador. From the breathtaking sight of a Cock-of-the-rock at dawn to the hands-on experience of crafting traditional Andean textiles, every moment is designed to connect you with the natural beauty and cultural richness of this extraordinary country.

Whether you're an avid birder, a culture enthusiast, or simply a curious traveler, Ecuador offers a deeply rewarding adventure that will stay with you long after the journey ends.



**WE ARE SURE THIS BIRDING & CULTURAL TOUR  
WILL BE ONE OF THE MOST UNFORGETTABLE  
JOURNEYS OF YOUR LIFE. YOU'LL CONNECT WITH  
NATURE, DISCOVER UNIQUE BIRD SPECIES, AND  
IMMERSE YOURSELF IN THE VIBRANT TRADITIONS  
OF ECUADOR.**

We are a tour operator and see tourism as a tool to promote different destinations, mainly focusing on their conservation, taking care of the environment and its inhabitants in each of the tours.

Alkadri Tours Provide Special Tours And Events Across Ecuador.

Discover the world effortlessly with us. We offer personalized itineraries, exclusive deals, expert guidance, and 24/7 support.

*Whether it's a solo adventure, family vacation, or group tour, we handle every detail.  
Travel smart, travel with us!*

