

# COLONIAL TOWN: BETWEEN CULTURE, MUSEUMS AND FLAVORS

Half Day Tour in Quito



*Located at an impressive altitude of 9,350 feet (2850 meters) and surrounded by majestic mountains, Quito is the fascinating capital of Ecuador. This extraordinary city offers visitors a vibrant immersive experience into everyday life enriched by centuries-old traditions and a spectacular mountainous background. Quito is the perfect starting point for a variety of urban and cultural adventures.*

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On this day you will experience a journey into **one of South America's best-preserved historic districts**. Your Quito adventure begins as you're picked up from your hotel and transported to a vibrant tapestry of colorful buildings, winding cobblestone streets, intricately built churches and squares, where the fusion of colonial, European and indigenous art is just the beginning. Accompanied by our guide, you'll explore the Plaza de la Independencia (Independence Square), where Quito reveals itself before your eyes. Take your time to observe local life among the syncretism of history, art and culture. A short stroll from the square, will lead you to museums, colonial manors and some of the most iconic religious buildings in this part of town:



*La Compañía de Jesús* stands out with its remarkable murals, exquisite Baroque-style altar, façade, and lavish gold leaf ornaments throughout.



*San Francisco* was Quito's first church, strategically located atop the site of an important pre-colonial market. Its convent houses an impressive collection of colonial art.



The *Basílica del Voto Nacional*, features a stunning neo-Gothic structure adorned with gargoyles resembling local animal species like pumas, condors and tortoises.



Guided by our bilingual expert, you'll have the privilege of visiting two of the most emblematic establishments of this area. Continuing with the exploration of the colonial district, a short drive will take you to an elevated viewpoint known as **"La Virgen del Panecillo"** or "Virgen de Quito" (Quito's Virgen). This conspicuous statue of the Virgin Mary, adorned with wings, rises approximately 147 feet (45 meters) above ground. From this vantage point, you'll marvel at the breathtaking domes and towers of the buildings in the center of Quito and the majestic mountains that surround the city.



Finally, you'll find yourself enjoying a delightful tasting of the world's best chocolate as you learn first-hand about the high-quality cocoa beans produced in Ecuador. At the end of the tour, you will be taken back to your hotel.

End of services.

## **INCLUDED**

- Private Transportation
- Bilingual Guide
- Entrance Fees
- Bottle of water
- Chocolate Tasting

## **NOT INCLUDED**

- Meals
- Personal Expenses
- Soft and/or alcoholic beverages
- Extra and/or non-scheduled visit/activity
- Tips

### **Notes:**

The itinerary and order of visits is subject to change due to weather, municipal regulations, safety and/or unforeseen circumstances.

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