

**La Libertad, Ecuador
Cruisers' Port Guide**
(also Salinas and Puerto Lucia Yacht Club)



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**Note: Numbers refer to heading numbers, not page numbers!
Don't miss the map at the end of the document!!**

LaLibertad, Ecuador Cruiser's Port Guide

Welcome to LaLibertad, Ecuador. LaLibertad, a city of about 70,000 people, is located in the Province of Guayas and is the largest city on the Santa Elena Peninsula. Its neighboring city to the west is Salinas, an Ecuadorian beach resort. The local people are friendly, helpful and patient with poor Spanish speakers.

Compiled as a collaborative effort by those cruisers who have visited the area, the following notes are meant to serve as a guide for new arrivals. The original disk is on file with the marina management. If you find errors or omissions, we apologize and ask that you make corrections for future visitors.

1. Anchoring

- There is a designated vessel anchorage off LaLibertad and another off the town of Salinas; however, both areas have been restricted by the Port Captain. Contact the Port Captain on Channel 16 to get permission to anchor.
- The Salinas Yacht Club and its dinghy dock are not open to visiting yachts, but you can land your dinghy on the beach there, if necessary. The dinghy dock at Puerto Lucia Yacht Club can be used short-term for checking in and out only.

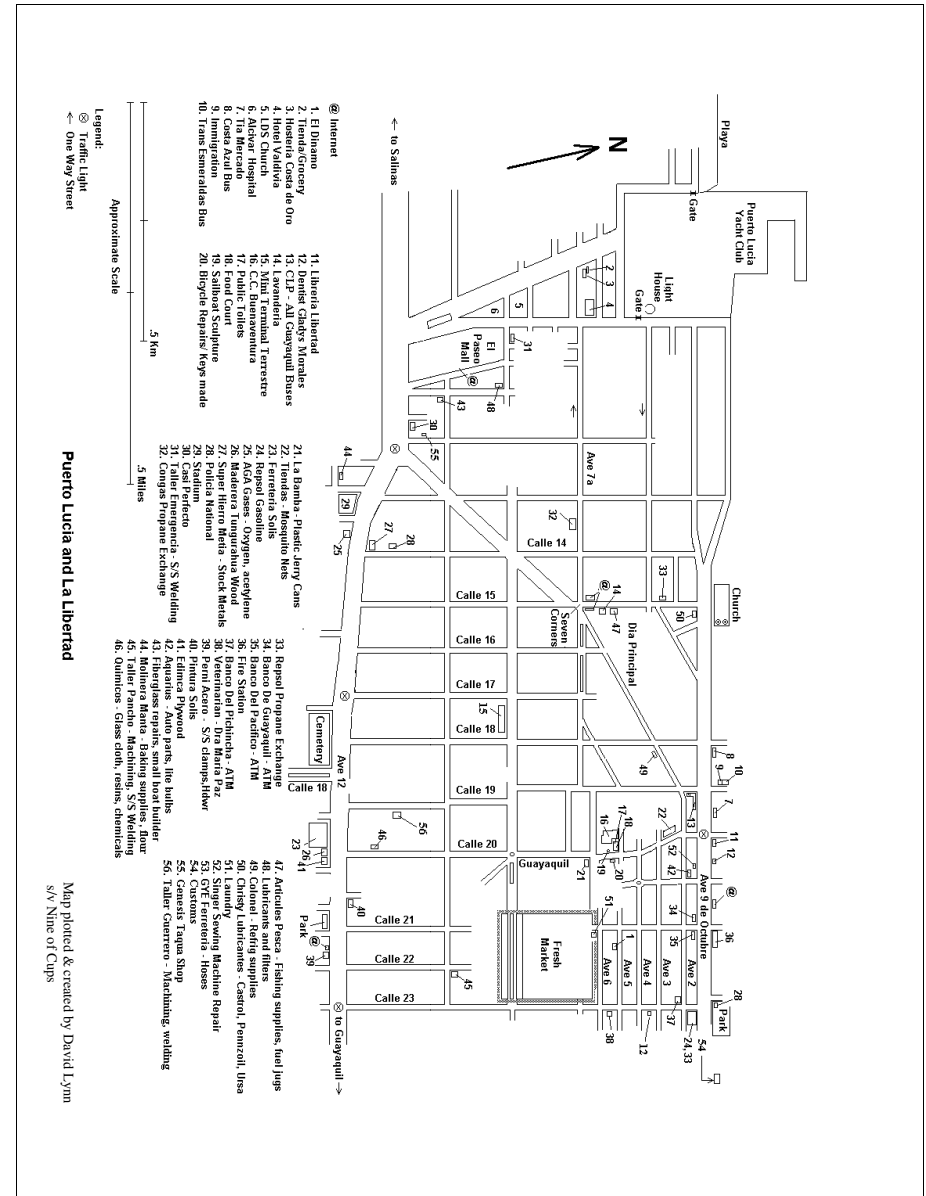
2. Arrival/check-in

- The Port Captain should be contacted on Channel 16, day or night, as soon as you are within radio range of Salinas, to announce your arrival into their jurisdiction.
- If you're planning to stay at PLYC, contact Puerto Lucia on arrival on Channel 19A. Marina office hours are 0800-1800 hrs daily. Some English is spoken. They will provide instructions for the current check-in procedures. Depending on the current rules and whether you are arriving on an international or national zarpe, you will usually be asked to anchor close to the marina until the Port Captain and other officials make an onboard inspection of your boat and paperwork. Once you have been cleared in, you still need to make trips to the various offices to complete the check-in process. See Customs/Immigration for more details. Note that the Port Captain and all other officials require transportation to and from the marina and there is a charge of ~\$15+ payable to the marina to cover this cost. On occasion, a health officer will inspect the boat at a charge of \$15.

- **Puerta Lucia Yacht Club (PLYC)** Lat S 02° 12.966', Long W 080° 55.319' is a beautiful, modern, secure marina facility offering many amenities and services.

• Directions for approach:

- Approach waypoint : Buoy at 02° 12' 00S, 080° 55' 00W. Approaching the marina, there is a flashing white lighthouse on the tip of the breakwater. There are red and green channel markers. Behind the marina, there are three distinct tall buildings, one with a pyramid shaped roof.



Thanks and Acknowledgement

This guide has been compiled for the benefit of our fellow cruisers by Marcie and David Lynn, *s/v Nine of Cups*, with contributions from *Cosmos*, *Puppeteer* and *Sea Host*. It was updated in 2006 by Cindy, *Oz*, and Nancy Zapf, *Halekai*, and most recently updated by Sherry, *Soggy Paws*. The map was plotted and created by David Lynn, *Nine of Cups*.

Special thanks to Galo Ortiz, Manager, Puerto Lucia Yacht Club; George & Marisol Stewart, Stewart Yacht Services.

Last, but not least, the disclaimer: All information is true and correct to the best of our knowledge, but the environment in Ecuador is fluid. All things are subject to change without notice.

An original of this guide is on file with the Puerto Lucia Yacht Club. Please make updates and additions to help others who follow in your wake have an enjoyable stay.

- **Caution:** There are shoals close inshore to the east and west of the marina entrance - approach should be made due south from the waypoint shown above. There are no military or restricted areas.
- Communications: Puerto Lucia Yacht Club monitors VHF Ch 19A continuously from 0800 to 1800 hrs local time.
- **Slips:**
 - There are 19 floating dock slips at the yacht club, but availability is limited. There are also 24 Med-moor tie-ups available at a lesser fee. You can phone, fax or e-mail a reservation in advance. The marina accepts American Express, Diner's Club, VISA & Master Card.
 - Costs for Med-moor or "on the hard" begin at \$360/month (40') (\$19.99/day) and are based on LOA. Discounts apply to multi-month stays.
 - Costs for floating dock slips are at a fixed rate of \$750/month (\$41.60 per day) regardless of length. This is expected to change.
 - All fees and services are subject to 12% IVA (sales tax).
- **Electricity:** Both 110V/60Hz and 220V/60Hz are available. Electricity is metered at the floating docks at 40¢/kwh. There is a charge of .25¢/kwh for electricity while "on the hard" and a 25¢/day charge while Med-moored.
- **Water** is metered on the hard and costs \$3.00/cubic meter. Though we have experienced no problems with the marina water, many cruisers opt to purchase purified drinking water in large 5-gallon containers at \$ 1.50/container at the marina office.
- **Security:** PLYC is a gated facility and very secure with 24-hour guard service. Though many cruisers walk, bike and take local buses with no problems, there have been some incidents in the neighborhood between the marina and the El Paseo Shopping Mall, and walking alone is not advisable. Keep valuables hidden on your person, with a small amount of cash in your pocket. The marina office or hotel reception will call a taxi for you (\$1 to El Paseo or downtown LaLibertad; \$2 to the SuperMaxi and \$3 to Salinas, each way).
- **Haul Out:** The marina maintains a 50-U.S. ton travel lift for haul-outs. There is a crane for unstepping the mast. There are about 40 "on the hard" spots available. Haul-out fees (up and down) are based on LOA and range from a minimum of \$300 (up to 40') to \$420 (60'). Add 90¢/ft over 60'.
- **Fuel:** Both diesel and gasoline are available (\$1.65/gallon). Yacht club rules forbid bringing fuel from the outside onto the marina property.

- **Toilets/Showers:** Men's and women's toilets are available behind the marina office and also in the marina clubhouse. Men's and women's hot water showers are modern and clean and located in the marina clubhouse. Shower keys are available from the clubhouse reception desk and a \$5 refundable key deposit is required.
- **Restaurant:** The club restaurant, La Gaviota, serves good quality breakfast, lunch and dinner at reasonable prices. Note that menu prices do **not** include 12% IVA or 10% service charge. Hours are:
 - 0800-1800 Mon-Thurs
 - 0800-2000 Fri-Sat
 - 0700-2000 Sunday

The restaurant stays open later during the busy season.

- **Other Amenities:**

- The marina is part of a private club, so marina users only have access to the bar and restaurant (La Gaviota); the rest of the premises, such as the swimming pool, tennis courts, etc., are off limits unless permission is granted to use them (ask at the Reception).
- The Club requests that proper attire and behavior be maintained at all times while using these facilities as they are shared with club members. The Club reserves the right to limit accessibility during busy times and to deny use of the facilities to boaters who do not adhere to dress code and behavior standards.
- A well-equipped gym is also available with modern equipment, locker rooms and saunas, included in the daily fee of \$5/day
- Hotel rooms can be rented; ask at the Reception for rates.
- Frozen foods can be stored in the restaurant freezer upon request.

- **Rules for Visitors:**

- Yacht Club rules specify that all visitors must be registered at the gate in advance and provide identification upon arrival. If friends show up at the gate unexpectedly, the guard will try to contact you. If they can't contact you, they will turn your visitors away.

- **General Information:**

- Dockside depths vary, but the average depth is 3 meters MLW; contact the marina office to address specific concerns.
- Tidal changes range about 1-2.4 meters.
- Sewage cannot be discharged on the hard or in the water.
- Occasionally, extreme high tides or offshore disturbances can cause water to come over the breakwater where boats are stored on the hard, especially opposite the

- **Electronic Market** across from Malecon: vast array of cheap DVDs, CDs.
- **DocuCentro** for copies including large chart size (~\$1.30 each). There are several throughout Guayaquil, but we found the most convenient to be:
 - Corner of Ycaza & Cordova
 - Garcia Moreno y 9 de Octubre across the street from Hotel Oro Verde (Have a great snack at the hotel's Deli Gourmet while waiting for your copies!).
- **Salon China**, good Chinese food, very clean; just out the door and left from Hotel Alexander.
- **Centro Viajero** – Travel agents; Karen and Douglas speak English; airline tix, travel info and packages to Galapagos. Tel: 2301283/2564064. Email: centrovi@telconet.net. Baquerizo Moreno 1119 at 9 de Octubre, Office 805, 8th Fl.
- **Hotels**
 - **Hotel Oro Verde**, Garcia Morena y 9 de Octubre. 5-star hotel. Ask Marisol Stewart to make the reservation for you at a considerable discount (~\$90/night) that includes sumptuous breakfast buffet and airport shuttle. Tel: 2327999, www.oroverdehotels.com.
 - **Hotel Alexander**, A/C, hot water, restaurant, ~\$28/night inc. breakfast; near Parque Centenario at Luque 1107 y Avenida Quito. Tel: 2532000/2532651. Email: hotelalexander@hotmail.com.
 - **Hotel Sol Del Oriente**, Lorenzo de Garaicoa 1243 and Clemente Ballén Guayaquil, Tel: 2532 067, clean, a/c comfortable rooms, cable TV, in center of town, \$45 inc. breakfast & tax. Restaurant, internet cafe in building.
 - Check out the **Sheraton & Hilton** for online internet specials sometimes as low as \$50/night with breakfast!
 - **Hostal Manso Boutique** – Malecon 1406 y Aguirre. 04-252-6644 Clean and comfortable rooms for \$30 per couple (shared bath). Booked via [Hostal World.com](http://HostalWorld.com) or reservas@manso.ec Right on the Malecon in Guayaquil in nice area.
- **Malls**
 - **See Ecuador Cruiser's Guide, Traveling Inland Ecuador for more**
 - **Mall del Sol**, near the airport; modern, lots of upscale stores, including Radio Shack.
 - **Policentro**, in the Kennedy suburb has a Radio Shack; there is also a post office on the second floor mezzanine level.

Guayaquil Bits and Pieces

Many things not available in LaLibertad are just a bus ride away in Guayaquil. There are city maps available for Guayaquil in most hotels in Guayaquil and also in the Lonely Planet Guide. Below is a short list of vendors and services compiled by cruisers. Please note that any shop or service provider you use outside of the PLYC should be monitored constantly. Stay with the repair until it is done.

- **Artisan's Market** (El Mercado de Artesania) – Loja & Moreno, open daily.
- **AquaPro S.A.** – Watermakers, but there are problems importing parts due to Customs costs. aquapro@telconet.com; Address: Chile 2815 y Venezuela
- **Talleres Unidos "Cevallos"** – Mechanical services; crude prop shop; can weld and machine any bronze. Address: Eloy Alfaro No. 1702 entre Argentina y Gral. Gomez. Tel: 240-0954.
- **Casilva** – Stainless steel and other metal stock. Eloy Alfaro 1410 y Letamendi. Tel: 2405151/2402624.
- **Mundo Marino** – Diving and fishing stuff; address: Argentina 200 y Eloy Alfaro
- **Navser Ltda** – Good assortment of marine supplies including 5200, Raycor filters, hoses, zincs; address: San Martin 302 y Chile Tel: 240-4736, 241-5751, 2409-1526, 240-1528; email: mundomarinogquilecu@hotmail.com
- **Pescaequipos s.a.** – Fishing supplies; address: Eloy Alfaro 1816 entre San Martin y Latamundi
- **Resortec Industria** – Stainless tempered work including cotter pins, springs of all sorts; will make custom items on short notice. Address: Aguirre 1419 y Jose de Antepara.
- **Torres Rosello** – Starter motors, bearings, brushes including sales and repair; the owners, Mark and Nilda, both speak excellent English and are very helpful to cruisers. Machala 918 y 9 de Octubre. Tel: 2328815/2322261/2526831/2526859.
- **Provedora Pesquera de Brisa** – Sampson yacht braid; Campbell chain; fenders. Address: Coronel 1619 y Portele.
- **La Casa del Cable** – All types of electric cable/wire. Baquerizo Moreno 1114 y 9 de Octubre. Some English is spoken. Tel: 2305465.
- **Ecuanoel S.A.** – Sigma bottom paint (~\$16/liter including tax sold in 5 or 20 liter cans). Km 10 via Daule, Atras Colegio Leonidas Garcia. Tel: 2110846/2110531/2111182/2111147. This is several miles outside town and requires a taxi.

Travel-lift launch area. Boaters are advised to secure anything on the ground that could be washed away.

- The *marineros* are friendly, polite and hard-working. Tips are not expected, but a few dollars to each upon hauling/launching is much appreciated. They are also very appreciative of anything useful you plan to dispose of, such as used clothing, etc. If you have no use for the cinema coupons given out at El Paseo, hand them to a *marinera*.

• **Contact Information:**

- Phone: 593-4-278-3180/3189/3190/3201
- Fax: 593-4-278-3180/3189/3190/3201 Ext. 407
- Email: marina@puertolucia.com.ec
- Website: www.puertolucia.com.ec

4. Laundry: PLYC has convenient laundry services available (wash/dry/fold), at reasonable prices (35¢/lb). You can leave your laundry at the Reception. There are also several *lavanderias*, one at Seven Corners in Libertad and another on the main road to Salinas. Usual costs are ~\$1.00/kilo for wash/dry/fold, their soap. For a small charge (\$1), the Salinas *lavanderia* will deliver the clean laundry back to the yacht club.

5. Internet: Internet is available near the Reception, and via wifi. The marina office will have the wifi connection information. You will need the wifi key AND the current firewall logon information. The wifi is considerably slower than the hard-wire connection available near reception. Otherwise, the closest internet café is TelcoNet in the El Paseo Shopping Mall at \$1.80/hour. There are several smaller internet cafes in LaLibertad Centro or along the way which come and go and range in price from \$.50-\$1.00 per hour.

6. Telephone: There is a public phone for local and international calls near the Reception. Phone cards may be purchased at the Reception. Check there for current phone rates. Phone booths for international calling are also available at TelcoNet in the El Paseo Shopping Mall. Right next door is Cabinas Telephonicas (with a Bell South sign) which has phone booths for both international as well as local calling. Rates here are fairly reasonable prices (25¢/minute to the U.S.).

Cell phones or cell phone sim cards with a 'prepaid' plan can now be easily purchased in Ecuador. The two major providers are Porta and Movistar, both available in the Paseo mall.

The international calling code for Ecuador is 593. When dialing a number in Ecuador outside of the LaLibertad area, a city code is required and these are usually posted by the phone booth. The city code is 4 for Guayaquil and 2 for Quito.

Cell phone numbers in Ecuador usually start with 08 and 09, followed by 7-digits. When dialing internationally, drop the leading zero and prefix the number with 593, the international calling code for Ecuador.

- There is a small shop “Genesis” just around the corner from Casi Perfecto which has excellent tagua carvings and spondylus (local shell) jewelry at great prices...well worth the trip. Watch the artisans at work and check out Panchito the owl.

53. Mosquito Netting Mosquitoes can be a real issue here. Good mosquito netting can be purchased at the shops going up the hill on Calle Guayaquil in downtown LaLibertad.

54. Nightlife

- **Choclo**, on the Malecon in Salinas, is recommended. The owner/bartender speaks English and has quite a repertoire of jokes. Things get going around 2200.

54. O-rings, gaskets – Hardware store at “Seven Corners”; also Perni Acero

55. Outboard motors, diesel engines – Jaime – he can be contacted thru Stewart Yacht Services.

- Outboard motor oil can be purchased at Lubrventas Boli, within walking distance, behind Paseo mall.
- Synthetic Engine Oil was not found in La Libertad, but can be purchased at Con Auto in Guayaquil at Ave Domingo Comin #1750, frente La Pradera 3. There is also a Con Auto store listed in Manta. This store also sells all types of oil and filters, Snap-On Tools, and generators.

56. Paints, varnish

- Local varnish and polyurethane can be purchased at the hardware store in the Hiper Market, El Paseo. (Note: little or no polyurethane was available 2009, certainly no ‘name brand’ boat varnish)
- There are several paint stores available in LaLibertad; consult the map.
- Sigma bottom paint (anti-fouling) is available in Guayaquil; see the Guayaquil section at the end of this guide.
- **Matecon** is the local Hempel Products Dealer. In La Libertad, on Via Libertad (the main road to Guayaquil, about 3 Km east of El Paseo mall). Ph: 278-7060, 278-4960. Will make ‘boat calls’ to estimate paint needs, and will take back excess paint (in unopened containers) if they do the estimating. Will deliver to the boat for a small fee.
- Contact Stewart Yacht Services for further information on painting and varnishing services.

57. Panama Hats – There is a kiosk in El Paseo and a couple of shops in Salinas and LaLibertad which sell “Sombreros Panama,” all of which are made in Ecuador including the ones you purchase in Panama. The best place for purchasing quality hats is in Cuenca or Montecristi.

- Panama Caribbean Net: 8107.0 0830 local time
- Breakfast Club: 7083.0 & 8297.0 0800 local time

10. Propane Tank: Propane is just called “gas” here (not *propano*). Prices are fixed by the government (2006 \$1.60/15kg, but increases are expected in the future). They use a special Ecuadorian fitting which you can buy locally, connect to a hose and attach to the other end of the fitting you need for your tank. You then gravity-decant from their 15 kg tank to yours. Several locations for propane are shown on the map. In 2009, the marina foreman (the guy who operates the lift) was doing refills for U.S. tanks for \$15.

11. Yacht services:

- **Stewart Yacht Services** – Canadian-born George Stewart has been providing a full range of yacht services and repairs at the Puerto Lucia Yacht Club since it opened in 1997. You can contact him through the marina, or by phone: (593) 9 977-8868 or email: systec@email.movistar.com.ec.
- George gives members of Seven Seas Cruising Association a 50% discount on high-pressure bottom cleaning. Provide a Bulletin with your name on it or have SSCA Home Base confirm your membership per email: office@ssca.org. You can join SSCA online for \$40 at www.scca.org; paperless option available.
- You may contract with outside service providers at your option, however outside service providers must be cleared with marina management before they are allowed inside the marina. Check with Sr. Galo Ortiz.

12. Beaches: PLYC has a private beach beside the hotel. There is a public beach just outside the gates of PLYC. There are also several public swimming beaches in Salinas.

13. Hailing Channel: Channel 19A is used for local communication; Channel 16 is used to contact the Port Captain.

14. Taxis: Taxis are everywhere. Two types of taxi service are available.

- A regular cab will charge \$1.00 from the marina to most locations in LaLibertad including the Mall and Centro. Trips to the laundromat or SuperMaxi on the way to Salinas is \$2; downtown Salinas will cost \$3.
- The second type of cab is usually yellow with a stripe painted on the hood and the word “RUTA” emblazoned on it. This cab works a specific route and takes several passengers at a time along a specified route, e.g., between El Paseo Mall and downtown Salinas. Usually 30¢/person for most places on the route.

NOTE: For security reasons, taxis are only allowed within the PLYC gates during daylight hours. After dark, taxis will not be admitted beyond the gates. Visitors must register at the gate and provide identification.

15. Buses: There are local and long distance buses available in LaLibertad.

- Local buses usually cost 20-30¢ each and run from downtown La Libertad throughout the city to Salinas and other towns on the Santa Elena peninsula. The buses can easily be flagged down. Ask the driver as you board whether your destination is serviced by his particular bus.
- Long distance buses include the following:
 - CLP, Costa Azul and Liberpesa buses all leave for Guayaquil from a single downtown station about every 5-10 minutes between about 0400 and 2000 daily. (~2½ hour ride) \$3.30/person.
 - Trans Esmeraldas offers one bus per day (2130) directly to Quito from its own downtown terminal (10-11 hour ride) \$8.00/person. Schedules change...check before leaving.
 - Mini Terminal Terrestre (see map) and offers regular bus service to locations on the peninsular and north up the Ruta del Sol.
 - Guayaquil to Quito: Best bus is Transportes Ecuador, in the main Guayaquil bus station. Nice air conditioned semi-cama direct buses leave hourly. Cost is \$9 pp.

16. Provisioning and Grocery Stores:

- **MiComisariato** is part of the HiperMarket located in the El Paseo Mall. It is clean, modern and well stocked. They accept Visa and Master Card with passport identification. You can buy a shopping card (\$30) good for one year which affords a few cents discount on most items sold in the grocery store (the question the cashier always asks you when you begin unloading your groceries is whether you have a discount card). If you plan to be in port for any length of time, it might be worthwhile. Cabs wait outside the mall and will drive you back to the marina for \$1-\$1.50. Store hours are 1000 – 2000 daily including Sundays.
- **SuperMaxi** is located on the road to Salinas about 2-3 miles from the marina. It is easily accessed by cab (\$2) or bus (25 cents). This store is modern, clean, well stocked and a bit more upscale than MiComisariato. They also offer a discount shopping card. Store hours vary with the season.
- The La Libertad **fresh market** is located off Calle Guayaquil and operates daily. They offer fresh produce, meat, eggs and a variety of household items at prices significantly less than the grocery stores. Quality varies. The **fish market** located just southeast of the fresh market has fresh fish and shrimp.
- The Don Piedra **butcher shop** at Mercado Nuevo has fresh chicken, beef and pork, and will cut to your specs. Go very early as they sell to restaurants.
- Any number of small *tiendas* offer basics such as water, beer, bread, colas, etc.

17. Restaurants

- **PLYC La Gaviota** – the marina restaurant is convenient and provides good breakfast/lunch/dinner at reasonable prices. See PLYC for more information.

44. Electrical repair - Stewart Yacht Services. PLYC uses and recommends Fausto Electronico 089240224

45. Epoxy & Resins are hard to find in Ecuador. Contact Stewart Yacht Services for further information. Sometimes George has extra he will sell to you.

46. Fiberglass & Repairs: Contact Stewart Yacht Services for further information.

47. Faxes – You can send and receive faxes at PLYC. Receiving is free and sending is the cost of the phone call. Stewart Yacht Services may also be used for faxes: receiving is free; sending is approximately \$3 depending on length and destination.

48. Hotels: There is a modern hotel at the yacht club which may have availability. Ask at Reception. There are also several hotels near the yacht club which can accommodate extra guests or provide a place to stay while boat work is being done.

- a. Hosteria Costa de Oro on the way to the Mall is a clean, friendly place and charges \$10/person/night. For longer stays, ask around the neighborhood outside the PLYC gates; many times low cost monthly rentals are available. Hotel Costa de Oro and
- b. Hotel Valdivia is also close and rooms range \$40+/night.

49. Importing to Ecuador: FEDEX has worked fine for mail and DHL for parts. There are courier services available. Ask Stewart Yacht Services for current recommendations. UPS in Guayaquil has experienced problems in the past. Beware: As of 2009, Ecuadorean Customs has been charging near 80% duty, with no recognition of 'Yacht in Transit'. However, suitcases of small parts stuffed between clothing has not elicited inspection or fees 3 times thru the airport. But they ARE looking for large and expensive items.

50. IVA (Taxes) The 12% IVA (sales tax) is levied on almost everything you buy including most menus, groceries, restaurant meals, hotel rooms, yacht services. Ask in advance to determine if the tax is included or not when a price is quoted.

51. Life Raft Certification – Available in Guayaquil. You can go through Stewart Yacht Services, or work with the liferaft services directly. There are 4 that can provide a liferaft repack in Guayaquil. In 2009, Soggy Paws and Elysian used Parfi in Guayaquil, traveling with liferafts via bus from La Libertad. Joffre Parfi, the son, speaks excellent English, and picked us up at the bus station in Guayaquil. www.parfi.com.ec Joffre's cell # is 09-996-2571. We watched the whole operation and selected which items needed replacing in our pack. Total cost for a 6-man raft: \$170 (we opted not to replace our slightly out-of-date flares).

52. Local crafts:

- There are several kiosks in downtown Salinas which sell crafts and souvenirs. The best market in all of Ecuador (in our estimation) is the Saturday market in Otavalo, north of Quito. There is also a good-sized Artisan's Market in Guayaquil.

- **Secreto de Abuelito (Grandma's Secret)** is available at MiComisariato and is a good remedy for cockroaches as well as a preventative. Look near the insecticides.

37. Computer Repair: There are computer repair shops in Libertad, but we have no experience with them. A trip to Guayaquil is probably your best bet or contact Stewart Yacht Services for recommendations. Note that most shops charge for an evaluation whether they fix the problem or not. Ask in advance. We saw an ad online for **F.G. Soluciones** in Guayaquil: <http://www.fgsoluciones.com/>

38. Copies – Libreria Libertad has a large, pink sign and is located on Avenida 9 de Octubre. They offer good copy services at about 5¢/copy for standard size. They also do binding and have the capacity to copy large charts (when toner is available). Otherwise, large copies can be done in Santa Elena across from the Church or in Guayaquil (see Guayaquil section). For small jobs, many local shops offer 3¢ copies.

39. Currency – Standard currency of Ecuador is the US \$.

40. Customs/Immigration/Port Captain

- Customs (Corporacion Aduana Ecuatorina CAE) is located on Ave. 9 de Octubre in Libertad and *sometimes* charges \$40 for boats entering from foreign countries.
- Immigration (*Migracion*) is located in downtown LaLibertad in a small second-floor office. There is a sign, but it's hard to read. The office is right next door to the TransEsmeraldas bus station. They can check you in and out, but cannot provide extensions; extensions must be requested in Guayaquil or Quito.
- The Port Captain's office (*Capitanía*) is located on the main road in downtown Salinas and is well marked. The hours are about 0900-1600 although the port captain is not always available. The cab drivers know where it is (\$2-3 cab ride).

41. Department Stores

- There are several specialty shops in El Paseo, but the **Rio Store** in the HiperMarket is best for general items like linens, housewares, pillows, t-shirts, etc. Also several small shops in downtown LaLibertad especially on Calle Guayaquil offer plastic ware, housewares, etc.
- **LaBamba** at the top of Calle Guayaquil at the entrance to the fresh market has a good selection of plastic ware including heavy-duty crates, plastic storage containers, crates and fuel jerry jugs.
- Note that the Malls in Guayaquil rival any in the U.S.

42. Dinghy repair/ services – Stewart Yacht Services

43. Dive tanks: EcoDive, Salinas; PLYC no longer has a working compressor to fill tanks. Stewart Yacht Services can also arrange hydro services in Guayaquil.

- **El Paseo Food Court** offers several fast food alternatives in a clean eating area. Included are KFC (by far the busiest of them all), Rock'n'Roll (hamburger joint), Comidas de Victor (local Ecuadorian food), pizza, Chinese food, Italian, seafood, ice cream, pastry shop.

- **Farallón Dillon** – A 10-minute cab ride to Ballenita east of LaLibertad, the upscale restaurant offers an intriguing nautical museum and an owner with fascinating tales from captaining ships up and down the South American coast. Fabulous view; beach access. Hotel rooms for \$42 including breakfast. Highly recommended and well known; shown on the "Ruta del Sol" map for tourists.

- **Un Lugar Casi Perfecto** – About two blocks east of El Paseo on the main road, this little restaurant offers friendly service and a fairly diverse breakfast, lunch and dinner menu with very reasonable prices which include IVA.

- **CC Buenaventura:** At the top of the hill on Calle Guayaquil, offers a large outdoor food court (Patio de Comidas) serving breakfast, lunch and dinner, both fixed and a la carte.

• Downtown Salinas

- There are several restaurants along the Malecon in downtown Salinas including a Dunkin' Donuts.
- For a treat, try the Sunday brunch at the Hotel Miramar at \$11/ person. Bring a towel and a swimsuit and use their pool for the day.
- **La Bella Vita** on the Malecon (Edif. Las Canarias): Varied menu, good food and nice atmosphere. Owner Salvatierra speaks English and is eager to assist cruisers.
- The Amazon on the Malecon is recommended (pizza, seafood, meats)
- Ipanema offers good paella.

18. Electronic Parts and Repair: There are several shops around town advertising electronic parts and repair; however, we have no experience with any of them.

- VG Electronica (Tel: 098155000) is recommended by Stewart Yacht Services.
- Fausto Electronico (Tel: 08-924-0224) was recommended by s/v Morning Calm 2009 for doing both onboard electrical diagnostic and component level repair on electronic equipment

19. Rigging: Contact Stewart Yacht Services for further information.

20. Marine Mechanic: Jaime; contact Stewart Yacht Services for further information

21. Stainless/Aluminum Welding & Repair:

- **Taller Emergencia** right next the El Paseo Mall offers good quality, on-time, reasonably priced welding services. He makes "house calls" and is

dependable. Agree on prices first, especially for house calls, since there may be a minimum charge to transport all of his equipment to the marina.

- **Taller Technico (Pancho)** does machining and stainless welding, but tends to be expensive. One block N of Via Libertad, and 3 blocks east of Solis Ferreteria. Was considerably more expensive than Guale on one job in 2009.
- **Soldadura Alumino (Juan Ramirez & Son Eddie)** Aluminum welding and machine shop. Small shop at Puerto Santa Rosa (the town between PLYC and Salinas), down where the fishing boats are. Off the main road to Salinas, turn right at the sign for 'Pescero Santa Rosa', go down the road 3-4 blocks, and as the road curves right, you turn left. Go right toward the port when this road splits. Last little building on the right before going into the port. Ph: 091864412 or 097562018. Rough work but inexpensive and friendly.
- **See also Machine Shop**

22. Hardware Stores:

There are several small *ferreterias* in downtown Libertad and on the main road to Libertad. In general, if you can bring a sample of what you're looking for, you'll have a much better chance of finding it. If a store doesn't have it, they'll probably be able to tell you where to get it. Ask them to write down the name of the store & location.

- **Aquarius Repuestos** – Auto light bulbs & parts, downtown
- **Technocolor** – paint, stain, sand paper
- **Solis** has three separate stores including a full-line *ferreteria*, a paint store and a stock metal store all in the same vicinity.
- **Ferrisariato** is part of the HiperMarket at El Paseo Shopping Mall and has a wide variety of hardware, paints, plumbing parts, marine plywood, etc.
- **For paint and varnishing, see also #58 below.**

23. Machine Shops:

- **Taller Guerrero** does machining and welding. Work has been satisfactory.
- **Taller Mechanico 'Guale'** NE of Paint store Matecon (see Bottom Paint, above) about 1 block, on a dirt road. Small machine shop run by Enrique, good work, very inexpensive.
- **Taller Technico (Pancho)** does machining and stainless welding, but tends to be expensive. 3 blocks east of Solis Ferreteria. Was considerably more expensive than Guale on one job in 2009.

24. Sail Repair: Contact **Stewart Yacht Services** for further information.

25. Haircuts Men/Women: There is a good unisex hair salon in the mall (\$6); there are also several *peluqueras* (hair salon/barbers) in downtown LaLibertad.

26. Keys Made – Hiper Market at El Paseo; also the bicycle shop at the top of the hill on Calle Guayaquil in downtown LaLibertad.

27. Bicycle parts & repair – Repuestos MG at the top of the hill on Calle Guayaquil

28. Refrigeration – Consult Stewart Yacht Services; also Colonel for refrigeration gases and some parts; **Angloecuatoriana** (Guayaquil) for compressors and repairs.

29. Veterinarian – Polyclinico Veterinario, Dra. Maria Paz Mora; provides check-ups, shots, International Health Certificates. Mixed reviews from some cruisers, we found her adequate for yearly cat check-up. Tel: 2784362. By appointment or walk-in or she will come to the marina for a "boat call."

30. Pets/Pet-sitting

- Dogs are not welcome at PLYC. Beware: poison is sometimes used to control the feral cat population. The boatyard cats can and do climb ladders!
- The *marineros* (especially Andres) will pet-sit and usually get about \$7.00/week for a daily check, watering, feeding and litter cleaning.

31. Air Conditioning: Contact Stewart Yacht Services for further information

32. Banks/ATMs – Banco de Guayaquil at El Paseo; four ATMs in the Mall; several banks and ATMs in downtown LaLibertad. Currently the ATM in the food court, **Banco del Pinchincha**, does not charge a transaction fee, but the others do (\$1.50).

33. Hose & Hose Fittings: Some hose available at El Paseo. Also try Perni Acero and Solis.

34. Batteries: There are several shops in downtown Libertad specializing in batteries. For gels or deep discharge, contact Stewart Yacht Services for further information.

35. Booze – There are some *licorerias* in downtown LaLibertad, but the grocery stores sell wines, beer and liquor as well. Prices for boxed Chilean wine is about \$4/liter. Bottled wine runs \$8-10+ on the average. Beer (Pilsener, Club, Clausen & Dorada) in cans runs \$15+/case. Hard liquor is not a bargain, but it's not outrageous either. E.g. 750 ml: Rum(local) \$2-5 Vodka: \$4.25 Scotch (JWRed): \$16+

36. Chemicals:

- **Quimicos** (chemicals) - there are a couple of these *tiendas* (the signs just read *quimicos*) in the same area which carry nitric acid, glass cloth, boric acid, resins and other chemicals.
- **Sufox**, a local brand name rust remover, works great and is available in the Paint Department of MiComisariato.