



GUAYAS

TOURIST GUIDE

PREFECTURA
CIUDADANA
DEL GUAYAS



Dirección de
Turismo





PREFECTURA DEL GUAYAS

WELCOME TO GUAYAS

Surely people have been told about Guayas as a province that you should not visit. Today, I want to show you why Guayas should be your next destination. A trip that will transform you and leave you wanting to come back. Don't miss the opportunity to discover a magical place where adventure awaits you around every spot.

Get ready for a full of emotions. Let yourself be carried away by the diversity of landscapes and safe destinations. Immerse yourself in the vibrant culture and warmth of our people. Enjoy exquisite cuisine and discover endless stories that will captivate you.

Your adventures have just begun here. In this guide, you will find out everything you need to plan your trip and make the most of your experience in Guayas.

Do you dare to live the experience?

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PREFECT OF GUAYAS



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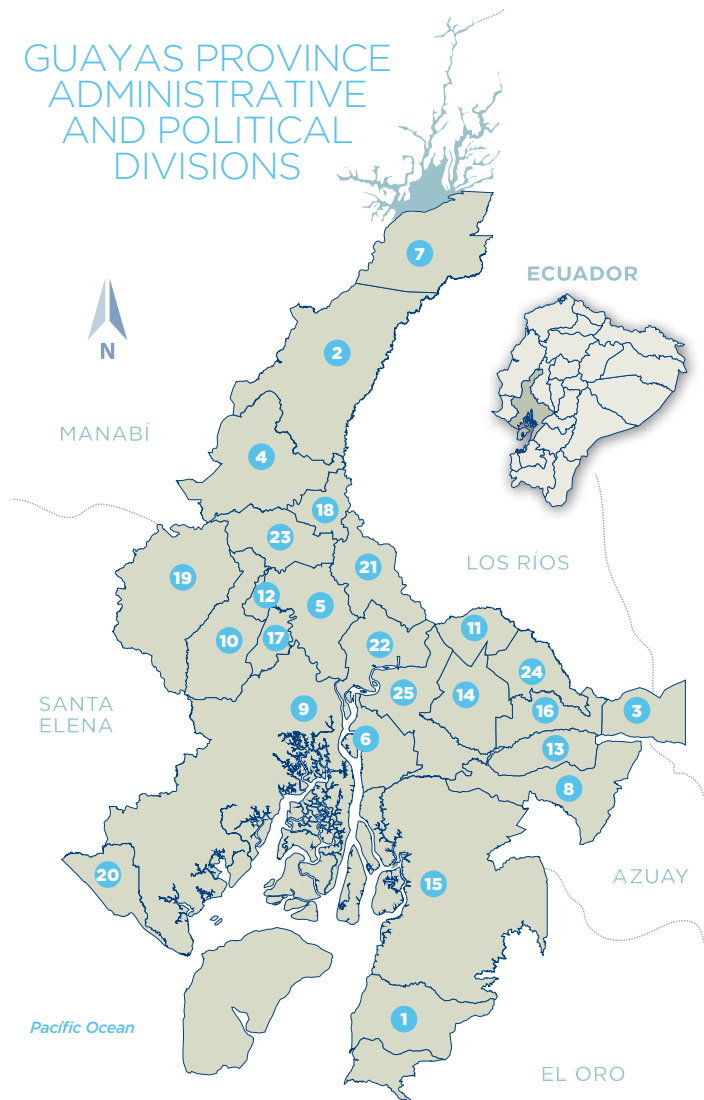
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- Ministerio de Cultura del Ecuador

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GUAYAS PREFECTURE
April / 2024

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GUAYAS PROVINCE ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLITICAL DIVISIONS



Guayas has it all

Due to its great natural diversity, its exquisite cuisine, and its traditions, Guayas is perfect for living unforgettable and unique experiences with family or friends. Paradisiac beaches, adventure, nature, exquisite gastronomy, culture, and rurality, are some of the options offered to visitors.

Guayas is a beautiful province located on the country's coast and has an approximate area of 16,740 km² and an average annual temperature of 23°C. This region is the largest productive, industrial, commercial, and exporting center in Ecuador.

Guayaquil is its capital and the largest city in the country, where the dynamism of Guayaquil is reflected. It rises at the point where the Daule and Babahoyo rivers converge, giving rise to the majestic Guayas River, from which the province takes its name.

It is politically divided into 25 cantons, which in turn are organized into rural parishes and precints; in each of them, it is possible to find both natural and cultural attractions, as well as activities for all preferences.

CANTONS OF GUAYAS

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Balao | 10. Isidro Ayora | 17. Nobol |
| 2. Balzar | 11. Jujan | 18. Palestina |
| 3. Bucay | 12. Lomas de Sargentillo | 19. Pedro Carbo |
| 4. Colimes | 13. Marcelino Maridueña | 20. Playas |
| 5. Daule | 14. Milagro | 21. Salitre |
| 6. Durán | 15. Naranjal | 22. Samborondón |
| 7. El Empalme | 16. Naranjito | 23. Santa Lucía |
| 8. El Triunfo | | 24. Simón Bolívar |
| 9. Guayaquil | | 25. Yaguachi |

The northern cantons are located along the Daule River, while the central cantons are influenced by the lower basin of the Babahoyo River, giving rise to magical landscapes full of greenery that characterize the rurality of the province with its abundant green plantain production, banana, mango and cocoa for export, in addition to rice and sugar cane, among other crops. River walks on its rivers and tributaries represent a unique experience.

In its transition towards the Andes, the geography is favorable for practicing extreme and adventure sports, amid an exuberance that can also be enjoyed in the natural areas of the southern cantons of the province, also influenced by the *Golfo de Guayaquil* estuary, here is located the *Isla Puná*, the biggest island in continental Ecuador.

Towards the south of the province, the great biodiversity of the Naranjal canton stands out, which includes high and low lands, bathed by waterfalls, rivers, and estuaries among large expanses of mangrove. We recommend visiting the Churute Mangrove Ecological Reserve (*Reserva Ecológica Manglares Churute*), ideal for hiking and observing a great diversity of birds among its mangroves, or dolphins during a river walk through the estuary.

Towards the west, with one of the best climates in the world, the visitor will be able to enjoy the warm waters of the paradisiacal beaches of the Pacific Ocean, complemented by large travel facilities, and its exquisite gastronomy.

In Guayas we take care of nature

The prefecture of Guayas has 17 Provincial Conservation Areas, which, added to those of the National System of Protected Areas (SINAP) and others of private administration, make it one of the most biodiverse destinations and with the greatest offers of nature tourism all over the country.

PROVINCIAL SISTEM OF CONSERVATION AREAS

- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Las Pavas - El Triunfo
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación El Guayacán - Guayaquil
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación El Retiro de Pucón - Balzar
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación La Ciénega de Isidro Ayora - Isidro Ayora
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación Rancho Danielita - Guayaquil
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Cerro de Hayas - Naranjal
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Parque Ecológico Cultural Pedro Carbo
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación Eco-Hostería Monoloco - Naranjal
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Puerto Limbo - Guayaquil
- Área Provincial de Fuentes Hídricas Albarrada Valle de la Virgen - Pedro Carbo
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación La Esperanza - Isidro Ayora Área
- Provincial Natural de Recreación Comuna San Pedro de Chongón- Guayaquil
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación Hacienda Ithaca - Simón Bolívar
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación Las Cañas - Isidro Ayora
- Área Provincial de Fuentes Hídricas Río Congo - El Empalme
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Comuna Engabao - Playas
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación San Miguel - Naranjal

PROTECTIVE AREAS: SISTEMA NACIONAL DE ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS - (SNAP) Y SUBSISTEMA PATRIMONIO DE ÁREAS NATURALES DEL ESTADO (PANE)

- Área Nacional de Recreación Playas Villamil - Playas
- Refugio de Vida Silvestre Manglares El Morro - Guayaquil
- Reserva de Producción Faunística Manglares El Salado - Guayaquil
- Área Nacional de Recreación Parque Lago - Guayaquil
- Área Nacional de Recreación Los Samanes - Guayaquil
- Área Nacional de Recreación Isla Santay/Isla del Gallo - Durán
- Reserva Ecológica Manglares Churute - Naranjal

PROTECTIVE FORESTS

- Bosque Protector Sub-cuenca del Río Chongón - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Cordillera Chongón Colonche - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Papagayo de Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector La Prosperina - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Cerro Blanco - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Cerro El Paraíso - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Sendero Palo Santo - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Cerro Colorado - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Estero Salado - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Bosqueira - Guayaquil
- Bosque Protector Daule Peripa - El Empalme
- Bosque Protector Chillanes - Bucay
- Bosque Protector Molleturo-Mollepungo - Naranjal
- Bosque Protector Hacienda Cigasa - Balao
- Bosque Protector Los Gelices (Isla Puná)
- Bosque Protector Yansún - Limbo (Isla Puná)

Guayas ...a destination that flies high

Among resident, endemic, and migratory bird species, Guayas has 554 species of birds registered within 5 ecosystems and other biomes. Birdwatching can be carried out in some spots and protected areas of the province such as the Rancho Alemán in the El Triunfo canton, the La Esperanza Provincial Productivity and Conservation Area in Bucay, the Cerro Blanco Protective Forest in Guayaquil City, among others. The sighting of flamingos, roseate spoonbills, and other migratory birds takes place touring the intertidal strips of the Balao canton, or on a journey through the mangroves of the estuary of the Churute Mangrove Ecological Reserve in the Naranjal canton.

18 RECOMMENDED SPOTS FOR BIRDWATCHING

- Área Nacional de Recreación Isla Santay - Isla del Gallo
- Área Nacional de Recreación Parque Lago
- Área Natural de Recreación Comuna Engabao
- Refugio de Vida Silvestre Manglares El Morro
- Reserva Los Guayacanes (Vía a La Costa)
- Reserva Ecológica Manglares Churute
- Manglares de Puerto Hondo
- Bosque Protector Cerro Blanco
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación El Guayacán
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Parque Ecológico Pedro Carbo
- Bosque Nublado La Esperanza Alta (Bucay)
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación La Esperanza
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Cerro de Hayas
- Área Provincial Natural de Recreación Las Pavas (El Triunfo)
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación Hacienda Ithaca
- Área Provincial de Productividad y Conservación San Miguel
- Planos Intermareales de Balao
- Rancho Alemán (El Triunfo)



Photography: Wikimedia Commons

The adventure always starts in Guayas

For those who love adventure and adrenaline, Guayas invites you to explore every corner of this appealing province to intensely experience the excitement of adventure, offering several options for water and recreational sports.

In the Bucay canton, due to its waterfalls and the rapids generated by the tributaries that descend from the Andes, you can practice canyoning, rafting, canopy, and tubing, among others. In Naranjal or Pedro Carbo cantons, spots such as *Cerro de Hayas* and the *Salto de Oro* waterfall, in their order, allow you to go hiking and also enjoy their refreshing waters. Guayas also has several locations for recreational or road cycling, if you prefer, to live a great adventure.



One of the most intense activities carried out here is climbing the *Cerro del Muerto* (Dearth Hill), located in the *El Morro* parish of the Guayaquil canton, where you can also observe dolphins, always surrounded by a majestic nature that leads to experiencing another magical experience in *Guayas*.

Due to their privileged location and geographical similarity with their native land, Bucay and Naranjal were the places chosen by two Amazonian Shuar communities for their resettlement; we recommend visiting them to marvel at the exuberant natural environment and delight in their cuisine while learning about their ancestral culture. In the Shuar community settled in Bucay, you can enjoy the local waterfalls; while the Shuar community of the Naranjal canton offers a visit to its hot springs.



ECOTURISM & ADVENTURE

• Bosque Húmedo de La Esperanza	Bucay
• Bosques primarios y comunidades Shuar	Naranjal y Bucay
• Isla Puná	Guayaquil
• Refugio de Vida Silvestre Manglares El Morro	Golfo de Guayaquil
• Isla de Los Pájaros	Golfo de Guayaquil
• Puerto Hondo	Guayaquil
• Bosque Protector Cerro Blanco	Guayaquil
• Jardín Botánico	Guayaquil
• Reserva de Los Monos	El Empalme
• Área Nacional de Recreación Isla Santay	Durán
• Comuna San Pablo	El Triunfo
• Reserva Ecológica Manglares Churute	Taura /Naranjal
• Camino Real del Inca	Naranjal
• Cerro de Hayas	Naranjal
• Surf en Puerto Engabao	Playas

Rivers, sun and beaches ...the charm of Guayas

The *Playas* canton extends along 40 kilometers of coastal shores and has one of the best climates in the world. Its beaches remain sunny for most of the year, making it a favorite destination for tourists.

If what you are looking for is to rest or enjoy the sea, beach resorts such as *Playas de Villamil*, *Data*, *Engabao*, *Puerto Engabao*, *Playa Varadero*, and *El Pelado* also have options for horseback riding, surfing, paddle boarding, and also enjoy its extensive beaches.

Everything comes accompanied by exquisite cuisine, prepared with the freshest seafood. Playas also has an excellent and spacious hotel industry, ideal for long stays with family and friends.



BEACHES

- Playa Humboldt
- Playa Paraíso
- Playa El Pelado
- Playa El Arenal
- Playa Varadero
- Playa de Cauchiche
- Playa de Subida Alta
- Playa de Bellavista
- Playa Estero de Boca

CANTON

Playas
Engabao, Playas
Playas
Playas
Data de Posorja
Isla Puná, Guayaquil
Isla Puná, Guayaquil
Isla Puná, Guayaquil
Isla Puná, Guayaquil

RIVERS AND HOT SPRINGS

- La Paloma
- Parroquia Matilde Esther
- El Limonal
- Parroquia rural Laurel
- La Guayas
- Las cataratas
- Aguas Termales Shuar
- Aguas Termales San Miguel
- La Bocana
- Santa Marianita
- Vernaza
- El Mate
- La Gabarra

TYPE

Río Balao
Río San Antonio
Río Daule
Río Daule
Río Congo
Río Milagro
Aguas subterráneas
Aguas subterráneas
Río Vices
Río Vices
Río Vices
Río Daule
Río Daule

CANTON

Balao
Bucay
Daule
Daule
El Empalme
Milagro
Naranjal
Naranjal
Salitre
Salitre
Salitre
Santa Lucía
Santa Lucía

NAUTICAL ACTIVITIES

- Golfo de Guayaquil
- Playa Humboldt
- Paseos fluviales en el río Guayas
- Paseos fluviales en el Estero Salado
- Paseos fluviales

CANTON / LOCATION

Guayaquil / Puná / Posorja
Playas
Guayaquil
Guayaquil
Nobol / Daule

Rural life and the Montuvian culture

The montuvio with its culture and traditions is the lead actor when talking about rural tourism; with activities that involve the visitor and allow them to live a true experience in the countryside, in addition to participating in activities such as milking livestock, planting, harvesting and processing of products such as cocoa, hibiscus, dragon fruit, mango and plum. All of this can be done on our farms and estates while enjoying a real connection with nature.



The *Montuvio* Rodeo and the traditional horseback ridign are events that stand out in the province's annual agenda. Balzar, Salitre and Samborondón are the main cantons where they are celebrated.



FARMS AND HACIENDAS	CANTON LOCATION	ACTIVITIES
• Viñedo Dos Hemisferios	El Morro, Guayaquil	A
• Hacienda La Pirámide	Vía a la costa highway	C, E, F
• Hacienda El Castillo	Vía a la costa highway	D, E, P
• Finca La Gloria	Vía a la costa highway	A, F, G, H
• Finca La Azucena	Vía a la costa highway	M
• Finca San Andrés	Vía a la costa highway	Q
• Hacienda Victoria	Vía a la costa highway	P
• Hacienda Palo Santo	Vía a la costa highway	P
• Hacienda Nina	Vía a la costa highway	A, E, J
• Casa Grande Resort	Pedro Carbo canton	A, B, G, K
• Finca El Lago	Colimes canton	A, K
• Hacienda Las Habras	Colimes canton	L, N
• Rancho Valle Hermoso	El Empalme canton	A, K
• Finca Criadero de la Isla	Salitre canton	A, B, G, K
• Finca Agroturística Bella Isla	Simón Bolívar canton	G, M
• La Finquita	Samborondón canton	A
• Hacienda La Bendita	Yaguachi canton	F, P
• Finca Turística Rosa Celia	Yaguachi canton	A
• Finca Don Colón	Milagro canton	F, N
• Finca Cumandá	Milagro canton	P
• Rancho Vasija de Barro	Milagro canton	A, B, G, H, N
• Quinta La Orilla	Milagro canton	A
• Finca El Chaparral	Milagro canton	P
• Finca Don Francisco	Milagro canton	M, Q
• Hacienda La Danesa	Naranjito canton	A, B, E, K, Ñ, P
• Parque Pachakay	Bucay canton	B, H, I, Ñ
• Rancho La Vivi	Bucay canton	A, E, N, O
• Hacienda El Cadeal	Bucay canton	A
• Finca El Progreso	Bucay canton	A, O
• Rancho Alemán	El Triunfo canton	A, B
• Hacienda Cacao y Mango	Naranjal canton	A
• Finca Mamá Angelita	Naranjal canton	A, F, G

SIMBOLOGY



Guayas ...a destination of faith

The demonstrations of faith and its traditions are part of the cultural heritage of *Guayas*, capturing the attention of visitors. Among the residents and fishermen of the coastal communities, the picturesque nautical parades of the *San Pedro and San Pablo* patron saint festivities in June of each year stand out. In the rural area, signs of devotion are evident during the patron saint celebrations of *San Jacinto* in Yaguachi and Balzar. In Daule, the *Cristo Negro* (Black Christ) festival brings together thousands of parishioners every September as part of a procession of colorful boats on the Daule River.

Also highly visited and with priceless treasures inside, are the Sanctuaries of *Santa Narcisa de Jesús* in Nobol and The *Divino Niño* (Divine Infant Jesus) in Durán, the latter traditionally received every December by faithful devotees, both national and foreign.

Churches such as *San Francisco*, *La Catedral*, *Nuestra Señora de la Merced* (Mary Mother of Mercy) and *Cristo del Consuelo* in Guayaquil city, are highly recommended for your visit.



CHURCHES AND SANCTUARIES - RELIGIOUS TOURISM CANTON

• Iglesia Católica San Jacinto de Balzar	Balzar
• Iglesia Nuestra Señora de Fátima	El Empalme
• Iglesia Parroquial Santa Lucía	Santa Lucía
• Basílica Catedral Católica San Jacinto de Yaguachi	Yaguachi
• Iglesia Católica San Antonio de Padua	Yaguachi
• Catedral Santuario Católico Señor de los Milagros (Cristo Negro de Daule)	Daule
• Santuario Narcisa de Jesús	Nobol
• Iglesia San Carlos Borromeo	Marcelino
• Iglesia Santa Rosa de Lima	Maridueña
• Iglesia Nuestra Señora de los Dolores	Colimes
• Iglesia San José	Naranjito
• Iglesia San Alejo	Guayaquil
• Iglesia Santo Domingo	Guayaquil
• Iglesia de San Agustín	Guayaquil
• Iglesia La Merced	Guayaquil
• Iglesia San Francisco	Guayaquil
• Catedral Metropolitana de Guayaquil	Guayaquil
• Iglesia Cristo del Consuelo	Guayaquil
• Iglesia San Jacinto de El Morro	Guayaquil
• Santuario Divina Misericordia	Guayaquil
• Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora del Cisne de El Triunfo	El Triunfo
• Iglesia Católica Virgen de la Nube	El Triunfo
• Iglesia Matriz San Antonio de Padua de Balao	Balao
• Iglesia Católica San Bartolomé	Palestina
• Concatedral Santuario del Divino Niño	Durán
• Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora del Cisne	Naranjal
• Iglesia Católica San Antonio de Padua	Milagro
• Santuario Nuestra Señora Virgen del Carmen	Milagro
• Iglesia de San Francisco de Asís	Milagro
• Iglesia Nuestra Señora de Las Mercedes	Playas
• Iglesia Central Católica San Lorenzo	Simón Bolívar

Tasting Guayas

Each place and town in the province has its specialty, thus, a wide variety of traditional dishes is possible. In Naranjal and Balao cantons, the exquisite crabs; in *Playas*, its fresh seafood; in *Jujan*, the unique fried pork; in Nobol, Daule, and Salitre cantons, their traditional *seco de pollo* or *seco de pato* (chicken and duck stew); or, in Puná, their delicious *seco de chivo* (goat stew). Guayaquil also has countless places full of flavor and tradition to discover.

Bollos (green plantain tamal filled with fish), *humitas* (corn and cheese tamal), corn or green plantain *tortillas*, *caldo de salchicha* (sausage broth), sweet plantain with cheese, and other culinary delights, can also be tasted both in rural destinations and during the journey to them.



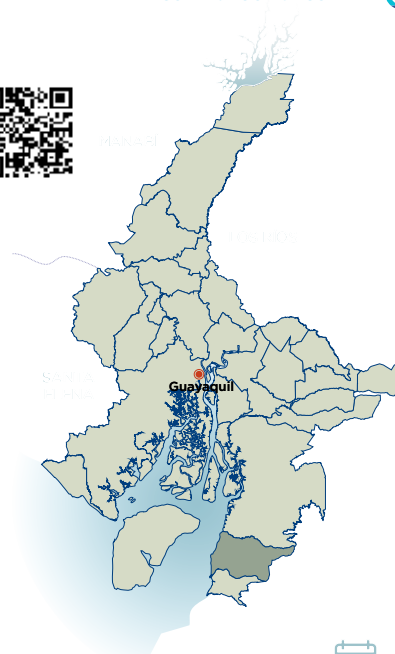
RECREATIONAL TOURISTIC AREAS

CANTÓN

• Guayaquil Tennis Club	Guayaquil / Samborondón
• Polideportivo de Pedro Carbo	Pedro Carbo
• Centro recreacional Pequeño Paraíso	El Limonal, Daule
• Centro recreacional Oasis	Daule
• Centro recreacional La Aurora	El Empalme
• Roquetas de Mar	Durán
• Rancho Hostería Olguita	Marcelino Maridueña
• Parque Ecológico Cultural	Pedro Carbo
• La Costa Country	Chongón, Guayaquil
• Área Nacional de Recreación Parque Lago	Chongón, Guayaquil
• Jardín Botánico	Guayaquil
• Zoológico El Pantanal	Guayaquil
• Garza Roja	Nobol
• Parque Histórico	Samborondón
• Aquamarina	El Deseo, Yaguachi
• Rey Park	Tres Postes, Yaguachi
• Visaltur	Milagro
• Rancho Texas	Jujan
• Complejo Turístico Río Chilintomo	Simón Bolívar
• Parador Turístico Don Papo	Bucay
• Refugio Campestre Las Palmas	El Triunfo
• Parque Acuático Balao	Balao
• Keela Wee	Guayaquil
• Laguna Park	Guayaquil
• Complejo Turístico El Rey (aguas termales)	Naranjal

BALAO

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  124 km from Guayaquil
-  17°C-33°C
-  10 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. Rutas Orenses
 - CIFA • PULLMAN
 - SAN
-  (04) 274-6200 / 274-6201
-  www.municipiodebalao.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- June 13rd San Antonio de Padua
- Oct. 7th Virgen del Rosario
- Oct. 12nd Columbus day
- Nov. 17th Canton anniversary

In this charming canton of the province, nature and culture converge, offering a very special experience for those who explore its riches.

The *Balao* canton, with an area of 469 km², is located at the southern border of the province of *Guayas*, forming part of the *Macizo del Cajas* Biosphere Reserve. It is crossed by the tributary of the *Balao Grande* River and other important afluentes in the area. It has a tropical savanna climate, offering a diverse and welcoming environment.

It stands out for its agricultural and livestock production includes the cultivation of bananas, cocoa, rice, corn, cassava, tomatoes, and coffee, as well as the raising of cattle and horses; however, the capture of red crab and the cultivation of shrimp lead the productive scene, being protagonists during the **“Seafood Festival”** that is celebrated every November, giving the stamp of identity to the local gastronomy, which are symbolized in large **monuments to Red Crab and Shrimp**, located in the central part of the capital of Balao.

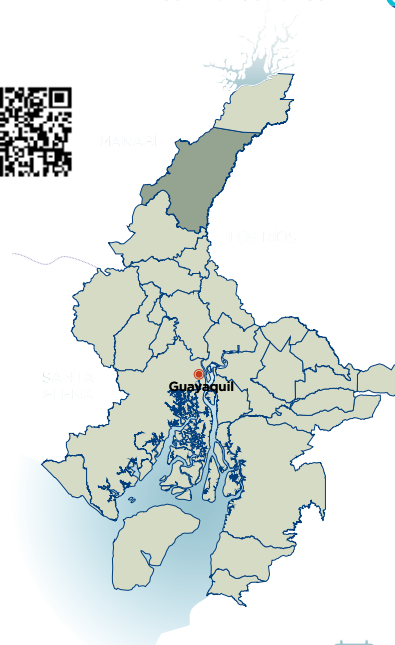
Another icon in the same area is the **San Antonio de Padua Church**, built in honor of the local patron saint, which is decorated every June 13th to celebrate its festivities. We recommend also visiting the **Balao Water Park** and enjoying it with family.

Balao is an ideal destination for **birdwatching**. On the intertidal planes at the shores, sandbars are discovered that attract bird lovers, allowing the observation of shoreline and migratory birds. Among other species, it is possible to see herons, flamingos, and roseate spoonbills (*Platalea ajaja*) feeding in the area. For this activity, we recommend taking a boat from the **Puerto Balao pier**, here you will find the tourist boats that will take you on a pleasant ride through the waters of the estuary.





BALZAR Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- 111 km from Guayaquil
- 25°C-26°C
- 48 m.a.s.l.
- Rutas Colimeñas
 - Rutas Balzareñas
- (04) 203-0996
- www.balzar.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Aug. 13rd Día de la Chucula
- Aug. 16th San Jacinto patron saint festivities
- Sep. 1st Pregón Septembrino proclamation
- Sep. 16th Annal election of the queen of the canton
- Sep. 23rd Munnicipal horseback riding
- Sep. 26th Canton anniversary
- Oct. 12nd Columbus day

Balzar invites you to immerse yourself in the Ecuadorian rural identity, where culture and traditions mix, framed by a privileged natural environment, which is shown as indubitable in the **El Retiro de Pucón Provincial Productivity and Conservation Area**.

The canton is strategically located towards the upper part of the **Daule River**, the same one that crosses the cantonal headwaters and offers very concurred spaces from May to December, the coastal summer season. In the core of Balzar is the **San Jacinto Church**, its historicist style gives a wistful ambiance to this place that attracts lovers of religious architecture.

The Balzar canton stands out for its large corn production, with a harvest period of three months. This product is the main economic engine of the territory, where cocoa, bananas, and mangoes are also seeded, among other crops. Balzar also has an important production of Teca wood. Its forest diversity contributes to the landscape, which includes other varieties of trees such as *Balsa*, *Palo de Vaca*, *Guachapelí*, *Guayacán*, *Laurel* and Mahogany.

Balzar is also spotted as a producer of beef cattle and dairy products. Every year it celebrates its productive wealth at the “San Jacinto de Balzar Agricultural and Livestock Fair”, an occasion that shows its importance for the canton and the region. During this event, the “Biggest Cheese in South America” is made. The tradition reaches its climax with the Rodeo Montuvio, this festivity includes the election of the “Criolla Bonita” beauty contest and the competition for the best horse rider, whose maneuvers excite the attendees.

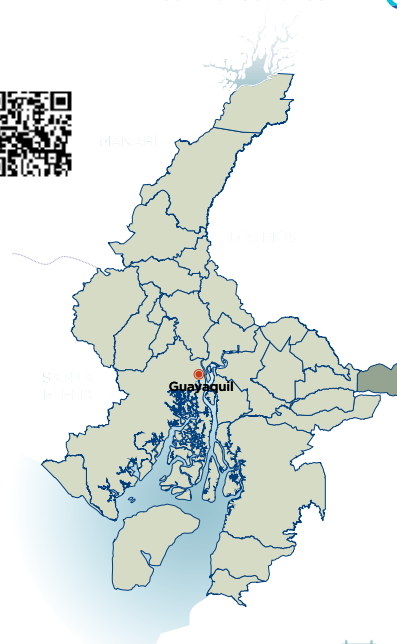
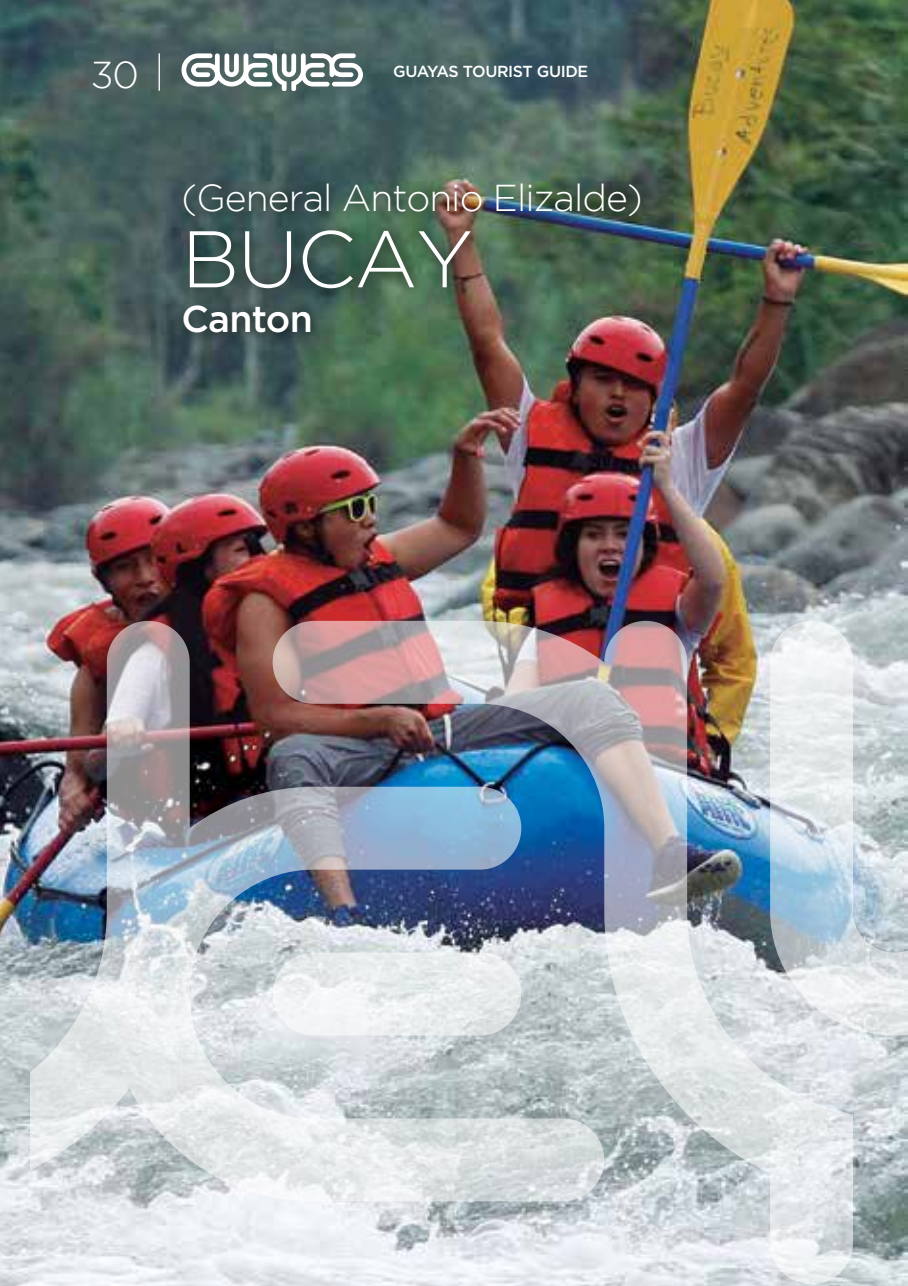
The fair takes place twice a year, the first during the **patron saint festivities of San Jacinto** held in September; and then, every October 12th on **Intercultural Day**, previously known as Columbus Day. Another important tradition takes place every August 13th when the “**Chucula festival**” is celebrated, a very characteristic traditional dessert from Balzar made with ripe banana and milk.



(General Antonio Elizalde)

BUWAY

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- km from Guayaquil
- 18°C-24°C
- 320 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. Santa Martha
- (04) 272-8028 / 272-8120 / 272-8145
Cel.: (06) 9297178
- www.municipiobucay.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- May 13rd Virgen de Fátima
- June 29th San Pedro precinct
- July 16th Virgen del Carmen
- July 22nd Virgen de Magdalena
- Aug. 13rd Virgen de Santa Clara
- Aug. 18th San Jacinto de Bethania
- Oct. 4th San Francisco
- Nov. 9th Canton anniversary
- Dec. 12nd Virgen de Guadalupe

Bucay is an important destination for nature and adventure tourism activities; guarantees exciting experiences within a wide variety of attractions, as well as options to discover its history and local culture.

The Bucay canton, located at the eastern end of the province of Guayas, is one of the gateways to the Andean region. Its transitional geography captivates with its exuberance and spring climate, which favor agricultural and livestock production in the territory. Bucay stands out as an important economic center in this area of the province. Its marked productivity and strategic location have managed to potentiate this sector of the province, nearly 30% of the population is dedicated to commercial activities, and another significant segment to tourism.

For birdwatching lovers, the **Esperanza Humid Forest** is a true paradise and the only Tropical Humid Forest ecosystem in the Andean foothills within the province of *Guayas*. Among lush forests and waterfalls, a large number of endemic and migratory bird species are discovered, highlighting the *Gallito de la Peña* (*Rupicola peruvianus*) and a wide variety of hummingbirds.

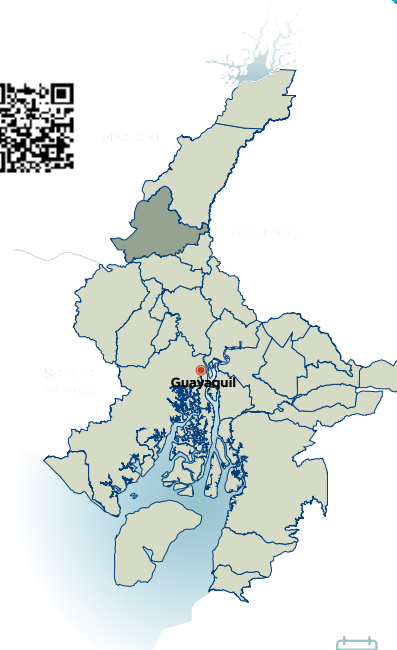
This canton is very pleasant in July, during the celebration of the *Virgen del Carmen* patron's saint festivities; with proclamations, masses, processions, and other popular events, the people of *Bucay* show their devotion, which can be evidenced in the monumental statue of the **Virgen Viewpoint**, located in the *Bellavista* neighborhood, a place that we recommend to visit. In addition, you can tour the **Shuar community of Limón River** to discover its traditions, and enjoy its gastronomy and the natural attractions of the place.

The rich local cuisine includes dishes such as *fritada* (fried pork) smoked meats, roasted *tilapia*, and delicious *Tortiperlas*; it is impossible to miss tasting these local delicacies.



COLIMES

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  101 km from Guayaquil
-  27°C
-  34 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Rutas Colimeñas
 - Rutas Balzareñas
-  (04) 295-6107
-  www.gadcolimes.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

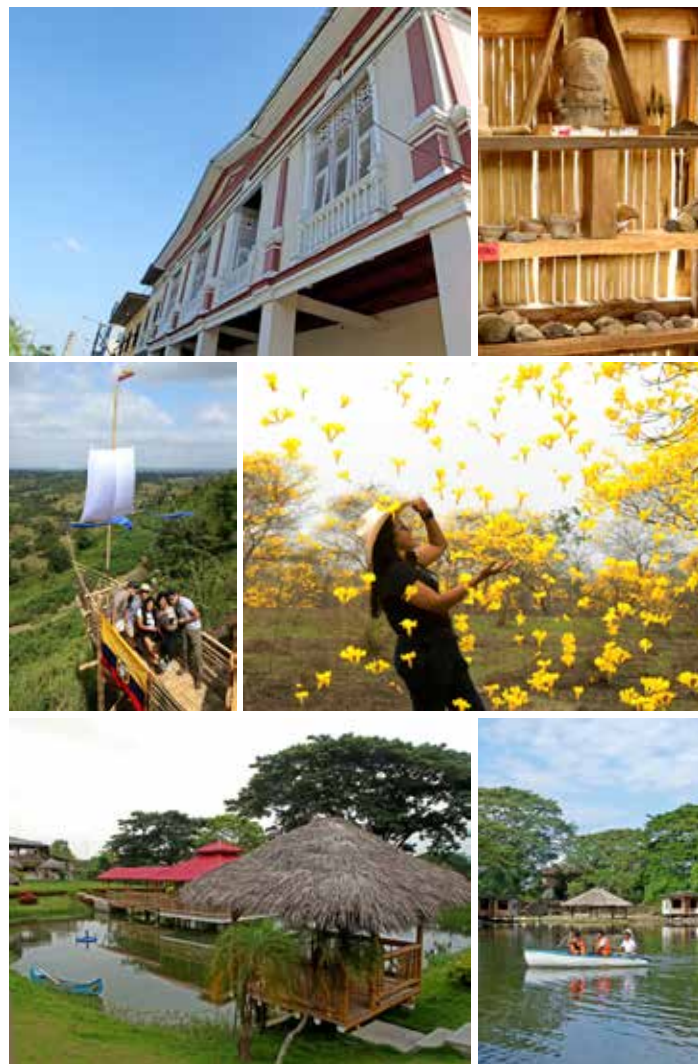
- April 29th Canton anniversary
- Aug. 30th / 31st Santa Rosa patron saint day
- Oct. 12nd Columbus day / Rodeo Montuvio

The Colimes canton, located in the north of the province of Guayas, has a population rounding to 25 thousand inhabitants and an area of 755 km², it stands out as a place of historical relevance discovered by the Spanish conquistador *Pedro de Alvarado* in 1534. The capital is home to the emblematic Catholic church “**Santa Rosa de Colimes**”.

Colimes is a prosperous agricultural and livestock canton, where the cultivation of rice stands out as its main product, along with others such as cocoa, coffee, tobacco, bananas, beans, and a variety of tropical fruits. Large areas of the territory are also used for raising cattle, pigs, and, poultry.

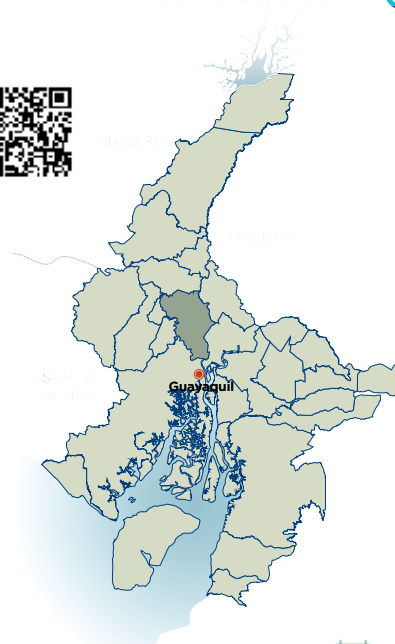
Its extensive beaches along the **Colimes River**, especially notable in the dry season, between August and November, attract local and sector visitors.

The canton enjoys a growing tourist boom thanks to the natural spectacle of **observing the Guayacanes trees** (*Handroanthus chrysanthus*), endemic trees of the coastal region, which bloom after the first rains, towards the end of each year, filling the landscape with an explosion of intense yellow, symbolizing wealth and fertility.



DAULE

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  49 km from Guayaquil
-  25°C - 26°C
-  22 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. Sr. de los Milagros
 - Santa Lucía
-  (04) 279-5134 / 6668
-  www.daule.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- July 16th Santísima Virgen del Carmen
- Aug. 12nd Santa Clara
- September 9th - 14th Señor de los Milagros o Cristo negro (Black Christ) patron saint day
- Oct. 4th San Francisco
- Nov. 26th Canton anniversary

The Daule canton extends over one of the ancient and most culturally rich regions of the country, it is distinguished as the cradle of great writers. Its history dates back to the Regional Development Period of *Ecuador*, a time when the *Daule-Tejar* culture (500 BC to 500 aC) settled in this territory. Another historical place to visit is the **Juan Bautista Aguirre of Daule School Museum**.

Daule is recognized as “The Rice Capital of Ecuador” by the *Ministerio de Agricultura, Acuicultura, Ganadería y Pesca* (ministry of Ecuador). The ubiquity of haciendas and rice pilers that show the process of harvesting and piling rice process contributes to Daule’s position as a destination full of charm, culture, and memorable experiences. In addition to its agricultural importance, *Daule* is a destination frequented by national and foreign visitors who enjoy their vacations in the farms and enclosures of this canton.

Among its natural attractions, the banks of the **Daule River** in the **El Mate** and **Naupe** precincts stand out. From the *Malecón* November 26th of the capital, it is possible to take boats that offer the pleasant experience of sailing on its captivating waters. The patron saint’s festivities with its **Nautical Procession of the Lord of Miracles or Black Christ of Daule**, which is celebrated every September, add a special appeal to this beautiful spot in *Guayas*.



DURÁN

Canton

**SIMBOLOGY****GENERAL FACTS**

- 10 Km from Guayaquil
- 25°C
- 11 m.a.s.l.
- Cooperativa Brisas de Santay - Panorama
 - Taxi Ruta desde Guayaquil
- (04) 255-2506 / 255-1109
- www.duran.gob.ec

**HOLIDAYS**

- Jan. 10th Canton anniversary
- Dec. 25th Divino Niño procession
- Mass of the Divino Niño (25th of each month)

The Durán canton is located on the eastern bank of the Guayas River. Its capital is connected to Guayaquil by the “Puente de la Unidad Nacional” (the bridge of the national unity); it is the second most populated city in the province of *Guayas*. Marked by the influence of the railroad over the years, Durán stands out as a railway city and is currently a great center of commerce and dynamism that holds an extensive industrial park in its territory. Ancestrally, during the pre-Columbian period, this territory was inhabited by the *Manteña* and *Huancavilca* cultures (500 BC-1532 aC).

If you are a nature lover, we invite you to discover the rich diversity of flora and fauna of **Isla Santay** and its mangroves. Its wetland is considered a **RAMSAR site** and has trails for cycling or taking long pleasant walks. Another highlight to enjoy nature is the **Roberto Gilbert Malecon**, located in front of Santay Island.

The **Divino Niño Sanctuary (Divine Infant Jesus Sanctuary)** attracts thousands of national and foreign faithful every year, with a special attendance during the celebrations of December 25th. Everyone also enjoys the local cuisine that offers traditional dishes such as *caldo de salchicha* (sausage broth), *Bollos* (green plantain tamal filled with fish), and the famous fritada (fried pork), characterized by having *mote* (white corn), potato and peanut paste among its ingredients.



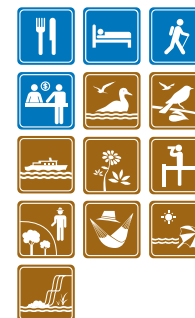
(Velasco Ibarra)

EL EMPALME

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  167 km from Guayaquil
-  21°C-26°C
-  74 m.a.s.l.
-  Coop. Rutas Empalmeñas
-  (04) 296-0737 ext.: 108
/ 296-3589 /
Cel.: (08) 906-6421
-  www.municipiolempalme.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- June 23rd Canton anniversary
- Sep. 7th - 8th Nuestra Señora de Fátima patron saint festivities

The El Empalme canton extends over small valleys located at the northern end of the province. A large part of its population lives in Velasco Ibarra, its capital. This prodigious land has ideal climatic conditions for the cultivation of rice, bananas, cocoa, coffee, and a wide variety of tropical fruits, which has allowed it to consolidate itself as a prosperous agricultural area. It also highlights its important timber extraction in varieties such as *laurel*, *teak*, *pechiche*, *guadúa* cane and *palo de balsa*. The raising of cattle and horses, with a significant production of meat and milk, also represents an important segment of the canton's economy. Large areas of land are dedicated to the cultivation of various varieties of grasses, which meet the demands of certain breeds of livestock.

This destination, where agricultural activities are combined with local gastronomy and beautiful landscapes, has **farms** and other places ideal for visiting with the family, such as the recreational center of **La Guayas** parish, where you can enjoy a wide variety of typical dishes, which include everything from roasts accompanied by rice and beans stew to the traditional *tonga montuvia*; delicacies that reflect the cultural and culinary richness of the canton.

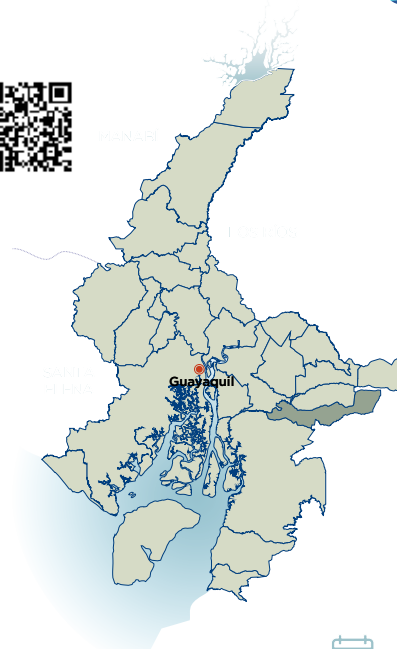
The north of the canton borders the *Daule-Peripa* Dam, the largest on the Ecuadorian coast, created to control floods on the banks of the Daule River basin and to maintain the supply of water for agriculture throughout the year. In the area, there is a **Bambusario** and the **Daule-Peripa Protective Forest**, a native forest whose main attraction is the **Los Monos Reserve**, which owes its name to the howler monkey (*Alouatta palliata*), the main species that lives in the reserve.

Other attractions to enjoy nature that we recommend visiting are the **El Limón**, **Macul**, **La Caraca**, and **El Congo** rivers, an ideal point for birdwatching, the river that gives its name to the **El Congo River Provincial Area of Water Sources**.



EL TRIUNFO

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  64 km from Guayaquil
-  15°C-34°C
-  320 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. La Troncaleña
 - Santa Martha
 - Rircay
-  (04) 201-0038 / 201-0985
/272-8145 • Cel.: (09) 1708775
-  www.el-triunfo.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Aug. 25th Canton anniversary
- Aug. 30th Santa Rosa patron saint day
- Sep. 6th - 8th Virgen del Cisne festivities

The canton of El Triunfo is considered one of the fundamental columns in the economy of the province, due to the great development achieved in the agricultural, livestock, commercial, and industrial sectors of the canton, and the hard work of its inhabitants. The fertility of its territory promotes the important production of bananas, sugar cane, and cocoa, as well as the raising of cattle, horses, pigs, and fishing activities in its rivers.

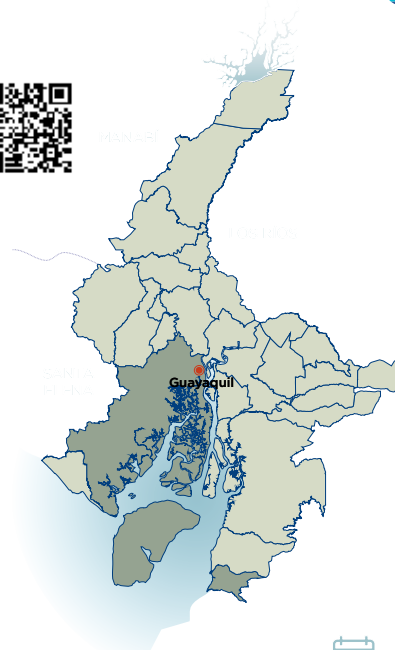
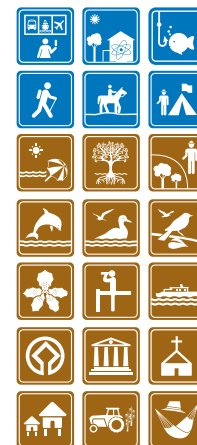
From a tourist perspective, El Triunfo is presented as a destination that mixes economic prosperity, charming tourist attractions, and cultural festivities. Their natural spaces, offering various spots for bird watching, such as the **Rancho Alemán Forest** or the **Las Pavas Provincial Natural Conservation Area**. It also has trails and spaces suitable for trekking and other sports activities; without forgetting the options of visiting tourist estates, spas, hotels and restaurants that stand out for their exquisite cuisine, especially delicious smoked meats.

The canton's festive calendar begins with the August celebrations, which include events such as the proclamation for the beginning of the festivities, the election and coronation of the queen, the student civic parade, and the night celebration called Noche Triunfense, which takes place every August 25th.



GUAYAQUIL

Canton

**SIMBOLOGY****GENERAL FACTS**

- 25°C - 34°C
- 6 m.a.s.l.
- José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport
- BUS STATION**
 - Pascuales - Vía Daule
 - Jaime Roldós Aguilera
- (593-4) 259-9100
- www.guayaquil.gob.ec

**HOLIDAYS**

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| March | Festival de la Lisa in Puerto El Morro parish |
| Good Friday | Regatta of Posorja |
| May 4th | Festival de la Chirimoya, in Puná parish |
| June 29th | St. Peter and St. Paul patron saint day |
| July 24th | Birth of Simón Bolívar |
| July 25th | Anniversary of foundation / Santiago de Compostela |
| Oct. 9th | Independence of Guayaquil |

The city of *Guayaquil*, known as “The Pearl of the Pacific”, is the largest and most populated city in Ecuador and the capital of the province of *Guayas*. This port city has experienced impressive development since its modest beginnings as a shipyard for the Spanish crown. Driven by its modern port system, which is among the most active on the southern Pacific coast, today Guayaquil is consolidated as a strategic point for global commercial exchange and a business center of great relevance in Latin America.

As a complement to its intense commercial activity, the city is also home to important international events and fairs. The canton also includes the rural parishes of *Juan Gómez Rendón*, (*Progreso*), *Posorja*, *El Morro*, *Tenguel* and *Puná*.

Guayaquil, in addition to being a hub of productivity, also consolidates a wide range of destinations. Its past is reflected in points such as its **Heritage Cemetery**, **Seminario Park**, **Santa Ana Hill** or the picturesque **the Peñas Neighborhood**, with its cobblestone streets and colorful Republican houses. Its boardwalks, on the banks of the **Guayas River** and the **Estero Salado**, offer a unique experience, with parks, sculptures and more attractions. In its surroundings there are a large number of reserves and natural areas. We recommend you visit the **El Morro Mangrove Wildlife Refuge**, navigate among its mangroves to appreciate its birdlife and spot dolphins.

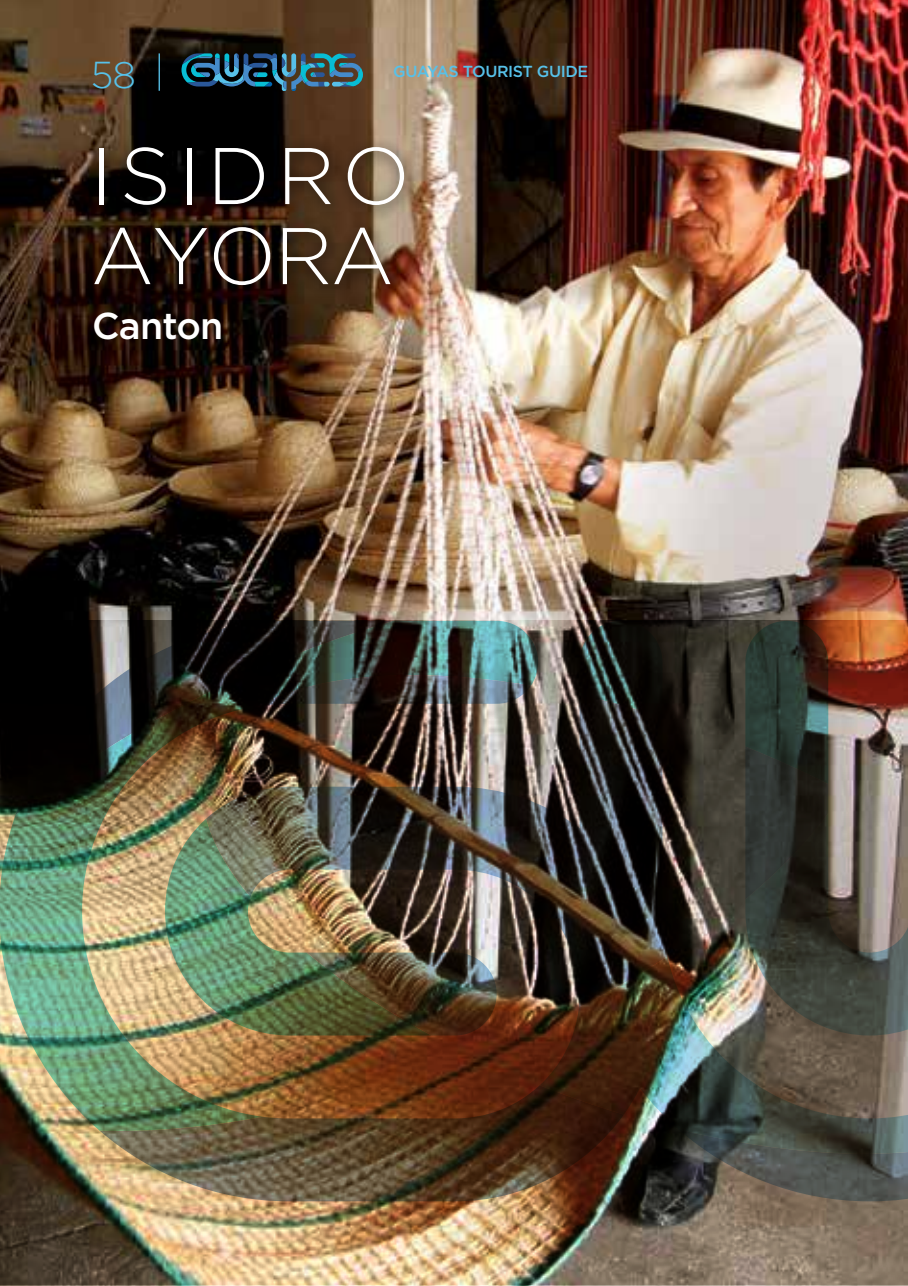
Guayaquil captivates with its friendly people and its sunsets. It is a destination that invites you to explore its port customs and traditions, also present in its museums and cultural centers. Its renowned gastronomy has emblematic dishes such as *ceviche* and *encebollado*, which delight locals and foreigners alike.

Guayaquil also melts art and music. It holds a privileged place in Ecuadorian literature thanks to the literary collective “*Guayaquil Group*”. Likewise, it is the birthplace of the renowned hall singer-songwriter and performer of Latin American popular music, **Julio Jaramillo Laurido**.



ISIDRO AYORA

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  53 km from Guayaquil
-  25°C
-  83 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. de Transporte Pedro Carbo
 - Mi Piedacita
 - Todos los Transportes Manabitas
-  (04) 270-6171
-  www.Isidroayora.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- July 21st - 31st Señor de la Buena Esperanza patron saint festivities
- Jun. 28th /29th St. Peter and St. Paul holidays
- Nov. 22nd Canton anniversary

The Isidro Ayora canton, located northwest of the Province of *Guayas*, has its roots in 1841 when it was known as the *San Juan Soledad* parish. The political division of the canton, in addition to its capital, includes the *Pueblo Nuevo* and *Las Mercedes* precincts, considered the most significant urban development areas of Isidro Ayora.

This canton enjoys lands conducive to short-cycle products, with notable crops of corn, rice, pigeon peas, mango for export, and watermelon. Craft activity also plays an important role, which has earned Isidro Ayora recognition as **“The Canton of Hammocks”**; its famous hammocks, made mainly by Ayorenses women with *mocora* straw, are accompanied by the making of various items using raw materials such as *toquilla* straw as well as wicker.

As for gastronomy, the traditional and delicious **corn tortillas** cooked in clay ovens stand out, a true delight that we recommend you enjoy.

Isidro Ayora has three spaces dedicated to conservation: **Las Cañas Provincial Productivity and Conservation Area**, the **La Ciénega de Isidro Ayora Provincial Natural Recreation Area**, and, **La Esperanza Provincial Productivity and Conservation Area**, the latter, located in the complex.

Close to the capital, La Alegría precinct offers recreational activities such as bicycle rides and observation of the flora and fauna of the place, including orchids and giant ceibo trees among other species of native trees, corresponding to the Tumbesino Dry Forest ecosystem. It also has an area designated for camping, with all the facilities for visitors.

La Esperanza is also an ideal space for birdwatching. It records about 114 species of birds, 30 of them endemic (APPC Management Plan “*La Esperanza*”, Dirección de Gestión Ambiental, Prefectura del Guayas, 2021).



(Alfredo Baquerizo Moreno)

JUJAN

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

61 km from Guayaquil

25°C-26°C

9 m.a.s.l.



- Coop. Flota Babahoyo
- Interprovincial (FBI)



(04) 274-8051 / 274-8139



www.gadmunicipaljujan.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

May 19th Canton anniversary

Aug. San Agustín patron
27th - 28th saint festivities

The Jujan canton is located towards the northeast of Guayaquil. Its official name pays tribute to the Guayaquilean president Alfredo Baquerizo Moreno, who led the country between 1916 and 1920. It has its roots in the town of Jujan, which was initially a precinct of the Yaguachi canton. On February 16th, 1892, it achieved its parochialization, and finally, on May 19th, 1986, it achieved its political cantonization.

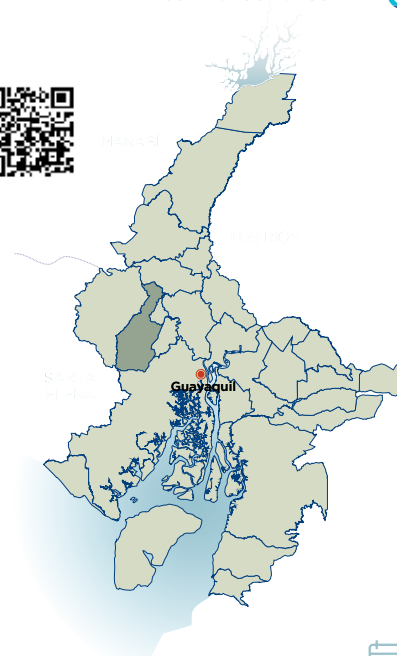
Jujan is presented as a canton with a rich history, rooted in cultural and gastronomic traditions. One of the distinctive characteristics of this canton is the **Dance of the Devils and the Mojingos**, a traditional dance of colonial origin that has a recreational and entertaining character, which emerged to ridicule the exploitative landowners and the public authorities imposed by the local parish priests. This dance, with irregular and harlequin-like movements, has been celebrated since 1930, when Don José Domingo Delgado, Jujan founder, organized the presentation of the dance to cheer up the canton during the novena for Saint Augustine, patron saint of Jujan.

As for its gastronomy, the roasts and the famous **fritada** (fried pork) stand out, an exquisite dish that can be enjoyed in several of the dining rooms located along the main road, where you can also find fruit stalls and other agricultural products grown in the area.



LOMAS DE SARGENTILLO

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  47 km from Guayaquil
-  25°C - 26°C
-  20 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. de Transporte Pedro Carbo
 - Mi Piedacita
 - And all international transport provincial target Manabí
-  (04) 279-9173 / 279-9091
-  www.lomasdesargentillo.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- July 15th / 16th Santísima Virgen del Carmen
- July 22nd Canton anniversary
- Aug. 10th Santa Rosa holiday
- Aug. 29th Patron saint day

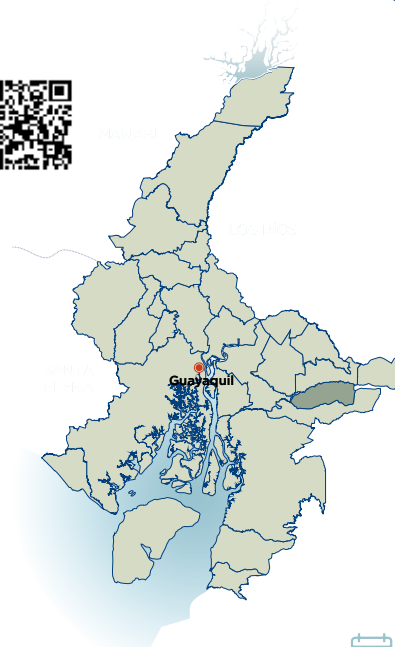
The Lomas de Sargentillo canton obtained its legislative decree of Cantonization on July 22nd, 1992. Although it is the smallest canton in the province, it is presented as a territory that houses valuable economic potential, based on activities linked to nature and a rich gastronomic tradition.

Guayacán, *cedar*, *laurel*, *pechiche*, *balsa*, *guadúa*, and, bamboo trees thrive on its lands, satisfying both local needs and those of various collection centers in the country. The industrialization and export of *balsa* wood stand out especially, as well as the harvesting, storage, and stacking of rice.

In the tourism field, Lomas de Sargentillo focuses on activities such as **agritourism** and experiences linked to nature, promoting **birdwatching** activity due to the woods remnants of the Tumbesian Region within its territory, which invites a visit experience to this ecosystem of the coast. For the Catholic faithful, we recommend visiting the **Nuestra Señora del Carmen Church**, which celebrates its patron saint festivities on July 15th and 16th. The local gastronomy offers a variety of emblematic dishes such as the typical **grilled humitas**, (corn and cheese tamal), rice with beans stew and roast beef, the **seco de gallina criolla** (creole chicken stew), and the roast chicken.



MARCELINO MARIDUEÑA Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- 66 km from Guayaquil
- 24°C
- 80 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. Marcelino Maridueña
• CITIM
- (04) 272-9321 / 232-2323
- www.municipiomariduenas.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Oct. 12nd Columbus day
- Oct. 24th Canton anniversary
- Nov. 4th San Carlos Borromeo patron saint day

The Marcelino Maridueña canton, with a population of just over 13 thousand inhabitants, is an agro-industrial town of 337 km² located at the eastern end of the province.

This micro sugar region of Ecuador is irrigated by the Chimbo and Chanchán rivers coming from the Andean foothills, which make it a territory with a humid tropical climate and abundance of rainfall, alternated by the warm temperatures that characterize the rainy season.

Its landscapes are made up of extensive cane fields. More than half of its territory is dedicated to the cultivation of sugar cane, the canton's main source of income.

The production of sugar cane and its derivatives, such as distilled liquor, have contributed to the installation of other industries, placing them as important actors in the local economy. To a lesser extent, cocoa, bananas, corn, and plantains are also seeded, among other crops.

Reaffirming the industrial identity of this canton in the Guayas province, you can see its urban sculptures, built from pieces of iron that have been recycled from disused machinery.

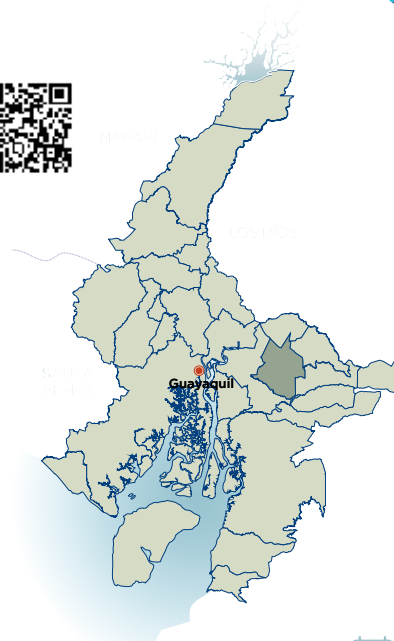
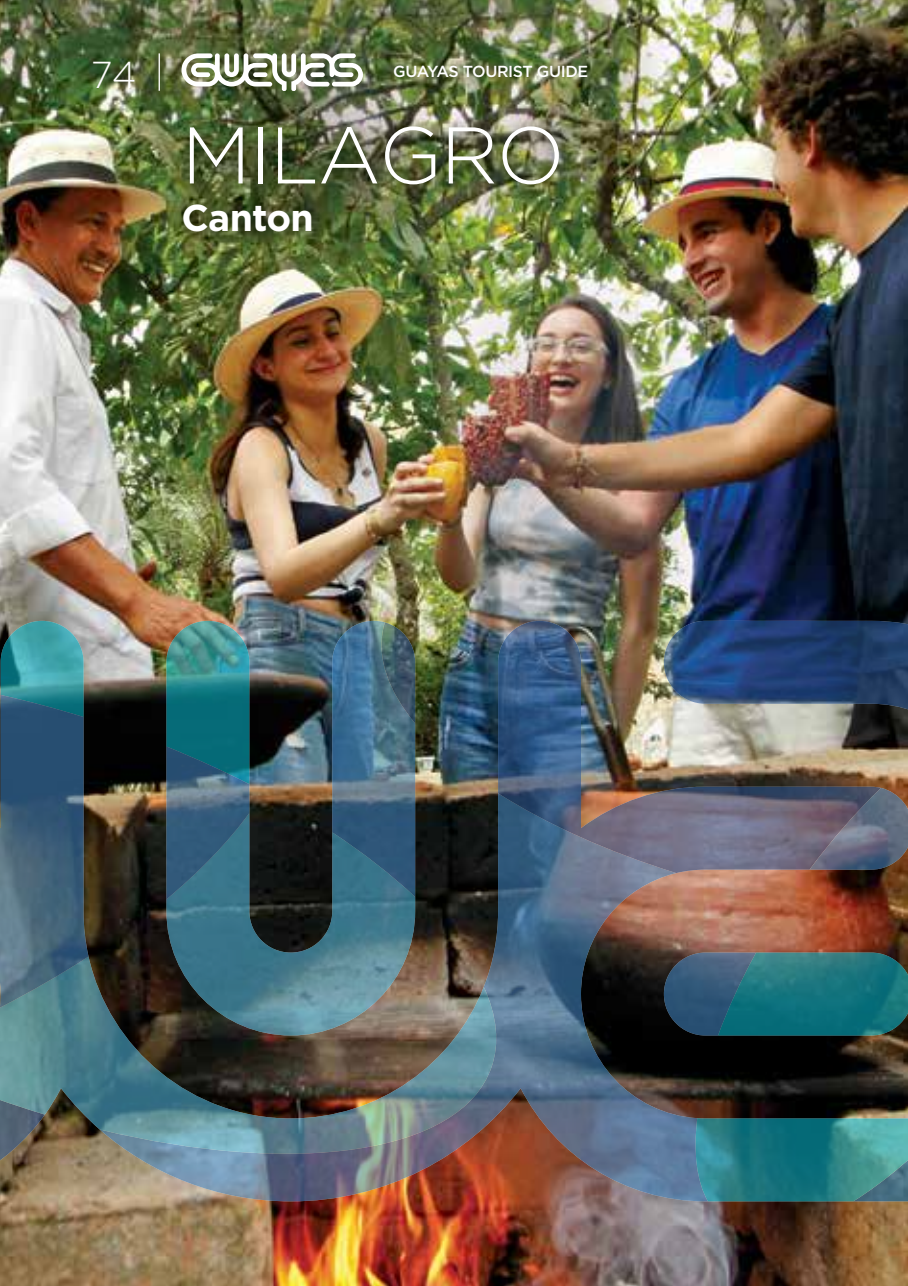
The canton has several heritage assets inventoried by the state, among which the following stand out: the **San Carlos Borromeo Church**, built in 1960 that preserves its original architecture, and the restored **Steam Locomotive**.

Currently, the canton is promoting tourism activities, which is why it has enabled family recreation spaces such as the **Ecological Park** located in the center of the city. Additionally, in a sector of the banks of the *Chimbo River* called "**La Playita de Acapulco**", you can enjoy delicious *arroz con menestra y carne* (rice with beans stew and roast beef), a representative dish of local gastronomy while enjoying its exceptional natural environment. Art shows and other cultural events are frequently held here.



MILAGRO

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  46 km from Guayaquil
-  25°C - 27°C
-  12 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. Rutas Milagreñas
 - Ejecutivo express
 - Expreso Milagro
-  (04) 297-0082 / 297-0678
/ 271-1164 / (04) 297-0755
-  www.milagro.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- April 25th El Chobo parrish anniversary
- July 18th Mariscal Sucre parrish anniversary
- Aug. 21th Roberto Astudillo parrish anniversary
- Sep. 17th Canton anniversary

The Milagro canton, also known as San Francisco de Milagro, was founded on September 17th 1913, and is also known as “the sweetest land in Ecuador”. With roots dating back to the time of the Spanish conquest, when it settled in this territory known as *Chirijo*, Milagro extends over an area of 401 km² with a population that exceeds 160 thousand inhabitants, achieving the title of the third biggest city populated of the province. Its intense commercial activity and the evolution of its agricultural industry have consolidated it as a prosperous canton with a remarkable production and marketing of sugar and its derivatives.

Several monuments characterize the urban landscape of the capital, where **The Giant Piña, El Colibrí, Los Zafreiros, and La Guitarra stand out**, which are located on the road circles in various parts of the city.

Milagro is remarkable not only as an important productive center, despite that as a canton that offers you unique experiences. In the various farms that make up **La Ruta Los Chirijos**, you will have the opportunity to live the **experience of cocoa** among other activities. You can also taste exquisite cuisine and enjoy an unforgettable picnic or spend the night in comfortable cabins, ideal for a weekend pleasant stay with family. In addition, the canton has a **corridor of nurseries or Ruta de los Viveros** that exhibit and market a wide variety of fruit and ornamental plants. During weekends, this corridor receives a large number of visitors and urban planners interested in acquiring ornamental plants to decorate their homes or projects.

The local gastronomy holds the richness and variety of the *costeña* cuisine, with emblematic delights such as *fritada* (fried pork), *yapingacho* (mashed potatoes dough with peanut paste, sausage, fried eggs, and salad), rice with beans stew and grilled beef, *encebollado* (tuna soup with yucca, and dressing made with lime marinated chopped onion), *ceviche*, seafood rice, and red crab dishes.





NARANJAL

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- 92 km from Guayaquil
- 25°C
- 17 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. Rutas Orenses
 - CIFA
 - Pullman
 - SAN
- (04) 275-1432
- www.naranjal.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Mar. 19th San José patron saint day
- Oct. 15th Independence anniversary
- Nov. 7th Canton anniversary
- Montuvios Rodeos (october/november)

The Naranjal canton, located south of the coast, at a distance of 92 km from the city of Guayaquil, covers an extensive territory of 2,015 km² and is home to a population of approximately 70 thousand inhabitants. Characterized by a rich biodiversity, it offers its visitors the experience of enjoying hot springs, waterfalls, viewpoints, and rivers, within the framework of a captivating natural environment. Naranjal stands out for its great agricultural activity, growing products such as tobacco, sugar cane, rice, coffee, bananas, and cocoa, the latter being the one with the highest production. In addition, it is distinguished by the varied fruit harvest; which has led to the emergence of a variety of **agritourism farms**, offering tourists an immersive experience in the cocoa production process, from planting to obtaining the precious chocolate bar.

Within the canton is the **Churute Mangrove Ecological Reserve**, (*Reserva Ecológica Manglares Churute*) which with 49,389 hectares and impressive biodiversity, is one of the largest marine-coastal reserves in continental *Ecuador* and a stellar destination for birdwatching in the province. Due to the large extension of aquatic environments, in 1990 it was declared a **RAMSAR site**. In its forests, you can also see howler monkeys (*Alouatta palliata*).

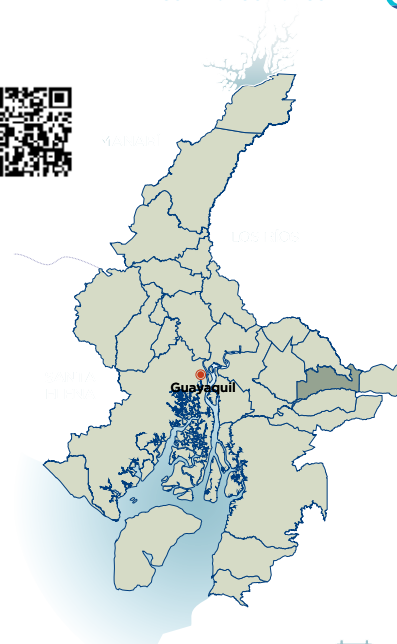
The local gastronomy stands out for the exquisite preparation of the crab, which has earned it the name “red crab capital.” This crustacean, captured in the extensive mangrove swamp that borders the canton, is the main protagonist of the “**Red Crab Festival**”, an outstanding gastronomic event, which attracts tens of thousands of visitors each year. In addition, *Naranjal* is presented as a destination that fuses natural beauty with agricultural and culinary wealth, providing its visitors with unique and memorable experiences.

We recommend visiting the **Shuar community center of the La Roldós complex**, to learn about their customs and gastronomy, enjoy their thermal pools, and hike to the waterfalls while getting to know the **humid forest** that protects the community.



NARANJITO

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS



66 Km from Guayaquil



25°C - 26°C



16 m.a.s.l.



- Coop. Marcelino Maridueña
- CITIM
- Flota Pelileo



(04) 272-0137 / 8 / 9



www.naranjito.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|
| Oct. 5th | Canton anniversary |
| Nov. 24th | Virgen de los Dolores
patron saint day |

The Naranjito canton, located in the south-central part of the Guayas province covers an area of 226 km², has a population of over 35 thousand inhabitants, enjoys a temperate climate and its main economic activity is focused on commerce, livestock, and agriculture, highlighting crops such as sugar cane, coffee, cocoa and bananas.

This canton offers its visitors a diversity of everything **from agrotourism** farms and accommodation in country houses to camping areas immersed in nature. In addition, as complementary activities and a unique experience, you can visit the **artisanal mills** that allow you to learn about the processes of obtaining *panela* (fine raw sugar) in bricks.

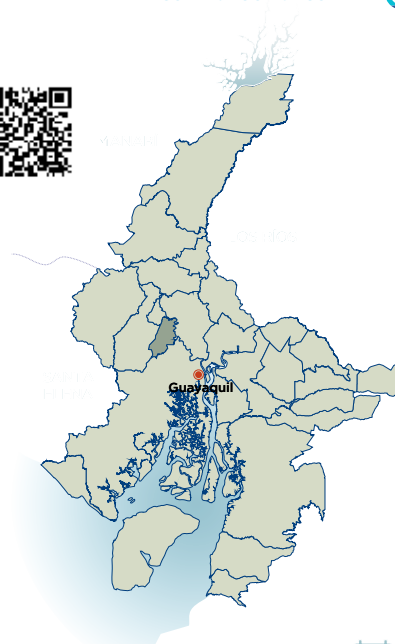
Naranjito stands out for the artisanal skill of its cabinetmakers, who make furniture and ornaments using fine woods such as *chanul*, *guayacán*, *pechiche*, and *amarillo* tree.

In local gastronomy, Naranjito allows you to taste delicious dishes such as *caldo de salchicha* (sausage broth, soup made from pork guts filled with rice, green mashed plantain and species), *firtada* (fried pork), fish buns and, *encocado* shrimp (shrimp with coconut sauce), helping to enrich the culinary experience of visitors. As a gastronomic event, Naranjito has the **“Festival del Chancho”** (pig festival) that takes place every October.



NOBOL

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  37 km from Guayaquil
-  27°C
-  9 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. Rutas Vinceñas
 - Señor de los Milagros
 - Santa Lucía
 - Coop. Mi Piedacita
 - Pedro Carbo
 - Transporte Colimes
 - Rutas Empalmeñas
-  (04) 202-0442
-  www.nobol.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Aug. 7th Canton anniversary
- Oct. 25th Beatification of Narcisa de Jesús anniversary
- Dec. 8th Narcisita's memorial day

The Nobol canton is located 36 km north of the City of *Guayaquil*, houses a population of approximately 26,000 inhabitants, has an average temperature of 27°C and its capital is the city of *Santa Narcisca de Jesús*.

Nobol is crossed by the *Daule* River and its tributaries, the *Magro*, *Bijagual*, and *Guachapelí* rivers. We recommend the relaxing experience of **touring along the Daule River**, taking a boat from the **Malecón** of the capital.

Nobol stands out for its main activities in agriculture and commerce, but it is also a reference in religious tourism all over the country. The **San José Hacienda** is recognized as the place where **Saint Narcisca de Jesús Martillo Morán** was born, who was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 12, 2008. In this place, a sanctuary was built in her memory, being a landmark of essential visit for pilgrims and tourists. **“La Narcisita”**, as her faithful devotees call her, complements their pilgrimage with a visit to the **“Narcisca de Jesús Chapel”** located in the core of the capital.

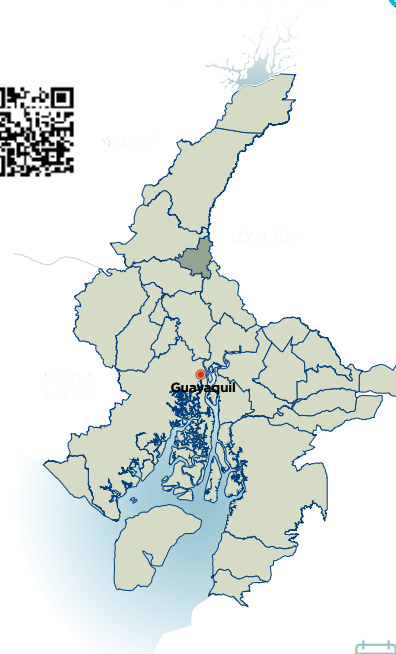
La Garza Roja is a cultural theme park that has 3 museums in its main building and many more attractions, ideal for a family visit.

The typical *Noboleño* food has gained relevance as a tourist interest and attracts visitors, who not only come to discover the land of *Narcisca de Jesús* but also taste its varied gastronomic offer, which extends from both sides of the main street that crosses the cantonal head. Dishes such as *maduro con queso* (sweet plantain with cheese), *humitas* (corn tamal with cheese wrapped in corn leaves), corn *tortillas*, duck and creole chicken stew, caldo de salchicha (sausage broth, soup made from pork guts filled with rice, green mashed plantain and, species), *fritada*, shrimp casserole, and *rosquitas de manteca*, a kind of butter biscuits that are considered traditional from Nobol, that stand out for their uniqueness and freshness of its ingredients.



PALESTINA

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  81 km from Guayaquil
-  26°C-27°C
-  10 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. Balzareñas
 - Sucre
 - Colimeñas
 - Fífa
-  (04) 279-1309 / 279-1307
-  www.palestina.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Jul. 20th Canton anniversary
- Aug. 24th San Bartolomé patron saint day
- Oct. 12nd Columbus day

The Palestina canton is located in the center-north of the province of *Guayas*. In pre-Columbian times, the *Chonana* tribe occupied these territories under peace agreements with the *Huancavilcas*. Its cantonization was decreed on July 20th 1988, the date on which its inhabitants annually celebrate their anniversary.

Palestina melts its rich history, agricultural resources, and culinary traditions to offer a very special experience. The canton supports its economy mainly through the seeding and harvesting of rice. Fishing for *bocachicos*, *guanchiches*, *negra*, *tilapia* and, the cultivation of corn, also represents an important incoming.

Its gastronomy highlights specialties such as *seco de pollo*, hen, duck, and goat, as well as *humitas*, *bollos de pescado*, (green plantain with peanut paste tamal, filled with fish and, species), duck or creole chicken stew, rice with stew beans and grilled meat, among others. To taste these delicacies, we recommend visiting the stalls located on the banks of the **Macul and Pula rivers**, where you can also enjoy all the nature of the Montuvian environment, ride horses, and observe wildlife. The place is suitable for practicing sports such as volleyball and beach soccer, while you delight in the typical cuisine of *Palestine*.

Another hidden paradise in *Palestina* is located at the foot of the **Pijio River**, located 20 minutes from the cantonal head in the area of the same name. Here you can also taste the typical delicacies of local cuisine.

The Malecón of Palestina, formerly known as the Pier or pier, attracts locals and strangers, with an unparalleled view of the *Daule* River and its surroundings. This *Malecón* has green areas, children's games, and a food court for the delight of its visitors.

In the capital, there is also the **San Bartolomé Catholic Church**, which is decorated every August 24th for the celebration of its patron saint festivities.



PEDRO CARBO

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  67 km from Guayaquil
-  27°C
-  66 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. de Transporte Pedro Carbo
 - Mi Piedacita
 - And all interprovincial buses to Manabí
-  (04) 270-4929
Ext. 1003 / 1028
-  www.pedrocarbo.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Jun.
28th / 29th | St. Peter and St. Paul
holidays |
| Jul. 19th | Canton anniversary |
| Aug. 7th | Sabanilla parrish
anniversary |
| Aug. 22nd | María Auxiliadora
patron saint day |
| Sep. 17th | Nuestra Señora
de la Merced |

The Pedro Carbo canton, located in the northwest of the *Guayas* Province, stands out for its agricultural and livestock activities, with crops of rice, corn, cotton, sunflower, peanuts, and bananas, as well as the raising of cattle and goats. It has a population of approximately 52,000 inhabitants, dedicated mainly to agricultural activities, cabinetmaking, *mocora* straw weaving, and commerce.

Pedro Carbo celebrates some traditional festivities, such as those of *San Pedro and San Pablo* on June 28th and 29th and the of Our Lady of Mercy on September 17th that are accompanied by masses, festivals, and processions. Another notable celebration is the cantonization festival, which every July 19th includes the election of the *La reina del Algodón* (cantonal cotton queen).

Among the natural attractions of Pedro Carbo, its caves and rock formations stand out. We recommend the excursion along the ***Jerusalén River*** to ***La Cueva del Puente (The Bridge Cave)***, surrounded by a remnant of native forest. This is an ideal site for bird watching. Approximately 4 km from the capital, in the *La Estacada precinct area*, you will find the **Pedro Carbo Cultural Ecological Park**. Among the activities you can do during your visit to the ecological park we can detail: **birdwatching**, camping, trekking, recreational cycling, and observation of the **Guayacanes Flowering**.



PLAYAS

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- 92 km from Guayaquil
- 24°C
- 3 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. Villamil
 - Posorja
- (04) 259-0900 / 276-1063 / 028 / 276-2543 / 276-0556 ext.: 117
- www.municipioplayas.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Jun. 29th St. Peter and St. Paul holiday
- August 1st - 15th Canton anniversary festivities
- Sep. 24th Virgen de las Mercedes patron saint day

The Playas canton, located southwest of the province of Guayas and 97 km from Guayaquil, is presented as the emblematic sun and beach destination of the province. Fishing, tourism, commercial activities driven by local enterprises, and the presence of nearby industries contribute to its economic dynamism.

Playas is a complete destination that combines nature, water sports, and an exquisite gastronomic offer, within the framework of an unmatched climate. Its extensive and beautiful beaches cover more than 14 km and attract tourists throughout the year. Among the most important are: **Playa Paraíso, El Arenal, Playa Humboldt, Bellavista,** and its concurred **beach of Malecón**. This corridor has been declared as the **Playas Villamil National Recreation Area**. In the area, you will find the picturesque **“Balsas” (artisanal fishermen’s rafts)** with their colorful sails, which are registered as **Intangible Cultural Heritage of Ecuador**. For surf lovers, there are the beaches of **El Pelado** and **Puerto Engabao**, with conditions conducive to practicing this sport.

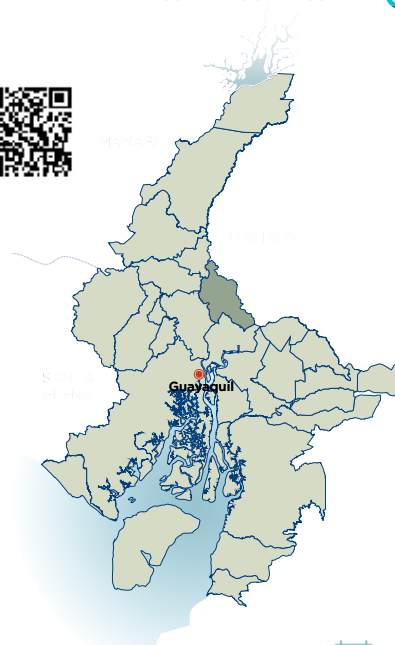
The wide culinary variety in Playas begins with its emblematic **Arroz Engabadeño**, a special plate full of seafood with rice, with a secret touch of the chefs of Engabao; also includes the typical *ceviches* and other delicacies such as grilled fish or grilled oysters that will make your visit an exquisite experience.





SALITRE

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  50 km from Guayaquil
-  26°C - 27°C
-  5 m.a.s.l.
- 
 - Coop. Rutas Salitreñas
 - Santa Ana
 - Asaad Bucaram
 - Santa Marianita
 - ATIS
-  (04)469 - 7300
(04)469 - 7302
-  www.salitre.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- 4th sunday of March Regatta of Salitre
- Jul. 16th Santísima Virgen del Carmen
- Oct. 12nd Columbus day / Rodeo Montuvio
- Oct. 26th Santa Marianita de Jesús
- Nov. 27th Canton anniversary

The Salitre canton, better known as **“The Montuvian Capital of Ecuador”**, whose original name was Urbina Jado, obtained its canton political status on November 27th 1959. It is located in the central west of the province of Guayas, it has an extension of 388 km² and a population of approximately 65 thousand inhabitants. Agriculture and livestock are the main sources of wealth in this canton. Its humid tropical climate and fertility of the land, create favorable conditions for the cultivation of cocoa, sweet potato, corn, rice, bamboo cane, and tropical fruits such as mango, watermelon, and banana, among others.

Traditional events stand out such as cockfights, the **Montuvio Rodeo**, and the **annual horseback riding**, which are celebrated during the civic and patron saint festivals of Salitre, and make it a destination that combines the beauty of the environment with the cultural wealth of its people. **Artisan equestrian accessories elaboration** is one of the traditional crafts of *Montuvian* culture in Salitre. The canton also has beautiful farms that offer agrotourism activities, allowing visitors to live the experience of rural life and learn about local events.

Among the most notable tourist attractions are the picturesque banks of the **Salitre River** and its wetlands, which are home to unique flora and fauna. We recommend visiting the charming sectors of **Santa Marianita, Pueblo Nuevo, and La Bocana** in the capital. In the **General Vernaza** parish, located 10 minutes from the center of *Salitre*, you can enjoy pleasant canoe rides along the river in the summer.

Along the banks of the **Vinces River**, you can find small canoes with stoves and grills full of clay vessels and pots, with colorful signs offering exquisite typical dishes among which we can list: bollos (green plantain with peanut paste tamal, filled with fish, and species), duck or creole chicken stew, grilled fish and shrimp, corn or shrimp *tortillas*, grilled beef, and lamprey ripened plantains.





SAMBORONDÓN

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- 40 km from Guayaquil
- 26°C - 27°C
- 17 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. Santa Ana (CISA)
- (04) 500-0535 / 36 ext.: 106
- www.samborondon.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- July 26th Santa Ana patron saint day
- Aug. 10th Tarifa parrish anniversary
- Oct. 4th San Francisco de Asís patron saint day in Boca de Caña precinct
- Oct. 12nd Columbus day / Rodeo Montuvio
- Oct. 31rd Canton anniversary
- La Puntilla parrish anniversary
- Dec. 14th

The Samborondón canton, located in the lower basin of the Guayas River, is well known for its cockfights and equestrian tradition, the construction of canoes, and the production of clay pots.

Samborondón exhibits an economy focused on commerce, livestock, and agriculture, especially rice cultivation. Due to the influence of important rivers such as the Daule and Babahoyo, freshwater fishing is another of the canton's important commercial activities.

Samborondón offers a wide variety of attractions, ranging from museums and theme parks to theaters and open-air plazas. Activities such as river walks, concerts, and food festivals make this canton a very interesting destination for both residents and visitors. We invite you to discover three emblematic places of the culture and history of Samborondón.

The visit to the **Historical Park** is a thematic exhibition based on the agro-productive tradition of the coast, where you can appreciate the urban and rural architecture of the region in the 19th century. It has a luxury hotel and attractions for the whole family.

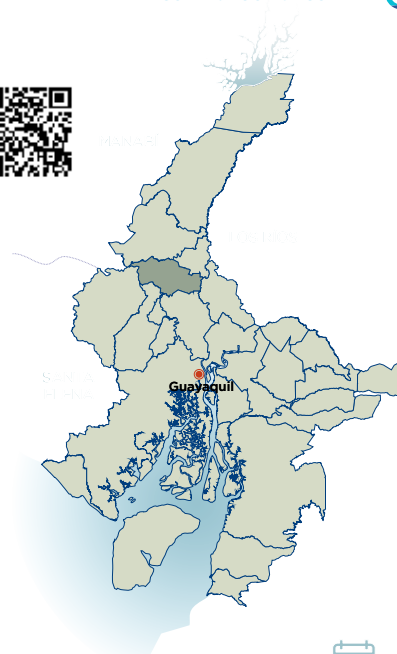
You can also visit **El Buijo Histórico** located on the banks of the Babahoyo River, the place where the military camp of the Simón Bolívar libertor was established in 1829, on his path to America's independence. In the capital is the **Samborondón House Museum**, built in 1911, a place worth visiting.

The Samborondón gastronomy, rich in traditional recipes such as dry duck, fried pork, and shrimp tortillas, constitutes a valuable culinary heritage that attracts visitors who come to the capital. In the corridor of the **La Puntilla** sector, in the middle of a notable urban development, you can visit the various centers of commerce, entertainment, and options to enjoy a wide variety of cuisine that includes international food, fusion food, barbecues, seafood, among others. There is something for all tastes and preferences here.



SANTA LUCÍA

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- 66 km from Guayaquil
- 25°C - 26°C
- 6 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. Santa Lucía
- (04) 279-9173 / 279-9091
- www.gadsantalucia.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- Oct. 1st Canton anniversary
- Oct. 12nd Columbus day
- Dec. 12nd Santa Lucía (La Virgen de los Ojos) patron saint day

The Santa Lucía canton, located northeast of the province of *Guayas*, is a fertile land with a diversity of crops that include coffee, cocoa, tobacco, sugar cane, banana, mango, and papaya, but especially rice. Its productive axis also includes the raising of excellent-quality cattle, pigs, and horses.

This territory also has an important production and industrialization of honey and beeswax. The artisanal tradition persists in the canton of skilled artisans who make a variety of items with local materials. This mosaic of agricultural, livestock, and craft activities contributes to the unique identity of Santa Lucía, making this canton a vibrant and diverse place.

September is a month that attracts visitors and locals to participate in traditional Lucian activities, including regattas, troupe nights, exhibitions of sweets, typical dishes, and the annual election of the queen of the canton.

Its gastronomy is distinguished by its preparations with river fish, dishes such as *sancocho de bocachico*, (soup made with *bocachico* river fish, green plantain, peanut paste, yucca, corn, and species), pea powder broths, stands out the creole chicken soup, don't miss to taste it.

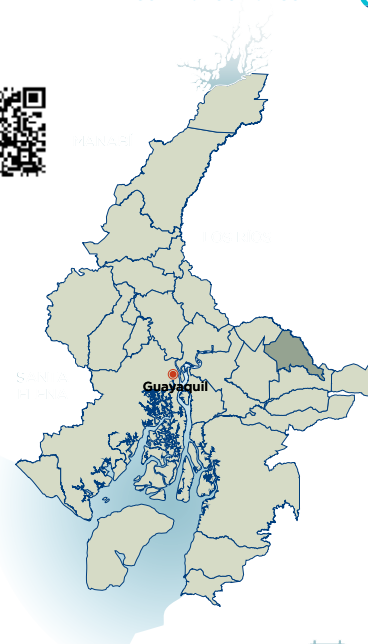
At the entrance to the capital is the **Santa Lucía Aquatic Park**, a place for family recreation, with three swimming pools, a slide, a viewpoint, and all the facilities to enjoy and have fun. Located in front of the central plaza of the capital is the **Santa Lucía Ecclesiastical Parish Church**, where its local faithful attend to practice their religious traditions. Another point of interest and recreation in the town is the **Malecón** on the banks of the Daule River.

The **Municipal Museum of Santa Lucía** is the place where you can learn about local history. Its exhibition houses and displays pre-Columbian pieces belonging to the cultures that ancestrally populated this area: bones, obsidian knives, vessels, urns and other historical objects from the town stand out.



SIMÓN BOLÍVAR

Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

- 80 km from Guayaquil
- 25°C-26°C
- 45 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. Mariscal Sucre
- (04) 276-8323 / 276-8421
- www.gobiernosimonbolivar.gob.ec



HOLIDAYS

- May 27th Canton anniversary (celebrates on July 24th)
- August 27th / 28th San Agustín patron saint festivities
- Oct. 13rd Lorenzo de Garaycoa parrish anniversary

The Simón Bolívar canton is located on the eastern margin of the province of Guayas, north of Naranjito and east of Milagro. It has an approximate area of 30 thousand hectares and a population of more than 30 thousand inhabitants. Its economy is focused on agriculture, and allocates 95% of its territory to crops such as cocoa, banana, rice, soy, pineapple, and passion fruit, among other short-cycle products.

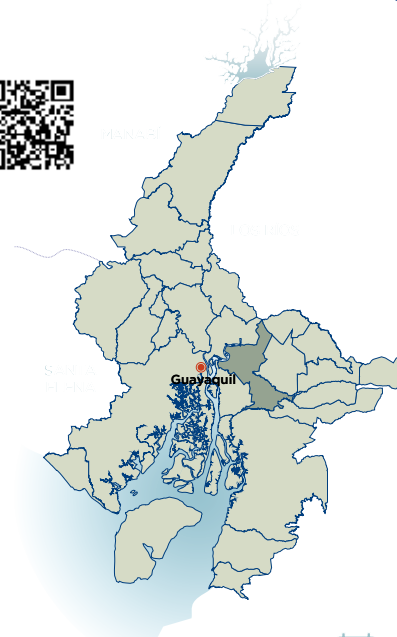
The crystalline waters of the **Chilintomo River** in Simón Bolívar attract locals and visitors to live leisure moments of healthy recreation within the framework of its natural environment, such as **La Playita**, **Inés María**, and **Soledad**, are popular with locals. Here you can delight in their exquisite and traditional typical cuisine, its preparations will captivate your palate. Highlights include *bolón de verde*, made with green plantain mixed with pork and cheese, *humitas* (corn tamal with cheese, wrapped in corn sleeve), corn cakes, sausage broth, shrimp casserole and preserved of *pechiche* fruit.

Simón Bolívar has an agritourism offer that invites you to live the experience of *chocolate* or the preparation of typical dishes, it also includes sports activities and the option of camping. Be sure to visit the **San Lorenzo Simón Bolívar Central Catholic Church**, located north of **Parque Arenero**, and northwest of the **Santo Domingo de Guzmán Catholic Church**.



YAGUACHI




Canton



SIMBOLOGY



GENERAL FACTS

-  31 km from Guayaquil
-  26°C - 27°C
-  15 m.a.s.l.
- Coop. FBI
 - Ruta Milagreña
 - Expreso Milagro
 - Ejecutivo Express
 - CITIM



(04) 202-0443

www.municipiodeyaguachi.gob.ec

HOLIDAYS

- March 16th Pedro J Montero parish anniversary
- July 21st Canton anniversary
- August 14th - 16th San Jacinto patron saint festivities
- Aug. 27th Virgen de Fátima parish anniversary

The Yaguachi canton was founded on July 21st 1883, is a living testimony of the history of the Ecuadorian coast, its name evokes the resistance of the native settlers in times of colonization.

With an estimated population of 78 thousand inhabitants and located 10 meters above sea level, the canton enjoys a tropical climate with an average temperature of 25°C, factors that contribute to fertility and agricultural development, highlighting the cultivation of products such as rice, corn, tomatoes, cocoa, tropical fruits, as well as other agricultural and livestock enterprises.

The **San Jacinto de Yaguachi Church** is the landmark of the capital. On November 4th 2009, Pope Benedict XVI elevated the Minor Basilica to the dignity of the Con-Cathedral, and since then the Cathedral has become an itinerary site for tourists.

The most significant event in the canton is the **Yaguachi Pilgrimage**, dedicated to San Jacinto, the patron saint of the canton, which each year brings together thousands of parishioners from all over the country. From days before August 16th contributing to the festive atmosphere, the center of Yaguachi capital comes alive with a colorful market of crafts, artisanal candies, and typical foods.

Around 500 sales stands are set up along the streets to welcome faithful devotees who attend religious processions and shows. During the festivities, the dishes most desired by visitors are *llapingacho*, a plate of dough and peanut paste with *fritada* (fried pork), or sausage and salad, adding an exquisite culinary dimension to the **San Jacinto de Yaguachi patron saint festivities**.

In the **Cone** parish, located 12 kilometers from the capital, a commemorative column stands in honor of the Yaguachean soldiers, who fought in the **"Battle of Cone"**, together with Marshal *Antonio José de Sucre*, against the Spanish army that was trying retake Guayaquil in for the Spanish crown, on August 19th 1821.



Simbology

	Protected area		Cultural heritage
	Beach / River beach		Church
	Mangroves		Museum
	Dolphins watching		Community tourism
	Aquatic bird watching		Coastal handicrafts
	Bird watching		Agritourism
	Flora observation		Greenhouse
	Orchids		Zoo
	Navigable river		Hot springs
	Waterfalls		View Point
	Ethnicity		Andean archeology
	Mound		Montubio rodeo

	Airport		Bank Services
	Port		Travel agency
	Train station		Hotel
	Aquatic park		Gastronomy
	Tarabita		Theme park
	Biking		Hanging bridge
	Horseback riding		Trekking
	Rafting		Camping area
	Water sports		Canyoning
	Surfing		Sport fishing
	Race track / Derby		Windsurfing

SOURCE:
Manual de Señalización Turística del Ecuador - Ministerio de Turismo
Tourist Signs Catalogue - Ministry of Tourism of Ecuador.

NOTES

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Beyond this guide

The Citizen Prefecture of Guayas, through its Tourism Direction, is committed to strengthening tourism through the promotion and visibility of the tourist offer of our province.

In this order, we are pleased to announce the creation of a series of guides that cover various topics designed to highlight the diversity of tourism modalities that our province offers Sun and Beach, flavor, experiential, nautical, art and culture, well-being, adventure, nature, events and meetings.

These guides aim to provide complete and detailed information so that our visitors can fully enjoy everything that *Guayas* has to offer.

Ángelo Calderón Salazar

Tourism Director



Dirección de
Turismo

 @visitaguayas

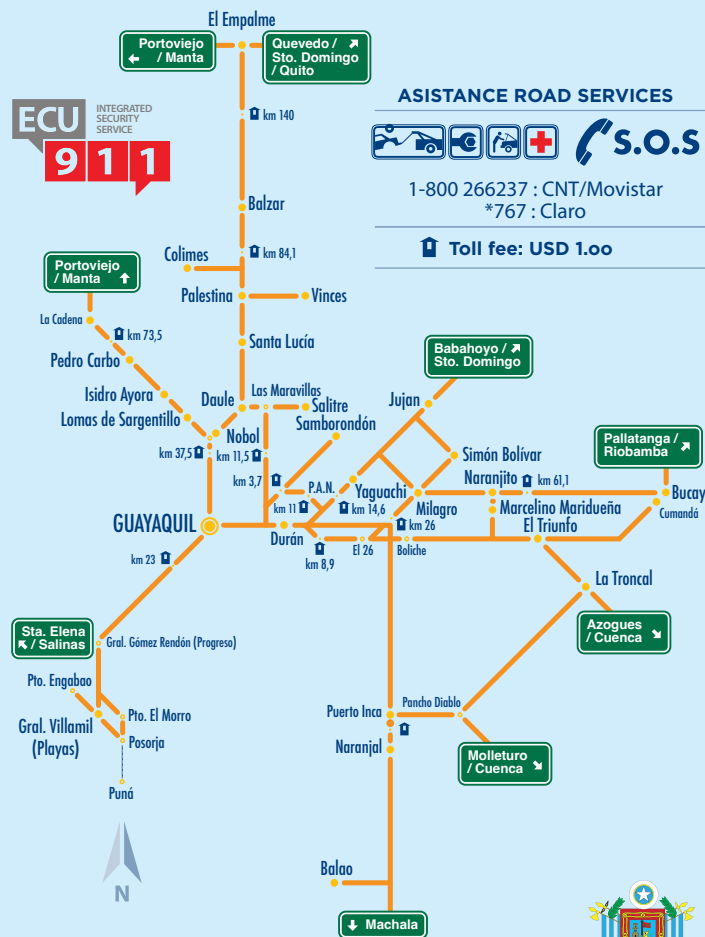
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SCHEMATIC MAP OF GUAYAS



PREFECTURA DEL GUAYAS



**PREFECTURA
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**Dirección de
Turismo**

