Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands

what’s included

- Round-Trip Flights
- Daily Breakfast and Dinner (unless otherwise noted)
- 24-Hour Tour Manager
- 3- or 4-Star Hotels
- Double Occupancy
- Central Network
- All Local Transportation
- Quito Tour with Guide
- Mitad del Mundo
- Santo Domingo Convent
- Intiñan Museum
- Otavalo Crafts Market
- Quito-Baltra Flight
- Re forestation or Turtle Monitoring Service Project
- Charles Darwin Research Station
- Sierra Negra Volcano
- Volcan Chico
- Giant Tortoise Breeding Center of Isabela
- Snorkeling at Las Tintoreras

our promise

In educational travel, every moment matters. Pushing the experience from “good enough” to exceptional is what we do every day. Our mission is to empower educators to introduce their students to the world beyond the classroom and inspire the next generation of global citizens. Travel changes lives.

cultural connections

HIGHLIGHTS waiting to happen

Re forestation or Turtle Monitoring Service Project

Otavalo Crafts Market Visit

“Our tour guide was phenomenal; he went above and beyond my expectations. His knowledge of the area and the history behind it was most impressive.”

Matthew L. Participant

May 31 - Jun 8, 2021

Group Leader:
Michael Parker

Group ID:
47775

Depart From:
Dallas/Ft. Worth

www.acis.com | accounts@acis.com | 1-877-795-0813
trip itinerary - 9 days

May 31, 2021: Quito
Depart from the USA. Arrive in Quito, Ecuador’s capital city located 9,350 feet above sea level, and meet your ACIS Tour Manager. Transfer to your hotel for an arrival briefing. (D)

Jun 1, 2021: Quito
Begin your day with a guided sightseeing tour of Quito viewing Independence Square with its monument to the independence heroes of August 20, 1809, and the Church and Convent of Santo Domingo, with its impressive exhibition of architectural and religious art. Travel to the Mitad del Mundo, just north of Quito, to view the world from the equator and stand with a foot in both hemispheres. Stop by the nearby Intiñan Museum to learn about their claims to be at the “real” equator (as determined by GPS) before returning to Quito. (B,D)

Jun 2, 2021: Quito
Today, a scenic drive north takes us to the province of Imbabura, a magically beautiful land of lakes and mountains. Our journey includes a stop in the town of Otavalo, world-renown for its colorful market featuring authentic handicrafts, weavings, textiles, jewelry and fruits, vegetables and meats destined for locals’ dinner tables. Practice your bargaining skills and perhaps take home a souvenir. Lunch today is at a hosteria, or local country inn. Return to Quito in the evening. (B,D)

Jun 3, 2021: Galapagos
This morning fly to Baltra, an island within the Galápagos, then continue on by bus and by barge to the north side of Santa Cruz Island. Visit the Cerro Mesa Ecological Reserve to learn about regional conservation and contribute to its mission by participating in a service project. Your service project could involve reforestation or turtle monitoring efforts, depending on the needs of the Reserve. Continue on to Puerto Ayora for the night. (B,L,D)

Jun 4, 2021: Galapagos
Today we’ll visit the Sierra Negra Volcano, one of the most active volcanoes in the Galápagos with the second largest volcanic crater in the world, measuring 6 miles in diameter and 300 feet deep. Then continue on to nearby Volcan Chico where you can feel the warmth of the ground as proof of the volcano’s activity. Return to Puerto Villamil to visit a giant tortoise breeding center and learn about the over 300 tortoises that live here. In the afternoon we’ll go underwater to see the other half of what makes the Galápagos so special on our snorkeling tour at Las Tintoreras. Just beneath the surface is a whole other world filled with tropical fish, sea lions, and sea turtles. It also happens to be the only place in the northern hemisphere that you can see penguins in the wild. (B,L,D)

Jun 5, 2021: Galapagos
This morning visit the Sierra Negra Volcano, one of the most active volcanoes in the Galápagos with the second largest volcanic crater in the world, measuring 6 miles in diameter and 300 feet deep. Then continue on to nearby Volcan Chico where you can feel the warmth of the ground as proof of the volcano’s activity. Return to Puerto Villamil to visit a giant tortoise breeding center and learn about the over 300 tortoises that live here. In the afternoon we’ll go underwater to see the other half of what makes the Galápagos so special on our snorkeling tour at Las Tintoreras. Just beneath the surface is a whole other world filled with tropical fish, sea lions, and sea turtles. It also happens to be the only place in the northern hemisphere that you can see penguins in the wild. (B,L,D)

Jun 6, 2021: Galapagos
Today we’ll travel to Puerto Ayora, the largest town in both population and size within the Galápagos. There will be time to explore the village and relax by the waterfront. After lunch we’ll continue to Tortuga Bay, for an afternoon of swimming and relaxing on one of the Galápagos’ most beautiful beaches. And don’t be surprised to see sea turtles, sea lions and flamingos enjoying the sun with you! (B,L,D)

Jun 7, 2021: Quito
It’s time to say goodbye to the Galápagos and fly back to Quito. The rest of the day is yours to soak in your last bit of Ecuadorian culture. (B,D)

Jun 8, 2021: Departure
Depart for the USA. (B)

This is a preliminary itinerary for your group.
what you’ll learn

1. Independence: Take charge of yourself and your schedule as you gain the courage to navigate new destinations, test your language skills in real-world situations, and manage your time and money.

2. Flexibility: Develop skills to adapt and acclimate as you step outside your comfort zone, experiencing the cultural adjustments that come with new places, new foods, dynamic schedules and the wonderful idiosyncrasies of travel.

3. Teamwork: Learn respect, communication and collaboration—new settings and shared activities allow you to gain confidence at working together with both familiar faces and new acquaintances.

tour cost

Participant Fees

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<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Registration Discount</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Participant Fees</strong></td>
<td><strong>$4418</strong></td>
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² Valid through 03/01/20 with $200 deposit.

Additional Fees (as applicable)

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<tr>
<td>Adult Surcharge</td>
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<td>Single Room Supplement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ultimate Protection Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comprehensive Protection Plan</td>
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</table>

notes from acis

• Save $50 off your Total Participant Fees if you pay for your trip by E-Check or through our Automatic Payments Plan.

• All registered participants can enjoy the convenience, security and savings of having payments automatically withdrawn from a checking account by enrolling in an Automatic Payments plan. To learn more, visit www.acis.com/autopay

• Adult travelers age 21 and older should add in the Adult Surcharge and Double or Single Room Supplement to calculate their Total Participant Fees.

• This educational travel program is not school or district sponsored unless expressly stated by the Group Leader.

The Most Recommended Educational Travel Company!

Don’t just take our word for it! Read reviews online at acis.com/ECG
Travel Changes Lives

Can travel make a difference in students’ futures? It certainly can and does every single day. In fact, we surveyed 930 former ACIS travelers to see how their tours abroad as young adults influenced their choices in education and paved a way for future careers. Many of them credit travel as a defining moment in their adolescence, and below is a recap of our findings.

**education**

81% of those that traveled in middle school or high school continued their studies at the college level compared to the national average of 68%.

37% of travelers who went on to college said their travel experience influenced their field of study.

57% of respondents were motivated to study abroad during college.

**language skills**

67% of students continued to study foreign language in college.

73% of ACIS travelers say they speak one foreign language fairly well compared with 18% of the American population.

**personal development**

94% felt more independent after their trip.

78% saw an increase in their problem solving skills.

92% noted improvement in their interpersonal skills.

65% have traveled overseas again since their ACIS trip.

Get Started **Today**

**ONLINE:**
www.acis.com/findmytrip

Enter your Group Leader’s ID & Last Name (on page 1). Click Register Now on your Trip Site when you’re ready to sign up.

**MAIL:**
If you prefer, send your completed registration form to:
ACIS
343 Congress Street Suite 3100
Boston, MA 02210

**QUESTIONS?**
Give Traveler Support a ring at:
877-795-0813 or email: accounts@acis.com

To learn more, we invite you to read our free ebook, “The Making of a Five-Star Future.”
http://pages.acis.com/ebook