



Ecuador

Dates	Location	Type	Cost
June 3 - 10, 2023 Other date options available	Jardín del Eden Salcedo, Ecuador	Intergenerational	\$1,400 per person Plus airfare cost per person
			Group Size: 15 - 50 participants

Where are we going?

Outside of the not so sleepy town of Salcedo lies a very special place, the focus of this mission trip. Jardín del Eden happens to be the highest government-rated orphanage in the country, although you may not have recognized this fate at its humble beginnings. The orphanage was founded by Roberto Altamirano in 1989. Growing up in an orphanage himself, when Roberto reached university age and began his studies, he set about paying regular visits to prisoners at the local jail in his free time. In these Ecuador prisons, shockingly many children were left with no choice but to live in jail with their condemned fathers. They had no other home. Small cells would at times hold several children, where cold floors served as their only bedding. Sharing what little food they were offered and participating in the daily prison drills constituted the new lives of these forgotten youths.

As the years passed, the children’s social neglect became more and more obvious to the Salcedo residents, but no one would offer a solution. One day a prisoner said to Roberto, “Nice of you to come visiting and talking, but you are like all the others. You just talk, but you don't act. Go do something.” Roberto was deeply moved by the children’s situation, and God decided the time was right to act, and He had His man. Roberto resolved to commit one year to the Lord, and began his adventure. Jardín del Eden hosts prisoners’ children, those mistreated or abandoned by their parents, children who formerly worked and lived on the streets, as well as those orphaned or whose parents were unable to support them. This unique haven nestled in the Andes Mountains of South America provides shelter, home-cooked meals, medical care, schooling, and professional training for the youths who live there.

What are we doing?

Your team will participate in experiential cross-cultural training, attend a worship service in Ambato, and learn about life in the community. There will be many opportunities to engage with the children of Jardín del Eden through crafts, Kids Club, and sport activities.

The team will be constructing a class room for vocational training. We will work alongside the community on tasks such as hauling sand, mixing concrete, laying foundations, carpentry, finishing concrete, and painting.

Travel, Lodging, and Food

You'll fly into Quito where World Servants will meet you and transport you to a hotel in the city for the evening. The next day we will travel to Salcedo, where we will stay in a small hotel, with hotel-style rooms including 2 beds and a bathroom in each. World servants will arrange for all in-country travel, which is included as part of your trip fee.

All meals will be prepared for us by hotel staff. The main diet consists of bread, potatoes, beef, pork, and chicken, eggs, rice, tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce, peppers, carrots, beans, avocados, along with fresh fruit. Clean, safe, bottled water will be available to the team at all times.

The team will spend their day off in Baños, a resort town on the edge of a volcano boasting many attractions, such as waterfalls, hiking, hot water springs, and local shopping.

Is it safe?

Trip safety is extremely important to World Servants and our host community. The community we are working and staying in is considered very safe and we do not anticipate any safety issues.

COVID-19 Safety Response

We are working diligently to address the directives of the communities we serve in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19). Be assured, World Servants will not hesitate to cancel or suspend a trip if appropriate. Please see our website for information regarding [COVID protocol](#) for all World Servants trips.

Registration

Please register online at www.worldservants.org by March 1, 2023.

Questions?

Please feel free to contact the Community Specialist for Ecuador, Tim Gibson, at tgibson@worldservants.org or 800-881-2170, or by cell at 612-839-2580 if you have any questions.



World Servants is a worldwide, interdenominational organization. For more than 35 years, we have sent people to communities around the globe to be learners, servants, and storytellers open to the works and teachings that God has prepared. Mission participants are challenged and developed through learner-driven cross-cultural training and dynamic short-term mission projects. These projects have a long-term impact both on volunteer participants and local communities while assisting these communities to become self-sustaining and interdependent. Our hope is participants will be inspired to continue to serve people in need upon their return home. We believe as people develop as servants and leaders, they implement servant hood into all areas of life: business, family, community, congregations, government, and international relationships.