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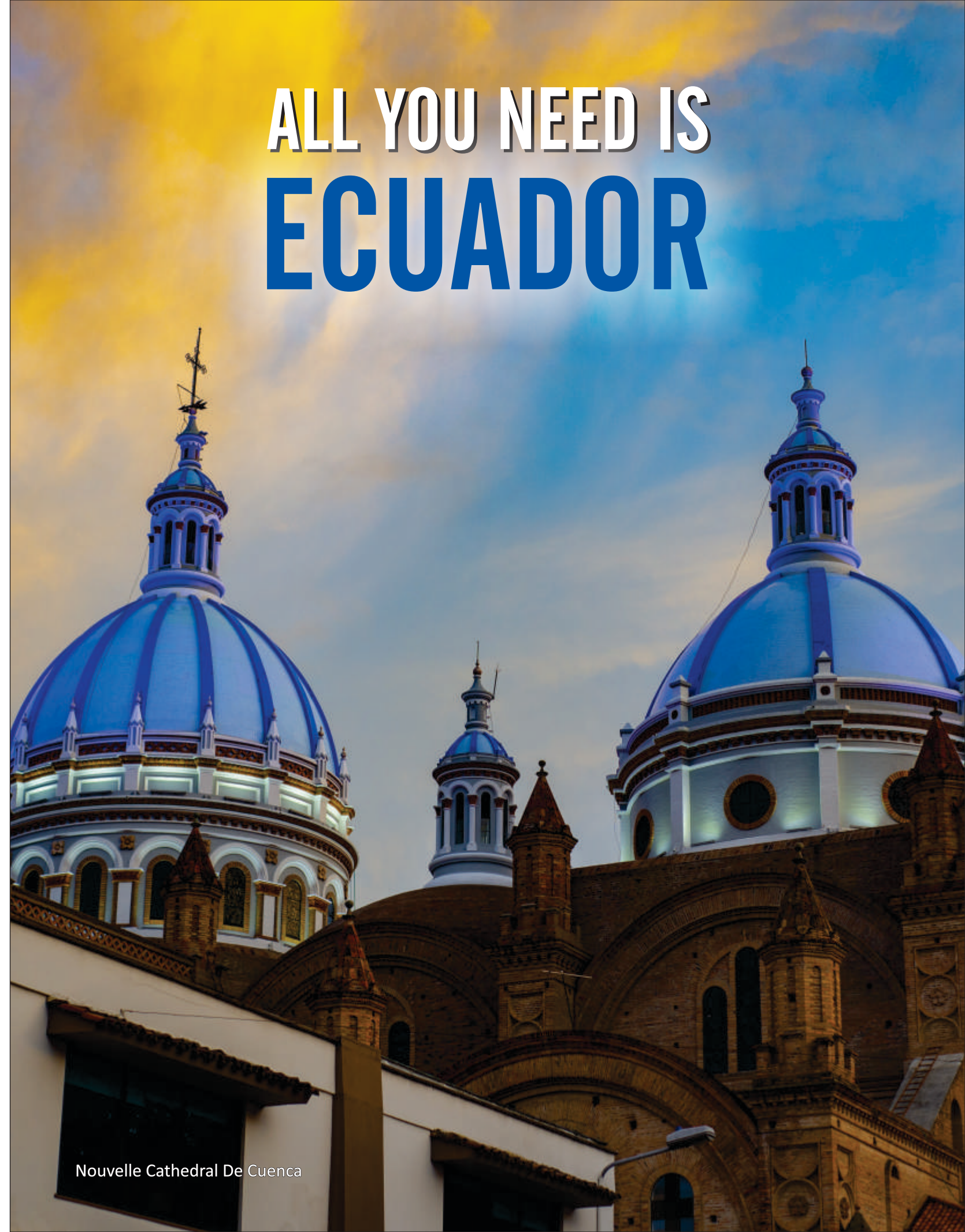
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ALL YOU NEED IS ECUADOR



Nouvelle Cathedral De Cuenca

Ama la Vida ECUADOR

Choosing the right location for a story to unravel is an art and locations have the ability to become characters themselves, and have the power to turn what may seem to be a simple narrative into an outstanding cinematographic master piece. Ecuador, the country of the four worlds, has so much to contribute to all those who wish to tell a story. Development of this South American nation in the last decade has made it possible for Ecuador to be an excellent location for film shoots and productions in a totally natural environment. The country has worked to achieved tourism efficiency, by creating safe environment and road & airport infrastructures that are benchmarks for the rest of the countries in the region.

This small equatorial country offers four climatic regions with very close proximity to each other, giving filmmakers amazing diversity of locations from four different worlds in a small geographic region. In a single day you can drive from the Amazon, across a range of volcanoes, through verdant cloud forests and arrive on the Pacific coast. In the past decade, Ecuador has come a long way in hosting major shoots of dozens of films, commercials, television shows and music videos.

There are a number of reasons why Ecuador is a desirable location for both local and foreign productions, the most important being the extraordinary beauty that Ecuador has to offer. While the mainland features some of the most beautiful and exotic locations including the Andes Mountains, Amazon rain forest and the incredible beaches along the Pacific coast, the Galapagos Islands 500 miles off the coast are a treasure of their own. For its unhampered nature and diversity, both underwater and above, many international productions, including the

BBC and Nat Geo, have come to capture astonishing footage of sharks, schools of fish, corals, giant manta-rays and more.

Incidentally, Ecuador has a unique distinction of having 2 sites in the first ever published list of UNESCO World Heritage, the Galapagos Islands and the capital city of Quito.

Founded in the 16th century, Quito is the best-preserved historic centre in Latin America. In a single street there is a concentration of seven iconic churches, monasteries, and convents that remain active even today. And that's just one of the reasons to fall in love with this Ecuadorian city. Known as the 'Capital in the Clouds', Quito is situated at a high altitude at the top of a volcano. Winding streets travel up and down the side of a volcano, giving some incredible views of the peaks and craters, which may or may not be visible, depending on the hanging and lingering clouds.

Other cities like the cultural capital, Cuenca and the commercial hub, Guayaquil have their own charm and spectacular sites, both historic and modern, providing filmmakers with diversity of cityscapes. In fact, in many of the films based in Latin America, Ecuador is often used as 'cheat location' depicting other cities and countries in the region.

The tourism campaign 'All You Need Is Ecuador' has helped place Ecuador's beauty in the international radar, and the rise of tourism has favourably changed the filming environment as well. Remote and city locations have lodging and restaurant options offering high quality standards, security and convenience. New highways and roads all over the country have made it easier to travel; making road-trip films and location shoots very easy to organize from a logistical standpoint. Ecuadorian food is also a very popular

asset. The traditional cuisine celebrates whole ingredients and diverse protein sources, offering something for everyone. The cities have amazing dinning possibilities from around the world & outstanding gourmet options.

Ecuador's weather varies depending on the region and the dry seasons are the best times to film. Along the coast, high rainfall occurs during the months of February and March and the coast experiences dry weather from the month of June to December. The Andes region has a rainy season from October to May and a dry season from June to September, while the Amazon region has rainfall throughout the year. Carnival in February and Semana Santa processions in April, are some of the important cultural events.

The Government of Ecuador hopes to invite foreign productions to film in the country, an effort that will help boost the local economy and global reputation of the country and continue to flourish the local audio-visual industry. Ecuador Film Commission formed under the Ministry of Tourism is responsible for film facilitation as well as securing permissions for the foreign crews. Courtesy many international documentaries and commercials shot in the country, Ecuador has many competent production service companies based in Quito and Guayaquil to service all kinds of production requirements. Ecuador is also a part of the Latin American Network of Film Commissions, which works as a support system to cross-promote Latin America as a film destination.

At present there are no specific production incentives for foreign feature films or commercials shooting in Ecuador. However, ease of business makes Ecuador attractive. Ecuador officially trades in the US Dollar, which is rather convenient especially keeping in mind the low cost of locations, local talent, support crew, transport and logistics. The country has one of the most open visa policies in the world allowing visa-free travel for most nationals for stays of up to 90 days.



Mount Chimborazo



The Galapagos Islands



Quilotoa Lagoon - Volcanic Crater Lake