

**CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA** 

# Ecuador: Amazon and Galapagos Islands

12 Days / 11 Nights

Quito, Yasuni National Park, Santa Cruz Island



Get ready for an adventure to the Middle of the Earth—the equator! From the rainforests of the Amazon and the Yasuni National Park to the more arid Galapagos Islands, this region offers experiences in culture, animal encounters and with plant species accessible nowhere else in the world. With your natural historian at your side, you will see why many of the sites in Ecuador are listed as UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

# **ECUADOR: AMAZON AND GALAPAGOS ISLANDS TRIP HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Galapagos Islands**

Catch a glimpse of marine iguanas, fabulous Frigate birds and some of the Galapagos Islands' wildest natives. Swim, snorkel or kayak in the pristine waters alongside sea lions, reef fish and the occasional sea turtle.

### **Explore Life in the Amazon**

As you journey down the Napo by riverboat and motorized canoe, you'll make stops to visit a remote community, chat with the locals and learn to make jewelry and other handicrafts.

### **Cooking Class in Quito**

Engage in preparing Andean specialties like *ceviche* with fresh ingredients while Junior Adventurers prepare dessert at Zazu, a favorite local restaurant.

# Visit to Limoncocha Biological Reserve

As one of the most biodiverse places in the world, Limoncocha has an abundance of natural beauty and wonder. This tropical paradise is home to night monkeys, howler monkeys, giant otters, over 350 species of birds and—the king of the Amazon—the black caiman.

### **The Historic Center of Quito**

Stroll through the colonial core of one of the best-preserved historic centers in the Americas. Visit local markets, artist studios, a chocolatier and one of South America's most beautiful Spanish cathedrals, La Compañía de Jesús.

# **Canoe into the Heart of the Rainforest**

Venture forth by motorized canoe from the stately Anakonda riverboat to a lush world where you might see a 3-toed sloth or one of the Amazon's famed pink river dolphins.

\*Animal sightings are not guaranteed.

Flight Information	Ages	Meals
Arrive: Arrive: UIO (Quito)	Minimum Age: 7	11 Breakfasts
Return: Return: UIO (Quito)	Suggested Age: 8+	10 Lunches 9 Dinners



Quito, Ecuador Meal(s) Included: None

### **Arrive in Quito**

¡Bienvenidos! An *Adventures by Disney* representative will greet you, assist with your luggage and ensure smooth transport to the JW Marriott Hotel.

# **JW Marriott Hotel Quito**

Welcome to Quito, also known as "The Middle of the Earth"! This grand hotel in Ecuador's capital is surrounded by mesmerizing views of the distant snow-capped mountains and volcanoes. Sit back and stretch your legs while your Adventure Guides check you in. If your flight arrives earlier in the day, you may opt to have a family dinner on your own at the hotel.



Napo River, Ecuador

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### **Welcome Breakfast**

¡Buenos Das! Enjoy an early morning welcome breakfast with your fellow Adventurers as you prepare for the adventure of a lifetime.

#### Travel into the Amazon Basin

Hop aboard a private motor coach to the airport for a short flight to the city of Coca. Here you will be introduced to water travel local-stylea motorized canoe. Now you're closing in on your destinationand your home for the next four nightsthe Anakonda, a refined riverboat.

### Settle into the Anakonda

Explore this finely appointed vesselreserved privately for *Adventures by Disney* with three levels, observation deck, multiple sitting areas, outdoor whirlpool spa and an al fresco lounge.

### **Nature Observation**

Stroll the decks or find a nook to view the surroundings and relax with fellow Adventurers. As the Anakonda navigates the river, there are plenty of rewards for those with a keen eye.

# Welcome Dinner

Share your excitement and get to know your fellow Adventurers as you dine on delightful fare and toast to your first night in the Amazon region.

### **Nocturnal Rainforest Walk**

Venture into the rainforest for a guided experience like no other. You may possibly witness animals that would go unseen during daylight including night tree frogs, kinkajous and exotic insects. Go for it! You only live once.



Napo River, Ecuador

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### **Early Morning Rainforest Trek**

At the break of dawn, take a tour into the rainforest guided by a local naturalist who has called the Amazon home for his entire life. Witness and learn about the forest and its inhabitants as this rich ecosystem shifts from night to daylight activity.

Afterwards enjoy lunch aboard the Anakonda.

### **Canoe Excursion Along the Napo River**

Take an afternoon canoe trip to let your senses take in the sights, sounds and scents of this lush environment. You will paddle through a habitat of the pink river dolphin. In and around the area you may also see black caimans, toucans, monkeys, bats, river turtles, and rare sloth sightings.

# **Disney Movie Night**

Adults can relax while Junior Adventurers enjoy a Disney movie with snacks and soft drinks. Grownups can always join in if they wish!



Napo River, Ecuador

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### **Visit a Local Community**

Visit a small village to meet local artisans and watch them at work. Here you'll have the opportunity to meet the locals, make crafts and acquire genuine craft work to commemorate your Amazon adventure.

# **Canopy Tower Walk**

Ascend into the jungle canopy and see nature from a whole new angle, learning all about this unique habitat and the plant life that makes it possible.

# Stargazing in the Amazon

During one of your nights in the Amazon (weather permitting), you'll turn your attention to the heavens as hundreds of far-off stars put on a dazzling light show.



Napo River, Ecuador
Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### **Parrot Clay Licks**

There are several theories as to why certain parrots and other birds eat clay. But one thing is certainonce you see hundreds of birds rain from the sky to eat soil, you will not forget it.

# **Lunch at Remote River Lodge**

Visit a river lodge to interact with the locals and partake in a tasty cooked lunch.

# Limoncocha Biological Reserve

With over 450 species, this reserve is a birdwatcher's paradise and one of the most biodiverse places on the planet. The dense marshland contains many medicinal plants that have been used for generations and some yet to be realized. At dusk, you can watch the fireflies come out in a natural light show, and you might also get to see a black caiman.

#### **Dinner**

Enjoy a sumptuous dinner as the sun sets aboard the Anakonda.

\*Note: Animal sightings are not guaranteed.



Quito, Ecuador

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

# **Morning Excursion**

Take one last stroll through the Amazon for another chance at a rare wildlife sighting before returning to the Anakonda for lunch.

### Say "Adis" to the Amazon

Disembark the Anakonda via motorized canoe back to the city of Coca and to your flight back to Quito. Transfer from the Quito airport to the JW Marriott Hotel.

# Cooking Class at Zazu

Zazu is one of Quito's top restaurants and you're in for a treat! Before your dinner at this trendy eatery, you'll learn how to create local favorites like cevicheusing fresh, local ingredientswhile the Junior Adventurers prepare dessert!



Quito, Ecuador

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast and Lunch

### **Walking Tour of City Center**

Named one of the best preserved city centers in the Americas by UNESCO, Quito is a wonderful place to walk and take in the regional flavor. Guided through the colonial core by a resident expert, you will stroll down the famous thoroughfare La Ronda, enjoy its architecture and meet a local craftsman.

#### The Sweetest Parts of Quito

Visit a chocolate shop on La Ronda, learn about how some of the greatest chocolate in the world is made here and of coursetaste some! After you sample a selection of Quito's delicious sweets, you'll have a delicious lunch.

#### **Mercados Central and Artesanal**

Mingle with the locals as they shop amongst the bustle, sounds, scents and many hues of the Mercados Artesanal and Central.

### **Evening on Your Own**

Take the motor coach back to the hotel and the evening is yours to do as you wish. Explore Quito's wide variety of dining options from refined cuisine to family fare for a delicious evening of your own making.



Galapagos Islands

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

# Fly to the Galapagos Islands

After an early breakfast, you will head to the Quito airport for your flight to Baltra and the next leg of your adventure.

### Afternoon at The Finch Bay Hotel and Lunch

Enjoy an introduction to the hotel and surrounding environs, along with a well-deserved beverage! Take in ocean vistas from the pool deck as the sun dips into the horizon.

### **Nature Walk**

Explore Tortuga Bay Beach with a naturalist guide.

# Dinner at the Hotel & Stargazing in the Galapagos

Savor your first night in the Galapagos with a dinner at the hotel. Then, for your evening entertainment, turn your gaze skyward for a welcoming light show from the galaxies!

Accommodations: Finch Bay Hotel



Galapagos Islands

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

#### **Breakfast**

Fuel up for a particularly active day covering land and sea, with a dip in the sea, as well.

### Santa F Island Yacht Excursion\*\*

After breakfast you'll navigate the azure waters to this small, conspicuously flat island. On land can be seen Palo Santo trees, which translates as "holy trees" and are said to have traditional healing powers. The island is also home to a large colony of blue-footed boobies, magnificent frigate birds and swallow-tailed gulls. If you're lucky, you might catch a sea lion body surfing the on-shore swells.

### Lunch

Return to the yacht to grab a bite, relax a bitthen head off for the next adventure.

### **Dinner**

Head back to the Finch Bay Hotel to share stories around the pool and enjoy a most well-earned and satisfying meal.

\*\*Due to party size limitations on the yacht, your groups' Day 9 & 10 experiences may be swapped, but all Adventurers will get a chance to enjoy all the activities in the described itinerary.

Accommodations: Finch Bay Hotel



Galapagos Islands

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### Mountain Bike to Snorkeling\*\*

Bike and explore a new snorkeling spot! Ride to a leeward point where you can explore the sea life along the bluffs and underwater rocks. You'll get a chance to see pink flamingos, marine iguanas and land iguanas.

#### **Lunch At Your Leisure**

Enjoy lunch back at Finch Bay Hotel

# Las Grietas at High Tide

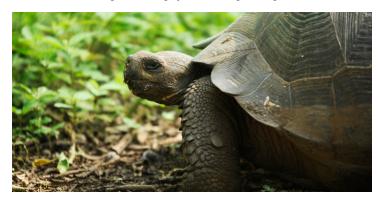
Hike back to this small canyon in the earth to explore the various pools at high tide. When the tide is in, the lower pools are accessible to sea life, so bring snorkel gear. You'll also be able to go birdwatching, sea kayaking, shopping in Puerto Ayora, or just enjoy the pool and beach-front access.

### **Dinner**

Look back on this magical adventure as you watch your last sunset in the Galapagos. Junior Adventurers get to celebrate together with a pizza party and Disney movie.

\*\*Due to party size limitations on the yacht, your groups' Day 9 & 10 experiences may be swapped, but all Adventurers will get a chance to enjoy all the activities in the described itinerary.

Accommodations: Finch Bay Hotel



Quito, Ecuador

Meal(s) Included: Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

### See the Galapagos Tortoise in the Wild

After breakfast, take a short walk with coach ride to see the famed giant tortoises cruising their natural habitat at their usual unhurried pace.

### **Galapagos Tortoises and Lava Tubes**

Take a privately guided tour of the El Chato Tortoise Reserve to learn about these elegant behemoths as you walk among them. Continue on to explore the otherworldly realm of underground lava tubes. Along the way you can see many of the islands' bird species including Darwin's finches, cattle egrets and short-eared owls.

#### **Return to Quito**

Bid goodbye to the finches as you take wing and fly back from the Galapagos to Quito in preparation for your trip home. Enjoy lunch on the plane.

### **Farewell Dinner in Quito**

Meet with your fellow Adventurers for this final feast in Ecuador. A surprise awaits as you relive the highlights of your trip together.

# **Traditional Ecuadorian Musical Entertainment**

Sway with the rhythms that rock the Andean mountains at this exclusive musical show featuring Ecuadorian musicians. They even give music lessons to all who want to try playing the pipes!



Quito, Ecuador Meal(s) Included: Breakfast

# **Depart Quito for all Points Homeward**

After breakfast, transfer to Quito Airport where your Adventure Guides will provide you and your luggage with a final assist.

### Prices are based on double occupancy.

AIRFARE TO AND FROM DESTINATION IS NOT INCLUDED IN OUR LAND PACKAGE PRICES. All prices are in U.S. dollars. Your land package pricing, which will be confirmed once we receive your \$300 per person deposit, is guaranteed at the time of booking for your party. Government fees or taxes are subject to change. Guests added to your party after the booking are priced at the prevailing rate at the time they are added. The child rate applies to Guests under 12 at the time of travel when accompanied by an adult in the same room. Guests under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian. If you are traveling with children, check this trip's minimum eligibility age and recommended minimum age, which you can find in the Overview, FAQs and Itinerary. Room configurations are subject to availability. Please see "Notes on Accommodations" for room configurations.

Note on Accommodations: Subject to availability:

Parties of three booked as a triple in Quito are accommodated in one room with either two double beds or one king bed and one rollaway. In Amazon, they are accommodated in one room with one queen bed plus sofa bed. In Galapagos, they are accommodated in one king plus one rollaway or two queen beds. Parties of four booked as a quad in Quito, quads are accommodated in one room with two double beds or one king bed and one rollaway. In Amazon, quads are accommodated in two rooms with two full beds or one queen bed. In Galapagos, quads are accommodated in room with two double beds. Parties of four booked as two doubles in Quito, quads are accommodated in two rooms, each having either two double beds or one king bed. In Amazon, quads are accommodated in two rooms with two full beds or one queen bed. In Galapagos, quads are accommodated in two rooms with one king bed or two double beds. Connecting rooms are not guaranteed and subject to availability.

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