

Difference Between Peru and Ecuador

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Key Difference - Peru vs Ecuador

Peru and Ecuador are two bordering countries in Western [South America](#). Both countries are Andean countries, and this influence can be seen in their [geography](#), [climate](#), and [culture](#) as well. However, there are many differences between the two countries as well. The key difference between Peru and Ecuador is their size; **Peru is the third largest country in South America whereas Ecuador is the smallest.** However, both these countries are made up of a variety of landscapes and are known as two of the most diverse countries in the world.

What is Peru?

Peru, or the [Republic](#) of Peru, is a South American country bordered by Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Bolivia, and Chile. This is the third largest country in South America, after Brazil and Argentina.

Peru is a country with an extreme diversity, made up of a variety of landscapes, including mountains, beaches, [deserts](#) as well as [rain forests](#). The most populated area, however, is the coast of the Pacific Ocean, where the capital Lima is located. The Amazon rain forest covers half the country. Peru is also home to several ancient cultures, including the Inca Empire. The famous Inca citadel Machu Picchu is situated in this country.



Figure 01: Machu Picchu

Peru has one of the most prosperous economies in the South American region since it is very rich in natural resources such as [gold](#), [silver](#), lead, [copper](#), oil and [natural gas](#). Peruvian population is multiethnic, including Amerindians, Europeans, Africans, and Asians. The official and the main spoken language is [Spanish](#), a heritage from the Spanish colonization.

What is Ecuador?

Ecuador, (official name: Republic of Ecuador) is the smallest country in South America. Ecuador is also considered as one of the most diverse areas of the world, and the Galápagos Islands in the Pacific is a part of Ecuador. This country is named after the Equator which runs through the country, and a large part of the country is in the South hemisphere.

Ecuador is categorized into four unique geographic regions: La Costa (the coast), La Sierra (the highlands), El Oriente or La Amazonía (the east) and La Región Insular (regions including Galapagos Island). Cotopaxi, the highest active [volcano](#) in the world, is also situated in Ecuador.

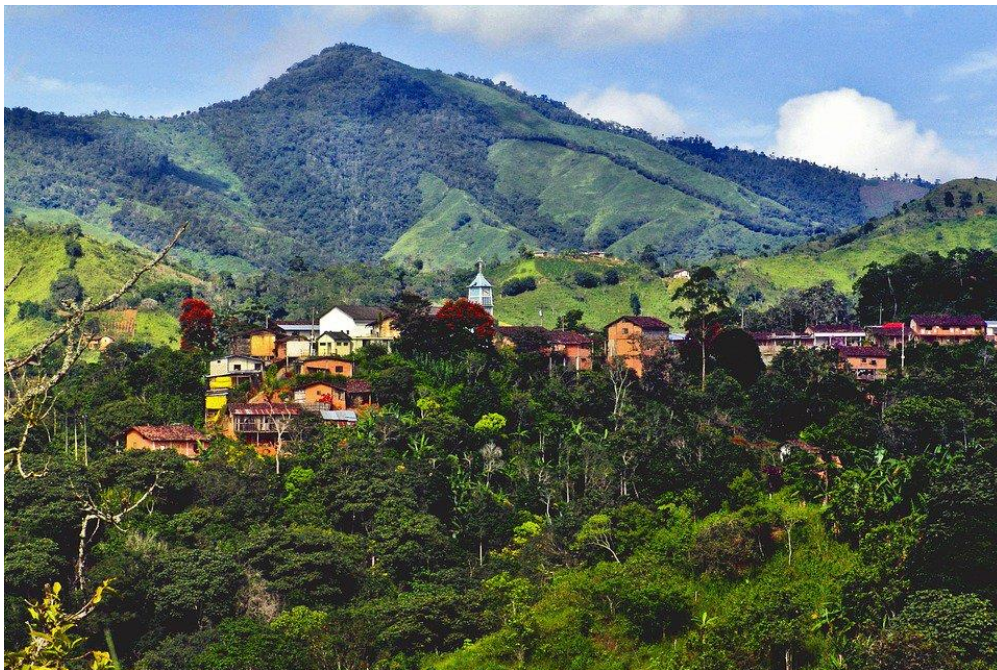


Figure 01: Ecuador

Ecuador is known as a middle-income country with a developing economy, which is dependent petroleum and agricultural products. The capital city of this country is Quito, but the largest city is Guayaquil.

What are the Similarities Between Peru and Ecuador?

- Peru and Ecuador are Andean countries; thus, the Andes influence significantly the geography, climate, and culture of these countries.

- Economies of both countries depend on extraction and exportation of natural resources.
- Majority of the population in both countries is [Catholic](#).
- The official language of both countries is Spanish.
- Both countries were once colonies of the Spanish Empire but gained independence in the nineteenth century.
- Both Peru and Ecuador are known for their [biodiversity](#).

What is the Difference Between Peru and Ecuador?

Peru vs Ecuador	
Peru is the third largest country in South America, after Brazil and Argentina.	Ecuador is the smallest country in South America
Population	
Peruvian population has many Asian descendants.	Ecuador has a lower percentage of the indigenous population than Peru.
Government	
The government of Peru has been right-wing or moderate.	Ecuador has leftist governments.
Currency	
Peru has its currency.	Ecuador uses US. Dollars as its currency.
Brazil	
Peru borders Brazil.	Ecuador is one of the two South American countries that do not border Brazil.

Summary – Peru vs Ecuador

Since both Peru and Ecuador are neighboring Andean countries, many similarities can be found between them in their culture, geography, climate, and people. However, there are some differences as well. The main difference between Peru and Ecuador is their size.

Reference:

- 1.“18 interesting facts about Ecuador.” Atlas & Boots, 14 Sept. 2017. [Available here](#)
- 2.“Ecuador Country Profile.” National Geographic Kids, 21 Mar. 2014. [Available here](#)
- 3.“Peru.” National Geographic Kids, 21 Mar. 2014. [Available here](#)

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