

ECUADOR CUSTOMS

Greetings:

At a first meeting a regular handshake will do. Friends, family and close acquaintances will share a light kiss on the cheek.

Gestures:

When demonstrating the height of something, be aware that holding the palm face down is reserved for animals. For people, hold the palm sideways with the thumb on top.

Making a slicing a gesture across one's neck indicates having no money when someone asks to borrow some.

Slapping the bottom of one elbow with the open palm of the other hand means someone is cheap.

There is a fair amount of touching between men and men, men and women and women and women while conversing.