

Tailor-made for a group of 16
October 6th - 17th, 2008

VISITING: Quito, Andes and a Cruise in the Galapagos Islands

6th Oct

Arrival in Quito

Pick up from the airport and transfer to the Hotel Quito.

Quito

Our base is the **Hotel Quito**

<http://www.hotelquito.com/> . It is situated on the edge of the plateau that holds the city, giving an exceptional 360° view of both the city and the neighboring valley and the surrounding mountains. It is also the site where the first Spaniards departed to cross the Amazon River, leading to the legend of El Dorado.

It has beautiful gardens, home to myriad flowers and humming birds. In the heart of these is an acclimatized swimming pool, a fully equipped fitness center, whirlpool bath, and wet and dry sauna.

From Quito, you are within a couple of hours away from the Andean volcanoes, tropical cloud forest and the remnants of the original

Andean forest, colonial remains and architecture, Andean markets the equatorial line and its associated monument and museum.



7th Oct

Tour to Otavalo & Cotacachi

Pick up after breakfast by your guide. Meet in the lobby at 8am.

Otavalo

2 hours North along the Pan-American highway is the town of Otavalo. Long before the Spanish Conquest, town squares like the one here, were used by the indigenous people to sell their products. This tradition has remained unchanged and in these colorful and noisy "mercados" the natives offer all of their wares.

The market displays a wide variety of goods, folklore, arts, crafts, ceramics and regional garments. Certain days also hold the fruit and animal market.

8th Oct

Quito to Galapagos

Pick up at 7:30am by the bus to transfer you to the airport. Meet in the lobby at 7:15am. Flight TAME 191 from Quito departs at 09:30am touches down in Guayaquil and lands in Baltra, Galapagos at 11:30am. Transfer direct to the Daphne, arriving at about 12:30pm.

8-15th Oct

Galapagos Cruise on the Daphne

Daphne

Daphne is a compact motor yacht for 16 passengers. The cabins are twins with bunks and the itinerary concentrates on the Eastern part of the archipelago, visiting Tower island. The outside areas are spacious with good shade and sun areas. They're great for simple cruising. This yacht is good for chartering at a mid-range price. Food is homely and good.



15th Oct

Galapagos to Quito

Arrival in Baltra by 10:00hrs for a 12:45 departure on TAME 193. Flight TAME 191 from Baltra departs at 12:45 touching down in Guayaquil, landing in Quito at about 17:00. After a quick transfer to the hotel to drop off luggage, you'll be taken to the Old Town for a short tour and dinner.

16th Oct

Guided tour to Antisana

17th Oct

Departure home

Transfers to the airport will take place throughout the morning to coincide with respective international departures.

Not Included

Tips at hotels and tours on the mainland (\$30 pp recommended)

Tips for the guide on board (\$50 pp recommended)

Galapagos National Park Tax (\$100 per person)

Ecuador departure tax (\$42 per person)