



# PUMAMAKI EXPEDITIONS, INC.

ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

## ECUADOR'S GALAPAGOS 10 -DAY ADVENTURE

An incredible journey of discovery through the breathtaking animals that is only seen in these fabulous islands. Come and join us on this spectacular adventure!!!!

Welcome to South America's most treasured biome: ECUADOR'S GALAPAGOS ISLANDS!!!

### DAILY ITINERARY

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#### Day 1 Quito - Friday

Upon arrival in Quito, we will be met by our local representative and transferred to our hotel.  
**OVERNIGHT**

#### Day 2 Quito -Otavalo Indian Market

After breakfast we head north of the Andes to Otavalo, known for its famous indigenous open market full of handmade textiles and many types of crafts. The full day includes stops such as Calderón with its bread dough figures, Miralga where you will admire the beauty of the San Pablo Lake in the foothills of the Imbabura volcano. Also we will visit Cotacachi, a small colorful town that offers excellent leather products.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

#### Day 3 Quito - Equator Line

After breakfast at the hotel, we will depart from the north of the city and continue our journey to the colonial zone. Here we can enjoy the beauty of the monuments, like the Independence Plaza, Government Palace, Metropolitana Cathedral, Temples of La Compania, San Francisco and the slope of The Panecillo. We have a break for lunch. In the afternoon, we will visit the Middle of the World, just 22 km north of Quito. This monument stands marking the equatorial line as established by the 18<sup>th</sup> century expedition of the French/Spanish Geodesic Mission. Stand on both hemispheres. Visit to the Indian museum. Return to the hotel for dinner.

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

#### Day 4 Quito - Galapagos Islands - Baltra Island/Santa Cruz Island

After breakfast we transfer out and depart from Quito to Baltra (a 2 ½ hour flight) Passengers are picked up at the airport by our guides and taken to the pier to board the boat. Our first excursion is Cerro Dragón (Dragon Hill) on the island of Santa Cruz. It is a cry landing and we have a walk that includes a brackish water lagoon frequented by lagoon birds, including stilts, pintail ducks, sandpipers, sanderlings and more. Further inland, the trail offers a beautiful view of the bay and the western area of the archipelago. This area is a natural nesting site for land iguanas, which is constantly monitored and assisted by the Charles Darwin Research Station. The arid-zone vegetation can be a rewarding location for

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**Day 4 continued** bird watching, where Darwin's finches, Galápagos mocking birds, the endemic Galápagos flycatcher, and yellow warblers are regular sightings. Tonight our expedition plan will reveal the interesting sites of the day ahead.

OVERNIGHT ON BOAT

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 5 GALAPAGOS – Bartolomé Island/Puerto Egas (Santiago James Island)**

Our day begins by disembarking at Bartolomé Island (dry landing) for a hike to the summit, a great way to start the day. This is a steep climb aided by a wooden staircase: the view from the top is worth the effort. Dinghy-ride around the colossal Pinnacle Rock, and have time to enjoy the beach (wet landing) and snorkeling. We have a chance to snorkel next to Galápagos Penguins. There is also the possibility to ride on the glass-bottomed boat for great views of the underwater world. Lunch on board. The afternoon outing is at Puerto Egas (wet landing). This is a great location to see particularly shore birds, while land birds can be observed a little more inland. The pitch-black shores are great places for watching sea birds and their foraging duties. The trail brings us to a colony of the endemic Galápagos fur seals. At low tide, marine iguanas graze upon emerald green algae beds. We also have the opportunity to enjoy outstanding snorkeling and swimming from the beach before the walk. In the evening, weather permitting, we can also enjoy stargazing on deck.

OVERNIGHT ON BOAT

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

**Day 6 GALAPAGOS – Rabida Island (Jervis)/ North Seymour Island**

After breakfast we have a wet landing on a red-colored beach, due to the unusually high content of iron in the volcanic material. A gratifying stroll along the beach of this small island (1.9 su.mi.) allows the observation of a large colony of sea lions. Marine iguanas, mockingbirds, yellow warblers and several species of Darwin's finches. Very close to the beach, hidden behind a strip of green saltbush, is a salt pond where at times greater flamingos migrate. This is a great place to snorkel from the beach, both for beginners as well as for experienced snorkelers, due to the unique combination of underwater species and submarine landscapes. During navigation to our next island, we will keep our eyes open for dolphins. The afternoon starts with a dry landing on North Seymour Island for a view of the coast and the interior of this island, one of the few uplifted islands in the Galápagos Archipelago. The trail leads guests to explore colonies of blue-footed boobies, magnificent frigate birds, and swallow-tail gulls. The sandy shore teems with Galápagos sea lions and marine iguanas. Vegetation is made up of cacti, Palo Santo trees and Salt Bushes. We then plan for the expeditions for tomorrow's outings.

OVERNIGHT ON BOAT

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

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## Day 7

### **GALAPAGOS - Highlands of Santa Cruz/Charles Darwin Research Station**

A morning bus ride will take guests to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island for a special opportunity to view the islands' most famous reptile: the giant tortoises in their wild habitat. What a privilege to see the endangered species roving in the lush environment! The vegetation of the area includes the Scalesia Forest (an endemic giant daisy tree) and birds such as the vermilion flycatcher, will delight everyone with its scarlet feathers against an emerald green forest. Look for Darwin's finches (most of them from the tree-finch group), particularly the famous Woodpecker Finch. Lunch is at the Finch Bay Eco Hotel in Puerto Ayora. At Charles Darwin Research Station we witness the efforts and results of all the field work done in the name of science. Impressive giant prickly-pear cactus forest and many land birds can be also seen. The, a stroll along the main street of Puerto Ayora will allow you to see how Galapagueños live in this magical paradise. Browse in the many handcraft shops. Return aboard the boat for tonight's expeditions plan for the next day's adventure.

***Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner***

## Day 8

### **GALAPAGOS - Puerto Baquerizo Moreno (San Cristóbal -Chatham- Island**

After breakfast we disembark at Puerto Baquerizo Moreno. This small attractive port is the provincial capital of the Galápagos Islands (population 4, 000) along a crescent-shaped bay. It was this very same island that Charles Darwin first visited, back in September 1835. Visit the San Cristóbal Interpretation Center, located in a natural setting, where it allows visitors to obtain information that will help them understand more about the natural history of the Galápagos, with a great emphasis on human history and conservation. Afterwards, you can stroll through Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, where souvenir shops and internet cafés welcome world travelers who are willing to catch up with the world, and share the many wonders witnessed, before heading back to the mainland. We transfer to the airport to take the flight back to the continent. Check in hotel. Transfer to Synagogue for evening services.

***Breakfast/Dinner***

## Day 9

### **Quito - Synagogue Services**

After breakfast at the hotel, we attend Saturday morning services at the New Synagogue Quito. The services are traditional and they will be approximately 2 ½ hours long. We may partake in some ark openings and after services, we can mingle with the Jewish people of Quito at an Oneg Shabbat. After returning from services, we have the afternoon free for some last minute shopping, take a cab on your own to see the Guayasamín Museum/ Chapel, take the tram on the TeleferiQo up 14,000 ft for a spectacular view of Quito, or just stroll the streets of Quito.

***Breakfast/Dinner***

## Day 10

### **Quito**

We depart Quito after an early breakfast for our return to the US.

***Breakfast***

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## ADVENTURE TRIP DETAILS

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### Included:

- Roundtrip airfare from U.S. to Quito, Ecuador
- Services of English-speaking, licensed guide/coordinator throughout the trip
- Domestic airfare - Quito/ Galapagos/ Quito
- All transportation in comfortable Tourism coaches and on the yacht
- All meals, as indicated in itinerary, **excluding** drinks at meals
- Accommodations in double-occupancy facilities in Quito, and on board the cruise
- Galapagos National Entrance Fee (\$100)
- Galapagos Tax INGALA (\$10)
- All tours and activities, as described in itinerary
- Local service and value added taxes (VAT or IVA in Spanish)

### NOT Included:

- Trip Insurance - TravelGuard
- Items of a personal nature (i.e., phone calls, souvenirs, laundry, etc.)
- Beverages at meals in restaurants
- Ecuador departure tax of U.S. \$40.80 per person (subject to change without previous notice)
- Gratuities for Guide, Driver and Waiters, Activity Guides

### Climate

The Andean area of Ecuador has a very pleasant temperature all year. June is the end of the rainy season, called "invierno" in Spanish, since it tends to rain in the afternoons. Highs will typically be in the low 70's and in a cool evening the temperature can drop to the low 50's. In the Galapagos, the climate is quite warm though we are on water. It's best to dress in layers.

### Clothing

The climate of Quito is in the mid 60's year round so it's best to bring summer attire with a light jacket. For the Galapagos Islands, do make sure that you bring a bathing suit and some water shoes like Teva sandals. Don't forget mosquito repellent for our visits to the various islands.

### Altitude

All travelers to Ecuador must take into consideration that Quito and the rest of the areas visited are all above 8,000 feet above sea level. It is normal to feel short of breath and/or a headache the first day; drink plenty of liquids and do not overexert yourself. We'll be at sea level when we tour the Galapagos islands. Protect yourself with lots of sun block



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## ADVENTURE TRIP DETAILS (continued)

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### **Currency**

Since September 2000, Ecuador has adopted the U.S. dollar as its only currency. It is not necessary to exchange money at all! Bills and coins come from the U.S.; but Ecuador also has its own coins (same sizes and denominations) which are used indistinctively.

### **Terms and Conditions**

Pumamaki Expeditions, Inc., and its cooperating agents make every effort to select reliable suppliers and contractors to provide transportation, hotels, guides and other travel-related services; but we do not assume responsibility directly, or indirectly, for any loss, damages or injury to property or person in connection with such services. Each traveler agrees not to hold Pumamaki Expeditions, Inc., its owners, employees, agents or representatives liable, in the absence of their own gross negligence, for any loss or injury, expense or damage which results directly or indirectly from any act or omission of any person or firm which is to or does provide goods or services in connection with the trip or with any available option.

Pumamaki Expeditions, Inc., and its cooperating agents shall not be liable for circumstances arising as a result of Acts of God; weather; detention; annoyance; delays and expenses arising from quarantine; strikes; theft; pilferage; force majeure; military, political or terrorist action; civil disturbances; government restrictions; failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled; discrepancies or changes in transit over which they have no control. Pumamaki Expeditions, Inc., reserves the right to change the program fee, dates or itinerary with little or no notice. If such changes do occur, no refunds will be made beyond those described in our cancellation policy and Pumamaki Expeditions, Inc. will not be liable for expenses incurred as a result of the change (such as air tickets change fees, etc.).

### **Safety and Trip Enjoyment**

Your Ecuador Galapagos Trip is planned in areas where the environment can sometimes lead to unpredictable conditions. Your safety is our first concern. It is important to remember that this trip will take place in wilderness environments, often far from hospital services. Engaging in activities like hiking, biking, white water rafting and horseback riding in natural environments entail certain inherent risks. To avoid possibly dangerous situations, it is extremely important that all travelers obey the rules and regulations set forth by the organizers and/or local guides. We reserve the right to prohibit any traveler from continuing on a planned activity if, in our opinion, that traveler's actions pose a threat to the safety of himself/herself, others or to the wildlife; or if that traveler's actions or behaviors are seriously jeopardizing the enjoyment of the trip for others.

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## Cancellation and Refund Policy

We understand how disappointing it can be for participants in the event they are forced to cancel their adventure. But we too plan for these adventures for quite a long period prior to your departure and must continuously send non-refundable payment to hotels and suppliers of transportation. Therefore, we must adhere to our cancellation policies.

- All cancellations processed before 46 days prior to trip departure will require a \$100 cancellation fee
- Cancellations made 30-45 days prior to trip departure require a loss of 50% of the entire program fee
- Cancellations made within 30 days of trip departure require a loss of the entire program fee
- If a participant doesn't participate in a scheduled activity, **NO REFUND IS APPLICABLE**

**PLEASE NOTE:** The information here noted is prepared well in advance of the trip departure date. Due to the nature of your Ecuador Adventure Trip, hotels, modes of transportation and in some cases, itineraries may change. If this does occur, we will attempt to provide similar facilities, but are not always able to do so. We hope you understand.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT NUMBERS (hotels may change)

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### Akros Hotel

([www.hotelakros.com](http://www.hotelakros.com))

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### Mallku Expeditions

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