



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



Machu Picchu to the Galapagos

August 27-September 11, 2024

16 days for \$9,393 total price from Houston

(\$8,495 air & land inclusive plus \$898 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



An Exclusive Small Group Travel Experience for
Aggies & Friends of Texas A&M University



Howdy, Ags!

Join fellow Traveling Aggies on an exclusive 16-day tour to Peru and Ecuador. Explore two of South America's treasures: the enigmatic ruins at Machu Picchu and the fascinating Galápagos Islands.

Begin with a tour of Lima. Next, fly to Cuzco and explore the beautiful Sacred Valley. Enjoy a captivating train ride to Machu Picchu, and stay overnight at the on-site Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, which affords virtually private access to the stunning ruins. In the Galápagos Islands, spend four nights in the lush highlands of Santa Cruz Island, your base for exploring North Seymour, South Plaza and Santa Cruz Islands, and embark on day excursions on a privately chartered yacht. Conclude your journey in Quito and enjoy a farewell dinner to celebrate your adventure. Guests may also start the tour early on the four-day/four-night Amazon Rainforest pre-tour option.

With room for only 20 guests on this exclusive Traveling Aggies departure, we expect this tour to fill quickly. Book today to secure your spot!

Gig 'em!

Julie Scamardo
Manager of Traveling Aggies
The Association of Former Students

TRAVELING AGGIES RESERVATION FORM: MACHU PICCHU TO THE GALAPAGOS

To reserve your place on tour, **please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765.** You may also call the **Traveling Aggies at 979-845-7514 or toll-free at 800-633-7514.** Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor or a Traveling Aggies representative. **If you prefer,** you may instead complete the Reservation Form below and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit.

Please note that your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure.

If paying your deposit by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the Reservation Form. Send to:

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

MACHU PICCHU TO THE GALAPAGOS • AUGUST 27-SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-mail(s) _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/We request an upgrade to a Highland Villa ☐

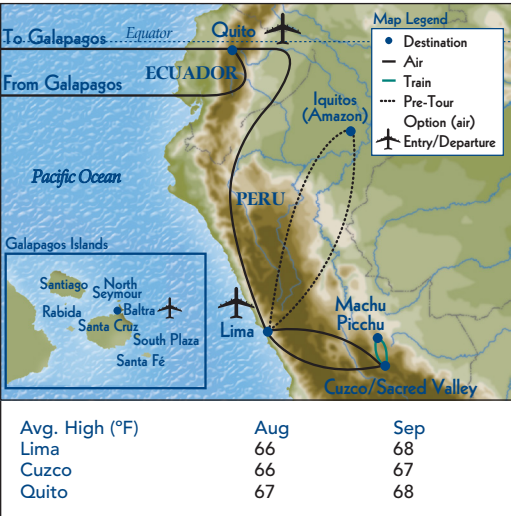
I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability) ☐

Pre-Tour "Amazon Rainforest" Option: Please sign me/us up ☐

Machu Picchu to the Galapagos

16 days for \$9,393 total price from Houston
(\$8,495 air & land inclusive plus \$898 airline taxes and fees)

They rank as two of South America’s greatest treasures, and a small group tour is the natural selection for both: the enigmatic ruins at Machu Picchu, where we overnight at an intimate on-site hotel; and the fascinating Galapagos Islands, Darwin’s “living laboratory,” for a four-night island-based adventure.



Small Group Tour Highlights

Lima touring • Historic Cuzco and beautiful Sacred Valley • Overnight stay at Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, adjacent to Machu Picchu • Two guided visits to Machu Picchu • Four-night Galapagos stay at beautiful hotel in lush Santa Cruz highlands • Day cruises on privately chartered yacht, plus island-based exploration • Expert Galapagos naturalist guide • Unique Galapagos wildlife • Quito city tour

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Lima	Westin Lima Hotel	Sup. First Class
2	Lima	Westin Lima Hotel	Sup. First Class
3-4	Sacred Valley	Aranwa Sacred Valley Hotel	Sup. First Class
5	Machu Picchu	Belmond Sanctuary Lodge	Sup. First Class
6-7	Cuzco	Belmond Hotel Monasterio	Deluxe
8-9	Quito	Swissotel Quito	Deluxe
10-13	Galapagos Islands	Royal Palm Hotel Galapagos	Sup. First Class
14	Quito	Swissotel Quito	Deluxe
15	Quito/Depart for U.S. (overnight flight)		
16	Arrive U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Lima, Peru We depart today for the Peruvian capital. Upon arrival tonight we transfer directly to our hotel.

Day 2: Lima We meet our tour director and fellow travelers at a briefing, then embark on a tour of colonial Lima and the MALI art museum. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner at our hotel. *B,D*

Day 3: Lima/Cuzco/Sacred Valley Arriving in Cuzco today, we stop at the important Incan site of Koricancha, dedicated to the Sun God. Then we continue on to Sacred Valley, a region of Incan sites and indigenous villages. We visit the colorful Indian market at Pisac before reaching our hotel late afternoon. *B,L,D*

Day 4: Sacred Valley Today we explore Ollantaytambo, both a living town and site of massive Incan ruins that still inspire wonder. Then we visit the Incan farming town of Chinchero, where residents live much as their ancestors did and where we see a traditional weaving demonstration. Before dinner at our hotel tonight, we attend a native “Offering to the Earth” ceremony. *B,L,D*

Day 5: Sacred Valley/Machu Picchu This morning we board a train for the 1½-hour journey to Aguas Calientes, where we transfer by shuttle bus to our hotel for lunch. Then we embark on our first guided visit of the stunning ruins at Machu Picchu, the “Lost City of the Incas.” Thanks to the small size of our group, we will be able to move nimbly through the ruins and have the leisure to absorb both the beauty and the mystery of this impressive site. *B,L,D*

Day 6: Machu Picchu/Cuzco This morning before the day trippers arrive, we enjoy our second guided tour of this UNESCO site. Following lunch at our lodge, we return to Aguas Calientes with some free time before our mid-afternoon train to Cuzco. *B,L*

Day 7: Cuzco Known for its Incan and Spanish colonial heritage, Cuzco is the archaeological “hub” of the Americas and the continent’s oldest continuously inhabited city. This morning we tour this



We encounter plenty of wildlife, like these sunbathing sea lions, in the Galapagos.

UNESCO site then stop at the ruins of Sacsayhuaman fortress, a masterpiece of Incan architecture. *B,L*

Day 8: Cuzco/Lima/Quito Early today we fly via Lima to the Ecuadorian capital of Quito, arriving late afternoon. This evening, we attend a briefing about our Galapagos adventure and then dine together at our hotel. *B,D*

Day 9: Quito Nestled in Andes foothills, Quito boasts a well-preserved historic center, as we see on today's city tour that includes the Middle of the World Monument. *B,L*

Day 10: Quito/Baltra/Santa Cruz Island Today we fly to the island of Baltra then transfer to Santa Cruz, our island-based home for our Galapagos exploration. We reach our beautiful hotel set on 370 lush, unspoiled, and secluded acres in the highlands adjacent to Galapagos National Park in time for lunch. Then we visit the Charles Darwin Research Station to see and learn about the giant Galapagos tortoises. *B,L,D*

Day 11: North Seymour Island/Bachas Beach This morning we board the *Santa Fe*, our privately chartered yacht, for North Seymour, a flat, low-lying island with ample opportunities for close encounters with the wildlife on our naturalist-led walk. After lunch, we head back to Santa Cruz island for a nature walk. *B,L,D*

Day 12: South Plaza Island/Punta Carrion Today's destination is the small in size but rich in flora and fauna island of South Plaza. Boasting abundant wildlife and colorful flora, and surrounded by turquoise waters, South Plaza ranks as one of the most popular (and colorful) of the Galapagos islands. During our nature walk, we are on the lookout for such local

residents as marine iguanas, bright orange Sally Lightfoot crabs, red-billed tropic birds, Nazca and blue-footed boobies, and a male colony of sea lions ("the bachelors"). Then we cruise to Punta Carrion, where we have the opportunity to snorkel in the calm waters of a shallow cove. *B,L,D*

Day 13: Santa Cruz Island Today we explore Santa Cruz itself, the second largest of the Galapagos islands.

Pre-Tour Option

August 23-27, 2024

Amazon Rainforest

4 days/4 nights for \$1,395 total price

Single Supplement: \$235

Discover the Amazon's amazing flora, fauna, and even villages on this exceptional – and comfortable – tour.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation Lima/Iquitos
- 4 nights' accommodations: 1 night in Lima at Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport (First Class); 3 nights in the jungle at Ceiba Tops Lodge (First Class)
- 10 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing, including guided Canopy Walkway tour and visit with *riberenos* (Amazon river people)
- Fully escorted by an Amazon-born naturalist guide as your Odysseys Unlimited representative
- Private vehicle transportation
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Land Only guests: \$1,495 total price per person



ONE HAND HAS SURELY
WORKED THROUGHOUT
THE UNIVERSE.”

– CHARLES DARWIN

We see the giant Galapagos tortoises in their natural habitat; the huge twin craters of Los Gemelos; and Garrapatero, a secluded white-sand beach where we see an abundance of marine and terrestrial wildlife. *B,L,D*

Day 14: Santa Cruz Island/Baltra/Quito This morning we transfer to Baltra for the flight to Quito, arriving mid-afternoon. Tonight we celebrate our remarkable adventure at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 15: Quito/Depart for U.S. This morning we visit Quito’s Botanical Gardens, featuring an orchidarium with more than 1,200 species of orchids; and



We explore the ruins at Machu Picchu on Days 5 & 6.

Iaquito Market, a colorful riot of fresh produce and spices. Then we return to the hotel for an afternoon at leisure before tonight’s transfer to the airport for our overnight flight to the U.S. *B*

Day 16: Arrive U.S. We arrive in the U.S. this morning and connect with our return flights home.

**Your Island-Based Galapagos
Experience: *Royal Palm Hotel***



We stay in comfort for four nights in spacious rooms at the Royal Palm Hotel, set in the lush highlands of Santa Cruz island, and enjoy day cruises aboard the Santa Fe, our privately chartered yacht.

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 14 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 34 meals: 14 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 10 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees; Galapagos National Park fee of \$100
- Services of local Odysseys Unlimited Tour Directors; plus, experienced naturalist guides while in the Galapagos
- Private vehicle transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Departs: August 27, 2024

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Miami	\$8,893
Orlando, Tampa	\$9,293
Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Charlotte, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Houston, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, DC	\$9,393
Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Portland (OR), San Francisco, Seattle	\$9,493
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$8,295

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy in a Casita at the Royal Palm Hotel and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$898, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$2,595. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Upgrade to a Highland Villa at the Royal Palm Hotel: \$295 (\$495 single).

Please note: This trip involves a considerable walking on uneven terrain. Also, there are both wet and dry landings in the Galapagos. You should be in good physical condition to participate in this trip. In addition, Cuzco’s high altitude (11,150 feet) could pose problems for travelers with certain health conditions. Please consult your physician if you have concerns.

**For more information and reservations,
please call call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.
toll-free at
888-370-6765
Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time
or call the Traveling Aggies at
979-845-7514, or toll-free at
800-633-7514.**

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price: Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; immunizations and inoculations; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing; and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 64-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure. Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.**

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.

Responsibility: The liability of The Association of Former Students, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. The Association of Former Students and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, Acts of God, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line(s), and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues: We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and **you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own.** We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, The Association of Former Students and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**



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The Association of Former Students

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505 George Bush Drive
College Station, Texas 77840-2918



JOIN US FOR AN EXCLUSIVE
TRAVELING AGGIES TOUR
TO PERU & ECUADOR!

Guaranteed Small Group:
Limited to 20 Guests