This brochure offers a panoramic view of the biological and cultural diversity of Machalilla National Park (MNP), as well as practical information for the visitor: a geographic and a tourist map, sites you do not want to miss, outstanding tourist activities, some useful recommendations for your trip, and a directory of services.

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Parrotfishes can change sex several times during their lives, changes which are shown in its psychedelic colors.
GALÁPAGOS NATIONAL PARK
GALÁPAGOS MARINE RESERVE

PACIFIC COAST
1. GALERA SAN FRANCISCO MARINE RESERVE
2. MACHALILLA NATIONAL PARK
3. MANGLARES CHURUTE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
4. MACHÉ CHINDUL ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
5. SANTA CLARA ISLAND WILDLIFE REFUGE
6. MUISNE RIVER ESTUARY MANGROVES WILDLIFE REFUGE
7. EL SALADO MANGROVES FAUNA-PRODUCTION RESERVE
8. SANTA ELENA PENINSULA MARINE FAUNA WILDLIFE REFUGE
9. EL MORRO MANGROVES WILDLIFE REFUGE
10. PACOCHE WILDLIFE REFUGE
11. PARQUE LAGO NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
12. ARENILLAS ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
13. ISLAS CORAZÓN Y FRAGATAS WILDLIFE REFUGE
14. CAYAPAS MATAJE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
15. ESMERALDAS RIVER ESTUARY MANGROVES WILDLIFE REFUGE
16. LA CHIQUITA WILDLIFE REFUGE
17. ISLA SANTAY AND ISLA DEL GALLO NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
18. PAMBILAR WILDLIFE RESERVE
19. LOS SAMANES NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
20. PLAYAS DE VILLAMIL NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
21. EL PELADO MARINE RESERVE
22. LOS ILINIZAS ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
23. COTACACHI CAYAPAS ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
24. EL ÁNGEL ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
25. PULULAHUA GEIOBOTANICAL RESERVE
26. PASOCHOA WILDLIFE RESERVE
27. ANTISANA ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
28. EL BOLICHE NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
29. COTOPAXI NATIONAL PARK
30. CHIMBORAZO FAUNA PRODUCTION RESERVE
31. YACURI NATIONAL PARK
32. CHIMBORAZO NATIONAL RECREATION AREA
33. PODOCARPUS NATIONAL PARK
34. LLANGANATES NATIONAL PARK
35. SANGAY NATIONAL PARK
36. CAYAMBE COCA NATIONAL PARK
37. CUYABENO FAUNA PRODUCTION RESERVE
38. LIMONCOCHA BIOLOGICAL RESERVE
39. YASUNI NATIONAL PARK
40. EL ZARZA WILDLIFE REFUGE
41. COFÁN BERMEJO ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
42. SUMACO NAPO-GALERAS NATIONAL PARK
43. EL CONDOR BIOLOGICAL RESERVE
44. EL QUIMI BIOLOGICAL RESERVE
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MAP of NATURAL HERITAGE SITES
Patrimonio de Áreas Naturales del Estado, PANE
Machalilla National Park is located in the province of Manabí; its name honors the Machalilla culture (1800 B.C.-1000 B.C.). The Machalilla were one of several cultures that thrived in this area, thanks to the immense biological richness of the location.

Machalilla hosts the last remnants of one of the most threatened ecosystems in the world: the Pacific dry tropical forest. Together with the forests of northeastern Peru, this Manabí forest forms the Tumbes region, a region that is unique for its great number of endemic species, or in other words, species that only exist here. The dry forest is home to endangered animals like the ocelot and the white-tailed deer. Adapted to live in dry conditions for several months out of the year, the majority of the plants in these forests lose their leaves seasonally. Others, like the towering ceibo tree, have a thick trunk with a hole, where it stores water for when the rains cease to fall.

Not all of the forest in Machalilla is dry; about 20% of its area is covered by cloud forest and permanently cloaked in green. The clouds coming from the sea collide with the Chongón Colónche mountains, wrapping them up in a constant fog, which gives life to the forest. Many orchids and bromeliads can be found, plants which manage to survive in the tree branches without ever putting a single root in the ground. In the highest parts of the forest, toucans and trogons display their colorful feathers. Similar to these birds, howler monkeys mark their territory with the powerful call which gives them their name, and which can be heard from several kilometers away.

At the boundary between the forest and the sea, Machalilla contains the last beaches in the country that have not been invaded by concrete. This makes them a sanctuary for species that require unaltered beaches in order to survive. Such is the case of the sea turtles that arrive by night to build their nests. For the hawksbill sea turtle, which was nearly exterminated in the eastern Pacific due to its much sought-after shell, these are the only beaches on the entire South American coast where they make their nests.

Underwater, more secrets await. The marine area of the Park hosts one of the most extensive coral reefs on the coast of continental Ecuador. The reefs have been compared to the tropical rainforest for their diversity. Full of life and color, they are the home, food source and refuge for an infinite number of species. It is common to scuba dive alongside parrotfish, with their...
Isla de la Plata is the only place outside of the large nesting colony on Isla Española in the Galapagos Islands where the magnificent Galapagos albatross reproduces. These birds’ enormous wings—they may span up to three meters when measured from tip to tip—allow them to spend years flying above the sea without ever touching land.

Psychedelic designs and strong beaks, which they use to grab pieces of coral and to feed on the algae that grow there. When they defecate, these fish leave behind traces of completely pulverized coral, which contributes to the formation of white sands beaches.

Twenty-seven kilometers off the coast is Isla de la Plata (Spanish for “Silver Island”). At the heights of its cliffs you can hear the cacophony of thousands of sea birds nesting or looking for a mate: various types of boobies, frigates, tropical birds and albatrosses. The nutrient-rich waters, brought from Antarctica by the cold Humboldt current, provide the birds with the energy they need for reproduction. This current is also the reason that during the winter (from June to November) we can find one of the world’s largest gatherings of manta rays, peaceful giants related to the shark whose bodies can measure up to seven meters across. Other notable migrants in these waters include humpback whales, who travel about eight kilometers to mate and give birth along the coast of Machalilla. From a boat, and even from the cliffs, you can witness their acrobatic jumps, and by submerging yourself under the sea you can listen to the complex songs of the male humpbacks.

**Biodiversity in MNP***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Machalilla no. of species</th>
<th>Ecuador no. of species</th>
<th>% of national total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flora</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>15,306</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mammals</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>21.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birds</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>1,616</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amphibians</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coral reef fish</td>
<td>75</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*These figures are, of necessity, estimates and subject to change.
Machalilla possesses an important archaeological legacy from the cultures that lived here thousands of years ago. They were potters, farmers, fishers and merchants who settled by the bays and along the interior rivers. Among the oldest of these cultures is the Valdivia, who existed more than five thousand years ago. It was one of the first cultures in the Americas to use pottery; its best known piece is the Venus of Valdivia, a tiny, feminine figure made of ceramic and intended to symbolize matriarchy and fertility.

Over time, the Valdivia culture transformed into the Machalilla culture (1800-1200 B.C.), which buried its dead under ceramic turtle shells. This ultimately led to the Chorreraque culture’s occupation of the region for more than 700 years, beginning in 1200 B.C. Among their remains, many bowls, with representations of animals such as dogs, monkeys, frogs, anteaters and turtles, have been found. Between the years 500 B.C. and 500, the Bahia culture developed, and further south, the Guangala culture. For the Bahia people, Isla de la Plata was an important religious center.

Finally, the Manteño culture preceded the arrival of the Spanish in the middle of Machalilla is in the area where the Valdivia culture flourished, one of the first places in the Americas where there is evidence of ceramic figures and the cultivation of corn. In archaeological sites and museums it is possible to take a journey into the past by viewing these artifacts. Nowadays, in the market and on the beach, the gastronomical traditions of Manabi make this province’s cuisine the most renowned in Ecuador.

In Machalilla culture it was common to place bandages and other structures on children’s skulls in order to deform the cranium, giving it an elongated appearance. This look was considered a symbol of beauty and an indicator of social status.
The spondylus was an important good of exchange that allowed the coastal communities to obtain other materials, such as obsidian and copper from the Andes. Because of its high value and its representation of rain and fertility, spondylus was used in the graves of the nobility in several cultures in Ecuador and Peru, including the Incas.

In the 16th century. Their trademark elements, uncovered by archaeologists, are U-shaped, stone ceremonial chairs which rest upon bases in the form of human or feline figures. Some of these chairs have been found in the town of Agua Blanca. The Manteños were great navigators, travelling and selling spondylus shells in their rafts as far north as Mexico and as far south as southern Peru.

In 1527, when Bartolomé Ruiz, Francisco Pizarro’s captain, was sailing along the cost of Esmeraldas, he came across a Manteño raft. It was carrying 20 men, silver, textiles and a large quantity of spondylus beads. The spondylus shell was, for pre-Columbian societies, one of the most prized and widely traded commercial goods, to the point that it was considered a form of currency. It was also utilized as food, for accessories, like necklaces and nose rings, and as a religious artifact. Objects made of spondylus shell have been found in graves in the Ecuadorean and Peruvian Andes, as well as in distant places in the Amazon, despite the fact that the shell only grows in this particular region of the Pacific.

The population was nearly exploited to extinction, and in 2009, a permanent ban was placed on spondylus fishing. In place of buying handicrafts made from spondylus, the Park offers visitors the opportunity to admire ancient spondylus jewelry in museums in both Salango and Agua Blanca.

The present-day towns that surround the Park have continued the longstanding fishing tradition, and seafood is found in many of the region’s typical dishes. You simply cannot miss the opportunity to try ceviche made of fresh fish or octopus, or to savor a succulent corviche (shredded green plantains stuffed with fish and peanuts). The majority of the restaurants that offer dishes a la carta (US$ 5-15) are found along the boardwalks in Puerto López, Machalilla or Salango. For tighter budgets, lunch at Puerto López’s central market is a tasty option (US$ 2).

In this region, the Fiestas de la Virgen (Celebration of the Virgin) are held on December 8, with dancing usually lasting until dawn. The Festival de las Ballenas (Whale Festival), which takes place in Puerto López from June 23 to 25, includes a big parade of floats and other parades in which the participants dress up as the animals found in Machalilla National Park. On October 12 in Salango, the Festival de la Balsa Manteña (Manteño Raft Festival) is celebrated. To pay homage to the ancient navigators, the townspeople build a replica of a Manteño raft and sail it to the nearby islet of Salango.
Los Frailes beach

A secluded beach sheltered by a dry forest

Los Frailes is a half moon of white sand, with a backdrop of cacti and sebastian trees in the dry forest. It is a preferred nesting ground of sea turtles, and its reefs are home to starfish, angelfish and octopus. The entrance gate is located 10 kilometers north of Puerto López. A dirt road three kilometers long leads to a short path that ends in the ocean. You can take a bus from Puerto López to the entrance and walk the rest of the way, or rent a moto taxi to the beach (US$ 10 from Puerto López). A narrow, four-kilometer path through the dry forest begins four hundred meters from the entrance. Among the cordia plants and palo santo trees –the latter is used as incense in churches all over the country– you can see birds and small lizards as they dart across the path. The route offers views of nearby islets and passes by the hidden beaches of Playa Prieta and Tortuguita.

Isla de la Plata

The offshore treasure of Machalilla

Forty two kilometers offshore from Puerto López is Isla de la Plata. The origin of the island’s name is uncertain, but legend has it that famous buccaneer Francis Drake handed out riches from the Spanish sailboat “Cacafuego” on the island in 1579. It may also be due to the resplendent white bird droppings all over the cliffs! The island was a religious center for the pre-Columbian people who inhabited the coast, especially the Bahía culture. Walking along its paths offers the opportunity to see several species of boobies, frigates and even the mythical albatross performing their mating or nesting rituals. The coastline of the island hosts an important population of Green Turtles, a highlight of the great scuba diving you can experience here. Scuba diving excursions (US$ 40-45 per person) can be booked with tour operators in Puerto López.

The Masked Booby lays two to three eggs at a time, but raises just one chick. This species practices fratricide: the oldest chick pushes the smallest one from the nest, and its parents stop feeding it.
The community of Agua Blanca

Where time stands still

Enclosed within the dry forest is the peaceful town of Agua Blanca, the old administrative center during the powerful Salangome rule of the Manteño culture. The bases of some buildings and several archaeological items can now be seen in the community museum. There is a diverse bird population, and it is easy to spot motmots with their colorful green and turquoise feathers. Meanwhile, bathing in the community’s sulfur lake is reputed to have curative effects. Lodging and food are available. The entrance to Agua Blanca is located 4.5 kilometers north of Puerto López, where you must pay US$ 5. The cost includes the service of a local guide. From the entrance, you must travel seven kilometers in order to arrive at the town.

El Rocío Trail

Through the belly of the dry forest

Machalilla Park protects the principal remains of dry tropical forest on the Ecuadorian coast. This trail offers an opportunity to experience the forest from within, walking among centuries-old cascol and araguaney trees. From the lookout points you can see the rugged coastal profile, carved by waves and winds. The steep slopes make this a demanding hike. At the end of the four-mile journey, it is possible to camp. The entrance to the trail is 5 kilometers north of the community of Machalilla, which is in charge of tourism here. The US$ 5 entrance fee also includes the service of a local guide.

River Ayampe basin

Source of abundant basin

The Ayampe River is one of the best places in the area to observe birds, many of which are endemic to the Tumbes region. It is easy to see kingfishers following the line of the river or toucans crossing the heights of the canopy. Of particular interest is the Esmeraldas Woodstar, a tiny hummingbird endemic to Ecuador which is in danger of extinction. The river is a source of water for Puerto López and several surrounding communities. Despite the low river flow, its fresh, clear water, invites swimming or wading and exploration of its banks. To get there, catch a southbound bus in Puerto López and get off after travelling 17 kilometers. For the most enjoyable birdwatching experience, it is recommended that you hire a specialized guide with one of the tour operators (US$ 45–85).

Tortuguita Beach, next to Los Frailes.

The migratory Summer Tanager.
Whale-watching

From June to September, humpback whales visit Machalilla Park. They travel from Antarctica in search of warmer waters in which to mate and give birth (for that reason it is common to see them with their offspring). To see these giants, you must take a boat tour. It is recommended that you make reservations one day in advance. The duration of the trip depends on the location of the whales, but it usually lasts between three and four hours. As these months make up the coast’s cold season, a light sweater and windbreaker or rain jacket are recommended. Anyone who is not accustomed to sea travel may prevent seasickness with over-the-counter medication. Avoid any behavior that may harm the whales, such as chasing them, coming within 100 meters of them or travelling in groups of more than three boats.

Scuba diving

Scuba diving relies on the assistance of air tanks that allow you to go underwater for prolonged periods of time. In order to dive, previous training is required. Machalilla is a great place for this sport because it is the southern limit of coral reef distribution in the Pacific Ocean. In addition, because multiple currents come together here, the Park combines the wildlife of both the north and the south. Several places exist where you can scuba dive among black corals and alongside green sea turtles. The most popular diving spots are on the islet of Salango and in the rocks of Los Ahorcados. On Isla de la Plata between June and September, you can hear the song of the humpback whales underwater and swim next to giant manta rays. Corals are delicate animals which grow very slowly; when scuba diving, avoid sitting or resting upon them. A typical diving tour includes equipment rental and two dives (US$ 90-110). Scuba diving courses are also available.

Snorkeling or surface diving

The Park contains several reefs within its marine zone which are ideal for exploration while snorkeling or surface diving. Some of the best sites are the Parcela Marina on the Salango islet and several spots at Los Frailes beach (Horno de Pan, Playa de Los Frailes and Playa Prieta). To get to Salango and Horno de Pan, a boat is required. Many tour operators include snorkeling in their tours (US$ 20-30 /day). Most fish can be seen close to the rocks, but beware of strong waves and avoid touching places where there are stinging species, such as sea urchins.

Corals are millimeter-sized animals, soft and tentacled, that form colonies composed of thousands of individual corals. The hard shell that we see is calcium carbonate, which the corals secrete so that it may cover and protect them like an exoskeleton. They have a symbiotic relationship (mutually beneficial) with several species, including some algae, which provide the corals with oxygen and nutrients in exchange for a firm substrate to live on.
Walking or horseback riding in the cloud forest

Mountainous sectors, like San Sebastian, offer the opportunity to enter the cloud forest and explore its abundant vegetation: bromeliads, orchids and lianas hanging from tall trees. You can see a variety of birds in the dry forest and, with a little luck, howler monkeys. It is recommended that you wear clothing and shoes that are comfortable for walking, as well as protection against the sun and insects. From December to May, the rainy season, it is necessary to wear waterproof clothing. The dirt road between Puerto López and Guale leads to the Río Blanco area, where the trailheads are located. There are ecotourism initiatives underway in the area.

Bicycle journeys

For those travelers who wish to appreciate the landscape while also getting a bit of exercise, there are several routes you can enjoy on a bicycle. Some of the most popular options are the route from Puerto López toward the north to Los Frailes (13 kilometers) or Agua Blanca (11.5 kilometers) and travelling southward to Salango (5 kilometers). Another, longer route starts in Puerto López, continues toward Guale, crossing the Chongón Colonche mountain range and ends in the Ayampe River basin. From there, the highway will lead you back to Puerto López, crossing the rainforest by Cinco Cerros, at the western tip of the mountains, on the way (the entire circuit is 50 kilometers). Tour operators offer bike rentals for independent trips (US$ 7-10 / day) or guided tours (US$ 35 per person).

Visit Salango

Salango is a tranquil fishing town situated 5 kilometers south of Puerto López. During the Salangome rule of the Manteño culture, it was a major center for processing shells into beads and charms. Once in Salango, tours are available to the islet of Salango which include snorkeling (US$ 20). Restaurants and community dining halls offer dishes *a la carta*. The outlook point at the south end of the town provides views of the Salango and Los Ahorcados islets; from June to September it is possible to observe whales from this viewpoint. An excellent place to learn more about Machalilla’s history is Salango’s town museum, operated by members of the community (9:00 am - 5:00 pm; US$ 2.50 per person). Contact: (05) 258 9304 / 098 557 8096 / www.salango.com.ec / info@salango.com.ec
Getting there

Transportation

The best way to access Machalilla Park is from Puerto López, the town with the largest selection of hotels and tour operators in the area. Puerto López is found on the so-called Route of the Spondylus, on the coastal highway, 100 kilometers south of Manta.

Daily flights between Quito and Manta, depart approximately every 40 minutes (US$ 45-70 round trip).

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<tr>
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<th>Tame</th>
<th>Aerogal</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>departure</td>
<td>return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Friday</td>
<td>6:15 am</td>
<td>7:15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>7:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:15 am</td>
<td>8:15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>6:15 pm</td>
<td>7:15 am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:15 am</td>
<td>8:15 am</td>
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If travelling during weekends or holidays, it is best to purchase tickets in advance.

Several bus companies in Quito offer regular service to Manta (US$ 7-8) from the Quitumbe bus terminal. Contact: (02) 381 4810
- Quito: Reina del Camino (02) 382 4875
- Quito: Carlos Alberto Aray (02) 238 3080
- Quito: Coactur (02) 382 4832
- Quito: Panamericana (02) 382 4751
- Manta: Reales Tamarindo (05) 298 8259

Once in Manta, you can travel to Puerto López by taxi (one hour and 40 minutes; US$ 40) or by bus (2-3 hours; US$ 3). Manglaralto and Costanera are two bus companies that leave regularly from the bus terminal in Manta and stop in Puerto López.

Two bus cooperatives have direct routes between Quito and Puerto López:
- Reina del Camino (executive service, 7 days a week at 8:30 pm; US$ 13, eight hours, (02) 321 6633)
- Carlos Alberto Aray, (7 days a week, US$ 11, eight hours)

From the bus terminal in Guayaquil, several bus cooperatives offer service to the terminal in Jipijapa; from there, take the Manglirito cooperative’s bus to Puerto López. The bus company Trans-Jipijapa offers direct service several times a day from the bus terminal in Guayaquil to Puerto López (four hours, US$ 4).

If travelling during weekends or holidays, it is best to purchase tickets in advance.

Safety and health

- Many irregular tour operators exist that may offer more economical rates. These operations do not follow security standards, and therefore, put both Machalilla Park and its visitors at risk.
- Cases of dengue fever and malaria have occurred in the region. These tropical illnesses can be prevented by avoiding insect bites with the use of proper clothing, repellent and mosquito nets when sleeping.
- Puerto López is a peaceful place. However, walking in desolate areas of the beach at night is not recommended.
- At high tide, the ocean currents can be strong. If you are going to participate in water sports, pay attention to sea conditions. Avoid swimming or kayaking when conditions appear unfavorable.

Money matters

In Puerto López there are banks, and at least one ATM is open 24 hours a day.

When to visit

The Park’s wildlife and climate vary depending on the ocean currents. From June to November, the cold Humboldt current comes from Antarctica, bringing cloudy days and mist. Although it may not be the best time to enjoy the sun on the beach, these months are ideal for whale-watching or biking and hiking due to the cooler weather. During this period the average temperature is 22.8°C (73°F). From December to May, the warm El Niño current gains strength, causing more precipitation and hot, sunny days with an average temperature of 25.6°C (78.1°F).

Sustainable tourism tips

- It is important to respect the trails by picking up garbage and avoiding the temptation to collect small animals like starfish or crabs. Also, you must not touch or feed the animals.
- Buying souvenirs or handicrafts made from species such as the seahorse, coral or spondylus is harmful to these threatened populations.
- Many tours offer recreational fishing; remember that in protected areas, such the Salango islet or Isla de la Plata, these activities are not permitted.
- Fishing bans and regulations are conservation methods meant to protect endangered species, so it is important to respect them. Observe the following calendar, which indicates when the fishing and sale of certain species is prohibited:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Minimum size for consumption</th>
<th>Seasons (in centimeters)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lobster</td>
<td>26 cm</td>
<td>mid-January to mid-June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahi-mahi</td>
<td>60 days</td>
<td>early May to early October</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrimp</td>
<td>102.5 inches</td>
<td>Species like the spondylus, seahorse, and sea cucumber</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tour operators

Advantage Travel (Mantarraya)
(02) 336 0887 / 099 404 4050
vantas@advantagecuador.com
www.advantagecuador.com

Aventuras de la Plata
(05) 230 0105 / 099 731 9691
info@aventuraslaplata.com
www.aventuraslaplata.com

Bosquemarino
(05) 230 0004 / 099 707 1080
ventas@bosquemarino.com
www.bosquemarino.com

Cirial Sur
(05) 258 9125 / 099 713 3829
cirial_sur@hotmail.com

Parcela Marina (Salango)
099 116 1888

Ecuador Amazing
(02) 230 0227 / 099 984 8585
info@galapagosamazing.com
www.galapagosamazing.com

Exploradiving
(05) 230 0123 / (02) 256 3905
info@exploradiving.com
www.exploradiving.com

Isla Tours
(05) 230 0201 / 099 196 3503
agenciaslastours@hotmail.com
www.isla-tours.com

La Plata Tour
(05) 230 0221
laplatatour_ec@hotmail.com

Machalilla Tours
(05) 230 0234 / 099 492 5960
machalillatours@yahoo.com
www.machalillatours.org

Mares Dive Center
(05) 230 0137 / 099 866 8668
xanoeal@hotmail.com
www.maresecuador.com

Naturis
(05) 230 0218 / 099 798 9560
puertolopez@gmail.com
www.naturis.com.ec

Orcadas Aventuras
(05) 230 0106 / 099 199 5390
apincay72@hotmail.com

Palo Santo
(05) 230 0252 / 099 230 9366
info@palosanto.net
www.palosanto.net

Hostal Maxima
> Puerto López
$ 14 (breakfast not included)
099 953 4282
hostalmaxima@hostalmaxima.org
www.hostalmaxima.org
★ second

Hostal Tuzco
> Puerto López
$ 13 - 15 (depending on the season)
(05) 230 0120 / 230 0132
jgsalazar1@hotmail.com
www.tuzco.com

Hostería La Barquita
> Puerto Rico-Las Tunas
$ 20 - 67 (breakfast not included)
(05) 278 0051
reserva@hosterialabarquita.com
www.hosterialabarquita.com
★ second

Hostería La Tortuga
> Road to Ayampe, km 86
$ 24 - 30 (breakfast not included)
099 433 0052
info@latortuga.com.ec
www.latortuga.com.ec
★ second

Hostería Aliándaluz
> Puerto Rico
$ 24 - 63
(05) 234 7009 / (02) 244 0790
info@aliaslandaluz@hosteria.com
www.aliandaluz.com
★ second

Hostería Islamar
> Salango’s viewdeck, road to Riochico
$ 35 (breakfast not included)
(04) 220 2346
srh_bq@easynet.net.ec
www.hosteria-islamar.com.ec
★ third

Hostería Luz de Luna
> On the way to Boca de Cantagallo
$ 25 - 31 (depending on the season, breakfast not included)
099 708 8613
info@hosteriialuzdeluna.com
www.hosteriialuzdeluna.com
★ second

Hostería Mandala
> Puerto López’s northern seafront
$ 25 - 38 (depending on the season)
(05) 230 0181 / 099 950 0880
hosteriiamandala@yahoo.com
www.hosteriiamandala.info
★ first

Hostería Azuluna
> Las Tunas
$ 27 - 43
(05) 278 0693
info@azuluna-ecuador.com
www.azuluna-ecuador.com
★ first

Hostería La Terraza
> Puerto Lopez
$ 30 (breakfast not included)
(05) 230 0235
info@laterraza.de
www.laterraza.de
★ first

Hostería Piqueros
> Rio Chico
$ 42
(05) 258 9302
rolfjames@hotmail.com
www.hosteriapiqueros.com
★ second

Hostería Mantarraya
> Puerto López-Salango road
$ 46 - 56
(02) 336 0887 / 099 404 4050
info@advantagecuador.com
www.advantagecuador.com
★ first

Hostería Mesón del Quijote
> Puerto López
$ 80 - 290
(04) 213 6123 / 098 721 4708
reservas@hosteriamesondelquinote.com
www.hosteriamesondelquinote.com
★ first

El Campito Logde
> Ayampe
$ 85 - 146
098 501 6931
85 - 146
098 501 6931
80 - 290
098 721 4708
reservas@elcampitolodget.com
www.elcampitolodget.com
★ first

Hostería Atamari
> Outskirts of Ayampe
$ 122 - 146 (per cabin, depending on the season)
099 190 1300
reservas@atamarihosteria.com
www.atamarihosteria.com
★ first

Prices are per guest and include breakfast and taxes unless otherwise indicated.
Below is a short list of some outstanding wildlife found in Machalilla. Given the extraordinary diversity in this area, it is, of necessity, an incomplete list. Enjoy filling it in!

Fish / invertebrates

- Guayaquil Woodpecker
- Guayaquil Squirrel
- Guayaquil Woodpecker
- Cremnophalus gayaquilensis
- Scirius stramineus
- Short-beaked Common Dolphin
- Delphinus delphis
- White-tailed Deer
- Odocolius peruvianus
- Amphibians and reptiles
- Green Sea Turtle
- Chelonia mydas
- Hawksbill Sea Turtle
- Eretmochelys imbricata
- Green Iguana
- Iguana iguana
- Pacific Horseshoe Crab
- Colostethus machalillae
- Land birds
- Yellow Geiger or Muyuyo
- Cordia lutea
- Algarrobo or Mesquite
- Prosopis juliflora
- Pacific Horned Frog
- Ceratophrys ornata
- Machalilla Poison-arrow Frog
- Colostethus machalillae
- Plants
- Yellow Geiger or Muyuyo
- Cordia lutea
- Algarrobo or Mesquite
- Prosopis juliflora
- Pacific Horned Frog
- Ceratophrys ornata
- Machalilla Poison-arrow Frog
- Colostethus machalillae
- Guayaquil Woodpecker
- Guayaquil Woodpecker
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- Scirius stramineus
- Short-beaked Common Dolphin
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- Colostethus machalillae

* species endemic to Ecuador

** species mentioned in the text
Conscious tourism is a life-transforming experience that leads to personal growth, making us better human beings.

This new concept is based on principles of sustainability and ethics, and promotes peace, friendship, respect, and love for life as the essence of tourism.

It is a pact to live together in a responsible, mutually respectful fashion, in communion with tour agents from sending and receiving communities, the tourist, and the natural and cultural heritage.

Conscious tourism is a living, dynamic concept in constant development. It is an experience in giving and receiving.