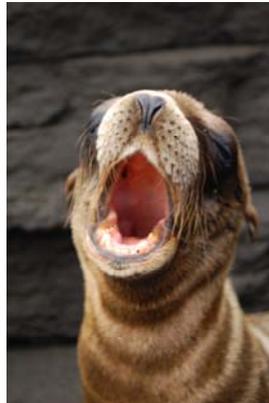


9-Day Student Expedition in Galapagos

ADVENTURE AND SERVICE IN THE ENCHANTED ISLANDS



DAY 1: Arrival to Quito

Arrival to Ecuador (transfer to hostel).
Lodging at hostel in Quito.

DAY 2: Full day Mindo Cloudforest (Meals included: B, L & D)

After breakfast, pack and get ready to visit the biodiversity hot spot of Mindo. Cloud forests have high humidity, cool temperatures and an abundance of wildlife and plants, particularly epiphytes, varieties that grow on other plants. While Mindo cloud forest is a heaven for birdwatchers, it also appeals to photographers and explorers for its outstanding panoramic views. This area gives birth to myriad waterfalls, many of which have never been named, just an example of nature's undiscovered treasures that await you here!

On the way you will stop at an ecological reserve where you will have the opportunity to safely fly through a zipline above the canopy of the cloud forest! There are over 2



miles of lines and over 10 tree platforms & lots of opportunities to see wildlife on the trails as well! After this great experience, the group will learn about how organic cacao is grown & transformed into delicious chocolate bars at a local chocolate shop in Mindo.

You will also take part of a unique chocolate tasting experience! Transfer back to Quito.

DAY 3: Quito-Galapagos (Meals included: B, L & D)

Transfer to the Quito airport to catch a flight to San Cristobal Island-Galapagos. Upon arrival you will visit the Interpretation Center, later you will do a coastal hike to Tijeretas Bay where you will see Frigate birds, rays & sea lions. Playa Mann beach time. Dinner at a Local Beachfront Restaurant. Lodging in a Hostel.

DAYS 4 & 5: Galapagos- San Cristobal Island environmental service work (Meals included: B L & D)

The highland forests of the populated Islands in the Galapagos have been greatly altered due to the introduction of exotic and invasive species of animals and plants. Specifically, a type of invasive raspberry. The research & conservation station on the Galapagos has worked to develop reforestation, habitat reconstruction, and agroforestry activities utilizing native species for the last 18 years. One of the objectives of this station is to develop the technology to reconstruct native habitat in the highlands on San Cristobal, and to serve as a centre for similar projects in the highlands on other populated islands in the Galapagos. Activities will include: reforestation with native and endemic species in the reserve and in local farms (collecting seeds, classifying seeds, nursery work, out planting within the reserve or nearby reserve & helping maintain reforestation lines

Learning Objectives:

- Grasp the social, economic and environmental threats to biodiversity conservation in the Galapagos.
- Gain hands-on experience in Habitat restoration.
- Obtain inspiration from direct interaction with conservation organizations working in the Galapagos Islands.
- Engage in cross-cultural exchange during your volunteer service.

PRICE: \$ 1440 pp *

INCLUDES:

- Private ground transportation.
- Bilingual guides
- Lodging in 2x and 3x rooms
- Meals according to itinerary
- 24/7 Emergency contact
- Activities according to itinerary
- All airport transfers
- 2 leaders free of charge

NOT INCLUDED:

- Travel insurance
 - Extra beverages
 - Flights to Galapagos
 - Entrance fee Galapagos Nat. Park
 - Galapagos Transit card
- * Referential Price based on 15 travelers

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DAY 6: Galapagos- San Cristobal to Santa Cruz Island (Meals included: B L & D)

In the morning you will do snorkeling at La Loberia Beach; you will see sea lions, marine iguanas, blue-footed boobies & lava lizards. After lunch you will travel for 2.5 hours to Santa Cruz Island via boat. Upon arrival you will transfer to the hostel and Relax. Lodging in a Hostel.

DAY 7: Galapagos- Santa Cruz Island (Meals included: B L & D)

Today you will visit the the highlands of this island where you will see Giant Galapagos tortoises in the wild, you will explore dry lava tunnels and learn about the unique Geological history of the archipelago by visiting the Twin Craters. After lunch you will visit Tortuga Bay beach & las grietas where you can swim in spectacular clear waters. Lodging in a Hostel.

DAY 8: Galapagos- Quito (Meals included: B & D)

After breakfast you will visit the Charles Darwin Research Station where you can learn about the importance of the Galapagos Islands, Geology, Evolution, History & conservation efforts. Transfer to the airport to catch the flight back to Quito. Travelers can catch a quick lunch snack at the Galapagos airport. Transfer to Hostel. Afternoon open to visit Quito's handicraft market for last minute souvenir shopping. At 7 pm the group will gather together to go a nice restaurant with a unique view of Quito Old town for a farewell dinner. Return to Hostel.



DAY 9: Transfer to airport (Meals included: B)

Transfer to the airport. End of the services.



Greentrek Sustainable Travel

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