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BEXPERT

EXPERTS IN GUAYAQUIL



THE MAIN PORT OF ECUADOR

The legend of "Guayas" and "Quil" is about a warrior who sacrificed his wife for love to not let her fall into the hands of the conquerors, giving origin to the name of the city and projecting the story of people who fight against the adversities of nature, fires, pirates and established regimes.

Today it is the commercial center of the country. It hosts Ecuadorians and foreigners from every corner. Today, it shows a modern face, renovated for tourism.

Photos: Cortesy Abordo Magazine

THE GRAND

GUAYAQUIL



The largest, populous and extensive city in the country began its history with site displacements and fighting pirates and fires. On July 25, 1547, the day when the Catholic Church celebrates Saint Santiago the Apostle, Santiago de Guayaquil took possession of the "Green Hill" (Cerro Santa Ana), after experiencing several attempts to be founded. Since then, the population took possession of the Guayas River Basin.

Guayaquil is the city of the river and the estuary and it expanded and modified the nearest wetlands and mangroves to accommodate what today is a city with more than three and a half million inhabitants, where people of all the regions of Ecuador converge, and with an urban center where trade and business are the most important activities.

The fluvial communications have always been fundamental for domestic trade and to obtain supplies of highland products. In the past, the presence of pirates and the construction of the main seaport of the country make this city one of the most important ones of the Pacific Coast.

Today's Guayaquil is a city in transformation that shows constant improvement and invites people to visit and discover each of its corners, from the quaint and traditional sites to modern piers and natural recovered public spaces over sighted by the Guayas River. The "Pearl of the Pacific" is set of visual, astronomical and historical attractions that invite.

BE AN EXPERT

Everything you need to know



Money

Since the year 2.000 the official currency in Ecuador is the dollar of the United States. Credit and debit cards can be used, but an important part of trade is done only with cash.



Climate

Guayaquil is located on the Pacific Coast at sea level. The temperature ranges from 23° C (73° F) to 32° C (89° F). The rainy season goes from January to May and the humidity ranges from 70% to 75%.



Security

You can travel on foot in places that are well lit, where there are vigilantes; it is not recommended to do it late at night.



Photo: courtesy of Pronobis

THE MAIN BUSINESS CENTER OF THE COUNTRY

The fluvial system has historically been commerce's developer in Ecuador's Pacific Coast. Nowadays the port of Guayaquil is the main axis for economic development since 80% of the country's import and export activities pass through the "Pacific Pearl", also known as the Magic of Pacific, flowing in and out of the country.

Guayaquil is the main port of the country. Its state of the art infrastructure allows it to provide services to all kind of ships, as well as manage and store dry and refrigerated containers. The port has the following facilities: eight 145 m to 185 m long docks (457 to 606 feet), with 10 m of depth (32 feet) each one. The Port is located since 1963 on the banks of "El Muerto" estuary, on the west shore of Guayas River.

The trading activities are focused in the private sector. The Corporations have invested in Real Estate projects, developing the city that is now in its momentum due to the expansion and growth of: housing developments, Business Centers, Malls, last tendency design architecture, that have turned this vibrant city in a strategic business center for the country.

The optimization of the maritime port began in 1996, since then it has reached last generation international technical standards together with ambiental responsibility.

Simón Bolívar of Guayaquil Port handled 1'517.910 containers in 2013, 69.223 more than in 2012.

Guayaquil Port's efficiency and its privileged location have made it to become one of the most competitive in the region. Due to its magnitude, this port is the ninth in Latin America and Caribe, and the fifth in South America today.

Transportation

The main public transportation service are the METROVIA and many bus routes, both cost USD \$0.25 cents per trip. The minimum taxi fare costs \$2; it is recommended to request taxis by phone. From the bus station, buses depart to every destination within the country.



Guayaquil is located 500 kilometers (310 miles) from Quito and 235 kilometers (146 miles) from Cuenca.

Attire

It is recommended to wear short sleeve shirts, lightweight pants and comfortable footwear. It is a good idea to keep a light raincoat at hand.



Technology

There are public places with access to WIFI. Also, hotels, inns and restaurants offer this for free.



CERRO SANTA ANA

VIEWPOINT AND HARBOR



Sites of Interest:

- The Diego Noboa and Arteta Sculpture
- The Sword of Santiago
- Fuente del Cerro
- Fortín Naval Museum Park
- Capilla del Cerro Santa Ana
- The Lighthouse



This is the historic site where the city began its life thanks to a small hill from where the Grand Guayaquil landscape is dominated. This hill has always been a landmark for Guayaquil and for foreigners. It is one of the places one cannot miss visiting. Across the Hill, and surrounding it, following the Guayas River bank, the new modern city center has developed with large luxury resorts integrated into the Simón Bolívar Malecón.

LAS PEÑAS

TRADITIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD



Sites of Interest:

- The Symbols Square
- La Planchada Small Fort
- Numa Pompilio Llona Street
- Shipyard Museum
- Julio Jaramillo Popular Music Museum
- Beer Museum



The traditional neighborhood of Las Peñas is known for being the center of bohemian life and celebration. Here, friends play music to all those who decide to climb its picturesque stairs. The colorful houses are filled with bars, restaurants, craft shops, galleries and small businesses that integrate the lives of the residents of the hill with the visitors who go up to the lighthouse and to the Chapel of Santa Ana, located at the top of the hill, 85 meters above sea level.



SIMÓN BOLÍVAR

BOARDWALK



Sites of Interest:

- The Latin American Integration Square
- The Crystal Palace
- The Olmedo Square
- Morgan Boat Dock (a cruise along the Guayas River)
- Juan Pueblo Sculpture
- The Moorish Tower or Clock Tower
- The Passage of the Guayaquillean Presidents
- Watchtowers
- The Rotunda Hemicycle: Monument to the liberators
- The Small Wagon Square
- Childrens' Areas
- The Fountain in the Junín Street
- The Neoclassical Square
- The Miniature Guayaquil Museum
- The Simon Bolivar Cultural Centre

The reason for remodeling an entire urban complex in the most important area of the city coincided with the beginning of the new millennium; with it the transformation and regeneration of public spaces in Guayaquil began. The boardwalk is 2.5 miles long. It is a place that summons and integrates hundreds of thousands of local and foreign visitors throughout the year for recreation, socialization, tourism and trade. It takes at least a whole day to cross it

completely. It is best to start on the southern side with a visit to the craft market, home to the Crystal Palace and the St. Joseph Church, o continue to the north passing the monument to the illustrious Guayaquillean, Jose Joaquin de Olmedo. Then, continue towards the food court, El Malecon Mall and the hemicycle of the Rotunda: a monument to the historic meeting for independence between General San Martin, and General Simon Bolivar.



ICONS

CENTENNIAL PARK



- It was inaugurated in 1920 when the city was celebrating 100 years of independence from Spanish ruling.
- It has several monuments: heroes of the independence, the fountain of the lions, among others.
- In the 20 hectares (49 acres) there are native trees that recreate the vegetation of its surroundings.



In Latin America, since the birth of cities under the urban order of the Spanish colonial era, the central plazas or parade grounds were the meeting place of people and the spaces to socialize, around which the shops and important sites were located. In this area of the South Pacific, heritage buildings and houses were built with wood bossage, traditional blinds and galleries located on the ground floor.

SEMINARIO PARK

OR PARK OF THE IGUANAS



- It was created in 1695 as the Arms Square or main square of the city.
- It has a monument to Simon Bolivar.
- In 1895, thanks to the initiative of Manuel Suarez Seminario, its French style it was renovated.

www.allyouneedisecuador.travel/trade



The Seminario park is one of the iconic and heritage spaces of the city. The Metropolitan Cathedral of San Pedro Apostle is located to one side. It is popularly known as the park of the "iguanas"; the reason for this nickname is due to the fact that the park is the home of land iguanas, doves and turtles that have become the main attraction of the place, definitively a must in Guayaquil.



Photos: Guayaquil Historical Park

HISTORICAL PARK



How to get there:

- By taxi, it takes approximately 15 minutes from the city center and the ride costs approximately \$5. If riding a bus, take bus line # 17, Puntilla Aurora that arrives to this place in approximately 45 minutes.
- Recommendations: Do not bring pets; walk slowly and quietly in the park; respect the trail; follow the rules; do not uproot plants, do not smoke, and do not feed the animals

Opening Hours: Monday through Sunday and holidays

Schedule: 09:00 to 17:00

Entrance Fee: Free of charge



FOR MORE
INFORMATION

www.parquehistorico.gob.ec

It is one of the places one must visit in the city, although it is not geographically located in Guayaquil. This is a space that integrates nature, history and heritage to teach about the golden age of Guayaquil Shipyard.

The facilities recreate the urban architecture of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries close to a natural park that preserves elements of the area wildlife that was especially built for educational and cultural purposes. Through exhibits, the park shows visitors the wildlife, traditions and architecture of ancient Guayaquil.

The space is divided into three sections: Wildlife area: four hectares (9 acres) that recreate the original natural surroundings where Guayaquil rose; it has mammals and natural species that are exhibited in the 23

stations along the course of the trail.

Urban - Architectural Zone: it recreates the golden era of the Ecuadorian cocoa production, with elements of coastal haciendas. On the weekend trips, characters dressed in costumes used during this period circulate in these houses. It is a historical walk through heritage buildings.

Area of traditions: it displays the past and present of rural life in the Ecuadorian Coast, related to the production of cocoa or the so-called "gold nugget" that had its highest peak in the early 1900s. During the visit, one learns about the process to make chocolate.

A characteristic are the "art shows" representing the Montubio from the Coast. Shows are presented Wednesday to Sunday and holidays at 13:00.

THE BOTANICAL GARDEN



Photo: courtesy Tourism and Civic Promotion Direction - Guayaquil's Municipality

- **Entrance Fee:** USD \$3 adults, children, seniors and students: \$1,50
- **Address:** Las Orquídeas Ciudadela, Cerro Colorado
- **Opening Hours:** 08:00 to 16:00

It is located to the northern side of the city. It is another of the sites one cannot miss where you can see the most representative flora and fauna of the Pacific Coast, such as orchids, bromeliads, ferns, heliconias, acacias, native trees, and an area of bonsais and medicinal plants. The visit to the garden takes place through a path that houses 800 species of plants, 164 trees, Amazonian animals, butterflies, fossil, fowl and the "command sergeant" path.

CHURUTE MANGROVES



Photos: Ministry of the Environment

- Created in 1979; it is located 46 kilometers from Guayaquil and it is part of the RAMSAR Convention for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources.
- Its 49,383 hectares (122,028 acres).

<http://www.allyouneedisecuador.travel/trade/en/travelplanner>

In the Gulf of Guayaquil, sweet waters from the Andes mingle with the salty waters of the Pacific Ocean. This has originated the Pacific's largest estuary, a haven for flora and fauna and for diverse representations of Colombian ethnicity, such as the Huancavilca, Valdivia, Chorrera, Guangala, Jambeli, Guayaquil and Milagro.

The visit to the reserve takes at least a whole day and about an hour to get there.



Photos: courtesy Pro - bosque Foundation www.bosquecerroblanco.org

CERRO BLANCO

TROPICAL DRY FOREST



- **Location:** Kilometer 16, on the route to the Costa
- **Opening Hours:** Monday to Sunday, from 08:00 to 16:00
- **Entrance Fee:** Children US\$3, adults and university students US\$4, senior citizens US\$2, bicycle route US\$2

www.bosquecerroblanco.org

SANTAY

ISLAND



- Simon Bolivar, liberator of Gran Colombia, visited the island in 1829.

- In the island you can hike, observe wildlife, cycle taste local food. .

www.ambiente.gob.ec



Photos: Ministry of the Environment

This National Recreational Area created in 2010, was recently enhanced thanks to the construction of two bridges that link it with Duran and Guayaquil. The island comprises 2.179 hectares (5.384 acres) where 56 families live, approximately 210 people, distributed in eco - villages. You can access the island walking, cycling or by the river. The entrance is via a bridge located on El Oro Street, opened from 06:00, 17:00 (The maximum return time is 18h00).

ART AND CULTURE



LINKS OF INTEREST

- www.cinemamalecon.com
- www.museoluisnoboanaranjo.com
- www.museos.gob.ec/redmuseos/maac
- www.museodeguayaquil.com

www.turismo.guayaquil.gob.ec



Guayaquil is a city that breathes art and culture. These values are displayed in fourteen museums, which offer different themes that reflect the identity of this port city.

In this range of displays, one finds art in all its expressions: museums of paintings, sculptures, coins, religious art, pieces of ancient cultures, among others, that gave rise to our identity, among others. Art of Guayaquil is also manifested through representative sculptures and murals, located in squares, parks and vehicular inter-exchange passes that recreate aspects of the history, identity, customs and townsman art.

The Simon Bolivar Liberator Cultural Centre is part of a complex that offers anthropological expressions. The MAAC is located (Anthropological Museum of Contemporary Art); it displays pre-Columbian art of Ecuador and Latin America, along with avant-garde displays and a cinema / theater hall. Next to this place is the Cinema Malecon, the first IMAX Theater in the country. This route is part of the Simon Bolivar Malecon, at the northern end, where the steps of the Cerro Santa Ana begin.



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PAGE:

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AIRPORT

JOSÉ JOAQUÍN DE OLMEDO



■ Desde el Aeropuerto internacional José Joaquín de Olmedo de Guayaquil toma entre 25 y 35 minutos de vuelo llegar a cualquier otro aeropuerto del país excepto a las Islas Galápagos, en ese caso el vuelo dura una hora y treinta minutos aproximadamente.

www.tagsa.aero

Guayaquil has the largest airport in the country, selected by users as one of the best in Ecuador. Several times, it has been awarded prizes by international entities, in recognition of its excellence and quality. Its connectivity is given in full to all the cities that have air terminals in the country and it offers direct trips to most capitals across America and some European countries.

Located to the north of the "Pearl of the Pacific", the city airport is important for local and Ecuadorian business; it provides facilities for arriving travelers who search diverse services, such as travel agencies, banks, couriers, packing companies, car rentals, restaurants and more.

The airport is about 6 meters (19 feet) above sea level; its runway is 2,684 meters (8.687pies) long by 45 meters (147 feet) wide. 15 cargo and passengers aircrafts can park there at the same time and it operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Guayaquil Airport Terminal S.A., a concessionaire of the Guayaquil Airport, performs inspections and controls through qualified technical staff to prevent risk factors that may cause injury or impairment on the health of workers.

The new section of the national airport terminal was inaugurated on July 31, 2014 with a total of 60,000 square meters (196,850 square feet) of construction, with capacity to host annually more than 7 million passengers.

INTERESTING FACTS

- The airport fee is included in the ticket value.
 - If traveling to Galapagos, you must approach the SICGAL offices located on the top floor of the airport.
 - If you are taking out of the country USD \$10,180 in cash, you must pay a tax of 5%.
 - The Agriculture Ecuadorian Health Service regulates the transportation of live animals. It opens from 8:00 to 17:00 in its office inside the terminal.
 - There is a money exchange office in the airport; its use is recommended.
 - Authorized taxis are found downstairs.
- www.agrocalidad.gob.ec

NIGHT LIFE



Photo: Christian Bruckmann

GUAYAQUIL



Las Peñas

The sun sets to the west of the great Guayas River and the staircase leading to the top of the Cerro Santa Ana is filled with visitors eager to live the neighborhood fesat. Bars and restaurants orderly offer spaces for distraction in traditional houses and on the terraces used as resting places, ideal to cool off with the river breeze.

Celebrations in Guayaquil are felt with grandeur in the months of July and October when, respectively, the foundation and independence are commemorated. Many visitors arrive at the main port to be part of the different events prepared. However, year-round nightlife in the city offers ample opportunities for fun.

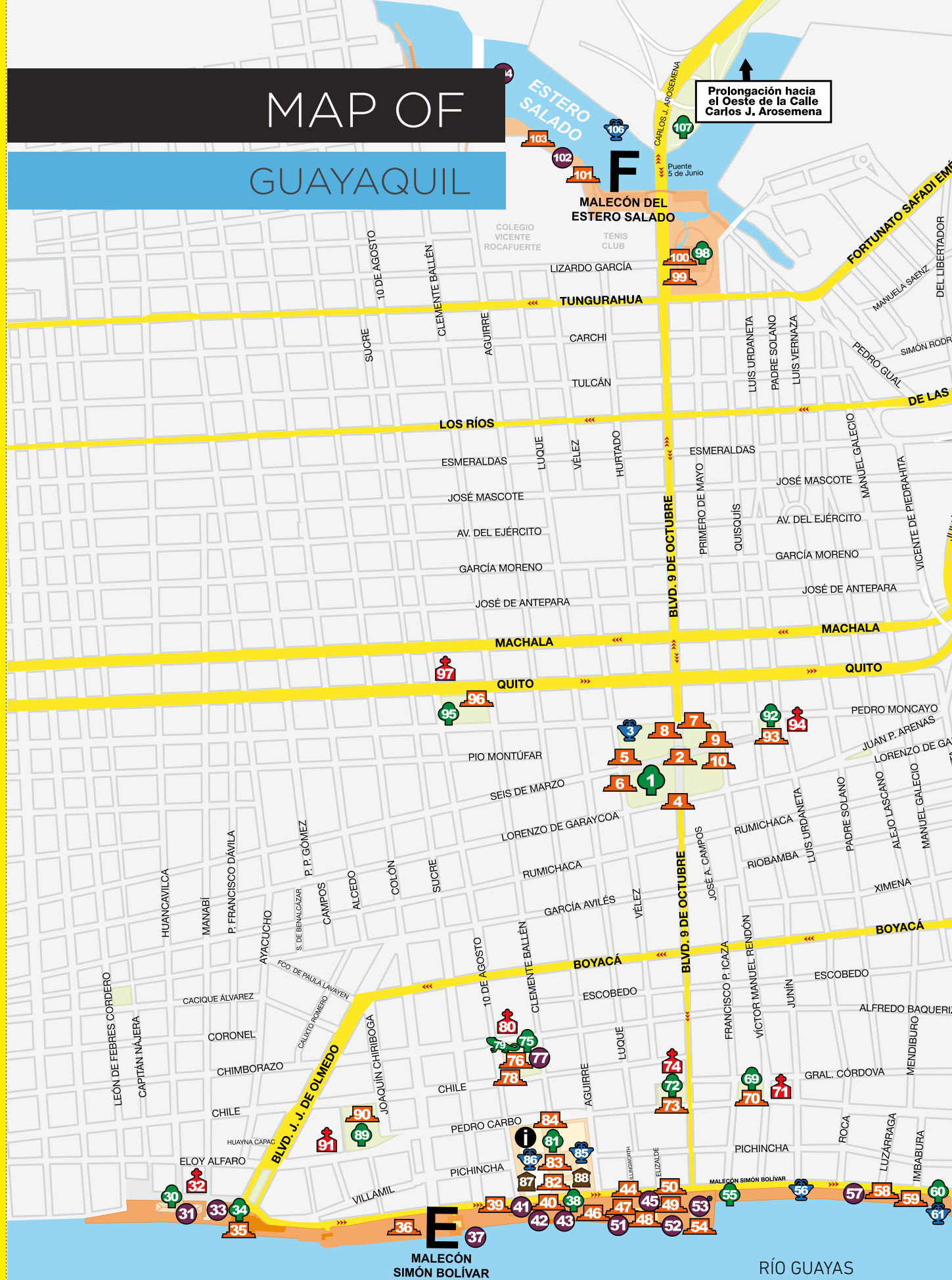
The Estero Salado Boardwalk

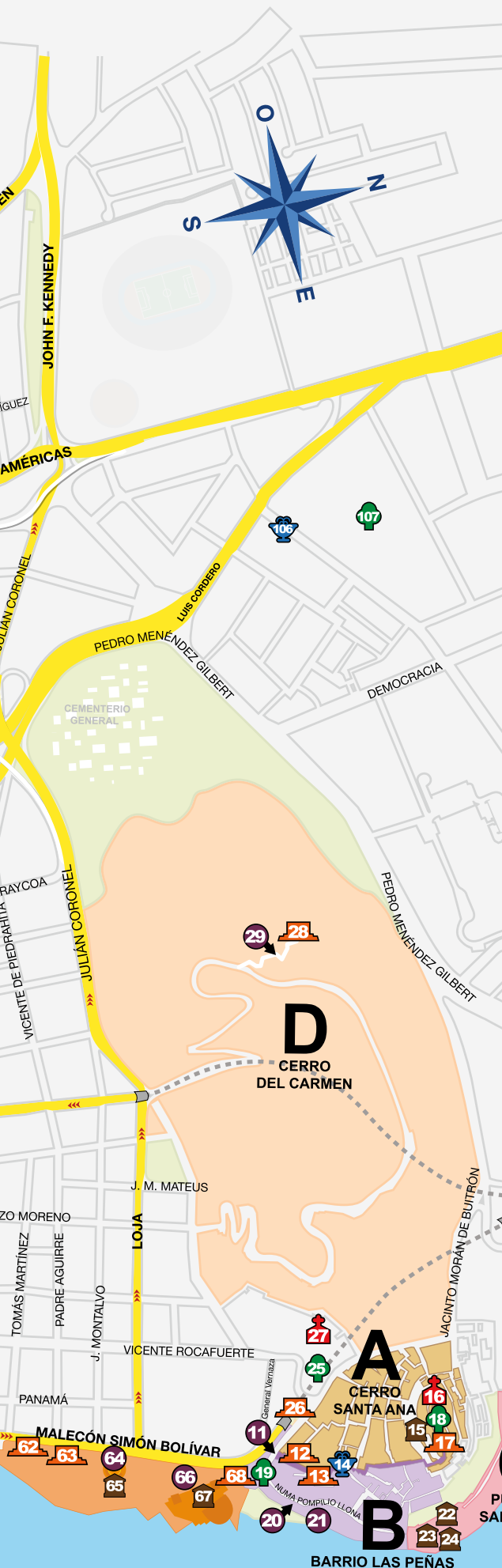
Here, the main attraction is the Monumental Dancing Waters Fountain, a water show with colorful lights that take place during the night and that summons couples and families who visit and walk along this place. Here, it is possible to taste local food, buy crafts and listen to live music.



MAP OF GUAYAQUIL

Prolongación hacia el Oeste de la Calle Carlos J. Arosemena





NOMENCLATURA

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| | Monumentos, Bustos y Esculturas | | Iglesias |
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MAP: Courtesy Direction of Tourism and Civic Promotion Municipality of Guayaquil



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All about the HOWs



Minimum price for a taxi ride

USD 2

Price for a bus ride or public transportation

0,25 CTVS



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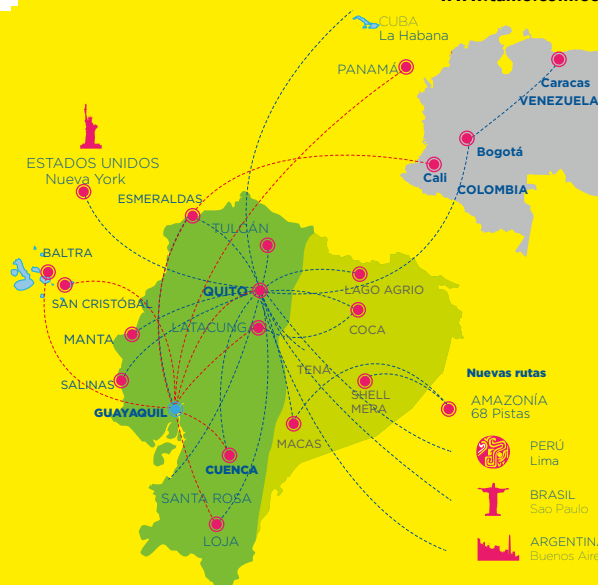


MUSEUMS

Ecuador has an enormous archeological and cultural richness in all its regions.

www.museos.gob.ec

For more information: www.Allyouneedisecuador.travel/trade



RESTAURANTS

39 LUXURY RESTAURANTS
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UNITED STATES DOLLAR is the official currency in all Ecuador



Ecuador has public and private hospitals all around the country. There is medical assistance calling 911 from any telephone.

ELECTRICITY/ VOLTAGES

In Ecuador, electricity is provided at 110 V and 60 Hz, with single-phase dual-wire outlets.

INTERNET/TELEPHONE

There are three phone and internet operators in Ecuador: Claro, Movistar and CNT



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