

In Sangolquí, the city where I live, one of the most famous dishes is hornado, which is basically pork baked in a wood oven. It comes with a kind of potato cupcakes (we call them tortillas de papa) and salad. It's delicious!

Two weeks ago, one of my American students wanted to eat hornado in a local market, so we went there.

As soon as we entered the food area, the situation went weird.

The vendors came up to us, and instead of asking what we were looking for, they started pulling us towards their food stalls.

It was uncomfortable not only for my students, but also for me.

And it got worse

While we were walking through the food court, a couple of women asked me where my students are from, so I answered they are from the US.

— “Parecen chinos” (they look Chinese), the women said.

And my students, whose Spanish is good enough to understand that, felt even more uncomfortable.

Their parents are from Asia, so yes, they don't look like the American stereotype, but it wasn't necessary to say that, and I let the women know.

At the end my student chose a place to eat hornado, we sat there while she ate, and as soon as she finished we left the market.

Not all the people in Ecuador behave that way, I promise, but you might find them from time to time. Consider that part of the experience if it ever happens to you.

Despite that, the food in that market is a good option if you want to try something traditional, and of course, there are other places where the vendors will treat you better.

If some day you come to Ecuador and want to visit my city (it's next to Quito, the capital of Ecuador), I can take you to try hornado or some other typical food.

Service available only for my students.

[Learn Ecuadorian Spanish with me.](#)

P.D. Last week I went to the same market with an Ecuadorian friend, and the vendors were even more insistent. At the end we went to eat salchipapas, another typical dish, in a different place. It's just fries with a sausage, and ketchup and mayonnaise. It's really simple but delicious. If you come to Quito, you should try that too.

Spanish with Andrés

La Florida, Sangolquí
Ecuador

You received this email because you signed up on our website or made a purchase from us.

[Unsubscribe](#)

