The Galapagos Islands

8 DAYS OF WONDER & AMAZEMENT

*Think biology class – with deck chairs*
Dear Spartans,

Join fellow alumni and MSU Professors Dr. Michael Gottfried and Dr. Pamela Rasmussen as we explore the Galapagos Islands. Designated the first UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978, the Galapagos Islands have been described as a “unique living museum and showcase of evolution,” and they are home to a fascinating array of wildlife inhabiting an unspoiled ecosystem, living in harmony with their human visitors.

This exciting journey features a day of guided touring in Quito plus an intimate cruise through the archipelago with up-close access to endemic species. Expert naturalists guide you through the wonders of this national park, whale sanctuary, and marine reserve.

Accommodations for this adventure are aboard the Isabela II, a 40-guest vessel with spacious cabins, local cuisine, and a staff dedicated to ensuring both your comfort and maximum enjoyment of this truly extraordinary destination and its diverse inhabitants. And sailing by small ship allows for flexibility in the itinerary to maximize wildlife viewing, as well as access to exclusive ports.

Stateroom availability is limited. With significant savings of up to $800 per couple, we anticipate this tour will fill quickly, so be certain to reserve your spot today and share this brochure with family and friends who may be interested in traveling with you.

Reserve today online at msu.orbridge.com, by phone at (866) 639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Go Green,

Regina Cross
Director of Alumni Travel
MSU Alumni Office

Note: A minimum number of participants is required to confirm faculty participation.

Free Expedition Library

AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by October 4, 2019 to receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library we’ve assembled for this program.

This exclusive gift is to thank you for joining us early. Guests who reserve after the specified date may purchase libraries. Call for details.

Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Starting in 2019, we will annually plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an on-going initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts.
Discover the Galapagos
intriguing islands of limitless natural wonders

Feel the thrill of encountering the flora and fauna that famously inspired Darwin—and in his footsteps, generations of nature lovers.

This archipelago, from which Darwin conceived his theory of evolution by natural selection, is one of the richest marine ecosystems in the world.

With fascinating wildlife that exists from the ocean floor to the skies above the sea, discover for yourself the captivating diversity that inhabits these remarkable islands.
THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Your 8-Day Itinerary (Subject to change)

Day 1: En Route / Arrive Quito, Ecuador
Overnight: Casa Gangotena – Quito

Day 2: Quito (B,L,R)
Guided walking tour of Old Town, market shopping, Jesuit church of La Compañía, Casa del Alabado Archaeological Museum
Overnight: Casa Gangotena – Quito

Day 3: Quito / Flight to Baltra / Santa Cruz – Embarkation (B,L,D)
Giant tortoises in Santa Cruz Highlands, Puerto Ayora
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 4: Floreana (B,L,D)
Historic Post Office Barrel, snorkeling or kayaking, Punta Cormorant beach stroll, green sea turtle nests
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 5: Española (B,L,D)
Punta Suárez hike, Gardner Bay, sea lion colony, glass-bottom boat ride
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 6: San Cristóbal (B,L,D)
Hiking and wildlife viewing at Punta Pitt, panga ride along the shores of Cerro Brujo, snorkeling or kayaking, farewell dinner
Overnight: Isabela II

Day 7: San Cristóbal – Disembarkation / Flight to Guayaquil (B,L aloft)
Overnight: Wyndham Hotel – Guayaquil

Day 8: Guayaquil / Depart for U.S. (B)

Activity Level: Guests should be sure-footed on stairs and able to walk at least one mile on rocky, volcanic, and uneven ground, as some nature hikes will be on irregular and steep terrain. Guests should also be comfortable managing beach landings and boarding small vessels, both from shore and the deck of Isabela II. Maximum elevation: 9,350 feet in Quito, Ecuador

Program Highlights

• During a full day tour of Quito, marvel at the gold leaf interior of the Jesuit Church of La Compañía—a fine example of the mix of European influences and indigenous art called the Baroque school of Quito; enjoy a lunch of Ecuadorian specialties; and view a curated collection of pre-Columbian art.

• Observe with remarkable proximity the diversity of endemic species like the Nazca, red- and blue-footed boobies; giant tortoises; marine iguanas; and the famous Darwin’s finches.

• Discover the myriad of aquatic wildlife in the clear waters of the world’s second largest marine reserve.

• Snorkel with sea lions, colorful tropical fish, and sea turtles—or observe them through a glass bottom boat.

• Explore secluded inlets and stroll sweeping white sand beaches such as Gardner Bay, where sea lions lounge and Española mockingbirds sing.

• Visit dramatic and historic places, including the lush highlands of Santa Cruz Island, the perfect habitat to see the Galapagos Giant Tortoise, and Cerro Brujo, one of the first sites visited by Charles Darwin.

• What’s included: A welcome reception in Quito, 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 4 dinners including a farewell dinner; all excursions and presentations; complimentary use of kayaks, paddle boards, shorty wetsuits, and snorkeling equipment; Galapagos National Park entrance fee and transit card; internal air travel (from Quito to the islands on day 3, and return to Guayaquil on day 7); gratuities to local guides, drivers in Quito and Guayaquil, and hotel porters; and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

All hotel accommodations throughout subject to change.

(B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner, R=Reception)
**Isabela II**

The 40-guest capacity of *Isabela II* provides 21 staterooms with spacious, comfortable accommodations and en suite facilities.

- **Standard**
  - Full-size bed, window, private bathroom with shower.
  - 128 sq. ft.
- **Classic Twin**
  - Two twin beds, view window, private bathroom with shower.
  - 139 sq. ft.
- **Classic Double**
  - Full-size bed, view window, daybed, private bathroom with shower.
  - 139 sq. ft.
- **Master Suite**
  - Queen bed, view window, wardrobe, private bathroom with shower.
  - 170 sq. ft.

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**CASA GANGOTENA – QUITO**

Before embarkation, stay at 5-star Casa Gangotena. Located across from Plaza San Francisco in the heart of Quito’s Spanish Colonial Old Town, the hotel offers easy access to the rich culture, tradition and charm of the city’s historic center.

**WYNDHAM HOTEL – GUAYAQUIL**

Conveniently located just 3 miles from José Joaquin de Olmedo airport, this property offers deluxe accommodations for the last night of the program. Nearby are museums, gardens, shopping, and restaurants of the Malecón 2000, the boardwalk overlooking the Guayas River.

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**Your Expedition Leader**

Viewing the Galapagos Islands alongside an Orbridge Expedition Leader is a special experience. While observing wildlife, they will offer expert descriptions of methods of survival and behaviors. Together on panga rides, nature walks, and aboard the *Isabela II*, you will gain understanding of the endangered species who inhabit the waters and land of the archipelago.
The breathtaking surroundings of the Mashpi Rainforest Biodiversity Reserve look and feel like a dream—misty clouds, crashing waterfalls, and endemic species of wildlife found in the Ecuadorian Chocó, one of the most diverse ecosystems in the world. Take the unparalleled opportunity to visit both a cloud forest and a rainforest—each rich with a myriad of flora and fauna species, in every layer—from below the forest floor to above the canopy.

Pre-Tour Itinerary (subject to change)

**Day +1:** En Route / Arrive Quito, Ecuador  
Overnight: Casa Gangotena

**Day +2:** Mashpi Lodge / Mashpi Reserve (B,L,D)  
Morning drive to Mashpi, forest activities, night walk  
Overnight: Mashpi Lodge

**Day +3:** Mashpi Lodge / Mashpi Forest (B,L,D)  
Leisure time, forest exploration, lectures  
Overnight: Mashpi Lodge

**Day +4:** Mashpi / Quito / Main Program (B,L)  
Late morning group transfer to Quito to join the main program

What’s Included

- One night accommodations at Casa Gangotena in Quito and two nights accommodations at award-winning Mashpi Lodge
- 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 2 dinners
- Entrance to Mashpi Reserve
- Dragonfly aerial tram experience
- Full guiding services including interpretation on all activities and experiences within the reserve, including use of spotting scopes and binoculars
- Specialized lectures and field presentations on research conducted in the reserve by local experts
- All transportation for excursions using vehicle transport in the reserve; and all gratuities and porterage
- Group transfers from Quito Mariscal Sucre International Airport to Casa Gangotena during suggested arrival times, from Casa Gangotena to Mashpi Lodge, and return to Quito to join the main program
• Seek out temples and ancient sites dotting the Sacred Valley and Cusco, each a vestige of pre-Columbian history that offers an in-depth understanding of the Incan empire.

• Visit Ollantaytambo, where Inca descendants continue to inhabit the largely unchanged homes of their ancestors.

• Experience the magic of a sunset on the “top of the world,” a traditional Peruvian lunch hosted by a local family, and an Andean Shamanic healing ceremony.

What’s included:
- 5 nights choice accommodations including a private Day Room in Lima on Day 13;
- Meals including 5 breakfasts, 5 lunches, and 4 dinners;
- Flights between Lima and Cusco on Days 9 and 13;
- Fully guided tours and field presentations from local experts;
- All ground excursion transportation, including Vistadome train through the Urubamba Valley;
- Gratuities to guides, drivers, and waiters for included meals;
- Airport transfers, including porterage, for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times.

Max elevation: 11,200 ft. in Cusco, Peru

Post-Tour Itinerary (subject to change)

Day 8: Guayaquil / Flight to Lima, Peru
Morning at leisure in Guayaquil, evening arrival to Lima
Overnight: Wyndham Costa del Sol – Lima Airport

Day 9: Lima / Flight to Cusco / Sacred Valley (B,L,D)
Morning flight to Cusco, lunch with sweeping view of the Sacred Valley, explore the colorful markets of Pisac
Overnight: Sonesta Posadas del Inca – Yucay

Day 10: Sacred Valley / Machu Picchu (B,L,D)
Stroll Ollantaytambo, scenic Vistadome train to Machu Picchu, guided tour of “The Lost City of the Incas”
Overnight: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel

Day 11: Machu Picchu / Sacred Valley / Cusco (B,L,D)
Morning guided tour with time to hike at your own pace, Vistadome train to Cusco, afternoon at leisure
Overnight: Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel

Day 12: Cusco / Saqsayhuaman / Kenko / Villa Tipón (B,L,D)
Walk through Cusco, Qorikancha Sun Temple, special farewell dinner
Overnight: Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel

Morning flight to Lima, traditional Peruvian lunch, depart for U.S.
Day Room: Hotel Estelar Miraflores – Lima

Optional Post-Tour
Machu Picchu

Travel to the mist-shrouded mountain citadel of the Incas. So remote and inaccessible that it was left untouched by the Spanish conquistadors, Machu Picchu was unknown to the outside world until Hiram Bingham rediscovered it in 1911.
The Galapagos Islands

MAY 27 - JUNE 3, 2020
Mashpi Lodge Pre-Tour: May 24-27, 2020
Machu Picchu Post-Tour: June 3-8, 2020

Option 1: Reserve online now at msu.orbridge.com or call (866) 639-0079.

Option 2: Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge, LLC.

GUEST INFORMATION:
Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): __________________________
Email: __________________________ Class Year: __________
Home Phone: __________________________ Alt. Phone: __________________________
Address: __________________________
City: __________________________ State: __________________________ Zip: __________________________
Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): __________________________
Email: __________________________ Class Year: __________
Home Phone: __________________________ Alt. Phone: __________________________
Category Preference: 1st choice __________________________ 2nd choice __________________________

DEPOSIT:
# guests joining program ($850/person) +
# guests joining pre-tour ($500/person) +
# guests joining post-tour ($500/person) = TOTAL DEPOSIT: $________

Post-Tour Category (choose one): □ Standard □ Deluxe □ Single

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:
☑ Check Enclosed ☑ Online Check/ACH ☑ MasterCard/Visa ☑ American Express ☑ Discover
Card #: __________________________ Exp. Date: __________ CVV: __________

Billing Address (if different from above): __________________________

City: __________________________ State: __________________________ Zip: __________________________

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the MSU Alumni Office. For more information, contact Orbridge at (866) 639-0079 or you may call the MSU Alumni Office at (888) 697-2863.

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $850 per person and $500 per person per pre-tour and/or post-tour is due at the time of registration, payable by check, automated clearing house (ACH), money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card. Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour and optional excursion(s) fee(s), is payable by check, ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, and is due for no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as “Payments.”

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee as follows: (a) If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 275 or more calendar days prior to the program’s scheduled departure date, all deposits will be fully refunded; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 275 and 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $350 per person per program and $250 per person per program for any pre-tour and/or post-tour; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 151 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit charged to the credit card for any pre-tour and/or post-tour; (d) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge on the final payment due date or closer to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

For complete Terms & Conditions, visit http://terms.orbridge.com | Copyright © 2019 Orbridge, LLC | www.orbridge.com | (866) 639-0079

*Special group rate; limited offer. Rates are per person, based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Single availability limited. Internal airfare between the mainland and the Galapagos Islands is included; airfare otherwise not included. Post-tour rate includes internal airfare between Lima and Cusco on days 9 & 13; airfare otherwise not included. Airfare from main program (Guayaquil) to post-tour (Lima), will be charged additionally at $740 per person. Machu Picchu Deluxe Category includes room upgrades at the following properties: Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, Aranwa Cusco Boutique Hotel, and Hotel Estelar Mistaflores - Lima. Upgrade availability is limited. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per room will be sent upon receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.
The Galapagos Islands

MAY 27 - JUNE 3, 2020

Special Alumni Rate: Save up to $800 per couple

When you reserve by October 4, 2019**

Free Orbridge Expedition Library

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Special Faculty Hosts: Dr. Michael Gottfried and Dr. Pamela Rasmussen

Mike Gottfried is an Associate Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Michigan State University and Curator of Paleontology at the MSU Museum. He currently teaches Glacial Geology and Climate Change and Paleontology at MSU, and he has led several MSU Study Abroad programs.

Pamela Rasmussen is an ornithologist specializing in the study of Asian birds and is lead author of Birds of South Asia: the Ripley Guide. She has authored or co-authored the scientific discoveries of 11 new species of bird and serves on the American Ornithological Society’s North American Check-list Committee. She leads Education Abroad programs, mainly to Malaysia, Indonesia, and Costa Rica, and travels globally to photograph and sound-record birds.

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The MSU Alumni Office is not the Tour Operator.
The MSU Alumni Office is not responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or car rental reservations, delays, losses, injuries, inconveniences, cessation of operations, airline or tour operator bankruptcies, acts of God, or any other event beyond our control.

The MSU Alumni Office acts only as agent for the participants with respect to travel services, and it shall not be responsible for changes of flight times, fare changes, dishonor of airline, hotel or other reservations, injury damage, loss of baggage, accidents for the acts or defaults of any person or entity engaged in conveying participants or in carrying out other arrangements of the tour. Further, the MSU Alumni Office shall not be responsible for losses or additional expenses of the participant due to sickness, weather, strikes, civil unrest, acts of terrorism, quarantine, acts of God, governmental intervention or other causes beyond its control.

The MSU Alumni Office shall not be responsible for alteration in the itinerary as deemed necessary for carrying out the tour and the right is reserved to substitute hotels of similar quality. The right is further reserved to cancel any tour prior to departure, in which case the entire payment may be refunded without further obligation on its part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of the tour should such persons health, actions or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare of the other participants. No refund will be made for the unused portion of any tour.

Applicants for participation on this tour accept in full all of the conditions set forth above.

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