

ECUADOR: JUNE 15-23

*keep dates open June 13-June 25, if we get cheaper flights the dates will move a couple days

*This is a PRIVATE trip and we are limiting the number of students we are taking to 24 students.

TRIP PURPOSE

CULTURAL IMMERSION+SERVICE WORK+BUILDING LEADERSHIP SKILLS

We went on this trip June 2017. We promise that it will be much more than a stamp in their passport. It will be a one-of-a-kind, life-changing experience! Not only will your son or daughter meet new people and explore new cultures, it will also be a voyage of self-discovery.

Quick trip overview: walking tour of capitol Quito, visit the center of the world latitude 0,0,0, in Amazon visit a local cacao farm, jungle hike, visit local shaman, try traditional weaponry, traditional cooking demonstration, visit local farm and help carry water to filtration, work side by side with the community on a project working towards the community self-sustainability.

Daily overview: Breakfast, Day in the Life Activity (visit farm, etc), Lunch, Team building, Service Project, Dinner, debrief day and action plan next day, bedtime

Manual Team

Your Manual chaperones are Merritt Robinson, Derrick Robinson, Allison Hunt, and Tom Cecil. Tom is a City of Louisville Fire Department Sergeant trained as a paramedic, adding an extra level of safety to our trip.

Communication Policy

Participants are asked to not bring cellphones/communication devices for their trip. Within 24 hours of arrival in country, participants will have an opportunity to send an email home. Our staff will provide updates every 4-5 days on the group's activities, which will be sent by email to all emergency contacts participants have listed on their contact forms. Facilitators will carry an emergency cell phone at all times to be used in the event of an emergency and will be in daily communication with our in country teams.

Emergency communication will go through our 24 hour emergency phone and Risk Management Team at 416-526-8450. If parents or guardians need to get a hold of a traveler while they are away, please contact this line. In the event of an emergency on the ground, our Risk Management team will be in touch with listed emergency contacts through this phone number.

Medication and First Aid

Your trip facilitators are trained in standard first aid and CPR, and carry an emergency first aid kit. The school chaperones will have medical authority. There is a clinic/hospital right next to Minga lodge where the group will be staying.

Legally we cannot make any recommendations on what vaccinations to get. The good news is that you do not require any to enter the country (unless you have been to a yellow fever region, then you will need your yellow fever shot). We do strongly recommend that everyone consults with a doctor who can then make recommendations on each individual's medical history. The group will be in Quito, and near Tena. Do note that the CDC recommends Malaria medication and the Yellow Fever vaccination for some travelers. The chaperones are getting or have had the malaria medication and yellow fever vaccine. <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/ecuador>

Passports

YOUR PASSPORT MUST BE VALID UNTIL AT LEAST AUGUST 2019! The chaperones will collect and secure the passports for all participants in the group.

TRAVEL WITH A PURPOSE.

Cost: \$4,017 USD

*This price will not go up, but can be adjusted down with flight savings

What's Included: Flights, Accommodations, ALL Meals, Purified Bottled Water, ALL Activities while in Country, Cultural Facilitator/Jungle Guide, and ME to WE facilitator

Additional Costs: Travel Insurance, Vaccinations, and Additional Spending Money (we will go to local market in Quito, and stop at gas stations on way to Amazon, so minimal additional spending money)

Payment may be made by-

1. Writing a check payable to Me to We Trips Inc. and mailing to:
Kalla Richards-Finnie
Manager of Partnerships, School Trips
225 Carlton Street, Toronto, ON M5A 2L2
2. Calling and making a credit card payment:
T: 1 (416) 964-8942 ext. 575

EXCELLENT RESOURCES

Fundraising Help Info: <https://www.metowe.com/volunteer-travel/fundraising/>

Parents and Guardians Info: <https://www.metowe.com/volunteer-travel/youth-trips/parents-guardians/>

Trip Overview Info: <https://www.metowe.com/volunteer-travel/school-trips/ecuador/>

Frequently Asked Questions Info: <https://www.metowe.com/volunteer-travel/faq/>

Minga Lodge Info: <https://www.metowe.com/volunteer-travel/adult-family-trips/ecuador/minga/>

Note: we are staying in bunkhouses, 6-8 in house, with bathroom

IMPORTANT DATES

\$400 Deposit Due October 8

**All Deposits WILL BE HELD until we see final number for trip and move forward

NOTE: Total amount is due by February 18, or you can make scheduled payments

If you are selecting the payment option, then in addition to the \$400 deposit:

\$900 Payment Due November 8

\$900 Payment Due December 8 (if paying by credit card, call by December 7th)

\$900 Payment Due January 8

\$917 Final Payment Due February 18

Passports Due February 18

NEXT STEPS! RESERVE YOUR SPOT!!!

1. Email Ms. Hunt or Ms. Robinson to let them know your child's name, their intentions of attending, and you are mailing in check OR calling for credit card deposit.
2. Pay ONLY the \$400 deposit at this time as we determine number of interested students.

KEEP IN TOUCH

JOIN OUR AMAZON REMIND GROUP TO RECEIVE REMINDERS ABOUT PAYMENTS AND OTHER INFO!

Text @amazon2019 to the number 81010

You'll receive a welcome text from Remind.

If anyone has trouble with 81010, they can try texting @amazon2019 to (507) 316-0495

Questions? Need more info? Email us!

Allison Hunt allison.hunt@jefferson.kyschools.us

Merritt Robinson merritt.robinson@jefferson.kyschools.us