

ECUADOR

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Located on the Ecuador line from which the country gets its name, the Republic of Ecuador is the second smallest country in South America (283,561 km²) with a great diversity of landscapes and culture. The country shares boundaries with Colombia to the north, Peru to the south and east, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. The capital is Quito, with the best-preserved historic center in Latin America. The official language is Spanish, but as the ethnicity is quite diverse with Mestizo mixed Native and White & Montubio, many languages are spoken. Ecuadorians are primarily Catholic, but a minority of Protestants also exists. Ecuador uses United States Dollars while the country code is +593 and the official domain is ".ec."

"God, Homeland, and Freedom" is the country's motto. In addition, the national bird and symbol of the nation are the Andean Condors. The national emblem consists of the red-blue-yellow-striped national flag, and an Andean Condor carrying the view of a mountain and river landscape. The nation's Independence Day celebrated on August 10th, commemorates the year 1809 when Juan José Flores, the republic's founder, assisted the nation to win its independence from Spain.

Guatata is another symbol: a special beef stew served with rice, and it is the national dish of Ecuador. In contrast, the national drink is Aguardiente, an alcoholic beverage made from anis. The delicious Guanabana is another symbol and the national fruit, while the national flower is the rose. Cinchona Pubescens is the national tree with its beautiful trunk flowers.

Ecuadorians like dancing and music, which can be seen in their folkloric dance Sanjuanito which originates from indigenous cultures. The shimba, a long braid that hangs down nearly to the man's waist, is considered the national dress. The indigenous bamboo flute called Rondador is the national instrument that sounds quite amazing. The national sport is Ecuavolley which is a variant of Volleyball, but the most-watched sport is football. The airline operating in Ecuador is named TAME.

Commander of the Army of the South and Grand Marshal of Ayacucho, Antonio Jose De Sucre, from the 18th and 19th centuries, is the country's National Hero. Eloy Alfaro is referred to as the national hero mausoleum.

- Learn about [Ecuador flag color codes](#) and their meanings -

- Further information regarding the symbols and knowledge of Ecuador can be found in the table of contents-

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