ADVENTURE LEARNING GALÁPAGOS

Insider’s Galápagos: Active Exploration of the Legendary Islands

April 8 - 19, 2018

Led by Melinda Burke
Explore the diverse environments of the Galápagos up close on a unique land journey and through hands-on activities like snorkeling, hiking, biking and kayaking. Your adventures take you nose-to-nose with the world-renowned wildlife of the Islands, including sea lions, turtles, marine iguanas, and more. Local experts enrich your experience on visits to Tortuga Bay, El Chato Tortoise Reserve, the Wall of Tears, and the Charles Darwin Research Station. Discover all the Galápagos have to offer in a way most visitors seldom do as you traverse one of the world’s most iconic landscapes with UA Alumni Travel!
WHY GALÁPAGOS BY LAND? Experience the famous islands as an insider with more in-depth and hands-on activities. Local experts and naturalists connect you closer to the unusual birds, sea life, and terrestrial animals that have evolved in “nature’s laboratory,” brimming with biodiversity.

OUR PROGRAM LEADER

Melinda Burke (’75, ’81)

A dedicated alumna and former UA professor, Melinda Burke collaborates with UA colleges and campus partners to align the Alumni Association and University’s mission of serving UA graduates and connecting constituents through communications, career networking, and alumni outreach. As a liaison to the association’s board of directors, she listens carefully to alumni needs and serves to strengthen alumni networks regionally and nationally. Previously, Burke served as the director of the UA Terry J. Lundgren Center for Retailing in the Norton School of Family and Consumer Sciences, where she was a Petsmart Professor of Practice and built corporate partnerships with industry leaders to expand the educational opportunities for retail students.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the Galápagos up close as you hike, swim, bike and kayak your way through the islands.
- Learn about the biogeography of the islands and conservation of the Galápagos from local scientists.
- Gain an insider’s view of the fascinating human history of the islands, from 17th century whalers and pirates to Charles Darwin’s 1835 voyage, 20th century settlers, and today’s inhabitants.
- Navigate the archipelago’s turquoise waters for the chance to view sea lions, Galápagos penguins, marine iguanas, sea turtles, white-tipped reef sharks, and more.
- Hike up to the edge of Sierra Negra, one of the Galápagos’ largest and most active volcanoes.
- See the iconic Galápagos giant tortoises in their natural habitat in the densely forested areas of Santa Cruz Island’s highlands.

ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE TO ACTIVE

Trails are relatively easy to moderately challenging with uneven terrain; island transfers can be in rough waters. Biking on sandy coastal roads. Kayak and swim in calm bays. Elevations of 5,600 feet.
April 8 – Quito
Upon arrival in Quito you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Overnight at Patio Andaluz.

April 9 – Quito
After breakfast this morning take a city tour of Quito, including a visit to the Middle of the World Monument. Overnight at Patio Andaluz. (BLD)

April 10 – Floreana
This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to the Galápagos Islands, where you will be met by your local guide. Transfer by speedboat to Floreana, the sixth largest island in the archipelago. It has a colorful history, with varying accounts of how the island was settled and how its first residents (German immigrants) mysteriously disappeared. The only family remaining from the original settlements are the Wittmers, who continue to live on the island. After lunch you will be joined by Claudio Cruz Bedon, the son of one of the first inhabitants of Floreana, to speak with you about the human history of the Galápagos Islands. Next, enjoy a walking excursion to La Lobería to view Galápagos sea lions on the beach and a swim nearby in Lobería Bay. Hike along almost 3000 feet of trail going through the Galápagos National Park, where you can also see marine iguanas and sea turtles. Dinner at a local restaurant this evening. Overnight at Lava Lodge. (BLD)

April 11 – Floreana
After breakfast, hike in the highlands of Floreana to Asilo de La Paz (Peace Haven), where caves used by pirates in the 17th and 18th centuries are located. Hike to the hilltop for views of the island, and to possibly see the endemic Medium Tree Finch. After lunch at a local restaurant, swim, kayak or try stand up paddleboard off the white sand beach of Post Office Bay. Overnight at Lava Lodge. (BLD)
APRIL 12 - FLOREANA
Enjoy a morning visit to La Primavera and Las Palmas. Hike from La Primavera and continue down to Las Palmas, where the island's first permanent inhabitant, Dr. Ritter, lived and is buried. From Las Palmas, continue hiking towards the ocean with spectacular views of the Floreana shoreline. In the afternoon, be ready for more kayaking and water activities. Sea lions, green sea turtles, and tropical fish can be seen in the bay. Overnight at Lava Lodge. (BLD)

APRIL 13 - FLOREANA-ISABELA
Today head to Isabela Island via speedboat. Upon arrival, check into the hotel and visit the Interpretation Center to learn about the fascinating archipelago, including the natural history of the islands as well as the impact of humans on the ecosystem. After lunch, take a visit to Tintoreras with time for snorkeling. The Tintoreras Islets, named for the reef shark, are located across the bay from Puerto Villamil and feature a great variety of wildlife. Snorkel among small outcroppings of volcanic rock in the crystalline, turquoise waters, home to sea lions, marine turtles, Galápagos penguins, marine iguanas, and white-tipped reef sharks. Dinner at hotel. Overnight at Isa Mar Hotel. (BLD)

APRIL 14 - ISABELA
Full day hiking at Sierra Negra. As one of the most impressive examples of a volcano in the archipelago, Sierra Negra Volcano measures over six miles across from north to south and more than five miles from east to west. Hike up to the edge of the second largest caldera in the world, and eat a box lunch at site. At completion of the hike, return to the hotel. Overnight at Isa Mar Hotel. (BLD)

APRIL 15 - ISABELA
Morning kayak in the bay followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Bike ride along the sandy coastal road from town with a stop at the infamous Muro de las Lagrimas (Wall of Tears). The wall was erected by convicts when the island housed a penal colony. Numerous prisoners died in the course of building the stone wall, leading many locals to give it the now famous name. According to local lore, it is possible to hear the convicts’ cries emanating from the area from time to time. Overnight at Isa Mar Hotel. (BLD)

APRIL 16 - ISABELA-SANTA CRUZ
Early morning transfer to Puerto Ayora by speedboat. After breakfast, enjoy the breathtaking views of the archipelago at Cerro Mesa and then continue to Garrapatero Beach. Spend the afternoon snorkeling and enjoying the sandy beaches surrounded by mangroves. Overnight at Mainao Hotel. (BLD)

APRIL 17 - SANTA CRUZ
In the morning head to Tortuga Bay, one of the largest and most beautiful beaches in the Galápagos. Enjoy the spectacular white sand beach, where you can walk along the shore and swim among marine iguanas, sharks and sea turtles. After lunch, transfer to the highlands for tortoise viewing at El Chato. Hike among densely forested areas in the highlands of Santa Cruz in El Chato, a reserve for the giant tortoises. They can often be seen
cooling themselves in the ponds. Tree and ground finches, vermillion flycatchers, and cattle egrets all inhabit the area of the walking trails. This evening before dinner join your group in the hotel meeting room for a presentation by the Galapagos National Park Restoration Department. The Restoration Department is the area responsible of all the projects directed to the reforestation, restoration of native and endemic species projects, as well as the eradication of introduced species in the Galapagos National Park. A representative of this department will perform a very interesting presentation with the results of the latest studies, research, and status of the National Park areas and its species. Overnight at Mainao Hotel. (BLD)

APRIL 18 – SANTA CRUZ–QUITO
After a morning visit to the Charles Darwin Research Center, transfer to Baltra for the return flight back to mainland Ecuador. Upon arrival in Quito you will be met and transferred to your hotel for overnight. Farewell dinner will be at the hotel. Overnight at Patio Andaluz. (BLD)

APRIL 19 – QUITO
This morning you will be met and transferred to the airport for your flight to the US. (B)

SAMPLE ACCOMMODATION

ISAMAR HOTEL
Facing the ocean on the white sand beach of Isabela Island, the IsamMar Hotel offers good service in a comfortable and peaceful atmosphere. It is within walking distance of the tortoise breeding center and the flamingo lagoon.

Your stay at the Isamar Hotel is three nights, April 13–15.

PHOTOS BY ERIC LINDBERG, REINIER MUNGUA, JILL RICHMOND, ALTON BIGGS, DAIN VAN SCHOYCK, NAPARISH, PELIN KARACA, AND STEVEN BEDARD

OPTIONAL EXTENSION

AMAZON

April 19-23
5 days / 4 nights for $1,190
Single supplement: $590

Experience the magnificence of Ecuador’s Amazon Basin in safety and comfort at Sacha Lodge, located within a 5,000-acre private ecological reserve. The reserve is a treasure for nature lovers, birdwatchers, scientists, and adventure-seekers, with comfortable accommodations, first-class meals, and expert guides, plus an exclusive 940-foot canopy walkway through the rustling treetops 94 feet above the forest floor.

Your tour price includes:
• Roundtrip airfare from Quito to Sacha Lodge
• 4 nights’ accommodations at Sacha Lodge
• 11 meals: 4 breakfasts, 3 lunch, 4 dinners
• 3 full days of exploration of the rainforest lead by expert guides
• Visits to the butterfly farm and 135-foot observation tower

Does not include round-trip flight Quito-Coca (Amazon) for $200

PRICING

$5,440 per person

Price is based on double occupancy, 15 participants. Single occupancy offered at additional cost of $900.

Your price includes:
• All flights within itinerary
• 11 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
• 31 meals (11 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 10 dinners)
• Sightseeing and activities as described, including entrance fees
• Local guides in each region
• Private vehicle transportation throughout your trip
• Luggage handling, one bag per person
• Gratuities for local guides and drivers

Price does not include: international airfare, travel/trip cancellation insurance, gratuities for maids and drinks purchased on own, or items of a personal nature.

Holbrook Travel can assist with making your flight arrangements upon request. Travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended.
Dear Arizona Alumni and Friends,

We invite you to join us on a lifetime experience to the Galápagos Islands, Charles Darwin’s “Living Laboratory of Evolution.” This 12-day land-based adventure gives you the chance to snorkel, hike, kayak, bike, and stand-up paddleboard through one of the most singular destinations on the planet.

You’ll begin in the vibrant capital of Quito, whose colonial city center is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, then continue to Floreana, Isabela, and Santa Cruz Islands for your explorations of the surrounding lagoons, coves, and volcanic landscapes. As you experience firsthand the iconic wildlife, fascinating geology, and unique human history of the Galápagos, you’ll discover what makes this destination like no other place on Earth.

You won’t want to miss this unforgettable journey. As our group size is strictly limited to only 15 participants, please make your reservation as soon as possible to guarantee your spot!

Warm regards,

Lisa Valentine
Director, UA Alumni Travel & Signature Events
The University of Arizona Alumni Association
www.arizonaalumni.com/travel
lisaval@al.arizona.edu

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**UA ALUMNI TRAVEL RESERVATION FORM**

**Insider’s Galápagos: Active Exploration of the Legendary Islands**

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $______$ (500 per person) for ____ person/people on the tour listed below.

I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make check payable to Holbrook Travel, Inc. and mail deposit check to: The University of Arizona Alumni Association, Attn: Alumni Travel, 1111 N. Cherry Ave, Tucson, AZ 85721. For questions please call toll free 800-451-7111.

Full Passport Name________________________________ DOB ____________ Gender ______
E-mail ______________________________________________  UA Class Year ____________

Full Passport Name________________________________ DOB ____________ Gender ______
E-mail ______________________________________________  UA Class Year ____________

Badge Name(s) _____________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________________
City _____________________________________ State ____________ ZIP ______________
Home Ph. (_______)_____________________   Cell Ph. (_______)______________________

Please book my/our air from __________________. I/we request an air upgrade to _____________.

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

Pre- or Post-Tour Extension (as described on tour page): ☐ Y ☐ N

Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for the above-referenced tour, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) __________________________________________ Date________________

Method of Payment ☐ Check ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA

Account # ____________________________ Security Code ________ Exp. Date _________

Name of Cardholder _______________________________________________________
Signature ______________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Holbrook Travel, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Holbrook Travel. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure (check or credit card).

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**UAALUMNI MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

UA Alumni Travel is open to all alumni and friends. The travel program is a benefit of membership in the University of Arizona Alumni Association. All travelers should be current University of Arizona Alumni Association members to participate in Association travel offerings. $40 for seniors 65 and over, and $50 for those who are 64 years and under. As a member, you will be able to invite 3 non-member friends to join your travel party. For membership information, please call us at 1-800-232-8278.
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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

LOW COST AIRFARES

Low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION

Estimated airfare $1,255 from Tucson to Quito. Holbrook Travel offers group airfare and ticketing. Group transfers between the airport and hotel are included in your program cost. A note about online airfare: Occasionally, you may be able to find airfares online that are listed at a lower cost. In general, individual fares lack the flexibility of group airfare and often require immediate purchase.

If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, booking the tour “Land Only” is available. 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, The University of Arizona Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

CANCELLATIONS, CHANGES AND REFUNDS

If you must cancel your tour, the effective date of cancellation will be upon our receipt of your notification. All cancellations need to be submitted in writing to UA Alumni Travel. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges:

Cancel 95 days or more before departure: $300 charge; Cancel 95-0 days before departure: no refund. Please note that we will not refund the cost of any uninsured portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure.

PROMPT CANCELLATION INSURANCE

Required Information

Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender. Tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own.

Health and Medical Issues

We welcome all travelers, but request that you be in good health to participate on a Holbrook Travel tour. All of our tours involve a reasonable amount of walking (typically two to three miles per day). You must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own.

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We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance, in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that our itineraries cannot accommodate wheelchairs. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical condition or behavior, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other tour members. In that event, The University of Arizona Alumni Association and Holbrook Travel assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour. For the convenience of the majority of our travelers, Holbrook Travel has a No Smoking policy on all tour buses. We will arrange sufficient rest stops so those who wish to smoke may do so.

Required Information

Upon reservation, you must provide your full name as it appears on your passport, date of birth, and gender (for details, please visit hcoo.com). In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, or if you use a different passport than originally cited, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket’s reissue. A passport valid for at least six months after the completion of your tour is required for U.S. citizens on this tour.

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RESPONSIBILITY

The liability of The University of Arizona Alumni Association (UAIAA), as sponsor, and Holbrook Travel Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. UAIAA and Holbrook Travel, Inc. purchase transportation, hotel accommodations, 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, their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. UAIAA and Holbrook Travel, 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 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 carrier, cruise line, 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 tour, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality and may change due to factors such as government regulations, water levels, or weather conditions. The services of any IATA and ATC carrier may be used in connection with these tours. The participant understands that if he/she books special low cost airfares with penalties, and cancels the reservation, he/she is responsible for any penalties incurred from the airline.

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Cancel 95 days or more before departure: $300 charge; Cancel 95-0 days before departure: no refund. Please note that we will not refund the cost of any uninsured portion of your tour package. We will not charge a fee for any changes made to your reservation outside of 95 days before departure. From 94 to 30 days before departure, if you make any changes to your reservation, a $100 per person administrative fee will apply, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by airlines, hotels, or other 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 to your reservation can be made within 30 days of departure. Trip cancellation insurance is available from UAIAA and information will be sent after you reserve. You may research travel insurance online at travelinsure.com/cbrand/select/uaa. If due to unforeseen circumstances Holbrook Travel cancels your tour, you will receive a complete refund of all payments you have made to us.