The Galapagos Islands

JANUARY 13-20, 2016

Special Alumni Rate
Save more than $100

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Howdy, Ags!

Join fellow alumni 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."

This exciting journey features a day of guided touring in Quito, in addition to a cruise through the archipelago with unparalleled access to endemic species. Expert naturalists guide you through the wonders of the national park, whale sanctuary, and marine reserves.

Cabin availability is limited. Our rates for Traveling Aggies guests on this departure represent savings of more than $100 per couple (alumni as well as family and friends are eligible). Reserve your cabin today: online at http://txas.orbridge.com, by phone at (800) 633-7514, or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Gig 'em,

Jennifer Bocar
97 Ph.D.
Director of Travel

JANUARY 13-20, 2016


Standard $4,399 $3,995

Deluxe $3,999 $3,495

Category Standard Rate Special Alumni Rate

Master Suite $6,399 $5,995

Cabin

Standard $4,900 $4,900

Double $4,345 $4,345

Single $4,570 $3,700

FREE* ORBRIDGE EXPEDITION LIBRARY

When you reserve

The Galapagos Islands

you receive a complimentary copy of the

Expedition Library we've assembled for this program.

Flexible itineraries and final payment. To customize your adventure, a $200 deposit per person is due for the main program, with a $500 deposit per person for the extension. A final payment of 100% of the program cost is due 120 days prior to the scheduled departure date. Early payment discounts are available. All payments are non-refundable unless otherwise specified. Non-refundable payments are subject to a 100% cancellation fee. 

Your final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. If your deposit is made fewer than 90 days prior to departure, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of booking. An additional non-refundable $500 per person is due if your deposit is made fewer than 60 days prior to departure for any cabin category. A non-refundable $300 per person is due if your deposit is made fewer than 30 days prior to departure for any extension. Non-refundable payments are subject to a 100% cancellation fee.

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Options for payment include: Check or wire transfer in international or U.S. dollars, payable to: Orbridge, LLC. A $300 per person administration fee applies to all transfers. Checks and wire transfers must be in U.S. dollars only. The administration fee is non-refundable.

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The Galápagos Islands (Ecuador) - 8 Day Itinerary

**Day 1:** En route / sojourn Quito, Ecuador
**Overnight:** Hilton Colon, Quito

**Day 2:** Quito (B,L,D)
- Guided walking tour of Old Town, market hopping, head off to the Cotopaxi National Park, visit the rebounds of the Cotopaxi volcano, or the Quilotoa loop.
- On board the Isabela II, welcome dinner on board.
- Welcome aboard Isabela II.

**Day 3:** Quito / Baltra (B,L,D)
- Welcome aboard Isabela II.
- Enjoy breakfast on board.
- Urban jungle as you explore the Clear waters of the world’s second largest marine reserve.
- Explore remote coral reef beaches and secluded coves, including the Charles Darwin Research Center—where the National Park is headquarted, and Cero Boyo—
- one of the first sites visited by Darwin.

**Day 4:** Floreana (B,L,D)
- Inland Falls - Baie Kratzenstein, snorkeling; Floreana Island
- Guided walking tour to Tiwi Beach, snorkeling, observe the penguin, blue footed boobies, giant tortoises, marine and land iguanas, and the fahrenheit “Darwin” Galápagos Tortoises.

**Day 5:** Santa Cruz (B,L,D)
- Hike to El Chato - Tower Tortoise Reserve, snorkeling or kayaking along the shores of Cerro Brujo.
- Wildlife viewing at Punta Pitt, panga ride.
- Punta Suarez hike, Gardner Bay beach walk.
- Overnight: Hilton Colon, Quito.

**Day 6:** Isabela (B,L,D)
- Embarkation  (B,L,D)
- Historic Post Office Barrel, snorkeling or kayaking.
- Overnight: Hilton Colon, Quito.

**Day 7:** Isabela II
- San Cristóbal – Disembarkation / overnight on board.
- Arrival back in Quito.

**Day 8:** Quito / Depart for U.S. (B)
- Morning arrival back in Quito.
- Morning guided tour with time to hike at “the top of the world,” a sunset on the “top of the world,” a guided walking tour to Quito’s Plaza de las Salinas, and a 10-minute walk to Quito’s Special Colonial Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

**Day 9:** Baltra / Santa Cruz – Disembarkation (B,L,D)
- Disembarkation and overnight.
- Overnight: Wyndham Costa del Sol, Quito.

**Day 10:** Quito / Overnight Lima, Peru
- Morning at leisure.
- Overnight: Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima.

**Day 11:** Lima / Cusco / Sacred Valley (B,L,D)
- Morning guided tour of Cusco, visit to Machu Picchu, guided tour of “The Heart of the Inca.”
- Overnight: Inkaterra Sacred Valley.

**Day 12:** Cusco / Saqsayhuaman / San Blas / Villa Tipón (B,L,D)
- Morning guided tour of the Inca architecture, special entrance tour to Saqsayhuaman, visit to Cusco’s Inca ruins.
- Overnight: Sonesta Posadas del Inca Yucay.

**Day 13:** Cusco / Lima / Depart (B)
- Return via air to Lima, traditional Peruvian lunch at local family, and an Andean Shamanic healing ceremony.

**What’s included:**
- 5 nights choice accommodations, meals including 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 4 dinners.
- 6 days of guided tours; fully guided tours and field presentations from local experts;
- All ground excursion transportation, including Incaterra tours through the Urubamba Valley; gratuities to guides, drivers, and waiters for included meals and airport transfers, including porterage, for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

**Program Highlights**
- Discover amazing aquatic wildlife as you swim with sea lions, and snorkel among the more colorful and lively markets of Pisac.
- Swim with sea lions, and snorkel among the colorful tropical fish or sea turtles.
- Explore remote coral reef beaches and secluded coves, including the Charles Darwin Research Center—where the National Park is headquarted, and Cero Boyo—one of the first sites visited by Darwin.
- Experience the magic of a sunrise and a sunset on the “top of the world,” a visit to Quito’s main square.
- Experience a traditional Peruvian lunch hosted by a local family, and an Andean Shamanic healing ceremony.
- Seek out ancient temples and sites dotting the Sacred Valley and Cusco, each with a unique pre-Colombian history that offers an in-depth understanding of the Inca empire.
- Visit Ollantaytambo, where Inca descendants continue to live in the largely unaltered homes of their ancestors.
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**Activity Level:**
- Guests should be sure-footed on stairs and able to walk at least one mile on rocky, volcanic, and elevated terrain. Guests should also be comfortable and able to walk at least one mile on rocky, volcanic, and uneven ground, as the nature treks can be on irregular and rough terrain. Guests arriving and departing during the suggested times, and round-trip ground transportation for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.