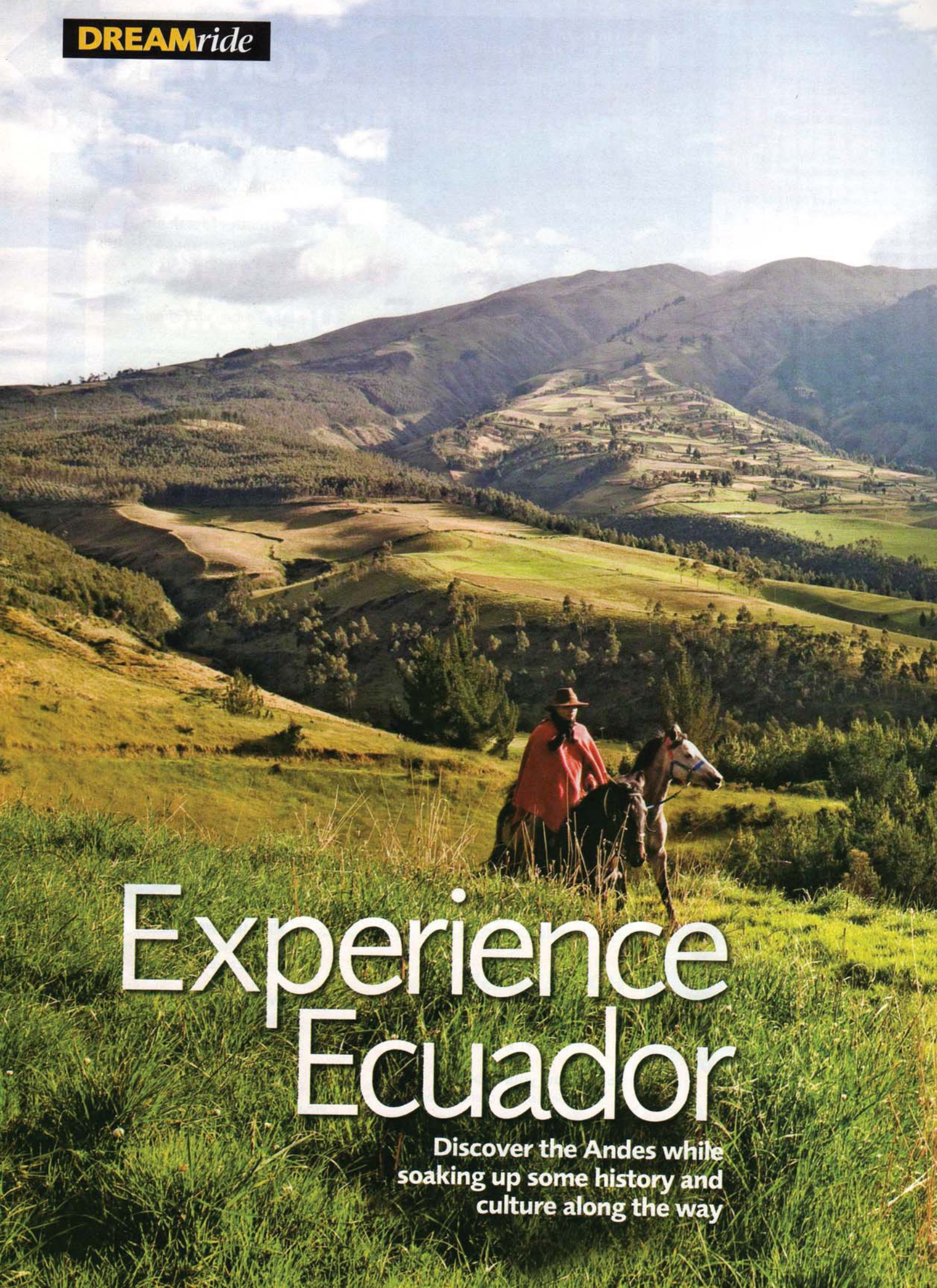


DREAMride

A person wearing a red poncho and a hat is riding a horse through a lush green valley. The landscape is filled with rolling hills, green fields, and scattered trees. In the background, there are large, rugged mountains under a blue sky with some clouds. The overall scene is peaceful and scenic.

Experience Ecuador

Discover the Andes while
soaking up some history and
culture along the way

A rider wearing a helmet and a striped poncho is riding a brown horse through a lush green valley. The background features rolling hills and mountains under a bright sky.

5 reasons to ride in **ECUADOR**

Take a trip to South America, following ancient Incan paths and Spanish colonial routes. Here are five reasons to explore the Andean highlands...

1 The landscape

Ride on grassy tracks between patchwork valley fields, through eucalyptus forests, and enjoy long canters across arid plains in the shadow of the snow-capped Cotopaxi volcano.

2 The riding

You will be accompanied by local horsemen on the remote trails, so there is no risk of getting lost! With five to six hours in the saddle each day, this is a holiday for intermediate to advanced riders who should be physically fit.

3 The culture

Discover local traditions as you step off the beaten track in remote villages. Take home some souvenirs from the fascinating rural craft markets and visit a rose plantation and a weaving centre.

4 The horses

Said to be well-trained, responsive and ideally suited to the rugged terrain, the horses used are a local Criollo breed crossed with Andalusian, Arab, Thoroughbred and Peruvian Paso. They range from 14.2hh to 15.2hh.

5 The hospitality

Stay overnight in historic colonial haciendas selected for their unique character, and enjoy traditional Ecuadorian food.

The Hacienda to Hacienda holiday is available through Zara's Planet. Priced from £1,580 per person for seven nights, including transfers, accommodation, most meals, guides and luggage transfer.

Flights are not included, but you can fly to Quito from a number of UK airports. For more information, tel: (08444) 870 300; visit: www.zarasplanet.co.uk.