

# PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO AND ECUADOR

Under Spiritual Guidance of Fr. Joseph Lazar,  
Associate Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Bolton, ON

**May 25 – Jun 6, 2020 13 days CA\$4099. (taxes & tips incl.) for Toronto departure**

Travel arrangements by QS Travel & Tours Inc. affiliate of Queen Syrena Travel Inc.  
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www.qstours.com

**May 25** Depart for Mexico city. Upon arrival, visit Shrine of our Lady of the Remedies. Also, panorama tour the Zocalo (main square), one of the biggest public squares in the world. The Cathedral Metropolitana is the biggest church in Latin America, and the Palacio Nacional (if it is open)- which hosts Diego Rivera's murals depicting the history of Mexico. If time permits, we then drive along the famous boulevard Paseo de la Reforma, built during the short-lived reign of Emperor Maximilian to connect the main square and his castle in Chapultepec. Dinner and overnight in Mexico City.

**May 26** Full day in **Mexico City**. We depart to the Square of the Three Cultures. Visit the Old and the New Basilica dedicated to Our Lady of Guadalupe, the museum with great art treasures from Spanish colonial times. We learn about the history of Our Lady of Guadalupe and Juan Diego who was beatified by Pope John Paul II. We also visit the Cathedral in the Old City. Mass. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight.

**May 27** After breakfast, we visit Tlupetlac (Church of Vth apparition) and then, we will drive to the floating gardens of **Xochimilco** in the south of Mexico City. They were once connected to the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan (now Mexico City) by a causeway, and the Aztecs grew much of their food here. We will navigate the channels on board of a typical 'trajinera', a flower-decked punt, and will discover how Aztec life was before the conquest. Dinner & overnight in Mexico city.

**May 28** After breakfast depart for **Tlaxcala** and the Shrine of San Miguel del Milagro. Celebrate mass at the site where St Michael the Archangel appeared to Diego Lazaro in 1631 directing him to the Grotto and to a well of miraculous waters. See the image of Our Lady of Ocotlan burnt into a tree trunk after she appeared to Diego Bernardino in 1531. Perfectly preserved, the image in a tree resides in the Basilica of Our Lady of Ocotlan. Visit plantation of agave cactus and try ancient sacred beverage pulque produced in a traditional way directly from the plant. Dinner and overnight.

**May 29** After breakfast, we tour the city of **Taxco**, the famous "Silver City" and national colonial monument. Visit Santa Prisca Church – a jewel of baroque style architecture where we will have mass. We will walk through the town, clinging to a steep hillside, its narrow, cobblestone streets twisting and turning between colonial buildings and opening onto pretty plazas. We will also get acquainted with the history of silver mining in Taxco. Taxco is famous for its silver. Shops line the main plaza and all the streets leading to it, and you will find beautiful silver jewellery, traditional as well as the newest designs. Late after, travel to Mexico city for dinner and overnight.

**May 30 MEXICO CITY - QUITO** Departure to Mexico City and transfer to the airport . Upon arrival in Quito, mass, panoramic tour of Quito. Visit to the "La Compania de Jesus" and **La Merced Church** where inside the Ecuadorian Church, you will see a fine stone sculpture of **Our Lady of Mercy**. Dinner and overnight in Quito.

**May 31 QUITO, ECUADOR** After breakfast, we visit **El Sagrario Church** and the Cathedral with its museum. After lunch, we visit one of the most beautiful churches in the country, "**The Society of Jesus**" where our Lady of Sorrows moved her eyes in front of several students in 1906. We will have our mass in a private chapel here.

**June 01 QUITO - AMBATO** Morning, we will go to the convent of Our Lady of Good Success and pray in front of the incorrupt body of Mother Mariana de Jesus Torrez and the founding mothers. Depart to El Quinche or Hill of the Sun. Visit the Sanctuary of the Virgen del Quinche and celebrate Mass here. El Quinche holds one of the most beautiful colonial and historical treasures of Ecuador. We celebrate mass at the church of the Royal Convent of the Immaculate Conception where the Statue is located. Also, we will Dinner and overnight.

**June 02 BANOS - RIOBAMBA**. After breakfast, travel to Banos, will Celebrate mass at the **Basilica of the Holy Water (Virgen de Aqua Santa)**, located in the central plaza of the city. People come to Banos to see a beautiful collection of murals on the inside of the church. The simple structure appears even more beautiful as a result of its surrounding of mountains and waterfalls. This semi-gothic church is an important place of pilgrimage for local Catholics who come to worship Our Lady of the Holy Water. Travel to Chimbo's Town and visit the Sanctuary of the Virgin of Guayco (Huayco) located at the bottom of a beautiful ravine. Diner and overnight in Riobamba.

**June 03 RIOBAMBA – BIBLIAN – CUENCA** After breakfast, celebrate mass in **the Riomba Cathedral**, located on the side of the park Pedro Vicente Maldonado. Its façade is baroque style, built in white limestone containing reliefs that are present in the aboriginal and Spanish expressions, with scenes from the Old and New Testaments and religious iconography. Travel to **Biblian**, a village 9km north of Azogues on the Ecuadorian Panamericana, the home of Santuario de la Virgen del Rocio (**Sanctuary of the Virgin of the Dew**). Late arrival to Cuenca for dinner and overnight.

**June 04 CUENCA – LOJA** After breakfast, we will celebrate Mass at the New Cathedral of Cuenca (Spanish **Cathedral de la Inmaculada Concepcion**) located in front of Parque Calderon. Visit to the Conceptas Museum and panoramic city tour. In the afternoon, trip to Loja. Dinner and overnight in Loja.

**June 05 LOJA – EL CISNE** After breakfast, we will travel to the town of El Cisne, the site of a much-venerated Marian Shrine. We will visit and celebrate Mass in **The Basilica of El Cisne (The Church of the Swan)** which was built in 1742 and modeled after a similar basilica in Harlungenber, Germany. The statue has been a focal point of devotion for the deeply religious inhabitants of the area. Transfer to the airport for a late afternoon flight to Quito. Overnight in Quito.

**June 06** In the morning we depart Quito for a flight back to Toronto.



**TOUR COST \$4,099.00 INCLUDES:**

- air transportation - hotel accommodation first class or superior tourist class based on double occupancy
- 2 meals daily breakfast and dinner.
- all sightseeing as per itinerary with English speaking guide
- all tips in restaurants and hotels.
- airport taxes, gratuities to the guides and bus driver
- International air transportation from/to Toronto
- domestic air ticket Mexico City/Mexico - Quito/Ecuador

**NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR:**

- single supplement \$800
- meals not specified, insurance, documentation.

**HOW TO BOOK:**

A non refundable deposit of \$300.00 per person is required at time of booking. Insurance must be purchased at time of booking.

**BALANCE OF PAYMENT**

Balance due is payable 60 days prior to departure  
For late bookings /within 60 days/ full payment is due immediately.

**CANCELLATION:**

If cancellation is necessary, please advise QS Travel & Tours immediately in writing. Cancellation charges are as follows:

- 60 days before departure .....\$300.00 per person
- Between 60 and 45 days before departure ..... 50% of the total cost
- 45 days or less ..... 100% of the total cost

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**UNUSED SERVICES:**

No refund or adjustment can be made for any portion of holiday not used.

**GOOD VALUE AND EXPECTATIONS:**

The Ministry of Consumer Relations requires that Ontarians traveling abroad be advised that they may encounter different living standards and practices than those at home.

**FLIGHT CONNECTIONS:**

In the event of a change in our flight times, with or without notice, we cannot accept responsibility for any special connecting fares which you might purchase and which cannot be changed without penalty.

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION:**

A valid Canadian passport is required for all visits outside of Canada. It is the sole responsibility of the passenger to ensure proper and valid documentation. Failure to provide valid documentation may result in denied boarding of the aircraft and cancellation of your flight arrangements without refund. If you are holding a passport other than Canadian, please contact QS Travel & Tours to determine whether or not a visa is required for entry into the country you will be visiting.

**BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE**

One piece of luggage of 23kg per person plus a carry-on-bag /weighting not more than 5 kg/

**FLIGHT TIMES**

All flight times are subject to change with or without prior notice to the passengers or his/her agent. QS Travel & Tours does not accept liability for missed connection or any expenses resulting from an off-schedule, rescheduled or late flight operations.

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TRAVEL INSURANCE (pp dbl occupancy)(tax included)		
Age/Type of insurance	All inclusive	Trip cancellation/Interruption
Up to age 59	\$322.92	\$276.48
60-64	\$399.60	\$338.04
65-69	\$468.72	\$376.92
70-74	\$505.44	\$393.12

Insurance rates subject to change any time.  
Once purchased insurance premiums are not refundable.

**Registration Form**  
**PILGRIMAGE TO MEXICO AND ECUADOR**  
May 25 - Jun 6, 2020

Name .....THE WAY IT IS ON YOUR PASSPORT.....

Address .....  
..... Postal code .....

Telephone: Home ..... Business .....

E-mail: .....

Do you wish to purchase insurance? Yes ..... No .....

Date of Birth: Mo ..... Day ..... Year .....

I wish to share with .....

Smoking ..... Non-smoking .....

Emergency contact .....

Deposit of \$300.00 per person plus insurance (if desired), date of birth must accompany each registration.  
Please make cheque payable to QS Travel & Tours Inc.  
**Mail to:** QS Travel & Tours Inc.  
3055 Dundas St. W., Unit #4, Mississauga, ON L5L 3R8

**OR PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD**(Visa or Master Card only):  
VISA: ..... MASTER CARD .....

CREDIT CARD #: .....

EXPIRY DATE: ..... / .....

NAME OF CARD HOLDER .....

SIGNATURE OF CARD HOLDER .....

**Tel. 905.412.2242 or 1-800-565-3619**  
**Email: [steven@qstours.com](mailto:steven@qstours.com)**