

EcoAdventures

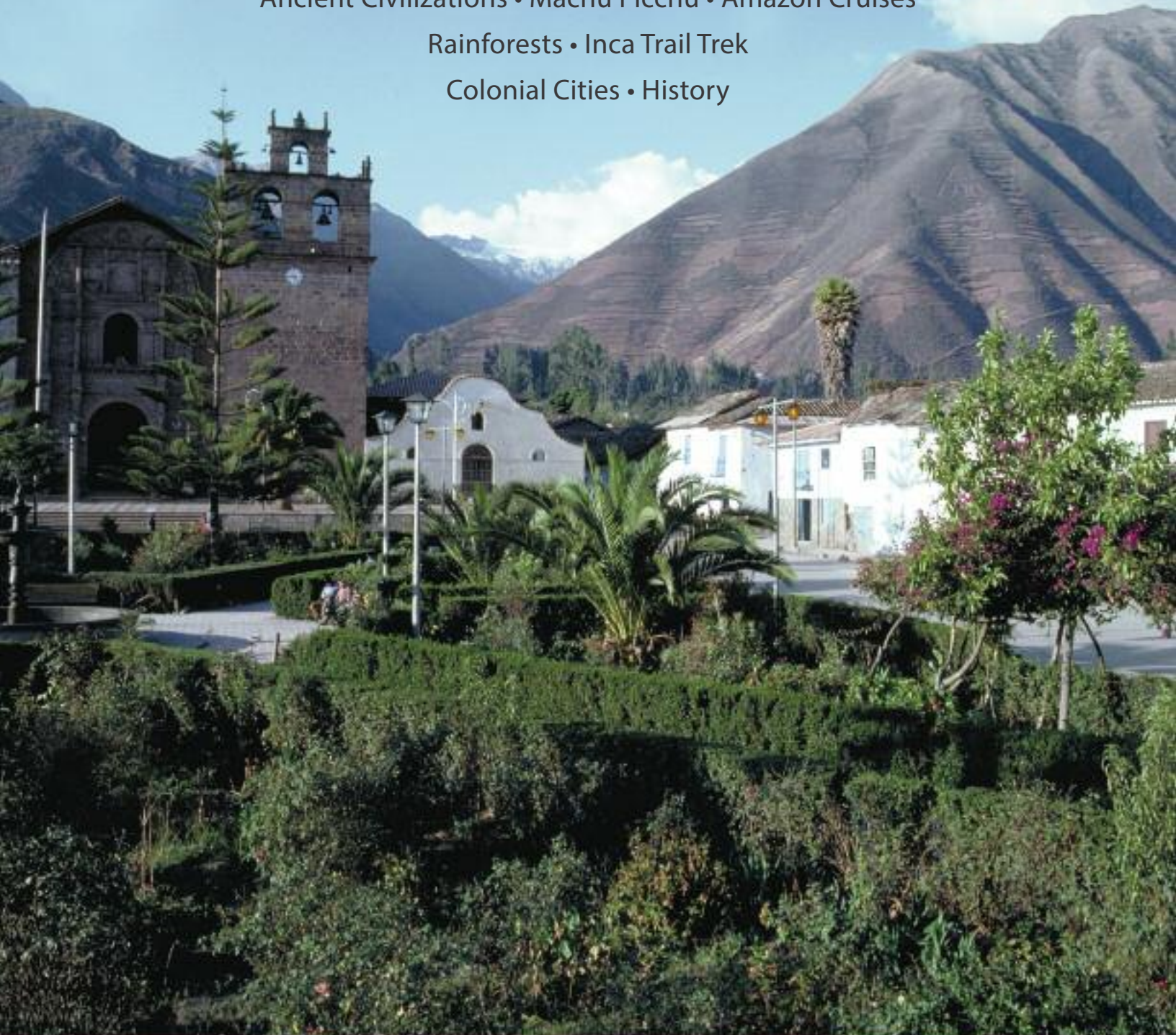
ECUADOR • PERU • GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Featuring:

Ancient Civilizations • Machu Picchu • Amazon Cruises

Rainforests • Inca Trail Trek

Colonial Cities • History



Meet EcoAdventures!

WHO WE ARE

- Founded in 1992
- 100 years combined experience selling Latin America
- Specializing in customized, independent itineraries
- All bookings are 100% pre-paid
- All major credit cards accepted
- \$5,000,000 default insurance provided by Elavon
- Bonded for \$1,000,000 Liability Insurance by the Berkely Group

WHAT WE OFFER

- Customized, individual itineraries to Latin America's special destinations, ensuring that we leave the smallest footprint
- Quality, with responsible tour operators and guides to ensure the most meaningful experience
- Archaeological, historical and cultural experiences combined with some of the most spectacular and pristine natural areas of the world
- Boutique hotels, country inns, innovative programs, unique experiences and eco-tourism

WHY CHOOSE US

- You benefit from the attention to detail in our office and the attention of our local guides and representative offices
- We are #1 in expertise: our staff has been to all of the destinations we sell many, many times
- The firsthand knowledge assures an expertly planned itinerary
- Expert consultation with every quote
- Four hotel categories for every tour, from Tourist to Ultra Deluxe, to satisfy every taste and budget



**To Experience
EcoAdventures
is to learn what
S.E.R.V.I.C.E.
really means!**

Specialists in Latin America
Ecologically Aware
Reliable Reputation
Value
Independent, Individualized Itineraries
Customization and Customer Care
Excellence is our Commitment



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Welcome to the World of EcoAdventures

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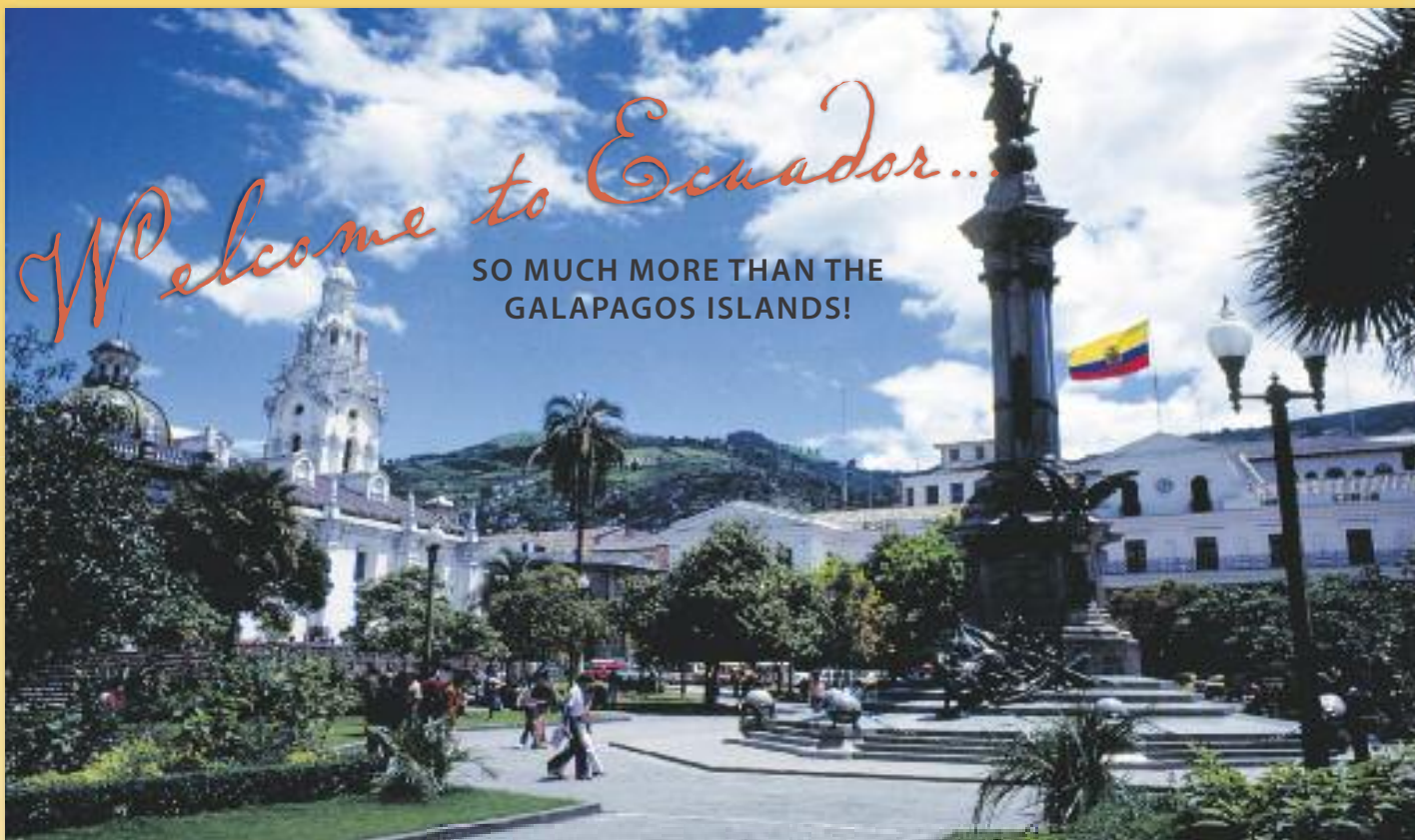


EcoAdventures' Final Documents Kit



EcoAdventures' World Headquarters





Quito for Starters

Quito is scenically located in the Andes Mountains 9,000 feet above sea level, nestled in a long, narrow valley surrounded by snow-covered peaks. The city is divided into roughly two parts. The Old Colonial City to the south, clustered around the foot of Panecillo Hill, and the more modern city to the north, with the even more recent neighborhoods sprawling further north towards the airport. The two sectors are divided by Alameda Park. Quito's new image delights all visitors. The Colonial area, largest and best preserved architectural space in all

of the Americas, has been completely restored and has just celebrated the 25th Anniversary of its declaration as a World Cultural Heritage Site. The colonial quarter is particularly splendid in the evening when illumination adds a special drama and mystery to its baroque architecture and gives the city a unique atmosphere that takes you back to the time of many legends and stories.

The travelers who are staying in Quito for more than the minimum one night before and after a Galapagos program are in for a surprise. We encourage all travelers to linger awhile, and discover the treasures on the Ecuadorian mainland!

We have excellent hotels in modern Quito, but the real treat is to stay two or more

nights in one of the boutique hotels in the old colonial sector of Quito. Since year 2000, the city of Quito, in partnership with UNESCO, has spent over \$200 million to restore Quito's historic district and it is now a city reborn. Lofty ceilings, polished wooden floors and antique furnishings add an air of elegance to these hotels, situated within the historic colonial center of Quito.



Now that you have decided to spend more time in Quito, you can take any number of excursions in and around Quito, including the famous Otavalo Market, the Equator Monument and tours of modern and colonial Quito.

For complete rates, hotel and tour details, and photo libraries please refer to our website:
www.EcoAdventures.com



Our Featured Quito Hotels

MODERN QUITO:

Swissotel

The five-star Swissotel offers 250 beautifully decorated, large rooms and suites with a touch of European elegance. Swissotel is centrally located in the excellent residential and commercial area of "La Floresta". Four restaurants offer Japanese, French, Italian, Ecuadorian and International cuisine. Leisure facilities include indoor/outdoor swimming pool, sauna, steam bath, and a fully equipped fitness center, including a squash and racquet court. All rooms have individual air conditioning and heating controls, cable TV, high-speed computer data lines, mini-bar, in-room digital safe, telephone with voice mail, coffeemaker, iron and ironing board, hair dryer, bath robe, make-up mirror, anti-allergic pillows and blankets, and Swiss-style bed with anti-allergic duvet.



area. The accommodations vary from single rooms with one double bed, to large double rooms with two twin beds, one queen or king bed. The classic décor with a modern twist, stylish furniture, windows with beautiful curtains and comfortable beds are sure to please. The rooms include all modern amenities such as telephones, cable TV, a safe and a fire alert system with sprinklers. The bathrooms have telephones, 220v and 110v plug sockets, bathtubs with showers, bathrobes and hair dryers.

Anahi Boutique Hotel Quito

Is a charming Bed & Breakfast emphasizing the value of traditional service for the most demanding guests. It is located in the lively neighborhood of Barrio La Mariscal, also known as "The Zone", surrounded by the best gastronomic, cultural and leisure places in the city. The decor is uniquely Ecuadorian with touches of art by Ecuadorian artists, combined with the latest interior design trends. Each suite is uniquely designed to emphasize the history, the different regions and the culture of Ecuador. Most of the rooms average 234-312 square feet. All areas are non-smoking.



COLONIAL QUITO:

Casa Gangotena

The ultra-deluxe Casa Gangotena is situated in a newly restored historic mansion in Old Quito, in a choice spot on Plaza San Francisco, a cobbled square rich with history stretching back to the days of the Inca. This mansion was rebuilt in 1926 following a fire. Beautifully and eclectically appointed, the hotel's newly restored interiors draw the eye with Art Nouveau and contemporary touches combined with original Neo-Classical architecture. Indeed, huge efforts have been made to preserve and restore the mansion's original details, assuring an air of history and sophistication dressed up with understated luxury. Each of the 31 suites is thoughtfully arrayed for utmost comfort beneath towering ceilings and tall windows, with king beds or twin beds. Full luxury amenities are standard.

The hotel's cozy glass-roofed patio is perfect for relaxing with a patio-garden planted with orchids, flowers and ornamentals just beyond. The cuisine is a modern, international take on traditional Andean and coastal ingredients, prepared with verve and passion by the hotel's experienced kitchen staff.



Patio Andlaur

The four-star Hotel Patio Andaluz is a national treasure in the heart of the historic Old City of Quito. The hotel is surrounded by churches, museums, and national monuments. It is a marvelous colonial building dating back to the foundation of Quito, and has been beautifully and meticulously restored. Enjoy the enchantment of this elegant, 31-room boutique hotel, with wide corridors, expansive stairways, large arches, balconies, and an atrium-style patio. Hotel amenities include a coffee shop, full gourmet

restaurant, a Tapas wine bar, spa with massage therapist and aromatherapy, gym and solarium. The spacious rooms are luxuriously appointed with colonial style furnishings, complete with all of the comforts of a world class hotel: hair dryers, mini-bar, safety boxes, central air conditioning/heat, and full tub bathrooms.



El Relicario del Carmen

El Relicario del Carmen is in the Colonial Old City of Quito, in a truly historic house, dating back to 1705; a boutique three-star hotel with 18 comfortable rooms on four floors. It has been beautifully renovated with great emphasis on the original details but with all the modern comforts including a central air-conditioning system. The furniture is handmade by recognized Ecuadorian artisans and original



paintings decorate the public and private areas. It is located a block away from the main square "Plaza de la Independencia" and the Government Palace. El Relicario del Carmen offers personalized service and a superb location for those who want a taste of the local atmosphere.





Hacienda Tours



Otavalo Overnight Tour

2-Day Extension – Daily

Day 1: Quito to Otavalo Drive north through the Awakening Valley to Ibarra, noted for wood carvers and artisans. Stops will be made en route at the bread-doll factories of Calderon and San Pablo Lake. Take time to explore and shop, and by all means, bargain! Overnight at the 16th century **Pinsaqui Hacienda** (left) **or the quaint Parador Cusin** (right and below). These colonial gems give guests the opportunity to stay in an authentic hacienda, while enjoying the comforts of a full-service hotel. **Upgrade is quoted for La Mirage**. Lunch and dinner are included. (B, L, D)

Day 2: Otavalo Market/Return to Quito After an early breakfast, head to the renowned market at Otavalo. Woven textiles, embroidery, ceramic pots, jewelry, leather goods, belts, bread dough figurines, ponchos, hammocks and hand-knit wool sweaters are only a hint of what you'll find. Bargain, bargain, bargain! Enjoy a delicious lunch before your return drive to Quito. Overnight in selected hotel in Quito is NOT included. (B, L)



Cotopaxi Hacienda Tour 3-Day Extension – Daily

Day 1: Quito to Cotopaxi You will be met in Quito by a representative of the **Hacienda San Agustin de Callo** and transferred to this remarkable hacienda about one hour south of Quito, nestled at the foot of Cotopaxi Volcano. (L, D)

Day 2: Cotopaxi National Park Enjoy a full-day excursion to Cotopaxi National Park, nestled in the shadow of Cotopaxi, the world's highest active volcano, (19,000 feet). You will see many and varied species of flora and fauna as you traverse the different ecosystems from valley floor to cloud forest to high altitude desert. Lunch is provided by the hacienda. (B, L, D)

Day 3: Cotopaxi to Quito Morning at leisure to enjoy the activities at the hacienda before your afternoon transfer back to Quito. Activities available include horseback riding, hiking in the "paramo" and long walks along country roads, fishing at nearby streams and visits to an artisan village in Tigua, or the market towns of Saquisilí (market on Thursdays), Pujili (market on Sundays) and Latacunga (market Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays) and to a nearby rose plantation. (B, L)



Hacienda San Agustin de Callo

Located an easy hour and a half from Quito, Hacienda San Agustin de Callo was built on the site of an important Inca Palace and has an historic and storied history. Since the 15th century it has served as an Inca fortress, Augustinian convent and temporary home for the French Geodesic mission. It has belonged to the Plaza family since 1921. The main courtyard is composed of three distinct styles: Inca (15th century), Colonial (16th century) and Republican (19th century). The main house, called the Inca House, has two suites and three double rooms.

The Mulalo Suite: Bedroom with queen size bed; drawing room with sofa bed; stereo and direct TV; three fireplaces including one in the bathroom with antique claw foot tub.



The Inca Tambo Suite: Bedroom with queen size bed and adjoining room with sofa or two single beds; direct TV; fireplaces in bedroom and bathroom; part of one wall is an Inca wall.

The Geodesic Room: Queen bed; fireplace in bedroom and bathroom.

The French Room: Queen bed; fireplace in bedroom and bathroom.

The Gorditas (Round Ladies) Room: Queen bed; fireplace warms bathtub area.

The Cloud Forests of Ecuador



Mashpi Lodge is located 3 hours by car from Quito (70 miles) on the Andes' western slope in a nature sanctuary in the spectacular cloud

forest of Chocó, one of the most celebrated bioregions in the world, known for its record-high endemism, rainfall and altitudinal range. This sophisticated and strikingly contemporary lodge is designed as the ideal springboard for exploring the biodiversity of its reserve. A hideaway in the clouds only accessible to its guests and located on a high plateau, Mashpi Lodge features views of the forested mountains on one side and the forest right up close on the other through its floor-to-ceiling glass windows. The Lodge, built with the latest techniques in sustainable living and employing hydroelectric power, is designed to blend beautifully with its surroundings. It features contemporary, minimalist decor, mixing warm earth tones, notes of bright American, clean lines and striking angles and vistas. The rooms, arranged over three floors, all face north, with floor-to-ceiling glass windows, some on two sides, with the forest just a few yards away. The rooms' lighting is subdued, hidden LED lights running along the handsome wooden headboards, providing a magical touch. Each features a large bathroom with twin washbasins and a Philippe Starck-designed bathtub-with-a-view. The lodge's three Yaku Suites are 400 sq ft. with king beds. They are located on the first floor, at the lodge's north western end. The 19 Wayra rooms are 366 sq ft, some with two full beds, and some with king beds. For families there are three pairs of connecting Wayra rooms, each with a king bed connecting to a two full-bedded room.



Itinerary

Day 1: Quito to Mashpi

The adventure begins with a morning pick-up at Quito's main hotels. The sudden shift in altitude (from 9,200 feet to 3,280) will allow guests to discover the spectacular natural diversity of the Andean landscape as they travel through the dry valley of Pomasqui, and then into lush, misty cloud forest. First stop is at Pululahua Crater followed by a stop at the archaeological ruins at Tulipe, said to have belonged to the ancient Yumbo civilization of pre-Inca Quito. A snack is provided of delicious Ecuadorian appetizers and fresh-brewed coffee before the final one-hour descent into Mashpi Reserve. After lunch there is a hike in the forest. The trail is named after the Cucharillo Tree (*Magnolia dixonii*), which in Spanish means "little spoon", an Ecuadorian endemic that is common at Mashpi, although otherwise threatened throughout the country. The excursion takes about 2 hours to complete. There is another hike after sunset when the forest sounds and smells intensify and other senses are awakened.

Day 2: Mashpi Exploration

The forest always rewards the early birds, as the dawn light lures a variety of fascinating species in their search for food. A good place to find birds is actually right at the hotel's terrace, where many species come to feed on insects and fruits at nearby trees. The guides will help spot what's around, offering the telescope for a close view of the incredible bird diversity of Mashpi. After breakfast there is an 8:30 am departure to the Sky Bike and Observation Tower (a 15-minute walk from the hotel), as well as other exciting activities: Hummingbird Station and The Life Center (B, L, D)

Day 3 – Return to Quito

This day's activity begins at 6:30 am in the hotel lobby and takes advantage of the fact that many bird species come to the hotel to feed. After a cup of coffee, a walk reveals a mixture of feeding flocks: usually different insectivorous bird species that move together while foraging. In a single flock you may see over 20 different species, making these more-or-less common encounters an undeniable treat for bird aficionados. After breakfast and then head to Copal Waterfall, a spectacular waterfall over 164 feet high. After the hike there is the last delicious meal at Mashpi before heading back to Quito at approximately 1:30 pm. (B, L)

Mindo Valley and Bellavista Cloud Forest

The region of Mindo is within the protected Mindo-Nambillo Forest located a short two-hour drive to the northwest of Quito. Mindo Cloud Forest has an incredible diversity of avian fauna, particularly hummingbirds, as well as butterflies. This area of primary forest with an immense biodiversity has one of the highest rates of plant endemism in the world: orchids, bromeliads, heliconias, ferns, vines, mosses and lichens grow in abundance here. Specially trained guides introduce guests to the mysteries of the cloud forest, pointing out the unique flora and fauna and leading excursions along nature paths flanked by crystalline rivers.



Itinerary

Day 1: Quito to Bellavista Early morning departure with a stop at El Pahuma Reserve for a 45-minute nature hike on a trail through lush, epiphyte-laden cloud forest alongside a lively, sparkling creek to the 165 foot Pacaya Waterfall. El Pahuma Reserve is the privately-owned forest of an Ecuadorian family and protects over 600 hectares (over 1500 acres) of tropical forest. Next visit is to Bellavista, deep in the heart of the cloud forest, where a multitude of hummingbirds hover around the feeders. After lunch, don rubber boots and rain ponchos and get ready to immerse yourself for one hour in this natural sanctuary where the sight of brightly colored tanagers and the Mountain Toucan will thrill nature lovers. At the end of the day arrive at a comfortable lodge in the area for dinner and overnight. (L, D)

Day 2: Bellavista/Mindo Valley/Quito The day starts early for nature lovers who fancy an early outing on their own when the birds are most active. For serious birdwatchers, opt for a very early (still in darkness) one-hour hike to arrive at dawn and observe a *lek* (a place of courtship) of the cock-of-the-rock. The *lek* lasts for about an hour with loud calls, and up to 12 birds flying from one branch to another displaying their red feathers to attract the females – an awesome sight! After breakfast, its down to the Mindo Valley for an introduction to the many types of orchids of the area. Then, visit the Butterfly Vivarium, housing 25 varieties of butterflies. A snack is served. On the way back to Quito, a stop is made at the rim of the crater of the dormant Pululahua Volcano, just north of the Equator.

Its huge crater, with its own microclimate, has rich soil and is farmed in colorful patches; it suddenly disappears from view among the clouds, only to reappear a few minutes later. This is an overwhelming experience! Lunch at El Crater Restaurant. (B, L)



Rain occurs throughout the year, although the climate is driest from May to September.

Temperature: Day, average 59° to 82°, Night average 50° to 59° F



Colonial Cuenca Tour 3-Day Excursion

Cuenca sits peacefully in the Southern Highlands of Ecuador at a comfortable altitude of 8,200 ft. and has a mild, spring-like climate year-round. The old colonial sector is also one of UNESCO's World Heritage sites.

The streets are laid out in a grid and are easy to navigate, and you will want to explore, in search of the best Panama hat factory, the finest weavings, ceramics and glass work, and the many tempting restaurants.



Itinerary

Day 1: Quito to Cuenca After breakfast, transfer to the Quito Airport for the short flight to Cuenca. Spend the next two nights at the **Hosteria Casa Santa Lucia**, a colonial treasure and richly restored to former splendor. (B)

Day 2: In Cuenca Enjoy a tour of Cuenca

with its popular market renowned for arts and crafts. Ikat textiles, colorful pottery and the famous "Panama" hats are all produced in this region and would be interesting additions to any Ecuadorian souvenirs. The day will give you a view of life as it once was in all of Ecuador forty years ago. (B)

Day 3: Cuenca to Quito You will have free time in Cuenca until the short flight back to Quito and transfer to your selected hotel. (B)



Hosteria Casa Santa Lucia

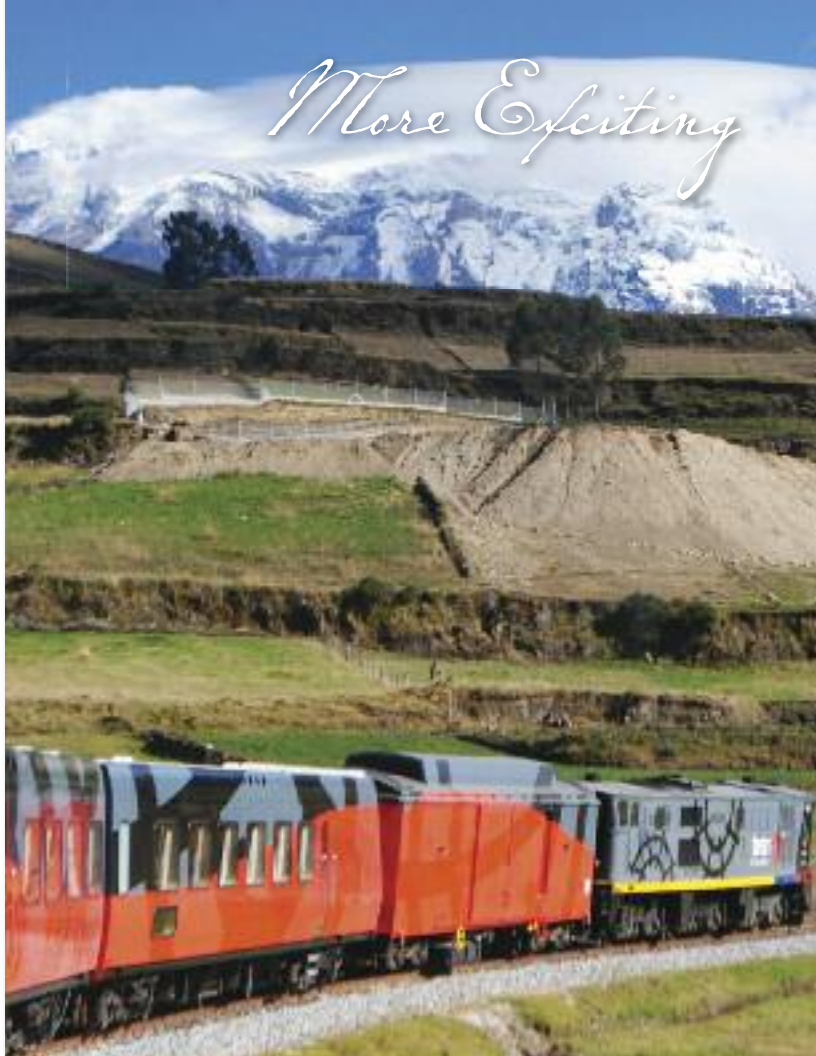
The Casa Santa Lucia Hotel was constructed in 1859 by the then governor of the province and remained in the family until recent times. It has recently been converted into an intimate twenty-room hotel that maintains the colonial charm and atmosphere of



that bygone era. A dining room, which serves Ecuadorian and international cuisine, tea salon, and open-air bar in the central patio provide each guest amenities that make any visit to Cuenca a unique experience.



More Exciting



The Tren Crucero

Following an investment of some \$280 million in the rehabilitation of 283 miles of Ecuador's railway system, the luxury Tren Crucero was launched in June, 2014.

The 4-day adventure is an experience for all the senses, bringing guests into close contact with the people and landscapes of the Andes and the Coastal regions, while riding in comfort aboard custom-designed carriages – with some sections using restored, 20th-century steam locomotives.

The Tren Crucero travels Quito to Guayaquil on the coast, or vice versa, over 4 days with overnights in traditional country inns. The route includes the dramatic "Devil's Nose" segment, connecting the Andes and



the Coast, the main reason the Ecuadorian system is regarded as "the most difficult railway in the world". The four thematically styled carriages carry 54 guests through different, fascinating regions and peoples. Two of the four carriages are furnished with tables and chairs where guests can enjoy a light aperitif, read a book or simply enjoy the scenery rolling past the large picture windows. One of these coaches is equipped



with personal lockers for storage, while a third offers a coffee bar where the crew serves beverages and snacks including Ecuadorian favorites. The last carriage comprises two sections: the first with a lounge area for socializing and the second with an open terrace where guests can travel amid the elements, as the train wends its way through Ecuador's majestic landscapes. This trip includes: the train ride; overnights in selected hotels or haciendas; meals with Ecuadorian dishes in each region; guided excursions to the main natural and cultural attractions; bilingual English/Spanish guides; excursions aboard a tourist bus.



Excursions in Ecuador



Quito to Guayaquil: 4 Days TUE-FRI only certain, limited dates
Guayaquil to Quito: 4 Days SUN-WED only certain, limited dates

Itinerary Quito to Guayaquil

Day 1, Tuesday: Quito – Lasso

Morning transfer from your hotel to Quito's railway station, where the crew from Tren Crucero will greet you. The train leaves Quito and enters the famous Avenue of the Volcanoes. As soon as the train leaves the city of Quito you get amazing views of Cotopaxi Volcano. The first time you step out of the train is at the Boliche Station, where a bus is waiting for you to visit the Cotopaxi National Park. You have lunch at the Hacienda San Augustin de Callo (see page 6). In the afternoon you are invited to a private cultural event at the Lasso Railway Station. You have dinner and spend the night at the Hosteria La Cienega. (L, D)

Hosteria La Cienega is one of Ecuador's oldest colonial haciendas. Situated 46 miles south of Quito near the slopes of the majestic Cotopaxi Volcano and its National Park, this mansion has been the scene of important happenings in the scientific and social history of the country. Among the important celebrities who have resided at La Cienega are Charles Marie de la Condamine, French scientist who participated in the Geodesic Mission (1736-44) that determined the exact location of the Equator and laid the path towards the development of a universal system of measure - the meter; and Alexander Von Humbolt, a German naturalist who studied Cotopaxi's volcanic activity (1802) as well as its unique alpine flora. Tastefully converted into a first-class hotel, La Cienega offers the visitor the unique experience of staying at this colonial jewel, within its seven-feet-thick stone walls. Surrounded by the breath-taking natural beauty of the landscape and the rich folklore of Ecuador's indigenous people. La Cienega is an unforgettable souvenir of your visit to the Andes. The hacienda has 28 rooms with private bathrooms, hot running water, telephone and heater. Among the services are: a restaurant with fine national and international cuisine, a bar, and beautiful gardens.



Day 2, Wednesday: Lasso – Riobamba

A bus will take you to the Latacunga Railway Station where you board the Tren Crucero. The first stop is at the Nevado Rose farm. Learn about Ecuadorian roses that are exported worldwide. During the late morning, the train follows the Inter Andean Valley to Ambato where you have lunch. In the afternoon the train climbs to the highest point of your



journey to Urbina at 11,840ft. Here in the skirts of Chimborazo Volcano, you meet Ecuador's last ice trader. You spend the night at the Hosteria Abraspungo in Riobamba. (B, L, D)



The Abraspungo Inn offers 20 charming rooms with private bathrooms and hot water, bar and restaurant services,

telephone and fax lines, with international contact. Its architectural style is the typical Ecuadorian countryside, reminiscent of the type of architecture used in the ancestral manors and country estates. It is stylishly decorated with all types of ancestral objects used in farming, and very illustrative photographs of native landscapes and cultures. You can appreciate the richness of the natural resources that the province of Chimborazo and Ecuador in general offer to its tourists.

Day 3, Thursday: Riobamba – Huigra

You board the Tren Crucero in Riobamba. The first train stop is at La Balbanera, Ecuador's oldest church. You can also take photos of the dramatic Chimborazo Volcano. The train journey goes on through indigenous lands to Guamote where you have time to explore the indigenous market. The Tren Crucero descends to Alausi during the afternoon and gets ready for the descent over the famous "Devil's Nose" to Sibambe. You have dinner and spend the night in Huigra at the Hosteria de la Eterna Primavera (The Eternal Spring). (B, L, D)



The Hosteria de la Eterna Primavera (Hostel of the Eternal Spring) is a charming guest house in the Huigra Valley at the base of Chimborazo Volcano. The Hosteria is very aptly named, as this valley enjoys a year-round temperature of about 64 degrees F. Built in the style of a ranch house, the 37 spotlessly clean, comfortable rooms all have private bathrooms with hot water with full tub showers, heat, and open onto the attractive grounds. There is a sparkling swimming pool, a tennis court, a billiard room, and ping pong. The restaurant serves national and international dishes.



Day 4, Friday: Huigra – Guayaquil

Today you will journey along the Chanchan River Valley and you can see the debris of old landslides and a wreck of a steam locomotive. In Bucay a bus will bring you to the nearby Shuar Indigenous Community. The Shuar community is from the Amazon rainforest and settled over the Andes a few decades ago. The Shuar Community will receive you to present their customs and talk about their traditions.

You have lunch at a large cacao (coco) farm with their own railway station. By the afternoon the train cruises the plain between the Andes and the Guayas River. Rice, banana and cacao plantations alternate between small towns. The Tren Crucero reaches Duran in the early evening and a bus will transfer you to your hotel in Guayaquil. (B, L)



The Rainforests

The Ecuadorian Amazon Experience



Nature and Wildlife: The Amazon Basin may seem like a uniform carpet of deep green forests that is one and the same throughout its entire extension (give or take a river or two). But in reality there are many different types of ecosystems within the Ecuadorian Amazon Basin, and during your Amazon experience you will learn about several, such as: flooded Moriche palm forests; terra firme with amazingly tall trees and lush undergrowth; varzea (or seasonally flooded forest), black-water streams and brown-water river islands, and much, much more. The Amazon holds the single most astonishing fauna and flora, the largest variety of plants and animals found in a single territory anywhere, many presenting unbelievable behavior and biological realities. The Ecuadorian portion of Amazon Basin is particularly rich and particularly exciting. The Yasuní National Park is a small territory with unmatched biodiversity, where there are more species of trees in a single hectare than in all of Europe. The nature and wildlife of the Amazonia is overwhelming, and by showing it to the world, explaining through example how fragile this biodiversity really is, we hope the Amazon cruise will invoke people to want to care for it, and understand why we need to protect it.

Cultures: The Ecuadorian Amazon offers the opportunity to learn about the different local communities, an experience that takes you not only deep into the jungle, but deep into the jungle's history. Throughout the Amazon, there have existed many different native groups, some having arrived more recently than others. This is the case of the Kichwa communities that still speak the ancient language of the Inca Empire, usually associated with the Ecuadorian highlands. At some point in time, highland groups ventured towards the Amazon in search of better living conditions (perhaps even to flee the impact of colonial development on native societies). You will also visit other groups with more primitive Amazonian ancestry including the Secoyas, the Sionas, the Cofanes and the Shuar and Achuar communities found further south. Last but not least, there is the Huaorani, an indigenous tribe that was only first contacted in the 1970s, who inhabit deep forest within the Yasuní National Park.

The Anakonda Amazon Cruise



4 & 5 Days
4 Days: SUN-WED 5 Days: WED-SUN

The Vessel: The Anakonda Amazon River Cruise is the only luxury ship in the Ecuadorian Amazon Rainforest. It was built to make the experience of the Amazon the most comprehensive and unique adventure possible! Its 18 suites feature ample sitting areas with large and comfortable beds. The vessel comes complete with an expansive observation deck, outdoor Jacuzzi and an al fresco lounge, ideal for cocktails, relaxation, reading or simply enjoying the spectacular views. The vessel also features three canoes for guest transportation to land excursions and activities and 10 kayaks, as well as hammocks, naturalist tour leaders and a travel concierge, who will go out of

his way to personalize your experience, making the Anakonda Amazon River Cruise a savory, unforgettably exciting treat!

The Cuisine: Amazon cruises have never set such romantic riverside tables as on the Anakonda. Refreshing and irresistible tropical cuisine, from adventurous Ecuadorian dishes that highlight the rich ingredients of the most diverse plants and trees of the region,

added to staple classics of international origins. Anakonda also presents beautiful eating environments in the midst of the forest during the Glamping adventures of the cruise.

Technical Specifications:

Built: 2013
Length: 148 feet
Beam: 30 feet
Electricity: 110 / 220 volts
Capacity: 40 passengers/18 cabins
Crew: 25, including a purser, paramedic, 4 English-speaking naturalist guides, 4 native guides, Captain, concierge and crew members.

Accommodations: Up to 40 passengers with private facilities

4 Deluxe Suites with balconies 215 sq. feet

14 Standard Suites 172 sq. feet (4 interconnected)

All outside-facing with large panoramic windows, in-suite sitting areas and air conditioning Suites feature full-sized beds that can be converted to queen beds, bathrooms with shower, toilet, sink, cabinet, hairdryer and a basket of toiletries.



Glamping



of Ecuador . . .

Sacha Jungle Lodge



Explore Nature at its Hidden Best

The thatch-roofed, 130-foot jungle tower juts above the tallest tree level at Sacha Lodge. Climb the tower's inside stairway to the covered observation platform for a true bird's-eye view of the Ecuadorian rainforest and the seemingly unending sea of green! The tower has been enhanced with a 940-foot canopy walkway.

Getting There:

Getting there is an adventure, too. First fly 45 minutes from Quito to Francisco de Orellana (Coca for short), an outpost on

the edge of the rainforest. From there, travel 2-1/2 hours by boat down the Napo River, hike 30 minutes on an elevated boardwalk and finally canoe 15 minutes across the mirror-like Pilchicocha Lagoon to the lodge.

Accommodations:

More than basic necessities are provided at Sacha Lodge: screened cabins complete with forest views, modern bathrooms with hot water and free bottled water. The cuisine incorporates local dishes, tropical fruits and traditional hotel fare, which will satisfy the appetite of any active guest.

Activities:

Sacha Lodge is home base for hikes and canoe trips through the surrounding rainforest; bird-watching, botany, entomology, fishing and photography are only a few of the many activities available to you. The Lodge offers dozens of trails of varying lengths, degrees of difficulty and



ruggedness, as well as several routes accessible by canoe. In addition, the observation tower enables guests to climb 130 feet into the canopy for an unobstructed view of endless miles of intact rainforest, as well as a close-up view of mammals, plants and dozens of species of birds.



Sacha Jungle:

Exotic Clay Lick Birds

Canopy Skyway:

The new Canopy Walkway gives guests an unsurpassed view of the wildlife.



La Selva Amazon EcoLodge & Spa

About the Lodge

Winner of the Ecotourism Award from the World Congress on Tourism and the Environment, La Selva Amazon Ecolodge & Spa sits high on Lake Garzacocha in the heart of the Amazon Rainforest basin of Ecuador. The Lodge has been in successful operation for 25 years and it is a highly respected jungle lodge in South America. La Selva is located on the border of the Yasuni National Park around sixty miles from the town of Coca, down the Napo River (one of the main tributaries of the Amazon River) and one mile inland from the river itself.



The comfortable cabanas are of native design and the food is the pride of the lodge. There are 17 thatched cabanas of varying sleeping configurations and several public gathering spots, including the spacious dining room with a cone shaped roof, and an open-air combined bar and a lounge with a wrap-around view of the lake. The hammock hut is preferred by many for siestas. NOTE: In an effort to conserve the authentic Amazon experience and for ecological reasons, there is no air conditioning in the rooms at La Selva. However, for your convenience and comfort there are fans for use 24 hours a day, and after a short period you will be surprised at how quickly your body will adapt to the change of climate. The open design of the rooms allows you to listen and enjoy the sounds of the jungle, while maintaining a genuine jungle experience in maximum comfort.

Getting There

First you have a 45-minute flight from Quito to Francisco de Orellana (Coca for short), an outpost on the edge of the Amazon basin. A motorized canoe will be waiting to take you down the Napo River (approximately 2 1/2 hours). A short hike follows this trip until you finally board a paddle canoe to cross Garzacocha Lagoon before arriving at the lodge. You will be greeted with a complimentary cocktail as well as introduced to your bilingual, naturalist guide.

Accommodations

The cabanas are private bungalows that keep you high and cozy, and are immaculately cleaned every day. It is important to note that these cabanas are made entirely of secondary growth rainforest materials; and designed to blend with the surroundings. Each one has a private bathroom, a hammock and mosquito netting (although you will be surprised at how little need you will have for this item) for each bed.



The 12 Superior suites are 398 sq. ft and have either one king bed or two double beds with luxury linens. Special features include an exclusive rainforest shower and private balcony.

The 3 Scenic suites are 269 sq. ft and have either one king bed or two double beds with luxury linens. Special features include an exclusive rainforest shower and private balcony with lake views.

Activities

There are a number of possible excursions with English guides, some more physically challenging than others. La Selva is home to many trails, a 135-foot observation tower, and a large butterfly farm.



Fixed Departures for Sacha and La Selva Lodges

4-Day Package: FRI-MON

5-Day Package: MON-FRI

8-Day Package: MON-MON or FRI-FRI

Sacha Lodge: For travel days other than Friday or Monday, there is a one-way surcharge for private canoe transfers for 104 passengers. There is no charge for more than 4 passengers.

Details and rates are available on the EcoAdventures website:

www.EcoAdventures.com

Ecuador's Country Inns and Indian Markets



Daily Departures

10 Days /9 Nights

Read the narrow, cobblestone streets of colonial Quito. Wander through the sprawling, colorful marketplace at Otavalo. Explore the charming, rural countryside of the **Valley of the Volcanoes** and stay at an incredible hacienda whose foundations and walls date to Inca times. Then fly to Cuenca in the southern highlands. Roam the market stalls in colonial Cuenca, and all along the way, stay in quaint, historic **hostelries**. Now you will have an understanding of Ecuador's rich colonial past and vibrant present. EcoAdventures' innovative routing in Ecuador combines these unique elements into ten fabulous days of history, handicrafts, country inns and memories! This is a very special tour for the discerning traveler, locally hosted throughout with our own private driver and guide.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Quito, capital of Ecuador. Meeting service at the airport and transfer to your selected hotel.

Day 2: Quito City Tour A tour today will take you around the colonial center of Quito to see the carved stone facade of the House

of Congress, which depicts scenes from Ecuadorian history. Facing the Presidential Palace and the Cathedral, Independence Square precedes a stop at the Church of La Compania (dating from 1605) with its breathtaking gilded altars. Finally stop at the arts and crafts gallery of Tianquez. (B)

Day 3: Quito to Otavalo Drive north through the Awakening Valley to Ibarra, noted for wood carvers and artisans. Stops will be made en route at the bread-doll factories of Calderon and San Pablo Lake. Take time to explore and shop, and by all means, bargain! Retrace part of the route to Otavalo and overnight in the 16th century **Pinsaqui Hacienda** or the quaint **Parador Cusin**. These colonial gems give the visitor a taste of old world haciendas, but with the comfort of full-service hotels. Lunch and dinner are included. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Otavalo Market/Cotopaxi Breakfast at your hotel, and depart early this morning for nearby Otavalo (the Persia of South America), and be among the first to arrive at its famous market. Walk among the Otavalo Indians, an aristocratic people and highly-skilled weavers. Visit also the village's large square, a shopper's paradise of woolen rugs, wall hangings, and embroidered and knit clothing. Otavaleños sell their goods throughout Ecuador, but here you will find the best selection and prices. Lunch at a charming hacienda before your return to Quito. You will be met by a representative of the **Hacienda San Agustin de Callo** and transferred to this remarkable hacienda about one hour south of Quito, nestled at the foot of Cotopaxi Volcano. (B, L, D)

Day 5: Cotopaxi National Park Enjoy a full-day excursion to Cotopaxi National Park, nestled in the shadow of Cotopaxi, the world's highest active volcano (19,000 feet). You will see many and varied species of flora and fauna as you traverse the different ecosystems from valley floor to cloud forest to high altitude desert. Lunch and dinner are included at the hacienda. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Cotopaxi to Quito Morning at leisure to enjoy the activities at the hacienda before your afternoon transfer back to Quito. Activities available include horseback riding, hiking in the "paramo" and long walks along country roads, fishing at nearby streams and visits to an artisan village in Tigua, or the market towns of Saquisilí (market on Thursdays), Pujilí (market on Sundays) and Latacunga (market Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays) and to a nearby rose plantation. (B, L)

Day 7: Quito to Cuenca After breakfast, transfer to the Quito Airport for the short flight to Cuenca. Spend the next two nights at the **Hotel Santa Lucia**, a colonial treasure and richly restored to its former splendor. (B)

Day 8: In Cuenca Enjoy a tour of Cuenca with its popular market renowned for arts and crafts. Ikat textiles, colorful pottery and the famous "Panama" hats are all produced in this region and would be interesting additions to any Ecuadorian souvenirs. The day will give you a view of life as it once was in all of Ecuador forty years ago. (B)

Day 9: Cuenca to Quito You will have free time in Cuenca until the short flight back to Quito and transfer to your selected hotel. (B)

Day 10: Homeward Bound Transfer to the airport, or extend your stay in Ecuador with additional optional destinations to the Galapagos Islands and/or rainforest expeditions into the Napo River. (B)



Enchanted Isles and the Inca Empire

Daily Departures

13 Days /12 Nights

Cruise nature's laboratory, the Galapagos Islands. Climb through the mysterious Inca ruins at Machu Picchu. View Spanish colonial balconies, art and architecture. This two-week EcoAdventure combines the unique flora and fauna of remote islands, colonial art and the massive, ancient stone temples of the Incas to make one of the most thrilling vacations of a lifetime. Select a 20-passenger yacht or a 100-passenger ship for a voyage through the ecological wonder of the Galapagos Islands. To extend your trip to the Rainforests of Ecuador, see pages 6 and 7, or to Peru, see pages 32-35. For optional Peru extensions to the Plains of Nazca or to the Lord of Sipan, see pages 30 and 31.

Day 1: Home City to Quito Arrive Quito, colonial capital of Ecuador. Meeting service at the airport and transfer to your choice of hotel.

Day 2: Quito City Tour See the colonial center of Quito this morning including the carved facade of the House of Congress, the Presidential Palace and the Baroque style Church of La Compania with its gilded altars. Final stop is the art and crafts gallery of Tianquez. (B)

Day 3: Quito to the Galapagos Islands Fly 600 miles across the Pacific to the Galapagos Islands, and board your selected ship for a four-night adventure cruise. **Note:** Galapagos cruises, airfare from Quito, air taxes and park fees are NOT included in the quoted tour rates. The cruise rates are additional, based on cruise, category and season. See pages 10 through 18 for the cruise options, itineraries, dates, rates and ship specifications. (B)

Day 4 to Day 6: Galapagos Cruise Cruising the enchanted Galapagos Islands (B, L, D daily)

Day 7: Galapagos Islands to Lima Return flight to the Ecuadorian mainland and assistance with your air connection to Lima, Peru. Transfer to your choice of hotel. (B)

Day 8: In Lima Enjoy a tour of Lima, the City of Kings, combining the modern and colonial highlights followed by a visit to the world famous Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology, which will enhance your appreciation of pre-Inca and Inca cultures. (B)

Day 9: Lima/Cuzco/Urubamba Valley An hour flight will transfer you to Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, at an altitude of 11,300 feet. You will be met upon arrival to commence your tour into the scenic Urubamba Valley. The valley, also known as the Sacred Valley of the Incas, is at a much more comfortable altitude of 8,500 feet, and you will immediately feel the difference. If you arrive Tuesday, Thursday, or Sunday you will stop at Pisac, for a colorful Indian market. Stalls overflow with weavings, handicrafts and pottery, enticing everyone to bargain! Later, climb the ruins at Ollantaimambo, another sacred site which the Incas fiercely defended from the Spaniards. Overnight at your choice of charming country inns. (B, L)

Day 10: Urubamba Valley to Machu Picchu

Morning transfer to Ollantaimambo to board the train for Machu Picchu, where you will have a guided walking tour of the ruins. You and the lucky few who will spend the night here will have a few more hours to explore the site after the crowds have returned to Cuzco. Those who select the Deluxe or Deluxe Plus category hotels will enjoy an additional dinner. The Sanctuary Lodge (Deluxe Plus) is located just outside the gate to Machu Picchu at the top of the mountain. The other hotels are located in the quaint village of Aguas Calientes at the base of the ruins. (B)

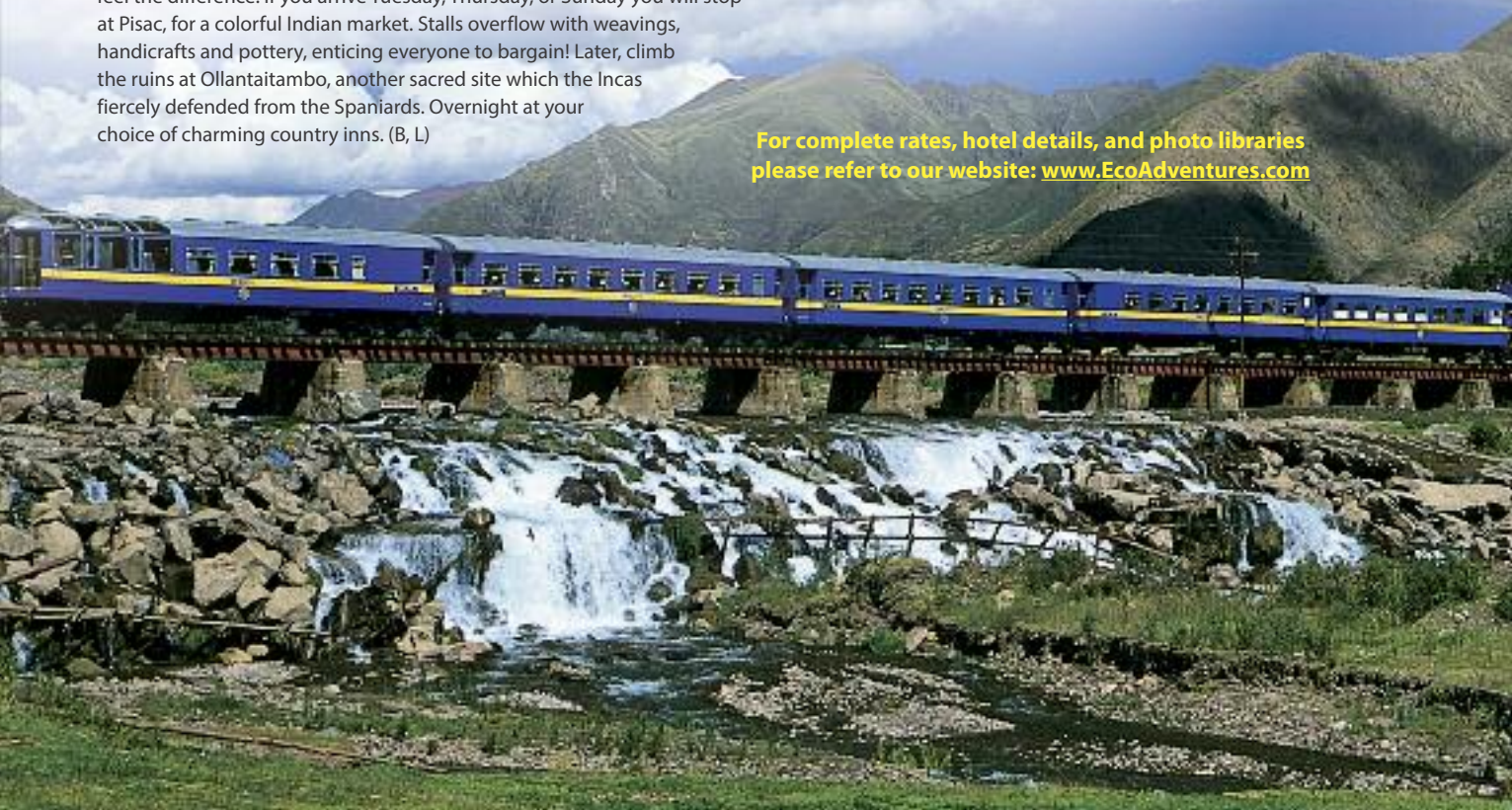
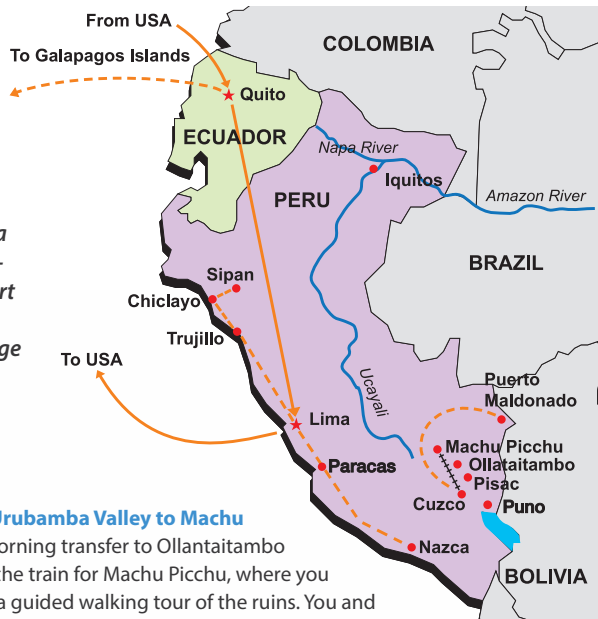
Day 11: Machu Picchu to Cuzco The morning is free for you to revisit the ruins on your own. Return to Cuzco this afternoon by train for overnight at your hotel. **Note:** Transfers from Aguas Calientes to/from Machu Picchu and entrance fees are NOT included this day. (B)

Day 12: Cuzco Tour This afternoon board your motorcoach for a tour of colonial Cuzco, including the Temple of the Sun, Cathedral and Plaza de Armas. Visit Korikancha, the Inca Sun Temple, and the church built right on top of the intact temple. Next, ascend the hills surrounding Cuzco to visit the Inca ruins of K'Kenko, Pucapucara, Tambo Machay and the great stone fortress, Sacsayhuaman. (B)

Day 13: Cuzco to Lima Morning return flight to Lima. **Note:** The tour may be extended to Lake Titicaca and Bolivia. See page 29 for details. (B)

Note: This itinerary can be reversed starting in Peru and ending in Quito, Ecuador, and is 14-days.

For complete rates, hotel details, and photo libraries please refer to our website: www.EcoAdventures.com



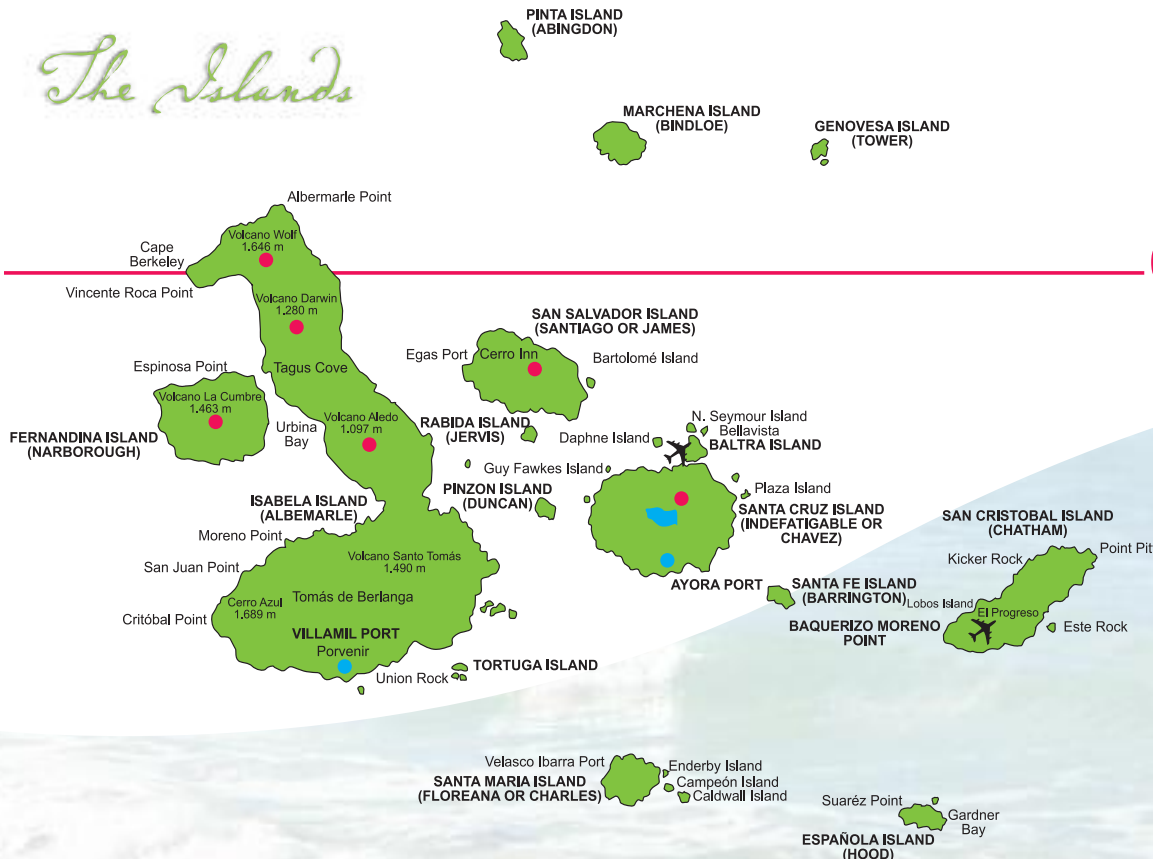
A land where nature left the book open...

Eco Adventures in the Galapagos Islands

The Galapagos, made up of 13 large islands, six smaller islands and over 40 islets, are located in the Pacific Ocean 600 miles west of the Ecuadorian mainland. Its wonders span from the most varied geological formations of lava flows, blowholes, spatter cones and lava tunnels, and beaches of olive, white, or black sand, to the most diverse landscapes and species of animal and plant life. On some islands you will find red mangroves, scalesia trees and acacias, while on others you will see cactus, micronias and Palo Santo trees. The most surprising sight for visitors, however, are the animals, which astounded Charles Darwin on his visit in 1835. The giant land turtles gave the archipelago its name and are just some of the species unique to the islands, as are the Galapagos Penguins, Darwin Finch, hawk and marine iguana. You will also see blue-footed boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, bright yellow warblers, fur seals, sea lions, frigate birds and free-roaming albatross.



0° Meet some of the Galapagos residents: Galapagos Penguin and blue-footed boobie exhibiting the behavior called "dancing".



Baltra Island: Beach, airport & docks
(South Seymour)

Bartolomé Is.: Galapagos Penguins, lava lizards, sea turtles, white-tipped sharks, Galapagos Grasshoppers (locust)
(Bartholomew)

Espanola Island: Gardner Bay & Punta Suarez: Waved albatross, blue-footed & masked boobies, sea lions, marine iguanas (Hood variety), Hood Mockingbirds, lava lizards, Galapagos Doves, swallow-tailed gulls, red-billed tropicbirds, large cactus finches, Sally Lightfoot Crabs, oyster-catchers, Galapagos Hawks
(Hood Is.)

Fernandina Is.: This is the youngest of the islands & still the most active volcanically, with eruptions every few years. Flightless cormorants, marine iguanas, sea lions, Galapagos Penguins & Hawks
(Narbrough Is.)

Floreana Island: Post Office Bay, Punta Cormorant: Greater flamingos, pintail ducks, brown pelicans, tropicbirds, medium tree finches, yellow warblers
(Charles Is.)

Genovesa Island: Darwin Bay: Prince Philip Steps (El Barranco): Galapagos Fur Seals, masked & red-footed boobies, frigate birds, petrels, Palo Santo trees
(Tower Island)

Isabela Island: Penguins, blue-footed boobies, frigate birds, Audubon Shear Waters, noddy terns, mockingbirds, Galapagos Hawks, flightless cormorants
(Albemarle Is.)

-Tagus Cove (Isabela Island) Woodpecker & Darwin Finches, brown pelicans, blue-footed boobies, swallow-tailed gulls & Galapagos Penguins

Isla Lobos: Sea lions, blue-footed boobies, frigates, gulls.

(Sea Lions Is.)

North Seymour Is.: Sea lions, land iguanas, frigate birds, colonies of blue-footed boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, bright yellow warblers, fur seals

Plaza Island: A small geological uplift. Sea lions, land iguanas, tropicbirds, blue-footed boobies, swallow-tailed gulls

Rabida (Jervis) Is.: Sea lions, pelicans, flamingos, white-cheeked pintails

San Cristobal Is.: Main sea lion, blue-footed boobies, masked boobies, frigate birds & other seabird species, airport
(Chatham)

-Cerro Brujo: (San Cristobal) Pelicans, boobies & gulls

-Leon Dormido: (San Cristobal) A vertical tuff cone formation that juts 500 feet into the air

San Salvador Is.: Fur seals, hawks, marine iguanas, Sally Lightfoot Crabs, oyster catchers, great blue herons, lava herons, yellow-crowned night herons, lava lizards, moray eels, sharks, octopi
(James or Santiago Is.)

Santa Cruz Is.: Puerto Ayora (Academy Bay): Giant tortoises & 11 other surviving species of turtles at the Darwin Research Center, Darwin Finches (13 species)
(Indefatigable)

-Los Gemelos: (Santa Cruz Is.) Twin volcano craters near the top of Santa Cruz Mountain: giant scalesias, ferns, short-eared owl, vermilion flycatcher
(The Twins)

-Dragon Hill: (Santa Cruz Is.) Flamingos, white-cheeked pintails

Climate and Wildlife Cycles

JANUARY

- Beginning of the rainy season
- Land birds start nesting, generally after the first rain
- On Hood Island adult **marine iguanas** become brightly colored (green & red & black)
- The **green sea turtles** arrive on the beaches to begin egg laying
- **Land iguanas** begin reproductive cycles on Isabela Island
- Both water and air temperatures rise and stay warm until June – ideal time for snorkeling

FEBRUARY

- On Floreana (Charles) Island **greater flamingos** start nesting
- **Bahama pintail ducks** (Black-tailed pintail) start their breeding season
- **Nazca (masked) boobies** on Hood are at the end of their nesting season
- **Marine iguanas** nest on Santa Cruz Island
- The highest water temperature reaches 77°F. and will remain constant until April
- Very few penguins are sighted at Bartolome Island (most have followed the cool waters back to the west or near upwelling areas)
- Nesting season of the **Galapagos dove** reaches its peak

MARCH

- In some years March temperatures reach beyond 86°F.
- The rainy season reaches the highest precipitation (this does not mean it rains everyday).
- Sporadic tropical rains, intense sun and hot climate, high humidity
- **Marine iguanas** nest on Fernandina (Narorough Island).
- March 21st, the beginning of the summer equinox, **waved albatross** arrive at Hood Island.
- Even the western islands have warm waters where snorkeling is excellent. Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island) can be an amazing sight. **Penguins** are still active in the water, next to tropical fish - a bizarre sight!
- Some shores, especially those facing the north side, can receive deep surge (ola de fondo) coming from the northern currents. Wet landings at places like Puerto Egas (James Island), Gardner Bay (Hood Island), and Bartolome Island can sometimes be a challenge.
- Snorkelers can remain in the water for longer periods.

APRIL

- Massive arrival of **waved albatrosses** to Española (Hood) Island. Amazing courtship starts.
- End of hatching season of the **giant tortoises**
- Eggs of **green sea turtles** begin to hatch
- Eggs of **land iguanas** hatch on Isabela
- While the rains have ended, the islands are still quite green
- Good visibility in the water for snorkelers
- Perhaps, together with May, the best months (for weather, animals, water temperature)



MAY

- North Seymour's **blue-footed Boobies** begin their courtship
- **Sea turtles** are still hatching on Gardner Bay, Punta Cormorant, and Puerto Egas (Santiago or James Island)
- Most of **marine iguanas'** eggs hatch from nests on Santa Cruz
- Palo santo trees begin to shed their foliage
- **Waved albatross** on Española (Hood) Island start laying their eggs
- **Band-rumped storm petrels** begin their first nesting period

JUNE

- You may just see the beginnings of the garúa season, when a fine mist can appear.
- **Giant tortoises** on Santa Cruz Island migrate from the highlands to the lowlands in search of suitable nesting places
- Beginning of the nesting season of giant tortoises
- Southeast trade winds return. Currents become a bit stronger. Seas pick up in surge and wave action.
- Many red pouches can be seen on the male **magnificent frigatebirds** at North Seymour as they search for mates.
- Southern migrants have started their journey towards the north. Galapagos is a rest stop for such birds. Some species of cetaceans (**whales, dolphins and porpoises**) also follow this pattern of migration.
- **Humpback whales** migrating up to equatorial latitudes along the coast of Ecuador can sometimes be seen around the Galapagos.

JULY

- Sea bird communities are very active (breeding), especially the **blue-footed boobies** on Española. **Flightless cormorants** perform beautiful courtship rituals on Fernandina.
- Along the shores of Puerto Egas (Santiago Island) **American Oystercatchers** are nesting.
- **Lava lizards** initiate mating rituals until November
- Cetaceans (**whales & dolphins**) are more likely to be observed, especially off the western coast of Isabela
- Four stages of nesting in **blue-footed boobies** can be seen: courtship, eggs, chicks and juveniles.
- Water temperature does not reach more than 68°F.

AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

- **Galapagos hawks** court on Española (Hood) and Santiago (James) Islands.
- **Nazca (masked) boobies** and **Swallow-tailed gulls** nest on Genovesa (Tower) Island.
- The temperature of the ocean drops to 64°F, which obviously varies according to the geographic zones among the islands.
- **Migrant shore birds** start to arrive, and stay on the islands until March.
- **Giant tortoises** return to the highlands of Santa Cruz.
- Oceans are quite choppy, currents at the strongest levels, surges can be expected along the shores that face west or south.
- Pupping season (births) of **sea lions** has started. Western and central islands are common places for such sightings. Peak of the "garúa" season, when the weather is at its coldest and potentially there is fog and sea mist in many locations. The air temperature reaches its lowest levels, 66°F.
- **Galapagos Penguins** show remarkable activity on Bartolome Is. Snorkelers can be delighted with penguins active at the surface or torpedo-like while underwater.
- **Sea lions** are very active. Females have reached estrus stage, and so harem-gathering males are constantly barking and fighting. Shore fighting is heavy. Western and central islands are the most active ones in terms of sea lions' activities.
- Most species of sea birds remain quite active at their nesting sites.



OCTOBER

- **Lava gulls** begin nesting until March
- Fur sea lions begin their mating season
- **Blue-footed boobies** raise their chicks all over Española (Hood), North Seymour and Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island).
- **Giant tortoises** continue laying their eggs
- A drizzle is common at the beginning of the day, but later it stops.
- Towards the west of Galapagos dawns are beautiful, due to the type of clouds present during this season, and to the presence of drizzle in certain parts of the volcanoes. Summits are clear, but low clouds cover the coast.

NOVEMBER

- The birth of **sea lions** continues
- Sea lions are sexually active towards the east of the archipelago.
- It's the breeding season for **brown-noddy terns**.
- Some species of **jellyfish** can be seen floating around Gardner & Tortuga Islets, as well as Floreana Island.
- **Band-rumped storm petrels** start their second reproduction period.
- The sea is calmer and the Trade Winds start to decrease. Water temperatures slowly rise.
- In general there is fine weather, given the transition between one season (the dry one) and the next.
- **Sea lion pups** (especially those of Champion Islet, Floreana Island), play aqua aerobics with guests doing snorkeling. Most pups are curious enough to play with the fins of snorkelers. The average age of the pups is three to four months.

DECEMBER

- Hatching of **giant tortoise's** eggs begins and lasts until April
- **Green sea turtles** display their mating behaviour
- The rainy season begins, all of the plants of the dry zone produce leaves. Galapagos becomes "green"
- The first young **waved albatrosses** fledge
- Great weather

Climate and Marine Currents



Located on the Equator, the Galapagos Islands have a surprisingly cool, sub-tropical climate. The larger islands with volcanic peaks have a variety of climatic zones. The coastal areas are arid and covered with plants adapted to desert conditions. The highland areas receive moisture almost all year round, which support lush vegetation. Temperatures are determined almost entirely by ocean currents, which are influenced by the trade winds.

There are two seasons, both of which have some precipitation. The Galapagos get an average of ten inches of rain per year, so it is never considered "rainy". Unlike most equatorial regions, the Galapagos are not hot and humid; they lie in one of the Pacific's "dry zones" where temperatures remain abnormally low, cooled by upwelling in the sea. The Galapagos cycle through two distinct seasons: the warm/wet season (January to June) and the cool/dry season (July to December).

From June to November, the cold Humboldt Current sweeps northward from the Antarctic. When it reaches the northern tip of Peru, the southeast trade winds push it toward the Galapagos. This mass of cold water cools the air and creates an inversion layer over the islands. The inversion upsets the usual weather pattern associated with the tropics. While the lowlands are experiencing drought,

the highlands receive misty precipitation locally known as "garua" (pronounced gah-ru-ah), which means mist in Spanish.

The months of October and November are transition months, between the hot season (December-May) and the dry season (June-November). Generally days will be alternately sunny and partly cloudy. Days do not begin with full sunshine, but are rather cloudy



until about 10:00 am; and as the day warms up the clouds dissipate and the equatorial sun shines. Clouds return at about 5:00 pm. This is the general forecast, but guests should not be surprised if one day the sun shines brightly from 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. It is still windy (the Trade Winds from the southeast), and early morning and late afternoon activities may feel chilly, so we recommend a light jacket, parka type (windbreaker). The wind is cool, particularly at the end of the day, since the temperature of the water does not exceed 72°F-74°F. Visits to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island may include some very fine drizzle and mud; lightweight pants and



the suggested jacket will come in very handy. During the months of December to May, the cooling currents subside, temperatures rise and the southeast trade winds and the Humboldt Current vanish.

Warm waters flow south

from Panama. Periods of rain are strong but are of short duration. Temperatures are warm and sunny days outnumber cloudy days. Some years, the flow of warm water is greater than normal and a phenomenon known as "El Nino" results. Surface water temperatures climb higher than usual and rainfall greatly increases. Life on land flourishes, but seabirds and marine life frequently experience extreme breeding failures.

The Ships...

M/Y Galaven

4, 5 & 8, 15-Day Cruises
Superior Tourist Class



Technical Specifications: M/Y Galaven

Built in 2000
Tonnage: 171
Length: 88 feet Beam: 22 feet Draft: 6 feet
Capacity: 20 passengers
Main Deck: 4 Twin Cabins 78 sq. ft. / 3 Twin Cabins 75 sq. ft.
Upper Deck: 2 Suites 100 sq. ft.
Sun Deck: 2 Twin Cabins 74 sq. ft.
Crew: Captain plus 8 + 2 Naturalist guides

All spacious cabins with private bathrooms, fully air-conditioned, and snorkeling equipment.



Sailings

M/V Galaven
4, 5 & 8 Days

4 Days: TUE/FRI of Cruise A
5 Days: FRI/TUE of Cruise A
8 Days: TUE/TUE Cruise A – Central Islands & Genovesa
or TUE/TUE Cruise B – Northern Islands & Isabela

Cruise A – Every Second Tuesday

TUE **Baltra Airport/Black Turtle Cove**
WED El Barranco (Genovesa Is.)
Darwin Bay
THU Sullivan Bay (Santiago Is.)
Rabida Island
FRI Darwin Station (Santa Cruz Is.)
El Chato
SAT Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz Is.)
Bachas Beach
SUN Post Office Bay (Floreana Is.)
Punta Cormorant/Devil's Crown
MON Punta Suarez (Espanola Is.)
Gardner Bay
TUE Interpretation Center
San Cristobal

Cruise B – Every Second Tuesday

TUE **San Cristobal/La Galapaguera**
WED Santa Fe Island
South Plaza Island
THU Darwin Station (Santa Cruz Is.)
Highlands/Twin Craters
FRI Wall of Teas/Tortoise Breeding Ctr
(Isabela Is.) Sierra Negra Volcano
SAT Moreno Point (Isabela Is.)
Urbina Bay
SUN Punta Espinosa (Fernandina Is.)
Punta Vincente Roca (Isabela Is.)
MON Espumilla Bch or Bucanero
Cove (Santiago Is.)
Bartolome Island
TUE North Deymour Island
Baltra

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

Regardless of their size, all ships carry a maximum capacity of 100 passengers, which is a "cap" established by the Ecuadorian Government in order to limit the ecological impact of tourism on the islands.

M/V Majestic

4, 5, & 8-Day Cruises
Superior First Class



Technical Specifications: M/V Majestic

Built: 2013
Tonnage: 200
Length: 117 ft. Beam: 23 ft., Draft 10 ft.
Cruise speed: 10 knots
Capacity: 17 passengers
All spacious cabins with private bathrooms, fully air-conditioned, 9 crew members & 1 Naturalist guides, snorkeling equipment and Zodiacs.



Sailings

MYV Majestic
4, 5, & 8 Days

4 Days: MON/THU – A Cruise
5 Days: THU/MON – A Cruise
8 Days: MON/MON – A Cruise
or MON/WED – B Cruise

Cruise A – Every Second Monday

MON San Cristobal
El Junco
TUE Post Office Bay &
Pta. Cormorant (Floreana Is.)
WED Punta Suarez, Gardner Bay
(Espanola Is.), Osborn Islet
THU Twin Craters & Darwin Station
(Santa Cruz Is.)
FRI Darwin Bay & El Barranco
(Genovesa Is.)
SAT Chinese Hat &
Msquera Islets
SUN Witch's Hill & Kicker Rock
(San Cristobal Is.)
MON Interpretation Center
San Cristobal Is.

Cruise B – Every Second Monday

MON San Cristobal La Galapaguera
Turtle Breeding Ctr.
TUE Santa Fe &
South Plazas Islands
WED Rabida Isla
Egas Port (Santiago Is.)
THU Tagus Cove (Isabela Is.)
Punta Mangle (Fernandina Is.)
FRI Urbina Bay (Isabela Is.)
Punta Espinosa (Fernandina Is.)
SAT Bartolome & North Seymour
Islands
SUN Darwin Station & El Chato
(Santa Cruz Is.)
MON Lobos Islet
San Cristobal Is.

For more specifications, dates, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/V Santa Cruz

5, 8, 10, 11, & 15-Day Cruises
6 Superior First Class



Technical Specifications: M/V Santa Cruz

Built in Bilbao, Spain in 1979 and reconstructed in Chile in 1998
Tonnage: 1675
Length: 237 ft. (72.35 m)/Beam: 39 ft. (11.85 m), Draft 13 ft. (3.9 m)
Cruise speed: 13 knots
Capacity: 90 passengers
All spacious cabins with private bathrooms, fully air-conditioned, 6 Naturalist guides, snorkeling equipment and glass bottom boat



Sailings

M/V Santa Cruz
5, 6, 10, 11 & 15 Days

5 Days: MON/FRI – Northern Islands
6 Days: WED/MON – Western Islands
6 Days: FRI/WED – Eastern Islands
10 Days: MON/WED – Northern & Eastern Islands
11 Days: FRI/MON – Eastern & Western Islands
15 Days: FRI/FRI
or WED/WED
or MON/MON

The 5-Day Northern Islands Itinerary departs every other Monday,

The 6-Day Western Islands Itinerary departs every other Wednesday,

The 6-Day Eastern Islands Itinerary departs every other Wednesday,

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/Y Isabela II

5, 7, 10 & 11-Day Cruises
Deluxe

**Technical Specifications: Yacht Isabela II**

Built in 1979 and reconstructed in Florida in 1988 and refurbished in Panama in March 2000

Tonnage: 1025
Length: 166 ft. (53.75 m)/Beam: 38 ft. (11.58 m)
Cruise speed: 12 knots
Capacity: 40 passengers, All spacious cabins with private bathrooms, fully air-conditioned, 3 Naturalist guides, snorkeling equipment

**Sailings***M/Y Isabela II*

5, 7, 10 & 11-Day Cruises

5 Days: FRI/TUE – Southern Islands
5 Days: MON/FRI – Central Islands
7 Days: TUE/MON – Northern Islands
10 Days: FRI/MON – Central & Northern Islands
11 Days: FRI/MON – Southern & Northern Islands
11 Days: TUE/FRI – Northern & Central Islands

The 5-Day Southern Islands Cruise departs every other Friday
The 5-Day Central Islands Cruise departs every other Monday
The 7-Day Northern Islands Cruise departs every other Tuesday
The 10-Day Central & Southern Islands Cruise departs every other Friday
The 11-Day Southern & Northern Islands Cruise departs every other Friday
The 11-Day Northern Islands & Central Islands Cruise departs every other Tuesday

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/Y La Pinta

8-Day Cruises
Deluxe

**Technical Specifications: Yacht La Pinta**

Reconstructed in Peru in 2007

Tonnage: 1541
Length: 207 ft. (63 m)/Beam: 39.37 ft. (12 m)
Cruise speed: 12 knots
Capacity: 48 passengers, 24 outside cabins fully air-conditioned, with twin or queen beds, 175 sq. ft. Triple cabins are 236 sq. ft. and have an extra sofa bed.
Crew: 25 plus M.D. officer & Expeditions Manager, 4 Naturalist guides

**Sailings***M/V La Pinta*

4, 5, & 8, 11 & 12 Days

4 Days: FRI/MON – Eastern Islands
5 Days: MON/FRI – Northern Islands
8 Days: FRI/FRI – Western Islands
11 Days: FRI/MON – Western & Eastern Islands
12 Days: MON/FRI – Northern & Western Islands

The 4-Day Eastern Islands Cruise departs every other Friday
The 5-Day Northern Islands Cruise departs every other Monday
The 8-Day Western Islands Cruise departs every other Friday
The 11-Day Western & Eastern Islands Cruise departs every other Friday
The 12-Day Northern & Western Islands Cruise departs every other Monday

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/Y Eclipse

6 & 8-Day Cruises
Deluxe Class



Technical Specifications: M/Y Eclipse

Length: 210 feet Beam: 41 feet Draft: 23 feet
Tonnage: 1352
Speed: 9 knots cruising, 11 knots maximum
Crew: 29 plus a captain, a Naturalist dive master and an assistant
Capacity: 48 passengers – 24 outside cabins



Sailings

M/Y Eclipse
6 & 8 Days

6 Days: SAT/THU Cruise A or B
8 Days: SAT/SAT Cruise A or B

Cruise A – Every Second Saturday		Cruise B – Every Second Saturday	
SAT	Baltra Airport/N. Seymour Is.	SAT	Baltra Airport/Black Turtle Cv.
SUN	South Plaza Island	SUN	Rabida Island
	Santa Fe Island		Puerto Egas (Santiago Is.)
MON	Punta Pitt (San Cristobal Is.)	MON	Tagus Cove (Isabela Is.)
	Cerro Brujo		Punta Espinosa (Fernandina Is.)
TUE	Post Office Bay (Floreana Is.)	TUE	Urbina Bay (Isabela Is.)
	Punta Cormorant & Champion Islet		Punta Vincente Roca
WED	Elizabeth Bay	WED	Darwin Station (Santa Cruz Is.)
	Punta Moreno		Santa Cruz Highlands
THU	Darwin Station (Santa Cruz Is.)	THU	El Barranco (Genovesa Is.)
	Santa Cruz Highlands		Darwin Bay
FRI	Gardner Bay (Espanola Is.)	FRI	Bartolome Island
	Punta Suarez		Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz Is.)
SAT	Mosquero Islet	SAT	Bachas Beach
	Depart San Cristobal Airport		Depart Baltra Airport

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/V Silver Galapagos

8-Day Cruises
Deluxe +



Technical Specifications: M/V Silver Galapagos

Built: 1990 La Spezia (Italy) GRT: 4077 tons
Length: 88.16 m/Beam: 15.3 m
Cruise speed: 10 knots
Capacity: 100 passengers
All suites, fully air-conditioned cabins with marble bathrooms, comfortable double-beds plus extra sofa bed for triples, TV/VCR
6 Naturalist guides, snorkeling equipment



Sailings

M/V Silver Galapagos
8 Days

Eastern Island – Every Second Saturday		Western Islands – Every Second Saturday	
SAT	Arrive Baltra	SAT	Arrive Baltra
	Sullivan Bay (Santiago Is.)		Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz Is.)
SUN	Bartolome Is.	SUN	Darwin Bay & El Barranco (Genovesa Is.)
	Espumilla Beach (Santiago Is.)		North Seymour Is.
MON	Vincente Roca Point (Isabela Is.)	MON	El Chato Reserve (Santa Cruz Is.)
	Espinoza Point (Fernandina Is.)		Pitt Point & El Junco Lagoon (San Cristobal Is.)
TUE	Tagus Cove (Isabela Is.)	TUE	Interpretation Center & Frigatebird Hill (San Crostobal Is.)
	Elizabeth Bay (Isabela Is.)		Gardner Bay or Osborn Islet
WED	Post Office Bay & Cormorant Point (Floreana Is.)	WED	Suarez Point (Espanola Is.)
THU	La Galapaguera Turtle Breeding & Wizard's Hill (San Cristobal Is.)	THU	Darwin Station (Santa Cruz Is.)
FRI	Twin Craters, Santa Cruz Highlands & Charles Darwin Station	FRI	South Plaza Is.
SAT	Baltra Airport	SAT	Baltra Airport

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

The Yachts...

M/Y Guantanamera

4, 5 & 8-Day Cruises
Tourist Class



Technical Specifications: M/Y Guantanamera

Length: 75.5 feet Beam: 21.5 feet
Cruise Speed: 9 knots
Capacity: 16 passengers
8 air-conditioned cabins with upper and lower berths,
private bathrooms with hot water showers
Crew: 7 + Level II naturalist guide



Sailings

M/Y Guantanamera
4, 5 & 8 Days

4 Days: THU/SUN Cruise 2 only
5 Days: SUN/THU Cruise 2 only
8 Days: SUN/SUN Cruise 1 & 2 on alternation Sundays

Cruise 1

SUN **Baltra Island**
Bachas Beach
MON El Barranco & Darwin Bay
(Genovesa Is.)
TUE Bartolome Is. &
Sullivan Bay (Santiago Is.)
WED Wetlands, Wall of Tears, Turtle
Breeding Ctr. & Sierra Negra
Volcano (Isabela Is.)
THU Elizabeth Bay &
Urbina Bay (Isabela Is.)
FRI Tagus Cove (Isabela Is.)
Pta. Espinoza (Fernandina Is.)
SAT Espumilla Beach &
Buccaneer Cove
(Santiago Is.) & Rabida Is.
SUN Daphne/Mosquera Islets
Depart Baltra

Cruise 2

SAT **Baltra Island**
North Seymour Is.
MON Leon Dormido, Cerro Brujo
(San Cristobal Is.) & Isla Lobos
TUE Gardner Bay & Pta. Suarez
(Espanola Is.) & Osborn Islet
WED Santa Fe & Plazas Islands
THU Darwin Station & Highland
(Santa Cruz Is.)
FRI Pta. Cormorant, Devil's Crown &
Post Office Bay (Floreana Is.)
SAT Chinese Hat & Dragon Hill
(Santa Cruz Is.)
SUN Black Turtle Cove (Sta Cruz Is.)
Depart Baltra

M/Y San Jose

4, 5 & 8-Day Cruises
Tourist Class



Technical Specifications: Estrella del Mar I

Built: 2004
Length: 113 feet
Beam: 25 feet
Capacity: 8 cabins
Main Deck: 4 Twins
Upper Deck: 4 Twins
All cabins two lower
berths, private facilities,
adjustable air-conditioning
and regular windows
Crew: 7 including captain and
1 naturalist guide
Electricity: 110/220 v.
Snorkel equipment is available free
of charge. Wet suits available for rental.



Sailings

M/Y San Jose
4, 5 & 8 Days

4 Days TUE-FRI Cruise B
5 Days FRI-TUE Cruise B
8 Days FRI-FRI Cruise A
or FRI-FRI Cruise B

Cruise A – Every Second Tuesday

TUE Baltra Airport
Bachas Beach (Santa Cruz Is.)
WED Tintorerias & Wetlands &
Turtle Breeding Ctr. (Isabela Is.)
THU Punta Moreno &
Tagus Cove (Isabela Is.)
FRI Punta Espinoza (Fernandina Is.)
Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Is.)
SAT Espumilla Beach, Buccaneer Cove
& Puerto Egas (Santiago Is.)
SUN Rábida and Chinese Hat Islets
MON Darwin Station &
Highlands (Santa Cruz Is.)
TUE Tuesday North Seymour
Depart Baltra Airport

Cruise B – Every Second Tuesday

TUE Baltra Airport
Mosquera Islet
WED Darwin Bay &
El Barranco (Genovesa Is.)
THU Santa Fe
& South Plazas Is.
FRI Interpretation Center,
Cerro Brujo & Leon Dormido
(San Cristobal Is.)
SAT Gardner Bay & Punta
Suarez (Española Is.)
SUN Post Office Bay,
Baroness Lookout &
Pta Cormorant (Floreana Is.)
MON Sullivan Bay (Santiago Is.)
& Bartolome Is.
TUE Black Turtle Cove (Santa Cruz Is.)
Depart Baltra Airport

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/Y Reina Silvia

8-Day Cruises
First Class



Technical Specifications: M/Y Reina Silvia

Length: Overall 90 feet At waterline 75 feet
Beam: 25 feet Draft: 5'6"
Capacity: 12-16 passengers in 6 cabins
All outside cabins with private bathrooms with showers & air-conditioning. 2 cabins are doubles that can be configured with either two twin beds or one king bed. The 4 additional cabins have two lower beds, which can be configured as twins or king, and one Pullman-style bed.
Crew: 7 including captain + 1 naturalist guide



Sailings

M/V Reina Silvia
8 Days

Cruise A – Every Second Saturday

SAT Baltra Airport Santa Cruz
Highlands & Charles
Darwin Station
SUN Gardner Bay & Punta
MON Cerro Brujo, Leon Dormido &
Punta Pitt (San Cristobal Is.)
TUE South Plazas
& Santa Fe Islands
WED Darwin Bay &
El Barranco (Genovesa Is.)
THU Sullivan Bay (Santiago Is.)
& Bartolome Is.
FRI Rabida &
Chinese Hat Islets
SAT Depart Baltra

Cruise B – Every Second Saturday

SAT Baltra Airport Santa Cruz
Highlands & Charles
Darwin Station
SUN Punta Comorant, Post Office Bay
Suarez (Española Is.)
Baroness Lookout (Floreana Is.)
MON Puente Moreno & Elizabeth
Bay (Isabela Is.)
TUE Urbina Bay, (Isabela Is.) &
Punta Espinoza (Fernandina Is.)
WED Tagus Cove &
Vinciente Roca (Isabela Is.)
THU Espumilla Beach &
Puerto Egas (Santiago Is.)
FRI Bachas Beach (Santa Cruz Is.)
& North Seymour Is.
SAT Depart Baltra

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/Y Eric, Flamingo & Letty

8-Day Cruises
Superior First Class



Technical Specifications: M/Y Eric, Letty & Flamingo

Length: 83 feet Beam: 24 feet
Draft: 6 feet Tonnage: 240
Capacity: 20 passengers
All outside cabins with private bathrooms,
air-conditioning and all-teak interiors
Crew: Captain + 8 members + 2 Naturalist guides



Sailings

Cruise A – Every Second Saturday

SUN San Cristobal Island
Isla Lobo & Leon Dormido
MON Cerro Brujo & Punta Pitt
TUE Punta Suarez (Española Is.)
Gardner Bay
WED Punta Cormorant (Floreana Is.)
Post Office Bay
THU Tintoreras (Isabela Is.)
Sierra Negra Volcano
FRI Bachas Beach (Santa Cruz Is.)
Bartolome Island
SAT South Plaza Island
Darwin Station
(Santa Cruz Is.)
SUN Interpretation Center
San Cristobal Airport

Cruise B – Every Second Saturday

SUN San Cristobal Island
La Galapaguera/
Cerro Colorado
MON Darwin Bay (Tower Is.)
Prince Philip's Steps
TUE North Seymour Island
Cerro Dragon (Santa Cruz Is.)
WED Punta Espinoza (Fernandina Is.)
Tagus Cove (Isabela Is.)
THU Punta Moreno
Urbina Bay
FRI Puerto Egas (Santiago Is.)
Rabida Island
SAT Sta. Cruz Highlands
or Darwin Station
Santa Fe Island
SUN Interpretation Center/
San Cristobal Airport

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

M/Y Odyssey

5, 6, 10, 11 & 15-Day Cruises
Deluxe Class

M/Y Grand Odyssey

5, 6, 10, 11 & 15-Day Cruises
Deluxe Plus Class



Technical Specifications: M/Y Odyssey

Length: 135.5 feet Beam: 26.5 feet
Capacity: 16 passengers
 8 Superior Cabins
Crew: 9 plus captain plus 1 Class III Naturalist guide
All outside cabins average 226 square feet with private
bathrooms, parquet floors, and picture windows

Technical Specifications: M/Y Grand Odyssey

Length: 137.8 feet Beam: 29 feet Built: 2011
Tonnage: 480
Capacity: 16 passengers
 5 Galapagos Suites, 2 Matrimonial Suites and 1 Odyssey Suite
Crew: 9 plus captain plus 1 Class III Naturalist guide
All outside cabins average 226 square feet with private
bathrooms, parquet floors, and picture windows



Sailings

The M/Y Odyssey and the M/Y Grand Odyssey
Sail in tandem and have identical itineraries and departure dates
5, 6, 10, 11 & 15 Days

5 Days: SUN/THU – Cruise B
6 Days: TUE/SUN – Cruise A
6 Days: THU/TUE – Cruise C
10 Days: TUE/THUR – Cruises A & B
 or SUN/TUE – Cruises B & C
11 Days: THU/SUN – Cruises C & B
15 Days: TUE/TUE or SUN/SUN or THU/THU

The 5-Day B Cruise departs every other Sunday

The 6-Day A Cruise departs every other Tuesday

The 6-Day C Cruise departs every other Thursday

**For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com**



The Catamarans...

M/C Seaman Journey

4, 5, 8, 11, 12 & 15-Day Cruises
Superior First Class



Technical Specifications: M/C Journey I

Length: 90.5 feet Beam: 36.08 feet
Speed: 10 knots cruising, 11 knots maximum
Crew: 8 plus a captain, a Class III Naturalist guide
Capacity: 16 passengers - 8 outside cabins
All hardwood floors with carpets
All outside cabins with private bathrooms & picture windows



Sailings

M/C Journey I

4, 5, 8, 11, 12 & 15 Days

4 Days: Itinerary A TUE/FRI
5 Days: Itinerary B FRI/TUE
8 Days: Itinerary C FRI/FRI
or Itinerary C1 FRI/FRI (B & A)
11 Days: Itinerary D TUE/FRI (A & C)
12 Days: Itinerary E SAT/TUE (C & B)
15 Days: Itinerary F FRI/FRI (C & B & A)

The 4-Day A Cruise departs every other Tuesday

The 5-Day B Cruise departs every other Friday

The 8-Day C Cruise departs every other Friday

The 8-Day C1 Cruise departs every other Friday

**For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com**

The Catamarans are increasingly becoming a very popular way to cruise the Galapagos Islands. The dual hulls provide much greater stability and more spacious cabins, while still providing the advantages of the small groups.

M/C Millenium

5, 6, 8, 11, 13 & 15-Day Cruises
Superior First Class



Technical Specifications: M/C Millenium

Length: 82 feet Beam: 33 feet
Speed: 10 knots cruising, 11 knots maximum
Crew: 8 plus a captain, a Class III Naturalist guide
Capacity: 16 passengers - 8 outside cabins
All hardwood floors with carpets
All outside cabins with private bathrooms & picture windows



Sailings

M/C Millenium

5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13 & 15 Days

5 Days: MON/FRI – North & East Islands
6 Days: Itinerary A FRI/WED – East & South Islands
or Itinerary B WED/MON – West & North Islands
8 Days: Itinerary A WED/WED – East & South Islands
or Itinerary B WED/WED – West & North Islands
10 Days: MON/WED (5-Day & 6-Day A)
or WED/FRI (6-Day B & 5-Day)
11 Days: FRI/MON (6-Day A & B)
13 Days: WED/MON (8-Day A & 6-Day B)
or FRI/WED (6-Day A & 8-Day B)
15 Days: WED/WED (8-Day A & B or 8-Day B & A)

The 5-Day Cruise departs every other Monday

The 6-Day A Cruise departs every other Friday

The 6-Day B Cruise departs every other Wednesday

The 8-Day A Cruise departs every other Wednesday

The 8-Day B Cruise departs every other Wednesday

**For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com**

M/C Cormorant

4, 5, 8 & 15-Day Cruises
Deluxe



Technical Specifications: M/C Cormorant

Length: 108 feet Beam: 39 feet Draft: 5 feet
Speed: 10 knots cruising, 11 knots maximum
Crew: 8 plus a captain, a Cruise Manager plus a Class III Naturalist guide
Capacity: 16 passengers
Main Deck: 2 Suites 441ft² (private balcony)
 2 Double Staterooms 301ft² (private balcony)
Upper Deck: 4 Connected Cabins 301ft² (private balcony)
Lower Deck: 1 Single Cabin 150ft²



Sailings

M/C Cormorant
4, 5, 8 & 15 Days

4 Days: WED/SAT
5 Days: SAT/WED
8 Days: Itinerary A SAT/SAT (5 & 4 Days)
 or Itinerary B SAT/SAT
15 Days: SAT/SAT (A & B or B & A)

The 4-Day Cruise departs every other Wednesday

The 5-Day Cruise departs every other Saturday

The 8-Day A Cruise departs every other Saturday

The 8-Day B Cruise departs every other Saturday

**For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com**

M/C Ocean Spray

5, 6, 8 & 15-Day Cruises
Deluxe Plus



Technical Specifications: M/C Ocean Spray

Length: 113 feet Beam: 43 feet Draft: 4 feet
Weight: 170 tons
Speed: 14 knots cruising, 15 knots maximum
Crew: 8 plus a captain, a Cruise Manager plus a Class III Naturalist guide
Capacity: 16 passengers
Main Deck: 3 Double Staterooms 334ft² (private balcony)
Upper Deck: 4 Double Cabins 248ft² (private balcony)
 1 Single Cabin 198ft² (private balcony)



Sailings

M/C Ocean Spray
5, 6, 8 & 15 Days

5 Days: TUE/SAT
6 Days: SAT/THU Itinerary A
 or THU/TUE Itinerary B
8 Days: Itinerary A SAT/SAT (5 & 4 Days)
 or Itinerary B SAT/SAT
15 Days: SAT/SAT

The 5-Day Cruise departs every second Saturday

The 6-Day A Cruise departs every second Saturday

The 6-Day B Cruise departs every second Thursday

The 8-Day A Cruise departs April 21, November 17,

The 8-Day B Cruise departs January 7, April 28

**For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com**

M/C Athala II

6 & 8-Day Cruises
Deluxe



Technical Specifications: M/C Athala II

Length: 98 feet Draft: 4.6 feet
Tonnage: 320 tons
Cruise speed: 10 knots
Crew: 10 plus a naturalist guide
Capacity: 16 passengers
4 Main Deck
Balcony cabins: 215 sq. ft.
4 Upper Deck cabins: 173 sq. ft.
All air-conditioned outside cabins with either one queen bed or two twin beds and picture windows.

Sailings

M/C Athala II
6 & 8 *Days

6 Days: SAT/THU - Espanola Cruise
or SAT/THU - Espanola Cruise
8 Days: Espanola Cruise SAT/SAT
or Genovesa Cruise SAT/SAT

The 8-Day B Cruise departs every other Saturday

Espanola Cruise

SAT Arrive Baltra Is.
Chinese Hat
SUN Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz Is.)
& Rabida Is.
MON Turtle Breeding Ctr.
& Wall of Tears (Isabela Is.)
TUE Baroness Point, Post Office, Bay
& Pta. Cormorant (Floreana Is.)
WED Wizard's Hill (San Cristobal Is.)
& Isla Lobos
THU Darwin Center &
Highlands (Santa Cruz Is.)
FRI Pta. Suarez & Gardner
Bay Español Is.
SAT Daphe Is.
Depart **Baltra**

Genovesa Cruise

SAT Arrive Baltra Is.
& Mosquera Islet
SUN Sullivat Bay (Santiago Is.)
& Bartolome Is.
MON Urbina Bay &
Tagus Cove (Isabela Is.)
TUE Fernandina Is. &
Pt. a Vincente Roca (Isabela Is.)
WED St. James Bay &
Espumilla Beach (Santiago Is.)
THU Darwin Station &
Highlands (Santa Cruz Is.)
FRI El Barranco &
Darwin Bay (Genovesa Is.)
SAT North Seymour Is.
Depart **Baltra**

For more specifications, rates,
detailed itineraries, route maps and deck plans,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

The Land-Based Programs...

Finch Bay Eco Hotel

4 & 5-Day Packages • Departures Saturday & Tuesday
Superior First Class



Finch Bay provides a land-based alternative for enjoying the marvels of the Galapagos Islands. The programs are based on 4 or 5-nights at the Lodge with daily boat or bus excursions. The hotel staff will work with each guest individually to determine the best activities and daily boat excursions allowing guests to make the most of their Galapagos vacation. The hotel facilities include on-site desalination and purification plant, laundry service, private outdoor pool and Jacuzzi, bar and lounge, restaurant featuring international cuisine, telephone, fax, e-mail, Internet access. There are a total of 21 non-smoking rooms, 17 of which are on the ground level. Each room has wooden blinds, tile floors, telephone, air-conditioning, a private bath with hot water, hair dryers and soap and shampoo dispensers. The hotel also offers multi-sport optional activities: Snorkeling, bird watching, sea kayaking, hiking, mountain biking, wildlife observation and bay tours.



For rates and detailed itineraries,
visit our website www.EcoAdventures.com

Welcome to Peru...

Here are two basic programs featuring the heart of Peru: Lima, the City of Kings, with all of the famous museums and restaurants, the fabled "lost city" of Machu Picchu and Cuzco, and the former capital of the Inca Empire. You can use these basic programs to build your dream trip to Peru.

You can add a tour to the north of Peru to see the renowned archaeological discoveries at the tomb of the **Lord of Sipan** and the beautiful colonial city of **Trujillo** (See page 38). A trip south of Lima will take you to the **Plains of Nazca**. See page 37. For extensions to the **Peruvian rainforests** of **Iquitos** or **Puerto Maldonado**, see pages 39-43. You can take the Orient Express Train to Puno on Lake Titicaca (page 35), or fly to Arequipa, the White City, and see the Grand Canyon of South America, the **Colca Canyon** (page 36).



The Machu Picchu Express

Daily Departures 6 Days

Specially priced, this EcoAdventures package features Cuzco, Machu Picchu and the Inca empire and takes advantage of the new afternoon train service to Machu Picchu.



Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Lima Start your adventure into the Land of the Incas. Transfer to the Costa del Sol Ramada Airport Hotel.

Day 2: Lima/Cuzco/Machu Picchu An early morning flight will take you to Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, at an altitude of 11,300 feet. You will be met upon arrival to commence your tour into the scenic Urubamba Valley. The valley, also known as the Sacred Valley of the Incas, is at a much more comfortable altitude of 8,500 feet, and you will immediately feel the difference. If you arrive Tuesday, Thursday, or Sunday you will stop at Pisac, for a colorful Indian market. Stalls overflow with weavings, handicrafts and pottery, enticing everyone to bargain! If it is not market day you will have an opportunity to climb the ruins at Ollantaytambo, another sacred site which the Incas fiercely defended from the Spaniards. Lunch is included, and in the afternoon you will board the VistaDome train to Machu Picchu. In less than two hours you will arrive at the train station of Aguas Calientes, where a representative of your selected hotel will be waiting for you. For those staying in the Deluxe and Deluxe+ hotels dinner is included. (B, L)

Day 3: At Machu Picchu Your private guide will pick you up at your hotel this morning for your tour of Machu Picchu, where you will spend the day

in both guided and individual exploration, visiting the best-known features of this astounding and mysterious Inca citadel. You may want to investigate Machu Picchu's multitude of hidden nooks and corners. Lunch is included in First Class, Deluxe and Deluxe+ categories. Dinner is included at the hotels in the Deluxe and Deluxe+ categories. Transfers from Aguas Calientes to/from Machu Picchu Archaeological Zone and entrance fees are included. (B)

Day 4: Machu Picchu to Cuzco You might want to take the optional hike to the summit of Wayna Picchu for an amazing overview of the site. Continue to explore Machu Picchu before winding back down the mountain by bus to catch your afternoon train for Cuzco. Note: Transfers from Aguas Calientes to/from Machu Picchu and entrance fees are NOT included this day. (B)

Day 5: In Cuzco This afternoon you board a motorcoach for a tour of colonial Cuzco, including the Temple of the Sun, Cathedral and Plaza de Armas. Next, ascend the hills surrounding Cuzco to visit the Inca ruins of K'Kenko, Pucapucara, Tambo Machay and the great stone fortress of Sacsayhuaman. (B)

Day 6: Cuzco to Lima Morning return flight to Lima. This is the end of your adventure, or you can extend your trip.

Peru: A Portrait of Ancient Civilizations

Daily Departures 8 Days

Look back into Peru's rich past to cultures that predated the Incas by centuries and left a remarkable legacy on the Peruvian landscape! Ascend into the Andean highlands to see the Inca heritage of Cuzco and Machu Picchu.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Lima Start your adventure into the Land of the Incas. Transfer to your selected hotel.

Day 2: In Lima Familiarize yourself with Lima on this half-day tour of the colonial highlights, followed by a visit to the Archaeological Museum for a chronological presentation of the many civilizations that flourished in Peru. Displays include important collections from the Chavin,

Mochica, Chimú, and Nazca cultures. (B)

Day 3: Lima/Cuzco/Urubamba Valley An hour flight will transfer you to Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire, at an altitude of 11,300 feet. You will be met upon arrival to commence your tour into the scenic Urubamba Valley. The valley, also known as the Sacred Valley of the Incas, is at a much more comfortable altitude of 8,500 feet, and you will immediately feel the difference. If you arrive Tuesday, Thursday, or Sunday you will stop at Pisac, for a colorful Indian market. Stalls overflow with weavings, handicrafts and pottery, enticing everyone to bargain! Later, climb the ruins at Ollantaitambo, another sacred site which the Incas fiercely defended from the Spaniards. Overnight at your choice of charming country inns. (B, L)

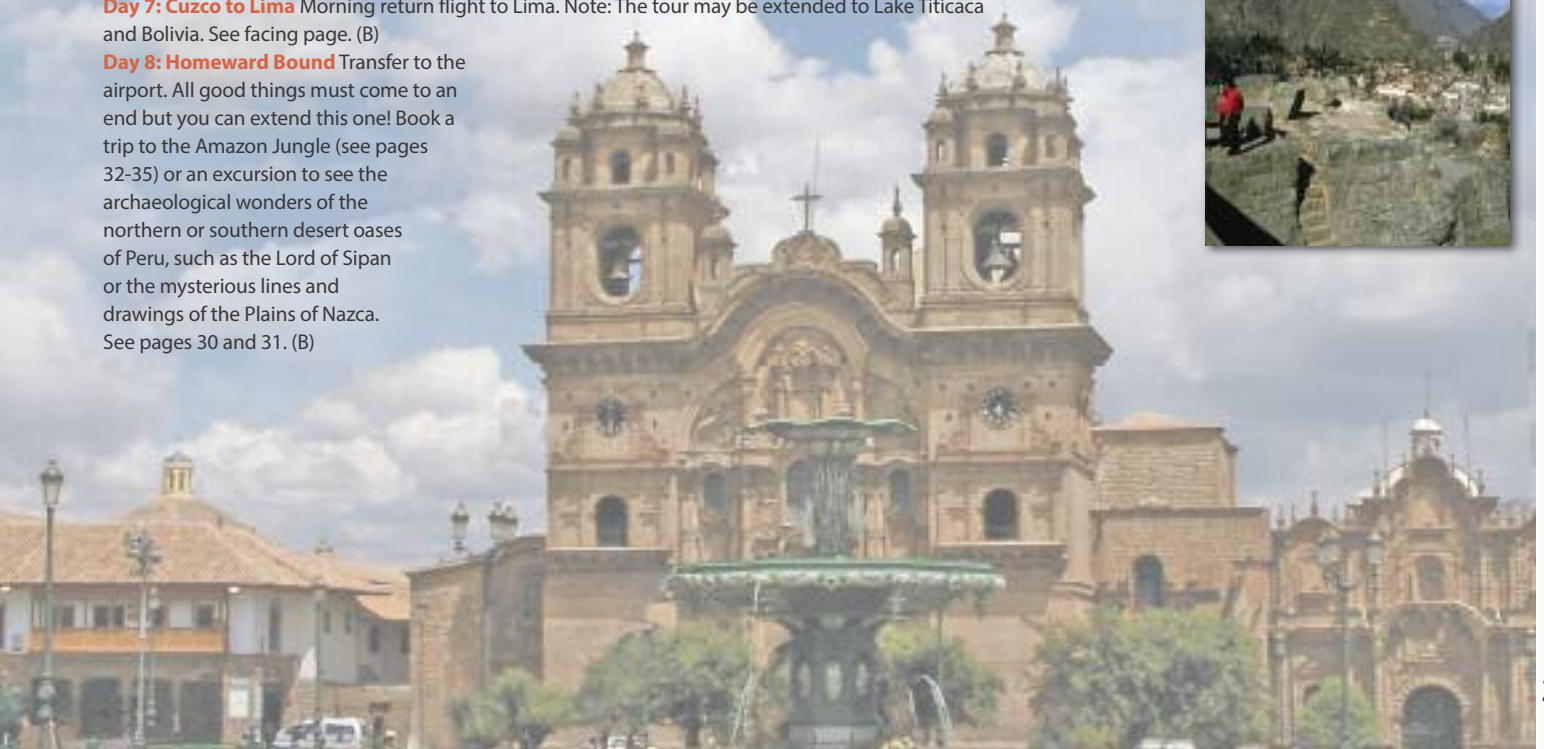
Day 4: Urubamba Valley to Machu Picchu Morning transfer to Ollantaitambo to board the train for Machu Picchu, where you will have a guided walking tour of the ruins. You and the lucky few who will spend the night here will have a few more hours to explore the site after the crowds have returned to Cuzco. (B, L)

Day 5: Machu Picchu to Cuzco This morning you can revisit Machu Picchu on your own before the afternoon return train to Cuzco. Note: Transfers from Aguas Calientes to/from Machu Picchu and entrance fees are NOT included this day. (B)

Day 6: In Cuzco Morning at leisure. In the afternoon, tour Cuzco, including the recently restored Cathedral and the Inca Sun Temple, Korikancha. Then ascend into the hills overlooking Cuzco to visit the massive fortress of Sacsayhuaman. You'll wonder how the Incas built this massive structure. Nearby, visit K'kenko, sacred Pucapucara and the temple of Tambo Machay. (B)

Day 7: Cuzco to Lima Morning return flight to Lima. Note: The tour may be extended to Lake Titicaca and Bolivia. See facing page. (B)

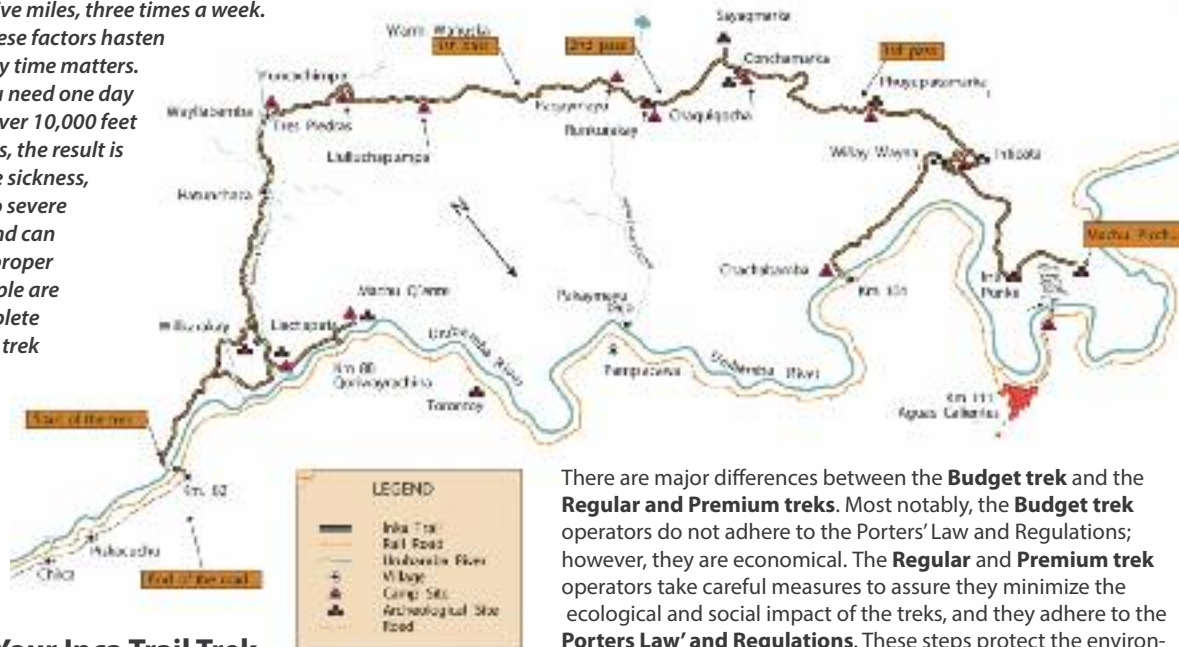
Day 8: Homeward Bound Transfer to the airport. All good things must come to an end but you can extend this one! Book a trip to the Amazon Jungle (see pages 32-35) or an excursion to see the archaeological wonders of the northern or southern desert oases of Peru, such as the Lord of Sipan or the mysterious lines and drawings of the Plains of Nazca. See pages 30 and 31. (B)



Hiking to Machu Picchu

Important Note: For the adventurous, the trek to Machu Picchu is an exhilarating experience filled with incredible views of the Andes. You will never forget walking on the same trails the Incas did centuries ago. The extremely high altitudes of the trek (Cuzco at 11,300 ft. and one pass at over 13,500 ft.) make preparation an imperative, which is why we include three nights in Cuzco for acclimation prior to the trek. This extra time in Cuzco is sufficient for most people and considered a minimum, unless you live at 5,000 feet altitude or more. There are important factors to consider if you are contemplating an Inca Trail Trek, such as age and overall fitness. You should also prepare at least one month in advance with a regimen of rigorous hiking for five miles, three times a week.

However, none of these factors hasten acclimatization. Only time matters. As a general rule you need one day for each 1,000 feet over 10,000 feet altitude. Without this, the result is "soroche" or altitude sickness, which causes mild to severe flu-like symptoms and can ruin your trip. With proper acclimatization people are thrilled as they complete the final steps of the trek and arrive at Machu Picchu to marvel at the grandeur of the sacred site.



There are major differences between the **Budget trek** and the **Regular and Premium treks**. Most notably, the **Budget trek** operators do not adhere to the Porters' Law and Regulations; however, they are economical. The **Regular and Premium trek** operators take careful measures to assure they minimize the ecological and social impact of the treks, and they adhere to the **Porters Law' and Regulations**. These steps protect the environment and the workers, and at the same time increase the quality of the experience for the traveler. For this reason, we encourage potential travelers to choose their trek wisely and carefully, and not base their choices solely on price. Please refer to our website for more detailed comparisons and descriptions.

Selecting Your Inca Trail Trek

There are three categories of Inca Trail Trek (Budget, Regular and Premium) so compare the inclusions carefully when shopping for a trek. Also, when shopping for a trek, inquire to make certain that the operator adheres to the guidelines established by the Porters' Law and Regulations.

The Inca Trail to Machu Picchu – Itinerary

Classic Trek: 4 Days/3 Nights Camping + 1 Night Machu Picchu

Suggested for travelers who are conditioned to hiking 10 hours a day with breaks. This is the trek described below.

Day 1: Arrive Lima Start your adventure into the Land of the Incas.

Day 2: In Lima Familiarize yourself with Lima on this half-day tour of the colonial highlights, followed by a visit to the Archaeological Museum for a chronological presentation of the many civilizations that flourished in Peru. Displays include important collections from the Chavin, Mochica, Chimu and Nazca cultures. (B)

Day 3: Lima to Cuzco Early morning flight to Cuzco and transfer to your choice of hotel in downtown Cuzco. Balance of the day free to adjust to an altitude of over 11,000 feet. Take it easy! (B)

Day 4: Cuzco Tour This afternoon take a motorcoach tour of colonial Cuzco, including the Temple of the Sun, Cathedral and Plaza de Armas. Visit Korikancha, the Inca Sun Temple, and see how the church was built right on top of the intact temple. Next, ascend the hills surrounding Cuzco to visit the Inca ruins of K'Kenko, Pucapucara, Tambo Machay and the great stone fortress, Sacsayhuaman. (B)

Day 5: In Cuzco Another full day in Cuzco to acclimate before you commence your Inca Trail Trek. (B)

Day 6: Cuzco to Huayllabamba The Trek Begins! Morning pick-up at your Cuzco hotel and transfer by bus to the trailhead at Chillca, on the Vilcanota River. Hike along the Vilcanota River beneath the impressive snow-capped Nevado Veronica through cactus gardens and fields of corn to the enormous Inca ruins of Llachupampa. Continue up a side valley to camp in the hamlet of Huayllabamba. 7.45 miles, **7 hours of hiking** (B, L, D)

Day 7: Huayllabamba to Paqaymayo This will be the most strenuous day of hiking. Climb through steep fields and forest, then emerge above the tree line to Warmiwansqa Pass (13,776 feet). Enjoy magnificent views of the snow-capped peaks of the Huaynay Range and Inca ruins, then descend to camp in the valley. 6.8 miles, **8 hours of hiking** (B, L, D)

Day 8: Paqaymayo to Wynaywayna You will cross a second pass (12,661 feet) and follow a fine Inca road down to the exquisite ridge-top ruins of Sayaqmarka. Further on, pass through a tunnel amid luxuriant cloud forest vegetation. Camp at superb ruins overlooking the Vilcanota River far below. 9 miles, **8 hours of hiking** (B, L, D)

Day 9: Arrive Machu Picchu This will be the easiest day with only 3.7 miles, and two hours of hiking before reaching Machu Picchu. The Royal Road descends steeply through an orchid-laden cloud forest. The final stretch of the trail approaches Machu Picchu from the back of the mountain. You will enter Machu Picchu in the early afternoon from the original gate at the top of the ruins, just as the Incas did centuries ago! You'll have the day to tour the Lost City of the Incas with your guide. Overnight at the Standard, First Class and Deluxe hotels will be in the village of Aguas Calientes, at the base of the ruins. Deluxe+ category overnight will be at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, just at the ruins. **Note:** Dinner and lunch the following day are also included for those staying at the Sanctuary Lodge. (B, L)

Day 10: Machu Picchu to Cuzco You will have almost another full day to hike in and around Machu Picchu before your afternoon train departure for Cuzco. Transfer to your selected hotel in Cuzco. **Note:** Bus transfers from Aguas Calientes to Machu Picchu and admission to the ruins are NOT included this day. (B)

Day 11: Cuzco to Lima Transfer to the airport for your return flight to Lima, or extend your trip! (B)



Alternatives to the Classic Trek

Discovery Trek

4 Days/3 Nights Camping + 1 Night Machu Picchu

Suggested for travelers who wish to trek at a slower pace. The Discovery Trek allows travelers time to explore and enjoy the amazing archaeological sites, landscapes and nature along the way. The pace is slower (**6 hours trekking per day**). It is the same number of nights on the trail with fewer hours of hiking each day, and different camp sites. Therefore, instead of arriving at Machu Picchu early on Day 4 of the trek, participants arrive at Machu Picchu late on Day 4 and go straight to their selected hotel. The tour of Machu Picchu is scheduled for the morning of Day 5, with a late afternoon train back to Cuzco. Visit our website for a detailed itinerary, departure dates and rates for this upgrade. www.EcoAdventures.com

Inca Trail Express Trek

2-Days/1 Night at Machu Picchu + Train + Trekking

Itinerary

Day 1: Cuzco to Machu Picchu

Early morning transfer to the train station for your departure to Machu Picchu. The train will make a special stop in about one hour at Km. 104. The stop is very brief, and your guide will tell you when it is coming up, so be ready to hop off! From there you will hike up to the Royal Inca Road that follows the ridge high above the Urubamba River Valley. The Royal Road will then begin to descend steeply through orchid-laden cloud forest. The final part of the trail approaches Machu Picchu from the back of the mountain and is beautiful, and you will have lunch on the trail. You will then enter Machu Picchu in the afternoon from the original gate at the top of the ruins (Inti Punku, or Gate of the Sun) just as the Incas had hundreds of years ago! If you are staying at a hotel in Aguas Calientes at the base of the ruins, verify the departure time for the last bus down, which is usually around 5:00 pm. (L)

Day 2: Machu Picchu – Cusco

You return to Machu Picchu this morning and spend the day in both guided and individual exploration, visiting the best-known features of this astounding and mysterious Inca settlement. After a full-on experience of this glorious monument to the Inca achievement, you return to Aguas Calientes and board the return train to Cuzco. Meeting service upon arrival at the train station in Cuzco and transfer to your hotel. (B)



Salkantay Pass

Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu

4 Days/2 Nights Camping + 1 night at Machu Picchu

Itinerary

Day 1: Cuzco to Andenes

You leave Cuzco at 04.00 am and start a scenic trip to your trek starting point at Soraypampa. The 4-hour drive takes you through the town of Limatambo (6,888 ft.), an important point of access to the city of Cuzco during the time of the Inca Empire, where the archaeological remains of Tarawasi are located. The road continues up a beaten track along the right shore of the Apurimac River and crosses the town of Mollepata (9,184 ft.) and the small community of Cruzpata (9,020 ft.) to finally reach Soraypampa (12,464 ft.). You will meet your wranglers and horses, and after a short introduction and a quick breakfast, you start your hike towards the base of Mt. Salkantay (20,569 ft.), crossing Salkantaypampa, and then starting a 2-hour steep ascent to Soyroccocho, just next to the impressive glacier of Salkantay (13,776 ft.). Continuing uphill you reach the Abra Huayracmachay (15,088 ft.), the highest mountain pass in the program. Besides enjoying stunning views of the surrounding glaciers and the snow-capped peaks of the Vilcabamba Range, with the south face of Salkantay towering above, you may also observe chinchillas and condors in their natural habitat. From this point, you start descending towards a more tropical climate and into the so-called cloud forest. Along the route you can see the remains of an ancient Inca path, which is approximately 18 feet wide. A long though easy descent brings you in the late afternoon to your first campsite at Andenes (11,480 ft.). (B, L, D)

Day 2: Andenes to Lucmabamba

Today you continue your hike with an easy downhill walk along the Salkantay River, enjoying the increasingly lush vegetation, passing waterfalls, passion fruit and coffee plantations. The arid highland landscape begins to transform into a cloud forest filled with trees and bromeliads. After 1.5 – 2 hours you arrive at the settlement of Chaullay, and after another 45 minutes to the town of Collpapampa. From Collpapampa, the Salkantay River becomes the Santa Teresa River. After a rest you continue your descent to the banks of the Tatora River, then passing the waterfalls at Coripacchi, the settlement at Wiñaypoko, the bustling small town of La Playa and finally your second camp at Lucmabamba (6,888 ft.). On the way you can see plantations of banana, coffee, and avocado, as well as exuberant local flora. You enter spectacled-bear territory and you will probably be accompanied by flocks of parrots as you descend. At dinner you can enjoy a glass of wine by the light of the campfire. (B, L, D)

Day 3: Lucmabamba to Machu Picchu Town

After breakfast, you start climbing for 2-3 hours up to El Mirador or Abra Q'elloqasa (9,381 ft.) from where you have an exceptional view of legendary Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas, from an angle few people ever see. You enjoy a last lunch in nature at the lookout point of Llaqtapata (8,692 ft.) from where you can view both Machu Picchu and the Salkantay Mountain and take a good rest, enjoying the added value of the Llaqtapata Ruins, which have recently been restored. A 2-hour descent towards the Urubamba River crossing lush bamboo forests and more orchards and coffee plantations brings you to the hydroelectric plant of Machu Picchu from where you board a train that takes you to Machu Picchu Town (formerly Aguas Calientes) a short, scenic 40-minute train ride. Overnight at your selected hotel. (B, L)

Day 4: Machu Picchu - Cuzco – Machu Picchu 8,000 ft

You wake up early to have breakfast at the hotel and then make the way to the bus station for the bus ride up to Machu Picchu (30 min). A complete guided tour of Machu Picchu will be provided (2 hours). You will have about 4 additional hours to explore the site on your own (there is a lot to do and see). Afterwards, you will return by bus to Machu Picchu Town for lunch and to go to the train station for the afternoon train departure.

Mountain Lodges of Peru

Mountain Lodges Peru has developed a unique program in which you can experience hiking to Machu Picchu from lodge to lodge, enjoying the comfort and service of four top-quality mountain lodges, located in pristine areas, and finally arriving at Machu Picchu.

There are two treks: The Lares Adventure and the The Salkantay Journey

The Lares Adventure

5-Day Program: 3 nights trekking staying in lodges & 1 night Machu Picchu

Itinerary



**Day 1:
Monday – Sacred Valley: Explore the Pisac Valley & Ruins**
After an early breakfast you depart Cuzco for the Urubamba Valley, the “Sacred Valley of the Incas.” You drive past Pisac and turn off the main road at Qoya (9,514 ft.), with its charming colonial church. After about a 1.5-hour drive

(the last section on a dirt road), you reach the Ayarcancha community where you start hiking at an elevation of 12,467 ft. The trail winds uphill for two hours to Challwaccasa Pass (13,943 ft.), which affords you great views of the peaks of the Vilcanota and Vilcabamba mountain ranges and, in the distance, the giant snow-capped peaks of Ausangate and Salcantay. You then head downhill to the community of Viacha (12,795 ft.), where you enjoy a gourmet lunch. After a well-earned rest, you join a restored Inca trail that leads to the stunning archaeological site of Pisac (10,826 ft.), which dominates the valley below. The lower slopes of the surrounding mountains feature impressive agricultural terraces and irrigation systems dating from Inca times. After exploring the ruins you continue downhill for an hour to the picturesque village of Pisac (9,750 ft.), well known for its colorful handicraft market held daily. The vehicle will be waiting to take you to the town of Lamay (9,649 ft.), where you overnight. Dinner and overnight at **Lamay Lodge**. (L, D)
Total hiking time including lunch: 6 hours

NOTE: In the event that a guest does not feel like hiking or prefers an easier hike for their first day of trekking, there is an alternative, covering part of the trek by vehicle, and joining the group of trekkers for lunch at the Viacha community. This exquisite meal should not be missed! You then hike the downhill portion or the trek towards Pisac archeological site.

**Day 2:
Tuesday – Trek from Quiswarani to Huacawasi, High Mountain Lakes & Villages**

A great day awaits you as you hike one of the most beautiful trails in the Cuzco region! You depart Lamay early in the morning and take a scenic two-hour drive toward Lares, the region north of the Sacred Valley. Leaving the main road, you soon arrive at the quaint village of Quiswarani (12,562 ft.), where you begin the hike. The trail heads westward up a small valley dotted with lakes and herds of grazing alpacas, then narrows into a series of switchbacks to Abra Huchuyccasa pass (14,481 ft.), which you reach after three hours. From the pass you have the most amazing views of distant mountain ranges and stunning turquoise lakes, whose brilliant hues are the result of bronze metal elements in the icy water. Descending slightly, you continue hiking another hour toward the second pass of the day at Phoñaccasa (14,393 ft.). From here you descend to Qeywaqocha Lake for a leisurely lunch, then end the hike at the village of Qelqena (11,965 ft.). Along the way enjoy spotting native bird species, including Andean geese, ducks, and plovers. The vehicle meets you at the trailhead for the drive to the famous weavers' village of Huacawasi (12,467 ft.). Dinner and overnight at **Huacawasi Lodge**. (B, L, D)
Total hiking time including lunch: 8 hours

NOTE: In the event that a guest prefers a softer hike, there is an alternative 5-hour hike, covering part of the trip by vehicle.

**Day 3:
Wednesday – Trek from Huacawasi to Patacancha, the Weavers' Trail**
Huacawasi is a famous weavers' village, where the men still wear traditional colorful ponchos and women's attire includes wide handmade skirts and decorated hats. The hike starts right from Huacawasi Lodge, and as you walk through the village you are immersed in scenes of community life, including women working on looms and children heading to school. The wide and easy trail takes you uphill for 2.5 hours to the top of Ipsaycocha Pass (14,573 ft.) where you enjoy stunning views of the surrounding mountains. As you hike, you often meet locals traveling from village to village with their goods and herds of animals. You descend gently for about 40 minutes to Lake Ipsaycocha (14,081 ft.) where you may have the chance to see condors circling effortlessly in the sky while enjoying the lunch. You continue the descent for 2.5 hours to the village of Patacancha (12,624 ft.) where high quality weavings are also produced. The vehicle will meet you here to take you to the Inca town of Ollantaitambo (9,160 ft.) in the Sacred Valley. Dinner and overnight at a hotel. (B, L, D)
Total hiking time including lunch: 6.5 hours



**Day 4:
Thursday – Explore Ollantaitambo Inca Sites and Transfer to Machu Picchu**

After the 3-day hike, you can enjoy a more relaxing day by having a leisurely breakfast and visiting Ollantaitambo, which boasts an impressive archaeological site and a well-preserved Inca town structure. This was the estate of Emperor Pachacutec who conquered the region, building the town and the ceremonial center. Ollantaitambo dates from the late 15th century and has some of the oldest continuously occupied dwellings in South America. After lunch at the hotel, you catch the train for the 1.5-hour ride to Aguas Calientes, also known as Machu Picchu Town. Dinner and overnight at Inkaterra Pueblo Hotel. (B, L, D)

**Day 5:
Friday – Visit Machu Picchu Sanctuary and Return to Cuzco**

After a very early breakfast at the hotel, you walk to the bus station for the 30-minute ride up to Machu Picchu Sanctuary. The trip leader will give an introductory two-hour guided tour of the evocative ruins, after which you have the option of climbing the sheer Inca staircase of Huayna Picchu, a steep and vertically quite challenging hike that affords encompassing views of Machu Picchu and the surrounding mountain ranges (about a 2-hour hike). Afterwards, you meet up with the guide again and return by bus to Aguas Calientes for a late lunch. The afternoon train ride from Aguas Calientes to Ollantaitambo takes about 1.5 hours, and then a private vehicle drives you back to Cuzco (an additional 1.5 hours). Upon arrival in Cuzco (approximately 7 or 8 p.m.), you are dropped off at your hotel. (B, L)

Visit our website for departure dates and rates for this upgrade. www.EcoAdventures.com

The Salkantay Journey

6 Days/5 Nights Lodge Hopping + One Night Machu Picchu

Suggested for travelers who are in good condition but want to enjoy the comforts of full-service lodges along the way.



Salkantay Lodge & Adventure Resort



Colpa Lodge

Mountain Lodge's crown jewel is the **Salkantay Lodge and Adventure Resort (SLAR)**, located in the high Andean valley of Soraypampa, at 12,070 ft. above sea level. In addition to the high-quality, Andean Energetic Cuisine, the lodge offers an outdoor hot tub, a cozy reading room, bar/lounge, and 12 well-appointed private double or twin rooms with private bathrooms and hot showers. The SLAR takes its name from the majestic peak at the head of the valley – the “Salkantay”, the 2nd most sacred peak in Inca Mythology and, at 20,600 ft., the highest in the region.

The enchanting Soraypampa Valley is also the starting point for Mountain Lodges Salkantay Trek to Machu Picchu, in which trekkers enjoy one night each at the Trekkers Lodges, located one day's hike from each other at strategic points along the route: **Wayra Lodge** at Huayracmachay, **Colpa Lodge** at Collapampa, and **Lucma Lodge** at Lucabamba. These lodges also offer the same amenities, with the exception of Lucabamba, which does not have a hot tub.

In this trek you will ascend to 15,200 ft. and then descend to 7,000 ft. traversing magnificent mountain passes in the shadow of enormous, snow-clad mountain peaks, and experiencing more than nine different ecosystems. Moreover, the chances of ethnic and cultural exchanges are ever-present with indigand pre-Incan times.



Wayra Lodge



Lucma Lodge

Itinerary

Day 1: Cuzco to Soraypampa (12,690 ft.)

After an early breakfast, departure begins in the direction of the Salkantay Lodge & Adventure Resort (SLAR) in Soraypampa. En route you will take a short break to visit the Inca ruins of Tarawasi near the town of Limatambo (approx. 1.5 hrs from Cuzco). After leaving Limatambo, you pass through the mountain village Mollepata where you stop for a short coffee break before ascending a winding mountain road to a place called Marcocasa (30 minutes from Mollepata by vehicle). Here you will begin the trek to Soraypampa on an old route called the “Camino Real” (Royal Road). This is a good opportunity for guests to acclimate and enjoy a mild & beautiful 4-hour trek on their first day (Hiking level: moderate). (Optional: guests who do not wish to trek may be transported to the lodge in the vehicle). After a warm welcome by the friendly staff, you will be shown to your rooms and have time to wash-up. The first afternoon is spent at leisure to adjust to the altitude. An evening briefing by the fireplace is followed by aperitifs and dinner. (Boxed L, D)

Day 2: Soraypampa

This day is spent at leisure for rest or activities, depending upon guests' level of acclimatization. The most popular activity at Soraypampa is a moderate half-day hike (3-4 hours), to a glacial lake where the more adventurous might take a very short swim! This activity is excellent for acclimatization and a first immersion into high-mountain trekking. In the afternoon, you may choose to trade the glacial swim for a relaxing soak in the outdoor Jacuzzi. The guide will brief you on gear and the itinerary for the next four days. (B, L, D)

Day 3: Soraypampa to Huayracmachay (12,812 ft.)

This is the big day! After an early start you will hike up the Rio Blanco Valley, circling Humantay Peak across from the Salkantay. The highest point on the trek is a pass at 15,213 ft. At the pass you stop to take in views of the snow-capped peaks of the Vilcabamba Range in every direction, with the south face of Salkantay towering above you. Keep your eyes open for Andean condors, often visible in this area. From this pass you continue the descent toward the **Wayra Lodge** (Wayra means wind, so the lodge is the place where the wind lives) your final destination for the evening. A hot lunch is served en route. Dinner and overnight at the Lodge. Hiking time: 4-6 hours. Total excursion time for day: 5-7 hours. Hiking level: challenging with a 15,200 ft mountain pass. (B, L, D)

Day 4: Huayracmachay to Collapampa (9,414 ft.)

Following the long first day you will enjoy a leisurely breakfast at Wayra Lodge. You then begin your trek by hiking downhill above the Salkantay River through increasingly verdant scenery. Upon arrival at **Colpa Lodge** you are greeted with a “Pachamanca” lunch, a traditional festive Peruvian meal cooked by underground stone cooking. The Colpa lodge is located in an open promontory at the confluence of three rivers. The outdoor hot tub in this lodge has panoramic views of lush green mountains and a small, far-away local town. Lunch, dinner and overnight at the lodge.

Hiking time: 3-4 hours. Hiking level: easy to moderate. (B, L, D)

Day 5: Collapampa to Lucmabamba (7,003 ft.)

After an early breakfast you head down the Santa Teresa River Valley through more populated rural areas with coffee plantations (said to be one of the best organic coffees in the world!), bananas, “granadillas”, and orchards. You stop along the river for a hot picnic lunch. After another hour of trekking, a private vehicle arrives to take you to the beginning of the “Llactapata Inca Trail” (30-minute drive). From the head of the trail it is a short climb (30 min.) to the **Lucma Lodge**, set in an avocado orchard. You arrive in time to explore the small village of Lucmabamba and possibly meet with members of the local community. Hiking time: 5-6 hours. Total excursion time for day: 6-8 hours. Hiking level: moderate to challenging, basically due to distance, not terrain. (B, L, D)

Day 6: Lucmabamba to Aguas Calientes (6,232 ft.)

After an early start and a hearty breakfast, you tackle the last day of the trek. You head uphill for 2-3 hours towards Llactapata pass (8,900 ft), where you come upon a distant but quite special view of Machu Picchu from the southwest, a view few tourists ever glimpse; an added attraction are the Llactapata Ruins, which have recently been restored. Lunch is provided at the observatory, in view of Machu Picchu. You then begin the final descent to the Urubamba River through lush bamboo forests and more orchards and coffee plantations (2-3 hour descent). Machu Picchu Town (formerly Aguas Calientes) and Machu Picchu are a short, 30-minute, scenic train ride away. Overnight in Machu Picchu Town. Total hiking time: 4-6 hours. Hiking level: moderate to challenging. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Machu Picchu (8,000 ft) to Cuzco

You wake up early to have breakfast at the hotel and then head for the bus station with your guide to ride up to Machu Picchu (30 min). A complete guided tour of Machu Picchu will be provided (2 hours). You will have about four additional hours to explore the site on your own (there is a lot to do and see). Afterwards, you will return by bus to Machu Picchu Town for lunch and to go to the train station for the afternoon departure. The train takes you to Ollantaitambo (1½ hrs), where a private vehicle awaits to take you to Cuzco (1½ hrs). Upon arrival in Cuzco (approximately 7-8 pm) you will be dropped off at your hotel. (B, L)

The Sacred Valley

No visit to Peru is complete without staying at least one or two nights in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, midway between Cuzco and Machu Picchu. The valley has a pleasant, mild climate and the altitude ranges from 8,000-8,500 ft., a welcome relief from Cuzco's 11,300 ft. altitude, and is a magical place to linger awhile! Here are just a few of the many attractions.

Archaeological Sites

Moras and Moray

The age-old terraced salt mines in Maras are characterized by an intense white that glistens like snow on a sunny day. Moray, one of the many little jewels to be found in the Cusco region, is a complex of four circular terraces which, hidden among the hills, emerges suddenly into view when the visitor is almost on top of it. These terraces resemble Greek amphitheatres against a backdrop of snow-covered mountains. Even more surprising is the fact that Moray was a sort of open-air agricultural lab, used for adapting plants to new environmental and soil conditions.

Ollantaimbo

Ollantaimbo is the historically important stone city where Manco Inca led the last defense against the Spaniards. The town was named after the legendary rebel Inca General Ollantay. Both the design and foundations of most of the buildings date back to the original constructions (llaqta) of the Inca Empire. The streets still have their Inca names from the time when the town was a strategic military, religious and agricultural center. Some of the town's most salient characteristics are its cobbled streets, canals and a church dedicated to the Apostle Santiago, built in 1620. In the upper reaches of the town there is an impressive Ceremonial Center built for the worship of water, and a fortress that guarded the lower section of the valley, protecting it from possible invasions by warring jungle tribes (called *Antis*). The archaeological site is also made up of a series of superimposed terraces, reached by a steep staircase. The ruins feature finely carved, vast stone blocks that make up the upper terrace or Temple of the Sun.



The village of Pisac in the Sacred Valley



Shopping

Chincheros Market

The town of Chincheros lies on the high plain outside of Cuzco by the same name, between Cuzco and the Sacred Valley, and is the site of the remains of the royal hacienda of Tupac Inca Yupanqui, as well as a beautiful colonial temple built on Inca foundations. Noted for its textiles, the main attraction, is the Sunday market that traces its roots back to Inca times when barter or "trueque" existed. Today the market takes place in the main square, at the foot of an Inca wall, and is a real hub of activity, vibrant with color and movement and a variety of handicrafts.

Pisac Market

Located at the northern end of the scenic Urubamba Valley is the village of Pisac, where market is held Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursday, and where you can shop among hundreds of colorfully dressed Indians, who meet there to trade and socialize.

Seminario Ceramic Studio

Seminario Ceramic Studio was founded by Pablo Seminario and his wife, Marilu, and has been dedicated to the discovery of techniques and designs from ancient Peruvian cultures. You will be able to browse the studio and showrooms where major pieces of art as well as unique utilitarian and decorative pieces and jewelry are on display and for sale.



Fine Lodging

We offer a wide selection of fine lodging in the Sacred Valley, from Tourist Category to Deluxe+ Resorts and Spas. Too many, in fact, to picture them all here! But EcoAdventures' website has details and photos of them all.

www.EcoAdventures.com

The Ultra Deluxe Libertador Tambo del Inca

The Westin Libertador Tambo del Inca Luxury Collection Hotel is the largest installation in the Sacred Valley, situated along the banks of the Vilcanota River amidst 25 acres of gardens and Andean flora, and only 20 minutes (12 miles) to the Ollantaitambo train station. The hotel has 128 guest rooms, a luxury spa, two swimming pools, a restaurant, bar, conference rooms and its own train station for trips to the Inca hilltop city of Machu Picchu. Prepare for the Luxury spa resort of your dreams and a once-in-a-lifetime vacation.



The Deluxe Hotel Sol y Luna

The Hotel Sol y Luna is a hotel oriented to the tourist who is interested in living side by side with nature. Here you will enjoy the highest quality of service and comfort in an Andean ambience surrounded by a landscape of whispering eucalyptus and the majestic Andes Mountains. Built of adobe, wood, stone and clay, all native materials, the construction lives in harmony with nature. Local craftsmen were used in all aspects of building. The rooms are all individual bungalows. The bungalows offer all the comforts including telephone, some with king beds, all with private bath and hot water all day, and private terraces. With the mild climate of the Urubamba Valley you can enjoy the sparkling swimming pool for many



months of the year. The restaurant features a variety of Peruvian gastronomy, as well as international cuisine. The restaurant is made welcoming with the warmth of an open fireplace. On the second floor you can enjoy a variety of drinks in the Pub. The BBQ lunch at the **Wayra Restaurant** features a **Peruvian Paso horse show**.



The First Class

Hotel Pakaritampu

Located near the train station in the Inca village of Ollantaitambo, the Pakaritampu is a quaint hostel built in the colonial adobe style. The hotel's 20 rooms are located in small buildings around beautifully landscaped grounds, and have cozy features such as wood-beamed ceilings and terracota and wood paneled bathrooms. Rooms all have telephones and private bathrooms with hot water.



Fine Dining

Cooking Demonstration – 3 Keros Restaurant

Chef-owner, Ricardo Behar, has adapted the traditional cuisine to the new Andean cuisine that is so in vogue today. Before going to the restaurant, Ricardo will first take you to the local produce market, where you will learn about a lot of the local ingredients traditional to Andean cuisine. Then it is off to the restaurant for a cooking demonstration and a delicious lunch.



Hacienda Huayoccarí

The most noticeable aspect of the Hacienda Huayoccarí is its sensational setting on top of a hill dominating the Urubamba Valley. With magnificent views of the Vilcanota River, the restaurant serves some of the finest cuisine in the area. The owners, the Lambarri-Orihuelas family have inhabited the valley for over 350 years, and have been great collectors of contemporary and colonial art as well as ancient artifacts. The house is a virtual museum! After lunch we suggest you take a walk among the secret gardens that invite you to enjoy and wonder. The lunch is always a fixed menu with a choice of two entrées.



Machu Picchu

The citadel of Machu Picchu sits on a saddle between two mountains at about 8,000 ft. altitude. The town of Aguas Calientes, now re-named Machu Picchu Town, sits at the base of the mountains, in a narrow canyon sprawling along the Vilcanota River.

All of the hotels are located in Machu Picchu Town, with the exception of the Sanctuary Lodge, that is outside the gates to the archaeological zone, adjacent to Machu Picchu.

Upon arrival at the train station in Machu Picchu Town, waiting buses will take passengers up a serpentine, unpaved road, to the dizzying heights of Machu Picchu, 2000 feet above the town.



Our Selected Hotels in Machu Picchu Town

Sumaq Hotel –

Rated #1 hotel at Machu Picchu in 2011 by Trip Advisor

The Sumaq Machu Picchu Hotel opened its doors in 2007. The hotel offers the international standards of a luxury hotel. The hotel has 60 ample and luxurious rooms in three categories (44 superior deluxe, 13 junior suites and three suites), all with balcony views and equipped with fire alarm detectors, thermal heating, wireless internet, mini-bar, and large tub bathrooms. The hotel's architecture and interior decor harmonize with the landscape, and incorporate exclusive designs based on the Inca culture, with pieces created by Peruvian craftsmen. The Qunuq Restaurant and Suquy Cafe - Bar offer exquisite and varied samples of gourmet, novo Andean, regional and international cuisine, with carefully elaborated menus by internationally recognized chefs. There is also a Natural Spa 'Axlla,' with millennial therapeutic techniques, thermal baths and medicinal plants typical of those used by the ancient Peruvians.



Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

The Deluxe Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel sits on a 15-acre private property of exuberant tropical forest in the outskirts of Machu Picchu Town, 10 minutes from the train station at Machu Picchu. The hotel resembles a typical Andean village with casitas built in adobe, eucalyptus wood and stone. The spacious rooms are tastefully decorated with local handicrafts, natural sheep skin rugs, hand-woven bedspreads, tile floors, wooden beams, colonial cabinets, and red cedar furniture. Most rooms also have fireplaces. The main house contains a spacious lounge with fireplace, a restaurant, and bar.



El Mapi Inn

The four-star El Mapi Inn (formerly the Machu Picchu Inn) is owned by Inkaterra, the same outstanding hotelier as the Machu Picchu Pueblo, and was completely remodelled in 2010. This cozy, riverside hotel features 48 rooms and suites with panoramic views, restaurant, bar, room service, and laundry service.



Welcome to Cuzco!

Once you have spent at least a couple nights acclimating in the lower altitudes of the Sacred Valley (8,500 ft.) and Machu Picchu (6,500 ft.), Cuzco (11,300 ft.) will be the most exciting visit of your trip! Once the capital of the mighty Inca Empire, Cuzco still retains much



of her pre-Colombian, indigenous and colonial heritage. The old city is a living museum. The Spaniards merely built their palaces and churches on top of the Inca foundations, which can be seen all over the city. The Church of Santo Domingo was built on top of the Sun Temple Koricancha (Quricancha), the most important building from Inca times. It was described in the Spanish chronicles as being covered with gold and semi-precious jewels. Major earthquakes severely damaged the church, but the Inca stone walls, built out of huge, tightly-interlocking blocks of stone, still stand due to their sophisticated stone masonry. (Even hell-bent on destruction, the Spaniards recognized the value of good engineering.) Nearby is an underground archaeological museum, which contains numerous interesting pieces, including mummies, textiles, and sacred idols from the site. The site now also includes the Church and Convent of Santo Domingo. A tour of Cuzco will include this major monument, as well as the Cathedral, the home of the Cuzco School of Colonial Art, and the Plaza de Armas. A tour outside of Cuzco will include the massive fortress of Sacsayhuaman, and the beautiful water temple of Tambo Machay.



Our Selected Hotels in Cuzco

Belmond Palacio Nazarenas

Set in a tranquil plaza behind Cuzco's main square, this former palace and convent opened in June 2012 after five years of restoration. Step past walls of Inca stones and into a cloistered courtyard with an ancient fountain at its heart. Then be surprised as contemporary Cuzco comes to the fore: a fabulous spa, the city's first outdoor pool and stylish restaurants serving cutting-edge local cuisine. This intimate urban retreat has just 55 suites, each enriched with oxygen and with its own private bar and 24-hour room service. Each spacious bathroom has under-floor heating and Peruvian travertine marble décor. All rooms also include: pillow menu, mini-bar with espresso-and tea-making facilities, sound system and satellite TV, complimentary internet and Wi-Fi iPad (with pre-loaded city guide, restaurant and menu, games and other interesting information) The Suites range in size from 452 sq. ft. to 646 sq. ft. The Deluxe Suites (Z Collection also includes original Inca and colonial features), offer special views and beautiful balconies



Belmond Hotel Monasterio

The Belmond Monasterio Hotel is a former monastery dating from the 18th century, that has been reconverted into a deluxe property. The colonial style of this architectural treasure can be admired in its three patios and beautiful chapel decorated with golden ornaments and local paintings. The hotel features 112 rooms and suites decorated in colonial style and equipped with central heating, mini-bar, marble bathrooms with hair dryers, safety boxes, and cable TV. The hotel also offers restaurant, bar, coffee shop, 24-hour room service, and conference rooms. Enjoy the delicious buffet breakfast or dine in bed with the complimentary in-bed breakfast service.



Aranwa Boutique Hotel Cusco

The Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel is the essence of luxury and comfort in the heart of the Inca city. Built in a colonial mansion of the XVI century, it displays several paintings of the Cuzco school, colonial sculptures and carvings that transport us to the greatness of the time. Its elegant rooms, its gardens and its sophisticated Spa are complemented by friendly service. The hotel is located 2 blocks from the main square of Cuzco. The rooms and suites are equipped with an oxygen system that ensures maximum comfort for guests. This additional 30% oxygen results in a reduction in the sense of altitude. Each room or suite presents a Spa concept bathroom, where guests will enjoy a Jacuzzi, a Scottish shower and a special floor heating system. This will provide a complete relaxing experience for guests after a busy day. Additional room amenities include: free WiFi, satellite TV with 32-inch screen, iPod Dock / CD Player, mini bar, organic bath products, electronic safe and hairdryers.



El Mercado de Tunqui Hotel

Opened in 2013, El Mercado is a four-star boutique hotel in the heart of Cuzco, just a couple of blocks from the main square (Plaza de Armas). Mercado is the Spanish word for market, and El Mercado is built on the site of a former market. Exceptional service, warm Peruvian hospitality, and attention to details are found at El Mercado Hotel. The original and eye-catching design has been paired with traditional, colonial architecture. La Taberna is open for lunch/dinner and après. For those looking for a culinary adventure, or just a drink, this is the place to meet after the day's activities. The rooms are charming, cozy and boast original décor. All rooms feature in-room safes, hairdryers, snack baskets, free WiFi, 32" plasma TVs, coffee makers, and tablets with internet access.



Maytaq Wasin Boutique Hotel

The hotel's friendly and professional staff is committed to ensuring that your stay in Cuzco is as comfortable as possible. The bilingual staff really goes the extra mile to make sure that all of your needs are fully met. This serene and tranquil hotel will provide you the best value during your Peru vacation. The 21 warm rooms and sunny terrace offer guests beautiful views of the city and surrounding Andes Mountains. Enjoy the delicious buffet breakfast or the complimentary in-bed breakfast service. Room amenities include cable TV, hair dryer and security safe.



Lake Titicaca Extensions



Option #1 Daily Departures from Cuzco

Day 1: Cuzco to Puno by Coach On this full-day trip you will visit remote cultural centers, transit the altiplano, or the high plains of the Andes Mountains and end in Puno on the shores of Lake Titicaca. The well-equipped motorcoach has multi-lingual hostesses, a restroom and video. You'll make stops en route at the village of Anadahuyallillas, noted for its colonial chapel with beautiful creole frescoes, and Raqchi, where a 6-mile Inca wall surrounds the temple of the god Wiracocha. After a buffet luncheon served at La Raya, you'll make a stop at Pucara to explore the terraces, temples and sunken patios from the Pucara culture, that flourished around 200 B. C. Upon arrival in Puno you will be transferred to your selected hotel. (L)

Day 2: Puno – Uros Floating Islands and Sillustani Island Today you will take a boat excursion to Taquile Island off the shore of Lake Titicaca. Upon arrival at Taquile Island you will visit one of the local villages and have an opportunity to buy some of the locally produced art – these Indians are especially known for their fine basket weaving. They also



employ a method of textile weaving that has been handed down from ancient times, and is unique to the area. Their weavings and designs are found only

on this island. Also take an interesting excursion to one of the other floating islands of the Uros Indians, only a short boat ride from the shore. The Indians' houses, boats, and the islands themselves are made of yellow totora reed which grows around the lake, making this environment one you will not see elsewhere on Earth! (B)

Day 3: Puno to Arequipa or Lima This morning you will have a half-day tour to the Sillustani archeological site. This area was a burial ground for a sub-tribe of the Aymara Indians called the Colla, who were conquered by the Incas in the mid-fifteenth century. Sillustani is partially surrounded by Lake Umayo, offering visitors a beautiful landscape. After the tour you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to either Lima or Arequipa. (B)

NOTE: You also have the option of traveling overland to the Colca Canyon. See page 37



Option #2

Departures from Cuzco

Mondays, Wednesdays & Saturdays

Day 1: Cuzco to Puno Board the Peru Orient Express train for Puno to journey ten hours through terraced valleys and onto the stark altiplano, or high plain, surrounding Lake Titicaca. This deluxe day train has VistaDome coaches, a deluxe dining car and an antique bar coach. Upon arrival in Puno (about 6:00 pm) you will be transferred to your selected hotel. (B, L)

Day 2: Puno See Option #1 for description. (B)

Day 3: Puno to Arequipa or Lima See Option #1 for description. (B)

Option #3 Titilaka, the ultimate in luxury!

Experience Lake Titicaca on a secluded private peninsula, surrounded by stunning scenery. Titilaka's contemporary design integrates with the natural environment, paying homage to the ancient Titicaca, origin of the great Inca culture.

Eighteen lake-view suites feature spa bathrooms, with large oversized tubs and massage showers, plus an array of amenities to ensure a comfortable stay. All of the suites have the modern facilities of heated floors, banquette overlooking the lake, fully equipped mini-bar, iPod dock, personal safe, and a living area.

Day 1: Cuzco to Puno Cuzco to Puno by coach or train. Meeting service upon arrival in Puno and transfer to the Titilaka Hotel in Chucuito, on the shores of Lake Titicaca. (B, L, D)

Day 2: At Titilaka During your stay at Titilaka you will be pampered in every way. The program includes all meals and excursions.

Amantani Island

An hour boat trip takes you to Peru's largest island on Lake Titicaca. Enjoy stunning views and meet local fishermen and farmers.

Exploration into Tinajani Canyon

Tinajani Canyon, that features enormous rock formations, with umber and sandy sedimentation. The countryside is scattered with traditional alpaca farms.

Authentic Taquile Island & Uros Floating Islands

Day 3: Puno to Arequipa or Lima (B)



Arequipa Extensions

Arequipa is the capital city of the Arequipa Region in southern Peru. With a population just under 1 million, it is the second largest city in the country. Arequipa lies in the Andes mountains, at an altitude of 7,800 feet above sea level; the snow-capped volcano El Misti scenically overlooks the city. The city has many beautiful colonial-era Spanish buildings built of sillar, a pearly white volcanic rock, from which it gets the nickname La Ciudad Blanca ("The White City"). The historic center of Arequipa was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2000, in recognition of its architecture and historic integrity. One of the most remarkable sites is the Convent of Santa Catalina. It is a cloistered convent built in 1580 and was enlarged in the 17th century. There are approximately 20 nuns currently living in the northern corner of the complex; the rest of the monastery is open to the public. The tradition of the time indicated that the second son or daughter of a family would enter religious service, and the convent accepted only women from high-class Spanish families. Each nun at Santa Catalina had between one and four servants or slaves, and the nuns invited musicians to perform in the convent, gave parties and generally lived a lavish lifestyle. Each family paid a dowry at their daughter's entrance to the convent, equivalent to US \$50,000 today.



Colca Canyon

Arequipa is the starting point for a 2- or 3-day excursion to the Colca Canyon, located about 100 miles northwest of Arequipa. It is more than twice as deep as the Grand Canyon in the United States (13,648 ft). However, the canyon's walls are not as vertical as those of the Grand Canyon. The Colca Valley is a colorful Andean valley with towns founded in Spanish Colonial times and formerly inhabited by the Collaguas and the Cabanas.

The local people still maintain ancestral traditions and continue to cultivate the pre-Incan, stepped terraces. The small town of Chivay is on the upper Colca River, where the canyon is not so deep but where many terraces are present in the canyon and continue for many miles downstream. As the canyon deepens downriver, a series of small villages is spread out over the approximately 35 miles (between Chivay and the village of Cabanaconde). The canyon reaches its greatest depth about 15 miles to the southeast, in contrast to Nevado Ampato, a 20,630-ft snow-capped extinct volcano.

EcoAdventures' website has 3, 4 & 5-day packages available to Arequipa and the Colca Canyon: www.EcoAdventures.com



Arequipa

3-Day Extension

Day 1: Puno (Lake Titicaca) or Lima to Arequipa Departure by air to Arequipa and transfer to your selected hotel.

Day 2, In Arequipa Today you will tour "The White City", visiting the Plaza de Armas, an enchanting blend of baroque and local Creole or native styles of architecture. The plaza is flanked by the Cathedral on one side, and by typical colonial arcades on the other three sides. Then tour the most fascinating sight in Arequipa: the Santa Catalina Convent, which existed in mystery for four centuries behind walls enclosing almost five square blocks. The convent was a cloister and the nuns who entered were from the finest Peruvian families. When they entered their fathers gave substantial dowries to the order, and the nuns lived in individual houses, which their families built. The ancient colonial treasures, artwork, and fine collections of furniture, kitchen utensils, etc., make the two-hour visit most interesting. (B)

Day 3, Arequipa to Lima, Cuzco or Puno (Lake Titicaca) Transfer to the airport for your continuing air service to either Lima, Cuzco or Lake Titicaca. Alternatively you can extend your stay with an overland excursion to the Colca Canyon. (B)

Colca Canyon

2 or 3-Day Extension

Day 1: Arequipa to Chivay In the morning you leave Arequipa and head towards the valley. On the way you pass Pampa de Arrieros, Pampa Cañahuas (the Vicuna National Reserve of Aguada Blanca), Vizcachani and Tojra, a good place for spotting Andean birds. The awesome volcanoes of Mismi (18,360 ft), Misti (19,110 ft), Chachani (19,930 ft), and the glaciers Ampato (20,630 ft), Sabancaya (9,606 ft) and Hualca Hualca (20,630 ft) offer panoramic views as you enter the Colca Valley. After a 4-hour drive you arrive to Chivay, Colca's most important town where you have lunch. In the afternoon you will have a chance to relax in La Calera hot springs, located in a beautiful, open-air setting (indoor swimming pool also available). Then you'll make a short stop to explore the picturesque town of Chivay and visit the local market. Overnight at your selected lodge.

Day 2: Colca Canyon Tour (El Cruz del Condor) In the morning you will begin your search for the Condor, El Señor de los Andes. The "El Cruz del Condor" site is the best place to admire the Colca Canyon and the condors in flight. En route you will see the archaeological remains of the first terracing of the Collaguas people, and the stone terracing of the Incas. Afternoon return to Arequipa, or continue overland to Lake Titicaca. Or this trip may be extended another night. (B)

Lake Titicaca/Colca Canyon/Arequipa

3-Day Extension

Day 1: Puno (Lake Titicaca) to Colca Canyon This morning you will have a half-day tour to the Sillustani archeological site. This area was a burial ground for a sub-tribe of the Aymara Indians called the Colla, who were conquered by the Incas in the mid-fifteenth century. Sillustani is partially surrounded by Lake Umayo, offering visitors a beautiful landscape. After the tour you will be transferred overland to Colca Canyon. The transfer may be by public bus or private vehicle with a driver. (B)

Day 2, In Colca Canyon Tour (B)

Day 3, Colca Canyon to Arequipa Transfer to the airport for your continuing air service to either Lima, Cuzco or Lake Titicaca. Alternatively you can extend your stay with an excursion to the Colca Canyon. (B)

Peru Extensions

The Plains of Nazca

These enormous carvings in the desert are a 6-hour drive south of Lima. Immense, mile-long geometric designs, stylized birds, spiders and monkeys constructed by an ancient civilization, sprawl across the desert floor and have been the source of speculation for centuries. EcoAdventures' trips reveal the desert countryside south of Lima to Paracas, (3 hours) and provide a selection of hotels: the first class Aranwa Paracas Hotel or the Deluxe+ Libertador Hotel, and include flights from the Pisco (Paracas) airstrip to Nazca, a 45-minute flight-seeing excursion over the Plains of Nazca via light aircraft.



Plains of Nazca Excursion 2 or 3-Day Extension

NOTE: This program may be operated from Lima via first class bus service or via private vehicle with a driver. For those desiring more service, we can also provide a private guide.

Day 1: Lima to Paracas Departure from Lima to Paracas and your selected hotel, about a 3 to 4-hour drive to the south on the Pacific Coast.

Day 2, Plains of Nazca Overflight Morning transfer to the local Pisco airstrip for a light aircraft flight to Nazca, about 127 miles further south. Here you will enjoy a 45-minute flight-seeing excursion, overflying these vast desert plains, with huge figures and geometric shapes etched into them. The figures are so large they have to be observed in a light aircraft, 250 ft. above the ground. Return to Paracas and either return to Lima, or stay another night.

For those who are staying for three days, you can take an optional dune buggy ride, or ride the sand dunes via horseback. (B)

Day 3, Ballestas Islands Cruise Morning transfer to the pier in the town of Paracas for a two-hour motorboat cruise around the Ballestas Islands. Much like the Channel Islands off the California Coast, these islands are teeming with marine wildlife. From this distance from the coast you can also view the 'Candelabro' of the Andes, a strange, huge, trident-shaped carving in the hillside, of unknown origin, that points a direct line south to the Plains of Nazca. Afternoon return to Lima. (B)



EcoAdventures' website has 2 and 3-day packages available to Paracas:

www.EcoAdventures.com



The Libertador Hotel Paracas –Deluxe+ Luxury Collection Resort and member of the proud chain of Libertador Hotels in Peru, the Hotel Paracas is the perfect place to rest on the Peruvian coast, traveling 3 hours by car or 45 minutes by plane from Lima. It is located near a nature reserve where you can admire marine life (sealions, flamingos, dolphins, penguins) and where the Paracas culture flourished nearly two millennia before the Incas. Strategically located in the bay, in front of the Paracas Nature Reserve, the Paracas Hotel is the most luxurious resort spa on the Peruvian coast and the ideal starting point for excursions to the Ballestas Islands from a private dock, and the Nazca Lines to the south. The Paracas Hotel has a total area of 34,136sq. mt., 120 rooms and suites, two restaurants, a bar/lounge, and a luxury spa.



Chan Chan and the Lord of Sipan

Extensions

The largest Pre-Columbian city in South America, Chan Chan is located 3 miles west of Trujillo. Chan Chan covers an area of approximately 3.75 sq. miles, and had a dense urban center of about 3.72 miles. The vast adobe city of Chan Chan was built around AD 850 by the Chimú, a late intermediate period civilization which grew out of the remnants of the Moche civilization. It lasted until its conquest by the Inca Empire in AD 1470. It is estimated that around 30,000 people lived in the city of Chan Chan.



The elaborate walls and friezes have been beautifully restored to their original state and brilliant colors. The Lord of Sipán tomb is a Moche culture site in Peru. Some archaeologists hold it to be one of the most important archaeological discoveries in this region in the last 30 years, because the main tomb was found intact and

untouched by thieves. Sipán is located in the northern part of Peru, close to the coast, in the middle of the Lambayeque Valley, 22 miles east of Chiclayo, Peru. Four tombs have been found in Sipán's Huaca Rajada, a mausoleum built by the Moche culture that ruled the northern coast of Peru from around 1 AD to 700 AD. The Royal Tombs Museum of Sipán houses most of the important findings of Dr. Walter Alva in 1987. The museum itself is constructed to look similar to the ancient Moche tombs (with the exception of giant golden figures on the side). The museum's main attraction is the Lord of Sipán, the immense treasure of gold and jeweled clothing and ornaments, and his eight guests that went to the afterworld with him together with a child, dogs, llamas, and 80+ huacos (Peruvian pottery) also buried in the tomb.

EcoAdventures' website has 3-day extension to Trujillo and Chiclayo with visits to these historical sites.

www.EcoAdventures.com



Libertador Hotel Trujillo – Superior First Class

The attractive, colonial style Libertador Trujillo is ideally located at the Plaza de Armas in the heart of the city. It features 78 rooms equipped with air-conditioning, mini-bar, safe, and color TV. The hotel also offers a restaurant and bar, 24-hour room service, and a swimming pool.



The Lord of Sipan

3-Day Extension

Day 1: Lima to Trujillo Fly northward to Trujillo, and transfer to the Libertador Hotel for the night. In the afternoon enjoy a tour of this beautiful colonial city together with a visit to the Casinelli Museum. (B)

Day 2: Chan Chan and Huaca el Dragon Formerly the capital of the Chimú Empire, the sprawling city of Chan Chan attests the large population that once inhabited the area. Note the walls adorned with elaborate friezes that have been restored to their original detail and brilliant colors. Afterwards, visit the ruins of the Temple of the Dragon, decorated with friezes of dancing warriors. (B)



Day 3: Lord of Sipan/Chiclayo to Lima

Drive to the Valley of the Lord of Sipán. The tombs of the lord and his retinue contained jewelry made from gold, silver and copper studded with turquoise and semi-precious stones. Have lunch and visit the Royal Tomb Museum where the most spectacular finds are displayed. Evening transfer to the Chiclayo airport for the return flight to Lima. (B, L)

The Rainforests of Peru... The Cruises

Iquitos, Peru 4, 5 & 8-Day Expedition Cruises

Fly north from Lima to Iquitos, situated at the source of the mighty Amazon. The Amazon is over 4,000 miles long and is the world's largest river in terms of volume of water. The Amazon and its thousands of tributaries create a vast ecosystem that has been called the "lungs of the earth" because it continuously recycles carbon dioxide into oxygen, and is the most plant-rich environment of the world.

Although it is awesome to behold, the Amazon is so wide at spots that you cannot see to the far shore. The true eco-experience is to get off the Amazon and explore the many small tributaries and flood plains where the forest closes in around you, and is home to a richness of flora and fauna.



Exploring the Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve

The Mirrored Forest Pacaya-Samiria National Reserve is located in Peru's Amazon region, 93 miles from Iquitos. The Reserve is a triangular-shaped area between the Marañón and Ucayali Rivers. These rivers intersect at the northeastern tip of the Reserve, marking the beginning of what is considered the Amazon proper. It has also been called the "Mirrored Forest" due to the many calm lagoons, perfectly reflecting the forest in the still waters. The basins of the Pacaya and Samiria Rivers have been protected by the Peruvian government since 1940. The area was declared a National Reserve in 1972 and enlarged to its present size of 5,137,000 acres in 1982. The Reserve is the largest in Peru, the second largest in the Amazon region, and the fourth largest in all of South America. It is also the largest protected flood forest in the Amazon region. The great size of the Reserve assures that it will be ecologically and genetically representative of the region, with an abundance of

virtually unchanged areas. The climate of the region is tropical moist with an average temperature of 80° F; highly humid; with an annual rainfall up to 118 inches; its surface is mostly flat, with seasonal floods, in a setting of luxuriant vegetation and networks of winding rivers.

Biodiversity

The reserve is home to aquatic animals such as Amazon manatees, pink and grey river dolphins, two species of caiman, Giant South American river turtles, and many others. Monkeys and birds are abundant (over 449 bird species in 288 genus and 61 families).



The Amazon's unique
pink dolphin

M/V Aqua
4, 5 & 8 Days

4 Days: SAT-TUE • 5 Days: TUE-SAT • 8 Days: SAT-SAT

The M/V Aqua, Aqua Expeditions' flagship, is the first true luxury vessel ever to cruise the northern Amazon. Its 12 oversized guest suites, including four 180° panoramic master suites, feature en suite sitting areas and generous outward-facing panoramic windows. The eight handsomely decorated, air-conditioned suites measure 230 square feet, feature picture windows, and were designed by noted Peruvian architect Jordi Puig. Four suites are interconnected to cater to families. You can socialize in the dining room, indoor lounge, on the observation deck, and in the outdoor lounge. The ship also has a small boutique.



M/V Delfin I

4, 5 & 8 Days
4 Days: MON-THU • 5 Days: THU-MON



The **M/V Delfin I**, completely refurbished in 2010, takes you one step beyond luxury. The *M/V Delfin I* is one of the more luxurious options to experience an Amazon cruise. The boat offers accommodation for a maximum of eight passengers in four cabins. All of the cabins are equipped with private bathrooms, water heater and air-conditioning. The two main deck Master Deluxe Suites feature Jacuzzi plunge pools on the balconies! Dining on the *M/V Delfin I* offers an unrivalled level of sophistication, combining the Amazonian wild and fresh ingredients and the gentle blend of immigrant traditions.



M/V Delfin II

4, 5 & 8 Days
4 Days: SUN-WED • 5 Days: WED-SUN • 8 Days: SUN-SUN



The **M/V Delfin II**, launched in March 2009, has 14 large guest suites including four master suites with king beds and 180-degree panoramic windows, and ten suites, four of which are interconnecting to accommodate families. The master suites measure 233 square feet, and the suites measure 200 square feet. The dining room on the upper deck has a total of four highly trained chefs to assure that all menu items are individually prepared.



The observation deck, bar, entertainment center, library and special hammock sun deck are perfect gathering places for guests.



M/V Aria

4, 5 & 8 Days
4 Days: FRI-MON • 5 Days: MON-FRI • 8 Days: FRI-FRI



The **M/V Aria**, Aqua Expeditions' new ship, is pushing luxury cruising on the northern Amazon over the top. Its 16 oversized guest suites feature en suite sitting areas and generous outward-facing panoramic windows. Each of the handsomely decorated, air-conditioned cruise ship suites measure around 240 square feet. Four of these suites can be interconnected, to cater to families. You can socialize in the dining room, indoor lounge, on the observation deck with a Jacuzzi spa, and in the outdoor lounge. The ship also has a small boutique.





The Rainforests of Peru... The Lodges

Explorama Lodges

Iquitos, Peru

Choose from a variety of jungle lodges with different levels of amenities in the Peruvian Amazon rainforest. Select one of the facilities that best suits your travel expectations and needs. English-speaking guides accompany all airport transfers, boat transfers to the lodges and treks. All tours include meals on a fixed-menu basis, hikes and boat trips through the rainforest.

Packages range from two or three nights at Ceiba Tops with a full-day excursion to the Canopy Walkway at ExplorNapó. Or you can choose two, three or four nights at Explorama Lodge, or a combination of three or four nights with Ceiba Tops or Explorama Lodge combined with an overnight at ExplorNapó.

For package details and rates please see our website: www.EcoAdventures.com



Ceiba Tops

Strategically located only 25 miles down the Amazon River with air-conditioned units and hot water showers, Ceiba Tops is ideal if you have only one or two nights to spend in the jungle. A swimming pool and room service complete the recent improvements. Garden walkways connect each room to the dining room, bar and hammock house. Nights at Ceiba Tops can be combined with stays at the other lodges.



Explorama Lodge

Further down the Amazon (about 50 miles) is the more typical jungle lodge, Explorama Lodge. It is nestled in primary rainforest with more than 30 screened rooms and adjoining bath facilities, and is completely illuminated by kerosene lanterns. A variety of hikes and boat trips are at the disposal of the guest including the Seven Bridges Trail. A minimum two-night stay is required, and packages can also include overnights at ExplorNapó.



ACEER Laboratory & Canopy Walkway Adventure

The longest treetop walkway in the world is at nearby ACEER LAB encampment and Ethnobotanical Garden. The Canopy Walkway provides an experience unequalled in the rainforest! Reaching a height of up to 115 feet and extending over 1,700 feet, the walkway affords the best vantage points for observing wildlife and vegetation. The walkway is accessible to all and requires no special skills or equipment. Overnights in tents at ACEER are available at an additional cost.



ExplorNapó Camp

Over 100 miles from Iquitos in the Sucuari Nature Reserve is the privately-owned Plant and Animal Reserve and ExplorNapó Camp. Very basic facilities (thatch rooms with beautiful views down the Sucuari Stream, kerosene lighting, a screened dining room/bar, open-hearth cooking and solar-powered fans) do not disturb the flora or fauna of the area, which is why people choose to stay at ExplorNapó Camp!

The Rainforests of Peru... Puerto Maldonado, Peru

Fly east from Lima or Cuzco to Puerto Maldonado, situated at the confluence of the mighty Madre de Dios and Tambopata Rivers. It is a bustling, frontier town, and its principal activities are gold mining, Brazil nut collecting, timber extraction, and ecotourism. The average temperature is between 84° F and 100° F. December to March is usually hotter with an occasional refreshing afternoon rainfall. The rest of the year, with less rain and more sun, is another good time to see the jungle. Occasionally there is a sudden drop in temperature known as a *fria*, when temperatures can dip to 50° F.

Reserva Amazonica is a privately-owned ecological reserve and research center on 24,710 acres, practicing the innovative, sustainable use of the Amazon rainforest since 1975. Scientific-based tourism started in 1978. Its spacious facilities and well-equipped private cabins assure guests an authentic, safe and comfortable stay.

Refugio Amazonas Opened in 2005, this is the latest addition to Rainforest Expeditions' Tambopata portfolio. As a charming 24-bedroom lodge, it is well-placed on a 200-hectare private reserve on the buffer zone of the Tambopata National Reserve. Rainforest Expeditions' Tambopata Research Center (TRC) is located deep in this reserve, providing a unique opportunity to know the untouched, virgin forest.

Getting There:

The lodge is 3 miles (one hour) downriver by boat from Puerto Maldonado.

Getting There:

After arrival in Puerto Maldonado, it is a two and a half-hour boat ride from the Tambopata Port, passing the Tambopata National Reserve's checkpoint and into the buffer zone of this 3.2 million acres hectare conservation unit.

Accommodations:

Refugio Amazonas has no electricity. Numerous kerosene lamps and candles provide light. A generator is turned on once a day to recharge batteries for guests or lodge facilities. The rooms are 23x13 feet so they can comfortably hold three beds, although most are set up for two. The walls dividing each room are built of cane, and extend from the floor to about 8 feet height making each room private. The side that looks out to the forest

does not have a wall or screening of any kind, acting as a large window facing the forest. The reason for this unprecedented design is because mosquitoes are not really a problem around the lodge clearing, and the open section allows for an intimate contact with the rainforest. A second, small window on the opposite side, set up very high, keeps the rooms well-ventilated. Each room has a cold water private bathroom, and rooms are not soundproof. Doors are replaced with drapes and each room has beds, mosquito nets, bedside tables and hammocks or lounge chairs.

Accommodations:

The individual bungalows are made of local materials in the architectural style of the native Machiguenga and Ese'jea people. They sit on raised platforms and all have private porches with two hammocks, private bathrooms with filtered water, mosquito netting, and large screened windows for optimal ventilation.

The comfortable, basic

Superior Bungalows (313 sq. ft) have two twin beds or one double bed, a writing table, a private porch with two hammocks and a private bathroom and clear running water.

The Riverview Cabins are 434 sq. ft. with larger porches facing the river, two double beds, solar-heated hot water, electricity and fans. The extra-large (646 sq. ft) **Amazonian Suites** have either one king bed or two double beds, double wash basins, solar-heated hot water, electricity, fans, and special amenities such as citronella repellent, terry bathrobes and sandals.



Amazonian Suite & Standard Bungalow

The Macaw Rescue Project

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

ENROLLMENT PROCEDURES AND DEPOSITS

Land Tours: In order to secure space, a \$200 per person **non-refundable** deposit is required. Deposit requirements may vary during certain peak periods.

Airfares: Any airfares quoted are subject to change without notice and are subject to confirmation in the inventory required for that fare. Airfares cannot be guaranteed unless tickets have been issued, and in most cases tickets must be issued within 24 hours of making the reservations.

Cruises and Special Packages: Deposit and payment requirements will vary and are in addition to the \$200 per person deposit required for the land tours and will be advised upon quoting.

TRIP INSURANCE: Coverage is effective only from the date that insurance has been accepted on the acceptance/waiver form, and clients are automatically protected against pre-existing conditions. Trip cancellation insurance will be automatically charged to all EcoAdventures bookings. Clients must accept or waive the insurance by signing a waiver, which is provided on the credit card authorization form.

FINAL PAYMENTS Land Tours: Final payment must be received by EcoAdventures 60 days prior to departure. **All check payments must be made out to EcoAdventures Trust Account.**

FINAL PAYMENTS Cruises & Special All-Inclusive Packages: Final payment must be received by EcoAdventures 90 days prior to departure. **All check payments must be made out to EcoAdventures Trust Account.**

PAYMENTS BY CREDIT CARD: Payments may be made by Visa, Mastercard, American Express, or Discover. Diners and Carte Blanche are not accepted.

LATE PAYMENTS/BOOKINGS: Payments received between 30 and 59 days prior to departure will be subject to a \$50 per booking service charge, and between 11-29 days prior to departure will be subject to a \$100 per booking service charge, plus the cost of any special delivery services required to expedite documents. No bookings will be accepted within less than 11 days prior to departure date.

INCLUDED IN OUR LAND TOUR SERVICES: Transfers, land transportation and sightseeing excursions via motorcoach, minibus, van, train, or other conveyance as specified, except in cases where private vehicle and driver are specified. Hotels are carefully selected by category and quoted on run-of-the-house basis unless otherwise specified. The right is reserved to substitute hotels for any reason, in which case EcoAdventures will endeavor to provide comparable accommodations or an adjustment in rate. Hotel taxes and services are included. Meals are as specified in each itinerary: B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner. Included meals are table d'hotel in accordance with local custom. **Porterage:** Airport porterage for two bags per person is included. Porterage in and out of hotels is **not** included.

NOT INCLUDED IN OUR LAND TOUR SERVICES: (1) Personal expenses such as laundry, liquors, wines, mineral water, phone, valet, taxis, etc; (2) Expenses due to flight delays, strikes, bad weather, or other irregularities; (3) Insurance; (4) Excess baggage charges such as airline overweight charges or airport tipping for more than two suitcases per person; (5) Cost of passport, visas, or other documentation; (6) Tips to sightseeing guides, drivers, or hotel bellmen; (7) Airport taxes or international departure taxes.

CANCELLATIONS Land Tours: All cancellations must be received in writing and will be subject to the following penalties: Cancellations received at any time will be subject to a \$200 per person processing fee. Cancellations received within 60 days prior to departure date will be subject to 50% of the tour. Cancellations received within 45 days prior to departure date will be subject to 100% of the tour. **Airline tickets** in most cases are non-refundable.

Cruises and Special All-Inclusive Packages: Deposits and penalties will vary by each company. Consult us for details. **Special Note Regarding High Season:** Conditions for special peak season dates, such as Christmas, New Years, Easter and local holidays may vary. Consult us for details.

CUSTOMIZATION: There is a \$50 fee assessed for any modifications to existing itineraries in the brochure, up to a maximum of two changes. More than two changes constitute a customized proposal. The following is the schedule of fees for **CUSTOMIZED PROPOSALS:**

Itinerary Length	Customization Fee	Maximum consultation/preparation time
4-10 days	\$100	2 hours
11-20 days	\$150	3 hours
20+ days	\$200	4 hours

The Customization fees are applicable to passengers' final payment, but if passengers do not book with EcoAdventures the fees are non-refundable. **TRAVEL AGENTS: Agencies with \$15,000 or more in bookings with EcoAdventures, Inc. over a 24 month period will be exempt from Customization fees.**

CHANGES: Changes initiated by the travel agent or the passengers after deposit has been paid are subject to a \$50 fee **PER CHANGE**. Changes that require re-issuance of airline tickets will be subject to a \$150 fee **PER CHANGE**, plus applicable airline penalties, change charges or additional collection for changes in airfare. Changes initiated by force majeure, the tour operator, or by the airlines will not be surcharged. Changes initiated by EcoAdventures will not be charged.

PERSONAL TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: EcoAdventures' staff will assume that all passengers are U.S. citizens unless otherwise specified. Passports are required and should be applied for at least 30 days before departure date. Participants are required to comply with all visa, tourist card and health regulations applicable to the countries they will be visiting. Responsibility for proper documentation rests with the passenger and his/her travel agent, not with EcoAdventures. Non-U.S. passport holders should check different requirements, if any, for countries to be visited and for re-entry into the U.S.

RESPONSIBILITY OF OPERATOR: EcoAdventures, Inc. and/or suppliers assume no responsibility for any injury, death, damage, loss or delay incurred by any person in connection with the service of any train, vessel, carriage, aircraft, motorcoach or any other conveyance or by reason of any event beyond the control of the operator or supplier, or due to strikes or force majeure. The operator or suppliers shall not be held responsible for any act, omission or event. If it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the tour operator and any additional charges may be collected from passengers at time of occurrence. The right is reserved to withdraw any or all tours should conditions warrant, also to decline to accept or retain any passenger. In such instances full or equitable amount will be refunded, but this amount shall not exceed the amount paid by the passenger. Schedules herein are subject to change without notice. Claims for refunds must be received by EcoAdventures in writing within 30 days of completion of the trip. Claims received beyond that date will not be considered. Similarly, the tour operator accepts no liability for loss of or damage to luggage; therefore, baggage/personal effects insurance is highly recommended.

TRIP INSURANCE: Trip cancellation/interruption insurance is NOT included in EcoAdventures' rates. It is highly recommended that you review the cancellation penalties.



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