



***Family Service Trip to
The Galapagos Islands
April 12-20, 2014
Cost: \$3750 per person****

(includes: airfare, lodging, transportation, travel insurance, & most meals)

WHY JOIN US?

This is an incredible opportunity to conduct community service in a developing country while also seeing some of the most spectacular natural sites in the world. We'll volunteer with Galapagos ICE reconstructing a local playground and there will be plenty of time to experience the flora and fauna of the Galapagos Islands.

Service Trip includes:

- Pre-trip orientation and community building activities
- Local Ecuadorian guides, and Craig Dreves, who speaks Spanish fluently, will accompany you
- Volunteering with GALAPAGOS ICE (a grassroots, local, non-profit organization)
- A visit to Darwin Station to observe the Galapagos tortoise in its natural habitat
- Travel to Isabela Island to visit the Sierra Negra Volcano and tour Tintorera Bay to see the Galapagos flamingos, sea lions, and marine iguanas in their natural habitat. We'll also have a chance to snorkel with reef sharks!
- Tour North Seymour Island where we'll encounter the blue-footed boobies and frigate birds nesting
- Visit Pinnacle rock on Bartolome Island to see Galapagos penguins and experience a magnificent view (in fact, the most photographed view) of the Galapagos Islands
- One travel guide per family, a photobook memento of the trip, and VolunTravel T-shirts (personalized to your group) are provided to all participants with each trip.

Open to all interested families / individuals / couples.

This trip is family friendly and open to children 6 years old and older. Volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by a parent.

**estimated cost dependent upon fuel surcharges and government taxes at time of full payment. Note that VolunTravel is not affiliated with the Rye City School District.*



Flights: AEROGAL AIRLINES

(Affiliate of Avianca and Taca airlines)

To be Determined

Want More Information?

Check out these websites:

- <http://galapagosice.org/> - Galapagos ICE (our volunteer organization)
- <http://www.darwinfoundation.org/english/pages/index.php> - Darwin Station
- <http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/reptiles/galapagos-tortoise/> - Galapagos Tortoise Info
- <http://www.galapagosonline.com/Islands/islands/Isabela/Isabela.html> - Isabela Island
- http://www.galapagosonline.com/Islands/islands/North_Seymour/North_Seymour.html - North Seymour Island
- <http://www.galapagosonline.com/Islands/islands/Bartolome/Bartolome.html> - Bartolome Island

Helpful Literature:

- Lonely Planet Ecuador & the Galapagos Islands (Country Travel Guide) (Paperback - Aug 1, 2009)
- Frommer's Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands (Frommer's Complete Guides) by Eliot Greenspan (Paperback - Jun 28, 2011)
- Teach Yourself Spanish (NTC Publishing)

Benefits of Traveling with VolunTravel

- Community service hours are awarded for participation in projects (approximately 25-30 hours)
- Service learning experience - students are educated on the culture, the struggles of the local people, and the needs of the volunteer site, all while being immersed in the local language.
 - Potential for fundraising experience through letter writing campaigns, etc.

Please note: VolunTravel is a federal and state tax exempt non-profit organization under IRS regulations 501c3. You will be provided with a receipt for payment of program expenses, along with our tax exemption number, once your trip is paid in full. Some of the trip expenses may be tax deductible, but **please consult a certified accountant for further information.**

NOTES

VolunTravel – Galapagos Proposed Itinerary

April 12-20, 2014

(This itinerary is subject to change)

Day 1 - Arrival

- Arrive at GPS airport on Baltra Island and transfer to our hotel in Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island. On the way, we'll tour the Santa Cruz Highlands where we'll see Galapagos tortoises, see a huge sink hole and enter an underground lava cave.
- Check into the Crossman Hotel in Puerto Ayora, rest, eat dinner and tour the town.

Day 2 –

- Breakfast in the hotel
- Tour Darwin Station in the morning.
- Transfer to Isabela Island by boat. Check into San Vicente Hotel to change.
- Visit Flamingo Bay / go for a swim at the beach.
- Dinner in the hotel.

Day 3 –

- Breakfast in the hotel.
- Tour Sierra Negra Volcano. This is an intermediate climb up to the top of the dormant volcano for a beautiful vista.
- Lunch on the volcano.
- Tour Tintorero Bay. See flamingoes, sea lions, marine iguanas in their natural habitat. Opportunity to snorkel with reef sharks!!!
- Dinner in town.

Day 4 –

- Return to Santa Cruz Island at 6am
- Check back into the Crossman Hotel in Puerto Ayora and have breakfast in the hotel.
- Volunteer Day – Visit last year's VolunTravel project and then begin our new project of renovating a park.

Day 5 –

- Breakfast in the hotel.
- Volunteer day.
- Free night for souvenir shopping or dancing!

Day 6 –

- Breakfast in the hotel.
- Half day – volunteer day to complete the project.
- Trip to the beach for an afternoon swim.

Day 7 –

- Breakfast in the hotel
- Tour North Seymour Island to see Blue Footed Boobies and Frigate birds in their natural habitat.

Day 8 –

- Breakfast in the hotel
- Tour Bartolome Island – Visit Pinnacle Rock and see Galapagos penguins.

Day 9 –

- Return to Baltra Airport for our flight home.
- Arrive home Sunday night. No school on Easter Monday (April 21).