

Ecuador Volcano

Climb

2024 & 2025

actionchallenge.com

 **actionchallenge**
challenge events worldwide



About Us

Action Challenge

We are Action Challenge, and we bring people together through challenge & adventure.



Since 1999 we've organised inspirational challenge events & adventures in the UK and Worldwide, for individuals to join, and for groups, companies & charities. Take on a challenge just for yourself, or link it to a special cause and fundraise – so far our events have raised over £90 million for charities. Now is the time to set new goals, to re-energise, and to get active!

We have over 40 UK & overseas challenge events that you can sign up to now – ranging from a meandering 25 km Thames Path walk, to conquering a mighty Himalayan peak. Take on an unforgettable group adventure and push yourself further! We welcome individuals, couples, or groups of friends & family – and you can self fund, or link your challenge with fundraising for a chosen charity.



Few experiences bring a group closer together than an outdoor adventure which challenges comfort zones, builds resilience & understanding, and forges respect & friendships. If you have a group, you can join one of our 40 or so scheduled events, or if you want something special – we can craft a bespoke itinerary or plan a unique challenge event to meet your objectives and get your team energised!

Why Choose Us?



100% ATOL PROTECTION

We are 100% ATOL (Air Travel Organiser's Licence) bonded - ATOL number 6296. Offers full financial protection by the CAA (Civil Aviation Authority) for clients who have booked package trips, including flights.



UK LEADERS & MEDICS

Every challenge is managed & led by one of our expert UK Qualified & trained Mountain Leaders, working alongside them will be a UK Medic whom has experience of expeditions & group challenges.



EXPERIENCED LOCAL TEAMS

Our hand picked local teams & crew know the routes like the back of their hands! You will be fully supported by the experts - who will also teach you about the destination, people, culture & history!

4 THE GROUP EXPERIENCE

Join as an individual, couple, or group of friends - we bring people together and create an atmosphere where each person is supported, motivated & encouraged through the trip. Sharing adventures together we have a lot of fun!

5 TRAINING & SUPPORT

Once you've signed up to the challenge, you'll be supported by our teams with specifically designed training plans, a challenge app, an invite to join our Facebook group & options to join us on training walks & challenge briefing. By the time you are due to travel you'll be ready & raring to go!

6 OUR ITINERARIES

OVER 20+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE BRINGS YOU THE BEST ITINERARIES & DESTINATIONS

7 QUALITY ASSURED VALUE

We pride ourselves on selecting the best local teams, hotels (always 3*+), restaurants & guides so you can experience the best each destination has to offer. A highlight will certainly be our final celebratory meals & party at a fantastic venue!

8 OUR CLIENTS

We've taken teams from Harrods, Blackrock, HSBC and more to the summit of Kilimanjaro, and have also run events here in the UK for companies such as Tesco, British Gas and M&S. We've got over a decade of experience of working with organisations of every size. Our team of experts will work with you to ensure that your event is a success, achieving your goals and leaving a lasting impact.

The Challenge



Ecuador Volcano Climb

TAKE ON THE AVENUE OF THE VOLCANOES!

Ecuador is packed with culture, great food, wonderful people and incredible mountainous terrain. Its volcanoes are a magnet for trekkers and mountaineers. On this challenge, you will summit active & dormant volcanoes, see the highest point on the equator (and the only place on the equator with snow!), and experience the great hospitality of Ecuador. Starting from Quito, and a visit to the Equatorial line at Mitad Del Mundo, we then begin the process of acclimatising, with summits of Pasachoa (4,200m), Ruminahui (4,700m), Illinizas Norte (5126m), and an ice skills training day on the slopes of Cotopaxi - one of the world's highest active volcanoes. We will then put those skills to the test, on a challenging summit of either Cayambe (5790m) or Cotopaxi (5897m)!

This is the perfect next challenge for anyone who has already taken on Kilimanjaro or Everest Base Camp, and is looking to step things up with a more technical climb - PLUS the option to go above 6,000m with a summit of Chimborazo!

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO VOLCANIC ACTIVITY, COTOPAXI SUMMIT IS NOT EXPECTED TO OPEN TO CLIMBERS UNTIL 2025. UNTIL IT REOPENS WE WILL SUMMIT CAYAMBE INSTEAD

Ecuador Volcano Climb

DAY 1 - ARRIVE QUITO

We fly to Quito, Ecuador and enjoy a meal in the evening.

Meals: D Accom: Hotel

DAY 2 - ACCLIMATISING IN QUITO

2,800m

We take this day to acclimatise to the rarefied atmosphere. We explore Quito's famous Colonial Quarter, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with churches, lively plazas and museums. Later, we'll head to Mitad del Mundo where the equatorial line passes, dividing the Earth in 2 hemispheres, before visiting the famous Inti-nan museum.

Meals: BLD Accom: Hotel

DAY 3 - PASOCHOA

4,199m

We head to our trailhead in the foothills of Mt. Pasochoa, a trek that offers us our best chance to see the Andean Condor. One of the best treks acclimatisation getting us all prepared for a Cotopaxi summit. From the top there are some of the most beautiful vistas in the Central Andes and on a clear day we can see Cotopaxi.

Meals: BLD Accom: Hacienda

DAY 4 - RUMINAHUI

4721m

Ruminahui is a long-extinct volcano in the Cotopaxi National Park. It has 3 separate peaks, although they are not considered separate mountains, unlike the Illinizas. This climb is perfect for breath-taking views of the peaks of Elz Corazon, Illinizas and of course the ever present Cotopaxi.

Meals: BLD Accom: Hacienda

DAY 5 - QUILOTOA LAGOON

3,900m

Today we stick at lower elevations, with a challenging but fun circuit around the volcanic crater of the Quilotoa Lagoon. We have the option to climb to highest point of the crater at 3900m, or descend to the water for a day of kayaking.

Meals: BLD Accom: Hacienda



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DAY 6 - ILLINIZAS NORTE

5,126m

Our height gain today starts getting serious with the ascent to Illinizas North, an essential preparation for our later summit. It's a steep climb with some minor scrambling, though breath-taking scenery reaching the summit at over 5,000m!

Meals: BLD Accom: Hacienda

DAY 7 - COTOPAXI

4,900m

We transfer to Cotopaxi and make the 1 hour walk to the Jose Rivas Hut at 4,900m. From here, we take our technical kit to the lower slopes of the glacier, for a day of skills training. We will learn how to traverse the glacier on crampons, move as part of a rope team, and how to "self-arrest" using an ice axe. This is a fun day, that is essential preparation!

Meals: BLD Accom: Hacienda

DAY 8 - MOUNTAIN HUT

4,860m

After a final kit check, we set off for the mountain hut on Cayambe. After arriving, we will relax before meeting our summit guides. There will be a briefing over an early dinner, before we head to bed to get some sleep before starting our summit night climb.

Meals: BLD Accom: Hut

DAY 9 - CAYAMBE SUMMIT

5,790m

We start with a short scramble to reach the edge of the Laguna Verde at 4,700m, before reaching the glacier edge. Here we don crampons & rope up with our team mates for the summit. In the dark, we can see the lights of Cayambe town below us, and a sea of stars above. It's a steep climb from here to the summit, so we will put everything we learned yesterday to the test. As we approach the summit, the sun will rise, offering up breathtaking views of the rolling white slopes below and summit above. After a final push to the summit, we savour the moment, before a 2 hour descent to the hut, where vehicles await to transfer us back to Quito & our celebration dinner!

BLD Accom: Hotel



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DAY 10 & 11 - RETURN TO UK

We will transfer to the airport for our flight home to the UK.

SEE PAGE 9 FOR DETAILS OF OUR CHIMBORAZO UPGRADE!



Ecuador Volcano Climb



INCLUSIONS

- . Fully supported challenge
- . Action Challenge Expedition Leader & Medic
- . Full support team, including local guides
- . International flights and air travel taxes
- . All accommodation, twin share - hotels / tents
- . All meals with the group; breakfast, lunch and dinner
- . Climbing permit fees
- . Celebratory dinner in Quito
- . Pre event support & Challenge APP
- . Optional training weekends

DATES & PRICES

Visit website for available dates

PAYMENT OPTIONS

There are 2 'payment options' available when you sign up.

SELF FUNDING: Just like a standard holiday! You pay the initial registration deposit online, and then the final balance of the trip cost (+ any fuel surcharge imposed by the airline if booking a Flights Included package) - which is invoiced 12 weeks prior to departure.

CHARITY FUNDRAISING: Do it for a charity of your choice! Choose how much of the trip cost you want to cover yourself & fundraise at least twice the remaining balance. Your chosen charity pays us the final balance from this fundraising, with the rest being kept as a donation. Any airline imposed fuel surcharge will be invoiced to you if booking a Flights Included package - 12 weeks prior.

Chimborazo Upgrade

For the more adventurous, and anyone who wants to go over the 6000m mark, you can upgrade to a summit of Ecuador's tallest peak and one of the highest active volcanoes in the world - Chimborazo! This stratovolcano also lays claim to being the closest point on the surface of the earth to space, and is the tallest peak on earth, when measured from the centre of the planet! This replaces the Cayambe summit, starting from day 8, rejoining the team after summiting, on day 9 for the celebration dinner.

DAY 8 - CHIMBORAZO HIGH CAMP **5,300m**

We have a brief kit check at the hotel, then transfer to the Chimborazo Ecological Reserve, stopping for lunch en route. From the trailhead, it's a 2-3 hour walk, carrying our summit gear, to the high camp. We should be feeling well acclimatised following the Cayambe summit and day of rest. On arrival, we will have a short briefing and refresher of key mountaineering techniques, before dinner & an early night.

Meals: BLD Accom: Camping

DAY 9 - CHIMBORAZO SUMMIT **6,310m**

Our summit attempt begins at midnight. This is a very tough challenge, and we face a prolonged ascent on steep snow and ice. You will put into practice everything we have learned over the previous days, and you push on for the summit - where you will join the 6000m club! After enjoying the summit, we descend to a waiting vehicle and transfer to our accommodation for dinner and celebrations!

Meals: BLD Accom: Hotel

DAY 10 & 11 - DEPART ECUADOR

We check out from the hotel and transfer to the airport for our flight, landing home the following day

Meals: B



Chimborazo Upgrade



This package is only available as an upgrade to an existing Ecuador Volcano Climb booking. Chimborazo represents a strenuous and technical challenge, and should only be attempted after properly acclimatising on lower peaks.

INCLUSIONS

- . Fully supported challenge
- . Action Challenge Expedition Leader & Local Crew
- . Full support team, including local guides
- . All accommodation, twin share - hotels / tents
- . All meals with the group; breakfast, lunch and dinner
- . Climbing permit fees
- . Pre event support & Challenge APP

PRICING

You can book this package by selecting the Chimborazo option when registering for your Ecuador Volcano Challenge, or it can be added to an existing booking by contacting us. The extra fee will be added to your final balance invoice.

+£250 per person

PLEASE NOTE:

This is a demanding climb that requires a high level of fitness. It is a technical climb, which means you will need to use ropes, crampons and ice axes to reach the summit on a 40 degree ice slope. We recommend anyone upgrading to the Chimborazo summit has prior experience of technical climbing, or undertakes a Winter Skills course in advance of departure.



Contact Us

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