AWE-INSPIRING EXPERIENCE

The Galápagos Islands, 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador, are often described as the most exotic adventure destination. The Islands are universally admired for their unusual, human-tolerant wildlife, surreal volcanic landscapes and dramatic equatorial skies. The unique island environment provides an ideal setting for those interested in photography, hiking, bird watching, snorkeling and kayaking.

This 10-day special expedition, unlike any Galápagos cruise, has been designed by the most knowledgeable experts on the Galápagos. Learn about Darwin’s voyage to the Galápagos Islands over 150 years ago by our onboard guest speakers and tour leaders. Understand Darwin’s discoveries upon his return to England and the effect this new knowledge had on him and the history of the world.

LA PINTA

A full-week discovery trip to the Galápagos Islands aboard La Pinta allows encounters with unique fauna in the wild, like the famous giant Galápagos tortoises, land and marine iguanas, flamingos, penguins, blue-footed boobies and the famous Darwin’s finches.

After intense days of wildlife exploration, La Pinta provides a haven of relaxation and tranquility with tastefully appointed accommodations and all the facilities for a stylish yet informal ambiance.

La Pinta guests will cover all aspects of the Galápagos: discovery, adventure, environmental interpretation, aquatic activities, relaxation, superb service and great dining. Naturalist guides enhance their interpretative skills with the use of state-of-the-art expedition equipment. The staff embraces a spirit of adventure, while at the same time ensuring that you always travel in comfort and safety.

To view more details of La Pinta go to www.yachtlapinta.com

THE ITINERARY IN SHORT — 8 day / 7 night cruise

Friday
Morning: Fly to Baltra Island
Afternoon: North Seymour Island

Saturday
Morning: Fernandina Island – Punta Espinosa
Afternoon: Isabela Island – Punta Moreno

Sunday
Morning: Floreana Island – Post Office Bay & Champion Islet
Afternoon: Floreana Island – Punta Cormorant

Monday
Morning: Rabida Island
Afternoon: Santa Cruz Island – Las Bachas Beach

Tuesday
Morning: Santa Cruz Island – Highlands
Afternoon: Santa Cruz Island – Charles Darwin Research Station

Wednesday
Morning: James Island – Sullivan Bay
Afternoon: James Island – Puerto Egas

Thursday
Morning: San Cristobal Island – Puerto Baquerizo Moreno
Afternoon: San Cristobal Island – Cerro Brujo

Friday
Morning: Baltra Departure
EXPEDITION PRICES PER PERSON*

Double occupancy: US $13,020
Single supplement: US $5,300

* Includes a $5,000 contribution to the International Institute for Species Exploration

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE:

Land arrangements in Quito, Ecuador:
- Accommodation as noted in the detailed itinerary
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as indicated in the detailed itinerary
- All meals as stated in the detailed itinerary
- Private guide and land transportation as stated in the detailed itinerary
- Ecuadorian departure taxes (US $40.85 per rate subject to change)

Galápagos arrangements:
- Seven nights aboard the La Pinta, private charter
- IHO guide and lecturer Professor William H. Kimbel
- Expedition photographic CD of the cruise
- All meals while onboard
- All soft drinks and juices onboard
- VIP lounge on outbound flight from Galápagos
- Complimentary use of snorkeling equipment
- Galápagos National Park fee (rate subject to change)
- Migration Control Card (rate subject to change)
- Round trip flight Quito - Galápagos (rate subject to change)
- Local naturalist guides aboard the La Pinta
- Gratuities to local guides, drivers, Galápagos guides, crew and escort guide
- Activities in Galápagos: snorkeling and hikes

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Travel/Baggage/accident/cancellation insurance
- International flights and all international airfare not specified on “Program Rates Include”
- Items of a personal nature, such as laundry, excess baggage charges, phone and e-mail
- Passport or visa expenses
- Activities in Galápagos: snorkeling and hikes
- Accommodation as noted in the detailed itinerary
- Meals not stated in the itinerary

This is the first cruise designed to commemorate Darwin’s historic visit to the Galápagos Islands during his 150-year-old voyage on the Beagle. The Galápagos expedition also will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Darwin’s revolutionary work, On the Origin of Species.

May 6–16, 2009

Celebrate Charles Darwin’s Bicentennial
1809–2009

Galápagos Islands Expedition Cruise

Explore, like Darwin, this living, breathing inspiration of natural history. This unique cruise also will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Darwin’s revolutionary work, On the Origin of Species.

Quentin Wheeler is University Vice President, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Founding Director of the International Institute for Species Exploration, and Virginia M. Ullman Professor of Natural History and the Environment in the School of Life Sciences at Arizona State University. Dean Wheeler was a professor of entomology and plant biology at Cornell University, director of the division of environmental biology at the U.S. National Science Foundation, and keeper and head of entomology at London’s prestigious Natural History Museum before joining ASU in 2006. He is an expert on beetle morphology, taxonomy and evolution and has conducted field research in many countries, including Mexico, Jamaica, Panama, Peru, and Chile. He is a research associate of the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, author of more than 100 scientific publications, describer of as many new species, and editor or co-editor of several books including Fungus/Insect Relationships: Perspectives in Ecology and Evolution, Extinction and Phylogeny, Species Concepts and Phylogenetic Theory: A Debate, The New Taxonomy, and Letters to Linnaeus. He received his PhD in entomology from The Ohio State University, is a fellow of the Linnean Society of London, the Royal Entomological Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Dean Wheeler and the institute are committed to leading a renaissance in descriptive taxonomy, rapidly expanding our knowledge of earth’s species as a scientific response to the biodiversity crisis. The institute, in partnership with leading international museums and botanical gardens, is reasserting the vital role of taxonomy in biodiversity exploration and conservation. The institute is bringing together computer engineers, taxonomists, curators, historians, philosophers and sociologists to tackle one of the most urgent challenges facing science and society in the 21st century. Dean Wheeler will lecture during the voyage on taxonomy, biodiversity, species concepts and the visionary and pioneering work of the institute.

William H. Kimbel, who moved to ASU with the Institute of Human Origins in 1997, is the Virginia M. Ullman Professor of Natural History and the Environment in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change and Science Director of the IHO. He conducts field, laboratory and theoretical research in paleoanthropology, with primary focus on early hominid evolution in Africa and the Middle East. Recent field work has taken Kimbel to Hadar, Ethiopia (the discovery site of the 3.2 million-year-old “Lucy” skeleton of Australopithecus), and to northern Israel, where he has collaborated with Israeli colleagues on the excavation of Neanderthal-bearing cave deposits. His analytical interests are in the evolution of human skull morphology and function and the concept of the species as applied to paleoanthropological problems.