



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



JANUARY 24-31, 2018

Special Rate

SAVE MORE THAN \$800

per couple

The Galapagos Islands

8 DAYS OF WONDER
& AMAZEMENT



** Think biology class – with deck chairs **

Howdy, Ags!

Join fellow former students and friends 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.” They are home to a fascinating array of wildlife inhabiting an unspoiled ecosystem, living in harmony with their human visitors.

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

Accommodations for this adventure are aboard *Isabela II*, a 40-guest vessel with spacious cabins, local cuisine, and a staff dedicated to ensuring your comfort as well as maximum enjoyment of this truly extraordinary destination and its diverse inhabitants.

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

Reserve today online at <http://texas-am.orbridge.com>, by calling (800) 633-7514 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Gig ‘em,

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D.
Director of Travel Programs

Free Expedition Library

AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by **June 15, 2017**, to receive the **FREE** Orbridge Expedition Library we've assembled for this program.

This exclusive gift is to thank you for joining us early. Guests who reserve after the specified date may purchase libraries. Call for details.





Discover the Galapagos

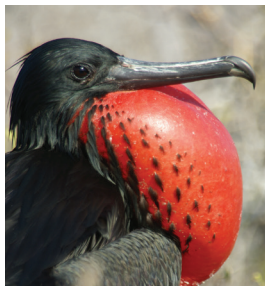
—intriguing islands of limitless natural wonders

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*

- Day 1:** En route / arrive Quito, Ecuador
Overnight: Hilton Colon – 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: Hilton Colon – 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)

Optional Extension: Days 8-13 in Machu Picchu, Cusco & the Sacred Valley

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

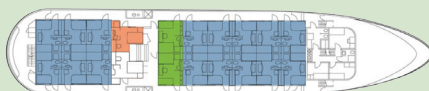
- During a full day tour of Quito, marvel at the gold leaf interior of the Jesuit Church of La Compañía—a fine example of the mix of European influences and indigenous art called the Baroque school of Quito; enjoy a lunch of Ecuadorian specialties; and view a curated collection of Pre-Columbian art.
- 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; flights between Quito, the Galapagos Islands, and Guayaquil on Days 3 and 7; gratuities to local guides, drivers in Quito and Guayaquil, and portage at hotels; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

*Subject to change.



Isabela II

The 40-guest capacity of *Isabela II* provides 20 staterooms with spacious, comfortable accommodations and en suite facilities.



Cabin deck



Main deck



Standard

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



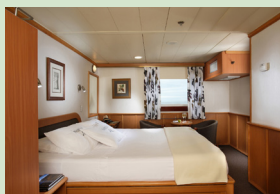
Classic Twin

Two twin beds, view window, private bathroom with shower. 139 sq. ft.



Classic Double

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

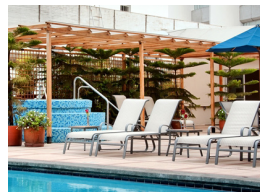
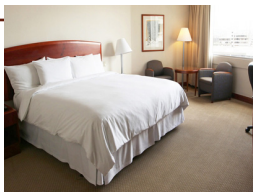


Master Suite

Queen bed, view window, wardrobe, private bathroom with shower. 170 sq. ft.

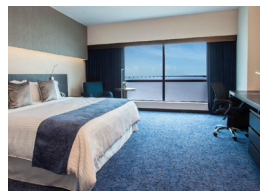
HILTON COLON – QUITO

On the first two evenings, you will stay at the Hilton Colon. This elegant hotel is located in the city center's bustling Avenida Amazonas, and it is a 10-minute walk to Quito's Spanish Colonial Old Town—a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



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, your Expedition Leader 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.



Orbridge



Optional Extension

Machu Picchu, Cusco, & the Sacred Valley

Travel to the mist-shrouded citadel of the Incas on this deluxe extension to Machu Picchu, Cusco, and the Sacred Valley.

Extension Itinerary*

- 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 Boutique Hotel – Cusco
- Day 12:** Cusco / Saqsayhuaman / San Blas / Villa Tipón (B,L,D)
Walk through Cusco, Qorikancha Sun Temple, special farewell dinner
Overnight: Aranwa Boutique Hotel – Cusco
- Day 13:** Cusco / Flight to Lima / Depart for U.S. (B,L)
Morning flight to Lima, traditional Peruvian lunch, depart for U.S.
Day Room: Casa Andina Select Miraflores – Lima

Extension Highlights

- 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; 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; and airport transfers, including portage, for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

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

The Galapagos Islands

JANUARY 24-31, 2018
 Machu Picchu Extension: Jan. 31 - Feb. 5, 2018

Reserve your space today!

- Option 1:** Reserve online now at <http://texas-am.orbridge.com> or call (800) 633-7514.
- Option 2:** Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge, LLC.

Cabin Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Standard	\$4,899	\$4,495
Classic Double	\$5,399	\$4,995
Classic Twin	\$5,799	\$5,395
Master Suite	\$7,199	\$6,795
Single (Standard)	\$7,399	\$6,995

MACHU PICCHU EXTENSION

Cabin Category	Standard Rate	Special Rate*
Standard	\$3,799	\$3,395
Deluxe	\$4,199	\$3,795
Single	\$5,099	\$4,795

Airfare between main program and extension is an additional \$690 per person.

Guest Information:

Guest #1: _____ Class Year _____
 Guest #2: _____ Class Year _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____
 Category Preference: 1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____

Deposit:

(#) _____ guests joining program (\$850/person) +
 (#) _____ guests joining extension (\$500/person) = **Total deposit: \$** _____
 Extension Category (choose one): Standard Deluxe Single

Deposit Payment:

Check enclosed Online Check/ACH MasterCard/Visa American Express Discover
 Card #: _____ Exp. date: _____ CVV: _____
 Name (as printed on card): _____
 Billing address (if different from above): _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at <http://terms.orbridge.com> and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail or fax reservation form and deposit to: Traveling Aggies, The Association of Former Students
 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, TX 77840
 Fax: (979) 845-9263

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of \$1,700 per person for the Antarctica program and \$850 per person for all other programs, a deposit for any extension(s), and any non-refundable advanced payments, payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card, is due at the time of registration. Final payment, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds and due no later than 120 days prior to the Antarctica program and 90 days prior to all other scheduled program departure dates. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as "Payments."
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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 275 or more calendar days prior to the scheduled departure date, all deposits will be fully refunded; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 274 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be \$500 per person per program and \$300 per person per program for extensions; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person per program including any extension; (d) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge on the final payment due date or closer to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

For complete Terms & Conditions, visit <http://terms.orbridge.com> | Copyright © 2017 Orbridge, LLC | www.orbridge.com | (866) 639-0079

*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 between the mainland and the Galapagos Islands is included; airfare otherwise not included. Extension rate includes internal airfare between Lima and Cusco on days 9 & 13; airfare otherwise not included. Airfare from main program (Guayaquil) to extension (Lima), will be charged additionally at \$690 per person. Machu Picchu Deluxe Category includes room upgrades at the following properties: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, Aranwa Boutique Hotel - Cusco, and Casa Andina Select Miraflores - Lima. Upgrade availability is limited. **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.





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Special Traveling Aggies Rate: **Save more than \$800**
per couple

What Guests Are Saying...

We will forever cherish our amazing memory of trips taken with the Traveling Aggies, as well as wonderful new friendships we have made! Now, whenever we travel on 'non-Aggie' trips, we realize nothing can compare!

~Randy '74 & Gail Parker

We have done several trips with the Traveling Aggies, and just can't say enough about how wonderful it is to have our instant family traveling with us. And to have everything arranged so that we know we're getting the best option is terrific! So much fun!

~Robert '73 & Linda '75 Flesher

I really enjoy traveling with other Aggies. It doesn't matter what classes we are, we have a great thing in common: Texas A&M!

~Marta Hollowell '82

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The Association of Former Students
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by June 15, 2017**