



TIPUTINI
TRAVEL ESSENTIALS



CAMPUS USFQ
Cumbayá - Pichincha



TIPUTINI BIODIVERSITY STATION
Amazon Forest



CAMPUS GAIAS
San Cristobal - Galápagos

Welcome to Ecuador!

We hope you enjoy your stay in this magical country!

The Office of International Programs has prepared this handbook for you get to know more about the **trip to Tipuniti Biodiversity Station.**

We are more than happy to assist you in anything you may need during your visit. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Best regards,
USFQ Team





Ecuador

Straddling the equator in western South America, Ecuador has territories in both the Northern and the Southern hemispheres. It borders Colombia to the north and shares a border with Peru to the south and to the east. The Pacific Ocean is Ecuador's western border.

Ecuador is geographically divided into four regions (the Amazon, the Highlands, the Coast, and the Galapagos Islands) and is politically split into 24 provinces. Ecuador is a multiethnic and multicultural nation, with a population of more than 16 million people.



ABOUT
USFQ





Universidad San Francisco de Quito

Founded in 1988, USFQ is the first private and liberal arts university of Ecuador. Today, our university has over 8,000 students and receives 1,000 international students per year. We offer 46 undergraduate programs, 34 graduate programs and 1 PhD program, distributed among our 10 academic colleges. We are also ranked as the #1 University in Ecuador and #57 in Latin America (QS University Rankings).

USFQ is the only university in the world with scientific stations in the Amazon Basin (Tiputini), the Choco Andino (Tandayapa) and the Galapagos Islands (GSC). The main campus is located in Cumbaya, and has an extension in the Galapagos and a new hub in Valencia, Spain.

We form creative, free, innovative and enterprising human beings based on the philosophy of the Liberal Arts and the values of:

Truth, Goodness, Beauty and Freedom

USFQ Address

Diego de Robles y Vía Interoceánica
Quito, Ecuador
ZIP Code: 170901



USFQ Services

USFQ DENTAL CLINIC

USFQ offers attention to the general public. In addition, it serves the USFQ community with special promotions.

SIME MEDICAL SYSTEM

It is fully equipped to offer care in various medical specializations. The medical services provided are freely accessible to both the USFQ community and the general public. Members of the USFQ community get benefits in clinic services.

USFQ Veterinary Specialty Teaching Hospital

fulfills the function of training Veterinary students and serving the community through excellence in care for pets (dogs, cats, and exotic animals) and wildlife.

USFQ Food Services

- Marcus: Culinary lab focus on fine dining cuisine.
- Epikvs: Catering Service
- La Tratto: Italian cuisine
- Apice: Healthy, fresh, and natural food theme
- No sea malito: Fast food/Grab and Go cafeteria
- La Piramide: Fruit smoothies, personalized sweet and savory crepes.
- Via Bonita: Buffet lunches daily, with a varied and nutritionally balanced offer (home cooking)
- Ambrosia: Bakery and pastry shop.





BIENVENIDOS

TIPUTINI

UNIVERSIDAD SAN FRANCISCO DE ASIS

ABOUT

Tiputini

Tiputini Biodiversity Station (TBS)

Ecuadorian Amazon

The [Tiputini Biodiversity Station \(TBS\)](#) is a research facility established in Amazonian Ecuador in 1994 by Universidad San Francisco de Quito in collaboration with Boston University. It serves as a steward of 744 hectares (about 1800 acres) of primary lowland rainforest approximately 300km (200 miles) from Quito.

TBS is situated on the north bank of the Tiputini River, a southern tributary of the Napo River within the Yasuní Biosphere Reserve.

HOW TO GET TO TIPUTINI BIODIVERSITY STATION (TBS)

You will arrive in Coca by plane. From Coca, you will take boats and buses to TBS. It takes about 6 hours to arrive at TBS. When you return from TBS, you will also take a plane from Coca to Quito. The trip from Coca to TBS is as follows:

Boat: Coca - Pompeya (2 hours)

At Pompeya, you will enter the Repsol Oil Company facilities and pass through a security check. At this point, you might be asked to show your passport or you will simply be asked for your name. Your luggage will be passed through a baggage scanner.

Bus: Pompeya - Tiputini River (2 hours)

Boat: Tiputini River - TBS (2 hours)

WHAT TO EXPECT AT TIPUTINI BIODIVERSITY STATION?

During your time at TBS, be prepared to disconnect from technology (yes, that includes the internet), walk a lot, and sometimes walk under the rain. There are several interesting nature walks, including a possible night walk. There is also a bird-watching tower and an opportunity to walk along a bridge between treetops. You can also expect to swim in the Tiputini River, relax in the cabins and play cards, eat delicious food, and see lots of monkeys, birds, spiders, and ants!

Tiputini Packing List



Original Passport



Backpack



Long socks



Water Bottle



Hat or Cap



Sunglasses



Light rain jacket



Sunscreen 30+SPF
& Bug Spray



Small flashlight



Hiking shoes



Camera or binoculars



Clothes for layering

Must List

(Temperatures 64- 91 F – humid/rainy weather)

- Original Passport
- Copies of your essential documents such as Passport, VISA, ID, vaccination certificate, etc.
- Yellow fever vaccination record
- Cash small bills of \$50, \$20, and \$10, credit/debit cards
- Health Insurance policies (required)
- Money belt or belt pouch
- Small day backpack
- Sweater or jacket (have it handy during boat trips)
- Reusable water bottle
- Hat or cap
- Sunglasses
- Rain gear (have it handy during boat trips)
- Walking shoes, sandals or other shoes for use in camp
- Clothes: 2-3 pairs of long pants, fast drying (not jeans or spandex recommended), Long-sleeve shirts or two, Pair of shorts, 5-6 pairs of long socks to wear under rubber boots (boots will be provided by TBS), Swimsuit, Extra towel (if you expect to swim a lot)
- Camera (spare batteries and all the memory you expect to use)
- Flashlight or headlamp (with extra or rechargeable batteries)
- Plastic bags or Ziplocs (life savers for cameras in a downpour)
- Binoculars
- If you are taking medicine, ensure you have ALL the medicine you need as you might NOT be able to find them around so easily.
- Spare contact lenses & solution or eyeglasses if you wear them
- Toiletry items: feminine hygiene of your preferred brand, Insect repellent, Sunscreen, Chapstick, Anti-fungal or baby powder, etc
- Toilet paper (just enough for traveling)

Packing Tips

- Try to pack light so you don't have to check any bags at the airport.
- You're allowed to bring a 23kg main bag and a 10kg carry-on bag, but remember that what you bring, you have to carry!
- Put all your belongings in a large garbage bag inside your backpack. Sometimes it rains during the trip and this will help keep your belongings dry.
- You don't need to pack a towel, shampoo or soap. Eco-friendly products will be provided.
- On the walks, light pants are highly recommended, not shorts. You may wear shorts around the station.
- For the trip to and from TBS, we suggest wearing running shoes or other shoes that will not slip off easily.
- Don't bring alcohol. If you do bring it, it will be confiscated at the oil company checkpoint and we'll be charged a fine.
- Bring cash in case you want to purchase something to eat while you wait for the flight in Quito and the boat in Coca on your way to TBS.
- Being on time for all activities is very important. It is also important to be on time for meals, so please always set an alarm, wear a watch, or be near someone with a watch. The meal schedule is usually as follows:
 - **6:30** Breakfast
 - **12:00** Lunch
 - **19:00** Dinner





Itinerary

Dates & Prices

Tentative dates: Friday, October 17th to 21th

Minimum Pax: 5 pax

Price per pax: \$1,300 including tax, logistics, tours, meals and carbon removal by conservation of 4500 m2 of protected forest*

Tentative itinerary

Hour / Day	Friday, October 17	Saturday, October 18	Sunday, October 19	Monday, October 20	Tuesday, October 21
Morning 7:30	Transfer to Tiputini Biodiversity Station	Lagoon Trail	Observation Tower	Departure to Coca	Return to Quito
Afternoon 14:30		Chorongo Saltlick, Harpía, Puma, Guacamayo Trail	Tiputini River Float	Tour in El Coca, Ecuador	
Night 20:00	Orientation	Night Hike	Free	N/A	

For more information regarding tours and meals, please schedule a meeting.

* USFQ is committed to reduce its carbon footprint and leading by example in environmental responsibility. That's why the university has joined NFTree, an Ecuadorian initiative that enables the mitigation of carbon emissions through the conservation of high-value ecological ecosystems. By taking part in this program, USFQ reinforces its role in protecting biodiversity and driving meaningful climate action from within the country. All carbon produced within this trip logistics will be mitigated



In Case of Emergencies

Hospital for emergencies in Quito

Hospital Name: Hospital De Los Valles

Phone: +593 2 297 7900

Address: Av. Interoceánica km 12.5 y Av. Florencia

USFQ EMERGENCY CONTACT

For emergencies only

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For further information

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