

Manta, Ecuador

Ecuador's tuna capital and Pacific gateway — a laid-back port city backed by cloud-forest reserves, where the world's finest hats are woven by hand in a nearby hilltop village.

- ⚓ Docked at Puerto de Manta cruise terminal
- 🕒 Typical call: 7–9 hrs
- 💵 US Dollar (USD) — Ecuador uses American currency
- 🗣️ Spanish · English limited outside hotels

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Puerto de Manta cruise terminal

To center: 5-min walk to Malecón / Playa El Murciélago

Best For: Culture · Beaches · Cloud Forest

Don't Miss: Montecristi Panama hat workshops

🚗 Getting around: 🚕 **Taxi** ✅ \$1.50–\$5 USD · 📱 **Rideshare** ✅ Uber

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Montecristi — Birthplace of the Panama Hat** — Despite the name, the Panama hat was always Ecuadorian — named after the canal workers who wore them.
- **Pacocha Cloud Forest — Howler Monkeys & Mist** — The Pacocha Marine and Coastal Wildlife Refuge is one of the last coastal cloud forests in Ecuador.
- **Tuna Fleet & Fish Market Tour** — Manta is Ecuador's undisputed tuna capital — the largest tuna-fishing fleet on the Pacific coast operates from this...
- **Playa El Murciélago & the Malecón** — Playa El Murciélago (Bat Beach) is Manta's signature urban beach — a long crescent of dark Pacific sand backed by the...

BEST WALKS

- **Malecón & Playa El Murciélago Stroll** 1.5 km · 30 min · Easy — Walk north along the Malecón esplanade from the cruise terminal to Playa El Murciélago.
- **Tarqui Fish Market & Artisan Docks** 2 km · 45 min · Easy — Head east along the harbor to the Tarqui fishing district, where the tuna fleet anchors and the morning market buzzes.
- **Centro Cultural & City Market** 1 km · 40 min · Easy — A short walk inland from the Malecón leads to Manta's city market and the Centro Cultural, where local artisans sell toquilla-straw...

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Ecuador uses the US Dollar — no exchange needed. ATMs are available in the city center, and most tour operators accept cash USD.
- Buy your Panama hat in Montecristi, not at the ship — prices are a fraction of on-board boutiques and you'll meet the actual weavers.
- Manta is Ecuador's tuna capital. Try ceviche de atún or encebollado (tuna broth soup) at any of the Malecón restaurants for an authentic local lunch.

Manta, Ecuador — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1 Playa Santa Marianita | Santa Marianita is a beautiful beach, famous for kitesurfing. | 2 Playa Bonita- San Mateo | Playa Bonita is a scenic beach near San Mateo. |
| 3 Carpas playa San Mateo | Rent beach tents and enjoy the sun at San Mateo. | 4 Refugio de Vida Silvestre y Marino Costera Pacoche | Pacoche is a coastal wildlife refuge with dry and humid forests. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |