

## San Pedro de Riobamba

Surrounded by Chimborazo, Carihuayrazo, Tungurahua, El Altar and Cubillines snow mountains.

Rebuilt in 1799 after an earthquake that destroyed the colonial city on February 4th. It is geographically located in the center of Ecuador, with an extension of 5.637 km and conformed by 5 urban parishes and 11 rural ones. Its average temperature is 13°C (55 °F) at an altitude of 2.754 masl. Riobambeños are identified by the value of Purulá Nation, the endeavors of political emancipation and freedom, its brilliant chapters of history and important personalities with national acknowledged.

## **Riobamba, city of scoops**

Basílica del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús

 On 15 august 1534 in the area of Liribamba, the former capital of Puruhá Nation, the city of Santiago de Quito was stablished. It is the first one in the Royal Audience of Quito.

• On 28 august 1534 the foundation act of San Francisco de Quito was signed in the city of Santiago de Quito, and the first mayors and aldermen were appointed.

• The first session of the council in these territories was registered on 29 august 1534, with San Francisco de Quito's authorities.

- · Construction of Balbanera, the first church in the Royal Audience of Quito.
- · Felipe IV, King of Spain, granted to Riobamba a Coat of Arms and the title of Very Noble and Loyal City.

• On 8 December 1616, Riobamba pronounced itself in defense of Virgin Mary dogma of faith; 238 years before the Vatican.

Pedro Vicente Maldonado, first Ecuadorian Scientific who collaborated with the 1st French Geodetic Mission on 1736.

- · Jesuit priest, Juan de Velasco, father of national history.
- Priest José de Orozco. First epic poet in the Colony.
- · First planned city in Ecuador.
- · Holy Tuesday, the oldest religious procession of Ecuador since 1859.
- · First train journey to Durán, Coastal region.
- · First Constituent Congress, where the Republic of Ecuador was born on 1830.
- San Felipe Neri, the first high school in the Republic, 1836.
- · Santa Mariana de Jesús. First Ecuadorian Religious Institute, 1873.
- · Olmedo, the oldest football team in the country, 1919.
- · Bellavista, the first residential citadel, 1924.
- · Club Chimborazo. First social club in Ecuador.
- First Olympic stadium of Ecuador, 1926.
- · First Olympics, March 1926.
- · El Prado, the first radio broadcaster, created by Carlos Cordovéz Borja on June 1929.
- · Judith Novilos León de Cordovéz became the first telegraph operator and radio newscaster.
- First agricultural, livestock, industrial and commercial fair, 1937.
- · Señor del Buen Suceso. International Taurine Fair in Ecuador since April 1969.
- · First protest by female workers in the country, 1976.
- Maria Murgueytio Velasco, the first female city mayor, 1983.
- First and only braille printing house, created by FENCE (National Blind Federation) and inaugurated on 22 April 1994.
- Declaration as Local Intangible Cultural Heritage to Pase del Niño and Rodeo del Chagra festivities on 2016.

## Maldonado park

Located in front of La Catedral church, was the principal plaza of Riobamba. The construction of the city had as main point this site, from where the streets, plazas, parks, blocks were outlined (process of relocation and resettlement of Riobamba in 1799). It is surrounded by heritage buildings where ecclesiastical administration, city council and government are located.

The Italian architects, Russo and Tormen, handed over the building in 1917. At the sides of this park, there are four water fountains and in the center, stands the statue of Pedro Vicente Maldonado that was inaugurated in 1927, designed and made by Carlos Alberto Mayer.

Pedro Vicente Maldonado is considered as the first Ecuadorian Scientific who collaborated with the 1st French Geodetic Mission Address: Primera Constituyente and Eugenio Espejo streets.



## Post Office building

At the beginning of 20th Century, the agricultural, commercial and industrial activities in Riobamba reached a golden age. In 1923 the Chimborazo Bank Society put the Italian bother architects, Natale and Luca Tormen, in charge of the design and construction of the building.

Currently, Ecuador's National Post Office, occupies this construction which has come one of the most prominent and representative of the city.

Address: 10 de Agosto and Eugenio Espejo streets.

## La Basilica church

As a result of the Republic Consecration to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the idea of building a National Basilica was born on the initiative of the P. Manuel José Proaño. Undertaken the task, for the bases of the church, citizens began to carry stones from Chibunga river and other closer places. The economic contribution showed up the generosity of Catholics for this great project. Ramon Lecanda of the Jesuit order, made the drawings considering the Saint Ignatius of Loyala Basilica as a model. On 15 August 1883, with all the solemnity, the first tone was placed. With all efforts and sacrifices of the citizens and Jesuits, the church was opened on June 1915.

In 1930 the monument of Christ, the King was inaugurated in the Republic Centennial Commemoration.

Address: José Veloz and Juan de Velasco streets.

La Basílica church

# **Museums in Riobamba**

#### La Concepción Religious Art Museum

Service hours: From 09h00 to 12h30 and 15h00 to 17h30, Tuesday to Saturday.

Address: Argentinos and Juan Larrea streets.

Contact: 032 965 212.

#### **City Museum**

Service hours: From 08h00 to 12h30 and 14h30 to 18h00, Monday to Friday / From 08h00 to 19h00, Saturday and Sunday.

Address: Primera Constituyente and Eugenio Espejo streets. Contact: 032 944 420.

#### **Cultural Center and Museum**

Service hours: From 08h00 to 17h00, Tuesday to Friday / From 10h00 to16h00, Saturday, Sunday and holidays.

Address: José Veloz and Carabobo streets. Contacts: 032 965 519.

#### **Natural Science Museum**

Service hours: From 08h30 to 11h30 and 15h30 to 16h30, Monday to Saturday

dress: Primera Constituyente and España streets. Contacts: 032 960 21

### Brigada Blindada Galápagos Museum.

Service hours: Reservation in advance

Address: Héroes de Tapi Avenue. Contacts: 032 960 951 - 032 960952.

#### **Train Museum**

Service hours: From 08h00 to 17h00, Monday to Friday

Address: Daniel León Borja avenue and Carabobo street Contacts: 032 960 115 - 032 961 909 - 032 965 313. Paquita Jaramillo Museum

Service hours: From 09h00 to 13h00 and 15h00 a 19h00, Monday to Friday.

Address: 10 de Agosto and Vicente Rocafuerte streets. Contact: 032 960 219 Ext.113

### Casa Madre Temple "Madres Marianitas"

Service hours: Reservation in advance from 09h00 to 12h00 and 15h00 to 17h00, Tuesday to Saturday. Address: Argentinos and Mariana de Jesús streets. Contact: 03 2960 536 - 0996314560

Custodia, XVIII Century

# **Railway Station**

The construction of the railroad route system began in 1873 during Gabriel García Moreno's presidency and was culminated in 1960. Thirteen presidents worked for this project with vital importance to the national development, being Eloy Alfaro who gave greater impetus to finish this labor.

It is considered as the most difficult railroad in the world, due to all the effort that demanded to join, the coastal region with the highlands, in the middle of a difficult and wild geography; thousands of Jamaicans resisted to physical labor and diseases, devoting years of hard work to complete the project. Sighald Müller was the author of the final route. The construction was carried out by The Guayaquil and Quito Railway Company, whose president was Mrs. Archer Harman.

Thanks to the privileged location of Riobamba, the railway had its golden age in the city, as a center of operations between Quito and Guayaquil.

#### Ice Train 1 route

Route: Riobamba – Urbina – La Moya – Riobamba Departure: Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Service hours: From 08H00 to 14H30

Riobamba Railwa

Discount: Children / older / handicapped

The adventure begins in Riobamba enjoying the beauty of Chimborazo, Carihuayrazo, Tungurahua and El Altar snow mountains. The moorland is an attraction that complements the majesty of the zone.

#### Services:

- Train ride
- Bilingual guide
- Guidance leaded by indigenous women from Jatari Campesino community.
- Visit to La Moya community.

Address: Daniel León Borja Avenue and Carabobo street.

Contacts: 032 961 038. / 1800873637

# La Catedral church

This temple of greatest importance for the city stands on Maldonado Park. Its facade is a historical relic built with stones of the former Riobamba that was destroyed in 1797. Baroque mestizo passages from the Old and New Testament can be identified in these stones. It is composed by three levels: the socket, moldings and three towers, where a sculpture of Saint Peter, Riobamba's patron stands. Next to the church there is Santa Barbara chapel.

Address: Eugenio Espejo and José Veloz streets.

La Catedral church

# La Concepcion church

The small church, which was built at the begging of the 19th Century, was replaced by a new project that began in 1889 in charge of Mother Ormaza in the Blessed Sacrament of Jesus, the Abbess of the monastery, and to Don Rafael Cisneros, the Asset Convent Manager. The drawings were designed by Fr. José Lecanda SJ. The work was completed on the 2nd decade of the 20th Century. On its main altar stands the effigy of Señor del Buen Suceso, Riobamba's patron. Address: José de Orozco and Cristobal Colón streets.

## La Merced church

The construction of this temple began in 1871, has the neoclassical style with beautiful paintings inside. In 1891 Salesian Fathers assumed the pastoral and educational responsibility. Devotees of La Virgen de la Merced contributed with donations, materials and handouts. The temple was finished in 1906.

La Concepción church

Address: Eugenio Espejo and Guayaguil streets.

## Sucre park

The former name of this space was Plaza de Santo Domingo, due to its closeness to the ex-Dominican convent.

When signing the contract for the potable water provision in Riobamba, water fountains were acquired to be placed in plazas and public spaces of the city. The sculpture of roman god Neptune, designed and made by the New Yorker Company J.L. Moot was assigned for this park.

On 28 June 1913, the service of potable water was officially inaugurated in Riobamba.

Fairs took place on this site until the City Hall began with the construction of the park on 16 August 1919, then trades were moved to other sites in the city.

Later the name of the park, until nowadays, changed in honor of the Riobamba's battle artificer, Mariscal Antonio José de Sucre. Address: Primera Constituyente and Juan Larrea streets.

## Maldonado High School building

Built in the second decade of the 20th Century, it is one the most important architectural works in the city. It was raised in the space where the former convent of Santo Domingo was placed, and where the First Constituent Congress met to give birth to Ecuador Republic in 1830. Address: Primera Constituyente and España streets.

## San Antonio church

The site chosen to build this church and its convent is one of the most prominent in Riobamba, It is located in one of the highest parts of the city and in front of 21 de Abril Park, historical place that recalls libertarian facts of 1822. The construction of this church started in 1935 with the

Sucre Park and Maldonado High School

Franciscan Priest Toribio López as the director and finished in 1958.

The author of the drawings was the architect Aulestia. In 1964 the bell tower was placed.

Address: Argentinos and Juan Lavalle streets.

San Antonio church

## Gastronomy

#### Hornado Riobambeño (Baked pork meat):

Riobamba is known for its delicious, tender and juicy baked pork meat called hornado. Its crispy skin is served with potatoes and a sour sauce called chiriuchu (corn beverage). This recipe, prepared with chicha de jora, is own and unique from Riobamba.

Dirección: Guayaquil y Cristóbal Colón streets.

Fritadas con guagua mama (Fried pork meat): Address: Ayacucho and García Moreno streets.

- Ceviche de chochos: Address: José de Orozco and Loja streets (Villamaría neighborhood) José Veloz and Pichincha streets (City coliseum)

La Merced market

- Helados de paila (Traditional ice creams): Address: Eugenio Espejo and 10 de Agosto streets.

#### - San Francisco ice cream:

Address: Primera Constituyente and Juan de Velasco streets.

## - Colaciones (Traditional candies):

Address: Primera Constituyente and Magdalena Dávalos streets.

### - La Vienesa (Traditional bakery):

Address: Juan Larrea among Guayaquil and 10 de Agosto streets.

## La Ibérica (Traditional sausage):

Address: Daniel León Borja Avenue and Brasil street.

# Local markets of Riobamba

La Condamine market: Address: Carabobo and Esmeraldas streets; From 08H00 to 16H00 Monday to Sunday.

San Alfonso market: Address: 5 de Junio and Argentinos streets; From 08H00 to 16H00 Monday to Sunday.

San Francisco market: Address: Primera Constituyente and Juan de Velasco streets; From 08H00 to 16H00 Monday to Sunday.

La Merced market: Address: Cristóbal Colón and Guayaquil streets; From 08H00 to 16H00 Monday to Sunday.

Santa Rosa market: Address: Gaspar de Villarroel and Vicente Rocafuerte streets; From 08H00 to 16H00 Monday to Sunday.

General Dávalos market: Address: Nueva York and Vicente Rocafuerte streets; From 08H00 to 16H00 Monday to Sunday.

Oriental market: Address: Espejo street and Luis Cordovez avenue; From 08H00 to 16H00 Monday to Sunday.

San Francisco market

# **Community Tourism**

### Palacio Real - Calpi parish

Palacio Real community is located at 15 km on Riobamba -San Juan road. The economic activity of its inhabitants is based on breeding and sustainable use of Andean camelids (llamas and alpacas).

**Services:** Restaurant, Cultural museum of Andean camelids (Ilamas and alpacas), interpretative trails, spinning mills and craft store.

Contacts: (03)2 2620500 / 0997005944

## La Moya - Calpi parish

Located at 22 kilometers from Riobamba. Its inhabitants keep their traditions, customs, legends and the relationship between people and mountains.

Services: Urkukunapack Ñan Mountain's museum, accommodation, food and handicrafts. Contacts: 0998752686 / 0958964595

La Moya, community coexistence

## Pucará Tambo - Cacha parish

Site with historical and cultural interest by the existence of ancestral architecture and community traditions. This space is dedicated for indigenous sacred ceremonies.

Visitors can observe and participate in activities aimed to integral development, appreciation of indigenous identity and ancestral wisdom; which have strengthened the communities of this parish, all of them.

Services: Accommodation, food, ethnographic museum, ancestral ceremonies center and interpretative trails.

Contacts: 0987319516 / 0985658802 / 0998262108

## **Chimborazo Protected Area**

Is a part of the National System of Protected Areas; here are two contiguous snow-capped mountains, Chimborazo at 6.263 masl, the highest in the world measured from the middle of the Earth and Carihuayrazo at 5.020 masl.

It is the only place in Ecuador where vicuñas are observed; also this place has a large moorland extension, the most humid to the east; and the driest moor in the western part, known as El Arenal.

#### Chimborazo snowcapped mountain

It is the highest mountain in Ecuador, with large glaciers and unique landscapes; its natural history has awakened the interest of great travelers and expeditionaries such as: Alexander Humboldt, Edward Whymper, Hans Meyer and Nicolás Martínez. It is also an Apu, a sacred mountain for the Andean inhabitants, the mythical ancestor that can be admired from the city.

#### Machay Temple

Cóndor Cocha lagoon

It is a sacred cave of volcanic material, located on the southern flank of Whymper peak, at an altitude of 4.700 masl; a place of Puruhá nation worship and tribute to their god Chimborazo. Currently, the inhabitants of the area came to add worship Tatis Chimborazo.

ask for favors and worship Taita Chimborazo.

#### Whymper's Needles

It is a rock formation located on the southwest flank of Veintimilla summit, at an altitude of 5.283 masl, named in Edward Whymper's, first conqueror of Chimborazo, along with the legendary Italian alpine guide Jean Antuan Carrel, ascended for the first time in january 1880 to the summit of the snowy peak. This route is ideal for acclimatization.

#### **Polylepis forest**

It is located at the northeast of the Chimborazo Protected Area, with an altitude of 4.350 masl, its entrance is at kilometer 30th on Calpi - Guaranda route. Its extension covers 4 hectares, conformed by more than 217 trees of the species Polylepis Reticulata Hieron, up to 4 meters high.

The adventure begins when entering the forest and observe the beauty scenic of pajonal and sandy ecosystem.

#### Access

From the Interprovincial Terminal, you can take the road to Calpi along the Panamerican Highway towards Riobamba -Guaranda E49, traveling 41 kilometers to El Arenal Tourist Services Center; from there, you will travel 8 kilometers through a second order road to Carrel first refuge at 4.845 masl.

#### Services:

- Interpretation center.
- Crafts Center.
- Feeding.
- Accomodation.
- Local guides.
- Cavalcades.

Service hours: From 08h00 to 16h00, Monday to Sunday Reservations: 097084401 / (03) 2965 820 Mail: refugioschimborazo@gmail.com Chimborazo Protected Area: (03) 302-7358

# **El Altar volcano**

Inactive volcano, covered by glaciers. It has several peaks and huge agoras formed as a result of its last eruption. Due to its natural structure, similar to the altar of a church, its summits take ecclesiastical names as El Obispo (The Bishop), the highest one at 5.319 masl.

El Altar or Capac Urcu, which means Lord of the Mountain, is considered one of the most beautiful snowcapped mountains in Ecuador.

Its glaciers melting give birth to magical lagoons, which the most important are: Yellow or Caldera, Blue, Green, Mandur among others lagoons.

Azul lagoon

#### EL Altar's lagoons.

On the southwest of El Altar, at an altitude that ranges between 3.028 and 4.552 masl, there is set of beautiful lagoons of different colors. These are connected, one to each other, through waterfalls and streams. Lagoons have an attractive moorland and a lacustrine ecosystem, habitat of wildlife species.

Lagoons can be visited during journeys of 2-3 days, according to the visitor interest. The adventure begins in Quimiag parish until reaching La Bocatoma zone, from where the walk begins to Gates of El Altar. At this point you can visit Yellow, Green, Blue, Mandur, and Estrellada lagoons.

#### Recommendations

- It is necessary to make the tour being accompanied by a local or national guide.
- · Record your income to ranger personnel.
- Admission is free. It is your commitment to help protecting and conserving the area.
- It is forbidden to hunt or extract species from the area.
- · Stay on the main road and respect the signage.
- Do not light fire near dense vegetation or under trees. Be sure to turn them off properly.

### **Ministry of Enviroment**

Address: 9 de Octubre Avenue and Duchicela street. Contact: (03)2-610-029





# Hotels and Restaurants with **Quality Recognition**

# Restaurants



Address: Villarroel and Almagro streets Phone: 2-964-426 Contact: sandry.bb@gmail.com

Address: Phone:

Primera Constituyente and Darguea streets -966-460 Contact: fabonifaz@amail.com



Address: Daniel León Borja Avenue and Uruguay street 2-968-237 / 0992743501 Phone: Contact: mariadbaez@hotmail.com



Contact:

Address: Brasil and Esmeraldas streets Phone: 2-604-984 / 0992754421 / 0958868431 juancho5001@homail.com claudiavald2012@hotmail.com

L'Incontro



Address: José Veloz Avenue and Diego Donoso street Phone: 2-943-661 / 0992611111 Contact: soniachafla2015@gmail.com maurizioguattroluni@gmail.com



Address: Demetrio Aquilera Malta and Juan XXIII streets Phone: 2-603-199 / 0981569609 Contact: davidsantosholmes@hotmail.com rocioderuales44@hotmail.com

*ОМО́пасо* 

Address: La Prensa Avenue and Argentinos street Phone: 2307-092 / 0987165220 Contact: alex\_latacepeda@hotmail.com

Hotels

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Hotel Zeus

Address: Daniel león Borja Avenue and Duchicela street Phone: 2-968-036/ 0999492888 Contact: patriciocostales@hotmail.com reservaciones@hotelzeus.com.ec



chimborazo

Address: Pulinguí San Pablo Community at Kilometer 36 thon Riobamba -Guaranda road Phone: 2-364-278 Contact: www.chimborazolodge.com info@chimborazolodge.net



Address: Duchicela street and Unidad Nacional Avenue Phone: 2-941-372 / 0987813051 2-942-232 / 2-947-584 Contact: elmolinohotelrio@yahoo.com hectorelrio@yahoo.com www.hotelelmolino.com.ec



Casa 1881

Address: Olmedo among España and Larrea streets Phone: 0981335210 Contact: santiago.nicolalde@gmail.com



Address: Argentinos street and Carlos Zambrano Avenue Phone: 2-965-175 / 0998415773 Contact: reservas@quindeloma.com



Address: José Veloz and Carabobo streets Phone: 2-962-947 / 2-943-124 / 0983820018 Contact: gerencia\_general@mansionsantais abella.com



Address: Lizarzaburu Avenue and Coangos street Phone: 2-601-642 / 2-604-703 Contact: gerencia@hotelmarquezderio.com



Address: Kilometer 1<sup>se</sup> th on Riobamba - Guano road Las Abras zone Phone: 2-364-112 Contact: administracion@hotelspacasareal.com

Rincōn**Alemān** 

Address: Remigio Romero and Alfredo Pareja streets Phone: 2-603-540 / 0997065397 Contact: info@hostalrinconaleman.com



Address: Duchicela and Monterrey streets Phone: 2-960-073 Contact: info@hotelbellacasona.com



Address: Las Abras zone on Riobamba -Guano road Phone: 2364275 / 0999480179 Contact: ihurtado@haciendaabraspungo.com osbehr@haciendaabraspungo.com

## PARKS

- 1 Guayaquil
- 2 21 de Abril
- 3 Sucre
- 4 Maldonado
- 5 La Libertad
- 6 La Madre

## CHURCHES

- 7 San Antonio
- 8 Las Carmelitas
- 9 Santa Rosa
- 10 Niño Rey de Reyes oratory
- 11 Señor de la Justicia oratory
- 12 La Concepción 13 San Alfonso
- 14 La Catedral
- 15 La Basílica
- 16 La Merced
- To La Merceu
- 17 La Dolorosa

## MUSEUMS

- 18 Brigada Blindada Galápagos
- 19 Cultural Center and Museum
- 20 Train museum
- 21 Paquita Jaramillo
- 22 La Concepción religius art
- 23 Natural science
- 24 City museum
- 25 Stone museum

## BUILDINGS

- 26 Raúl Dávalos bullring
- 27 Railway Station
- 28 Provincial Goverment of Chimborazo
- 29 Casa Bolívar
- 30 León Theater
- 31 Pedro Vicente Maldonado High School
- 32 SRI
- 33 Post Office
- 34 City hall

## MARKETS

- 35 La Condamine
- 36 Santa Rosa
- 37 General Dávalos
- 38 Oriental
- 39 La Merced
- 40 San Alfonso
- 41 San Francisco

## HANDICRAFTS

- 42 Alfaro Plaza
- 43 Roja Plaza

## **BUS STATIONS**

- 44 Intercantonal
- 45 Interprovincial
- 46 Oriental
- 47 Interparish

### CAPTION

- Main avenue
- Heritage walking tour

## Information

ourism Office Daniel León Borja Avenue and rasil street
Phone (03) 2-947-389
nterprovincial Bus Station: La Prensa and Daniel eón Borja Avenues
Ministry of Tourism
Phone (03)2 946-682
cuador Railway Daniel León Borja Avenue and Carabobo street
Phone (03)2-961-038
Ministry of Enviroment
de Octubre Avenue and Duchicela street
Phone (03)2-610-029
Chimborazo mountain refuges
Phone (03)3-027-358
mergencies 911 (Police, fire deparment and ambulance)

# Iconography



# Distances from Riobamba to:

Ambato	52 km
Azogues	217 km
Babahoyo	182 km
Bahía	464 km
Baños	55 km
Cuenca	254 km
Daule	280 km
Emeraldas	442 km
Guayaquil	233 km
Guaranda	61 km
Huaquillas	390 km
Ibarra	303 km
Latacunga	99 km
Loja	459 km
Macará	649 km
Macas	245 km

Machachi	151 km
Machala	328 km
Manta	456 km
Otavalo	283 km
Playas	330 km
Portoviejo	427 km
Puyo	116 km
Quevedo	276 km
Quinindé	242 km
Quito	188 km
Rumichaca	432 km
Salinas	396 km
Santo Domingo	275 km
Tena	195 km
Tulcán	428 km
Zamora	423 km



## Holidays

#### **December / January**

Pases del Niño thať take place in Riobamba, represent one of the most relevant and ancient cultural manifestations of the city. Due to their essence and components, they have been declared as Local Intangible Cultural Heritage of Riobamba on January 6, 2017, and certified as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Ecuador on September 10, 2018.

#### February

The Intercultural Carnival of The Puruhá people, is an Andean celebration that has a bond with production and life, during this celebration people express gratitude to the Pacha Mama (Mother Earth), mainly in rural parishes celebrating the rhythm of songs, poems, gastronomy and offerings,

#### March / Apri

Holy Week in Riobamba is celebrated with processions, the main one is El Señor del Buen Suceso, that is held on Holy Tuesday; in addition, on Holy Thursday night seven churches are open for visits, along with the Festival of Lights, Sacred Music and Mapping.

#### April

On April 21, 1822, Riobamba achieved its independence in the Battle of Tapi, this fact was of vital importance so that Ecuador also reached its freedom on May 24, 1822 in the Battle of Pichincha. To commemorate this libertarian event, the city celebrates with a broad agenda of cultural, academic, gastronomic and artistic events, fairs and bullfights along the whole month.

#### June

Festivities in honor of San Pedro and San Pablo with chamizas and dance festivals take place in Riobamba. Also, "SECTEI"-Science, Technology, Entrepreneurship and Innovation Week- is held, where entrepreneurship contests, robotics contests, academic conferences, and cultural events are presented. In addition, the Inti Raymi or Fiesta del Sol is celebrated, symbolizing the culmination of the agricultural cycle and the beginning of a new one.

#### November

On November 11, 1820, the Political Emancipation of Riobamba took place, an act of courage carried out by the people of Riobamba. In remembrance of it, at the end of October and at the beginning of November cultural and artistic events, popular festivals, fairs, and bullfights take place.

# Alcaldía de Riobamba





