



Ecuador Immigration Guide

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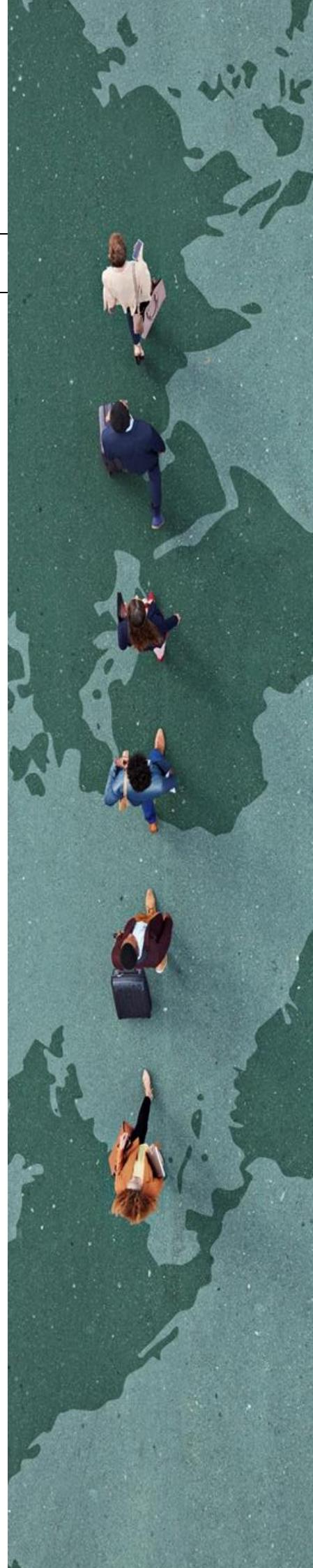
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Migration Guide

Introduction

In Ecuador there are several types of visas that can be granted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility. Their classification is divided into temporary and permanent visas.

The Temporary Resident Visa is a migratory condition that authorizes to stay in Ecuadorian soil for a maximum of two years and can be renewed multiple times.

On the other hand, the Permanent Residence visa is an immigration category that allows indefinite residence in Ecuador.

Countries that require a visa

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility (hereinafter Ministry or MFAHM), in accordance with the laws and in force regulations, has established that citizens of the nationalities specified below must get a visa prior to their arrival in the Republic of Ecuador:

| Nationalities with Visa Requirement | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------|
| Afghanistan | Angola | Bangladesh | Burma | Cameroon |
| North Korea | Ivory Coast | Cuba | Egypt | Eritrea |
| Ethiopia | Philippines | Gambia | Ghana | Guinea |
| Haiti | India | Iraq | Iran | Kenya |
| Libya | Mali | Nepal | Nigeria | Pakistan |
| Congo Republic | Democratic Republic of Congo | Senegal | Syria | Somalia |
| Venezuela | Vietnam | Yemen | Sri Lanka | China |

Types of temporary visas

EY Ecuador, based on our immigration experience, has identified the most common types of visas requested by expatriates, according to the activities to be carried out in Ecuadorian territory.

- ▶ **Tourist Visa:** This type of visa is granted to foreigners for 90 days, extendable for other 90 days. The countries that are part of the Mercosur Agreement will have 180 days which cannot be extended. This type of visa is mainly intended for tourist activities; however, it allows other types of private activities.
- ▶ **Business Visa:** is intended for foreigners who have the objective of residing temporarily or for short stays within Ecuadorian territory allowing multiple entries to Ecuador. The validity of this visa is up to 180 days from the date of issuance. This type of visa allows to perform activities such as holding meetings representing foreign companies to market research and signing on behalf of the company. The visa is not renewable.
- ▶ **Exception Visa by Human Mobility Authority:** authorization for foreigners whose purpose is to reside up to a maximum 180 days in Ecuadorian territory. They may exercise activities such as sports, academic, technological, innovation and art purposes, it is suggested when the assignee is in Ecuadorian soil for a project.

- ▶ **Mercosur Visa:** this type of visa is intended for foreigners nationals of the countries that are part of the Mercosur Agreement on Residence for Nationals, to carry out any type of activities from work to legal representation. This visa is valid for 2 years and can be renewed multiple times.
- ▶ **Work Visa:** visa for foreigners who are under a dependency relationship (labor contract) with a company domiciled in Ecuadorian territory. This type of visa could be renewable multiple times.
- ▶ **Dependent Visa:** is intended for direct dependents, spouses or duly recognized domestic partners of expatriates who hold a valid visa. This type of visa maintains the same validity of the guarantor's visa and is renewable multiple times.
- ▶ **"Rentista" Visa:** is aimed at foreigners who will reside in Ecuadorian territory, receiving income from abroad, from leasing contracts to investment. The validity of this type of visa is 2 years and is renewable multiple times.
- ▶ **Temporary Visa for self-employment, professional, civil consulting or sponsorship services:** visa granted for two years which allows multiple entries to Ecuador. It is intended for foreigners who will perform work activities without a dependency relationship.
- ▶ **Temporary Remote Work Visa:** This visa is intended for foreigners who perform remote work for companies or individuals domiciled abroad. This visa is valid for 2 years and can be renewed multiple times.
- ▶ **Temporary Investor Visa:** This visa is intended for foreigners who invest in goods or economic resources, may perform administrative activities up to legal representation. This type of visa is valid for 2 years and is renewable multiple times.

Additional Services

On the other hand, it is imperative to consider that in Ecuador the official language is Spanish. Therefore, it is required that the documents to be submitted before the immigration authorities must be duly translated into Spanish. In this regard, EY Ecuador offers the following services:

- ▶ **Documents Translation:** we keep the original format of the document, which must be presented to the immigration authorities when applying for the visa.
- ▶ **Apostilles or Legalizations:** to guarantee the validity of the documents, it is imperative that they undergo an apostille or legalization process to ensure that the documents are officially recognized from abroad.
- ▶ **Notarial Services:** this service allows copies of the original documents to be certified by a Notary Public. The notarial certification confers to the copies a character of legitimacy and legal reliability, which is essential for their use in immigration proceedings. Likewise, we provide assistance with signature recognitions, sworn declarations, among others.

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