

# ECUADOR AND GALAPAGOS

MAY 12 - 22, 2025



Presented by

**GLP Worldwide for  
York University  
Alumni and Friends**

*travel for  
travellers*  
BY GLP WORLDWIDE

**YORK**   
UNIVERSITÉ  
UNIVERSITY

Dear Alumni and Friends,

*Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands hold a special place in the hearts of nature enthusiasts and adventurers alike. This region, renowned for its unique biodiversity and stunning landscapes, offers an unforgettable journey beyond compare.*

*Embark on a 11-day odyssey starting in Quito, Ecuador's capital, where you'll immerse yourself in the rich culture and history of this Andean city. From there, you'll venture to the Galapagos Islands, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where you'll encounter remarkable wildlife found nowhere else on Earth.*

*Boarding the Galapagos Legend, a luxurious yacht, you'll navigate through the crystalline waters of the Galapagos archipelago, exploring its hidden coves and pristine beaches. Snorkel alongside playful sea lions, marvel at ancient tortoises, and witness the incredible diversity of marine life beneath the waves.*

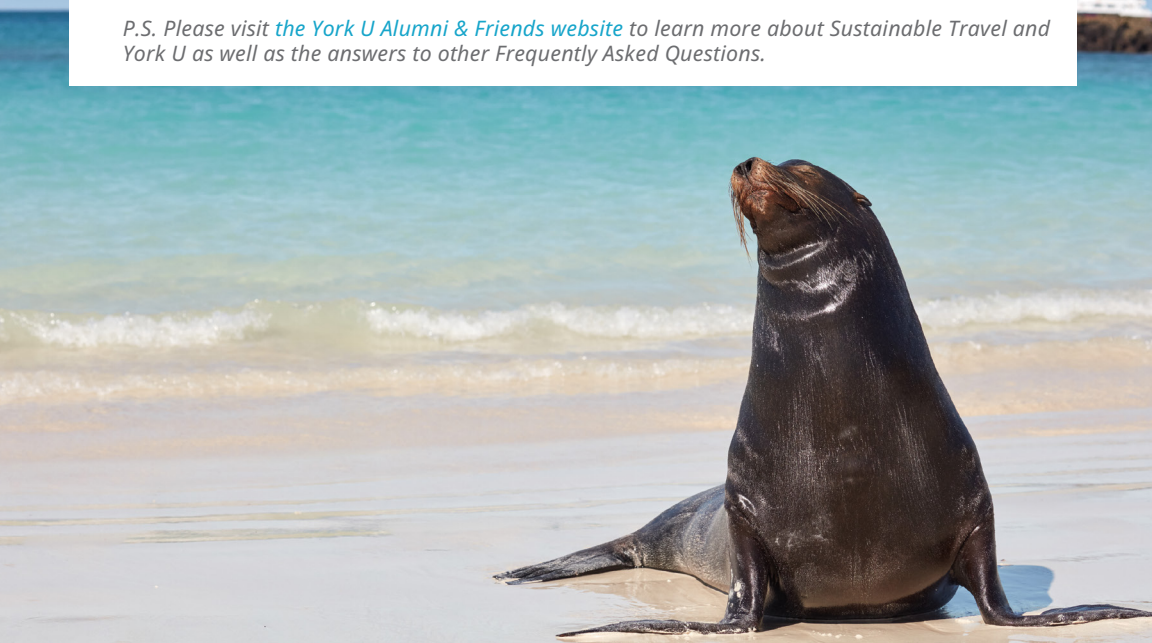
*This expedition promises to be an unparalleled exploration of nature's wonders, offering moments of awe and inspiration at every turn. For more details or to reserve your spot, please contact GLP Worldwide at [1-866-760-1987](tel:1-866-760-1987) or [alumni@glpworldwide.com](mailto:alumni@glpworldwide.com).*

Sincerely,



Melanie McLean  
Alumni Engagement, York University  
E: [mcleanm@yorku.ca](mailto:mcleanm@yorku.ca)

P.S. Please visit [the York U Alumni & Friends website](#) to learn more about Sustainable Travel and York U as well as the answers to other Frequently Asked Questions.



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Email us at: [alumni@yorku.ca](mailto:alumni@yorku.ca)

ECUADOR AND GALAPAGOS

May 12<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025



City of Quito, Ecuador

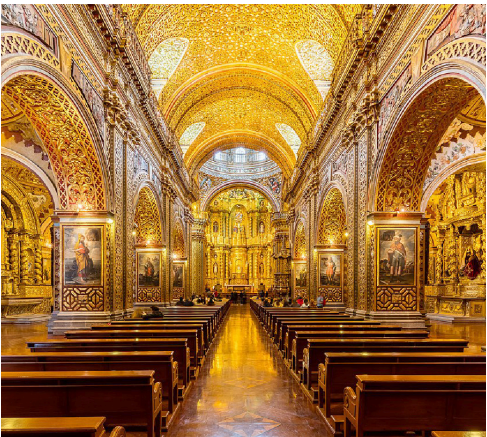


DAY 01 | MAY 12 | DEPART CANADA (D)

We depart for Quito from Canada. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel. Dinner at hotel.

DAY 02 | MAY 13 | QUITO (B,L,D)

Embark on a city tour of Quito to delve into its cultural and religious wonders. Stroll through the old town, immersing yourself in Ecuador's colonial heritage. Visit key landmarks including Independence Square, the Government and Bishops Palace, and the Cathedral. Admire the intricate La Compañía Church and visit the San Francisco Church, possibly stopping at a viewpoint for panoramic city views. Continue to the "Middle of the World" at the Equatorial Line Monument, where you can stand in both hemispheres. Explore the nearby colonial-style town, shops, and the Ethnographical Museum showcasing Ecuador's indigenous cultures. Conclude with dinner at local restaurant.



Church of La Compañia, Ecuador



*Galapagos Islands*

**DAY 03 | MAY 14 | QUITO – CAYAMBE – OTAVALO – QUITO** (B,L,D)

Embark on an enriching Ecuadorian journey, starting with a visit to a rose plantation and a leisurely lunch in a private Hacienda. Proceed to the famous Otavalo market, descending through the scenic Guayllabamba gorge with views of the snow-capped Cayambe volcano. Make a stop at the picturesque Lago San Pablo, offering breathtaking views of its serene waters and surrounding landscapes. At Otavalo, explore the Plaza de los Ponchos for its exquisite indigenous handicrafts and vibrant cultural display. Continue to the leatherwork town of Cotacachi before concluding the day with a delightful dinner at Pims Itchimbia, savoring local flavors and reflecting on the day's adventures amidst Ecuador's diverse landscapes and cultural heritage.



*Gardner Bay*

**DAY 04 | MAY 15 | QUITO – GALAPAGOS** (B,L,D)

Fly from Quito to San Cristobal. Upon arrival, our naturalist guides will escort you to the pier to board the M/V Galapagos Legend. In the afternoon, visit the Interpretation Center on San Cristobal Island to learn about the Galapagos' formation, significance, and conservation. This is followed by a hike to Frigatebird Hill (Cerro Tijeretas), offering views of frigatebirds and the bay. The excursion is of easy to intermediate difficulty, involving flat terrain and stairs, and lasts about 2 hours in total. Enjoy your stay aboard the Galapagos Legend for 4 nights.

**DAY 05 | MAY 16 | GALAPAGOS** (B,L,D)

Visit Gardner Bay and Punta Suarez on Española Island for a diverse Galapagos experience. Gardner Bay offers a stunning white sandy beach and turquoise waters, home to sea lions, Hood mockingbirds, and Darwin's finches, with opportunities for an easy walk and snorkeling. Contrastingly, Punta Suarez provides a more challenging hike over rocky terrain but rewards with close encounters of marine iguanas, sea lions, boobies, endemic lizards, and the dramatic blowhole, and potentially the waved albatross during its breeding season.

**DAY 6 | MAY 17 | GALAPAGOS** (B,L,D)

Explore the historic and natural wonders of Floreana Island with a visit to the famous Post Office Barrel, a tradition dating back to 1793, where visitors continue to exchange letters. This easy, short walk on sandy terrain is followed by snorkeling opportunities. Later, experience Punta Cormoran's unique green-tinted beach due to olivine crystals, encounter pink flamingoes in a shallow lagoon, and walk to a white beach, a nesting site for green turtles. Conclude with snorkeling at Devil's Crown, an eroded volcanic cone bustling with marine life, including colorful fish, rays, and potentially sharks, surrounded by a dramatic roosting area for various sea birds.



*Punta Cormoran, Flamingoes*



*Devil's Crown*



*Santa Cruz Island*

Embark on a journey to Hacienda El Castillo, a sprawling 700-acre estate 55 km from Guayaquil, known for its cacao, mango, and hardwood cultivation. Upon arrival, savor cacao juice and plantain snacks with cheese. Tour the plantation to see the entire cacao process, from seeding to harvesting, fermentation, and drying. A highlight is the visit to the onsite chocolate factory, where traditional methods produce exquisite chocolate. Witness the transformation from cocoa nibs to the final chocolate, culminating in a tasting of the decadent product. Afterward, relax with a typical 'costeño' lunch at the hacienda, then return to Guayaquil for dinner at your hotel.

#### **DAY 7 | MAY 18 | GALAPAGOS (B,L,D)**

Embark on a journey to Santa Cruz Island, starting with Dragon Hill. Arrive at a lava dock where marine iguanas camouflage against the dark rocks. A circular walk past prickly pear cacti and a sickle-shaped beach leads to a shallow lake frequented by flamingoes, while land iguanas nest in the dry forest. Later, venture to Punta Bowditch, an untouched coastal paradise. Enjoy the serenity of a powdery beach, snorkel in turquoise waters, and hike beside salt pools and dried corals, reveling in the unique opportunity to explore one of the newest additions to the Galapagos itinerary.

#### **DAY 8 | MAY 19 | GALAPAGOS - GUAYAQUIL (B,D)**

Discover the Highlands Tortoise Reserve in the lush mountains of Santa Cruz Island, a haven for diverse bird species like finches, flycatchers, and warblers, often seen perched on giant tortoises. The journey to the reserve traverses contrasting ecosystems, from coastal zones and agricultural areas to humid forests, offering sightings of wandering tortoises and a variety of endemic birds. Post visit, fly back to Guayaquil, later enjoy dinner with a river view at your hotel, ensuring a satisfying end to your Galapagos adventure.

#### **DAY 9 | May 20 | GUAYAQUIL (B,L,D)**



*Highlands Tortoise Reserve*



*Cacao Plantation*

#### **Day 10 | MAY 21 | GUAYAQUIL (B,L,D)**

Begin your tour with a visit to the Centenario Park for a panoramic view of the city, celebrating its independence from Spanish rule. Continue to Barrio Las Peñas, the city's sole surviving colonial district, offering splendid views of the city and Guayas River. Wander along the Malecón 2000 river promenade, taking in the Rotonda monument dedicated to South American Independence leaders, and other historic landmarks like the Moorish clock tower. Visit a Panama hat shop to potentially observe the hat-making process. Enjoy lunch at local restaurant, followed by a farewell dinner at Lo Nuestro.

#### **DAY 11 | MAY 22 | GUAYAQUIL - TORONTO (B)**

Transfer to airport in the morning for your home bound flight.

*End of Tour*

## SHIP INFORMATION

## GALAPAGOS LEGEND

Embark on the Galapagos Legend, where intimate spaces meet spacious decks for up to 100 guests. Enjoy social areas, BBQs, and poolside relaxation amidst the islands' beauty. Experience a laid-back atmosphere for conferences, sans formalities.



Restaurant



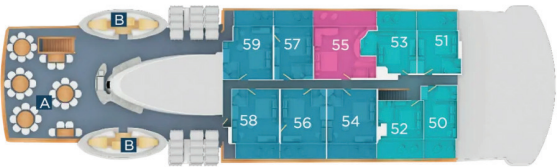
### Dining



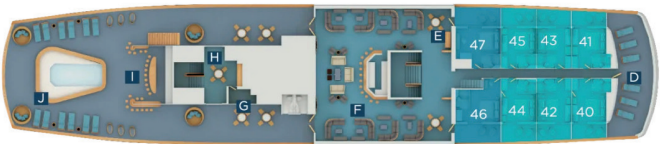
*Pool and Bar*



# DECKPLAN



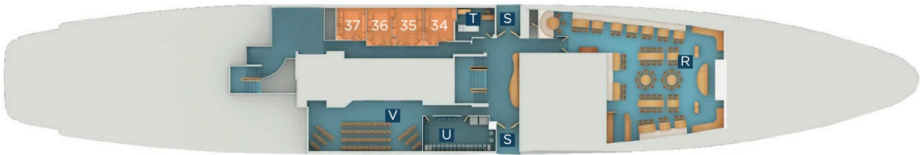
Moon Deck



Sky Deck



Earth Deck



Sea Deck

## SOCIAL AREAS

### Moon Deck

- A** Stargazing Area
- B** Al Fresco Restaurant
- C** Lifeboat Dining

### Sky Deck

- D** Dolphin Observation Deck
- E** 24-hour Coffee & Tea Station
- F** Charles Darwin Panorama Lounge Bar
- G** Naturalist Guide Center
- H** Science Corner
- I** Fisherman's Bar
- J** Swimming Pool & Sun Terrace

### Earth Deck

- K** Kid's Corner
- L** Library
- M** Boutique
- N** Front Desk
- O** Fitness Center
- P** Jacuzzi

### Sea Deck

- Q** Lonesome George Restaurant
- R** Embarkation Area
- S** Medical Station
- T** Snorkeling Equipment Room
- U** Auditorium



**Standard Plus**



**Junior Suite**



**Balcony suite**

- Interior accommodations
- Average Area: 11m2 / 118ft2
- 2 Panoramic windows
- Average Area: 15m2 / 161ft2
- Panoramic windows & Private balcony
- Average Area: From 22m2 / 237ft2

# PRICING & TERMS

**PACKAGE RATE (CAD\$, per person):**

CABIN CATEGORY	TWIN/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	SINGLE OCCUPANCY
Standard Plus	CAD 11,400 per person	CAD 13,350 per person
Junior Suite	CAD 11,960 per person	CAD 14,180 per person
Balcony Suite	CAD 12,750 per person	CAD 15,360 per person

**INCLUSIONS:**

- International roundtrip airfare in economy class from Toronto to Quito and return from Guayaquil to Toronto (additional cost to be applied for other departure cities) including applicable air taxes and fees.
- Domestic air Quito – Galapagos – Guayaquil including applicable air taxes and fees
- 6 nights hotel accommodation includes breakfast
- Meals included in the itinerary
- Tours and transfers as per itinerary
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers
- Porterage at hotels (1 piece per person)

**CRUISE INCLUSIONS:**

- 4 nights accommodation on Galapagos Legend
- Cabins with air-conditioning & private facilities
- All meals on Board. Welcome & farewell cocktails
- 24-hour coffee & tea station
- Two daily excursions with multilingual naturalist guide
- Snorkeling equipment on board
- Outside Decks, Flora and Fauna observation
- Activities on board (briefings, lectures)
- Tips to crew and excursion guide

**EXCLUSION:**

- Meals not mentioned in itinerary.
- Optional travel, health, accident or other insurances.

**DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS**

<b>FIRST DEPOSIT:</b>	CAD 2,000 per person at the time of booking
<b>SECOND DEPOSIT:</b>	CAD 2,000 per person due on Nov 8, 2024
<b>FINAL PAYMENT:</b>	Due on Jan 8, 2025

**CANCELLATION CHARGES**

<b>FROM TIME OF BOOKING TO NOV 7, 2024:</b>	CAD 2,000 per person
<b>FROM NOV 8, 2024 TO JAN 7, 2025</b>	CAD 4,000 per person
<b>FROM JAN 8, 2025 – DATE OF DEPARTURE</b>	100% of tour cost

**AIR CREDIT:**

If you wish to arrange your own air from Toronto to Quito and return Guayaquil to Toronto, an air credit of CAD 900 per person will be deducted from the tour cost.  
Please contact us for air deviation, premium economy or business class upgrade surcharges.

*Note:*

- 1. Passenger names must match passport.
- 2. Please ensure that passports are valid up till after six (6) months at last destination.
- 3. Our office requires submission of copy of passport information along with payment to confirm the booking

*Air cancellation penalties are subject to airline regulations.*

*We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation or comprehensive travel insurance at the time of booking. Please contact us for a quotation.*

*Prices above are in Canadian Dollars. The program and all related travel services described herein are subject to the detailed terms & conditions of GLP Worldwide which are available at any time upon request and which will be provided with your booking confirmation.*

*All travel services are arranged through GLP Worldwide. York University and the York University Alumni Association, its officers and employees do not assume any responsibilities for the financing, arranging or conducting of the tour. They shall not be liable for any damages or financial loss to person or property of any description that might occur in connection with the tour, however arising from the negligence, omission or otherwise of travel service arranged through GLP Worldwide.*

# PERU EXTENSION TOUR



*Cusco, Peru*

## DAY 1 | MAY 22 | GUAYAQUIL – CUSCO

After breakfast, we'll transfer you to the airport for your flight to Cusco, Peru. Upon arrival, our team will greet you at the airport and transfer you to the Sacred Valley. The remainder of the day is at leisure for you to acclimatize to the altitude.

## DAY 2 | MAY 23 | SACRED VALLEY (B, L)

Today promises to be a day of exploration and cultural immersion as we embark on a captivating full-day tour of the Sacred Valley. Our journey begins with a visit to Manos de la Comunidad, where you'll have the unique opportunity to learn about Andean camelids and the traditional textile art crafted by local villagers. Continuing our adventure, we'll venture to Pisac, a charming town renowned for its vibrant artisan markets and fascinating blend of Incan and Colonial influences. Here, you'll have the chance to wander through bustling market stalls, marveling at intricately crafted jewelry, ceramics, and textiles. Our day concludes with a visit to the majestic Ollantaytambo Fortress, an ancient Incan stronghold boasting impressive stone terraces and intricate architecture. Prepare to be transported back in time as we explore the rich history and breathtaking beauty of this storied site.



*Sacred Valley, Peru*

## DAY 3 | MAY 24 | SACRED VALLEY / MACHU PICCHU / SACRED VALLEY/ CUSCO (B, L)

Fuel up with a hearty breakfast before embarking on an unforgettable journey to the iconic Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu. We'll start our day with a scenic train ride from the Sacred Valley to Aguas Calientes, soaking in panoramic views of the lush Andean landscape along the way. Upon arrival, we'll board a bus that will transport us to the entrance of Machu Picchu itself, where the ancient ruins await. Prepare to be awe-struck by the sheer magnificence of this UNESCO World Heritage site as we explore its enigmatic temples, terraces, and stone structures. Led by our knowledgeable guide, we'll unravel the mysteries of Machu Picchu, delving into its rich history and significance to the ancient Incan civilization. After a captivating day of discovery, we'll enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant before returning to the Sacred Valley, where you'll be transferred to your accommodation in Cusco.



*Machu Picchu, Peru*

## DAY 4 | MAY 25 | CUSCO (B, D)

Immerse yourself in the vibrant culture and history of Cusco as we embark on a captivating half-day city tour. Our adventure begins with a visit to the imposing Fortress of Sacsayhuaman, followed by a short stop at Cristo Blanco, offering panoramic views of the city. Next, we'll explore the bustling San Pedro Market, where you'll be greeted by a kaleidoscope of sights, sounds, and aromas. Our journey continues with a visit to the awe-inspiring Qoricancha Inca Temple, an ancient religious site dedicated to the sun god Inti. Finally, we'll explore the magnificent Cusco Cathedral, a stunning example of colonial architecture adorned with priceless works of art and religious artifacts. Conclude your day of discovery with a delectable dinner at the hotel.

## DAY 5 | MAY 26 | DEPART CUSCO (B)

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before your departure. At the appropriate time we will transfer you from the hotel to Cusco airport to board the flight that will take you back to Lima and connect your flight to Canada.

# PRICING & TERMS (PERU EXTENSION TOUR)

**PACAKAGE PRICE (AIR & LAND) PER PERSON (CAD\$, per person):**

TWIN/DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
CAD 2,750 per person	CAD 520 per person

**INCLUSIONS:**

- International flight from Lima instead of Guayaquil to Toronto (additional cost to be applied for other departure cities) including applicable air taxes and fees.
- Domestic flight from Guayaquil to Cusco and Cusco to Lima including applicable air taxes and fees.
- 2 nights hotel accommodation in Hotel Casa Andina Premium Valle
- 2 nights hotel accommodation in Hotel Casa Andina Premium Cusco
- Meals included in the itinerary
- Tours and transfers as per itinerary.
- Gratuities for local guides and drivers.

**EXCLUSIONS:**

- Meals not mentioned in itinerary.
- Optional travel, health, accident or other insurances.

**DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS**

**FIRST DEPOSIT:** CAD 800 per person at the time of booking

**FINAL PAYMENT:** Due on Jan 8, 2025

**CANCELLATION CHARGES**

**FROM TIME OF BOOKING TO JAN 7, 2025:** CAD 800 per person

**FROM JAN 8, 2025 TO DATE OF DEPARTURE** 100% of tour cost

Air cancellation penalties are subject to airline regulations.

We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation or comprehensive travel insurance at the time of booking. Please contact us for a quotation.

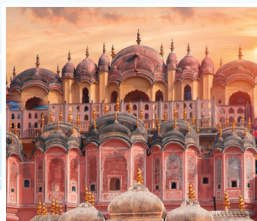
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# UPCOMING INFO SESSION! CALL IN TODAY TO REGISTER NOW! **1-866-760-1987**



**MOROCCO**  
**- LAND OF ENCHANTMENT**  
**APR 15 - MAY 1, 2025**



**THE BEST OF INDIA**  
**AND BRAHMAPUTRA RIVER**  
**OCT 3 - 19, 2025**



**KENYA**  
**TANZANIA**  
**OCT 19 - NOV 1, 2024**



**SOUTH KOREA**  
**AND JAPAN**  
**MAY 9 - 27, 2025**

*Travel for  
Travellers*

BY GLP WORLDWIDE

## CONTACT GLP WORLDWIDE AT

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1-866-760-1987 | Monday - Friday | 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM  
[travelfortravellers.com](http://travelfortravellers.com)  
[alumni@glpworldwide.com](mailto:alumni@glpworldwide.com)