




**tren crucero**

## TREN ECUADOR: LUXURY TRAIN EXPERIENCE

4 DAYS  
from  
**\$ 1,650**

USDS\$, PP, DBL, OCC.

Experience the wonders of Ecuador on board Tren Crucero, recognized as the Leading Luxury Train in South America in 2014, 2015 & 2016. Modern, electric-diesel, and lovingly restored, antique steam locomotives pull a high quality convoy of two luxury, Colonial and Republican-style passenger cars carrying just fifty passengers, to ensure personalized service for all. A bar and gift-shop car with two comfortable observation lounges and an open-air terrace complete the setup of this comfortable, select boutique train.

Tren Crucero's guides and bartenders are deeply passionate about their land and culture, and are ready to satisfy your curiosity at any time while you enjoy the view. Snacks, fresh-made juices, coffee, tea, soft and alcoholic drinks (extra charge) are available all day. Some meals are also served on board, while others are part of the tours. Nights are spent in charming countryside hotels and haciendas. **New for 2017: Upgrade to Tren Crucero Gold Class, offering an additional level of luxury.**

Feel the joy of discovering the hidden secrets of Ecuador with our carefully selected collection of Tren Crucero experiences. All partners are local tourism companies with high standards of social and environmental responsibility and a deep commitment to the communities they serve.

The Train of Wonder itinerary is available Southbound from Quito to Guayaquil (Tuesdays–Fridays) or Northbound as the Train to the Clouds from Guayaquil to Quito (Sunday–Wednesday).



VIEW FROM TREN CRUCERO

### Southbound Train of Wonders\* Itinerary (Quito – Guayaquil)

#### Day 1 – Tuesday

L/D

QUITO – OTAVALO – IBARRA – QUITO

Depart Quito early in the morning by bus for a one-and-a-half drive north. In **Otavallo**, home of a millenary market, a carefully restored steam engine awaits you. At a slow pace, discover the many wonders hidden in this part of the country: musicians, painters, weavers and the skillful woodcarvers who keep the renowned Quito School style alive; then a tasting of traditional Andean cuisine and a visit to very special export-class rose plantation; return to Quito.

#### Day 2 – Wednesday

B/L/D

QUITO – URBINA

Board our convoy at Quito Chimbacalle station and begin our journey south along the Avenue of Volcanoes. If the weather permits, you can spot at up to twenty volcanoes from the train – most extinct or dormant for centuries. Here, the Andes range splits into two arms that run parallel down south. The fertile valley trapped between these stone walls hosts a treasure trove of biodiversity. From the comfort of our panoramic cars, we watch the change of vegetation and landscape as we slowly climb the Andean highlands to **Urbina**, the highest point in our itinerary at 11,800 feet above sea level. In the skirts of mount **Chimborazo** we meet the last ice-merchant and learn the story of his ancestral trade.

Altitude ranges from 80 to 3,610m above sea level.

Alcoholic beverages not included.

#### Day 3 – Thursday

B/L/D

RIOBAMBA – THE DEVIL'S NOSE – BUCAY

Depart Riobamba towards **Colta**, where the Spanish conquerors built their first settlement in Ecuador. We cross colourful quinoa fields painted in purples, yellows and reds, alternating with endemic species of flora and wildlife, indigenous settlements and the remains of ancient cultures. We visit **Guamote market**, one of the last indigenous markets in the Andes, before continuing south towards the mythical **Devil's Nose pass**. A vertiginous descent of 450m zig zag takes us from the Andean highlands down towards the coastal plains. We continue our descent along the narrow **Chanchan river gorge** and crossing an impressive cloud forest towards the temperate city of **Bucay**.

#### Day 4 – Friday

B/L

BUCAY – GUAYAQUIL

The landscape changes again as the train leaves the tropical forest behind. Rice, sugar cane, pineapple and banana plantations pass before our eyes. We have lunch at a traditional hacienda, where we can learn about the growing and harvesting of the best cocoa bean in the world. Later, the steam engine whistles its way across the fields towards the shores of the Pacific Ocean and the end of our trip in **Guayaquil**.

\* Northbound Train to the Clouds available in reverse.

- ▶ Transportation on board Tren Crucero; land transportation during the itinerary
- ▶ All meals including snacks and soft drinks on board
- ▶ English/Spanish speaking guide
- ▶ Excursions as detailed in the itinerary
- ▶ Accommodation each night at charming haciendas and countryside hotels, Gold Class upgrade available
- ▶ Luggage portorage at hotels

Select day tours also available upon request.

#### Upgrade to Gold Class Accommodations



TOUR CODE: LA2118

Yellow Fever vaccination recommended if visiting certain areas of Ecuador and may be mandatory to enter certain countries. Effective Feb 2018, travel medical insurance is mandatory for those entering Ecuador. Airport and departure taxes are included where applicable, subject to change at any time. Pricing based on two passengers traveling together in 2017. 2018 pricing available upon request. Optional tours and activities not included. Blackout periods apply. For terms and conditions, refer to page 43. Ongoing monitoring of the Zika virus continues around the world including Central, South America and the Caribbean. Please evaluate your risks before travelling.