

EPIC RIVER RUNS OF ECUADOR 7days

INTRODUCTION

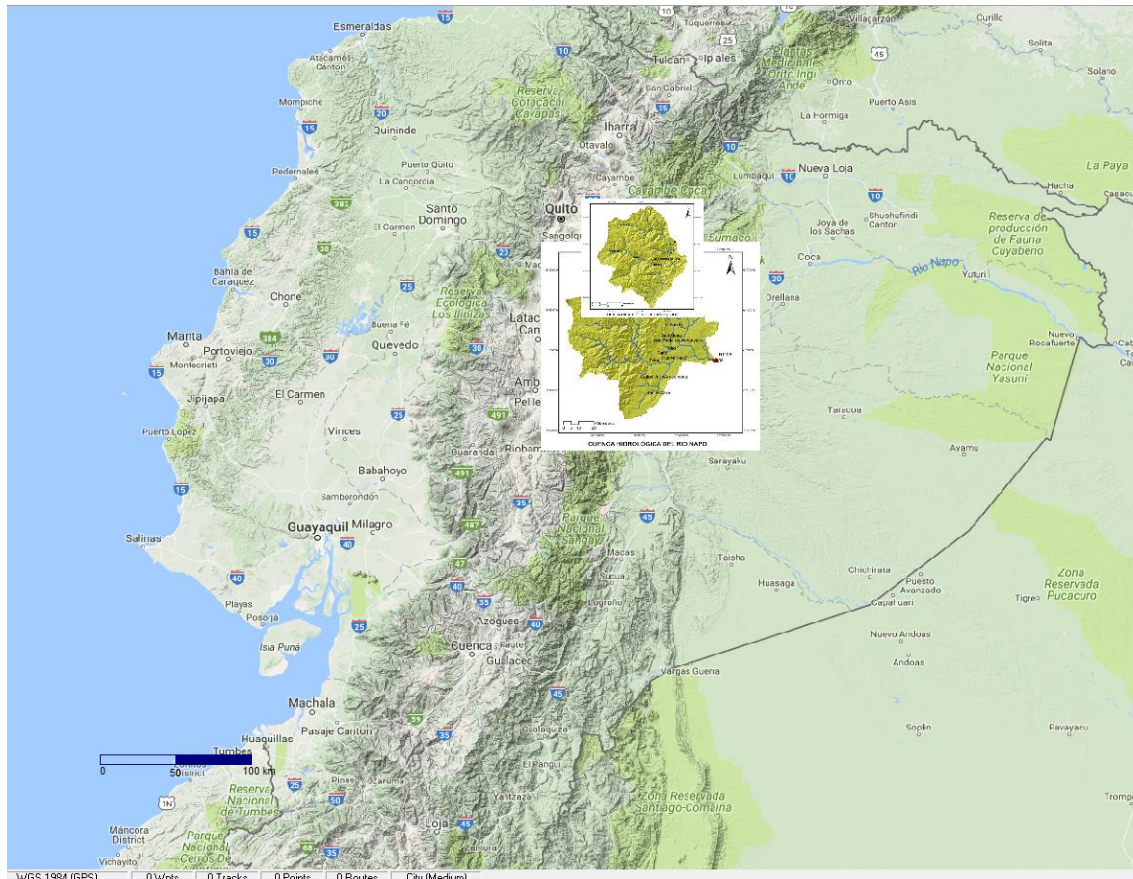
Ecuador is one of the smallest countries in South America, yet, this little paradise is one of the most diverse places on Earth. This is largely due to its vast amount of ecosystems and microclimates mainly due to the presence of the high Andes mountain range which traps and funnels water and humidity around its volcanoes and inter-Andean valleys from both, the Pacific Ocean and the Amazon Basin. With a spectacular amount of rivers and quality whitewater, Ecuador boasts more rivers per square mile in its upper water shed comparable to no other place. The amazing amount of quality class IV and V has turned this country into a world kayak hotspot for the last 2 decades.

While interpreting the different ecosystems, narrating the history of Ecuador and spotting some wild life we hope to enlighten our guests so they can enjoy not only the rapids, but understand the country itself. So with safety first, the EPIC RIVER RUNS OF ECUADOR program aims to show wild unique and pristine river gorges that are only a privilege to few people that kayak, some even include evidence of ancient civilizations! Surrounded always by nature and with all sorts of fun rivers characters like big volume, technical, creek, pool-drop and continuous to name a few... This trip promises to be a blast!

Check it out:

What to bring

- Helmet with good protection IV
- Standard Whitewater Rescue PFD (lifejacket)
- Spray Deck
- Paddle, Spare optional but recommended
- Dry top
- Shorty splash jacket
- Warm layers minimum 2
- Long lightweight river pants
- Good protective river shoes
- Dry bag for your lunch and extra
- Your own personal mini first aid kit containing personal pertinent medication
- Water bottle
- Throw rope
- Float bags
- Insect repellent
- Sun protection
- Camera (optional)



Basin of the Quijos and Napo rivers with all the rivers we will paddle. Both are located at the east of Andes and funnel water to the Amazon Basin system. About a third of the water in the Amazon, evaporates and with the help of winds crashes against the Andes and the cycle begins all over again.

Day 1



Pick up time from Hotel will be at 8:00AM and soon we will begin to ascend the Andes up and over the continental divide at 13,200ft (4000m) here we can do a brief stop only to admire the scenery and the *paramo* ecosystem that contributes largely to the volume of some of the rivers we will paddle. Driving through the cloud forest our destination is the area of the Archidona, founded in 1560. Following lunch, we will prepare for our warm up paddle in a small section of the Misahualli River, a manageable technical stretch of class III-IV rapids.

B,L,D,

Day 2



The surrounding areas to Tena and Archidona offer a diverse array of rivers to paddle. The closest one is the Misahualli River with different sections to boat and not far either, the lower section of the Jondachi River. Depending on the river levels we will make the choice to kayak one of these beautiful rivers, both used to be the site of the Petroglyph makers of the Cotundo phase (1000-300 BC).

With beautiful jungle landscapes, occasional herons or river otters in the case of the Jondachi, this promises to be an amazing and fun full day!

B,L,D,

Day 3 & 4



Leaving the area of Tena we are bound to paddle the pristine and lush gorge of the Piatua River, a gem of nature with massive boulders and clear water with defined lines of class IV rapids. The presence of otters and the tiger heron, reveal the pristine condition of this river. We spent the night nearby the river and with no doubt, you are going to want to paddle this twice! Flowing south of National Park Llanganates (burial site of the Inca treasure)

B,L,D

Day 5



On our way to Baeza (closer to Quito) we have the opportunity to run a different section of the mighty Jondachi River, or the incredible Cosanga amidst the cloud forest and often visited by great bird life such as the Andean Cock of the rock or the Mot-mot. The Cosanga is a creekly pool drop run that eventually flows into the Quijos River.

B,L,D

Day 6



Following little ways the ancient trail that lead indigenous people from the cold *paramo* town of Oyacachi to the Cloud forest settlement of Chaco we arrive at the put in of the Oyacachi River. This continuous river is somewhat steep and its rapids are quite epic. With good scouting available, this will be one of your favorite rivers to paddle this week.

B,L,D

Day 7



Today we put in at the Quijos River, we will paddle in closed canyons from time to time, where you can see ancient basaltic flows of Chacana and Antisana Volcano. Its rapids are easy to read and run but look out for big holes and some fun big water from time to time. The take out awaits us by Moradillas, before we drive some 2 hours back to Quito.

We hope to make your visit in Ecuador a life experience!

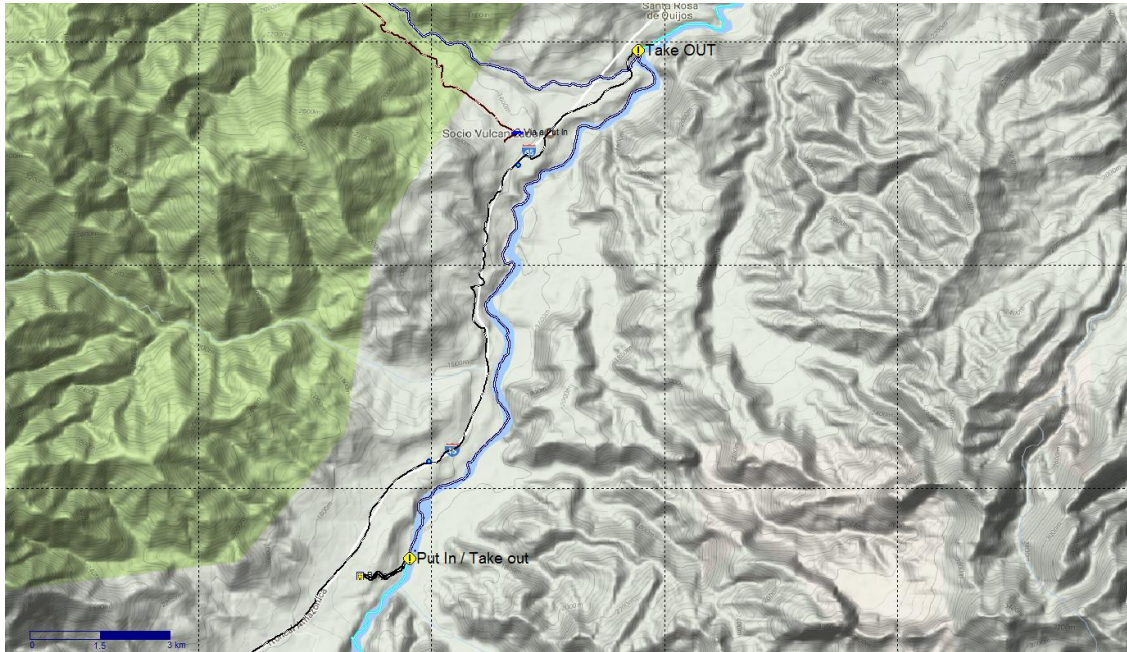
B,L

EPIC RIVER RUNS OF ECUADOR

CLASS IV RIVER PROGRAM

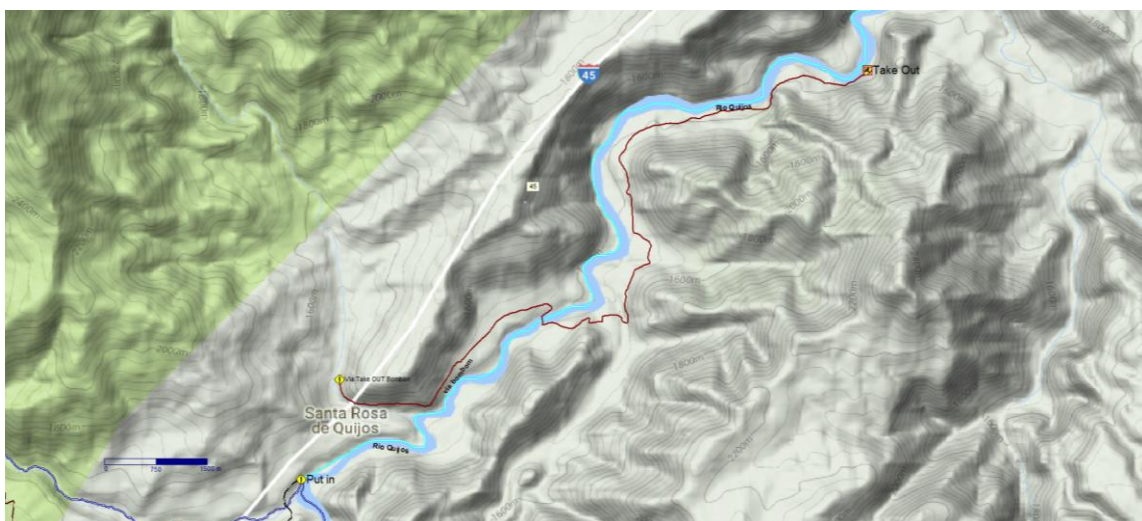
RIVER DESCRIPTIONS

Quijos River IV normal flow (15.7km elevation loss: 166m)

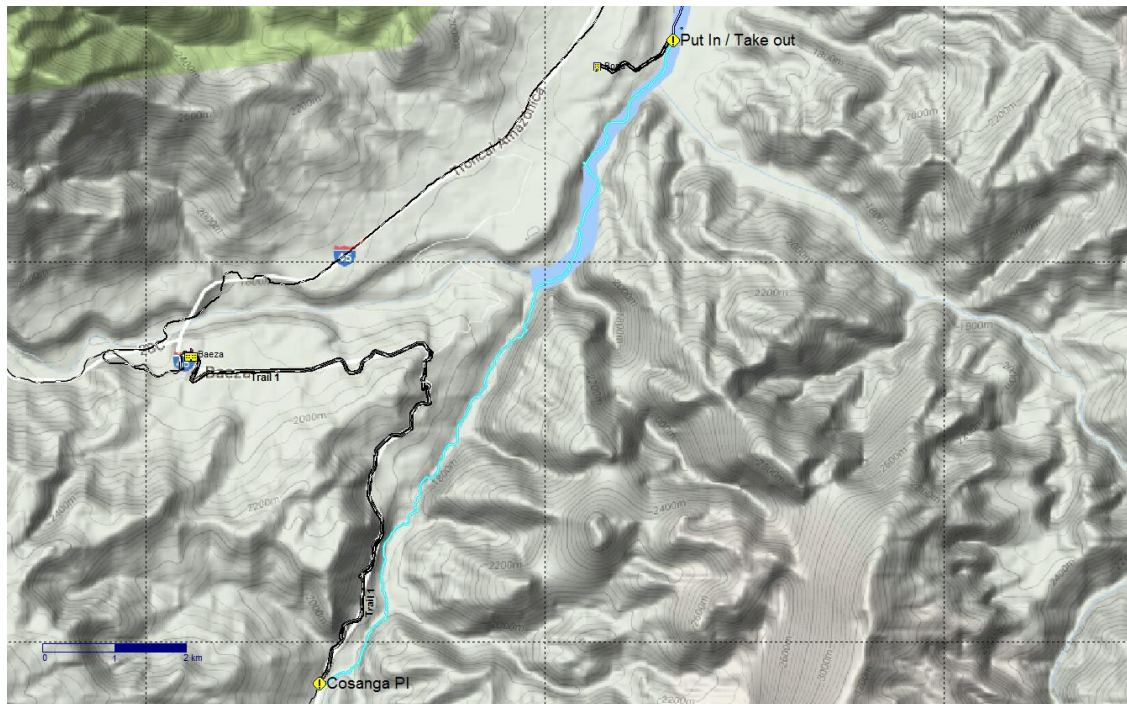


The Quijos River is an impressive stretch of whitewater flowing from the glaciers of the colossal Antisana Volcano. The top section is seldom explored, but with miles and miles of whitewater to choose in the following sections, this river boasts top paddling for class IV to V paddlers.

En route to the Amazon and with various canyons and stretches of boulder garden rapids make this river one of the best multi option sections of whitewater to paddle on. The most famous sections that we guide on are the class IV section of the Chaco canyon known also as Linares and the lower Quijos gorge of Moradillas.

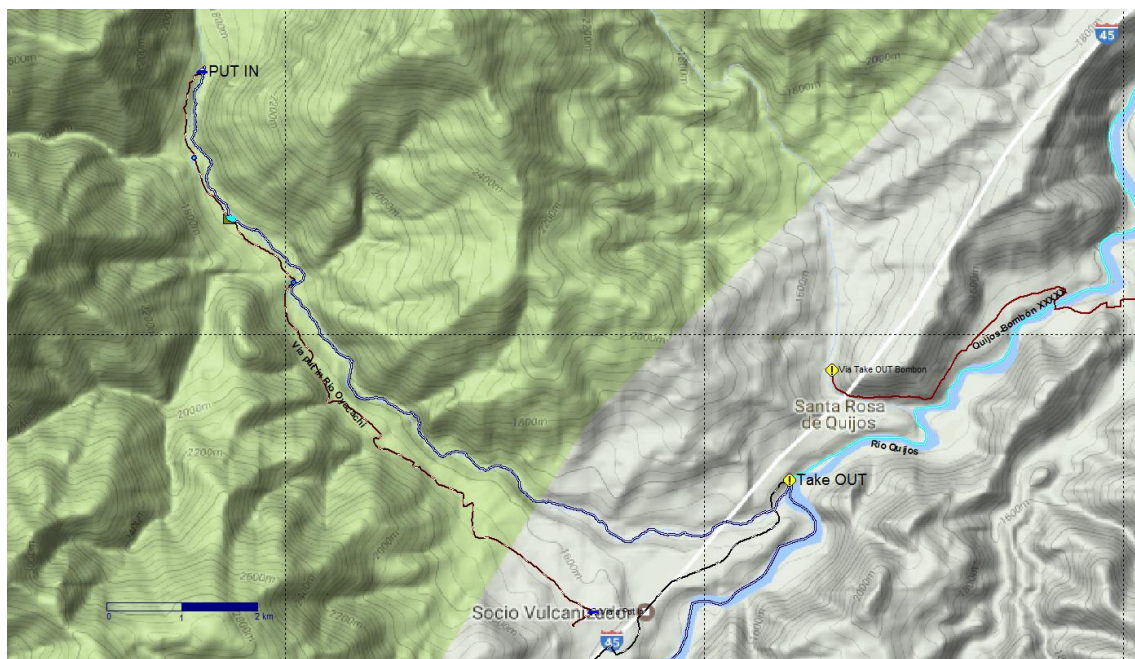


Cosanga River IV normal flow



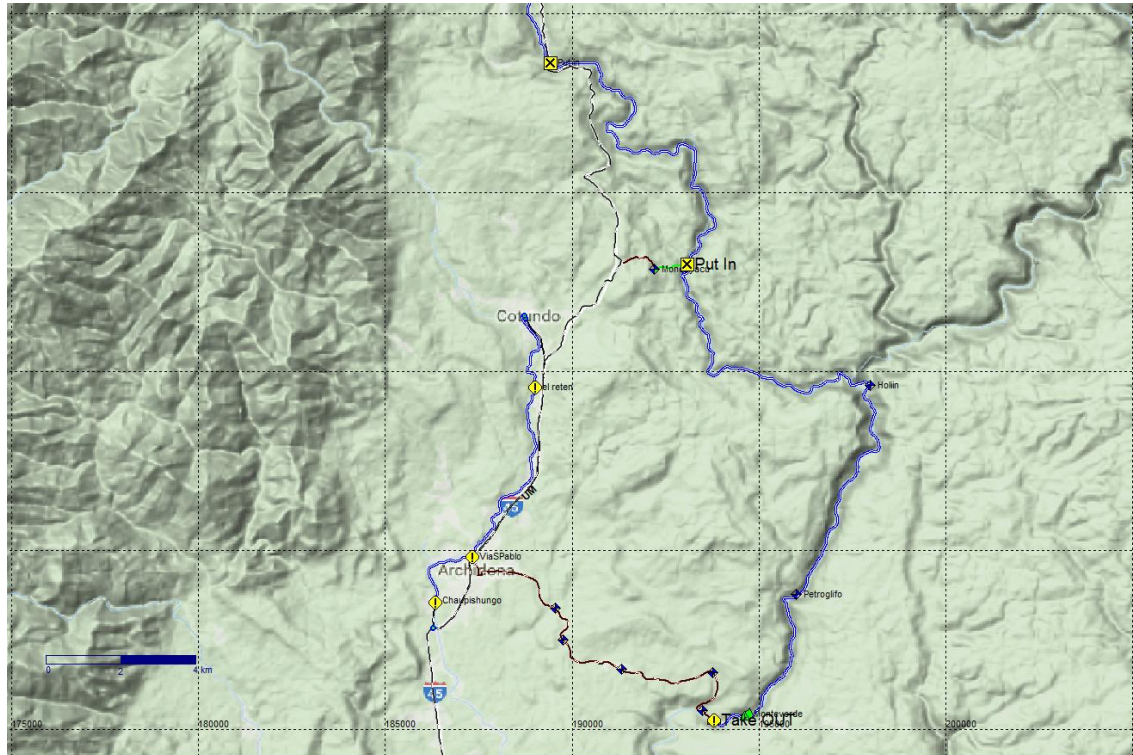
The river Cosanga flows from the eastern glacier region of the Antisana Volcano. It eventually joins the Quijos River after a fun section of rapids mainly composed of multiple rapids of great quality class IV at normal flows. It is described best as an open medium sized river, semi pool drop with mini canyon sections en route. Always fun, it will challenge your technical boating skills

Oyacachi River IV + normal flow



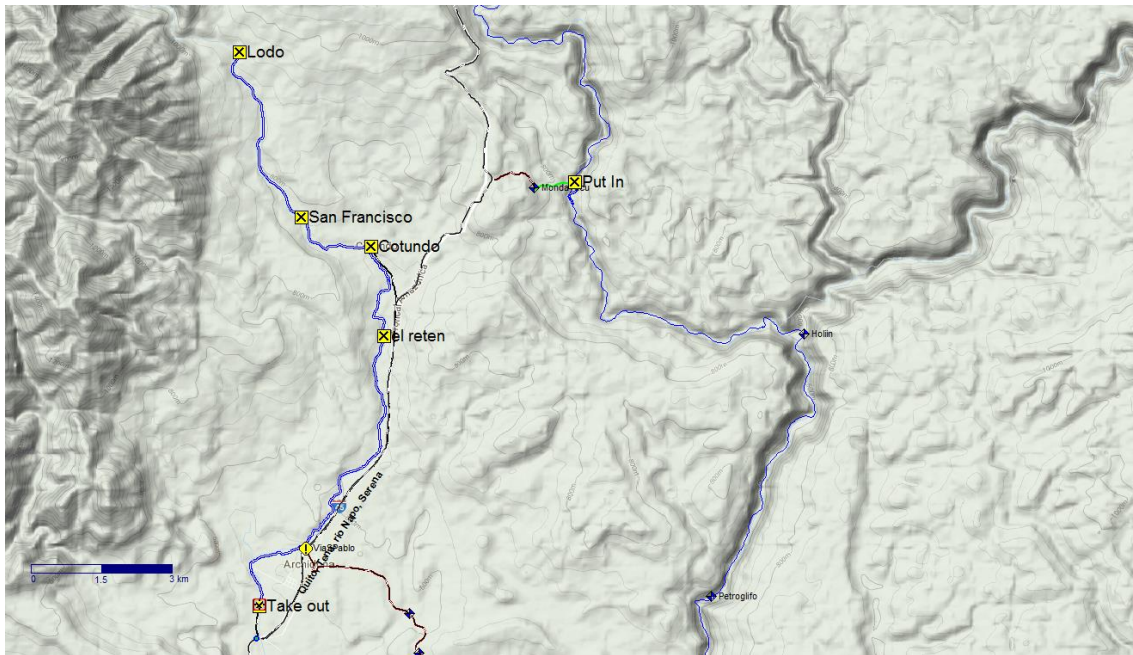
The Oyacachi River flows from the paramo highlands of the Cayambe-Coca National Park, also known as “El Condor”, an extensive network of rivers and lakes designated as a bio reserve of the world. With big and powerful continuous boulder gardens with relative high volume style rapids, the Oyacachi is one of the favorite for many paddlers. Get ready for a fast blast down river run. The top section of the Oyacachi is one of Ecuador’s most challenging class V+ overnight trip. The middle and lower portions are the most commonly run.

River Jondachi IV, V at normal flow



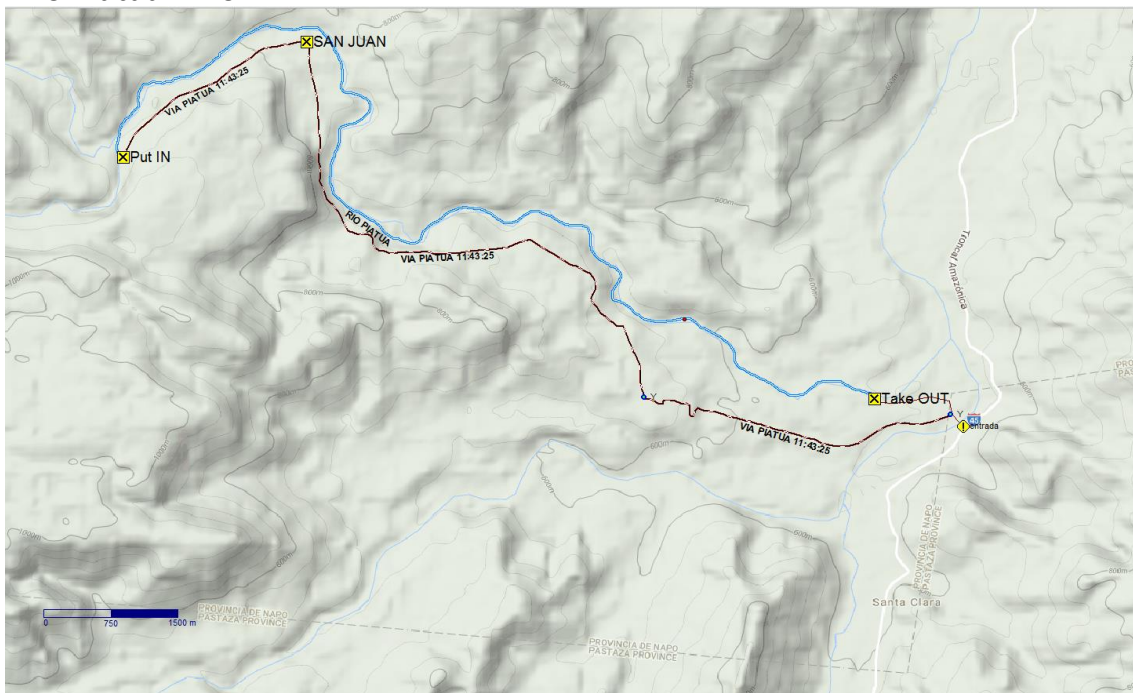
The Jondachi River, has world fame in the boater world. Its origins are located in the cloud forest where the humidity of the Amazon is responsible for the creation of tiny creeks that drain their water to create this beauty, best described as a boating paradise with refined creek boating, beautiful enclosed jungle canyons, indescribable nature scenarios and river water quality. This river should be in every kayaker’s bucket list. Currently under threat from hydro dams the Jondachi has been the center of attention of the Ecuadorian Rivers Institute and outfitters to preserve this treasure as a natural free flowing river corridor connecting the Andes to the Amazon lower basin.

Upper Misahualli IV normal flow



The Upper Misahualli is refined technical low volume creek boating. A very enjoyable run with multiple put-ins and take outs. Its low volume character is deceptive as this river will keep you busy with tight moves and boofs all day long. One of the most popular runs for the local boaters due to its warm water and close proximity to the jungle town of Tena where many of Ecuador's boaters learned to paddle.

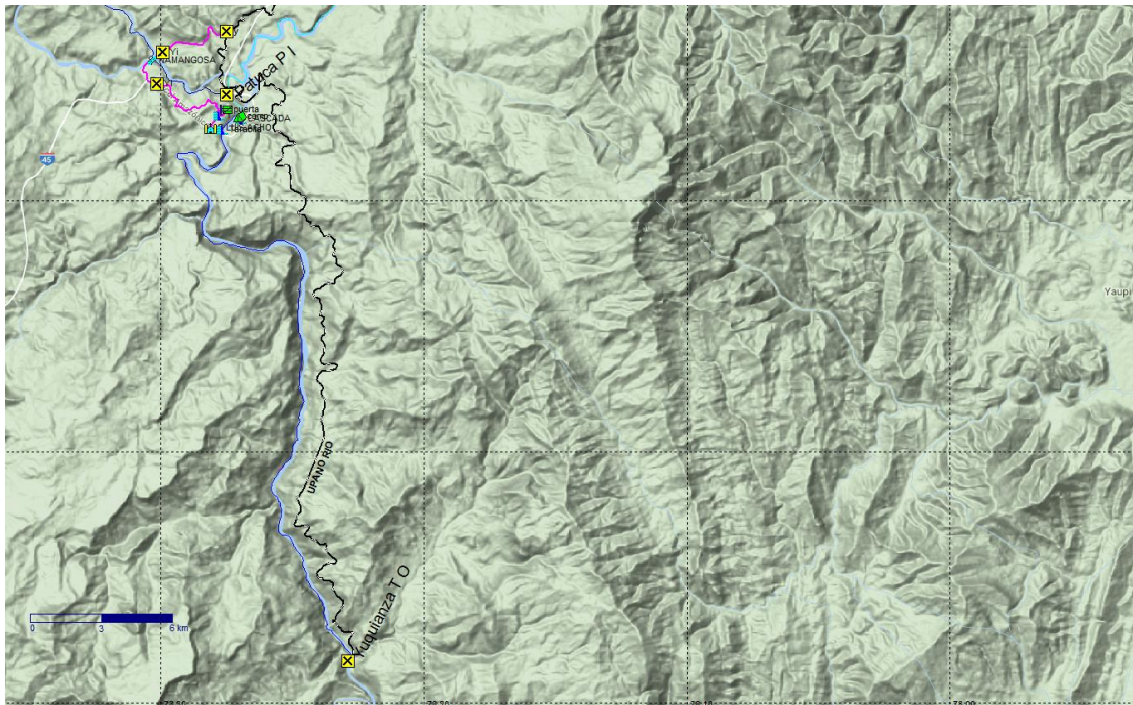
The Piatua River



Pristine jungle river compiled with wide open boulder gardens with 1 to 2m drops to delight anyone! The Piatua is fun class IV all day long. Definitely one of everyone's favorites due to its smooth pace, multi optional lines and river length of nonstop class IV.

Also threatened by a hydro dam project of dubious reasons we endeavor to keep this river corridor and beauty untouched by supporting the Ecuadorian Rivers Institute in its efforts to keep it as a free flowing river.

The Upano-Namangosa River Gorge



Impressive is the word to describe this big water jungle gorge that was placed in the world's top 10 rivers to raft by National Geographic.

Big pool and big water class IV with towering walls of rock and foliage interrupted by spectacular waterfalls freefalling hundreds of meters. Epic for its sheer size and volume of your surroundings makes you feel small but relatively easy read and run fun rapids down into a remote area of southeastern Ecuadorian Jungle.