

MOUNTAIN



LINK

ECUADOR SEMINAR



- Day 01** Fly from the United States to Quito, Ecuador. Upon arrival in Quito a Mountain Link representative will meet you outside of the airport once you clear customs to transport you to the hotel. No meals included.
- Day 02** Today we leave the city and travel to the quaint town of Otavalo. We take an acclimatization hike in Mojanda on Fuya Fuya where we have a picnic lunch. We overnight at a beautiful hacienda. (B, D)
- Day 03** We drive to Laguna Cuicocha for our acclimatization hike on Cotacachi. We may have the opportunity to see condors so bring your camera along! We will overnight back in Otavalo (B, L, D)
- Day 04** Today we will drive to Cayambe National Park. We climb to the Cayambe Hut. Overnight at 15,000 feet. (B, L, D)
- Day 05** We train on the glacier above the hut. Mountaineering techniques and acclimatization are the focus of the day. We review rope travel, ice axe arrest and more mountaineering basics. (B, D)
- Day 06** Today is another training day or “weather day” if needed. Advanced techniques such as ice climbing, crevasse rescue and steeper snow travel will be covered on the glacier near the hut. We return to the hut for dinner and rest before the long summit push the next day. (B, L, D)
- Day 07** Today we rise early and start our ascent of Cayambe (18,997’). We climb the glaciated terrain and steep slopes and tackle the difficult bergshrund leading to the final slopes before the summit. After the climb we return to the hut for the evening (B, D)
- Day 08** The morning is spent packing up and preparing for the groups return to Quito. Upon arrival in Quito the day is yours to spend as you wish. (B, D)
- Day 09** Today we gear up and head out of Quito to Cotopaxi. A three hour bus ride takes us to the trailhead at 15,000 feet. A short but steep one hour hike takes us the Jose Ribas hut at 15,550’. The rest of the day is spent acclimatizing and hydrating in preparation for the summit attempt. We spend the night in the hut. (B, L, D)



- Day 10** We rise early in the morning, eat breakfast, and gear up for our summit bid. The first part of the route can be either snow or scree trail. At 16,500 feet, we ascend on to the glacier. The route is steep and moderately crevassed. We climb just to the right of a large rock outcropping called Yanasacha located on the north side of the mountain. The last stretch to the summit is steep and challenging which makes for a very rewarding summit. At the summit, there may be time for photos, food, water, and a brief rest in preparation for the descent. We overnight in the hut. (B, D)
- Day 11** Today is a weather day, for a second summit attempt. Upon completion of today's activities, we will travel back to Quito for a celebration dinner and much needed rest. We then prepare for our flights home. (B, D)
- Day 12** Transport to the airport for outbound flights. No meals included.

**Itinerary subject to change.*

***B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner: Initials note where meals are included. Lunches on the mountain are snack lunches, they are not a prepared meal.*

****Single supplement is 3 nights in hotel @ \$75/night. Total extra charge for trip is \$225.*