

## ECUADOREAN IMMIGRATION POLICY - USEFUL REFERENCE POINTS

- As a British visitor, you **do not need a visa** to come to Ecuador
- The Ecuadorian Immigration Law allows most foreign visitors to remain in Ecuador for up to **90 days per year**. This is applied in every entry point in Ecuador
- All visitors need to have a **valid passport with a minimum validity of 6 months**
- Main land official border points in Ecuador -Rumichaca (north), Huaquillas (south), and Nuevo Rocafuerte (east) – will issue an entry stamp in your passport
- As of April 2012, **police immigration officers have been replaced by immigration civil personnel** (Proyecto de Intervención Integral de Migración).
- Bear in mind that the Immigration authorities are entitled to ask you questions about your visit on your arrival to Ecuador, and you may be asked to provide evidence of a return or onward flight/bus ticket showing when you will leave the country. A hotel booking of the next country destination might be also accepted.
- Overstaying after the 90 days is an **immigration offence**.
- If you have overstayed after the 90 days, you **will be denied entry** to Ecuador for the following **9 months**, and your name will remain on immigration records
- You may return to Ecuador before the 9 months restriction period, if you obtain a visa from one of the Ecuadorian Consulates overseas
- The new immigration regulation entitles Ecuadorean immigration officers to **check your passports and documents at any time**. If you have overstayed, a deportation process will be initiated by the local authorities
- If you have breached the immigration law, you will be deported to the UK
- If for any reason, there is **no entry stamp** in your passport, because for example international/interstate buses drivers did not stop at the border for foreigners to stamp their passports or you fell asleep, then it is recommended that you keep a proof that you have crossed the border, such as bus tickets/bus company certificate to show to the immigration authorities. If this happens, it is likely that immigrations authorities will require you to return to the same border point where you entered Ecuador and request an entry stamp there.
- If your 90 days are about to expire, you can request **an extension of 48 hours** from the immigration authority, by providing evidence of your intended departure from Ecuador within the next 48 hours.
- If you have already overstayed and are ready to leave, no extension is available but you should be able to leave the country (subject to the 9 month re-entry restriction mentioned above)

This information is provided for your convenience but the Consular Section of the British Embassy in Quito is not accountable for the accuracy, competence or probity of the above immigration regulations in Ecuador, as they are subject to change at any time

- Once in Ecuador, if you wish to stay longer than the 90 days, you would need to **apply for another type of visa**, by contacting the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#). This should be done before the 90 days expire. The forms and the requirements to apply for a visa are listed on their website. There is no longer the facility to extend the 90 days without applying for a visa.
- **Visas** for working, voluntary work, studying and investing are advisable to be obtained from an Ecuadorean Consulate overseas, before your entry to Ecuador
- As of 30 May 2012, the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) (Dirección General de Extranjería) has been designated to implement the new visa registration certificate “**certificado de registro y empadronamiento**”, linked to their visas issuing system
- Foreigners with immigrant (indefinite stay) or non-immigrant (period validity) visas would have **30 days**, from the visa issuing date, to get the above certificate. Those who have entered Ecuador already with a visa issued would have 30 days from their date of arrival.
- This visa registration system “**sistema de empadronamiento**” for foreigners with immigrant visas has been set up as a prior requirement **to apply (or renew) for an Ecuadorian identification card** (cedula de identidad - CI)
- Foreigners with an immigrant or non-immigrant visa are **no longer required** to present their “**censo-empadronamiento**” **document** to the immigration officials **upon entry/departure from Ecuador**. Only the Ecuadorian identification card and/or passport- with the relevant visa issued- are required for this purpose
- Residency visas, including spouse (‘amparo’) visas, are subject to the requirement that the bearer must not spend more than 90 days in total outside Ecuador in each of the first two years from when their visa is issued, and no more than 18 months outside Ecuador in each consecutive year after that. This is a strict condition with no exceptions made on medical or other grounds, and if longer than the permitted time is spent outside Ecuador, the visa can be revoked.
- **A child with British-Ecuadorean dual nationality**, not travelling with both parents, should obtain an official permission (Public Notary or Juzgado de la Niñez y Adolescencia) from the other parent to be able to leave the country on an Ecuadorian passport. However, the British passport should also be available to show to the immigration officers
- **Children travellers**, with evidence that their residence is abroad, and who have stayed in Ecuador for less than 90 days, are not required to provide an official departure authorisation from their parent(s)
- From 16 March 2010, foreigners wishing to **get married to an Ecuadorian citizen** need to have previously **obtained a non-immigrant visa** from any Ecuadorian Consulate overseas or also from the Visa Section of the Ecuadorian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, once in Ecuador

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- In August 2011 the Ecuadorian Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that foreigners wishing to apply for a **resident visa in Ecuador** will need to submit not only a **police record** from the country of origin, but also from those countries in which the applicant has resided during the last 5 years

For further details and requirements, please contact the following local authorities:

### **National Immigration Office (headquarters) – Dirección de Migración**

Address: Amazonas and Republica Avenues (opposite “El Jardin” shopping centre) - Quito  
Telephone: +593 (0)2 2276 394 / 2439 408  
Working hours: Monday – Friday 08:00 to 16:30  
Website: [www.ministeriodelinterior.gob.ec](http://www.ministeriodelinterior.gob.ec)

### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Movilidad Humana Coordinación Zonal 9 (Quito district)**

Address: 10 de Agosto Avenue and Carrión, Solis Building - Quito  
Switchboard: +593 (0)2 2993 200 ext 12201 / 12202  
24/7 Enquiries: 1800 226245  
Working hours: Monday – Friday 08:00 to 17:00 for non-immigrant visa applications  
Website: [www.cancilleria.gob.ec](http://www.cancilleria.gob.ec) / [www.consuladovirtual.gob.ec](http://www.consuladovirtual.gob.ec)

### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Unidad de Extranjería**

Address: 6 de Diciembre Avenues, between La Niña and Colon Avenue - Quito  
Telephone: +593 (0)2 3828 810 / 2993 200  
Working hours: Monday – Friday 08:30 to 17:30 for immigrant visas & “registro & empadronamiento”  
Website: [www.cancilleria.gob.ec](http://www.cancilleria.gob.ec) / [www.consuladovirtual.gob.ec](http://www.consuladovirtual.gob.ec)

### **Ecuadorian Civil Registry Office**

#### **(Registro Civil, Identificación y Cedulación del Ecuador)**

Address: Naciones Unidas Avenue N37-61 and Amazonas Avenue, La Previsora Building - Quito  
Working hours: Monday – Friday 08:00 - 17:00  
Website: [www.registrocivil.gob.ec](http://www.registrocivil.gob.ec)

### **Guayaquil District Immigration Police - Jefatura Provincial de Migración del Guayas**

Address: Benjamin Rosales Avenue (opposite the bus station) - Guayaquil  
Telephone: +593 (0)4 2130 010 / 2130 004  
Email: [jefmigraquayas.secretaria@policiaecuador.gob.ec](mailto:jefmigraquayas.secretaria@policiaecuador.gob.ec)

### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs – Coordinación Regional Guayaquil**

Address: Ciudadela Kennedy Norte, Francisco de Orellana Avenue and Justino Cornejo  
Gobierno del Litoral Building - Guayaquil  
Telephone: +593 (0)4 2068 502  
E-Mail: [coordinacionguayaquil@cancilleria.gob.ec](mailto:coordinacionguayaquil@cancilleria.gob.ec)

### **Cuenca District Immigration Police - Jefatura Provincial de Migración del Azuay**

Address: Avenue Eduardo Muñoz 142 and Gran Colombia - Cuenca  
Telephone: +593 (0)7 2821 112 / 2831 020  
Email: [jefmigracuenca.secretaria@policiaecuador.gob.ec](mailto:jefmigracuenca.secretaria@policiaecuador.gob.ec)

### **Ministry of Foreign Affairs - Coordinación Regional Cuenca Zona 6**

Address: Ordoñez Lasso Avenue, Astudillo Building - Cuenca  
Telephone: +593 (0)7 4075 942 / 4075943 / 4075944 / 4075945  
E-Mail: [coordinacioncuenca@mrrree.gob.ec](mailto:coordinacioncuenca@mrrree.gob.ec)

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