To reserve a spot on this learning adventure with members of the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, please contact Joy Matthews, Adult Programs and Special Projects Manager, at (214) 515-6538 or jmatthews@dallasarboretum.org to send in your $600 deposit. Space is limited. Deposits due to Joy Matthews by April 2, 2016.

Registration & Cancellation Information

The Galápagos: Natural & Cultural History
PROGRAM #6043 | August 11 - 21, 2016

Cancel Schedule: Should you need to cancel from this program, please refer to the chart below for schedule and refund information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment Schedule</th>
<th>Deposit Payment (due April 1st, 2016)</th>
<th>Final payment due</th>
<th>Cancellation Policy</th>
<th>Fee amount per person</th>
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<tr>
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<td>$600</td>
<td>May 3, 2016</td>
<td>Cancel up to 100 Days Prior to Program Start Date (applies until May 4, 2016)</td>
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<td>Cancel less than 61 Days Prior to Program Start Date (applies after June 12, 2016)</td>
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Road Scholar recommends that you purchase optional Trip Cancellation, Interruption & Travel Delay insurance to protect your investment. You will receive a detailed brochure about this insurance policy when you enroll in a program.

How To Register

Program Prices

Double-Occupancy Program-Only Price: $6,145

Airfare to and from Quito is separate and is available through Road Scholar.

Note: These prices include a $400 donation to the Arboretum.

Road Scholar educational adventures are created by Elderhostel, the not-for-profit world leader in lifelong learning since 1975.
Experience the Galápagos

Program Overview

Study unique animal and plant species on this small ship voyage exploring one of the world’s most extraordinary settings — the Galápagos Islands. Encounter the fascinating wildlife that inspired Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution.

Activity Rating: MODERATELY CHALLENGING

Quito, Ecuador has an elevation of 9,350-5,300 feet. Some participants find it helpful to fly into the city a day early in order to have extra time to rest and acclimate to the altitude. Wet and dry landings involve transferring in potentially rough waters from the yacht into a Zodiac and shopping into either knee-depth water or onto rocky shores. Daily walks on sharp volcanic rocks and loose stones add difficulty.

This Eleven-Day Adventure to the Galápagos Includes:

This Eleven-Day Adventure to the Galápagos
includes:

- An introduction to the fascinating wildlife that inspired Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution.
- A Group Leader to accompany you throughout the program.
- 3 Expert-led lectures
- 28 meals: 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 9 dinners
- 24-hour assistance for medical and travel assistance plan, including destination fees throughout the program to handle all necessary手续.
- Modest gratuities, taxes and fees
- A Group Leader to accompany you throughout the program.

Highlights:

- Encounter the exotic animals that made the Galápagos famous, including Blue-footed Boobies, Darwin finches, giant tortoises and marine iguanas.
- Navigate inline, swim with sea lions and snorkel off remote beaches in search of tropical marine life.
- Learn about the unique and hardy vegetation of the Galápagos, including lava cacti, Scalesia trees, kikiam, mangroves and Opuntia cacti.

About Our Lodging

Hilton Colon Quito Hotel: Quito, 2 nights

A full-service hotel that enjoys spectacular views of the city and surrounding mountains.

Galapagos II: Galápagos Islands, 7 nights

The Galapagos II is an 88-foot-long first-class motor catamaran built in 2014. The vessel can accommodate up to 16 passengers in eight air-conditioned cabins with en suite bathrooms. Cabins are located on the Upper and Main Decks and are all outward facing, with large windows.

Hosteria Rincon de Pueblo: Quito, 1 night

The hotel is located conveniently near the Quito international airport in the beautiful village of Pueblito.

About Our Program Provider

This Galapagos experience is offered through Road Scholar, formerly known as Elderhostel, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1975 to provide lifelong learning opportunities for baby boomers and beyond. Its mission is to inspire adults to experience new educational adventures in all 50 states and 150 countries.

Daily Itinerary

Day 1: Thursday, Aug. 11

Arrival Quito, Transfer to Hotel

Note: This is an international travel day; no meals or program activities are scheduled on this day.

Day 2: Friday, Aug. 12

Colonial Quito: the First UNESCO World Heritage Site, Casa del Alabado, Capilla del Hombre

Note: This leisurely paced day in Quito will give the group time to acclimate to higher altitudes.

Following breakfast, we will have an Orientation with our Group Leader, then walk the historic UNESCO World Heritage Site. Learn about Quito’s rich history from pre-Hispanic times, through the Colonial Period, to the Republican Era. Study the architectural styles of local buildings and the uniqueness of religious art pieces from the famous Quintanar School of Art. We’ll visit the Museo Casa del Alabado to learn about pre-Columbian art. After lunch, coach to the Capilla del Hombre for an introduction to beloved artist Oswaldo Guayasamín. A few blocks from the Guayasamín Foundation, on a hill overlooking the city, stands the Capilla del Hombre. This monument, chapel, and museum was designed by Guayasamín (he died before its completion). After dinner, the evening is at leisure.

Day 3: Saturday, Aug. 13

Flight to Baltra Island, Board Yacht, Santa Cruz Island, Charles Darwin Research Station

Note: There is a 44-pound weight limit for checked luggage on the flights to the Islands. Please note that the Galapagos National Park Reserve permits the right to change cruise itineraries without prior notice.

After breakfast, we’ll fly to the Galapagos Islands and meet our national Group Leader. After a bus ride to the Itabaca Channel, a short ferry ride to Santa Cruz Island, another bus ride and short panga ride, our yacht awaits for a visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station and its Interpretive Center. The CDC conducts scientific research and environmental education to promote conservation of the islands’ unique environments. Afterward, we’ll board a panga to the yacht.

Day 4: Sunday, Aug. 14

Isabela Island (Tintoreras, Humedales Waterfowls of Tears and Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center)

After breakfast, we will make a dry landing at Las Tintoreras for a walking exploration and snorkeling. Las Tintoreras is located just south of Puerto Villamil on Isabela Island. The small island’s name means “sharks” because of reef sharks that are commonly found resting in the shallow waters at this site. A small bay and a connecting crevice provides shelter to a multitude of small fish, as well as turtles, sharks, rays, and marine iguanas. The island is a prime nesting site for marine iguanas. After swimming and snorkeling opportunities, we will return to the yacht. Following lunch we’ll make a dry landing on Isabela, driving a short distance to the Arnaldo Tupiza Tortoise Breeding Center where we will learn about local tortoise conservation efforts. After leaving the breeding center we will pay a visit to the Humedales (wetlands) for a chance to observe flamingos and migratory birds that frequent the local lagoons and mangroves. We’ll stop at the infamous Wall of Tears, a 16-20-foot stone wall built by convicts when the island housed a penal colony. Return to the yacht for dinner.

Day 5: Monday, Aug. 15

Isabela Island (Elizabeth Bay and Urbina Bay)

After breakfast, we will visit Elizabeth Bay to observe marine life. It is one of the best areas to spot and photograph the elusive Galapagos Penguin. A colony of these unique birds inhabits a rocky islet at the entrance to the bay. The sheltered waters harbor sea turtles, Whales, Dolphins, Cormorants and seamounts. Enjoy optional swimming and snorkeling. After a wet landing at Urbina Bay, we will begin our walking exploration of this unique site that symbolizes a coral reef on land — proof that the flat land we see today in that area was once uplifted from the sea.

Day 6: Tuesday, Aug. 16

Fernandina Island (Punta Espinosa) and Isabela Island (Punta Vicente Roca)

Note: Punta Espinosa: dry landing, moderate trail conditions due to slippery rocks at low tide and uneven terrain. Good walking shoes are a must for the 1.2-mile walk on rough volcanic rocks.

This morning we will make a dry landing at Punta Espinosa and then walk on local trails in search of the resident sea lion colony and a Flightsome Cormorant nesting site. After lunch on the yacht, we’ll join our national leader in a panga ride to Punta Vicente Roca, whose cliffs, rich marine life and well-protected bay have made this into a prized diving location in the islands. Flightsome Cormorants, Masked Boobies and Blue-footed Boobies can be seen along the cliffs and the water’s edge.

Day 7: Wednesday, Aug. 17

Santiago Island (Puerto Egas) and Rabida Island

A short panga ride will take us to Santiago Island, followed by a wet landing on a black sand beach that was visited by Darwin in 1835. Puerto Egas, on the northeastern side of Santiago Island, has black volcanic formations that provide shelter to a number of creatures — including marine iguanas sunning themselves on the rocks. Brightly colored Sally Lightfoot crabs live in the rock crevices and tide pools and Galapagos fur seals enjoy the inlets along the western shoreline and have been known to swim with visitors from time to time. This afternoon we will make a wet landing at Rabida Island, which has a dark red beach favored by sea lions and nesting pelicans. A saltwater lagoon located a small distance from the beach is home to flamingos and the occasional White-cheeked Pintail. Some of the Galapagos’ rarest bird species are here in abundance, including Large-billed Flightcathers, Galapagos Hawks and nine varieties of finches.

Day 8: Thursday, Aug. 18

Santa Cruz Island (Black Turtle Cove and Playas Bachas)

This morning, navigate to Black Turtle Cove on Santa Cruz Island to observe marine turtles, white-tipped reef sharks, yellow rays and other marine species. After lunch, we make a wet landing at Playas Las Bachas for a field trip to a flamingo lagoon. Apart from being an important nesting site for sea turtles (Chelonia mydas), Playas Las Bachas is also a great location for viewing migratory and aquatic birds.

Day 9: Friday, Aug. 19

Santiago Island (Sullivan Bay) and Bartolome Island

After a wet or dry landing at Sullivan Bay, we’ll need good walking shoes to join our national leader on a field trip across recent lava fields — the volcanic terrain is sharp and rough. Few plant species have been able to root in this harsh environment. This afternoon, we make a dry or wet landing on Bartolome Island. The 1.2-mile walk to the top of the volcano includes a climb up a long, wooden staircase (375 steps) with railings — the views are worth the effort! Bartolome Island is home to Pinnacle Rock, the “Guardian of the Isles,” which rises sharply from the coast. The lava landscape is home to one of the islands’ most enduring residents: the Galapagos Penguin. On the way to the summit, we might come across colonies of marine iguanas, lava lizards, tortoises and various cacti. While swimming and snorkeling from the beach we might get to spot a number of marine species. After lunch, we’ll make a panga landing at Las Tintoreras for a field trip to observe flamingos and pelicans. A saltwater lagoon located a small distance from the beach is home to flamingos and the occasional White-cheeked Pintail. Some of the Galapagos’ rarest bird species are here in abundance, including Large-billed Flightcathers, Galapagos Hawks and nine varieties of finches.

Day 10: Saturday, Aug. 20

Santa Cruz Island (Highlands), Flight to Quito

After breakfast, we will fly from Santa Cruz Island to Quito for a farewell dinner and group departure.

Day 11: Sunday, Aug. 21

Depart from Quito, Arrive to the U.S.