

EXOTIC PLANTS
AND ANIMALS -
ON LAND AND SEA!

*Galapagos Islands
& Amazon Rainforest
Wildlife Adventure*

FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 2, 2022

We proudly present a tour of the Galápagos Islands and the Amazon Rainforest, along with two days in the UNESCO World Heritage City—Quito! Leave winter behind and come into the light of this tropical wonderland to see and experience an unequalled diversity of wildlife—both plant and animal—along with remarkable exotic gardens.

Cost: \$6850.00 per person, double occupancy—*airfare included* from Washington, DC, to Ecuador and return.

Dates: February 19 – March 2, 2022

Deadline to Register: December 1, 2021

All payments are fully refundable by January 6, 2022.

Come along with us on this spectacular adventure!



Galapagos Islands & Amazon Rainforest Wildlife Adventure

FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 2, 2022

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Five days exploring Galápagos Islands' wildlife
The Charles Darwin Research Station
The historic colonial city of Quito
Snorkeling in beautiful tropical waters
Quito Botanical Gardens
Two days in an Amazon Rainforest Resort

TOUR AT A GLANCE

3 Nights in Quito, Ecuador
2 Nights in Casa del Suizo Amazon Rain Forest Lodge
5 Nights on the Galápagos Islands at the Hotel Ikala in Puerto Ayora
1 Night in Quito before our return flight home

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Flight from Dulles International Airport to Quito and return
- Domestic flights to and from the Galápagos Islands
- Full-time bilingual tour director and naturalist guides
- Airport and hotel transfers in Ecuador with assistance of professional guides and drivers
- Five days of island hopping and exploration in the Galápagos Islands
- Accommodations in charming, centrally-located 4-star hotels and lodges
- Three days in the Amazon Rain Forest
- All breakfasts, seven lunches and six dinners
- Galápagos National Park Maps
- Three days in the Amazon Rain Forest
- Small boat excursions to nearby islands

NOT INCLUDED

- Travel Insurance
- Meals not listed in itinerary
- Anything not listed on the itinerary



Giant Tortoise



Quito, a UNESCO World City and capital of Ecuador

ITINERARY

This itinerary is subject to change.
Included meals: (B) Breakfast, (L) Lunch, (D) Dinner

Day One - Saturday, February 19, 2022

Today we take a morning flight from Washington Dulles Airport to Quito, Ecuador. We arrive late in the evening and make our way to our hotel in Quito. [Lodging: Hotel Hilton Colon](#)



Quito Old Town

Day Two - Sunday, Feb 20

We begin our Ecuadorian adventure in the capital city of **Quito** where we learn about its history and culture. Situated in an Andean valley at 9,350 feet above sea level at the foot of Volcano Pichincha, Quito is a modern city with a living history and one of Latin America's most historically important cities. Quito was the first city in the world to be declared a **Cultural Heritage of Humanity site by UNESCO** in 1978. Noteworthy for its architectural beauty, Quito is home to numerous churches and convents built in the colonial period. We visit the old town and see the **Church of San Francisco**, the first religious building constructed in South America by the Spaniards. Later we see the

facade of **La Compania**, the city's most ornate church and admire the spectacular views of the **Valley of Tumbaco**. On a clear day, you can see the impressive volcanoes surrounding the city.

In Quito's historical center, with its steep, narrow, cobblestone streets, the artistic and architectural influence of Spain can be seen in the general architectural style of the brightly painted homes, balconies, tiled roofs, and interior patios. We have lunch at a local restaurant and afterwards visit the **Quito Botanical Gardens** with its diversity of plants from different altitudes and ecosystems. It is said to have the largest collection of orchids in the world.

Lodging: [Hotel Hilton Colon \(B, L\)](#)



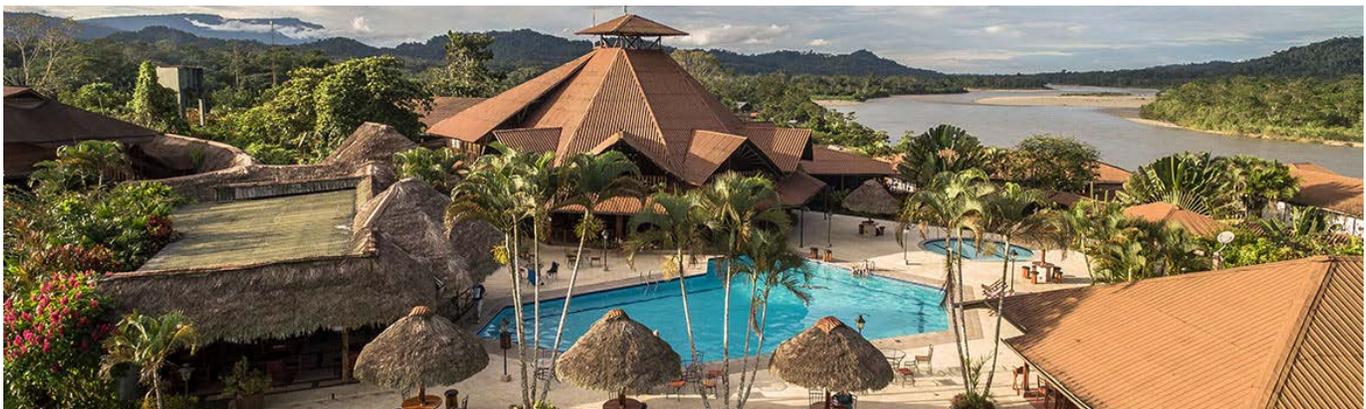
Quito Botanical Gardens

Day Three - Monday, Feb 21

After breakfast, we drive to La Punta Ahuano on the Napo River to board a canoe that takes us to our Amazon lodge, La Casa del Suizo. You barely have to leave the lodge to enjoy the incredible biodiversity of the River Napo and the natural world of the Amazon. Today we discover the local way of life and enjoy activities such as kayaking and bird watching. We learn about the local community's cooking, hunting techniques, and the Quechua language, as well as how they make ceramics from natural materials. In the evening, dinner is served in the lodge. For the next two nights we stay in the Amazon Rain Forest! Lodging: [Casa del Suizo \(B, L, D\)](#)

Day Four - Tuesday, Feb 22

This morning, we take a short hike in the **Misicocha Private Nature Reserve** to view the beautiful flora and fauna. The **Amazon Rain Forest** is the world's largest ecosystem, boasting innumerable species of tropical plants and insects. We cross suspended bridges and if you like, *fly through the rain forest on a short zip line*. At the end of the hike, we take a rafting trip in a traditional balsa log raft. The rest of the day is free, so you may choose one of the optional tours, like the Rescue Center Tour or Canopy Adventure Park. Tonight, we dine together at the lodge. Lodging: [Casa del Suizo \(B, L, D\)](#)



Casa del Suizo in the Amazon Rain Forest

Day Five - Wednesday, Feb 23

This morning, we again board a canoe for the return trip to La Punta Ahuano and enjoy a scenic drive through small towns and villages, stopping for lunch in Baeza. Afterward, we visit **Guango Lodge** for a **cloud forest experience** to enjoy the hummingbirds. Our final stop of the day is the famous **Pakakuna Gardens**, considered to be South America's largest private garden, owned by Klaus Egger, who created the garden. Here we find more than 500 species of plants and flowers from all over the world and thanks to the excellent climate, they are in bloom almost year round. Pakakuna is a Quechua word, meaning "Our Hiding Place." This describes perfectly the picturesque and tranquil nature of the site. After our visit, we continue on to our hotel, the Airport Wyndham, for dinner together. **Lodging:** [Wyndham Hotel at Quito Airport \(B, L, D\)](#)



Hummingbird at Guango Lodge

Day Six - Thursday, Feb 24

After an early breakfast, we board our flight to the **Galápagos Islands** for five days of paradise. The Galápagos Islands are an archipelago of volcanic islands bisected by the equator in the Pacific Ocean in the exact center of the Western Hemisphere. Located 563 miles west of continental Ecuador, the islands are known for their vast number of endemic species studied by Charles Darwin during the second voyage of HMS Beagle. Arriving in **Baltra**, we board a ferry for a short cruise to **Santa Cruz Island** and then continue by bus to **Puerto Ayora**. Passing through the highlands of Santa Cruz, the vegetation dramatically changes from dry areas full of cacti to rainforest and fern zones. This afternoon we visit the **Charles Darwin Research Station** to learn about island conservation and efforts to preserve this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dinner awaits us at a local restaurant. **Lodging:** [Hotel Ikala in Puerto Ayora \(B, D\)](#)



Galápagos Marine Iguana

Days Seven to Nine - Friday to Sunday, Feb 25 to 27

Over the next four days we enjoy full-day boat excursions to several of the nearby islands. The exact number of islands we visit will depend on weather conditions and National Park permits.

Each has its own unique beauty to offer: **North Seymour** is a flat island and home to magnificent frigate birds like the **Blue Footed Boobies**. **South Plaza Island** is home to a large colony of sea lions and offers excellent examples of the typical flora like towering cacti "trees" which form the principal diet for land iguanas and cactus finch. **Bartholomew Island** is a tiny island which boasts one of the most spectacular views of the archipelago from **Pinnacle Rock** where we climb to the 375-foot peak to enjoy this stunning view.

Santa Fe is one of the oldest islands of the Galápagos and in its tranquil bay, one can find green sea turtles and spotted eagle rays while sea lions bask in sun on the beach. [Lodging: Hotel Ikala in Puerto Ayora \(B, L\)](#)



Red Crab

Day Ten - Monday, Feb 28

Today we are beachcombing on **Tortuga Bay** near the town of **Santa Cruz** where we can simply relax on the beach or rent a kayak. Later in the morning, we take a cruise on a local boat to the pier where a bus awaits to take us to the highlands of the Santa Cruz. Along the way we have lunch at a local ranch, visit a **lava tunnel**, and see the famous **giant tortoises** in their natural habitat. We return to the hotel in time for dinner. [Lodging: Hotel Ikala in Puerto Ayora \(B, L, D\)](#)



Blue-footed-Boobies

Day Eleven – Tuesday, Mar 1

This morning we head to the airport for our return flight to Quito. When we land in Quito, we are taken to the

Wyndham Hotel, where we can use a room to change and get ready for our farewell dinner. Late this evening, we depart for Quito Airport to prepare for our early morning flight home. (B, D)

Day Twelve – Wednesday, Mar 2

We depart Quito shortly after midnight and arrive back at Dulles around noon the same day.

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Deposit and Final Payment information:

\$6850.00 Total cost per person (double/twin occupancy, airfare included)

\$800.00 Single room supplemental fee

While we attempt to find roommates for single participants, if a roommate is not available, the participant is subject to pay the single supplement fee. The maximum number of participants is 30.

Payment deadlines:

\$1000.00 December 1, 2021 Deposit due

\$5850.00 January 6, 2022 Final payment due

\$800.00 January 6, 2022 Single supplemental fee due

Method of Payment: *by check only*, payable to: MCDUFFTOURS LLC

TOUR CONDITIONS:

MCDUFFTOURS LLC acts only as agents for the passengers with respect to transportation, hotels and restaurants, and exercise every care possible. MCDUFFTOURS LLC assumes no responsibility to any person or entity for liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, breakdown, disruption of advertised schedules, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any ship, ferry, airplane, train, automobile, motorcoach, carriage, or any other conveyance used in carrying out these tours, or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour. We cannot accept responsibility for losses or additional expense due to delay, refusal of visa, or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, violent acts, quarantine, acts of God, or any other causes beyond our control. All such losses will have to be borne by the passenger, as our tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to the itinerary or accommodations as may be deemed necessary for carrying out the tour. The right is reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour. The price of the program is based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on September 24, 2021, and is subject to adjustment in the event of change in tariffs, taxes or exchange rates. Baggage is at the owner's risk entirely. The acceptance of any service provided as part of tour or any ticket or voucher shall be deemed to be acceptance of, and consent by the tour member to these conditions. Services are subject to the laws of the country where services are provided. For a more detailed Term and Conditions statement from MCDUFFTOURS, please click here: <https://new.mcduffttours.com/T&C.pdf>

Please note that this tour requires a considerable amount of walking and since most of the sites we visit are not wheelchair accessible, participants must be able to walk on paths with steps. Participants must also be able to manage their own luggage.

Included in the Cost

The cost of this tour includes lodging, entrance fees, guides, ground transportation, all breakfasts, bottled water, and several dinners, lunches, and teas outlined in the Itinerary. Also included is the cost of airfare from Washington Dulles Airport to Quito Airport. It also includes the cost of flights to and from the Galapagos Islands. While we attempt to find roommates for single participants, if a roommate is not available, the participant is subject to pay the single supplement fee.

Not included in the Cost

Costs of obtaining passports, visas, excess/overweight baggage charges, items of a purely personal nature such as drinks, laundry, telephone and optional tours are not included. All meals except those included in the tour are not included. Trip insurance is not included as well as tips to driver/guides and any foreign departure taxes. Transportation from your home to Washington Dulles International Airport is not included.

I understand and accept these terms and conditions.

Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

It is strongly recommended that you purchase Travel Insurance to protect your tour investment against covered unforeseeable circumstances.

Cancellation and Refund Policy: All fees are fully refundable until January 6, 2022. After January 6, 2022, actual expenses incurred in airline and hotel arrangements will be retained and the remainder will be refunded.

MCDUFFTOURS LLC is a travel company founded by Nancy and Robert McDuffie, both former professors at Virginia Tech. Nancy is a soprano and was on faculty in the Department of Music, while Robert is a Landscape Architect and was Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture as well as Director of the Hahn Horticulture Garden. After establishing the first group Horticulture Study Abroad program 24 years ago, they now take garden lovers of all ages around the world. Over 1400 people have traveled with them to visit gardens in 25 countries on five continents.

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REGISTRATION FORM

Please print – each participant must complete this form

Full Legal Name (as on passport) _____

First name for NAME TAG _____ Phone # _____

Birthdate _____ Email _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Passport# _____ Place of issue _____

Date of issue _____ Date of expiration _____

Emergency contact _____ Phone # _____

Special food requirements or allergies _____

Name of preferred roommate _____

Reservation information: Robert McDuffie - 540 818 0154 - mcdufftours@yahoo.com

Please mail your completed reservation form, a signed copy of the Terms and Conditions form, and a deposit check by December 1, 2021 to:

MCDUFFTOURS LLC
4810 Susannah Drive
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Office Use	Received	AMT: _____
		CHK#: _____
		DATE: _____