

# Explore

the world's wild places with The Living Desert

Gain a different perspective when you travel with us!

## Ecuador and The Islands of the Galapagos

### Machu Picchu

July 24 – August 4, 2025



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Nature & Cultural Journeys  
for the Discerning Traveler

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## A MAP OF YOUR JOURNEY TO ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS ISLANDS



## YOUR ITINERARY

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### DAY 1 ~ THURSDAY ~ JULY 25

#### USA/QUITO

Depart your home town on your way to Ecuador. Upon arrival in Quito in the evening, you will be escorted to your elegant hotel which is located in the heart of historic "Quito Antigo" and surrounded by churches, museums and national monuments.

*An official National Treasure, Patio Andaluz holds centuries of history within its walls and is a marvelous building of colonial origin, which offers every visitor an experience not unlike turning back in time. It was part of the original Solaris (original building sites) that constituted the City of San Francisco of Quito at the time it was founded. Enjoy the enchantment and comfort that this elegant boutique hotel offers, with large arches, balconies, and towering attics that gives the feeling of being in the republican era. The inviting guestrooms have hard wood floors, vaulted ceilings, original works of art and fresh picked flowers and feature colonial style headboards, armoires, Latin work desks with antique lamps, color televisions and large windows looking into the courtyard. Hotel amenities include a coffee shop, full gourmet restaurant, a Tapas wine bar, spa, gym and solarium.*

Overnight at the HOTEL PATIO ANDALUZ in standard rooms. [www.hotelpatioandaluz.com](http://www.hotelpatioandaluz.com)



### DAY 2 ~ FRIDAY ~ JULY 26

#### QUITO~COLONIAL CITY

Your half-day tour today will show you what Quito displays: the largest colonial town of the Americas, the first UNESCO's World Heritage Site. Enjoy the eclectic architecture ranging from the modern quarters to varied colonial facades on churches and private residences decorated and balconies built along the last five centuries. The tour includes parks like El Ejido and Alameda, the monument of Simon Bolivar, the gothic Basilica of the Heart of Jesús, Independence Square developed during the past five centuries and flanked by the Presidential and the Archbishop's palaces dated back to XVII and XIX centuries and, the Metropolitan Cathedral with excellent samples of the Spanish renaissance.

Walk along the so-called street of the seven crosses and pass by the Jesuit convent, once headquarters of the first university in the country, El Sagrario church with a unique orthodox cross layout dated back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century and the jewel of the crown, the Jesuit temple of La Compañía de Jesús, perhaps the most important monument of the baroque art in Quito. From there continue to the plaza of San Francisco, with temple and convent known to be the largest of the once Spanish colonies on the Americas which displays a rich sample of artistic and cultural heritage. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore on your own.

Overnight at the PATIO ANDALUZ. (B)



### DAY 3~SATURDAY~JULY 26

#### QUITO/OTAVALO

Early this morning you will depart for South America's most famous Indian fair, the Otavalo Market, centered around 'Poncho Plaza'. Drive across the colorful valleys of Guayllabamba and Cayambe. Guayllabamba is rich in fertile soil and through effective irrigation systems has become an important producer of avocado and the local cherimoya fruit. Cayambe, traditionally dedicated to dairy cattle and manufacturing of dairy products, has recently enjoyed an important boom in rose farming. The breathtaking setting offers great photo opportunities and after two hours of traveling through the riveting Andean countryside, you will arrive at the province of Imbabura, known as the Ecuadorian Land of Lakes.



The Otavalo Craft Market is the most famous and picturesque in South America. While the main market is on Saturday's, there's always a mini market going on, no matter what day of the week one visits. Markets are meeting places for shopping, bargaining and chatter, while people of the region exchange local produce, animals, utensils, pots and pans or textiles. For visitors, the markets offer the possibility of approaching Ecuadorians at a more intimate level as you negotiate prices of a variety of woven goods, bags, hats, flutes or simply appreciate the skillful and generous people responsible for the elegance and beauty of the clothing and handicrafts. After a busy shopping day, there is nothing better than a delicious lunch at one of the local haciendas.

On your way back to Quito, time permitting, visit Cotacachi, an Indian village which features leatherwork including bags, jackets, hats, gloves and belts, Cuicocha Crater Lake, whose wonderful scenery is dominated by mountains and moorland scenes with numerous native plants and many birds or visit the village of Peguche with traditional looms and handcrafted wind instruments where you can purchase their goods directly

from the people who make them.

Overnight at the PATIO ANDALUZ. (B)

### DAY 4~SUNDAY~JULY 27

#### QUITO/GALAPAGOS ISLAND: BALTRA AND SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS

This morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to Baltra. Upon arrival you will be met by your naturalist guide and taken for a short bus ride to the pier to board the vessel, the 20-passenger M/Y Coral II.

On land and in the sea, the Galapagos Islands give the impression of a diabolic Garden of Eden. The islands' tumultuous volcanic history of scorched earth and fiery flows are evident the moment you arrive. Inhospitable.

Uninhabitable. Tortured. These are the adjectives inspired by the lava-seascape. But look closer... this seemingly Spartan landscape is in fact teeming with life - the first of the Galapagos' many contradictions. Suddenly you realize that what



you thought was a rock is in fact a sun-seeking iguana! And to add to your surprise, it doesn't seem the least bit perturbed by your intrusive gaze... another Galapagos contradiction. Due to their long history of isolation from humans, both land and sea animals remain virtually fearless and unaffected by visitors. This is the land that Charles Darwin visited as a naturalist on board the HMS Beagle, which was bound on a long scientific survey expedition to South America and the South Seas (1831-36). His zoological and geological discoveries on the voyage resulted in numerous important publications and formed the basis of his theories on evolution.

For the next eight days, you will bear witness to our planet's most captivating wildlife; for example, their namesake, the 600-pound tortoises, which in the Spanish language, are called Galapagos. You'll be mesmerized by the awe-inspiring landscapes and misty volcanic peaks. The underwater world is equally enchanting.

After the welcome briefing and safety drill, enjoy a dinghy ride at the entry of the Itabaca Channel in a lagoon with turquoise water, where you can observe sharks, blue-footed boobies, and different kinds of fish.

Return to the ship where you will have a briefing on the next day's activities followed by a welcome cocktail and dinner with the captain. Overnight aboard the M/Y CORAL II. (B,L,D)



#### DAY 5 ~ MONDAY ~ JULY 28

##### PRINCE PHILLIP'S STEPS & DARWIN BAY

Genovesa, where you spend an entire day. In the morning, you will traverse Prince Phillip's Steps. Here you can view a colony of red-footed boobies roosting in mangrove trees. At the end of the trail, you are on the side of the cliff with a majestic view of the bay as well as the sea birds flying back and forth in front of you. See red-billed tropic birds, frigatebirds, masked boobies, storm Petrels, short-eared owls, and fur seals.



In the afternoon take a short panga ride to Darwin Bay, a trail which goes past tide pools where swallow-tailed and lava gulls are seen. You then enter a forest of salt bush where colonies of great frigatebirds are nesting. To attract a mate, males flap their wings and inflate a red-balloon-like sack in their throats. You will also have the opportunity to swim and snorkel here. Overnight aboard the M/Y CORAL II. (B,L,D)



## DAY 6~ TUESDAY ~ JULY 29

### **GALAPAGOS ISLANDS: RABIDA ISLAND & BARTOLOME ISLAND**

Disembark at Rabida Island on a red-colored beach, due to the unusually high content of iron in the volcanic material. A gratifying stroll along the beach of this small island allows the observation of a large colony of sea lions, marine iguanas, mockingbirds, Yellow Warblers, and several species of Darwin's Finches. Very close to the beach, hidden behind a strip of green saltbush, is a salt pond where at times Greater Flamingos migrate to; these spectacular birds feed on the brine shrimp found in this saline pond. From June to November, pelicans nest in the surroundings. This is a great place to snorkel from the beach, both for beginners as well as for experienced snorkelers, due to the unique combination of underwater species and submarine landscapes. During navigation to your next destination, keep your eyes open for dolphins.



After lunch visit Bartolome, a small, rugged island off the eastern shore of Santiago where it seems like you are walking on the moon. This young island is inhospitable to most plants and animals. Embark on a 30-minute climb to a summit of a once-active volcano for a panoramic view which includes the guardian point of Pinnacle Rock, the worn-away remnant of a cone composed of spewed ash particles. This is a steep climb aided by a wooden staircase but the view from the top is worth the effort. Down below, the water is crystal clear, and you can swim and snorkel with schools of fish after your hike. On the other side, you will find sea turtles and white-tipped sharks close to the shore. You will have time to enjoy snorkeling and swimming from the beach with the endemic Galapagos penguins that frequent this cove.



Overnight aboard the M/Y CORAL II. (B,L,D)

## DAY 7 ~ WEDNESDAY ~ JULY 30

### **GALAPAGOS ISLANDS: SANTA CRUZ ISLAND~HIGHLAND TORTOISE RESERVE, CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH STATION & BLACK TURTLE COVE**

Dry landing and head to the mountains of Galapagos where it is possible to admire different kind of birds, such as: Tree and ground finches, Vermillion Flycatchers, Paint-billed Crakes, Yellow Warblers, and Cattle Egrets (usually standing on the tortoises' shell). The journey to the reserve offers great opportunities to see the contrasts that the island offers in reference to the variety of ecosystems. The road goes from the coast through the agricultural zone and straight up to the dense humid forests. Often, Galapagos giant tortoises are also seen on the way, wandering through pastures in the paddocks. This spot is a birdwatchers' haven, since almost every land bird present on the island lives or migrates here.



Continue to the Charles Darwin Station. Here, the giant tortoise breeding program takes place as part of the world's efforts to preserve the fragile Galapagos environment. Learn about the work the station does in providing environmental education to communities and schools within the islands. Once home to the famous Lonesome George, the last tortoise of the Pinta race, the breeding and relocation center is named in honor of his long-time guardian. The center is set in the Galapagos National Park Service where various interpretative buildings are available to visit. The grounds, with large stands of native vegetation are one of the better places to spot some of the seldom seen Darwin's finches such as the woodpecker, cactus and vegetarian finches.

Your last excursion of the day is to Black Turtle Cove, a shallow red mangrove lagoon, located on the northern coast of Santa Cruz Island, visited only by panga. Here can see Blue-footed Boobies, Brown Pelicans, and even a 6-foot black-tipped reef shark. Black Turtle Cove is known for being a nursery for many sharks as well as the best place in the Galapagos to find the Golden (Mustard) Ray. It is also a great location to observe mating sea turtles, and that is why the entire site takes its name for the black sea turtles that mate in these calm waters.

Overnight aboard the M/Y CORAL II. (B,L,D)



#### DAY 8 ~ THURSDAY ~ JULY 31

##### **GALAPAGOS ISLANDS: ISABELA ISLAND (VICENTE ROCA POINT) & FERNANDINA ISLAND (ESPINOZA POINT)**

In the morning head to the northern tip of Isabela Island, Vicente Roca Point, where depending on the conditions of the ocean, a snorkeling outing along the cliffs of partly sunken Ecuador Volcano will be scheduled. Since there is no landing site at this location, the coastal exploration is by panga, where your naturalist-guides will commit to explaining the dramatic geology of the area with remains of lava flows and tuff stone layers. This is the nesting place for Flightless Cormorants, the only existing marine birds in the world other than penguins that have changed their condition of flying birds to diving birds. Wildlife here also includes sea lions, Galápagos fur seals, Galápagos Penguins, Blue-footed and Nazca Boobies and Noddy Terns. This area has a very rich marine life and is seasonally visited by green sea turtles.

After lunch, you disembark at Punta Espinoza, Fernandina (*dry landing*), located in the western part of the archipelago, Fernandina is the youngest and most pristine Island found in the Galapagos. Hundreds of marine iguanas, the largest colony in Galapagos, bask in the sun along the rugged shoreline. Observe sea lion harems with resident bulls carefully guarding their territory. Flightless Cormorants build their nest on the point and Galapagos Hawks fly overhead. Evidence of recent lava flows formed by an active volcano stretch their way around the coast.

Overnight aboard the M/Y CORAL I or II. (B,L,D)



#### DAY 9 ~ FRIDAY ~ AUGUST 1

##### **GALAPAGOS ISLANDS: ISABELA ISLAND ~ URBINA BAY & TAGUS COVE**

This morning, disembark at Urbina Bay (*wet landing*), located at the foot of volcanoes Alcedo and Darwin, western Isabela Island, the result of an uplifting of the ocean in 1954. Here you can find corals, shells and many other calcareous organisms exposed above water. This area is also home to large and very colorful Galápagos land iguanas, giant tortoises (occasionally); a good spot to observe Darwin's finches. Along the shoreline, after the hike you may encounter flightless cormorants and see penguins while snorkeling in this beautiful cove. Return to the ship for lunch.



After lunch disembark (*dry landing*) at Tagus Cove on Isabela Island, where 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century ships' graffiti can be seen on the towering cliffs. After hiking beyond Darwin Lake, a saltwater lagoon above sea level, you will be rewarded with extraordinary views of Darwin and Wolf volcanoes. Six volcanoes flowed together and formed Isabela, the largest Island in the Galapagos. Enjoy a panga ride through the mangrove area to see the rays, turtles, sea lions, and circling overhead, Galapagos Hawks. Possibilities to swim or snorkel will be present. There is no beach in the area, so these activities are done from the pangas giving you the opportunity to see fish, turtles and on occasion you'll see a passing shark. On a trail leading to the western tip of the island, you'll pass the only nesting site in the Galapagos of the Waved Albatross; these enormous birds are adorned with a wingspan of 6-feet. They nest here from April to December and represent the majority of the world's population of this species.



Overnight aboard the M/Y CORAL II. (B,L,D)

## DAY 10 ~ SATURDAY ~ AUGUST 2

### **GALAPAGOS ISLANDS: SANTIAGO ISLAND ~ EGAS PORT & SULLIVAN BAY**

*Wet landing* on a beach of black volcanic sand, visited by Darwin in 1835. In 1683, William Ambrose Cowley visited this place, and it was he who gave the English name of James to the Bay and the Island. British buccaneers anchored in this whole area during the 1600s, as it was a good place to find meat like giant tortoises to eat, as well as fresh water to drink.

Stroll along the shoreline at Puerto Egas, Santiago looking for octopus, starfish and other sea life caught in the small pools as the tide goes out. You may also see the Great Blue Heron, Lava Heron, Oystercatchers and a Yellow-crowned Night Heron. If the tide is low, you'll see marine iguanas grazing on the exposed green algae. Your walk comes to an end when you arrive at the fur seal grottos; these are the deep pools of clear water where you can swim with the shy fur seals that hide in cool caves. This will be your best opportunity to see the fur seal, once thought to be on the verge of extinction.



After lunch, board the *panga* for the short ride to the landing site at Sullivan Bay on the east coast of Santiago. *Wet landing* on a white coral sand beach, and then walk over lava that flowed here less than 100 years ago. This is the perfect place to





see and feel the volcanic origin of Galápagos. The last major eruption on Santiago was probably in the early 1900's. One observer aboard a sailing vessel reported that the ship approached the lava flow so closely that the pine tar used to seal the hull of the ship began to soften, and the captain had to hurry the ship away from the bay. As usual have your briefing and dinner after you are back on the ship.

Overnight aboard the M/Y CORAL II. (B,L,D)

### DAY 11 ~ SUNDAY ~ AUGUST 3

#### GALAPAGOS ISLANDS: SANTA CRUZ ISLAND ~ BACHAS BEACH/BALTRA AIRPORT

Your final stop before you depart is a visit to Bachas Beaches. These two small beaches are found to the West of Turtle Cove. Their sand is made of decomposed coral, which makes it white and soft, a favorite nesting site for sea turtles. Behind one of the beaches there is a small brackish water lagoon, where it is occasionally possible to observe flamingos and other coastal birds, such as Black-necked Stilts and whimbrels. The other beach is longer and has two old barges that were abandoned during the Second World War, when the USA used Baltra Island as a strategic point to protect the Panama Channel. (The metal is rusty and sharp, so it is not a good place for swimming.)



Return to the Baltra airport for your flight to Guayaquil. Upon arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. There are several restaurants and bars for your dining pleasure.

*Combining Swiss traditions and Ecuadorian hospitality, the Oro Verde's luxurious rooms feature numerous amenities. Enjoy the rest of your day at leisure. You might want to relax by the hotel's outdoor swimming pool or take advantage of the fitness center, Jacuzzi, and sauna facilities. There are several restaurants and bars for your dining pleasure.*

Overnight at the ORO VERDE GUAYAQUIL in deluxe rooms. (B)  
<https://www.orooverdeguayaquil.com/>



### DAY 12 ~ MONDAY ~ AUGUST 4

#### GUAYAQUIL/USA

Today (*depending on your flight*) your journey will come to a close as you transfer to the airport for your return flight home. Whenever you look back on this experience just know that you're in good company - the Galapagos Islands have touched the hearts and imaginations of Lord Byron, Charles Darwin, and countless others like yourself. (B)



## OPTIONAL POST-EXTENSION TO PERU



### DAY 11 ~ SUNDAY ~ AUGUST 3

#### BALTRA ISLAND/GUAYAQUIL/LIMA

Return to Baltra Island and transfer to the airport for your flight to Guayaquil where you bid the rest of the group returning to the USA goodbye, and prepare for your next adventure. Your flight takes you to Lima, where you will be met and escorted to your hotel.

*Your luxurious hotel boasts an unbeatable location at Malecón de la Reserva, with stunning ocean views of Miraflores and the surrounding neighborhood, and easy access to popular attractions, including Costa Verde and Puente de los Suspiros. Larcomar, an upscale shopping center, Kennedy Park and the Indigenous Market are also a short walk from the hotel. Enjoy breathtaking sunsets over the Pacific Ocean at the bar, in your room or the rooftop restaurant, Insumo Rooftop, which offers the best ocean views in the city. Chic rooms feature luxury bedding, elegant bathrooms, flat-screen TVs, and free high-speed Wi-Fi access.*

Overnight at AC HOTEL LIMA MIRAFLORES in city view deluxe rooms. (B)

<https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/limac-ac-hotel-lima-miraflores/>



## DAY 12 ~ MONDAY ~ AUGUST 4

### LIMA



This morning, discover Lima, Peru's ancient capital, on a guided tour. Visit the Cathedral and then continue to San Francisco Monastery, an old convent founded in the 16th century. It is known for its cloister featuring mosaic tiles from Seville, Spain, and for its catacombs, which served as Lima's cemetery through the colonial period.

Your next stop the Larco Herrera Museum founded in 1926. The museum possesses more than 45,000 pre-Columbian pieces and provides an incomparable opportunity to discover the mysteries of the pre-Inca world. The permanent exhibition contains thousands of priceless

objects, including gold and jewelry, ceramic statuary and sculptures, metals, textiles, and a display of erotic representations of the ancient world.

The afternoon and evening are at leisure. Your hotel is located in the heart of the traditional Miraflores district, just two blocks from Parque Kennedy and surrounded by Lima's finest dining and shopping. Peruvian cuisine is delightful, and Lima has many fine restaurants. Enjoy a traditional Peruvian lunch at La Huaca Pucllana restaurant located in one of the pre-Columbian temples in this 6-hectare archaeological site. This temple was built in 400 AD and is located in the nearby suburb of Miraflores. 3000 years ago, this area was an important religious and administrative center of the Lima Culture. Today have lunch at Restaurante La Huaca Pucllana, which is a warm and cozy restaurant that offers a spectacular view of the illuminated surrounding ruins.

Overnight at the AC HOTEL LIMA MIRAFLORES. (B,L)



## DAY 13 ~ TUESDAY ~ AUGUST 5

### LIMA/CUSCO/SACRED VALLEY ~ PISAC MARKET

This morning you will begin your day with a flight to Cusco, where upon arrival you'll board your bus for your drive to Sacred Valley.

Your visit will be to the town of Pisac. A vital Inca road once snaked its way up the canyon that enters the Urubamba Valley at Pisac. The citadel, at the entrance to this gorge, now in ruins, controlled a route which connected the Inca Empire with Paucartambo, on the border of the eastern jungles. Set high above a valley floor patch worked by patterned fields and rimmed by vast terracing, the stonework and panoramas at Pisac's Inca citadel are magnificent. Terraces, water ducts and steps have been cut out of solid rock, and in the upper sector of the ruins, the main Sun Temple is equal to anything at Machu Picchu. Above the temple lie still more ruins, mostly unexcavated, and among the higher crevices and rocky overhangs several ancient burial sites are hidden. Pisac also offers a very colorful "Market Day" every Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, but you can pretty much



find artifacts every day of the week, such as handcrafted jewelry and leather, beautiful woolens and ponchos, carpets and alpaca products. The rest of the day is at leisure to enjoy the fabulous facilities of your hotel or sightsee on your own.

*Your accommodations for the next two nights will be at the majestic Inkaterra Hacienda Urubamba. The most recent addition to the Inkaterra portfolio, this outstanding contemporary hacienda-style hotel in the Sacred Valley has an ideal setting as it spans approximately 100 acres and is surrounded by imposing green mountains. All 12 rooms in the main building and 24 stand-alone luxury casitas feature breathtaking views of the valley and feature interiors inspired on the area's cultural history, with colonial furniture, authentic Inca masks and handcrafted woodwork. There's a 10-acre organic*



*plantation on the premises and guests are welcome to pick their own produce, such as quinoa, Urubamba giant corn, medicinal herbs and a variety of potatoes, all farmed with traditional hand tools and oxen, as done centuries ago. Free Wi-Fi.*

Overnight INKATERRA HACIENDA URUBAMBA, in superior deluxe rooms. (B,L)

<https://www.inkaterra.com/inkaterra/inkaterra-hacienda-urubamba/the-experience/>

#### **DAY 14~ WEDNESDAY~ AUGUST 6**

##### **URUBAMBA VALLEY~ OLLANTAYTAMBO**

Explore Ollantaytambo this morning, a major Inca fortress and one of the few places where the Spaniards lost a major battle during the conquest. Ollantaytambo is a massive citadel which served as both a temple and a fortress. The Inca considered Ollantaytambo a temple rather than a fortress, but after their defeat, the Spanish called it a fortress and it has been referred as such ever since. The temple area is at the top of the terracing. The stone used for these buildings was quarried from the mountainside three miles away and high above the opposite bank of the Rio Urubamba - transporting the blocks from the quarry to the site was a stupendous feat, as of yet, no one has been able to establish how it was accomplished. At lunch time, you will go to a well-known restaurant in the area, to enjoy typical food surrounded by impressive views of the Andes.



Your afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the fabulous facilities of your hotel or sightsee on your own.

Overnight INKATERRA HACIENDA URUBAMBA. (B,L)

#### **DAY 15~ THURSDAY~ AUGUST 7**

##### **MACHU PICCHU**

Today you depart on one of South America's most scenic rail trips from Ollanta Station to the legendary "Lost City of the Incas," Machu Picchu. Your one-and-a-half-hour rail journey is filled with breathtaking sights, en route to this mountain-top sanctuary of the Incas (which was hidden from the world until 1911 when Yale archaeologist Hiram Bingham rediscovered it.) Machu Picchu straddles a high ridge, with sheer cliffs on three sides, and the Urubamba River curves around it and fills the canyon with its roar. In all directions, there are the Andean peaks covered in jungle green, a spectacular setting for these ancient ruins. There are temples, houses, terraces for growing



crops that could be functional today and even gardens and a sacrificial altar. No one knows what happened to this civilization and why this city mysteriously disappeared, adding to the allure and spirituality of this incredible World Heritage site.



Be sure to explore the orchid trail on the hotel grounds which is within a spectacular cloud forest and is considered to be a genetic bank due to its wealth of biodiversity. It is the world's largest native species orchid garden, with 372 species of native orchids. In addition, 154 bird species, 108 butterfly species, more than 200 species of trees, and a great variety of reptiles and mammals, including two spectacled bears, have been seen. The hotel offers activities that promote contact with nature and the local culture and implements projects for researching and conserving the local flora and fauna in cooperation with prestigious international institutions. Your superior room is the perfect sanctuary for simple relaxation with luxurious bedding and an inviting dining area. Decorated with local crafts and eucalyptus beams, your room includes a room heater, a colonial style wardrobe, Andean slippers crafted from recycled materials, plus a complete set of environmentally friendly toiletries, all provided for your personal comfort. Free Wi-Fi.



Overnights at the INKATERRA MACHU PICCHU PUEBLO HOTEL, in superior rooms. (B,L,D)  
<https://www.inkaterra.com/inkaterra/inkaterra-machu-picchu-pueblo-hotel/the-experience/>

## DAY 16~FRIDAY~ AUGUST 8

### MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO

You will have the morning free to return to Machu Picchu and continue exploring the city. As you will enter the citadel early there will be wonderful opportunities to take photographs. In the afternoon, you will be returning to Cusco via rail, which takes approximately three and a half hours. Upon check in at your hotel, the evening is at leisure.

*You will be staying at the charming Palacio del Inca Cusco, a luxury hotel close to Cusco Historic Center, the Temple of the Sun, Korikancha and less than a mile from an array of museums, markets, and restaurants. It's built over Inca foundations, with parts of the building dating back to the 16th century, when Francisco Pizarro was an occupant. It's as luxurious and beautiful as you'd expect, with a fine interior courtyard, and ample rooms that were recently renovated. Entering the lobby of this elegant hotel feels just like standing inside a museum. The hotel offers 203 comfortable and well-equipped guestrooms. Room facilities include direct-dial phone and in-room safe. Oxygen can be provided in the suites upon request to help with the effects of Cusco's high altitude.*

Overnight at the PALACIO DEL INKA, in deluxe rooms. (B).

<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/cuzlc-palacio-del-inka-a-luxury-collection-hotel-cusco/overview/>

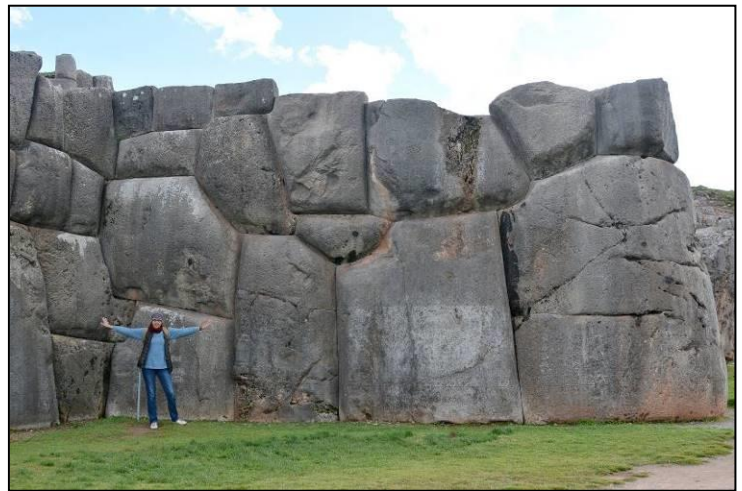


## DAY 17~ SATURDAY~ AUGUST 9

### CUSCO

This morning you will enjoy a guided tour of Cusco. Visit the impressive Colonial Cathedral in Cusco that contains over 400 paintings from the Cusqueña School, beautiful cedar wood carvings such as the choir and the Pulpit, as well as some objects made of silver. Continue to Korikancha (Sun Temple), known today as Santo Domingo Church. During the Incas period, the stones of this temple were covered with gold. Your city tour ends with your visit to the gigantic Inca fortress of Sacsayhuamán. The Incas told the Spaniards that they weren't the ones who built Sacsayhuamán, but "the giants" built it. In their mythology there were huge people living in the Cuzco area, and they carried the huge stone blocks and put them together. The city of Cuzco was built in the shape of a puma, a holy animal in the Inca beliefs. The head of the puma was actually Sacsayhuamán. Sacsayhuamán was a massive fortress of the Incas capable of accommodating 5,000 fighters. Today the complex is in ruins, but we know from chronicles and word-of-mouth from local Quechuans that it was once bigger, higher, and it even had towers. Your afternoon is at leisure.

Overnight at the PALACIO DEL INKA. (B)



## DAY 18~SUNDAY~ AUGUST 10

### CUSCO / LIMA / EN ROUTE

Your flight today returns you to Lima where the rest of your day is at leisure. A day room is reserved for you at the COSTA DEL SOL WYNDHAM to relax before your evening flight back home. (B)

## DAY 19~

### USA

Arrive in USA this morning and connect with your flight home, having just experienced a unique world, one that combines the thrill of ancient civilizations and amazing natural history.

Schedules, accommodations and prices are accurate at the time of writing. They are subject to change.

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## INCLUSIONS

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- Flights between Quito/Galapagos Islands/Guayaquil.
- Flight between Guayaquil/Lima on the post extension.
- Superior and best available accommodations at hotels and cruise ships in Ecuador.
- American breakfast in Quito and Guayaquil. All meals while on the Galapagos cruise. All other meals as specified in the itinerary.
- 8-Days/7-Nights Cruise to the Galapagos Islands on the CORAL I with all meals included. Naturalist guide provided aboard the ship. Accommodations are in double, air-conditioned cabins, with private facilities, based on selected cabin choice. Single cabins on board the CORALS are limited. Please note that cabins are assigned on a first come/first served basis. If cabin choice is not available, next category will be assigned.
- An escort from the Living Desert will accompany the group with a minimum of 14 travelers on the main and 10 travelers on the extension.
- Expert local guides throughout.
- Gratuities for baggage handling, hotel tips and taxes.
- Complimentary water bottle.
- Complimentary emergency evacuation insurance.
- \$100 Ecuadorian Park Tax in the Galapagos, to be collected prior to departure from the USA.
- \$20 Galapagos Islands Entrance Card Fee, to be paid upon arrival in the Galapagos.

## EXCLUSIONS

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- Roundtrip flights from USA to Ecuador. The post extension returns from Lima, Peru. If you require assistance with air arrangements, contact Classic Escapes.
- Tips to guides, crew, staff, and other conveyance attendants. *Gratuities should only be given as a reward for exceptional service and is at your discretion. We estimate \$20 per person/per day for the crew & \$10 per person/per day for the guides on board M/Y Corals; \$15 per person for the barman (entire cruise). \$5 per person for each arrival and departure transfer from the airport/hotel for the driver, and an equal amount for the guide. These are daily per service estimates and an exact tipping chart will be detailed on your final itinerary.*
- On board the Coral, Wet suits rental (\$70); Kayak rental (\$50 each use); Internet plans.
- Cost of passport.
- Excess baggage charges levied by airlines.
- Meals other than specified and all beverages.
- Laundry and other items of a personal nature.
- Personal, trip cancellation, accident, and baggage insurance.
- Any cost not specifically included in the listing above.
- \$25 Airport Departure Tax from Ecuador.

**PLEASE NOTE THE ITINERARY SEQUENCE IS CORRECT AT THE TIME OF WRITING BUT IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.  
THE ISLANDS VISITED ARE DETERMINED BY THE ECUADORIAN PARK SERVICES  
AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.**





## THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ECUADOR & THE GALAPAGOS & THE PERU

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### Mainland Ecuador

- Quito is located at an altitude of close to 9,000 feet and may present acclimatization problems for individuals. Many of the visits to volcanoes and the countryside are also at higher altitudes.
- Guayaquil is at sea level but has a high degree of humidity.

### Galapagos Islands

- Participants must be able to climb in and out of vehicles and boats/pangas unassisted. Bear in mind that some landings are wet, and others are dry, so you need to be able to get in and out of the boats easily enough and proper footwear is essential.
- You should also be able to tolerate nature walks at an easy pace on uneven terrain, sometimes uphill, for three or four hours at a time. The islands are volcanic and the ground in many cases is jugged and uneven. You should have good stability as falling can cause injury.



### Peru

- Your visit includes considerable walking/hiking at high altitudes (over 9,000 feet at Machu Picchu and 11,150 feet in Cusco). These walks are uphill, and on uneven ground, at various sites and ancient ruins. You must be in excellent physical health to enjoy this destination to its fullest. These conditions and altitudes may pose problems to participants with particular physical issues, and you should always consult your personal physician before embarking on such an adventure.

### General

- To enjoy this program to its fullest, travelers must be in good physical condition and consult with a medical professional should there be any respiratory ailments.
- True adventure in travel can sometimes be accompanied by unexpected changes in conditions, itineraries and occasionally your accommodations. Participants should travel with a spirit of adventure and flexibility. Remember to pack your patience and sense of humor! Be willing to look past self-imposed ideals of Western amenities and do not compare these new experiences with your life back home.
- Participants should generally be in good health and prepared to travel in locations without medical facilities nearby.



### Air Schedules

Choosing the best possible air arrangements for our travelers is always a challenge. We work with many airlines that offer the best level of service, routings and value for our programs. While there may indeed be more direct routings available with another airline, the cost of these flights may not be within the budget that allows us to give you the best value possible. If you prefer to purchase your own international air, please feel free to choose the "land only" rate for this program. **The start city is Quito and the end city for the program is Guayaquil. The extension returns from Lima, Peru.**

*Upon registration, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with reissuing the ticket.*

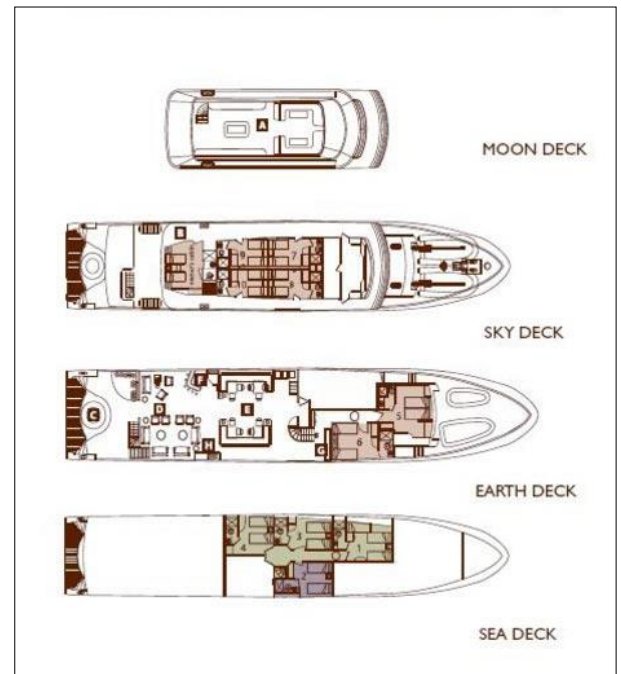
## YOUR GALAPAGOS VESSEL ~ M/Y CORAL II



The motor yacht Coral II is Galapagos based and is a well-equipped and spacious motor yacht designed with teakwood and a modern decorum to give it an exclusive touch. Every cabin comes equipped with a full private bath and is then handsomely decorated using wooden nautical fixtures. The interior of the yacht is fully carpeted. This Galapagos yacht has been remodeled throughout and has been upgraded to

luxury class. There are junior cabins, earth deck moon cabins and superior cabins available. The Coral II allows cabin space for twenty passengers.

- Category: Deluxe.
- Capacity: 20 Passengers.
- Accommodations: 11 cabins each with private bath and hot shower.
- On board: spacious sun deck, buffet area, 2 separate social areas with a well-stocked bar, TV and VCR room, stereo, and ice makers.
- Crew: 10 crew members and 2 multilingual naturalist guides.
- Speed: 10-12 knots.
- Length: 112.70 ft. (34.15m).
- Life Rafts: 2 units of 8 passengers each and 1 unit of 20 passengers.
- Zodiacs: 2 of 15 passengers.
- Decks: 4.
- Electricity: 110/volts.



**Ship Description:** This yacht provides comfortable lounges, a dining salon in addition to common areas with TV and a VCR; well stocked bar, also large viewing windows, and above all, a large and expansive observation deck with sun and shaded areas. This yacht holds three sun decks -one half-shaded. Coming equipped with all the standards you would expect from a yacht of this class, the Coral II is a modern ship in a timeless, classic realm.

### Facilities on Board:

An on-deck bar, observation decks and jacuzzi, as well as air conditioning, fax, 110V, internal telephone, snorkeling gear, environmental music, life vests and boats, dinghy, television, video, public restrooms, 220-volt adaptors, email, and onboard medical facilities. The dining salon and the lounge are tastefully designed, and the yacht boasts three sun decks - one half-shaded.

### Cabin Facilities:

The Motor/Yacht Coral II holds 11 exterior double cabins, all fully carpeted and carefully decorated in teak wood and bronze trim. All cabins are air conditioned. The yacht has a Closed TV system, background music, cabin safety boxes, cabin phones and each has a private bathroom using cold and hot water, in addition to a hair dryer and various other amenities. This yacht is ideal for families as some of the cabins interconnect. There is a smoke detection system. The beds have been upgraded and may combine to form double beds or separate to form twin beds.

# YOUR GALAPAGOS VESSEL ~ M/Y CORAL I



The motor yacht Coral I is based in the Galapagos and is a well-equipped and spacious motor yacht designed with teakwood and a modern decorum to it an exclusive touch. Every cabin comes equipped with a full private bath and is then handsomely decorated using wooden nautical fixtures. The interior of the yacht is fully carpeted. This Galapagos yacht has been recently remodeled throughout and has been upgraded to luxury class. There are junior cabins, earth deck moon cabins and superior cabins available. The Coral I allows cabin space for 36 passengers.

- Category: Luxury Class (Mega Yacht)
- Capacity: 36 Passengers
- Accommodations: 18 cabins each with private bath and hot shower
- On board: spacious sun deck, buffet area, 2 separate social areas with a well-stocked bar, TV and VCR room, stereo, and ice makers
- Crew: 10 crew members and 2 multilingual naturalist guides.
- Speed: 10-12 knots
- Length: 109 ft. (33 m)
- Life Rafts: 2 units of 8 passengers each and 1 unit of 20 passengers.
- Zodiacs: 2 of 15 passengers
- Decks: 4
- Electricity: 110/volts

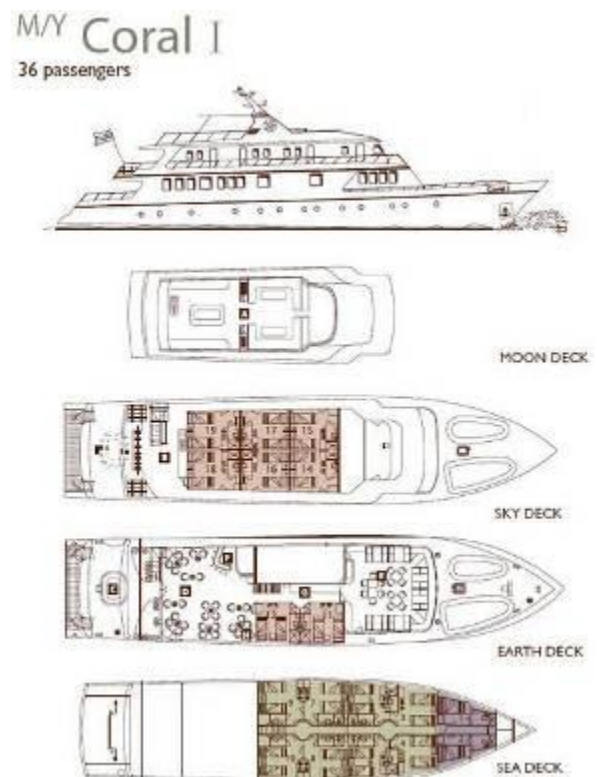
**Ship Description:** This yacht provides comfortable lounges and a dining salon, in addition to common areas with TV and a VCR; well stocked bar, also large viewing windows, and above all, a large and expansive observation deck with sun and shaded areas. The dining salon area and the lounge are well designed, and this yacht holds three sun decks - one of which is half-shaded. Coming equipped with all the standards you would expect from a yacht of this class, the Coral I is a modern ship in a timeless, classic realm.

## Facilities on Board:

An on-deck bar, observation decks and jacuzzi, as well as air conditioning, fax, 110V, internal telephone, snorkeling gear, environmental music, life vests and boats, dinghy, television, video, public restrooms, 220-volt adaptors, email, and onboard medical facilities. The dining salon and the lounge are tastefully designed, and the yacht boasts three sun decks - one of which is half-shaded

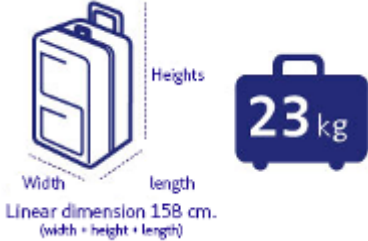


## Cabin Facilities:

The Motor/Yacht Coral I holds 18 exterior double cabins, all fully carpeted and carefully decorated in teak wood and bronze trim. All cabins are air conditioned. The yacht has a Closed TV system, background music, cabin safety boxes, cabin phones and each has a private bathroom using cold and hot water, in addition to a hair dryer and various other amenities. This yacht is ideal for families as some of the cabins interconnect. There is a smoke detection system. The beds have been upgraded and may combine to form double beds, or separate to form twin beds.



## GALAPAGOS AIR LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS ON AVIANCA, TAME & LATAM FLIGHTS

**It is of vital importance that all guests traveling to the Galapagos Islands strictly adhere to the**

<p><b>LUGGAGE WEIGHT LIMIT &amp; DIMENSIONS PER PERSON</b> Soft sided bags with wheels or frames are preferred to those with hard shells. This makes it easier to stow beneath the beds and also to transport in vehicles.</p>	<p>Only one checked bag is permitted, per person. No single piece of checked baggage may weigh more than 50 lbs. The total dimension of each checked bag must not exceed 62 inches.</p> 
<p><b>CARRY-ONS</b></p>	<p>One piece of baggage, must not exceed (21 inches in height X 13.7 inches length x 9.8 inches width), with a weight of 17 lbs. in economy and 35 lbs. in premium /business class.</p> 
<p><b>ONE PERSONAL ITEM: PURSE OR LAPTOP</b></p>	

**luggage limits and regulations as stipulated below.**

	First item of luggage	Second item	Third item and every item thereafter	+ Excess weight between 23 - 32 kg.	+ Excess weight between 32 - 45 kg.	+ Oversized
Up to 3 hours before your flight.	USD 10	USD 20	USD 70	USD 10	USD 20	USD 22
Less than 3 hours before your flight.	USD 20	USD 30	USD 70	USD 10	USD 20	USD 22

**Keep in mind that if you exceed the standard weight or number of pieces of luggage allowed for your trip, excess luggage charges will apply - see below chart - currently and subject to change.**

### **ASSISTANCE WITH BAGGAGE PRIOR TO ARRIVAL IN THE GALAPAGOS**

Should guests be travelling with the incorrect luggage and require assistance with storage, there is a storage facility at the airport. This service is open 24/7, and the charge is \$7 per bag/ per day.

# YOUR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

**INCLUDING:** QUITO, OTAVALO, 7-NIGHT CRUISE TO THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS ABOARD THE CORAL II & GUAYAQUIL. POST EXTENSION TO PERU INCLUDES LIMA, CUSCO, URUBAMBA VALLEY & MACHU PICCHU

**SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:** THE LIVING DESERT

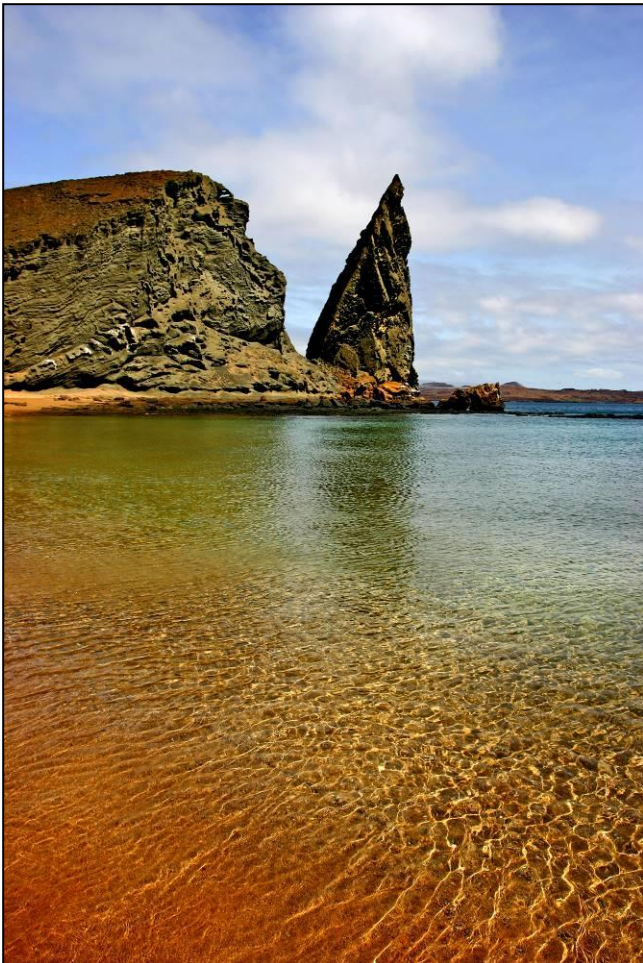
**ESCORTED BY:** A HOST THE LIVING DESERT

**DATES:** JULY 24 TO AUGUST 4, 2025

<b>COSTS:</b> PRICES ARE PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	<b>MAIN PROGRAM BASED ON 14 TRAVELERS</b>	<b>POST EXTENSION TO PERU BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS</b>
LAND, CRUISE & INTERNAL AIR	\$9,495 PER PERSON	\$5,695 PER PERSON
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT	\$5,995 PER PERSON, ADDITIONAL	\$1,995 PER PERSON, ADDITIONAL

\* SINGLE SUPPLEMENTS ARE VALID FOR FIRST TWO SINGLE ROOMS BOOKED. IF MORE THAN TWO SINGLE ROOMS, ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT MAY APPLY. SINGLES ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE BASIS.

**INTERNATIONAL AIR ARRANGEMENTS:** The cost of your program does not include international airfare. If you require assistance, please contact Classic Escapes at 718-280-5002 and we will happily provide air quotes to you. You may make your own international air arrangements, but please ensure you arrive/depart on the correct dates. Contact your Journey Manager at Classic Escapes to verify the dates to ensure there are no errors. **The start city for this program is Quito, Ecuador, and the end city is Guayaquil, Ecuador. The extension returns from Lima, Peru.**



# CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL:

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The purchase of your travel booking constitutes a contractual agreement between the traveler(s), customer(s), and/or purchaser(s) (collectively as "You" and "Traveler"), and Classic Escapes ("Classic Escapes", "We", "Us") pursuant to the following terms and conditions ("Terms", "Agreement"):

## REGISTRATION & PAYMENTS

**HOW TO BOOK:** Fill out and sign the enclosed reservation form and send it, along with the relevant deposit as shown below, to: CLASSIC ESCAPES, 191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from us.

**DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT:** You will be required to pay the following per person deposits when booking. Those amounts are:

- \$2,000 for the Main trip
- \$1,200 for the post extension to Peru

All deposits are subject to the Cancellation policy herein. Final payment is required no less than 95 days prior to departure on **April 20, 2025**, unless otherwise stated. Some fares or services must be paid in full at the time of booking. Conditioned on receipt of final payment in full, all final documents and air tickets will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure.

**CREDIT CARD TRANSACTIONS:** If for any reason, any travel service provider is unable to provide the services for which you have contracted, your remedy lies against the provider, and not against Classic Escapes, and in the event that payment has been made to Classic Escapes by credit card, you agree that you will not seek to chargeback your payment to Classic Escapes. If the credit card is passed through to the travel service provider and you seek to charge back your payment from the provider, you agree to be held liable and indemnify Classic Escapes against this chargeback from the provider, including without limitation any air debit memos charged to Classic Escapes. If the credit card is declined, you guarantee that you will settle any amounts owing to Classic Escapes via money order or cash immediately. Except in cases of fraud, you agree not to file any dispute with your bank or credit card company to avoid or violate any booking terms and conditions of Classic Escapes or its suppliers, including cancellations or changes of itinerary or arrangements for reasons beyond the control of Classic Escapes or its suppliers. If you attempt to chargeback, reverse, or recollect a previously authorized trip payment, Classic Escapes reserves the right to collect all additional costs, fees, and expenses associated with such chargeback, reversal, or recollection, including, without limitation, attorney fees.

**IMPORTANT CONDITIONS:** Prices are subject to increase prior to the time you make full payment. Prices are not subject to increase after you make full payment, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. By signing the reservation form, you expressly acknowledge your acceptance of these conditions (i.e., increases before full payment and increases attributable to government-imposed taxes or fees after full payment will be your responsibility) applicable to your purchase.

**RATES:** Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs, currency exchange rates, and other factors, and are subject to change. Though it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, we do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners or because of changes in currency exchange rates.

**ADDITIONAL FEES:** Additional taxes and surcharges that cannot be pre-collected may be charged locally. Cost of passport and visa fees and service charges for obtaining visa fees; excess baggage charges levied by airlines; laundry and other items of personal nature; optional travel insurance policy(s); or any other costs incurred that cannot be pre-collected are NOT included and are the sole responsibility of the Traveler.

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** The quoted rate is valid for the first two single rooms booked and on a first-come, first-served basis. If more than two single rooms are needed, an additional supplement may apply. Single accommodations are not guaranteed but will be provided at additional cost if available (see your "Journey at a Glance section" for cost.) The single room supplement pays for privacy, not better accommodations. For passengers who are traveling alone and wish to share a room with another tour member, we will do our best to provide a roommate. However, if this is not possible, you will be required to pay the single room supplement prior to your departure from the USA.

**GRATUITIES, ENTRANCE FEES & TAXES:** Gratuities for baggage handling, service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, and entrance fees to all points of interest as outlined in the itinerary are included in the final cost. U.S. and foreign airport taxes are included in air costs. Tips to drivers and specialist guide(s) are **not** included and are the sole responsibility of the Traveler.

## CANCELLATIONS, DEVIATIONS & CHANGES

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** We recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance can provide financial reimbursement should the unexpected occur.

**CANCELLATION:** Please be aware that most travel bookings are non-refundable and canceled bookings will incur charges. These charges can be up to 100% of the cost of the booking, regardless of whether travel has commenced. Where we incur any liability for a cancellation fee or charge for any booking that you cancel, you agree to indemnify us for the amount of that fee or charge. Cancellations are only effective upon receipt of written notification. The following per-person fees are applicable; however, depending on the specific itinerary or other factors, we may require a non-refundable deposit:

- Up to 301 days prior to departure (September 26, 2024), \$300 per person administrative fee, plus \$500 non-refundable deposits given to suppliers.
- 300 – 181 days (September 27 2024, to January 24, 2025) before departure date, deposit is forfeited.
- 180 days to 96 days prior to departure (January 25 to April 19, 2025, 2024), 50% refund is possible.
- 95 days or less prior to departure (April 20, 2025), no refund is possible.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

**REFUNDS:** While Classic Escapes uses its best endeavors to ensure that all anticipated accommodation is available as planned, there is no claim of any nature whatsoever against Classic Escapes for a refund, in whole or in part, if any accommodation or excursion is unavailable and a reasonable alternative is not found, or if the Traveler is unable to use any service provided in the itinerary.

**CHANGES:** Once your tour is reserved, changes to the itinerary are possible subject to the availability of air or land space at the time of your request. Should there be any change fees imposed by any airlines or ground operators, or additional costs incurred due to the availability of any space, these costs will be invoiced to you and you will be responsible for payment thereof.

**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS:** Should you wish to make additional travel plans, including specially arranged pre- or post-tour extensions different than those offered in conjunction with your tour, a service charge of \$150 per person (over and above the cost of the services required) will be assessed.

## DOCUMENTS

**PASSPORTS:** All individuals departing from the United States of America must be in possession of a valid passport. Please check that your passport is valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended return date. It is your responsibility to ensure that you have valid travel documentation, including but not limited to passports and visas, which meet the requirements of immigration and other government authorities at every destination. You are responsible for confirming with the United States Department of State or the representative government agency of the country to which you are traveling to confirm the requirements for visas and/or other requirements for admission to your destination. Any fines, penalties, payments, or expenditures incurred as a result of such documents not meeting the requirements of those authorities will be your sole responsibility.

**REAL ID:** Beginning October 1, 2021, if you plan to use your state-issued ID or license to fly within the U.S., it is your responsibility to make sure it is REAL ID compliant. If you are not sure if your ID complies, please check with your local state Department of Motor Vehicles or visit [www.tsa.gov/real-id](http://www.tsa.gov/real-id).

**TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:** It is the responsibility of each Traveler to obtain and carry a valid passport, visa(s), and all other documents required by applicable government regulations. When traveling domestically or internationally, the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) advise that everyone carry acceptable identification in order to board a flight. Acceptable identification can be found at <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/acceptable-ids>. The name, date of birth and gender that appears on the identification card must exactly match the same data that is listed on airline ticket(s) and booking records. You acknowledge any failure to strictly comply with these requirements may result in denied boarding or an undue delay at an airport security checkpoint causing Traveler to miss flight(s), and subsequent scheduled travel bookings on cruises and tours.

Travel documents include, without limitation, airline tickets, hotel vouchers, tour vouchers, or any other document (whether in electronic form or otherwise) used to confirm an arrangement with a service provider. Travel documents may be subject to certain conditions and/or restrictions such as, but not limited to, being non-refundable, non-date-changeable, and subject to cancellation and/or amendment fees. Travel documents cannot be transferred to another person to use. All airline tickets must be issued in the name of the passport/photo identity holder. An incorrect name on a booking may result in an inability to use that booking and the booking being canceled. Any errors in names, dates, and timings may result in an inability to use that booking and the booking being

canceled. Any errors in names, dates, and timings on your documentation will be your responsibility if we are not advised at the time of booking. Please reconfirm your flights at least 24 hours prior to departure.

**PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION:** Upon receipt of your registration and deposit, we will send you an electronic pre-departure packet containing all the information you need to prepare for your tour, including the complete itinerary, and packing checklist, required documents, insurance information, etc.

**FINAL DOCUMENTS:** Electronic final documents and air e-tickets will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure, provided all monies have been paid in full.

## TRANSPORTATION

**AIR TRANSPORTATION:** Your program does not include international airfare. If you require assistance, contact Classic Escapes.

**AIRLINE SEATING:** We request seats together for the group wherever possible. All planes are non-smoking. We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however, requested seats cannot be guaranteed. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Classic Escapes cannot provide the **Comfort Seating Service** as this is available on specific flights subject to availability and commercial laws as determined by each airline and at their own discretion. Boarding passes are generally issued at the airport on the day of departure, or in some cases if you pre-check yourself 24 hours prior to departure. You may inquire about seat changes during check-in at the airport, based on availability, and is at the sole discretion of airline staff.

**FREQUENT FLYER MILEAGE:** Check the airline's website to enquire who their partners are. Obtain frequent flyer mileage on any of these carriers. Present your frequent flyer card for all flight check-ins and keep the boarding passes until you receive a statement with the mileage credit.

**TRANSFERS:** Roundtrip airport transfers are included in the tour for guests arriving on group flights. If travelers make their own air arrangements, they will be subject to extra transfer fees.

**FLIGHT CONFIRMATION:** We strongly suggest that you reconfirm exact flight times with the carrier prior to departure. Air travelers are required to check in at least 2 hours prior to departure time for domestic flights and 3 hours for international flights and must report to the gate at least 30 minutes prior to departure time. Failure to comply may result in the loss of the seat to another passenger.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS:** Federal law prohibits passengers from bringing hazardous materials on the aircraft. Federal law forbids the carriage of hazardous materials aboard aircraft in the passenger's luggage or on the passenger's person. A violation can result in five years imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more (49 U.S.C. 5124). Hazardous materials include explosives, compressed gases, flammable liquids and solids, oxidizers, poisons, corrosives, and radioactive materials. Examples: Paints, lighter fluid, fireworks, tear gases, oxygen bottles, and radiopharmaceuticals. There are special exceptions for small quantities (up to 70 ounces total) of medicinal and toilet articles carried in the passenger's luggage and certain smoking materials carried on the passenger's person. For further information, each passenger should contact the relevant airline representative(s) on their itinerary. Restrictions on hazardous materials are listed <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>.

**INSECTICIDE NOTICE:** Some countries require insecticide spraying of aircraft prior to a flight or while you are on the aircraft. We recommend that you refer to the Department of Transportation's list of airports in countries that require airlines to treat the passenger cabin with insecticides prior to the flight or while on the aircraft available at <https://www.dot.gov/office-policy/aviation-policy/aircraft-disinsection-requirements>.

**BAGGAGE & FEES:** Additional fees for baggage may apply. Please contact your airline or refer to its website for detailed information regarding its checked baggage policies. On average, international flights from the USA allow one piece of checked luggage, not exceeding 50 pounds, plus a carry-on piece not exceeding 15 pounds; however, we always recommend that you check your airline's policy just before departure, as luggage limitations are always subject to change. There may also be luggage and weight restrictions for your destination and that information will be forwarded to you with your pre-departure material and also be listed on your final documents.

**LUGGAGE ALLOWANCES ON INTERNAL FLIGHTS:** Your journey includes internal flights aboard light aircraft which are designed with a maximum luggage allowance; this is closely monitored by the flight operators for safety reasons. You are allowed one carry-on and one piece of luggage, total weight: **50 lbs.** (23 kgs.) per person including the camera equipment. Further, only soft-sided duffel bags are accepted, **without wheels**, as they stow best in vehicles and airplanes with limited space.



**AIRLINE CLAUSE:** The airlines concerned are not to be held liable for any act, omission, or event during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyance. The passengers' tickets in use by the airline or by other carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passengers.

**DELAYS:** We cannot be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running to schedule. Any additional land or air fees imposed on account of airline delays will be borne by the traveler.

## TRIP DETAILS

**ACCOMMODATIONS:** You will marvel at the wonderful accommodations provided throughout your tour. All rooms have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning and/or fans unless otherwise specified. All rates are based on double occupancy. Most rooms are twin-bedded, but king-size beds are occasionally available and should be requested in advance. Accommodations listed in this itinerary are correct at the time of writing, but on rare occasions may be substituted for a different property of comparable quality.

**MEALS:** All meals as specified in the itinerary. Please notify us if you have special dietary needs or requests, and we will do our best to accommodate.

**WATER:** It is always advisable to drink bottled and/or filtered water when traveling overseas. Safe drinking water will be provided to travelers free of charge in vehicles and during meals.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** The Company reserves the right without further notice to make use of any photograph or video taken on the tour by our photographers without payment or permission. We guarantee that no photographs of a compromising nature will be used.

**GUIDES:** If one of Classic Escapes' guides are unable to take a trip due to circumstances out of our control (i.e., illness, etc.), we reserve the right to substitute with another guide.

**TOUR ITINERARY:** To the best of our knowledge the itinerary is correct at the time of printing. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or changes that may occur after printing.

**HEALTH AND SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** You must have the proper immunizations and health screenings and required documentation of such immunizations and screenings before travel. It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of any health requirements, health advisories, or health travel restrictions applicable to your travel destinations and to ensure that you carry all necessary vaccination documentation. Classic Escapes is not responsible for providing you with this information. Travel carriers and local authorities at travel destinations may require specific testing prior to boarding and/or upon arrival at your destination, including, but not limited to, a temperature check as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. You may be denied entry onto your carrier and/or entry upon arrival at your destination or be required to self-quarantine at your destination and upon your return to the United States. You must comply with local government regulations. Any additional costs are your responsibility. Check the State Department Web site <http://travel.state.gov>, for relevant information relating to travel to specific destinations, and the Center for Disease Control <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/> relating to health issues related to travel.

You must be in good physical and mental health. It shall be your duty to inform us in case you have any medical condition that may affect your ability to enjoy and pursue fully the services of Classic Escapes. By registering for a Classic Escapes service/program, you certify that you do not have any mental, physical, or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for yourself or others.

### **COVID-19 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

In order to participate in one of our tours, travelers must certify that they have not recently been treated for, nor are aware of any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to themselves or other members of the tour and agree to comply with all health protocols as directed by Classic Escapes and their representatives during their journey. Travelers must maintain suitable physical distancing and frequently wash or sanitize hands throughout their journey. Travelers MAY be required to wear masks in vehicles, indoor areas, and any outdoor areas where physical distancing is not possible and in accordance with local regulations. Noncompliance with these procedures will result in the suspension of the journey. **Travelers voluntarily assume all risks and related expenses in the event that they or any member of their traveling party require testing, quarantine, or become infected with COVID-19.** Classic Escapes will endeavor to provide assistance wherever possible.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE:** For your protection, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation and travel accident insurance. However, no representation or description of the insurance made by Classic Escapes to you constitutes a binding assurance or promise about the insurance. Classic Escapes is not an insurance company and has no responsibility for the submission, payment, or adjustment of any insurance claims. Any insurance claims that may fall under the relevant travel insurance policy must be submitted to the insurance company identified in the policy. We recommend the following service – please visit the website to enroll: <http://www.travelguard.com/classicescapes/>. Any questions about what travel insurance does or does not cover should be addressed directly to the travel insurance company, Travel Guard at 1-866-385-4839 and reference ARC #71298. If you decline insurance coverage,

you will personally assume full responsibility for any financial loss associated with your travel arrangements, and you could lose your travel investment and/or have to pay more money to correct the situation. THE PURCHASE OF TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ON ALL TRIPS.

**EMERGENCY EVACUATION COVERAGE:** For the convenience of our travelers, Classic Escapes provides a complimentary Medical Insurance Plan during your trip via Travel Guard Group, Inc. This includes:

- Emergency evacuation insurance up to \$100,000.
- Up to \$25,000 medical expense and up to \$500 dental expense coverage subject to the terms and limitations of the insurance policy.
- 24-hour worldwide travel and medical assistance.

Medical Plan (926801)

Please click here to view complete coverage of details.

[https://webservices.travelguard.com/Product/FileRetrieval.aspx?CountryCode=US&StateCode=AL&ProductCode=926801&PlanCode=NW&FileType=PROD\\_PLAN\\_GM](https://webservices.travelguard.com/Product/FileRetrieval.aspx?CountryCode=US&StateCode=AL&ProductCode=926801&PlanCode=NW&FileType=PROD_PLAN_GM)

## TERMS & CONDITIONS

**TOUR OPERATOR:** Classic Escapes acts as a tour operator/travel agent only. Classic Escapes does not own, operate, manage, or control any independent suppliers of services and is not liable for their acts or omissions. Classic Escapes' obligations to you are to make travel bookings on your behalf and to arrange relevant contracts between you and other travel service providers. We have no responsibility for these services, nor do we have the authority to make any warranty or representation regarding their standard. Requests cannot be guaranteed. All bookings are subject to the terms and conditions and limitations of liability imposed by these travel service providers. You understand that your legal recourse is against the specific provider, not Classic Escapes. Conditions can change rapidly in a country at any time. It is your responsibility to check the USA Government Travel advisories for your intended destination at <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel.html>.

**RESPONSIBILITY OF THE COMPANY:** We always do our best to make sure your travel arrangements are satisfactory. However, Classic Escapes and its employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors, successors, agents, and assigns do not own or operate any third-party entity that provides goods and services for your travel, including without limitation lodging facilities, airline, vessel, motorcoach, or other transportation companies, local ground operators, providers, food service providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors and are in no way affiliated to Classic Escapes. We are not liable for any delays or additional costs incurred by the Traveler as a result of any actions or occurrences by any of the foregoing third-party entities.

**LIABILITY:** Classic Escapes is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any travel service provider or of any third party. Because Classic Escapes does not have the right to control the operations of such travel service provider or any third party, you agree that Classic Escapes is not liable for any personal injury or property damage which may arise out of these services. Classic Escapes hereby disclaims any liability whether based on contract, tort, strict liability or otherwise, including without limitation liability for any direct, punitive, special consequential, incidental or indirect damages, in connection with the goods or services provided by any supplier booking through Classic Escapes, including without limitation liability for any act, error, omission, injury, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may be incurred through the fault, negligence, willful acts, omissions or otherwise of such travel service provider or any third party, or their respective employees, agents, servants, or representatives, including, without limitation, their failure to deliver or their partial or inadequate delivery of services, their cancellation and refund policies, fuel increases, bankruptcy or cessation of operations and other matters outside of Classic Escapes' control, and you hereby exonerate Classic Escapes from any liability with respect to the same.

**FORCE MAJEURE:** Classic Escapes will not be in breach of these terms and conditions or otherwise be liable to you, for any failure or delay in performing an obligation under this Agreement that is due to any of the following causes, to the extent beyond its reasonable control: acts of God, accident, riots, war, terrorist act, illness, disease, epidemic, pandemic, quarantine, civil commotion, breakdown of communication facilities, including web host and internet service provider, breakdown or malfunction of equipment, destruction of or serious damage to facilities, natural catastrophes including, but not limited to extreme weather events, floods and volcanic eruptions, governmental acts or omissions, changes in laws or regulations, national strikes, fire, explosion, generalized lack of availability of raw materials or energy, and any other unforeseen circumstance which is beyond the control of Classic Escapes. THE PURCHASE OF TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED ON ALL TRIPS.

**REFUSAL OF SERVICE:** Service providers reserve the right to refuse service to travelers at their sole discretion, including, without limitation, if the traveler: (i) lacks proper documentation for the country of destination; (ii) has a contagious disease; (iii) is under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or narcotics; and/or (iv) manifests disruptive and/or unruly behavior. Classic Escapes assumes no liability for the acts of the service provider in refusing service.

**ELECTRONIC OR HANDWRITTEN SIGNATURE:** Both parties agree that you may acknowledge and agree to these Terms: (i) electronically; (ii) by handwritten signature; (iii) by any other electronic means, including, without limitation, via email acceptance of these Terms; or (iv) by your implied consent deemed via your actions, which shall include without limitation the payment of the invoice in part or in full or your use of the services provided by Classic Escapes or any other travel supplier related to your booking. All such means will be deemed to constitute effective acknowledgement and execution of this Agreement and shall be sufficient to bind the parties to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

**RESERVATION OF RIGHTS:** We reserve the right, in our sole discretion, to change these Terms and Conditions at any time. Updated versions of the Terms will be provided to you, will be posted on our website, and are effective immediately on posting.

**GOVERNING LAW:** The construction, validity, and performance of these Terms and any disputes between the parties shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to its conflict of law principles, and any federal laws applicable therein. Both parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New York with respect to any legal proceedings relating to these Terms.



# INCLUSIONS FOR THE ORGANIZATION

**DATE SUBMITTED:** SEPTEMBER 25, 2023

**INCLUDING:** JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA; MAUN, MAKGADIKGADI PAN NATIONAL PARK & MOREMI GAME RESERVE, BOTSWANA; & CHOBE NATIONAL PARK. POST EXTENSION TO VICTORIA FALLS, ZIMBABWE. PRE-EXTENSION TO CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.

**SPONSORING ORGANIZATION:** THE LIVING DESERT

**ESCORTED BY:** A HOST FROM THE LIVING DESERT

**DATES:** OCTOBER 31 TO NOVEMBER 12, 2024

COST: PER PERSON, BASED ON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	MAIN PROGRAM BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS	POST EXTENSION TO VICTORIA FALLS BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS	PRE -EXTENSION TO CAPE TOWN BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS
LAND PACKAGE INCLUDING ALL AIR WITHIN AFRICA	\$13,995 PER PERSON	\$3,995 PER PERSON	\$3,295 PER PERSON
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT*	\$3,995 PER PERSON, ADDITIONAL	\$1,695 PER PERSON, ADDITIONAL	\$1,295 PER PERSON, ADDITIONAL
COMPLIMENTARY SPACES	ONE LAND & ECONOMY AIR FROM LOS ANGELES WITH 10 FULL PAYING TRAVELERS; TWO WITH 15 PAYING TRAVELERS	ONE WITH 10 PAYING TRAVELERS; TWO WITH 15 PAYING TRAVELERS	ONE WITH 10 PAYING TRAVELERS; TWO WITH 15 PAYING TRAVELERS
CONTRIBUTION	7% OF THE SELLING PRICE	7% OF THE SELLING PRICE	7% OF THE SELLING PRICE
ALLOTMENT	12 ROOMS	8 ROOMS	6 ROOMS

*\*SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: RATE IS VALID FOR THE FIRST TWO SINGLE ROOMS BOOKED. IF MORE THAN TWO SINGLE ROOMS, AN ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT WILL APPLY. SINGLES ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE BASIS.*

**INTERNATIONAL AIR ARRANGEMENTS:** The cost of your program does not include international airfare. If you require assistance, please contact Classic Escapes at 718-280-5002 and we will happily provide air quotes to you. You may make your own international air arrangements, but please ensure you arrive/depart on the correct dates. Contact your Journey Manager at Classic Escapes to verify the dates to ensure there are no errors. **The start city for this program is Cape Town and the end city is Johannesburg.**

## **PROMOTION:**

- 2,000 TRI FOLD BROCHURES INCLUDED.
- OTHER METHODS OF PROMOTION TO BE DISCUSSED.
- COPIES OF THE ITINERARY WILL BE SENT FOR DISTRIBUTION TO INTERESTED PARTIES

**RESERVATION FORM:***THE LIVING DESERT**ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS ISLANDS*

25SAZ0724/TLD

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$2,000 per person for the main program and \$1,200 for the extension) to hold \_\_\_\_\_ place(s) on the Exclusive Adventure to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands with The Living Desert departing July 24, 2025. Check your Tour at a Glance section for all pricing.

Final payment due date is **April 20, 2025**

Please make check payable to CLASSIC ESCAPES and mail to 191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001 **OR**

Charge deposit to:  MasterCard  Visa  American Express  Discover

(Credit Card Authorization form needs to be completed and returned to Classic Escapes via mail or fax to 718-204-4726)

1) NAME (As appears on passport):  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Passport No. \_\_\_\_\_ Green Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

2) NAME (As appears on passport):  Mr.  Mrs.  Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

Passport No. \_\_\_\_\_ Green Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONES: HOME: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ OFFICE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ MOBILE: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**A copy of your passport must accompany this form to confirm your reservation. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form, passport copy, and deposit we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the return of your trip and have six consecutive blank pages in the visa section.**

- I certify that I have not recently been treated for, nor am I aware of any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to myself or the other members of this tour.
- The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with:  ONE  TWO Beds (Make one selection only)
- I am sharing with \_\_\_\_\_ (form sent separately)
- I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if one cannot be located for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement amount listed on the Journey at a Glance page.  
I prefer to share with:  Smoker  Non-smoker.
- I/We wish to participate in the optional pre-extension to Peru.
- I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost

CLASSIC ESCAPES CAN ASSIST WITH INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS FROM ANY US CITY.

YES, I WILL REQUIRE ASSISTANCE. PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION TO DEPART FROM \_\_\_\_\_  
 I REQUIRE:  ECONOMY  BUSINESS/FIRST CLASS

We'd love to send you exclusive offers and the latest news from our partners around the world. We'll always treat your personal details with the utmost care and will never sell them to other companies for marketing purposes.  **No thanks, I don't want to hear about offers and news.**

All rates quoted are based on tariffs and the value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of September 14, 2023 and are subject to change. Cancellation penalties apply as outlined in Conditions of Travel. **WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).**

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CLASSIC ESCAPES INC.  
 191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001  
 Tel: 800-627-1244 Or 718-280-5000  
 Fax: 718-204-4726  
 Email: info@classicescapes.com

THE LIVING DESERT ~ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS ISLANDS  
JULY 24 TO AUGUST 4, 2025



191 W Poplar Street, Floral Park, NY 11001  
T: (718) 280-5000; (800) 627-1244  
F: (718) 204-4726  
E: info@classicescapes.com

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION

*Please Note: If you wish to charge your deposit to Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover, this authorization form MUST be completed and returned to us along with your reservation form before we can process your application.*

I authorize (Classic Escapes Inc.) to charge my VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER/AMEX listed below:

Name appearing on credit card \_\_\_\_\_

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Card Verification Number\* \_\_\_\_\_ Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address of credit card \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Amount of transaction \_\_\_\_\_

Services rendered/Items purchased \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**\*How To Locate Your Card Verification Number:**

(**Visa, MasterCard, Discover:** Locate the credit card number on the back of the card above the signature box. Enter the 3-digit number which follows the credit card number. **American Express:** Enter the 4-digit number found directly above and to the right of the credit card number.)

I understand that all rates quoted on this tour I'm making a payment on are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of September 14, 2023 and are subject to change Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- Up to 301 days prior to departure (September 26, 2024), \$300 per person administrative fee, plus \$500 non-refundable deposits given to suppliers.
- 300 - 181 days (September 27 2024, to January 24, 2025) before departure date, deposit is forfeited.
- 180 days to 96 days prior to departure (January 25 to April 19, 2025, 2024), 50% refund is possible.
- 95 days or less prior to departure (April 20, 2025), no refund is possible.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

PLEASE NOTE: At times, our bank requires photocopy of credit card (both sides) and driver's license or document showing signature of cardholder, in order to process the charge. While it is not required at this time that you include these materials with your deposit, if our bank requests it, we will contact you for these copies.