

# Bahia-de-Caraquez+Ecuador- Ressource-Guide-2018.docx

October 2018

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The earthquake 2016 changed a lot, despite that anyway shops and services sometimes pop up or disappear very quickly or change their location - this means every info/guide before 2016 is most likely completely outdated!

A good search source is googlemaps, but googlestreetmaps is not capable of keeping pace with the changes!

Many businesses do have no internet appearance and if they have often the infos are outdated or incomplete.

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I will not update this document!

There are some infos e.g. check-in, visa, etc. which I posted to noonsite and hope they will take into their websites aswell, so these newest infos should be on noonsite.com.

If you find something new or changed please add it and host it as a new version and give noonsite an update aswell (and add the year to e.g. priceinfos as an indicator).

I did send this content to Noonsite to add it on their site, so it is easier found by cruisers.

- [https://www.taitonga.net/tipps\\_und\\_tricks\\_und\\_infos/2018-09-20\\_Ecuador/Bahia-de-Caraquez+2018-Ressource-Guide.docx](https://www.taitonga.net/tipps_und_tricks_und_infos/2018-09-20_Ecuador/Bahia-de-Caraquez+2018-Ressource-Guide.docx)  
(take this version to add your content and host it with a new date)
- [https://www.taitonga.net/tipps\\_und\\_tricks\\_und\\_infos/2018-09-20\\_Ecuador/Bahia-de-Caraquez+2018-Ressource-Guide.docx](https://www.taitonga.net/tipps_und_tricks_und_infos/2018-09-20_Ecuador/Bahia-de-Caraquez+2018-Ressource-Guide.docx)

All the best!  
Christian  
SY Taitonga

[www.taitonga.net](http://www.taitonga.net)

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## 1 General Security / Ecuador

### 1.1 MRCC Ecuador (Guardacostas)

SRR: SRR ECUADOR  
Telephone: +593 4 2480812  
alternate: +593-4-2321602  
Fax: 593 4 2480176  
Email: [coguar@armada.mil.ec](mailto:coguar@armada.mil.ec)  
Alternate:  
coguar\_ope@armada.mil.ec  
costera\_digmer@armadaecuador.com  
Website: <https://www.coguar.dimea.org>  
Location-2.166670084, -79.90000153  
Notes: AL SUR DE LA CIUDAD DE GUAYAQUIL  
(Source: <https://sarcontacts.info/>)

### 1.2 Tsunamiwarnings Mailinglist

from UNESCO:

[http://itic.ioc-unesco.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&id=1437&Itemid=1437](http://itic.ioc-unesco.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=1437&Itemid=1437)

### 1.3 Mailinglist for german citizens abroad

Liste des Auswärtigen Amtes für im Ausland lebenden Deutschen für Informationsmöglichkeiten bei Katastrophen, Unruhen, etc.: <http://elefand.diplo.de>

## 2 Puerto Amistad, Bahia de Caraquez, Ecuador

### 2.1 Approach / Entering

You might find open fishing-Pangas 100nm offshore as well (not very good, but creative lit). Be ready for the pilot in the waitingarea 1 hour before hightide at daylight. Anchoring in the waitingpoint can be uncomfortable. Be prepared to go through breakers depending on the weather conditions (waves might be calmer before noon), the path is going quite near the shoreline. Small fishing cajucos might anchor direct in the way, dito moored fishing-nets.

Boats with 2,5m draft should only pass at the highest spring tides (soft bottom though - "Solace" dipped the sand 13 times in 2018).

### 2.2 River and Tides

**Tidetable for Bahia:** [http://www.inocar.mil.ec/mareas/TM/2018/BAHIA\\_CARAUQUEZ.pdf](http://www.inocar.mil.ec/mareas/TM/2018/BAHIA_CARAUQUEZ.pdf) (<http://tides.mobilegeographics.com/locations/5127.html> (a bit different); wxtide32 a bit different, too)); Tidalrange up to 3m.

**Tidetables for Ecuador:** <http://www.inocar.mil.ec/web/index.php/productos/tabla-mareas>

**Rivercurrent** ca. 3kn+ downriver at springtide, murky waters: visibility from 5 to 25cm (near high tide, still rising). At springtides there is a lot of debris in the water, e.g. logs. If it had rained in the mountains, even more. If your dinghymotor quits at night => good luck!

**Bottomfouling** - Very quick growth if you do not have a very good antifouling - black clams, barnacles and weed. The propeller can be after some weeks just a shapeless mass of animals on a "structure". The marina offers at reasonable rates - some mixed reports, but reported by Gene to be ok even for Galapagos.

If you anchor, calculate some hours for cleaning the chain before leaving.

HW-1 seems to be the „best“ visibility for cleaning the bottom. (best can be a couple of centimeters ...)

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## 2.2.1 Beaching the boat

According to Gene it is allowed to beach the boat on the sandbank in front of Puerto Amistad to clean the boat (not allowed on the San Vincente side ? [the sandbank on that side could be interesting!]) or at the beach in Bahia for swimmers near H-Sportsbar [imho the best spot!]).

Taitonga (Ovni 395) checked the options 29.09.2018 on a nipptide with a 2,5m tidalrange and decided for an haul-out in the Marquesas.

On the sandbank:

The sandbank towards the rivermouth has a nice slow rising towards the bridge, hard sand, it looks possible to beach at the hight of the TIA-Supermarket/Fuelstation aiming at the bridgecoloum 12.

At HW+2h: No "close" landmarks to make a precise approach => only by GPS or "Intuition"! (we would have placed a floating marker)

At lowtide: Easy access to the waterline. If it is sunny the wind blows quite strong towards the sandbank, but for the sand seems not to get blown onto e.g. new antifouling.

At HW-2h: The waves are comming from 3 directions: San Vincente, Bahia and the rivermouth; the current is setting towards San Vincente and towards the highest part of the sandbank.

The current at nipptide is unpleasent, at springtides expect much more current.

We would have used 2 stern anchors, because of the current changes.

In Taitonga's opinion above is the best option, only for advanced people, but the conditions on the Pacific should be stable and calm aswell! We personally would not dare to beach here on springtides!

The sandbank towards the bridge has a lower side which is muddy - if you need to go to the waterline your legs will be sucked in up to the knees.

The sandbank in the middlepart, opposite Puerto Amistad has a steep side and a flat top with hard sand, but it is not really deep there at high tide and it is as exposed as the rivermouthpart.

Between Puerto Amistad and the bridge:

The ground looked not too nice, but muddy and we did not like the ascent near Puerto Amistad.

Bay between Puerto Amistad and Muelle 1:

Slow rising hard mud, a water tube (or sewage?) towards Muelle 1, a lonely canuco was moored there, very soft mud at the wateredge. In the little bay is a countercurrent.

## 2.3 Mooringoptions

2 buoys (front and aft =>Wind into the cockpit) or swingbuoy (Either: Check the knots and lines) or anchoring.

Most buoys have two lines attachde to the boat. On two boats one of the the aft line failed and one motorvessel went adrift in 2018!

Trafficnoise will die down at night.

Mostly calm conditions, but a bit swell from passing pangas.

Very ugly swell coming over the sandbank at spring tides (of course sideways!).

**Planned** (since a long time ago:-): Fixed jettys and a tidal grid (structure to tie a kneelboat to, so it can dry out without falling over to work on the kneel, prop, antifouling).

## 2.4 Amenities

**Office** tries to help you with everything

**Restaurant** on site (see under Bahia / Restaurants). Cinema-evening for cruisers on thursdays.

**Showers:** hot water! (unfortunately mostly either very hot or coldish - medium temperature is nearly impossible to regulate (If you engage two faucets with hot it is more comfortable, but energywasting); If not clean, talk to Gene! :-))

**Laundryservice** - They use hot water! so things can be shrunked. Count your items before and after and check what you got which does not belong to you (socks tend to disappear :-))

**Dinghydock** - watch for screwheads sticking out! You might want to bring your own long waterhose.

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## 2.5 Contacts (10/2018)

**Gene**, Owner +593 (0)99 348 8519 (english/spanish)

**Delia**, Gene's wife +593 (0)99 351 5351 (spanish)

**Office** Puerto Amistad +593 (0)5 269 3112 (english/spanish, Mo-Sa 09:00-17:00)

**VHF Chanel 69**. After office hours VHF-contact is possible, but maybe hard - try to get in contact for a pilot arrangement at least one day before entering.

**Ariosto**, the pilot of Puerto Amistad (0)96 795 1813 (only spanish, but not a problem)

**William**, the nightguard (0)98 497 1314.

[www.puertoamistad.com](http://www.puertoamistad.com)

## 2.6 Security

A **securityguard** will dinghy around the boats sometimes at night (the junior the faster ...:-) or shine a light on the boats from the restaurant.

If you park your dingy at the **dinghydock** take care of the changing currents.

In 2018 there were some thefts of big pangas with motors, which were recovered by the Capitaneria to give back to their owners.

It might be a good idea to chain your dinghy/motor to the boat at night.

Pangas traveling the river mostly full speed and at night poorly lit, sometimes black canucos are nearly invisible aswell drifting wood in the current => you want to carry a **dinghlight** at night and have a **whistle** in your dinghy and maybe a pair of **paddles** to fight the current in case of motorproblems :-).

## 2.7 Check-in

For general information see [www.noonsite.com](http://www.noonsite.com).

At least 3 people will visit you on your boat - Can be from an easy total of 1 minute up to 60 minutes +.

They are friendly officials and will be happy for some cookies (Ecuadorians love sweet :-)

- ☺ Immigration is very fast, just a signature.
- ☺ Portcaptain has a checklist and will ask a lot of easy questions and wants to see lifejackets, flares, fire extinguishers etc.
- ☺ Healthdepartment is digging in deeper and checks
  - ☺ verbally healthstatus: e.g. diabetes
  - ☺ vaccinations (might even want to have you to get some additional shots! It is normally not checked if you actually got the shots she recommended [Check that you are not allergic against eggs where vaccine is hatched ...]),
  - ☺ medications and foodstorage (outdated stuff might be taken away!)

You maybe do not want to present outdated: flares, fire extinguishers, food cans, medications, etc. They only looked inside compartments which we offered them to look into.

For check-in / check-out there is a **description how to do it yourself** on the door of the marina-office aswell as on the website <http://www.puertoamistad.com/en/marina/zoo> (2018: The marina combined In/Out in to one moneyunfriendly package (To do the self-out was reported to be easy).

### 2.7.1 Visa Information - General

180 days within 1 year is possible as a tourist. The 1 year means you can get a new initial-tourist-visa 365 days after your first entry (not twice in a calendar year!).

Rules change often and it seems that not all officials know the rules exactly.

**Tourist-Visa:** for **initial 90 days in total**, multi-entry/-exit-visa, with an **open-expiry-date!** If you leave the country the clock stops ticking. Each day in Ecuador counts: arrival- / exitdays are one day each!

**Prolongation-Tourist-Visa:** **valid for 90 consecutive days**, multi-entry/exit-visa, with an **fixed expiry-date!** Other than the entry-visa the clock does not stop, if you leave the country!

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Normally after the expiry-date of the prolongation-visa you have to leave the country and you can only return after 365 days after the date your first tourist visa was issued.

**In case you need more than 180 days** (e.g. someone/something home needs your presence and your visa will expire:

a) If you are already in the country, it is possible to get an "additional" **Commercial-Visa valid for 180 days**.

Immigration, Maria Fernanda (08/2018): If you are outside the country with an outdated visa and want to reenter again during the 1 year you have to get a new (special) Visa issued by the ecuadorian embassy of your home country.

Applying for a permanent residency might be an option aswell?

<https://www.ministeriointerior.gob.ec/migracion/>

<https://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/requisitos-para-solicitud-de-visas-no-inmigrantes-e-inmigrantes/>

[https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ecuadorsicherheit/223232#content\\_2](https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ecuadorsicherheit/223232#content_2)

## 2.7.2 Tourist-Visa-Prolongation - Immigration-Office in Portoviejo

We were told the visa-prolongation should be easier in Portoviejo than in Manta.

To prolong the visa go to the:

**Migration a la antigua Agencia National de Transito** (stress the „old“ = former location“!)

**Via Crucita, km 2,5** (The actual streetname in maps.google.com is „Av. Jose Maria Urbina“ in openstreetmap „Avenida Universita“)

(they moved ca 100m south of the building with the **Policia National**, near the big Policecompound – it is on the eastside of the street) (**do not** go to the actual offices of the Agencia National de Transito, which is SW on the road to Manta! nor to the CAC - Centro Attention de Ciudadana., which is ca. 1km ESE of the Terminal Terreste))

Migration is on the ground floor right hand side.

**Bus-Tip:** If you come **by bus from Bahia** leave the bus at the NW-end of town at „Monumento a la Agricultura Manabita“ (Roundabout with giant Corn, Cane, Avocado etc.) and then walk SE ca. 1,5km (ca. 20min+) on a 4 lane street or take a taxi or the citybus for 0,40USD each) (If you debus from Bahia as late as downtown in the Terminal Terreste you are looking for additional 30-45 min travelttime)

**Taxi** from the Terminal Terreste to the Immigration is around 2,00-2,50 USD (2018).

Local bus from Migration to Terminal Terreste is 0,40 USD (2018).

## 2.7.3 Process for Tourist-Visa-Prolongation (+90 consecutive days)

You can only apply for the prolongation earliest 3 days before the visa will expire!

- ☺ You show up at the **Immigration-office**, say what you desire, and then receive a little slip of paper with paymentdetails – see below (maybe try phoning first to confirm the details to pay first in town and then go to the office ...).

A Marriage Certificate did not spare us some Dollars of the fee.

They want color-copy's of the passport aswell the side with ecuadorian stamps; this can be done across the street for ca. 0,50 USD per copy.

- ☺ You have to take a taxi to **Banco Pacifico** for doing the payment; there might be 3 branches in town: e.g. Avenida Manabí, Portoviejo (not far from the Supermaxxi-Supermarket) [bancodelpacifico.com](http://bancodelpacifico.com).

**Check your receipt for correct Names and numbers by the character/number!!!!**

(they did it wrong on each receipt, which would have resulted in the immigration-office: „Go to the bank again ...“)

What the bank needs is on a little slip of paper from the Immigration:

In 2018:

- No de Cedula y/o Pasaporte: (Your passportnumber)
- Codigo de la Provincia, Apellido y Nombre usuario: 13 (+ your Name)
- Rubro Servicio que brinda codigo-nombre del formulario: 4.6 PRORROGA
- Valor: 128,67 USD;

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- Comission banco 0,62 USD

- ☺ You take a taxi back to **Immigration** and get your stamp.

It took about 90 minutes, and because we had an entrystamp from La Balsa (Peru/Ecuador-Crossing) which was not processed in the IT-System, we had to go there each in person (!) once more to get our prolongation stamp.

Senora Maria Fernanda Franco processed us (no english) and was not willing to give us her telefonnumber (098 417 2239), but she promised to call us, when the stamp was ready to collect („maybe tomorrow or in 2 days“ => it took more than 2 weeks).

If you have the correct, confirmed paymentdetails it might spare you some traveling.

## 2.7.4 Process for Commercial-Visa-Prolongation:

- ☺ If you are already in the country, it is possible to get an **additional Commercial-Visa valid for 180 days**, apply at the foreign relations ministry and then go to the Immigration in Manta, cost ca. 200+50USD p.p.
- ☺ Apply for this visa early before your visa expiries (In 08/2018 the next interviewspot was in October ...)
- ☺ Estimate for the completion of the process after the first interview is ca. 3-4 weeks. If you do not speak spanish it might be hard ...  
<https://serviciows.cancilleria.gob.ec:444/TurnosCancilleria/>

## 2.7.5 Useful Immigration Contacts

The immigration guy who visits Bahia, Puerto Amistad: **Fidel** 099 6894138.

Someone who speaks perfect english and was willing to help: **Diego** Calderon +593 99 266 8011

## 2.8 Check-out of the country:

The Immigration in Portoveijo (Maria Fernanda) said 08/2018: You have to use an agent!

Contrary to the info on Puerto Amistad website ... aswell

contrary to noonsite where the source is given for

**„No Agent needed, if you are a pleasure boat under 50 ton!“**

**=> Official Registry Nº 53 from the Government of Ecuador of August 8, 2017:**

<https://www.noonsite.com/Countries/Ecuador?rc=Formalities...>

„Petima“ and "Taitonga" did it sucessfully on their own in 2018 ...

You can get assistance for doing the paperwork via the marina and pay for this so you only do the easy traveling to Manta.

For check-in / check-out there is a **description how to do it yourself** on the door of the marina-office aswell as on their website <http://www.puertoamistad.com/en/marina/zoo>

2018: The marina combined In/Out in to one package - so you mght want to ask only for a check-in

2018: Doing the national Zarpe to Galapagos is easy in the Bahia-Capitaneria (costs max 15USD).

### Check-out in Manta:

First email the documents to the Capitaneria. Pay the fee at Banco Pinchincha and then get the Zarpe in Bahia from the Portcaptain (Despite nobody wants to have a Zarpe in French Polynesia you have to get one for the Immigration to get stamped out...).

Immigration can only be started 1 day prior the departure and only on weekdays:

Get paymentinstructions at the Immigration in Manta: Centro de Mediacion, Calle Rio Esmeralda y Av Jocay (Barrio La Aurora) (They will move into the new main loacation maybe in 2019)

Pay the fees at Banco del Pacifico Av. 113 Y Calle 117 (that is on the way)

Complete the Paperwork at Immigration

Go to the Customs: Aduana del Ecuador, Port: Av.Circunvalacion / Malecon

(Taitonga paid 40USD for the paperwork and the communication in 2018 to the marinaoffice.

Payment 15USD for Zarpe 20 min inside the bank

Zarpe at Capitaneria took ca 30 min

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Payment 15USD for Immigration ca. 10min in the bank

Immigration ca. 20min (Carla speaks perfect english)

Aduana ca. 15min

=> calculate ca. 2,5h in total (taxitransfer + waiting)

Everyone was nice.

(bottom line: with the costs of a taxi you will not spare much money, but you get a free taxi-ride to do errands in Manta)

## 2.9 Leaving Ecuador westwards

The open **Panga-fischerboats** will be found up to 100-150nm offshore – they might indicate their nets (or the way to go???) with laserbeams (they do not have AIS but sometimes a little creative light at night).

In 08/2018 2 **fishingfleets of 100+ signals** within a small area 100x80nm were visible on marinetraffic.com (AIS via Satellite) zigzagging at around 2S/100W => check to avoid before leaving!

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## 3 Bahia de Caraquez - General

No redundancies =>please see:

[https://wikitravel.org/en/Bahia\\_de\\_Caraquez](https://wikitravel.org/en/Bahia_de_Caraquez)

### 3.1 Bahia-Security

**Very nice people** in town (you will be greeted on the streets !)

**Dogs** unleashed (one attacked a cruiser jogging on the hill in 2018). They normally use to disappear when you pick up a stone.

**Water** out of the tap is not potable!

A **Hazard-Warnings-Soundsystem** is installed for the whole bay for e.g. Tsunamis (tested loud and clear successfully in 09/2018; „Prueba“ means test! (mostly at high-noon)).

### 3.2 Weather

April to October 2018 (dryseason):

**No squalls, no thunderstorms!**

Seldom a **few drops** of rain (Just enough to make the deck very ugly).

Lots of dustparticles and birdshit.

Mostly **thermal windsystems**: Wind usually picks up before noon (Wind towards inland), dies down in the evening (winds to offshore) and not much at all at night to the early morning; mostly southerlys and onshore winds around 10-15kn;

80% of the days **overcast**, sometimes not even with a glimpse of sun – not much energy through solar! Some buy generators (only 110V available).

Sometimes quite **cold!** If there is no sun: blankets, long trousers and fleece at night.

On sunny days never near as hot and humid as in Panama-City!

<https://www.windguru.cz/34257>

[https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tafb\\_latest/pacsf24\\_latestBW\\_sm3.gif](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tafb_latest/pacsf24_latestBW_sm3.gif)

[https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tafb\\_latest/pacsf72\\_latestBW\\_sm3.gif](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tafb_latest/pacsf72_latestBW_sm3.gif)

[www.windy.com](http://www.windy.com)

Historic data available (change the date in the URL) at

<https://earth.nullschool.net/#2018/08/15/1200Z/wind/surface/level/orthographic=-75.00,0.00,1102/loc=-80.470,-0.676>

Only seldeom a few mosquitos onboard (a bit more from the end of September); no NoSeeUmms/black biting flies.

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## 4 Bahia de Caraquez - What - Where

The descriptions of how to find a place are not as in a big city (nearly no one uses or knows streetnames ...), but nearly everything is in walkingdistance and you might want to get some directions from the marinaoffice anyway.

Everything (aswell many adresses) changed with the big earthquake 2016 and the city is still under construction, many buildings are unsafe and are signed for not to use. There is quite some building activity, but much might take years ...

### 4.1 Alternators/Starters

- ☞ **Alternator Maestro**: Turn left/south out of marina, walk 300m and pass a small ferreteria on the corner, turn 45 degrees right and pass 'Dolphin Park' on your right as you walk 200m more. On right hand side, opposite the hospital entrance. It's just a small shack inside a timber fence with a sign saying radiator repairs. A 'bush mechanic' with few tools, but fixed alternator quickly and cheaply. (Moon Rebel 2018)

### 4.2 Banking / ATM

- ☞ **Banco Pinchinca** does not charge you extra for withdrawals at their ATMs (e.g. in the shoppingmall (500USD Limit).

### 4.3 Carpenter

- ☞ **Deposito de Madera y Fabrication de muebles**, Leonidas Plaza from the freshproducemarket 20m inland, 096 819 4721

### 4.4 Communications

- ☞ **Cellphone** - easy to buy a SIM-Card (e.g. Shoppingmall), but hard to activate it, because for that you need someone who shares his ecuadorian passport details with you (ask the Marina!) <sup>1</sup>
- ☞ <https://www.claro.com.ec/personas/servicios/servicios-moviles/prepago/paquetes/>
- ☞ e.g. 2,5gb data for 20days=10USD, 15USD for 30days 1,5gb+phoneminutes (2018)
- ☞ <https://www.recharge.com/en/ecuador/claro-top-up>

### 4.5 Doctors / Clinics – medical assistance

- ☞ **Clinica Viteri** - Calle Rio Frio Y Bolivar; 690-429, private=cash (e.g 40 USD for getting rid of a skin anomaly)

### 4.6 Embroidery on caps and shirts

- ☞ In the shopping mall. Send pattern as jpg to [zeppelinpaseobahia@hotmail.com](mailto:zeppelinpaseobahia@hotmail.com) (a cap with boatsname=9USD; T-Shirts (loose color the first washing(s)) ca. 13USD in 2018.

### 4.7 Events

- ☞ Dance-Weakup-Fitness - 07:00 (mon-sat) - Bahia Malecon SW to the seaside opposite the kidsplayground (follow the music ...)
- ☞ Wednesdays 18:00 sometimes specials in the shoppingmall
- ☞ Sometimes the marinarestaurant hosts a DJ (maybe 6x/year) => incredible loud and late
- ☞ Local fiestas => try to ask the marina

### 4.8 Ferreteria / Electronica

- ☞ **ROFAC** (05) 269 2055- Upstream the Shoppingcenter, just besides (nearly behind) the Paintshop; coballdrills, hoses, gasfittings, etc.
- ☞ The one towards the TIA has tubes and some sanitary items
- ☞ Almacen de Electro towards the church has some powerlines and some connectors
- ☞ Many other little Ferreterias in Bahia.
- ☞ In San Vincente the ferreteria left of the TIA has some O-Rings
- ☞ In San Vincente are some shops for buying motor-oil.
- ☞ No shrinkingtube in Bahia or in San Vincente => no Electronica-shop like in Panama.

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☺ „Mi Comissariato“-Supermarket in the shopping mall has a bit of everything.

## 4.9 Fuel / Diesel

Either comfortably brought to your boat by marinastaff in their own jerry jugs (surcharge) (check their jerry jugs before they fill them) or DIY with your dinghy on the fishermendock (muelle1) which is ca. 50m from the fuelstation: Diesel 1,05 USD, Fuel 1,55 USD per US-Galone (2018) (Because Diesel is subsidized to locals they might not want to fill 5 jerry jugs at once). It might be a good idea to filter the fuel before getting it into the tank, we found tiny metal particles and some water in 2018.

## 4.10 Fuel-Filters and Oil

Leonidas Plaza opposite the University at the corner.

## 4.11 Motor / Outboards / Electronic – Repairs etc.

Senor **Washington** Moreira 099 791 4250 (normally booked via Puerto Amistad for 30USD p.h. (it might be cheaper to book directly)).

## 4.12 Motor-/Engine-Oil

☺ In San Vicente: Cornerbuilding on the mainstreet <sup>1</sup>

## 4.13 Paints etc.

☺ **Pintura Maestro** - Next building upstream the shoppingcenter. 2 part-Paints, polyester-resin and glasfibermats, etc. <sup>1</sup>

## 4.14 Parcels – getting mail from inside Ecuador

☺ **Servientrega** – Leonidas Plaza (go from the little fresh market inland on the lefthandside) Take your Passport and the avis with you to get your parcel.  
☺ The **buscompanies** are taking parcels aswell

## 4.15 Parcels – getting mail from abroad

☺ From abroad check with the marina: <http://www.puertoamistad.com/en/>

## 4.16 Plants/Herbs for your (little) garden

☺ Juan de Dios, walk towards the Tia, turn left two blocks.

## 4.17 Provisions and buying food

☺ **Shoppingmall** with „Mi Commisariato“-Supermarket with nearly everything (good but not great selection (and sometimes the good cheeses are out of stock for a while), has an ACE home improvement section aswell garments. Banco Pinchincha, pharmacy, computer-techstore, sportequipment (not much waterrelated), etc.  
<http://www.elpaseoshopping.com/bahia/tiendas>  
([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_supermarket\\_chains\\_in\\_Ecuador](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_supermarket_chains_in_Ecuador))  
☺ **Bahia Market Hall for fresh produce** near the church: Veggies, fruits, foodstalls, flowers, meat and fish (Camarones reported to be better in San Vicente on the other side in the early morning (1lb for 3-5USD + a bit extra for peeling <sup>1</sup>); Turn right onto the mainstreet, go behind the church and right again.  
☺ **San Vicente Fresh produce market**, seems to be a bit bigger than Bahia's  
☺ **Leonidas Plaza** has a very **little fresh produce market** on the mainsstreet.  
☺ **Antonellas Chifle** in Leonidas Plaza – they freshly fry plantain chips and sell a bag, enough as starters for 6 persons, for ca. 1 USD (they'll keep fresh 2-3 days); parallel to the mainstreet (go from the market more inland and turn left)  
(There is a Chiffleria opposite the Bahia Market aswell, but Antonella's better)

☺ **Bakerys:** Unfortunately not much to recommend:

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- ☺ Shoppingmall with Baguette type of bread aswell Croissants and cakes are ok,
- ☺ Anto's Pizza (see under Restaurants) is doing good bread (sour doug etc) and rolls and is willing to deliver to the marina,
- ☺ Streetvndor 50m towards Bahia on the lefthandside has good bananacake, but hard to meet her <sup>1</sup>
- ☺ **Rye-flour or german bread:** Haven't found it in Ecuador (Mestemacher is not exporting to E cudor (yet) <sup>1</sup>

## 4.18 Restaurants

No redundancies =>please see:

[https://wikitravel.org/en/Bahia\\_de\\_Caraquez#Eat](https://wikitravel.org/en/Bahia_de_Caraquez#Eat)

Nice Almuerzo in San Vincente in Restaurante on the road towards the market on the lefthandside with Bamboo installation.

## 4.19 Sewingservices

Ingrid (098 958 6206) opposite of the marina has done canvasjobs for boats and has heavyduty-machines (you have to supply the materials and oversee the process!) [e.g. 3 cockpitcuchions, just sewing, for 15 USD in 2018]

## 4.20 Sewingmaterials

"Vida e Luz" besides the Bank, turn right on the Malecon, walk 4 blocks on the left side. Rosy speaks english. The shop has needles, fabrics and a whole range of other stuff. <sup>1</sup>

Little Tienda in Leonidas Plaza opposite Servientrega.

## 4.21 Sewing - Upholstery

in Bahia => near the church (Breakaway) <sup>1</sup>

## 4.22 Sewing – Fabrics aswell clothing

"El Baratito"-Market each monday in Leonidas Plaza from the mainstreet towards the seaside near the little veggiemarket (two blocks in front) (you can see it from the bus – ask the bus attendend). Some fabrics and mostly clothing, shoes and some tools.

More see in Portoveijo

## 4.23 Transport in Bahia, Leonidas Plaza, San Vincente

No redundancies:

[https://wikitravel.org/en/Bahia\\_de\\_Caraquez#Get\\_around](https://wikitravel.org/en/Bahia_de_Caraquez#Get_around)

Long distance buses see under the destination.

## 4.24 Welding:

Turn left/south out of marina, walk 300m and pass a small ferreteria on the corner, turn 90 degress right and pass 'Dolphin Park' on your left side as you walk 100m more, on the right side is Champagnes welding shop; another bush-mechanic. He can weld stainless steel and the results were OK, but nothing special; there are two more welding shops near the north end of the fruit & vegetable market, if I had more welding to do, I would perhaps enquire there before returning to Champagne. (Moon Rebel 2018) <sup>1</sup>

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## 5 Long distance traveling by bus – General Info

Taitonga's experiences:

Each terminal has a foodcourt and some seats.

It is a good idea to prebook your seats (some even book two seats to have more room, but your ticket will be taken from you while on the road ...)

You can not rely on the info's the selling offices give you 100%!

They do not know what the schedule is in another town!

The buses can depart 5-10 minutes earlier or 30min later than scheduled.

Buses can be cancelled, if not enough people prebooked (not so good if it should have been the last bus!)

The last bus could be a nightbus coming from Guayaquil going to Quito via Bahia, during hours where the selling offices are closed => pay inside the bus.

You can flag down buses, if you know where ...

They like it cold and loud – but mostly willing to adjust to bearable conditions if you tell them!

Often videos (mostly action movies) are played, sometime you can get subtitles in english – ask!

Standard equipment to be brought: Warm sweater, long trousers, socks, cap, blanket, earplugs, ...

You get enough food and drink offerings in the bus from onhopping vendors to survive long distances :-) (Good cookies between Manta and Bahia!)

The system is intransparent, but somehow it works fine if you are a bit flexible ... :-)

"Semicama" has comfortable legroom, some buses have USB-Plugs.

"Reina del Camino" seems to have the most comfortable buses.

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## 6 Portoviejo

### 6.1 Transport Bahia-Portoveijo-Bahia

To Portoveijo:

**Buses** ca. every 30 min from the Busterminal in Leonidas Plaza.  
Ca. 1:45-2:00 hours, 2,50 USD.

Reina del Camino should run e.g. at 07:15, 08:30;

Bus Coactur should run at xx:00 every hour till ?.

**From** Portoveijo: every ca. 30 min with bus Coactur till late.

### 6.2 Doctors / Clinics – medical assistance

- ☺ Mediken - Medicina Integral Kennedy S.A. [www.mediken.com.ec](http://www.mediken.com.ec) 05 265 4943 / 098 8644 462, Locations in Portoveijo and Manta

### 6.3 Immigrationoffice in Portoveijo

See Details under Puerto Amistad / Visa Prolongation

### 6.4 Shoppingcenter / Supermarkets

- ☺ <http://www.elpaseoshopping.com/portoviejo/tiendas> (ca. 600m WSW of the Terminal Terreste)
- ☺ Supermaxxi (not as big as the Megamaxxi in Manta).
- ☺ Aki etc.

### 6.5 Hardware / Boatstuff

- ☺ **Kywi Hardware** in the shoppingcenter where the Supermaxxi is (not as big as in Manta), [www.kywi.com.ec](http://www.kywi.com.ec)
- ☺ **El Caucho** – very big selection of **rubber**-stuff, mostly for cars, e.g. **O-Rings** (even 37,47x5,33mm for a RM69-Toilett); Pedro Gual #1024 y 1ero de Enero, (05) 263 1172, [AlmacenElCaucho@gmail.com](mailto:AlmacenElCaucho@gmail.com)

### 6.6 Matress / Foam; Colchones / Espuma

- Almacen Tapices y Zuela, Av. Manabi y Av Quito y Av Alajuela

### 6.7 Sewing – Fabrics

- **Almacen de Telas La Paz**  
Sunbrella like fabric is called Lado. They can order stuff. Senor Marcos Zambrano, Tel. 052 632090, Ciudadela La Paz, Calle HNO Gregorio (Cerca de Capilla Hermanito Gregorio).

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## 7 Manta

### 7.1 Transport Bahia-Manta-Bahia

- ☺ **Taxi-Trip** - Bahia-Manta-Bahia Don Geovany (speaks a bit english and knows the places) 099 816 1330, ca. 60USD 2ways+the whole morning, extra hours to be negotiated <sup>1</sup>
- ☺ **Taxi-Trip** – Bahia-Manta-Bahia „Martha's Father“ 099 192 0451 ca. 40USD 2ways+1hour waiting, every additional waiting hour 5USD <sup>1</sup>
- ☺ **Taxi-Trip** with Senora Magaly 096 750 6749 60USD+20USD for 4 hours waitingtime (no english)
- ☺ **Buses to Manta:** every 30 min from the Busterminal in Leonidas Plaza Reina del Camino should run e.g. at 07:15 (but you have to change in Portoveijo!), 08:30 or 09:00 direct; ...
- ☺ **Buses from Manta back to Bahia:**  
Manta is not on the mayor busroute! Different Buscompanies on only certain times, e.g.: 15:00, 16:00, 16:30, 17:10 and 20:05 (sometimes!),  
(our „the last bus of the day“ was canceled by „Touristico Manabi“ due to insufficient demand! => the people in the selling offices (at 19:30) all said we are stuck for today in Manta – no chance other by taxi to go to Bahia! The guy collecting the tickets for entering the bus departure area recommended: Taking a bus to Portoveijo and then try to catch a Reina del Camino Bus to Bahia from Guayaquil – we did this and changed in Portoveijo into a bus from Coactur (Which we were told in Manta by the Coactur-Bus-Office would not run until tomorrow!) ... Portoveijo and Bahia are on a route Guayaquil to Quito.  
[The „system“ works somehow ...]

A direct bus Manta to Bahia spares you around 45 min, compared to via Portoveijo. Coactur Buses tend to need generally longer and stop everywhere.

There are still taxis at 23:00 in Leonidas Plaza taking you from the terminal back to Bahia)

### 7.2 Antifouling

- ☺ PINTURAS ZAMBRANO, e.g. Hempel Antifouling, (they can deliver by bus to the Bahia-Terminal (ca.+5USD), +593 (0)5 261 0183, Calle 3 E/ aV. 5ta y Av. 24 de Mayo

### 7.3 Boatstuff

- ☺ **Fish + Dive Marine Store**; has some pics on their webpage to get an idea what they might sell (but not much in stock), [www.fishdive.com.ec](http://www.fishdive.com.ec), (05) 262 3018; 099 107 9552, Ave 13 #1383 y Calle 14
- ☺ **Probisa - Fishingboat Equipment**  
Cables, lines, fender, hooks, <http://www.probrisa.com/>  
Tel. 05 2621 305, Manta, Puerto Maritimo, Patio 300
- ☺ **Boatbuilding**  
<https://ec.viajandox.com/manta/astillero-de-manta-A318>

### 7.4 Electronica

- **Electronica Briones**, switches, connectors, cables, shrinking tube, etc. (05) 262-2457, [www.electrobriones.com](http://www.electrobriones.com), Calle 11/12, Manta / Av 10
- **Electromovil & Frio**: switches, connectors, cables, inoxscrews, O-rings, waterfilters, thermostats, fridge-stuff etc. [www.electrobriones.com](http://www.electrobriones.com), [electromovilyfrio@hotmail.com](mailto:electromovilyfrio@hotmail.com), Telefon: 05 261 2942; Calle 11 / Avenida 10
- **Electronica Alarcon**, Calle 13 y Av 7

### 7.5 Hardware, tools, materials

- **Autostores**, Oil, Hoses, Motorparts, a lot on Av 4 de Noviembre
- **Diverzu** Grupo Zurita, DIY-Center (e.g. foams), [ventas@grupozurita.com.ec](mailto:ventas@grupozurita.com.ec), Tel 2621 803, Av 16 s/n y Calle 12y13
- **El Amigo**, Hoses, Hydraulics [elamigo@manta.ecua.net](mailto:elamigo@manta.ecua.net) 093 187 665
- **Kywi-Hardwarestore** very big DIY-Megacenter, kywi.com.ec, SW 150m walkingdistance of the Mall de Pacifico, Av 24 S/N y Flavio Reyes

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- **Femarina** Filters, Hoses, Hardware, 262 0010 / 097 935 1822, [www.grupogrow.com](http://www.grupogrow.com), calle 13 y Avenida 18
- **Ferreteria Industrial Lupeda**, (05) 262 7289, Ave 106 y Calle 105 esquina
- **Hydraulics**, Hoses, etc: El Amigo, , (05) 292 1629, elAmigo@manta.ecua.net, Jose Luis Cedeno (09 318 7665) , Avenida 113 y Las Acaccias
- **Pumps** and other stuff; Grupo Zurita, (05) 292 4321, [www.grupozurita.com.ec](http://www.grupozurita.com.ec), Boris speaks english, Via Manta a Portoviejo, sector "Y"

## 7.6 Inox / Aluminium

- **Dipac Manta S.A.**, [www.dipacmanta.com](http://www.dipacmanta.com), [info@dipacmanta.com](mailto:info@dipacmanta.com), Teléfonos: 05 - 2620 839 / 262 4952 / 099 763 3993, Av. 24 de Mayo y Calle 4ta., esquina
- **Metalhierro S.A.** seems to have a big selection, Aluplace is around the corner, <http://www.ferreteriametalhierro.com>, (05) 292-8597, Calle 116 y Av 113
- **Electromovil & Frio**, Inox machine screws and nuts in metric sizes with different heads (e.g. allen) aswell woodscrews, <https://www.grupolebrimer.com> => see under Electronica

## 7.7 Matresses / Foam; Colchones / Espuma

- **Almacen Tapices y Zuela**, fabricis and foams, e.g. 200x100x14cm for 40USD (2018), (05) 262 6481, Calle 11 y Av. 12
- **Diverzu** Grupo Zurita, carries foam (black=18kg/m<sup>3</sup>, yellow = 30kg/m<sup>3</sup>) 100x200cm in different heights: 1,2, 3, 5, 8, 10cm (2x8cm in yellow, glued together with Contact Cement, was very hard for a 90+kg person (10yellow+5grey was better)) (e.g. price 2018 for 2x 8cm + Contacto Cement Glue = 52USD) [You can cut the foam to your requirements by yourself with a very sharp, long knife, glueing two layers together seems not to be necessary, if you have a cover holding it together] Via Manta - Montecristi s/n y Sector da la Y (a 150m) [ventas@grupozurita.com.ec](mailto:ventas@grupozurita.com.ec), Tel 2621 803, Av 16 s/n y Calle 12y13, It was possible to order via telephone with Martha Faltos, 098/4312530 (Tel/Whatsapp). They delivered 4 foams to Puerto Amistad at no additional cost in 2018 (if your lucky and the normal tour is taking place shortly, you will get your order within 24h! ETA of delivery was 17:00, delivery was at 14:00). Let them cover the foam with plastic, because it might get transported on an open dirty lorry! You can pay the driver in cash.
- many other places for foam, but all the same stuff, not much pricedifference
- many places for complete Matresses, but mostly 190cm long or with metal inside

## 7.8 Meats

- **La Casa de las Carnes** (the owner speaks english, good quality meat => the place where Puerto Amistad buys its supplies, very nice Argentinean sausages (comes very close to german sausages!) - can vacuum pack everything) 2679139 / 098 4365271 [CasadelasCarnes@hotmail.com](mailto:CasadelasCarnes@hotmail.com)<sup>1</sup> Parroquia "San Mateo", Cdla. Manta 2000, Calle 12S/N (via San Mateo) there should be a good non-meat-foodmarket nearby (tbd.)

## 7.9 Navigation Electronic

- **Comunicaciones Giler**, Selling and Maintenance: GPS, Radar, SSB, VHF, e.g. ICOM; Tel. 261 1895 Av 19 y Calle 13

## 7.10 Refrigeration

- **Electromovil & Frio** => see under Electronica
- **Megafriosa.com**, e.g Danfoss - opposite of kywi / Mall de Pacifico

## 7.11 Rubberstuff, O-Rings, hoses etc.

- **La Casa del O'Rings**, carry even Silikon o-rings for high temperatures in uncommen sizes (e.g. 37,47x5,33mm), Tel. 2924116, Av 4.de Noviembre y Via Interbarrial (N-Side of the road (right towards downtown)

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## 7.12 Provisions / Shoppingcenter / Supermarket

- ☺ **Mall de Pacifico** (different chain to Paseomalls in Bahia)  
Megamaxi-Supermarket in the basement has a wider selection than in Bahia, e.g. cheeses, meats, chocolate!, sometimes harina costeno (Reyflour/Roggenmehl)!!! (seems to have higher prices than Mi Commisariato in Bahia); High-end clothing, household items ...;  
Good Sushirestaurant "Kobe" in the foodcourtarea, good icecream shop, "Casa del Res" serves steak on a szilling hot platter (if you want medium order rare/azul).  
[www.MallDePacifico.com.ec](http://www.MallDePacifico.com.ec)
- ☺ **Los Paisas**, baking-ingredients (chocolates, fondant and dried yeast) aswell -hardware.  
05 605 2304, [www.lospaisas.ec](http://www.lospaisas.ec), Av 4 Noviembre y Calle 317

## 7.13 Sewing – Fabrics

- **Almacen Angelito Mero** Calle 12 #1185 y Av 19 (La Dolorosa) tel. 098 9770 710, Caesar speaks english, 08:30-18:00
- **Almacen Juanillo**, Av3 #13-43 y Calle 13

## 7.14 Welding equipment / Industrial Gas

- **Oxigas**, has a good selection of Ferreteria-stuff aswell, Tel. 262 7073, Av19 y Calle 12

## 8 Salinas - Puerto Lucia (La Libertad)

<https://www.noonsite.com/Countries/Ecuador/PuertoLucia?rc=RepairFacilities#Boatyards>

## 9 Guayaquil

### 9.1 Airport

[www.tagsa.aero](http://www.tagsa.aero)

Airport and Busterminal are in one neighbourhood.

### 9.2 Galvanizing chain and anchors

The company is somewhere outside of Guayaquil.

Prices 2018:

Transport (2-ways) organized by Puerto Amistad: 200,00 USD

Cleaning the chain: 0,45 USD cents per kilo.

Electrogalvanizing: 1,37 USD per kilo.

(e.g. 5/16' chain x 70 meter, (including 2 anchors of a total weight of 26 kg) = 350 USD).

Untwist the chain when you are getting it back into the locker and check each link for moveability!

## 10 Quito

Very interesting city with a nice historic oldtown, well worth a week+!

### 10.1 WARNING: Take care of your belongings!

Despite beeing experierenced traveller, 3 out of 10 Bahia-Boatcrews in 2018 lost money, creditcards, driverlicences or cameras to pickpockets, they even did cut through a jacket with a blade to get what they want and they love crowd places. E.g. watch for little 7-year old girls trained as very professional pickpockets. They might work in groups.

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## 10.2 Transport

### 10.2.1 Long Distance Buses

Because of the 2 main bus stations you have to check where to buy tickets (often they have an office in town, or you arrive a bit earlier at the station ...). To find out which carrier goes to which destination can be a bit tricky, ditto the schedule - do not trust the websites 100% => you have to ask the people personally (even the displayed timetables in their offices can be outdated)!  
ref to the attachment: Quito -Terminal Terrestre Quitumbe - Bus - Destinos y frecuencias (1).pdf)

### 10.2.2 Metrobus

Very cheap, but if full, think about an taxioption which can be much cheaper compared with a stolen wallet or passport!

### 10.2.3 Taxis

Use only metered taxis and force the driver to use it!

### 10.2.4 Airport

[www.aeropuertoquito.aero](http://www.aeropuertoquito.aero), no luggage-storage!

## 10.3 Adhesive / Glue for dinghys - Rema Tip Top

Products: e.g. SC2000 for Hypalon or Plastic Cement for PVC etc. ([www.rema-tiptop.com](http://www.rema-tiptop.com))

[ventas@clinversiones.com.ec](mailto:ventas@clinversiones.com.ec), (Fast professional responses in english!)

[www.clinversiones.com.ec](http://www.clinversiones.com.ec)

Located between Parque Arqueológico Rumipamba and Parque Metropolitano; NW of the stadium. Can send stuff to Bahia for ca. 5USD extra via Servientrega to Leonidas Plaza (takes ca. 2 days).

2018: Prices (+ IVA-Tax):

CEMENTO SC 4000 700 GR. TIP-TOP \$43.00 (SC2000 not available) [for Hypalon]

ENDURECEDOR ER-42 30GR TIPTOP \$11.55

CEMENTO PLASTICO PC-4 350 GR. TIP-TOP \$29.11 [for PVC]

ENDURECEDOR UTR E-40 15GR. TIP-TOP \$9.24

## 10.4 Clothing

- ☺ huge complex for locals between Tejar and Miguel, WNW of the mainsquare in Oldtown, a place for crewcaps is nearby

## 10.5 Culture / Touriststuff

In the main tourist-office, they do not have much infos about what's going on.

- [Www.SinfonicaNational.gob.ec](http://Www.SinfonicaNational.gob.ec) might show you classic music events (They are good, but hard to find).
- [www.Musicaocupa.com](http://www.Musicaocupa.com)
- **Free walking tour** from e.g. community hostel
- **Capilla del Hombre, Museum Guayasamin** - very good guided tour, which explains the great, but maybe disturbing paintings

## 10.6 Eating / Provisioning

- ☺ **Bakery Hotel Mercure Alameda** - nice stuff
- ☺ **Bakery Deli-Swissotel** - nice stuff
- ☺ **zuhause.ec** - German Bakery and cafe near Swissotel (we missed it!)
- ☺ **Deli Federer** - ex austrian origin - bad service in Av Coruna-location (tried to rip me off), food was only ok (we will not visit again)
- ☺ **Supermaxi.com/locales/** - good eating stuff to buy (better is the bigger **MEGAmxi**, e.g. in Quito Av. 6 de Diciembre y Julio Moreno (not too far from Museo Guayasamin)). Get a discount card from them for free at the customer desk, saves you 10%+
- ☺ **Mercado** old town- good and cheap lunch and juices

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## 10.7 Embroidery on caps and shirts

West of the commercial center Hermano Miguel with cheap clothing in Oldtown between Via Chile and Mejia in Via IDE Santiago: El Palacio de las Gorras

## 10.8 Motorparts (Filters, Belts,

<http://www.americantruckecuador.com/es/contacto>

## 10.9 Sewing – Fabrics

- **Sunbrella:** <https://www.facebook.com/notes/sunbrella/new-shop-in-ecuador-features-all-sunbrella-fabrics/417239039014/>, Telasdesign, Via Interoceanica, Centro Comercial Cumbaya, Local 5, Phone: 9999490923

## 10.10 Sleeping

- ☺ **Hotel Mercure Alameda** - nice but quite expensive in the newtown
- ☺ **KindeHouse.com** - +593 99 571 5141 - B&B - we liked it! helpful owners, nice service, room Nr 9, 2 doubles with ensuite (or 11 one bed for 2 with ensuite) are probably the best, very good breakfast, near Community-Hostal as an indicator, near a microbrewery and some pizzaplaces aswell little tiendas; 10-15 minutes walk to the Main Plaza in Oldtown,

## 10.11 TRAVELAGENCY (in Quito)

- ☺ [www.communityadventures-ec.com](http://www.communityadventures-ec.com) (based in the Community Hostal in Oldtown)
- ☺ [www.neotropicaecuador.com](http://www.neotropicaecuador.com)

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## 11 Internetmarketplaces in Ecuador

### 11.1 Ecuadorian Ebay / Internetmarketplatform:

- <https://www.mercadolibre.com.ec/>

### 11.2 Solarpanels, Controller, Inverter, DeepCycle Batteries:

- <https://www.aimscorp.net/Ecuador-Power-Inverters-and-Solar-Panels.html>
- <https://listado.mercadolibre.com.ec/panel-solar>
- <http://avrenewableenergy.com/Energia-Solar-Ecuador.php>
- <https://www.energiasolar365.com/empresas/paneles-solares/cuenca>
- <http://codesolar.com/Energia-Solar/Energias-Renovables/Lorentz-Solares-Paneles-Fotovoltaicos.html>
- <http://www.panelessolares.ec/>
- <https://www.panasonic.com/ec/empresas/paneles-solares.html>