The Galapagos Islands

8 DAYS OF WONDER & AMAZEMENT

* Think biology class – with deck chairs *
Dear W&L Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

I’m pleased to invite you to join us as we explore the Galapagos Islands. Designated the first UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978, the Galapagos Islands have been described as a “unique living museum and showcase of evolution.” The Islands are home to a fascinating array of wildlife inhabiting an unspoiled ecosystem, and living in unusual harmony with their human visitors.

This exciting journey features a day of guided touring in Quito, Ecuador, plus a comfortable cruise through the archipelago with intimate access to endemic species. Expert naturalists will guide you through the wonders of this national park, whale sanctuary, and marine reserve.

As on our previous visits to the Galapagos, we’ll sail aboard the Isabela II, a 40-guest vessel with spacious cabins, delicious local cuisine, and a staff dedicated to ensuring both your comfort and maximum enjoyment of this truly extraordinary destination. You’ll appreciate that a small ship allows for flexibility in the itinerary to enhance opportunities for wildlife viewing, as well as access to exclusive ports.

Stateroom availability is limited. With savings of up to $800 per couple, we anticipate that this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Reserve today by calling (540) 458-8723 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Sincerely,

Robert Fure, Ph.D.
Director of Lifelong Learning
Feel the thrill of encountering the flora and fauna that famously inspired Darwin—and in his footsteps, generations of nature lovers.

This archipelago, from which Darwin conceived his theory of evolution by natural selection, is one of the richest marine ecosystems in the world.

With fascinating wildlife that exists from the ocean floor to the skies above the sea, discover for yourself the captivating diversity that inhabits these remarkable islands.
Your 8-Day Itinerary (Subject to change)

Day 1: En Route / Arrive Quito, Ecuador
Overnight: Casa Gangotena – Quito

Day 2: Quito (B,L,R)
Guided walking tour of Old Town, market shopping, Jesuit church of La Compañía, Casa del Alabado Archaeological Museum
Overnight: Casa Gangotena – Quito

Day 3: Quito / Flight to Baltra / Santa Cruz – Embarkation (B,L,D)
Giant tortoises in Santa Cruz Highlands, Puerto Ayora
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 4: Floreana (B,L,D)
Historic Post Office Barrel, snorkeling or kayaking, Punta Cormorant beach stroll, green sea turtle nests
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 5: Española (B,L,D)
Punta Suárez hike, Gardner Bay, sea lion colony, glass-bottom boat ride
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 6: San Cristóbal (B,L,D)
Hiking and wildlife viewing at Punta Pitt, panga ride along the shores of Cerro Brujo, snorkeling or kayaking, farewell dinner
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 7: San Cristóbal – Disembarkation / Flight to Guayaquil (B,L aloft)
Overnight: Wyndham Hotel – Guayaquil

Day 8: Guayaquil / Depart for U.S. (B)

Activity Level: Guests should be sure-footed on stairs and able to walk at least one mile on rocky, volcanic, and uneven ground, as some nature hikes will be on irregular and steep terrain. Guests should also be comfortable managing beach landings and boarding small vessels, both from shore and the deck of Isabela II. Maximum elevation: 9,350 feet in Quito, Ecuador

Program Highlights

- During a full day tour of Quito, marvel at the gold leaf interior of the Jesuit Church of La Compañía—a fine example of the mix of European influences and indigenous art called the Baroque school of Quito; enjoy a lunch of Ecuadorian specialties; and view a curated collection of pre-Columbian art.
- Observe with remarkable proximity the diversity of endemic species like the Nazca, red- and blue-footed boobies; giant tortoises; marine iguanas; and the famous Darwin’s finches.
- Discover the myriad of aquatic wildlife in the clear waters of the world’s second largest marine reserve.
- Snorkel with sea lions, colorful tropical fish, and sea turtles—or observe them through a glass bottom boat.
- Explore secluded inlets and stroll sweeping white sand beaches such as Gardner Bay, where sea lions lounge and Española mockingbirds sing.
- Visit dramatic and historic places, including the lush highlands of Santa Cruz Island, the perfect habitat to see the Galapagos Giant Tortoise, and Cerro Brujo, one of the first sites visited by Charles Darwin.
- What’s included: A welcome reception in Quito, 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 4 dinners including a farewell dinner; all excursions and presentations; complimentary use of kayaks, paddle boards, shorty wetsuits, and snorkeling equipment; Galapagos National Park entrance fee and transit card; internal air travel (from Quito to the islands on day 3, and return to Guayaquil on day 7); gratuities to local guides, drivers in Quito and Guayaquil, and hotel porters; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

All hotel accommodations throughout subject to change.

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner, R=Reception)
Isabela II

The 40-guest capacity of Isabela II provides 21 staterooms with spacious, comfortable accommodations and en suite facilities.

- **Standard**
  Full-size bed, window, private bathroom with shower.
  128 sq. ft.

- **Classic Twin**
  Two twin beds, view window, private bathroom with shower.
  139 sq. ft.

- **Classical Double**
  Full-size bed, view window, daybed, private bathroom with shower.
  139 sq. ft.

- **Master Suite**
  Queen bed, view window, wardrobe, private bathroom with shower.
  170 sq. ft.

**Casa Gangotena – Quito**

Before embarkation, stay at 5-star Casa Gangotena. Located across from Plaza San Francisco in the heart of Quito’s Spanish Colonial Old Town, the hotel offers easy access to the rich culture, tradition and charm of the city’s historic center.

**Wyndham Hotel – Guayaquil**

Conveniently located just 3 miles from José Joaquín de Olmedo airport, this property offers deluxe accommodations for the last night of the program. Nearby are museums, gardens, shopping, and restaurants of the Malecón 2000, the boardwalk overlooking the Guayas River.

**Your Expedition Leader**

Viewing the Galapagos Islands alongside an Orbridge Expedition Leader is a special experience. While observing wildlife, they will offer expert descriptions of methods of survival and behaviors. Together on panga rides, nature walks, and aboard the Isabela II, you will gain understanding of the endangered species who inhabit the waters and land of the archipelago.
The breathtaking surroundings of the Mashpi Rainforest Biodiversity Reserve look and feel like a dream—misty clouds, crashing waterfalls, and endemic species of wildlife found in the Ecuadorian Chocó, one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Take the unparalleled opportunity to visit both a cloud forest and a rainforest—each rich with a myriad of flora and fauna species, in every layer—from below the forest floor to above the canopy.

**What's Included**

- One night accommodations at Casa Gangotena in Quito and two nights accommodations at award-winning Mashpi Lodge
- 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 2 dinners
- Entrance to Mashpi Reserve
- Dragonfly aerial tram experience
- Full guiding services including interpretation on all activities and experiences within the reserve, including use of spotting scopes and binoculars
- Specialized lectures and field presentations on research conducted in the reserve by local experts
- All transportation for excursions using vehicle transport in the reserve; and all gratuities and porterage
- Group transfers from Quito Mariscal Sucre International Airport to Casa Gangotena during suggested arrival times, from Casa Gangotena to Mashpi Lodge, and return to Quito to join the main program

**Pre-Tour Itinerary** (subject to change)

**Day +1:** En Route / Arrive Quito, Ecuador  
Overnight: Casa Gangotena

**Day +2:** Mashpi Lodge / Mashpi Reserve (B,L,D)  
Morning drive to Mashpi, forest activities, night walk  
Overnight: Mashpi Lodge

**Day +3:** Mashpi Lodge / Mashpi Forest (B,L,D)  
Leisure time, forest exploration, lectures  
Overnight: Mashpi Lodge

**Day +4:** Mashpi / Quito / Main Program (B,L)  
Late morning group transfer to Quito to join the main program
Highlights & Inclusions

• Seek out temples and ancient sites dotting the Sacred Valley and Cusco, each a vestige of pre-Columbian history that offers an in-depth understanding of the Incan empire.

• Visit Ollantaytambo, where Inca descendants continue to inhabit the largely unchanged homes of their ancestors.

• Experience the magic of a sunset on the “top of the world,” a traditional Peruvian lunch hosted by a local family, and an Andean Shamanic healing ceremony.

What’s included:
- 5 nights choice accommodations including a private Day Room in Lima on Day 13
- Meals including 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 4 dinners
- Flights between Lima and Cusco on Days 9 and 13
- Fully guided tours and field presentations from local experts
- All ground excursion transportation, including Vistadome train through the Urubamba Valley
- Gratuities to guides, drivers, and waiters for included meals
- Airport transfers, including porterage, for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

Max elevation: 11,200 ft. in Cusco, Peru

Post-Tour Itinerary (subject to change)

Day 8: Guayaquil / Flight to Lima, Peru
Morning at leisure in Guayaquil, evening arrival to Lima
Overnight: Wyndham Costa del Sol – Lima Airport

Day 9: Lima / Flight to Cusco / Sacred Valley (B,L,D)
Morning flight to Cusco, lunch with sweeping view of the Sacred Valley, explore the colorful markets of Pisac
Overnight: Sonesta Posadas del Inca – Yucay

Day 10: Sacred Valley / Machu Picchu (B,L,D)
Stroll Ollantaytambo, scenic Vistadome train to Machu Picchu, guided tour of “The Lost City of the Incas”
Overnight: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

Day 11: Machu Picchu / Sacred Valley / Cusco (B,L,D)
Morning guided tour with time to hike at your own pace, Vistadome train to Cusco, afternoon at leisure
Overnight: Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel

Day 12: Cusco / Saqsayhuaman / Kenko / Villa Tipón (B,L,D)
Walk through Cusco, Qorikancha Sun Temple, special farewell dinner
Overnight: Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel

Morning flight to Lima, traditional Peruvian lunch, depart for U.S.
Day Room: Hotel Estelar Miraflor – Lima

Optional Post-Tour
Machu Picchu

Travel to the mist-shrouded mountain citadel of the Incas. So remote and inaccessible that it was left untouched by the Spanish conquistadors, Machu Picchu was unknown to the outside world until Hiram Bingham rediscovered it in 1911.
The Galapagos Islands

FEBRUARY 19-26, 2020
Mashpi Lodge Pre-Tour: February 16-19, 2020
Machu Picchu Post-Tour: February 26 - March 2, 2020

★ Special group rate; limited offer. Rates are per person, based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Internal airfare on days 9 & 13; airfare otherwise not included. Airfare from main program (Guayaquil) to post-tour (Lima), will be charged additionally at $740 per person. Machu Picchu airfare between the mainland and the Galapagos Islands is included; airfare otherwise not included. Post-tour rate includes internal airfare between Lima and Cusco. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.

A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per room will be sent upon receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.

Stateroom Category | Standard Rate | Special Rate*
-------------------|----------------|----------------
Standard           | $5,992         | $4,995
Classic Double     | $6,492         | $5,695
Classic Twin       | $6,992         | $5,995
Master Suite       | $7,692         | $7,395
Single (Standard)  | $8,399         | $7,995

Mashpi Lodge Pre-Tour*: $1,495 I Single $1,995
Machu Picchu Post-Tour*: Standard $3,595 I Deluxe $3,995 I Single $4,995

Airfare between main program and post-tour is an additional $740 per person.

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee ("Cancellation Fee") as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge after February 7, 2020; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between February 1 and May 6, 2020, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person per program for extensions; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between February 15 and May 6, 2020, the Cancellation Fee will include the full program (registration, airfare, hotel, food and beverage, activities, and transportation) and will amount to $740 per person.

Cancellation of any or all portions of the program after March 15, 2020, is subject to a 100% Cancellation Fee.


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What Guests Are Saying...

We are both professional naturalists at a large museum with research and educational components, and we conduct field excursions for public groups. We truly appreciate the logistical and technical expertise necessary to conduct this excellent trip. Thanks to Orbridge for a wonderful honeymoon!
~Alvin B. & Jan W., Raleigh, NC

It was a fabulous trip—one of the best in our history of travels. It is obvious that your company put a lot of thought and planning into this adventure.
~Paul P., Topeka, KS

The entire trip exceeded our expectations in every sense of the word. Great program, ship, crew, and naturalists.
~Lawrence C., Lincoln City, OR