

The Galápagos Islands are most famous for the profound discoveries of Charles Darwin. Carry on that scientific tradition as you learn about the unique species that call the islands home. On mainland Ecuador, experience the local culture in Quito. Independence Plaza and the Intinan Museum provide social context to the biological wonders of this fascinating country.

EVERYTHING YOU GET:



Full-time Tour Director



Sightseeing: 1 sightseeing tour led by your Tour Director; comprehensive sightseeing of natural attractions



Entrances: Santo Domingo Monastery; Intinan Museum; Charles Darwin Research Station



weShare: Our personalized learning experience engages students before, during, and after tour, with the option to create a final, reflective project for academic credit.







All of the details are covered: Round-trip flights on major carriers; comfortable motorcoach; internal flights; boat; 7 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (10 with extension); breakfast and dinner daily; 3 meals on days 3-6





Anyone can see the world.

YOU'RE GOING TO **EXPERIENCE IT.**

As you can see, your EF tour includes visits to the places you've learned about in school. That's a given. But it's so much more than that. Immersing yourself in new cultures surrounded by the people, the language, the food, the way of life—creates inspirational moments that can't be listed in an itinerary. They can only be experienced.

And the experience begins long before you get your passport stamped and meet your *Tour Director* in your arrival city. It begins the moment you decide to go. Whether it's connecting with other travelers on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, or delving deeper into your destinations with our personalized learning experience, weShare, the excitement will hit you long before you pack your suitcase.

When your group arrives abroad, everything is taken care of so you can relax and enjoy the experience. Your full-time Tour Director is with your group around the clock, handling local transportation, hotels, and meals while also providing their own insight into the local history and culture. Expert local guides will lead your group on sightseeing tours, providing detailed views of history, art, architecture or anything you may have a question about.

When your journey is over and you're unpacking your suitcase at home, you'll realize the benefits of your life-changing experience do not end. They have just begun.

@EFtours I attribute my college semester abroad to the love for travel I discovered on an EF Tour in high school #traveltuesday

- MELISSA, TRAVELER

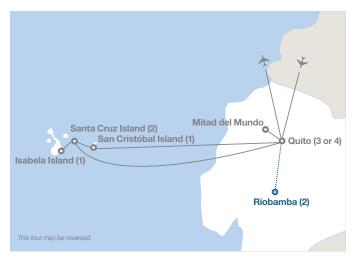




CHECK OUT WHAT A TOUR IS ALL ABOUT

Watch the videos at











What your tour could look like

Day 1: Fly to Ecuador

 Meet your Tour Director at the airport in Quito, the Ecuadorian capital carved into a narrow plateau high above the Andean valleys, beneath the peaks of the Pichincha Volcano.

Day 2: Quito

- Take a tour of Quito: Independence Plaza;
 Government Palace.
- Visit the Santo Domingo Monastery.
- Take an excursion to the equatorial line.
 If you've ever wanted to stand in both hemispheres at the same time, this is your chance.
- Visit the Intinan Museum, where you'll discover how the Incas determined the middle of the Earth.

Day 3: Baltra | Santa Cruz Island

- Fly to Baltra.
- Travel to Santa Cruz Island.
- Go snorkeling off the coast of Santa Cruz Island and enjoy free time on the beach.

Day 4: Santa Cruz Island | Isabela Island

- Continue on to Isabela Island, the largest of the Galápagos Islands. In 1959, the archipelago was declared a national park in order to protect the flora and fauna that Charles Darwin observed while formulating his theory of evolution. Critical to his studies were the islands' iguanas, penguins, flightless cormorants, and 13 species of finches, whose beak sizes and shapes provided invaluable insights into the process he called natural selection.
- Take an excursion to a pink flamingo habitat.
- Enjoy a snorkeling activity where you'll see animals like flamingos, sea lions, and iguanas. You'll also participate in a nature walk, and explore an islet made of lava.

Day 5: Isabela Island | Santa Cruz Island

- Travel to Santa Cruz Island.
- Visit the Charles Darwin Research Station and see the breeding center for the giant tortoises from which the islands took their name.
- Visit the Santa Cruz Highlands.

Day 6: San Cristóbal Island

- Travel to San Cristóbal Island.
- Hike up Tijeretas Hill.
- Visit the San Cristóbal Interpretation Center.
- Enjoy a snorkeling activity.
- Take a costal walk along La Loberia beach.

Day 7: San Cristóbal Island

- Enjoy morning activities on San Cristóbal Island.
- Fly to Quito.

Day 8: Otavalo | Depart for home

- Visit the market town of Otavalo. Surrounded by the Imbabura, Cotacachi, and Mojanda volcanoes, Otavalo is a small farming town known for its textiles. Otavaleña women traditionally wear lace blouses with dark skirts and a colored band around their waists. You'll have the opportunity to shop for handmade goods and other souvenirs crafted by the area's local residents at one of the largest craft markets in the country. And don't think that handicrafts are the only thing you will find here-you can purchase anything from musical instruments to a meal. Plus, the market offers a unique glimpse into traditional Andean culture, as locals have frequented the markets for hundreds of years.
- Enjoy a weaving workshop.
- Transfer to the airport for your overnight flight home.

Day 9: Arrive home

9 3-DAY TOUR EXTENSION

Days 9-11: Riobamba | Guamote | Quito

- Travel to Riobamba.
- Participate in cultural immersion activities in Guamote.
- Visit the Banos hot springs.
- Return to Quito and board your flight for home.

Day 12: Arrive home



This trip made me infinitely more confident about my Spanish speaking and listening capabilities. Seeing Ecuador and the Galápagos like this is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity.

- CAMERON, TRAVELER



66 Tour review

This trip to Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands was unexpectedly amazing. Our Tour Director was excellent and handled all aspects of our trip with grace and expertise. I loved trying new foods thanks to our tour guides who helped us select new fruits and other items.

- KRISTEN, TRAVELER



3.

TOP THREE THINGS I WILL SEE, DO, TRY, OR EXPLORE

1.			
2.			

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-CHARLOTTE, DAUGHTER TRAVELED JUNE 2015



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For over 50 years EF has been working toward one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. Your teacher has partnered with EF because of our unmatched worldwide presence, our focus on affordability, and our commitment to providing experiences that teach critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and global competence. What's more:

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