The Galapagos Islands
8 DAYS OF WONDER & AMAZEMENT
AUGUST 21, 2019 – AUGUST 28, 2019
PRE-TOUR: AUGUST 18, 2019 — AUGUST 21, 2019
POST-TOUR: AUGUST 28, 2019 — SEPTEMBER 02, 2019

THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

In the extraordinary archipelago Charles Darwin called “a little world within itself,” surround yourself with swimming-basking-flying examples of perfect adaptation.

Feel the thrill of encountering the flora and fauna that famously inspired Darwin—and in his footsteps, generations of nature lovers. Undiscovered by Europeans until the 16th century, the Galapagos Islands hold a central position in modern scientific and evolutionary history. In a place where human presence is relatively minimal, take the opportunity to observe and photograph these remarkable species up close—either sitting quietly to watch blue-footed boobies or snorkeling with inquisitive and playful sea lions.

Dear Smith Alumnae and Friends,

Join us as we explore the spectacular Galapagos Islands. Designated as the first UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978, the Galapagos Islands have been described as a “unique living museum and showcase of evolution,” home to a fascinating array of wildlife in an unspoiled ecosystem.

This exciting journey combines a day of guided touring in Quito with an intimate cruise through the archipelago with up-close access to endemic species. Expert naturalists guide you through the wonders of this national park, whale sanctuary, and marine reserve.

Accommodations for this adventure are aboard the Isabela II, a 40-guest vessel with spacious cabins, local cuisine, and a staff dedicated to ensuring both your comfort and maximum enjoyment of this truly extraordinary destination and its diverse inhabitants. And sailing by small ship allows for flexibility in the itinerary to maximize wildlife viewing, as well as access to exclusive ports.
Stateroom availability is limited. With significant savings of more than $800 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Make your reservation online at smith.orbridge.com, calling (800) 225-2029 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Best regards,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director, Smith Travel
Office of Alumnae Relations, Smith College

Please note: The information contained in this document is current as of 8/3/2018
Program Highlights:

- During a full day tour of Quito, marvel at the gold leaf interior of the Jesuit Church of La Compañía—a fine example of the mix of European influences and indigenous art called the Baroque school of Quito; enjoy a lunch of Ecuadorian specialties; and view a curated collection of Pre-Columbian art.

- Observe with remarkable proximity the diversity of endemic species such as the Nazca, red- and blue-footed boobies; giant tortoises; marine iguanas; and the famous “Darwin’s finches.”

- Discover the myriad of aquatic wildlife in the clear waters of the world’s second largest marine reserve.

- Snorkel with sea lions, colorful tropical fish, and sea turtles—or observe them through a glass bottom boat.

- Explore secluded inlets and stroll sweeping white sand beaches such as Gardner Bay, where sea lions lounge and Española mockingbirds sing.

- Visit dramatic and historic places, including the lush highlands of Santa Cruz Island, the perfect habitat to see the Galapagos Giant Tortoise, and Cerro Brujo, one of the first sites visited by Charles Darwin.

- **What’s included:** A welcome reception in Quito, 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 4 dinners including a farewell dinner; all excursions and presentations; flights between Quito, the Galapagos Islands, and Guayaquil on Days 3 and 7; gratuities to local guides, drivers in Quito and Guayaquil, and porterage at hotels; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.
Day-by-Day Itinerary:

**Day 1: En Route from U.S. / Arrive in Quito, Ecuador**
After an evening arrival in Quito, transfer to your award-winning hotel for a comfortable night’s sleep.
*Overnight: Casa Gangotena – Quito*

**Day 2: Quito**
Head out for a full-day, guided walking tour of historic Old Town. A local expert will take you through the Quito neighborhood called San Roque, where you’ll visit with local artisans, shopkeepers, hat makers, and sweet confectioners. Explore the San Francisco Market—one of the oldest in the capital—up the hill on Calle Rocafuerte. There, learn about the unique fruits and vegetables grown in Ecuador, local culinary traditions, as well as meet herbal healers with shops in the market.

Continue your journey downhill to the cobbled street of La Ronda, featuring balconies festooned with colorful flags. Stop by a chocolatier to learn how cacao beans are processed, and taste the finest chocolates of Ecuador!

Next, head north toward the political heart of the city. Following a brief narrative, stroll to the Jesuit church of La Compañía to admire its stunning gold-leaf interior. A lunch of Ecuadorian specialties will be served in the beautiful Restaurant Cedrón.

In the afternoon, head to the Casa del Alabado Archaeological Museum, within a restored 17th-century colonial mansion, to view its collection of Pre-Columbian art. This evening, meet your traveling companions for a welcome reception and prepare for your upcoming adventure.
*Overnight: Casa Gangotena – Quito (B,L,R)*

**Day 3: Quito / Flight to Baltra / Santa Cruz - Embarkation**
Arrive by plane to Baltra Airport and transfer to the Itabaca Channel to ferry across to Santa Cruz Island. After a short, scenic drive across Santa Cruz Island, arrive in the Highlands to enjoy lunch and visit the iconic species for which these islands are named. Spot the saddle-backed shell of the lumbering Galápagos giant tortoise and walk among them while your naturalist guide describes their habits as well as the conservation efforts surrounding this remarkable reptile.

Take a late afternoon stroll along the main street of Puerto Ayora before embarking on Isabela II.

Join the captain this evening for a cocktail and briefing on the exciting activities that are to come.
*Overnight: Isabela II (B,L,D)*

**Day 4: Floreana**
Floreana is perhaps best known for its colorful history of buccaneers, whalers, and colonists. After breakfast, board the pangas for coastal exploration of Baroness Cove. Look for the bobbing heads of sea turtles, or vibrant Sally Lightfoot crabs and marine iguanas clinging to the intertidal rocks. Visit the historic Post Office Barrel, which originated in the late 1700s as an unofficial mail box. Whalers going out to sea would deposit letters for ships returning home to collect and deliver. Today postcards continue to be hand carried to far-flung destinations by other visitors.

Mid-morning snorkeling off the beach provides the opportunity to observe sea turtles and colorful fish, or perhaps kayak to spot wildlife near shore. Following lunch, walk along Punta Cormorant to see the flamingos, stilts, and sandpipers that inhabit a brackish-water lagoon. A short walk leads to a sandy beach composed of coral ground so fine that it feels like flour. Green sea turtles nest here, and it is a good place to see sting rays near shore.
*Overnight: Isabela II (B,L,D)*

**Day 5: Española**
After breakfast, hike the tumbled terrain of Punta Suárez to the blowhole that shoots water 50 feet into the air. Along the way, observe unique sea bird colonies, including striking Nazca boobies and swallow-tail gulls. The
Galapagos Albatross—the largest bird in the archipelago—is found only on Española Island, and only between April and December.

In the afternoon, disembark and relax at Gardner Bay on an expansive, white coralline beach, where you can watch sea lions, Hood mockingbirds, and finches.

*Overnight: Isabela II (B,L,D)*

**Day 6: San Cristóbal**
This morning, arrive at the eastern tip of the island for more spectacular wildlife viewing. San Cristobal is the only place in the islands where you can find the three species of boobies (Nazca, red-footed and blue-footed) in the same area. Choose a hike up the hill in search of their nests, and admire the unique landscape and spectacular views of the beach below. Or, take a walk on the beach and, if conditions are favorable, there is a chance to swim, snorkel or kayak.

After lunch on board, venture out on a panga ride along the shores to Cerro Brujo’s dramatic beach to enjoy a coastline stroll and more bird watching. Join fellow guests and crew for a festive farewell toast followed by dinner.

*Overnight: Isabela II (B,L,D)*

**Day 7: San Cristóbal – Disembarkation / Flight to Guayaquil**
Bid a fond adiós to the *Isabela II* crew this morning prior to departing San Cristóbal for Guayaquil, where you will spend your final night.

*Overnight: Wyndham Hotel – Guayaquil (B,L Aloft)*

**Day 8: Guayaquil / Depart for U.S.**
In the morning, transfer to the airport to board your flight back home. (B)

B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, R = Reception

(Itinerary subject to change.)

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**What’s Included:**

- 4 nights aboard the *Isabela II*, with exploration by panga or glass-bottom boat, naturalist-led hikes and excursions, and evening lectures
- Two nights at the 5-star Casa Gangotena hotel in Quito
- One night at the Wyndham Hotel in Guayaquil
- A welcome reception in Quito, 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 4 dinners including a farewell dinner
- Complimentary use of kayaks, shorty wetsuits, and snorkeling equipment
- Galapagos National Park entrance fee and transit card
- Internal air travel (from Quito to the islands on day 3, and return to Guayaquil on day 7)
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times
- Gratuities for guides and drivers on airport transfers and excursions, and hotel porters
Your Guide(s):

Expedition Leader

This departure will be accompanied by a premier Expedition Leader who has extensive local knowledge and experience as a cultural, historic, and naturalist interpreter. With their contribution of exceptional know-how and enthusiasm adding depth to your experience, enjoy the cultures and locations you explore with added confidence, understanding, and appreciation.
Program Accommodations:

Casa Gangotena – Quito

Before embarkation, you will stay at the elegant and 5-star Casa Gangotena. Located across from Plaza San Francisco and just a few blocks from Quito’s Spanish Colonial Old Town, the hotel offers easy access to the rich culture, tradition and charm of the city’s historic center—a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1978.

Embrace the property’s well-adorned interior, featuring art nouveau and art deco elements dating back to the mid-1920s. Antique furniture pieces, restored painted tin ceilings, and endless hallways lined with Egyptian marble are among the variety of unique qualities of this sophisticated and divinely comfortable hotel.

During leisure time, stroll the gardens, enjoy tea on the patio, or visit the charming bar for a specialty cocktail crafted by the welcoming staff.

Room Amenities: Individual climate control, flat screen cable TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, bathrobes and slippers, safe, and en suite bathroom with separate shower and bathtub plus L’Occitane sundries and hair dryer.

Isabela II

With a capacity of only 40 guests, the 183-foot Isabela II was designed to provide the ultimate in comfort and adventure while cruising the Galapagos Islands. Her 21 staterooms provide spacious, fully air-conditioned accommodations with en suite facilities.

Guests can savor healthy, fresh, and delicious international and Ecuadorian cuisine at every meal. Enjoy her three public decks, dining, lounge, library, hot tub and fitness area, and the services of an enthusiastic crew who are committed to your comfort.

Sailing by small ship allows for flexibility in the itinerary to maximize wildlife viewing, as well as access to exclusive ports. While on board, learn about the area’s history, biology, and conservation from the ship’s multilingual naturalists. Experience all the Galapagos Islands have to offer through a variety of perspectives—hiking, snorkeling, kayaking, or riding a panga or glass bottom boat.
Room Amenities: Individual climate control, safe, and en suite bathroom with hair dryer and sundries (biodegradable shampoo, conditioner, soap, and shower gel). Additional towels are provided for shore excursions.

Stateroom Categories
Standard: Features a full-size bed, window, private bathroom. 128 sq.ft.
Classic Double: Features a full-size bed, view window, private bathroom, and day bed. 139 sq.ft.
Classic Twin: Features two twin beds, view window, private bathroom. 139 sq.ft.
Master Suite: Features a queen bed, view window, private bathroom. 170 sq.ft.

Highlights
- Onboard lecture program and services of a premier Expedition Leader and the ship's multilingual naturalist guides
- Observation area and sundeck, bar/lounge, elegant dining room, boutique, and an intimate library with a rich selection of reference books on the Galapagos
Islands and Ecuador

- All onboard hand-crafted meals tastefully prepared with local flair
- Shaded sun deck with a hot tub and fitness room
- All of the equipment—and expertise—for kayaking, snorkeling, and paddleboarding

Wyndham Hotel – Guayaquil

Conveniently located just 3 miles from José Joaquín de Olmedo airport, the Wyndham Hotel offers deluxe accommodations for the last night of the program. Nearby and overlooking the Guayas River is Malecón 2000—a boardwalk of museums, gardens, shopping and restaurants; the historic Santa Ana Hill and Lighthouse; and the artistic Las Peñas neighborhood. The hotel offers a restaurant featuring local culinary menu options, bar, heated rooftop pool, spa and fitness center, plus complimentary Wi-Fi throughout the hotel and complimentary airport shuttle.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, deluxe beds with pillow top, digital safe, flat screen satellite TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, coffee maker, iron and ironing board, iPhone/iPod clock radio, bathrobes, and en suite bathroom with shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, soap and hair dryer.*

*(Accommodations subject to change.)*

**Activity Level:**

**Moderate**

Guests should be sure-footed on stairs and able to walk at least one mile on rocky, volcanic, and uneven ground, as some nature hikes will be on irregular and steep terrain. Guests should also be comfortable managing beach landings and boarding small vessels, both from shore and the deck of the *Isabela II*. Also keep in mind that you will experience varying altitudes, to which you may not be accustomed.

Maximum elevation: 9,350 feet in Quito, Ecuador

**What Guests Are Saying:**

“Absolutely fabulous trip! I’ve wanted to go for 45 years and finally did it! I was extremely pleased with Orbridge and am actually looking into more trips with Orbridge. Highlights include the variety of tours
offered. The quality of accommodations, travel arrangements, and guides were exceptional!"
–Anne G., Columbia, MO

“Orbridge did a wonderful job with this! The *Isabela II* was the perfect size and we had the perfect amount of people on the trip. It is a beautiful yacht and I loved the complimentary coffee and treats throughout the day. The crew were amazing, and made the experience even better. Snorkeling was my favorite activity and I loved seeing all the birds on Espanñola Island.”
–Sandy X., Madison, WI

“We have traveled with Orbridge on other trips. We have enjoyed each one. The staff and planning are excellent. This was an excellent program. We will recommend it to our friends. This was a “bucket list” trip. It met all of our expectations.”
–Valerie & George W., Cypress, TX

“The Galapagos Islands and *Isabela II* were exceptional. Snorkeling was excellent. Food was excellent. Staff were all very pleasant. Machu Picchu was impressive and our guide made it very educational.”
–Rod J. & Connie P., Madison, WI

“We are not experienced with group tour or cruise events and this experience was a fantastic introduction. From beginning to end it was professionally run with very competent and knowledgable individuals.

Favorite highlights include the Quito city tour, the amazing variety of hikes and boat rides to view the incredible wildlife and birds of the Galapagos. The snorkeling opportunities were fantastic, especially snorkeling from the pangas.

We can’t think of one thing that we would have changed—it was all good.”
–Mary Ellen H., Portland, OR

“This was a fabulous trip. A true once in a lifetime experience. It could not have been better in any respect.”
–Robert & Anne H., Indianapolis, IN

“This was a bucket list trip for me and a dream come true. I was impressed with this program from start to finish and the efficiency and professionalism exhibited by all the support staff from guides to ship crew to porters to bus drivers to hotel staff. The highlights, besides the natural wonders of the Galapagos and the architectural masterpiece of Machu Picchu and surrounding Cloud Forest, were without a doubt the first rate guides leading both of these programs. They were knowledgeable,
professional, inspiring and clearly proud of their countries and cultures. They truly made this trip the success it was.”
–Beth S., Bowling Green, KY

“I was impressed with the program and how it was executed. Everyone was “on board” in experience and involvement for the passengers and their needs. I felt the crew and the staff cared about the passengers and their experiences. I didn’t expect the quality of service and was very pleased.

The highlights were the panga excursions around the lava rocks, snorkeling and hiking to the nesting areas of the albatross, red-footed and blue-footed boobies. The blowhole hike and the walk among the seals was so exciting.

I thank everyone involved and hope to travel to this destination again.”
–Therese C., Rose Hill, KS

“Seeing an iconic UNESCO World Heritage site like nowhere else in the world. The animals were so accessible because they are so well protected. Having guides that answered every question given them. WOW! Being on board a small vessel and getting to know so many wonderful people, travelers and crew and guides alike. Feels like family now.”
–Jerry C., Matthews, NC

“The trip was definitely the best I have ever been on. It was fabulous. That is the word we decided on as a group. I didn’t even mind getting up at early because I knew the day would be packed with amazing things. It was a good combination of fun and educational experiences. The guides were so accommodating. They went above and beyond.”
–Kathi T., Norwood, MA

“The naturalists onboard the Isabela II were excellent. We were so impressed with the range of qualities that the naturalists possessed. They were always so enthusiastic!

Orbridge was attentive to every detail of this tour and so my overall impression was excellent! Best trip I’ve ever been on.”
–Julie L., Sachse, TX

“The crew of the ship were all very friendly and helpful. I especially appreciated the attention that the Panga crews gave to their responsibilities, for example, when we were snorkeling and when we were disembarking and landing.

The food was excellent. I especially enjoyed all the fresh fish. It was fun to experience authentic...
Ecuadorian cuisine.

We had an excellent naturalist. Her knowledge is phenomenal and her attitude is extremely professional.”
–Pam & Jim W., Dallas, TX

“The Galapagos Islands are like being in paradise. What made the time there really great were the naturalists. They were extremely well-informed about every aspect of the Islands. The crew on the ship were superior as well... and the food!”
–Bonnie W., New Orleans, LA

“I have traveled to 19 countries. This Galapagos trip was the best one ever!
All of our excursions were wonderful. I enjoyed them and learned a lot!

Our chief naturalist was an amazing leader and an excellent person to give us so much information about the wildlife and about everything. We all really liked him a lot!

I certainly will go on future Orbridge trips. I was very happy with every aspect of the trip, from the initial planning until we returned home.”
–Barbara M., Memphis, TN

“The Orbridge staff was responsive and professional. The information in the documents was clear and thorough.

Honestly, as much as I loved the animals and the guests, our Chief Naturalists were two of my favorite aspects of the entire trip. Their enthusiasm was infectious as well as their fascination with the animals, plants, climate, geology, and history of the Galapagos.

This was my first trip with a sponsoring university and it far, far exceeded what I could have possibly wished for. All the guests raved about the experience and were thrilled with the trip. Several commented about how organized everything was, how cared for they felt, how amazing the naturalists were, and how good the "bang for the buck" the trip was.”
–Elizabeth P., Alexandria, VA
Optional Pre-Tour:

MASHPI LODGE

The breathtaking surroundings of the Mashpi Rainforest Biodiversity Reserve look and feel like a dream—misty clouds, crashing waterfalls, and endemic species of wildlife found in the Ecuadorian Chocó, one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Take the unparalleled opportunity to visit both a cloud forest and a rainforest—each rich with a myriad of flora and fauna species, in every layer—from below the forest floor to above the canopy.

Spend your days exploring hidden paths, discovering colorful flora and fauna, and relaxing amidst the contemporary comforts of Mashpi Lodge, located within this private reserve consisting of roughly 70% lush primary forest in its 3,212 acres.

Itinerary:

Day +1: Arrive Quito, Ecuador
Arrive at your hotel to relax and refresh before tomorrow’s full day of activities.
Overnight: Casa Gangotena

Day +2: Mashpi Lodge / Mashpi Reserve
After an early breakfast, depart via group transfer, journeying through the northwest corner of Quito’s Metropolitan District. Embrace the sweeping landscape along the western flank of the Andes next to La Mitad del Mundo (The Middle of the World), which marks the equatorial line. Along the way, visit the archaeological ruins at Tulipe—said to have belonged to the ancient Yumbo civilization of pre-Inca Quito—set in a magical forested location. After stretching your legs, continue the final descent into Mashpi Reserve and watch as the vegetation changes with every significant drop in altitude, following the course of the Rio Blanco.

After about 3.5 hours, arrive at Mashpi Lodge where staff will greet you and take you to the Expedition Room for a quick briefing on the property and activities offered at the lodge.

Your naturalist guides will explain the activities offered during your stay.
Enjoy lunch, settle into your room, and perhaps take a brief rest. In the afternoon, you’ll have the opportunity to begin one of the offered activities. Perhaps take a guided hike to one of several waterfalls, or along the Howler Monkey Trail to the Life Centre which aims to educate visitors about the butterfly’s life cycle and other wildlife found in Mashpi. Here, relax in lounge chairs set on an expansive observation deck while spotting wildlife, and later, visit the adjacent butterfly house.

As the evening sets in, set out on an optional guided night walk along the Luminous Trail in search of large and small (and some transparent!) creatures, including frogs, snakes, insects, and even tarantulas.

**Overnight: Mashpi Lodge (B,L,D)**

**Day +3: Mashpi Lodge / Mashpi Forest Canopy Exploration**

As morning breaks, listen for the bright songs from the menagerie of birds stirring around the Lodge. A staggering 400 species of birds—including some 36 endemics—are estimated to inhabit the forest, fluttering through the canopy.

Mashpi is also home to a plethora of plant species, from ferns and bromeliads to a vast variety of orchid species—many newly-discovered, which biologists come from the world-over to observe.

For those who would like to enjoy the beauty of dawn in the forest, early morning activities are organized before breakfast. Perhaps take part in one such activity, an early bird viewing and hummingbird garden (host to 32 hummingbird species) visit with breakfast al fresco. Enjoy birds when they are most active and calling and when views are often the most spectacular.

After lunch, take an opportunity to view the Mashpi Forest canopy during a guided ride aboard the Dragonfly—an aerial cable car that offers a unique and spectacular way to see an expanse of the reserve. Go for the entire 2-hour ride, or opt to combine the Dragonfly experience with a guided nature or waterfall hike.

Located close to the lodge, the Sky Bike makes for another unique and exciting way to explore the forest canopy. Designed for two people to use at once, you can pedal between two points of the forest approximately 655 feet apart. Next, climb the Observation Tower to take in the reserve in its entirety and watch the sun set behind the clouds.

This evening, join fellow travelers to hear a collection of lectures by a resident biologist or naturalist including, “Secret Wildlife of Mashpi: the Camera Trap Project,” “The Chocó: a Biological Hotspot” about the formation and diversity of the Chocó, or talks about current scientific research projects.

**Overnight: Mashpi Lodge (B,L,D)**

**Day +4: Mashpi / Quito / Main Program Begins**

After a leisurely breakfast, take a group transfer to Quito to join guests arriving for the main program. (B,L)

*B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner*

An Orbridge Expedition Leader does not attend this pre-tour, however front desk service at Mashpi Lodge is available for assistance with activity planning. Group space may be limited within 90 days of departure, so we recommend you book early for best availability.

(Itinerary subject to change.)
Accommodations:

Mashpi Lodge

Mashpi Lodge was created by Roque Sevilla, a passionate environmentalist and former mayor of the city of Quito. The thoughtfully designed lodge is perched over 3,000 feet above sea level within a private reserve between the rainforest and cloud forest. The area teems with rich biodiversity that provides endless opportunities for visitors.

This property has been recognized with nearly 20 prestigious awards since 2012, including Condé Nast Traveler – Reader’s Choice Awards 2017 – Top 20 Resorts in South America and World Travel Awards’ Ecuador’s Leading Green Hotel 2016.

Guests can relax in the serene atmosphere of this blissful hideaway, amidst the breathtaking views from the lodge's floor-to-ceiling panoramic windows. The lodge was designed with sustainable materials and features décor that combines warm earth tones, steel, stone, and glass.

Visit the open-air terraces for seemingly endless treetop views, see biologists conducting studies and experiments in the resident research lab open to guests, take advantage of the full service spa, relax at the outdoor hot tub and yoga deck, or enjoy the Expedition Room where you can view a selection of nature DVDs or peruse materials in its extensive library.

The property also features a full service bar specializing in tropical libations as well as a boutique that offers souvenir gifts and exploration essentials like rain hats, other rain gear, socks, and more.

Room Amenities: one king or two full beds, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, safe, reusable water flask, fresh filtered water, bathrobes and slippers, and en suite bathroom with premium sundries and hair dryer.

(Accommodations subject to change.)

What's Included:

- One night accommodations at Casa Gangotena in Quito and two nights accommodations at Mashpi Lodge
- Three breakfasts, three lunches, and two dinners
- Entrance to Mashpi Reserve
- Aerial tram experience
- Full guiding services including interpretation on all activities and experiences
within the reserve, including use of spotting scopes and binoculars

- Specialized lectures and field presentations on research conducted in the reserve by local experts
- Stainless steel water flask for filtered water available throughout the pre-tour
- Waterproof poncho and rubber boots
- All transportation for excursions using vehicle transport in the reserve
- All gratuities and porterage
- Group transfers from Quito Mariscal Sucre International Airport to Casa Gangotena during suggested arrival times, from Casa Gangotena to Mashpi Lodge, and return to Quito to join the main program
Optional Post-Tour:

MACHU PICCHU, CUSCO, AND THE SACRED VALLEY

Travel to the mist-shrouded mountain citadel of the Incas. So remote and inaccessible that it was left untouched by the Spanish conquistadors, Machu Picchu was unknown to the outside world until Hiram Bingham rediscovered it in 1911. During your time in the Peruvian highlands, you will have a chance to explore the famous city of Cusco and the Sacred Valley of the Incas. Visit the Pisac Market, ride the train through the Urubamba Valley, marvel at the massive stone stairs at Ollantaytambo, and break bread in the home of a local Peruvian family outside of Cusco.

Itinerary:

Day 8: Guayaquil / Flight to Lima, Peru
Welcome to Peru! After your adventure in the Galapagos Islands, enjoy leisure time in Guayaquil before flying to Lima for an evening arrival. Tonight, transfer to your hotel to refresh for tomorrow’s exciting expedition to the heights of Peru—and into its past, when the largest empire in pre-Columbian America ruled the Andes and beyond.
Overnight: Wyndham Costa del Sol – Lima Airport

Day 9: Lima / Flight to Cusco / Sacred Valley
This morning, fly east over the Central Andes’ peaks and plateaus to the ancient capital of Cusco, and then transfer to the Sacred Valley, with stops along the way to capture scenic photographs. Relax and sample traditional flavors during lunch at a lovely local restaurant before exploring this region of Inca sites and indigenous villages. In the village of Pisac, discover a vibrant market with the colorful handicrafts this region is known for: weavings, musical instruments, alpaca sweaters, jewelry, ceramics, and much more. Find a fruit and vegetable market at the main square where villagers from miles around visit, barter, and shop. Join this lively scene surrounded by the beauty of both the merchants’ wares and the traditional clothing worn by locals. Later this afternoon, enjoy time to relax after checking in, and perhaps take a short stroll through the property’s lush gardens, before dinner at the hotel.
Overnight: Sonesta Posadas del Inca – Yucay (B,L,D)
Day 10: Sacred Valley / Machu Picchu
After breakfast, make your way through the intimate cobblestone streets of Ollantaytambo, a "living" Inca town. Here, Inca descendants inhabit the largely unchanged homes of their ancestors and continue to maintain ancient customs and traditions. The massive fortress, perched among steep stone terraces carved into the hillside, is where the Inca won their greatest victory against the conquistadores. Next, board a Vistadome train to Machu Picchu, the most important site of the vast Inca empire. Enjoy views of the mountains, villages, and Inca vestiges as you descend into the Sacred Valley. From there, a short bus ride takes you to the archaeological site of “The Lost City of the Incas.” Begin a guided exploration of the enigmatic citadel. As it lies before you, learn about the archaeology and history of Intihuatana (the Sun Dial), the Sacred Plaza, and the Temple of the Sun, with plenty of time to wander, hike, and take pictures of the photogenic site. This evening, share impressions of your day while dining with your travel companions at your Machu Picchu hotel.
*Overnight: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel (B,L,D)*

Day 11: Machu Picchu / Sacred Valley / Cusco
After an early breakfast, you have an excellent opportunity to experience the wonder of a quiet morning at Machu Picchu, and to imagine the sanctuary as it was centuries ago. Today, have a more in-depth look at this amazing place and its surroundings. Adventurers are welcome to hike the surrounding trails to other discoveries. Ascend to the Sun Gate, or walk to the Inca Bridge, a challenging path carved into a rock face with a sheer vertical drop of 1,900 feet. After lunch, return to Ollantaytambo via the Vistadome train, then continue to your relaxing Cusco accommodations. This evening we'll dine at a local restaurant offering Peruvian-fusion cuisine and a great atmosphere.
*Overnight: Aranwa Boutique Hotel – Cusco (B,L,D)*

Day 12: Cusco / Saqsayhuaman / San Blas / Villa Tipón
This morning, explore Cusco’s streets still flanked in places by Inca walls built with gigantic carved granite blocks. View the unique masonry up close to truly appreciate the astonishing perfection and mass of this true Inca marvel. Walk the plaza of Saqsayhuaman, an Inca complex overlooking Cusco with stones so enormous the largest is estimated to weigh up to 200 tons. Visit the San Pedro local market, offering a sense of everyday life in Cusco, and the San Blas artists' colony for a picturesque stop. Mid-day, retreat to Villa Tipón, which is just outside the city of Cusco and set in the midst of awe-inspiring mountains and incredible gardens full of vividly colored flowers. A local family hosts a delicious Peruvian lunch followed by a traditional Shaman performing an Andean ceremony. Next, we’ll visit the Qorikancha, or Sun Temple—now referred to as Santo Domingo Church—to admire its smooth basalt foundation and learn about its period of transformation during Spanish rule. This evening, celebrate the rich rewards of your journey during a special farewell dinner.
*Overnight: Aranwa Boutique Hotel – Cusco (B,L,D)*

Day 13: Cusco / Flight to Lima / Depart for U.S.
After breakfast, head to Cusco for your flight to Lima. In Lima, share a final lunch with your fellow travelers in a lively, local restaurant. Check in to your day room at the Casa Andina Select Miraflores hotel, your own private and convenient home base while awaiting your evening flight.
*Day Room: Casa Andina Select Miraflores – Lima (B,L)*

*B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner*

*Group space may not be available within 90 days of departure.*

*(Itinerary subject to change.)*
Accommodations:

**Wyndham Costa del Sol – Lima Airport**

Travelers appreciate this property for its convenient location directly across from the Lima airport. The hotel offers modern amenities and conveniences, including a restaurant, bar, indoor pool, fitness facilities, and complimentary wireless internet access.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, alarm clock/radio, cable/satellite TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, safe, minibar, coffee and tea making facilities, and en suite bathroom with sundries and hair dryer.*

**Sonesta Posadas del Inca – Yucay**

Located in the heart of the Sacred Valley of the Incas, this hotel is a former 18th-century, colonial-style monastery surrounded by beautiful gardens. Rooms offer the comfort of modern amenities and the charm of rustic decorative features.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, TV, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, safe, and en suite bathroom with sundries and hair dryer.*

**Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel**

Only a short walk away from Machu Picchu Pueblo (Aguas Calientes) and the train station, but worlds apart from its hustle and bustle, the Inkaterra is nestled on twelve quiet acres of forest with nature trails, waterfalls, and the
world's largest private collection of indigenous orchids. Relax in this lovely hotel's atmosphere of refinement and warm hospitality while exploring nature and encountering the wonders of the Inca civilization.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, complimentary Wi-Fi, and en suite bathroom with environmentally-friendly sundries and hair dryer.*

**Aranwa Boutique Hotel – Cusco**

This luxurious property is situated near Cusco’s main square, only minutes away from colonial buildings, restaurants, and shops. Built in a 16th-century mansion, its decor, sculptures, and carvings accentuate the colonial period. Each room is well-appointed and elegantly decorated with traditional furniture and frescoes.

*Room Amenities: System supplying an additional 30% oxygen—to assist in preventing ill effects from altitude sickness (request at check-in to have this feature turned on), individual climate control, LCD TV, iPod docking station, complimentary Wi-Fi, phone, safe, minibar, and en suite bathroom with organic sundries and hair dryer.*

**Casa Andina Select Miraflores – Lima**

On departure day in Lima, a day room is included at the Casa Andina Select hotel in the Miraflores Business District. Nearby locations include Sala Luis Miró Quesada Garland, Virgen Milagrosa Church, Kennedy Park, Ricardo Palma Cultural Center and Miraflores Central Park.

*Room Amenities: Individual climate control, TV, iPod docking station, complimentary Wi-Fi, high speed internet (additional fee), phone, safe, coffee-making facilities, and en suite bathroom with sundries and hair dryer.*

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**Deluxe Accommodations Package (availability limited)**

While all accommodations at the listed properties are exceptional, guests wishing the ultimate indulgence may choose to purchase the Deluxe Accommodations Package, which includes the following upgrades:

- **Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel:** Upgrade to larger Superior Deluxe Room featuring a seating area with fireplace.
- **Aranwa Boutique Hotel – Cusco:** Upgrade to larger Superior Deluxe Room featuring jacuzzi tub, beautiful city views or the colonial patios of the property (views subject to availability at check-in).
- **Casa Andina Select Miraflores – Lima:** Upgrade to Junior Suite featuring a superior king bed and additional seating area.

(Accommodations subject to change.)
What's Included:

- 5 nights choice accommodations (Deluxe Accommodations package available) including a private Day Room in Lima on Day 13
- 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 4 dinners, and bottled water on excursions
- Fully guided tours throughout the program, lectures, and field presentations from local experts
- Internal flights between Lima and Cusco
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times
- All transportation on ground excursions, including the Vistadome train through the Urubamba Valley to Machu Picchu
- Gratuities to Expedition Leader, local guides, drivers, and waiters for included meals

Activity Level:

Moderate

Guests should be sure-footed on stairs of varying heights, able to walk at least two miles on rocky, uneven ground without assistance. Also keep in mind that you will experience varying altitudes, to which you may not be accustomed.

Maximum elevation: 11,200 feet in Cusco
The Galapagos Islands
AUGUST 21, 2019 — AUGUST 28, 2019
PRE-TOUR: AUGUST 18, 2019 — AUGUST 21, 2019
POST-TOUR: AUGUST 28, 2019 — SEPTEMBER 02, 2019

Program Rates*
Standard: $4,995
Classic Double: $5,395
Classic Twin: $5,695
Master Suite: $6,995
Single: $7,995

Pre-Tour Rate**
Double: $1,495
Single: $1,995

Post-Tour Rate***
Standard: $3,495
Deluxe: $3,895
Single (Standard): $4,895
Airfare from main program to extension is additional $740 per person

Option 1: Reserve online now at smith.orbridge.com or call (800) 225-2029.

Option 2: Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge, LLC.

GUEST INFORMATION:
Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): ____________________________________________
Email: ____________________________ Class Year: ____________________________
Home Phone: ____________________________ Alt. Phone: ____________________________
Address: ________________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ________ Zip: ____________________________
Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): ____________________________________________
Email: ____________________________ Class Year: ____________________________
Home Phone: ____________________________ Alt. Phone: ____________________________
Category Preference: 1st choice ____________________________ 2nd choice ____________________________

DEPOSIT:
# ________ guests joining program ($850/person) +
# ________ guests joining pre-tour ($500/person) +
# ________ guests joining post-tour ($500/person) = TOTAL DEPOSIT: $

Post-Tour Category (choose one): ☐ Standard ☐ Deluxe ☐ Single

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:
☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Online Check/ACH ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #: ____________________________ Exp. Date: ________ CVV: ________
Name (as printed on card): ____________________________________________
Billing Address (if different from above): ____________________________
City: ____________________________ State: ________ Zip: ____________________________

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.
Rates. Program rates are based on minimum participation levels, current fares (air, water, land), tariffs and currency values. While Orbridge does everything possible to maintain the listed program rates, they are subject to change effective immediately upon posting unless otherwise specified by Orbridge. In the case of invoicing errors, we reserve the right to re-invoice with the correct rate.

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $2,500 per person is due for the Astounding Antarctica program and $1500 per person for the Tanzania Safari Migration program.** Pre-payment is required for all other programs. Reservations deposits, plus any non-refundable deposits are due at the time of registration and payable by check, automatic clearing house (ACH), credit card, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card. Final payment including any extension(s) and optional(s) is payable by check, ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds and due no later than 150 days prior to Antarctica program departure date. Final payments for all other programs are due 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, the entire cost of the program, plus any extension and optional(s), is due at the date of registration by check, money order, ACH or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund.

Reservations (other than for the Rwanda Extension on the Tanzania Safari Migration program) made within 274 days prior to the scheduled program departure date for other Orbridge programs may be canceled at any time during the (7) calendar day period following the date of reservation for a full refund of all Payments made to Orbridge by Orbridge as of the effective date of termination. Cancellation notice must be in writing, must be received by Orbridge between 274 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person and $300 per person for any extension other than Rwanda, and @pg: (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person program including any extension(s). If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge on the final payment due date or closer to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

Travel Insurance. Orbridge strongly recommends that you purchase travel and cancellation insurance to protect your investment in the event of unexpected or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, we recommend that you consider obtaining a policy(ies) that will cover some or all of your losses associated with damage or loss of luggage or personal effects. If you do not have, but are interested in purchasing, travel and cancellation insurance please contact us immediately. For the Astounding Antarctica program, purchasing emergency medical, evacuation and repatriation insurance is recommended.

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee (“Cancellation Fee”) as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge 275 or more calendar days prior to the scheduled departure date, all deposits (other than the Astounding Antarctica program and associated extensions, and for the Rwanda Extension on the Tanzania Safari Migration program) will be fully refunded; (b) other than the Antarctica program, if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 274 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500 per person and $300 per person for any extension other than Rwanda, and @pg: (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 150 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person program including any extension(s). If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge on the final payment due date or closer to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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Cancellations. All programs are subject to cancellation by Orbridge prior to the scheduled departure date for such reasons as, but not limited to, insufficient participation, or logistical problems that, in Orbridge’s sole judgment, may impede program operations or represent conditions or events that may expose program guests and/or Orbridge to undue risk of harm, injury, damage or inconvenience. In the event of program cancellation by Orbridge, Orbridge may offer you alternative arrangements such as the option to join another tour on a different date or to a different location. If the price of your alternative booking is lower than your original booking price, Orbridge will refund the difference; or Orbridge shall refund all payments made to Orbridge at the time of cancellation the alternative arrangement not be offered or selected.

Itineraries. Accommodations, the itinerary, travel directors and expedition leaders, are arranged excursions are subject to change or substitution at any time due to unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Orbridge’s control. Reasonable efforts will be made to operate programs as planned, but adjustments, substitutions and changes may occur after the final itinerary has been issued. Orbridge may, in its sole discretion, withdraw a program or any part of it, make such alterations or substitutions to the itinerary or program inclusions as it deems necessary or desirable, and pass on to program participants any expenditures or additional costs caused by any such adjustments, or by delays or events beyond its reasonable control.

Not Included. Unless otherwise specifically noted in the itinerary, program prices do not include the following expenses, which if applicable are your sole responsibility to pay and satisfy: trip cancellation insurance and passenger travel protection plan; domestic, international, and internal airfares; transfers and luggage handling fees except in connection with scheduled group flights; optional excursions, including but not limited to airfares and internal transfers and baggage charges; any new value added taxes or GST taxes added to program costs by applicable governmental authorities; gratuities to drivers, guides, or ship’s crew not specified; meals and beverages other than those specified as being included in the itinerary; sightseeing not included in the itinerary; personal expenses such as laundry, communication charges and optional activities (sightseeing); and ship, air, or land transportation fuel surcharges, if applicable.

Health and Fitness to Travel. Some programs include physically active elements. To enjoy these programs as intended, a minimum level of fitness is required. Accordingly, you must be in good physical and mental condition to participate. You represent that you have no physical, mental or other condition, impairment or disability that may or will cause you to become a risk of injury or other hazard to yourself or others in respect to any aspect of the program you have selected. Orbridge may, in its sole discretion, limit, restrict or prohibit from participation in any aspect of any program any individual that it considers in its sole discretion to be impaired or unsuitable due to fitness level. In addition, Orbridge may, in its sole discretion and at the participant’s sole expense, remove from the program, or restrict the program-related activities of any individual whose physical or mental condition may or is likely to cause a hazard to himself/herself or others, or otherwise impair the enjoyment of other program participants. Any physical condition requiring special attention, diet, or treatment must be reported in writing to Orbridge at the time a program reservation is made. Should you have any questions or need any clarification about a specific program, please ask for details at the time of registration. Orbridge will try to accommodate your interests if
In the event any term in these terms and conditions is deemed unenforceable the unenforceable clause shall be interpreted to give effect to the parties' intentions to the greatest enforceable extent, and all other provisions hereof shall remain fully enforceable according to their terms.

Orbridge may at any time and without notice modify these terms and conditions, and any modification so made will be effective for all reservations made from and after the posted Effective Date.

travel documents. For U.S. citizens, valid passports are required for travel to foreign destinations and some countries require specific visas prior to entry. Please direct any questions in respect to visa requirements to Orbridge, which shall use commercially reasonable efforts to provide answers as a courtesy, provided that it shall remain your sole responsibility to obtain and verify that you have all required travel documents, including visas, necessary and appropriate for the program location(s) and sufficient blank pages in your passport for visas and immigration stamps. In addition, some countries require your passport have an expiry date of not less than six month after your anticipated return to the United States. Orbridge disclaims all liability for any expenses or costs you may incur due to your prohibition or restriction from entering a country on the program itinerary or reentering the United States at the conclusion of the program.

A Trip for a Minor. I, as an authorized parent or guardian of the below named minor, hereby give my permission for my child or ward to participate in the trip and further agree, individually and on behalf of my child or ward, to the terms of the above. In the event the minor is not accompanied by all legal guardians on this trip, I agree to carry with me a notarized document from each legal guardian, not on the trip, granting his or her approval for the minor to travel on this trip and to present said document(s) to any authority requesting such. In the event I am the sole guardian of the minor, I agree to carry documentation evidencing such and present to any authority when requested.

Guest #1 Signature Date

Print Name

Guest #2 Signature Date

Print Name

Name of Minor

Signature of Parent or Guardian Date

Print Name