



# My Best of both culture worlds



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# Introduction

Cross cultural experiences are one of the most beautiful things someone can experience. You get to learn new things about somebody else's culture, in between the two of you may be exchangeable information. My parents always say knowledge is the power to navigating through life. Which I agree with them especially with cultures! I myself am so happy to be apart of two different cultures, where i grew up gathering different things. I am half Ecuadorian and half dominican. I will tell you all about it in this presentation!

# Dominican Republic

The Dominican side of my family comes from my mom side and is the predominant side since I grew up with them. The Dominican Republic is found in the caribbean, it shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti to the west. Most people are attracted to the country because of the beautiful beaches and ranking resorts that it has to offer. The capital of the Dominican Republic is Santo domingo, which is actually where my family is from.



# Typical food

- Rice , beans, stewed chicken( made with rum & red wine)
- Sancocho ( soup with about 7 different meats some which include oxtail, chicken, cow)
- Morir sonando ( dying dreaming is a drink consisting of milk and orange juice)
- Mangu (Plantains with typical sides like salami,egg and cheese)



# Pictures of food mentioned



# Customs

- We are taught to always greet everyone within the room you walk into.
- It is important that we treat our elders with respect.
- Marriage is a big part of Dominican culture, before moving out we have to get married. We have godparents for weddings the same way we have godparents for our kids.
- If someone pulls you out to dance you have to stand up and dance or it is seemed as disrespectful.
- When being told “ tu esta gorda/o” is sometimes a complement since for them it means you have good weight and are healthy and rich.

# Dominican carnival

Los reyes del carnval, alibaba are usually seen for the independence day of The dominican republic which is February 27.



# Ecuador

The Ecuadorian side of my family comes from my dad's side of the family. Ecuador is located in South America between Peru and Colombia. It is known for its biological diversity and landscapes. It has everything from Beaches, mountains, the Amazon Jungle which we take really serious, and volcanoes. From my experience over there I notice how soft spoken and more quieter the people are. Our independence day is August 10, 1809 when we criollo took over the capital which is Quito.



# Picture of Ecuador



# Ecuadorian flag

- The color yellow demonstrates the fertility of Ecuador's land & the gold found in the country.
- The color blue stands for the country's coast and ocean as well as skies.
- The color red represents the blood of men who sacrificed their lives for Ecuador's independence.



# Customs

- We usually have a lot of musical celebrations and walk all over town with it while celebrating.
- Whenever someone feels ill or unwell we first tap in with our spiritual side and inner soul, which leads to an egg cleanse. The point of an egg cleanse is to remove any bad energy you may have.
- People in Ecuador always say good morning and goodnight to our neighbors as it is seemed as rude if you don't.

# Food

Ecuador is known for its exotic cuisines most of which include seafood. Ceviche is one of the most known foods. Yapingacho, Caldo de bola, encebollado, quail eggs and so much more. A stereotype that is seen within Ecuadorians and food is that we all eat guinea pig which is false. It is more of a sierra typical dish.



# Cross cultural experience

Having experiences with both of these countries made me realize how much alike and different we are at the same time. Both countries are Spanish dominant speaking countries, of course they have their languages which are derived from Spanish language. Ecuador and The Dominican Republic both have a meeting point when it comes to showing respect to people especially elders. Here in the U.S you barely see people respect one another which is a huge cultural shock to me and my parents. It is always good to get a different perspective in different things in life. It is one of the main reasons why I encourage people to travel to distinct countries and take time to learn about their culture.

# Ecuadorian Carnaval

When carnival is happening in Ecuador we listen to Ecuadorian Folklore music.



# Nonverbal and Verbal communication

Whenever people come across dominicans they know how loud we could be. That is because Dominicans are very expressive and the more excited we get the more louder we speak. When speaking to people we tend to stand very close to them to let them know we're paying attention. Eye contact is extremely important when speaking.

In Ecuador having your arms crossed while speaking is considered very rude. When greeting men give each other a hug while patting one another's back, while women kiss once on the right cheek.

# Traditional dances/music





# References

- <https://www.commisceo-global.com/resources/country-guides/ecuador-guide>
- <https://www.afsusa.org/countries/dominican-republic/>