

**Traveling Aggies** 

A PROGRAM OF The Association of Former Students

# GALÁPAGOS NOVEMBER 2-11, 2018 WITH AN EXTENSION TO PERU

ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ENDEAVOUR II



#### HOWDY, AGS!

There is nowhere else on Earth like Galápagos. These iconic islands are home to endemic wildlife that has never developed a fear of humans due to their isolation. You will be able to come very close to these beautiful creatures. You will also experience a vibrant and unique undersea as well as diverse geological wonders, from stark volcanic landscapes to lush, green highlands. On this expedition, you'll be immersed in the place that inspired Charles Darwin's *The Origin of Species*.

Galápagos is ideal for active exploration, and every day will deliver new adventures—kayak along rocky shores keeping watch for passing sea turtles, snorkel with playful sea lions, hike lava fields crowded with basking marine iguanas, or take a sunset Zodiac cruise around islands teeming with birdlife. You'll travel aboard the *National Geographic Endeavour II*, a new expedition ship equipped with a suite of cool tools that lets you experience the islands with all your senses.

You'll be joined by a veteran team of naturalists—many of whom were born and raised in the islands—to deeply enhance your understanding and appreciation for this exceptional destination. You'll also benefit from exploring with a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, a specially trained naturalist who will be at your side in the field and on the ship to improve your skills and ensure you go home with incredible photos.

A Galápagos expedition is a transformative experience and a lifelist must. I hope you will join us to discover these magical islands, November 2-11, 2018. Then why not take advantage of your proximity and join the optional post-voyage extension to Machu Picchu and Peru's Land of the Inca or the pre-voyage extension exploring Ecuador's Tropical Andes & Colonial Quito. **To reserve your place, please call us at 979-845-7514 or 800-633-7514, or return the enclosed reservation form.** 

Gig 'em!

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Jennifer Bohac '87, Ph.D. Director of Travel – Outreach and Engagement The Association of Former Students

#### FREE AIR

Book by July 31, 2018, and receive free round-trip economy group air from Miami to Galápagos or Galápagos and Peru.

Cover photo: Blue-footed booby mother and chicks. © Sven-Olof Lindblad Opposite: Kicker Rock at sunset, Galápagos Islands. © Marco Ricca Ship's Registry: Ecuador











# SEE THE BEST OF GALÁPAGOS UP CLOSE



Sea lion is unfazed by young photographer.

The vast number of animals living in the Galápagos archipelago is astonishing, and a major reason you have chosen to travel to this remote part of the world. Where else on the planet can you get close to the wildlife in the context of no fear at all? This is a marvelous experience for the human

spirit and the itinerary ensures that you will have it often—exploring the key islands in the archipelago and seeing the iconic species that make this region so unique.

You'll come eye-to-eye with the famous giant tortoises roaming in the wild. Encounter blue-footed boobies nesting along a trail. Stand paces away from courting, red-throated frigatebirds. Watch your footing to avoid disturbing a sea lion lounging on a white-sand beach. And swim with penguins, marine iguanas, and playful sea lions—experiences that can transform lives.

# HAVE THE BEST UNDERSEA EXPERIENCE

To enhance your understanding of Galápagos' vibrant undersea, you'll have the opportunity to snorkel almost every day, sometimes two times a day. And snorkeling in Galápagos is fun! It means encountering sea turtles, sea lions, and penguins, too. Prefer to stay dry? You can peer beneath the surface from the comfort of a glass-bottom boat. You'll



also travel with an undersea specialist assigned to capture and present vivid underwater video—to ensure that everyone can enjoy the wonders of Galápagos that lie beneath the ship.

*Opposite page (clockwise from top): Guest takes advantage of Galápagos photo ops; Galápagos sea lion enjoying the sunset; snorkeler photographs a penguin gliding through the water; flamingo preening; Galápagos giant tortoise.* 







# THE BEST BASE CAMP FOR EXPLORATION

The 96-guest National Geographic Endeavour II is newly refitted and equipped for 21st-century expedition travel. Gathering places like the expansive decks, welcoming lounge, and gracious dining room contribute to the esprit de corps that is a hallmark of your expedition. Plus cosseting cabins provide the perfect ending to active days.



*Endeavour II* is well-equipped for adventures off ship, with a suite of tools for exploration—Zodiacs, kayaks, paddleboards, and complete snorkeling gear for all sizes. You will have the most active, engaged, and up-close experience of Galápagos possible.

# SEE & DO MORE WITH THE BEST TEAM

Your handpicked expedition team is made up of engaging naturalists born and bred in the Galápagos, and others who moved to the islands decades ago. They have a deep understanding of all aspects of Galápagos' natural and human history, and are experts in ornithology, geology, zoology, the undersea, and conservation. Your time with them will greatly enhance your understanding of this remote archipelago.

A Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor is aboard to help you take advantage of the myriad photo opportunities. He or she is not only a skilled photographer—trained to help you understand your camera and improve your skills—but also a naturalist who can guide you in capturing the incredible wildlife behavior on display right in front of you.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Naturalist points out wildlife during Zodiac outing; take advantage of stand-up paddleboarding; kayaking is a great way to explore on your own; guest photographing marine iguanas up close.

## GALÁPAGOS

#### 10 DAYS/9 NIGHTS-ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ENDEAVOUR II



xplore the legendary Galápagos Islands aboard a new 96-guest
 expedition ship, well equipped for actively experiencing the islands'
 wildlife and wonders.

#### DAY 1: U.S./GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR

Depart for Guayaquil and upon arrival, transfer to the Hotel Hilton Colón.

#### DAY 2: GUAYAQUIL/GALÁPAGOS

This morning, fly to the Galápagos Islands and board the ship. After lunch, begin your exploration of the islands and their diverse wildlife. (B,L,D)

#### DAYS 3-8: EXPLORING THE GALÁPAGOS

Listed below are the islands we plan to visit during this expedition.\* (B,L,D Daily)

#### ISLA ESPAÑOLA

See swallow-tailed gulls, Española mockingbirds, boobies, and other seabirds on this birder's paradise. Walk among vivid green and red marine iguanas and unique lava lizards, and observe sea lions up close on a pristine white sand beach.

#### ISLA FLOREANA

Land on an olivine green-tinted beach at Punta Cormorant, where flamingos and shore birds feed in a shallow lagoon, and sea turtles nest on a beach across the peninsula. Snorkel among sea lions at Champion

Islet. Later, paddleboard or kayak along the shore, and for those interested, you can visit Post Office Bay, founded by whalers in the 18th century.

#### ISLA SANTA CRUZ

Santa Cruz is home to the Charles Darwin Research Station; learn about the science done here and visit the neighboring captive breeding program for Galápagos giant tortoises, by their partners in conservation, at the Galápagos National Park. Later, after lunch in the highlands, search for wild Galápagos tortoises in their native habitat.



#### ISLA DAPHNE MAJOR

Circumnavigate this dramatic volcanic island, famous as the site of Peter and Rosemary Grant's groundbreaking study of Darwin's finches, on a day that includes a hike at Cerro Dragon on nearby Santa Cruz, and opportunities to snorkel, kayak, and explore marine life by Zodiac at offshore islets.



#### ISLA BARTOLOMÉ

Walk to the top of Bartolomé's volcanic cone for a stunning view of Pinnacle Rock and the surrounding golden sand beaches. After the hike, immerse yourself among schools of multicolored reef fish. You may also have the opportunity to swim with Galápagos penguins. Visit Sombrero Chino, the nearby islet in the shape of a Chinese hat, where you can take a Zodiac ride along the Sullivan Bay lava flow and may also kayak and paddle-board.

#### ISLA GENOVESA

Sail into a flooded caldera, walk among swallow-tailed gulls, red-footed boobies, and Nazca boobies and keep a lookout for hunting short-eared owls. Ride Zodiacs, kayak along the caldera, and snorkel among large schools of parrot fish at this magical place.

#### DAY 9: GALÁPAGOS/DISEMBARK/GUAYAQUIL

After breakfast, disembark the ship and fly to Guayaquil. The evening is at your leisure at the Hotel Hilton Colón. (B)

#### DAY 10: GUAYAQUIL/U.S.

Depart Guayaquil this morning, arriving home the same day. (B)

\* Please note: All ship itineraries are subject to Galápagos National Park regulations. This expedition, which travels between Isla San Cristóbal and Isla Baltra, includes Isla Santa Cruz and a handpicked selection of these and other visitor sites.

#### PRE-VOYAGE EXTENSION: TROPICAL ANDES & COLONIAL QUITO

Experience more of Ecuador on a six-day adventure to colonial Quito and the Chocó, one of the world's top biodiversity hotspots, featuring Mashpi, a National Geographic Unique Lodge of the World. Call for details.

## GALÁPAGOS + AN EXTENSION TO MACHU PICCHU & PERU'S LAND OF THE INCA

16 DAYS/15 NIGHTS-ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ENDEAVOUR II



s magnificent as the Galápagos Islands are for wildlife, so is Peru from a cultural and archaeological perspective. Take advantage of your proximity to explore Peru's Sacred Valley of the Inca, majestic Machu Picchu, and the winding, colonial streets of Cusco. Gain insights from National Geographic historian Peter Frost.

#### DAYS 1-8: AS PER GALÁPAGOS ITINERARY ON PAGES 6-7

#### DAY 9: GALÁPAGOS/GUAYAQUIL/LIMA, PERU

Depart Galápagos this morning and fly to Lima, Peru via Guayaquil, arriving in the evening. Overnight at the comfortable and conveniently located Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel. (B,L)

#### DAY 10: LIMA/CUSCO/SACRED VALLEY OF THE INCA

Board a short scenic flight to Cusco and continue to Moray—a visually stunning Inca site with dramatic agricultural terraces. After lunch and a visit to a local market, check-in at Sol y Luna for the next two nights. This serene Relais & Chateaux hotel offers individual adobe casitas set in a verdant garden. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 11: SACRED VALLEY

Spend the day exploring the archaeological sites and culture of the Sacred Valley in the company of National Geographic expert Peter Frost or a colleague. Visit the massive Inca stone fortress of Ollantaytambo set above a thriving Inca community. Lunch is at Casa Orihuela, a working, family-owned hacienda, where you see a show of Peruvian Paso horses, and National Geographic grantee Nilda Callañaupa demonstrates Inca weaving traditions. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 12: SACRED VALLEY/MACHU PICCHU

Marvel at the dramatic scenery en route by train to Machu Picchu. Check-in at the historic 31-room Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, adjacent to the World Heritage site. Explore over two days with an expert tour director and local guides. Lunch and dinner at the hotel. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 13: MACHU PICCHU/CUSCO

Awaken this morning at Machu Picchu, where options include an early hike to the Sun Gate, the ancient final checkpoint on the Inca Trail. After lunch, return by train and bus to Cusco, a burgeoning cultural capital. Check-in at the Belmond Hotel Monasterio, in the heart of colonial Cusco, for two nights. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 14: CUSCO

Explore the magnificently ornate 17th-century cathedral, the sacred Inca Temple of the Sun, and other treasures of Cusco. Visit nearby Sacsayhuamán, with commanding views over the city. This afternoon is at leisure to discover Cusco. Dinner is on your own. (B,L)

#### DAY 15: CUSCO/LIMA

Return to Lima this morning. Stroll the Plaza Mayor and enjoy a private lunch with a musical presentation at Casa Aliaga, one of the oldest houses in Lina. Visit the extraordinary Larco Museum, then check-in at Belmond Miraflores Park Hotel. Dinner is on your own. (B,L)

#### DAY 16: LIMA/U.S.

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

#### PERU EXTENSION COST PER PERSON

#### **DOUBLE:** \$5,690 **SINGLE:** \$7,070

Cost Includes: Seven hotel nights; meals indicated; transfers if traveling on group flights; sightseeing; porterage; services of local guides and tour escort; tips to local guides, drivers, and tour escort; taxes and service charges. Not Included: Airfare; meals not indicated as included; alcoholic beverages; personal items.

Note: The extension requires an additional advance payment and will operate provided a minimum number of guests are registered. Call for details.

Peruvian woman with llama.



## NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ENDEAVOUR II

Designed to meet exacting standards, *National Geographic Endeavour II* was launched in December 2016. She accommodates 96 guests in 52 outside cabins, and features 14 connecting cabins and suites for family or friends' sharing, plus 9 solo cabins. A beautiful ship, she is lavishly windowed to better frame the neverending panorama as she voyages from island to island.

CAPACITY: 96 guests in 52 outside cabins.

REGISTRY: Ecuador. OVERALL LENGTH: 236 feet.

PUBLIC AREAS: Forward lounge and bar accommodating all guests for presentations and gatherings, restaurant, large library with Mac computer kiosks, open-air observation deck, underwater gear area and efficient Zodiac boarding platform, and open bridge, where guests can meet the captain and officers and learn about navigation.

MEALS: Served in a single, unassigned seating in a sociable, informal atmosphere with Ecuadorian flair.

CABINS: All face outside with large windows and feature twin beds that convert to a queen. With private facilities, climate control, nightstands, desk, and storage. Seven sets of cabins with a connecting door.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiacs, glass-bottom boat, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, snorkel gear including wetsuits for both adults and children, video microscope, and underwater video camera.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Ship's doctor, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, video chronicler, National Geographic Global Explorers family program, snorkel instruction, Wi-Fi access, laundry service, Global Gallery.

WELLNESS: LEXSpa and fitness center, exercise classes, and wellness specialist.

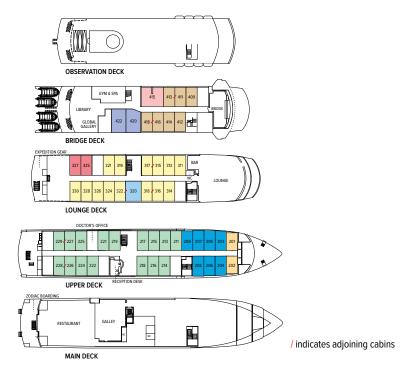
Above: The casual restaurant is designed for sociability and inclusivity with no assigned seating; comfortable Category 4 cabin; the lounge, the hub of the expedition community, offers panoramic views and seating for all; the well-equipped fitness center.











COSTS ARE PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

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CATEGORY 1:	\$6,960
Upper Deck, Forward #201, 202	
CATEGORY 2:	\$8,100
Upper Deck #211, 213-219, 221, 222, 224-229	
CATEGORY 3:	\$8,990
Lounge Deck #311, 313-319, 321, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330	
CATEGORY 4:	\$9,970
Bridge Deck #409, 411-414, 416, 418	
SUITE A:	\$11,950
Lounge Deck, Mid-Ship #320—with two windows, larger bath, armchair. Connecting door to #322.	
SUITE B:	\$12,890
Bridge Deck, Mid-Ship #420, 422—with two floor-to-ceiling windows, larger bath, convertible sofa for a third person.	
SUITE C:	\$13,660
Bridge Deck, Mid-Ship #415—with two large windows, larger bath, separate sitting area with convertible sofa for a third person and armchairs, largest cabin on ship	
CATEGORY 2 SOLO:	\$10,130
Upper Deck #203-209—with a queen bed.	
CATEGORY 3 SOLO:	\$11,240
Lounde Deck #325_327—with a gueen bed	

Lounge Deck #325, 327—with a queen bed.

NOTE: All cabins feature the option of two twins or a queen bed, plus large window(s), desk, chair, and closet. CONNECTING CABINS: #226/228, 227/229, 315/317, 316/318, 320/322, 411/413, 416/418

TRIPLE OCCUPANCY: #224, 225, 326, 328 with fold-down third berth, Suites B and C with convertible sofa bed. Third person rates are one-half per person double occupancy rate.

SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS: Shares can be arranged at the double occupancy rate in Categories 1 and 2.

## **INCLUSIVE PRICING**

#### ABOARD SHIP

- ✓ Daily stretching class with wellness specialist
- ✓ Mac computers for downloading your camera's memory card
- ✓ Fitness center with elliptical, treadmill, stationary bicycle, free weights, bands & more
- Access to navigational bridge
- Services of an onboard doctor
- ✓ All meals—from breakfast, lunch & dinner in the dining room, to outdoor BBQs, hors d'oeuvres & snacks during lounge recap, tea time cookies and all-day fruit
- ✓ All nonalcoholic beverages including unlimited cappuccinos, lattes, coffee, tea & soda
- ✓ Complimentary refillable water bottle

#### ASHORE

- ✓ Two night hotel accommodations in Guayaquil
- ✓ Meals as indicated in itinerary
- ✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
- ✓ Transfers to & from group flights
- ✓ Access to the VIP lounge at Baltra Airport in Galápagos

#### ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All the daily activities--from Zodiac explorations to kayaking, paddleboarding, hiking, & snorkeling (ship carries complete snorkeling gear)
- ✓ Lectures, presentations, daily recaps & briefings by the knowledgeable expedition staff in the lounge
- ✓ Photo instruction from skilled photographer

### SPECIAL OFFERS

**FREE AIR:** Book by July 31, 2018, and receive free round-trip economy group air from Miami to Galápagos, including both international and internal flights OR free round-trip air from Miami to Galápagos and Peru. Call for details. Subject to availability, new bookings only, and not combinable with other offers.

**BRING THE KIDS:** Sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So, take \$500 off the double occupancy price for each person under 18.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

VOYAGE COST INCLUDES: All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary or similar; all meals and nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship; meals on land as indicated; shore excursions, sightseeing, and entrance fees; special access permits; transfers to and from group flights; use of snorkeling equipment and wetsuits; use of kayaks and paddleboards; tips (except to ship's crew), taxes, and service charges; services of a ship physician and expedition staff.

NOT INCLUDED: Air transportation; unless otherwise indicated; extensions; passport, visa, immigration fees; meals not indicated; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature, such as alcoholic beverages, internet usage, wellness treatments, voyage DVD, laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew are at your discretion.

AIRFARE: Airfare is an additional cost unless otherwise indicated. International and internal Ecuador tickets must be issued separately. Sample international fares: Round-trip Miami/Guayaquil: Economy from \$500; Business from \$1,050. Internal fares: Round-trip Guayaquil/Galápagos. Adult from \$520; Children (under 12) from \$260. Call for sample Peru airfare. Lindblad Expeditions will assist in making your international air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee. Fares subject to change.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, an advance payment of \$750 per person for Galápagos and \$1,500 for Galápagos + Peru is required and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or check. FINAL PAYMENT: Due no later than 90 days prior to departure. TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Travel and medical insurance are available at an additional cost. Information will be sent to you upon registration.

ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country(s) you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country, if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country's requirement. SMOKING POLICY: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas. RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations

of Lindblad Maritime Enterprises' liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Itinerary and prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date, and are subject to change. Lindblad Maritime Enterprises reserves the right to impose surcharges based on increases in the actual cost of fuel.

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.

CANCELLATION POLICY		
Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee	
120 or more days	\$350	
119–90 days	Advance payment cost	
89–60 days	25% of trip cost	
59–45 days	50% of trip cost	
44–0 days	No refund	
We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel	protection plan.	

PHOTO CREDITS: Jonathan Aguas, Jennifer Davidson, Cindy Hopkins, Ralph Lee Hopkins, Jeff Litton, Michael S. Nolan, Marco Ricca, Mark Thiessen, David Vargas



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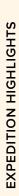
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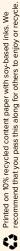
The Association of Former Students Attn: Traveling Aggies 505 George Bush Drive College Station, TX 77840-2918 Phone: 979-845-7514 Toll Free: 800-633-7514 Fax: 979-845-9263

## RESERVATION FORM: GALÁPAGOS + PERU

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□ Share with roommate assigned	ed by tour operator
Please indicate choice of cabi	n category in order of preference:
1st choice:	2nd choice:
$\Box$ Please send me information of	on the Tropical Andes & Colonial Quito extension.
$\Box$ I would like to take advantage	e of the complimentary air offer (booked by Lindblad Expeditions).
$\Box$ I will book my own air, and w	ould like information regarding an 'air credit.'
□ Enclosed is my advance pay	/ment of \$
(\$750 per person on Galápago	os or \$1,500 per person on Galápagos + Peru).
Check made payable to Lindb	lad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.
□ Charge my advance payme	nt of \$
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- » Cruise to pristine islands aboard a 96-guest expedition ship.
- » Walk among colonies of unusual animals and birds unfazed by your presence.
- » Hike lavascapes, kayak peaceful coves, and Zodiac-cruise wild, remote shorelines.
- » Snorkel amid shimmering fish, sea turtles, penguins, and playful sea lions.
- » Benefit from an expert team of naturalists and the exclusive expedition photography program.







Traveling Aggies

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