



Itinerary Overview for the Ecuador Trip, March 11 to 24, 2020 (as of 1/17/2020)

Arrive to Ecuador/Quito/Puembo: March 11, 2020 (Wednesday, late pm)	Group size: 21
Arrive to Coca: March 12 (Thursday, late pm)	19 students
Stay at Tiputini Biodiversity Station: March 13–20 (Friday to Friday)	2 instructors
Field trips: Papallacta – Mindo – Quito: March 20–23 (Friday to Monday)	
Depart Quito/Ecuador: March 23 (Monday, late pm) // Arrive to Syracuse: March 24 (Tuesday)	

March 13-20: TIPUTINI BIODIVERSITY STATION, AMAZON

DAY	DATE	TIME & ACTIVITY
Friday	3/13	8:00 AM: boat-van-boat to Tiputini Biodiv. Station, arrive in PM [~6 hr travel] PM (upon arrival): Orientation to TBS
Saturday	3/14	AM: Small group guided walks (G1. Tower, G2. Lagoon, G3. Hike-1) PM: Boat trip to catch fish and observe riparian vegetation, birds, and mammals Before Dinner: Lecture 1—Fish Communities of Ecuadorian Amazon (Stewart)
Sunday	3/15	AM: Small group guided walks (G1. Hike-1, G2. Tower, G3. Lagoon) PM: Small group guided walks (G1. Lagoon, G2. Hike-1, G3. Tower) Before Dinner: Lecture 2—Lowland Rain Forests of the Amazon (Dovciak)
Monday	3/16	AM: Small group guided walks (G1. Canopy @ sunrise, G2. Hike-2, G3. Hike-3) PM: Student journaling/question sets Before Dinner: Lecture 3—Nocturnal wildlife & camera trapping (<i>TBS staff</i>) After Dinner: Night Hikes (in small groups)
Tuesday	3/17	AM: Small group guided walks (G1. Hike-2, G2. Hike-3, G3. Canopy @ sunrise) PM: Student journaling/question sets Before Dinner: Lecture 4—Research @ TBS (<i>TBS researchers</i>) After Dinner: Night Float (all groups together)
Wednesday	3/18	AM: Clay lick and float and swim in the river: view riparian habitats and fauna PM: Student small group activities (1. Inland mineral lick; 2. Lagoon; 3. Tower rainforest canopy watch; 4. Fish in harbor or forest pools; 5- Other/TBA) Before Dinner: Lecture 5—Arapaima conservation (Stewart)
Thursday	3/19	AM: Students work in small groups to survey rainforest biodiversity of selected morphotaxa (e.g., woody plant fruits, fungi, and/or insects) along selected trails to answer questions such as “Which group found most biodiversity?”, “Which taxonomic group was most diverse”? “How do our estimates compare to the overall estimates for Tiputini/Yasuni”? The group that found most distinct morphotaxa wins a price. PM: Student small group activities (1. Inland mineral lick; 2. Lagoon; 3. Tower rainforest canopy watch; 4. Fish in harbor or forest pools; 5- Other?) Before Dinner: Lecture 6—Páramo ecosystems (Dovciak)
Friday	3/20	Depart after breakfast, 6-hr boat/van trip to Coca, Bus from Coca to Papallacta.

March 12 & 20-23: DAY FIELD TRIPS IN THE ANDES

THURSDAY, 3/12: ELEVATIONAL GRADIENT ACROSS THE ANDES I

09:00 Pick up in San Jose de Puenbo – Transfer to Coca via Jondachi (southern route E20)
Bagged lunch from Puenbo to eat along the route
Viewing typical land-uses in the region, polylepis forest, páramo, cloud and montane forests
Dinner at Coca [Yu Lon Restaurante]
19:00 Arrival in Coca - Hotel la Misión
Overnight in Coca

[MARCH 13-20: STAY AT THE TIPUTINI BIODIVERSITY STATION--see the previous page]

FRIDAY, 3/20: ELEVATIONAL GRADIENT ACROSS THE ANDES II

12:00 Pick up in Coca, Hotel La Misión, transfer to Papallacta via Jondachi (southern route E20)
Stop w/short hike (e.g., Cascadas Rio Hollin/Reserva Narupa/Restaurante Paradero Doña Susy)
Dinner @ Baeza
20:00 Arrival at Termas Papallacta, check-in [family cabins], thermal (volcanic) pools
Overnight in Papallacta

SATURDAY, 3/21: PÁRAMOS TO CLOUD FOREST (VIA TROPICAL DRY FOREST)

07:30 Breakfast at Termas Papallacta
08:30 Hike in páramo (La Virgen, Guamaní, or Baños, Puesto de Control Reserva Ecológica Cayambe Coca)
12:00 Departure to Mindo, lunch along the way (bagged lunch)
16:00 Arrive in Mindo, Hotel Mindogreen Turismo Ecológico, check-in
18:00 Dinner in Mindo [The Beehive/Dragonfly Inn]
Overnight in Mindo

SUNDAY, MARCH 22: CLOUD FOREST & TROPICAL DRY FOREST

06:00 Birdwatching in a cloud forest at sun rise
10:30 Brunch at Mindo
11:30 Departure to Jerusalem dry forest
13:45 Jerusalem dry forest tour
16:00 Depart for Guayllabamba, dinner
17:30 Depart for Quito/Puenbo, overnight at San Jose de Puenbo

MONDAY, MARCH 23: QUITO & SURROUNDINGS, DEPARTURE

07:30 Breakfast at San Jose de Puenbo
09:00 Departure to Botanical Garden, or TeleferiQo/Pichincha (depending on the weather)
12:30 Lunch
13:30 Departure to the Middle of the World
14:30-17:30 Visit to Middle of the World (equator, museums, shopping)
17:30-19:00 dinner
19:00 Transfer to the airport [1 hour]
