

Ecuador

High and Low mountain - 2 Days

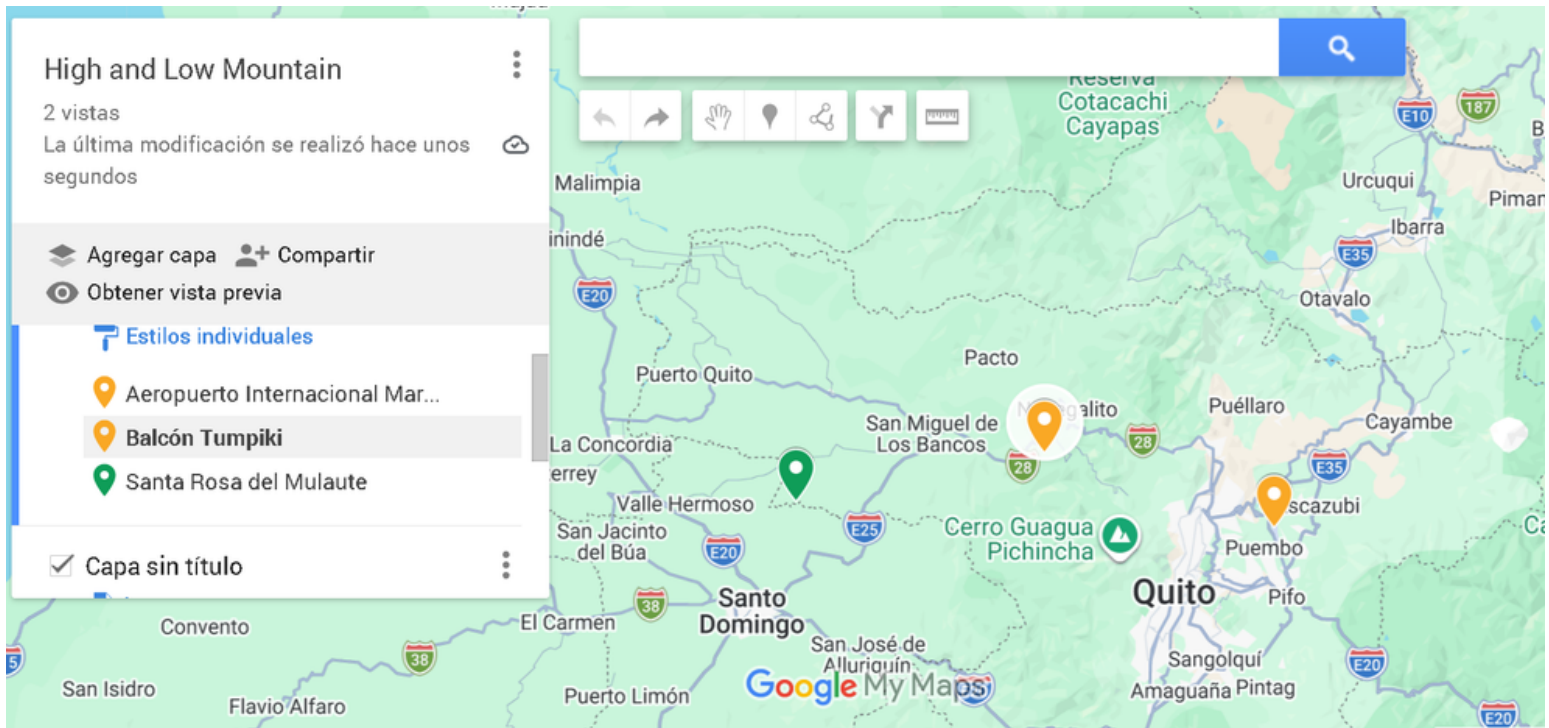


Plate-billed mountain toucan

Experience two days of birdwatching across the different elevations of the Chocó Andino, exploring the transition from high-elevation cloud forests to the warmer and more diverse lower forests.

This experience combines guided birdwatching, native forest trails, scenic landscapes, local gastronomy and a nocturnal walk, giving you the opportunity to discover Ecuador's incredible bird diversity in its natural habitat. From colorful tanagers, hummingbirds and woodpeckers to toucans and other species of the lower forest, each day offers a different environment and new opportunities for observation and photography.

Map



Itinerary



Day 1	Arrival in Quito- Balcón Tumpiki High-mountain birds at Balcón Tumpiki + night walk.
Day 2	Low-mountain birds + exotic fruits. Return to your hotel in Quito.



Description of the observation sites



Orange-breasted Fruiteater by Patricio Herrera

Along the trails and roads of Balcón Tumpiki, we will search for other remarkable species, including the Crested Quetzal, Crimson-bellied Woodpecker, Powerful Woodpecker, Golden-headed Quetzal, and Masked Trogon, with opportunities to observe both males and females. We may also encounter the Orange-breasted Fruiteater and Barred Fruiteater, two beautiful fruit-eating birds that add even more diversity to the experience.

During our birdwatching experience, we will have the opportunity to observe a great variety of birds, including the Plate-billed Mountain-Toucan, Toucan Barbet, Crimson-rumped Toucanet, Black-chinned Mountain Tanager, Blue-winged Mountain Tanager, Golden Tanager, Flame-faced Tanager, and Blue-gray Tanager. We will also look for several species of hummingbirds, such as the Rufous-gaped Hillstar, Speckled Hummingbird, Brown Inca, Velvet-purple Coronet, Empress Brilliant, and Lesser Violetear. These colorful species are part of the remarkable bird diversity found in the forests surrounding Balcón Tumpiki.



Toucan barbet by Balcón Tmpiki

In addition to birds, our walks offer the possibility of observing a variety of mammals, as well as frogs, snakes, spiders, insects, and many other fascinating creatures. Each visit is an opportunity to discover the incredible biodiversity of the Chocó Andino and to experience the richness of the forests and ecosystems surrounding Balcón Tumpiki.



Anolis chloris

Description of the observation sites



Pale-mandibled Aracari

The trails and roads through the lower mountain provide excellent opportunities to observe woodpeckers and other forest birds. Among the species that may be encountered are the Guayaquil Woodpecker, Golden-olive Woodpecker, Scarlet-backed Woodpecker, and Black-cheeked Woodpecker, together with tanagers and other colorful passerines. The vegetation, mature trees, forest edges, and open areas along the route create different habitats where birds can be observed feeding, singing, flying between trees, or moving through the forest canopy. Records from Pichincha confirm the presence of several of these species in the region.

The birdwatching experience takes place in the lower part of the mountain at approximately 550 meters above sea level, an elevation where the forest combines warm, humid conditions with the rich vegetation characteristic of the western foothills of the Andes. Along the route, visitors can look for colorful and charismatic species such as the Pale-mandibled Aracari, Choco Toucan, Yellow-throated Toucan, Rufous Motmot. These species are representative of the diverse birdlife found in the forests of northwestern Pichincha and the Chocó region.



Lineated Woodpecker by Balcón Tmpiki



Yellow - throated Toucan by Balcón Tmpiki



Important notes

The price of the tour is listed on our website. The tour accommodates a maximum of four people. The price decreases as the number of people increases.

Tour inclusions:

- All meals from breakfast on day 1 to lunch on day 2;
- Bottled drinking water
- Soft drinks at meals
- All lodgings
- Ground transportation
- Extra activities mentioned in the itinerary;
- All national park and other reserve entrance fees; and
- Local guiding services.

Tour exclusions:

- Visa fees
- Any flights
- Any beverages expect noted
- Optional excursions
- No tips or gratuities
- Other items of a personal nature
- Binoculars or birdwatching equipment.

This tour does not require a high level of fitness, but participants should be in good general health as most of the birding will be done on foot and may require walking for several hours at a time. Guests will be notified when longer walks may be undertaken. If you have any physical limitations, please notify us in advance of departure. The lunch menu is subject to change; please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions or allergies.

Important Details

The tour begins in Quito on day 1 with a welcome breakfast, and as this is scheduled as an arrival day; you are free to arrive at any time. The tour will conclude after our internal on day 2.

Mariscal Sucre International Airport, Quito (IATA: UIO), Quito is the major port of entry into Ecuador for this tour.

You must provide the name of your hotel in Quito and send your location, as well as the details for each passenger, exclusively to the person designated by Balcon Tumpiki.