

Third Coast Winter Surfari

Montañita, Ecuador - 2011

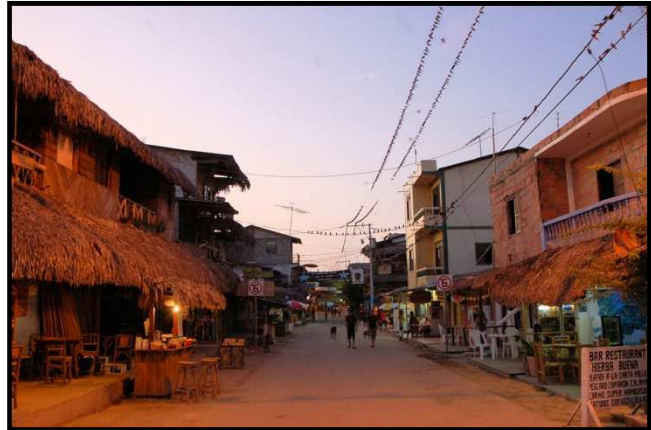
Join Third Coast Surf Shop as we enjoy the Southern Hemisphere summer in Montañita, Ecuador! The surf's consistent, the water's warm, and the sunsets are as beautiful as they get...



**Two Trips - Travel Dates:
January 22 - 29 & January 29 - February 5, 2010**

LOCATION

Montañita, Ecuador and the surrounding area not only holds some of the best surf in South America, it's also a laid back, fun bohemian town that many consider to be a hidden Ecuadorian paradise. It really does have something for everyone, from the hardcore surfer who wants to get up early to score incredible waves to the late riser that partied late into the night. The Montañita area is truly a cold water surfer's dream with warm water, cool locals, and a vibrant atmosphere nestled in an eclectic seaside village. The town goes off at night with live music, hopping bars, and cozy restaurants, and the beach is normally warm and sunny in our winter.



Over the years, Montañita has developed from a small fishing village into an underground surf destination. This change has occurred in a favorable way, with a variety of local shops, bars, and restaurants that add to the local flavor. The water is in the mid to upper 70s, its sunny almost every day with rain often at night, and the surf pumps year round – luckily for us, its best in our winter with light offshore morning winds typically turning into a late afternoon glass off.



SURF

Have we mentioned the surf? There is more to the area than the fun, rippable right point (pictured here) in town – one of Ecuador’s most consistent breaks. Within a two hour drive of Montañita are over 20 different surf spots including long points, fun reefs, and pounding beachbreaks – many off the beaten path. Fortunately for us, our group will have its own surf vehicle taking us to the best spots at any given time.



WEATHER, CULTURE, GEOGRAPHY...AND MORE SURF

Ecuador is culturally and geographically diverse, hosting a number of indigenous cultures, well preserved colonial architecture, volcanic landscapes and dense rainforest; all in a country no bigger than Nevada.

As the name implies, Ecuador straddles the equator in the most northwestern corner of South America. It shares borders with Peru to the south and east, Colombia to the north, and the Pacific Ocean to the west. The country can be divided into four regions: the western coastal lowlands, the central Andean highlands, the eastern jungles, and the Galapagos Islands. Thanks to its agreeable climate and patchwork of habitats, Ecuador is one of the most species-rich nations on earth. Dubbed by ecologists a ‘mega diversity hotspot’, it boasts 300 species of mammal alone.



Weather and surfing conditions along the coastal area of mainland Ecuador are primarily determined by ocean currents which change throughout the two main seasons. The good news is that from December through the end of May the “El Nino” current dominates the

“Peruvian”, or “Humboldt”, current. The surf can get big, and stays glassy, during this time of year as the coast receives both north and south swells. Add mellow currents and favorable winds to top it off and Ecuador truly becomes a surfing paradise with light crowds, warm water, and great surf. Does it get any better for a Great Lakes surfer?



ACCOMODATIONS

El Delfin Feliz ("The Happy Dolphin") is a small, quaint Guesthouse located on a private beach in San Jose, a tiny seaside village less than five miles from Montanita. El Delfin Feliz was designed to be a clean, comfortable getaway for travelers - tucked away on its



own gated property, the guesthouse is away from the hectic noise of town and features modern amenities that make getting a good night's rest as simple as possible. El Delfin Feliz has hot water, private bathrooms, a kitchen and laundry room, a huge lounge area overlooking the ocean (hammocks included), it's own local caretakers, and best of all - our group has the whole place to ourselves.

We have arranged to have breakfast and most dinners prepared (when we don't want to dine for next to nothing in town), non-alcoholic beverages are included, and the fridge is waiting to be stocked with cold beers. We'll have the whole place to relax and have a drink after surfing all day, or for more action, you can head to town (a short 25 cent bus ride away) for a party that literally goes all night.



DETAILS

This year's trip is for the person that has some surfing experience and is looking for some diversity in the waves they surf. You don't have to be a great surfer, but the primary focus this year is simple: surfing as much as possible.

For the surf traveler, El Delfin Feliz is the perfect place to unwind while recharging your batteries for another water session, a long walk down the beach, or for partying until sunrise in town. In Montañita, live music and salsa dancing are staples to the beach scene. Most surfers are content surfing multiple times per day, exploring the town and mingling with fellow visitors from around the world, but there are many things that make this trip so fun. Some of these include...

- Surfing your days away in the tropical water
- Enjoying the cultural diversity and local people
- Sampling a variety of local and international cuisine
- An afternoon Siesta in a beachside palapa
- Strolling down an endless beach
- Relaxing with a cold beer while enjoying the sunset
- Fishing excursions from Puerto Lopez (optional)



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Hosts: Third Coast Surf Shop

When: Two Travel Dates to Choose From:
January 22 - 29 & January 29 - February 5

Where: Fly O'Hare to Miami to Guayaquil, Ecuador, then transport to Montañita

Group: Space is limited to 10 people per group

THE 2011 SURFARI INCLUDES...

- 7 Nights Accommodations at El Delfin Feliz
- Daily Breakfast, Most Dinners, & Non-alcoholic Beverages
- Surf Vehicle for Surf Touring
- Surf Guide
- Round Trip Airport Transfers from Guayaquil
- Taxes and Service Charges

PACKAGE PRICE PER PERSON IS ONLY \$785

(Price does not include Airfare)

A Non-Refundable Deposit of \$200 is due by November 30 to reserve a space!

For More Details or to Reserve a Space:
269-932-4575 or ryan@thirdcoastsurfshop.com