

How To Register:

To reserve a spot on this learning adventure with members of the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, please contact Joy Matthews, Adult Programs and Special Projects Manager, at (214) 515-6538 or jmatthews@dallasarboretum.org to send in your \$600 deposit.

Space is limited. Deposits due to Joy Matthews by Dec. 1, 2016.

Program Price:

Double-occupancy Program-Only: \$6,145

Airfare to and from Quito is separate and is available through Road Scholar.

Note: These prices include a \$400 donation to the Arboretum.

Payment/Cancellation Schedule:

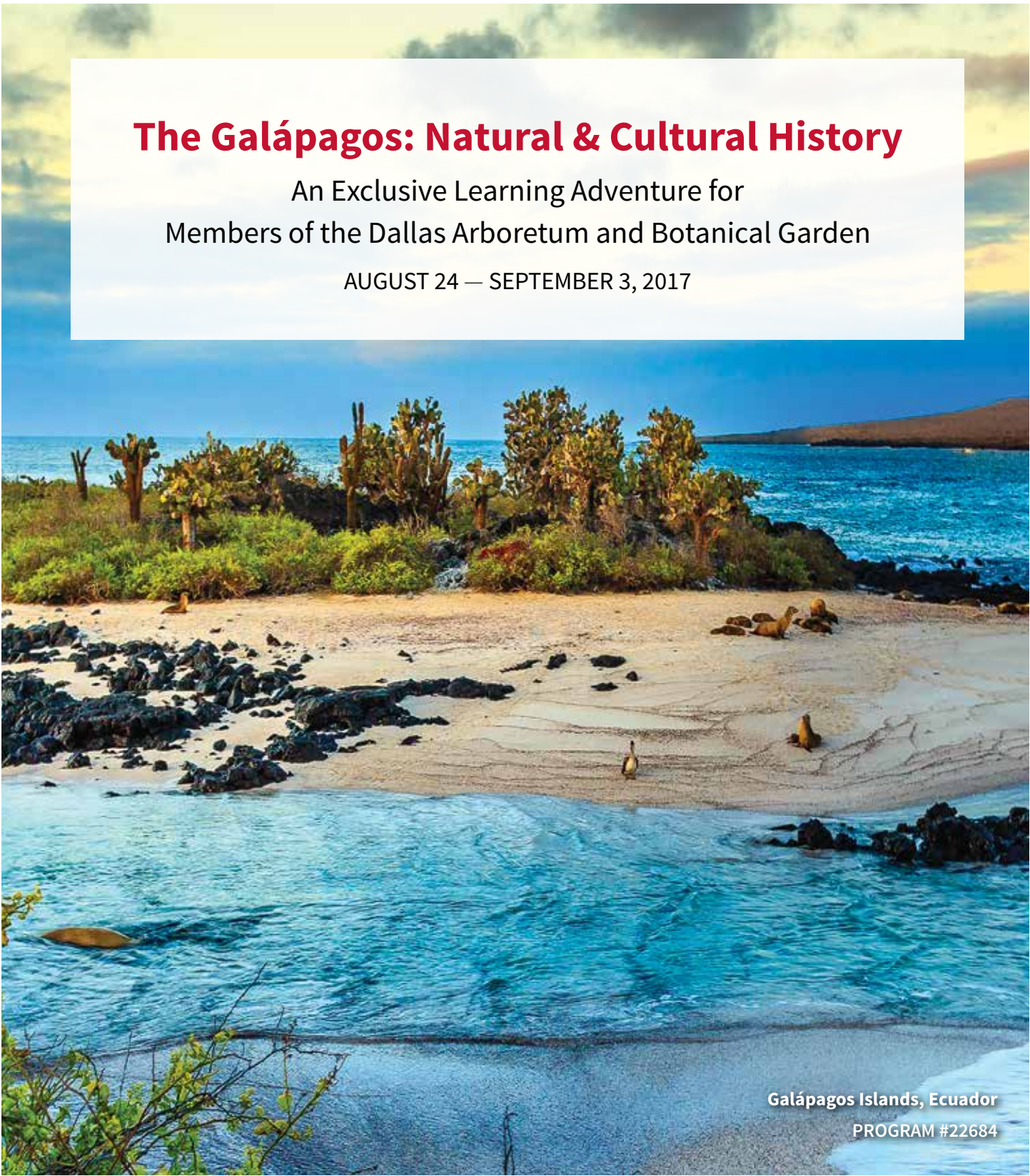
Should you need to cancel from this program, please refer to the chart below for schedule and refund information.

Payment Schedule	
Deposit Payment (due December 1, 2016)	\$600
Final payment due	May 16, 2017
Cancellation Policy	Fee per person
Cancel up to 100 Days Prior to Program Start Date (applies from date of enrollment until May 17, 2017)	\$600
Cancel 99-61 Days Prior to Program Start Date (applies after May 17, 2017)	%50 of order total
Cancel Less Than 61 Days Prior to Program Start Date (applies after June 25, 2017)	100% of order total

Road Scholar recommends that you purchase optional Trip Cancellation, Interruption & Travel Delay Insurance to protect your investment. You will receive a detailed brochure about this insurance policy when you enroll in a program.

ROAD SCHOLAR®

This Galápagos experience is offered through Road Scholar, formerly known as Elderhostel, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1975 to provide lifelong-learning opportunities for baby boomers and beyond. Its mission is to inspire adults to learn, discover and travel. Its learning adventures engage expert instructors, provide extraordinary access, and stimulate discourse and friendship among people for whom learning is the journey of a lifetime. As a leader in educational programs, Road Scholar offers 5,500 educational adventures in all 50 states and 150 countries.



Galápagos Islands, Ecuador
PROGRAM #22684





ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATELY CHALLENGING

Quito, Ecuador has an elevation of 9,350–9,500 feet. Some participants find it helpful to fly into the city a day early in order to have extra time to rest and acclimate to the altitude. Wet and dry landings involve transferring in potentially rough waters from the yacht into a Zodiac and stepping into either knee-deep water or onto rocky shores. Daily walks on sharp volcanic rocks and loose stones add difficulty.

- What's Included:**
- 10 nights of accommodations
 - 28 meals: 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 9 dinners
 - 3 Expert-led lectures
 - 16 Field trips
 - 2 Flights during the program
 - Group travel and transfers throughout the program
 - A Group Leader to accompany you throughout the program to handle all logistics
 - Modest gratuities, taxes and destination fees
 - The Road Scholar Emergency and Travel Assistance Plan, including 24-hour assistance for medical and other emergencies

Experience the Galápagos

At a Glance:

Study unique animal and plant species on this small ship voyage exploring one of the world’s most extraordinary settings — the Galápagos Islands. Encounter the fascinating wildlife that inspired Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution.

Best of all, you’ll ...

- Encounter the exotic animals that made the Galápagos famous, including Blue-footed Boobies, Darwin finches, giant tortoises and marine iguanas.
- Navigate inlets, swim with sea lions and snorkel off remote beaches in search of tropical marine life.
- Learn about the unique and hardy vegetation of the Galápagos, including lava cacti, Scalesia trees, lichens, mangroves and Opuntia cacti.

Lodging:

Hilton Colon Quito Hotel 2 nights 📍 Quito	Full-service hotel that enjoys spectacular views of the city and surrounding mountains.
Galaxy II 7 nights 📍 Galápagos Islands	The <i>Galaxy II</i> is an 88½-foot-long first-class motor catamaran built in 2014. The vessel can accommodate up to 16 passengers in eight air-conditioned cabins with en suite bathrooms. Cabins are located on the Upper and Main Decks and are all outward facing, with large windows.
Hosteria Rincon de Puembo 1 night 📍 Quito	Located conveniently near the Quito international airport in the beautiful village of Puembo.



Daily Itinerary:

DAY 1

Thursday, August 24
Arrival in Quito; Transfer to Hotel

This is an international travel day; no meals or program activities are scheduled on this day.

DAY 2

Friday, August 25
Colonial Quito: the First UNESCO World Heritage Site, Casa del Alabado, Capilla del Hombre

Note: This leisurely-paced day in Quito will give the group time to acclimate to highland elevations.

Following breakfast, we will have an Orientation with our Group Leader, then walk the historic UNESCO World Heritage Site. Learn about Quito’s rich history from pre-Hispanic times, through the Colonial Period, to the Republican Era. Study the architectural styles of local buildings and the uniqueness of religious art pieces from the famous Quitenian School of art. We’ll visit the Museo Casa del Alabado to learn about pre-Columbian art. After lunch, coach to the Capilla del Hombre for an introduction to beloved artist Oswaldo Guasamin. A few blocks from the Guayasamin Foundation, on a hill overlooking the city, stands the Capilla del Hombre. This monument, chapel, and museum was designed by Guayasamin (he died before its completion). After dinner, the evening is at leisure.

DAY 3

Saturday, August 26
Flight to Baltra Island, Board Yacht, Santa Cruz Island, Charles Darwin Research Station

Note: There is a 44-pound weight limit for checked luggage on the flights to the islands. Please note that the Galápagos National Park reserves the right to change cruise itineraries without prior notice.

After breakfast, we'll fly to the Galápagos Islands and meet our naturalist Group Leader. After a bus ride to the Itabaca Channel, a short ferry ride to Santa Cruz Island, another bus ride and short panga ride, our yacht awaits for a visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station and its Interpretive Center. The CDRS conducts scientific research and environmental education to promote conservation of the islands' unique environments. Afterward, we'll board a panga back to the yacht.

DAY 4

Sunday, August 27
Isabela Island (Tintoreras, Humedales Wall of Tears and Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center)

After breakfast, we will make a dry landing at Las Tintoreras for a walking exploration and snorkeling. Las Tintoreras is located just south of Puerto Villamil on Isabela Island. The small island's name means "sharks" because of reef sharks that are commonly found resting in the shallow waters at this site. A small bay and a connecting crevice provide shelter to a multitude of small fish, as well as turtles, sharks, rays, and marine iguanas. The island is a prime nesting site for marine iguanas. After swimming and snorkeling

opportunities, we will return to the yacht. Following lunch we'll making a dry landing on Isabela, driving a short distance to the Arnaldo Tupiza Tortoise Breeding Center where we will learn about local tortoise conservation efforts. After leaving the breeding center we will pay a visit to the Humedales (wetlands) for a chance to observe flamingoes and migratory birds that frequent the local lagoons and mangroves. We'll stop at the infamous Wall of Tears, a 16-20-foot stone wall built by convicts when the island housed a penal colony. Return to the yacht for dinner.

DAY 5

Monday, August 28
Isabela Island (Elizabeth Bay and Urbina Bay)

After breakfast, we visit Elizabeth Bay to observe marine life. It is also one of the best areas to spot and photograph the elusive Galapagos Penguin. A colony of these unique birds inhabits a rocky islet at the entrance to the bay. The sheltered waters host marine turtles, rays, Flightless Cormorants and sea lions. Enjoy optional swimming and snorkeling. After a wet landing at Urbina Bay, we will begin our walking exploration of this unique site that exhibits signs of a coral reef on land — proof that the flat land we see today in that area was once uplifted from the sea.

DAY 6

Tuesday, August 29
Fernandina Island (Punta Espinoza) and Isabela Island (Punta Vicente Roca)

Note: Punta Espinoza: dry landing, moderate trail conditions due to slippery rocks at low tide and uneven terrain. Good walking shoes are a must for the 1.2-mile walk on sharp volcanic rocks.

This morning we will make a dry landing at Punta Espinoza and then walk on local trails in search of the resident sea lion colony and a Flightless Cormorant nesting site. After lunch on the yacht, we'll join our naturalist leader in a panga ride to Punta Vicente Roca, whose coves, rich marine life and well-protected bay have made this into a prized diving location in the islands. Flightless Cormorants, Masked Boobies and Blue-footed Boobies can be seen along the cliffs and the water’s edge.

DAY 7

Wednesday, August 30
Santiago Island (Puerto Egas) and Rabida Island

A short panga ride will take us to Santiago Island, followed by a wet landing on a black sand beach that was visited by Darwin in 1835. Puerto Egas, on the northwestern side of Santiago Island, has black volcanic formations that provide shelter to a number of creatures — including marine iguanas sunning themselves on the rocks. Brightly colored Sally Lightfoot crabs live in the rock crevices and tide pools and Galápagos fur seals enjoy the inlets along the western shoreline and have been known to swim with visitors from time to time. This afternoon we will make a wet landing at Rabida Island, which has a dark red beach favored by sea lions and nesting pelicans. A salt water lagoon

located a small distance from the beach is home to flamingoes and the occasional White-cheeked Pintail. Some of the Galápagos' rarest bird species are here in abundance, including Large-billed Flycatchers, Galápagos Hawks and nine varieties of finches.

DAY 8

Thursday, August 31
Santa Cruz Island (Black Turtle Cove and Playa las Bachas)

This morning, navigate to Black Turtle Cove on Santa Cruz Island to observe marine turtles, white-tipped reef sharks, yellow rays and other marine species. After lunch, we make a wet landing at Playa las Bachas for a field trip to a flamingo lagoon. Apart from being an important nesting site for sea turtles (Chelonia mydas), Playa las Bachas is also a great location for viewing migratory and aquatic birds.

DAY 9

Friday, September 1
Santiago Island (Sullivan Bay) and Bartolome Island

After a wet or dry landing at Sullivan Bay, we'll need good walking shoes to join our naturalist leader on a field trip across recent lava fields — the volcanic terrain is sharp and rough. Few plant species have been able to root in this harsh environment. This afternoon, we make a dry or wet landing on Bartolome Island. The 1.2-mile walk to the top of the volcano includes a climb up a long wooden staircase (375 steps) with railings — the views are worth the effort! Bartolome Island is home to Pinnacle Rock, the "Guardian of the Isles," which rises sharply from the coast. The lunar-like landscape is home to one of the islands' most endearing residents: the Galápagos Penguin. On the way to the summit, we might come across colonies of marine iguanas, lava lizards, tiquilla and various cacti. While swimming and snorkeling from the beach we might get to spot Galápagos Penguins, sea turtles and white-tipped reef sharks.

DAY 10

Saturday, September 2
Santa Cruz (Highlands), Flight to Quito

After breakfast, we will disembark at Puerto Ayora and bus to the highlands for a chance to observe giant tortoises in their natural habitat. In addition to giant tortoises, Santa Cruz is home to several species of Darwin's finches. After our morning field trip, we will board a bus that will transport us to the Itabaca Channel. From there we will take a short ferry ride to Baltra Island and then transfer by bus to the airport. After checking in for our flight to Quito, we'll bid farewell to the Islas Encantadas. We'll have a late-afternoon arrival in Quito and transfer to the hotel with some time at leisure before enjoying our Farewell Dinner.

DAY 11

Sunday, September 3
Depart from Quito, Arrive in the U.S.