



## SPIRIT OF ECUADOR

GUAYAQUIL | CUENCA | INGAPIRCA | ALAUSÍ | BAÑOS | COTOPAXI | QUITO

11 DAYS  
from  
**\$8,045**

CAD\$, PP, DBL, OCC.

### TOUR OVERVIEW

- ▶ Roundtrip international and domestic airfare from Toronto\*
- ▶ Welcome assistance upon arrival and departure at all airports
- ▶ Transfers and portage between airport and hotel as noted
- ▶ 10 nights accommodation
  - 3 nights in Quito
  - 1 night each in Guayaquil, Cuenca, Alausí & Baños
  - 3 nights aboard the M/V Galapagos Legend
- ▶ Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee
- ▶ Breakfast daily and other meals as indicated
- ▶ Hotel taxes and service charges
- ▶ NEW Airport & departure taxes\*\*

### Highlights

- Private tour of Quito; Shared tour of Cotopaxi, Riobamba and Cuenca areas
- Cruise the Galapagos Islands aboard the M/V Galapagos Legend

Note: Devil's Nose train is subject to availability.

\*Add-ons from other cities available upon request.

Pricing as indicated valid October 3, 2017, subject to availability at time of booking. For alternative dates, inquire for pricing. Itineraries are fully customizable.

TOUR CODE: LA2018

The country of Ecuador is bisected by the equator, sitting within both the Southern and Northern hemispheres. During this 11-day tour, witness a landscape dominated by volcanoes, thermal baths, Inca ruins and fascinating biodiversity in the Galapagos Islands to the West. See the beautiful colonial architecture of Quito and Cuenca and the variety of Ecuadorian handicrafts made by artisans and craftsman that aptly embody their rich traditions and culture.

### Day 1 – Tuesday

**TORONTO – GUAYAQUIL** Depart from Toronto to Guayaquil via El Salvador. Upon arrival, welcome and transfer to your hotel. *Wyndham Guayaquil, Standard \*\*\*\**

### Day 2 – Wednesday

B/L

**GUAYAQUIL – EL CAJAS NATIONAL PARK – CUENCA** After breakfast, depart from Guayaquil for a dramatic ride, travelling from sea level up to 4,000m. Observe tropical plantations such as coffee, bananas and cacao before reaching the cloud forest and **El Cajas National Park**. In the afternoon, arrive in **Cuenca**, a quaint colonial city known for its handicrafts, pottery and the world-famous Panama Hat. Visit the Main Square, new Cathedral and the flower market. Visit either the Central Bank Museum or the Conceptas Religious Museum. *Hotel Boutique Carvallo or similar*

### Day 3 – Thursday

B/L

**CUENCA – INGAPIRCA – ALAUSÍ** Breakfast. Pass through the southern highlands to arrive at **Ingapirca Inca-Cañari**, the most important Incan relic in Ecuador. This citadel was built in the 15<sup>th</sup>-century along an ancient route that connected Quito to Cuzco, Peru. Visit the archaeological site, then continue to **Alausí**, known for its unique railway engineering and spectacular scenery. *Hosteria la Quinta or similar*

### Day 4 – Friday

B/BL

**ALAUSÍ – DEVIL'S NOSE – BAÑOS** Breakfast. In Alausí, we will take the spectacular bus-train ride through the **Devil's Nose**, a true feat in railway engineering of the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century. Continue north to **Riobamba** for a panoramic tour of the city's plazas and churches. Weather permitting, you may be able to see **Chimborazo**, the highest mountain in Ecuador. Enjoy a box lunch along the way. Continue to **Baños**, known for its hot springs and waterfalls. *La Floresta Hotel or similar*

### Day 5 – Saturday

B/L

**BAÑOS – ROSE PLANTATION – COTOPAXI – QUITO** Breakfast. Head down into the Pastaza River canyon to the **Avenue of Waterfalls** surrounded by green, lush vegetation. Travel north to **Cotopaxi National Park** to admire the highest active snowcapped volcano in the world. Visit **Limpipungo Lagoon**

and a rose plantation. Continue to your hotel in Quito. *Hotel Dann Carlton Quito, Standard \*\*\*\**

### Day 6 – Sunday

B

**QUITO** After breakfast, begin your private tour of **Quito**, including Independence Plaza, seeing important sites such as the Cathedral, the Presidential Palace, the Municipal Building and the Archbishop's Palace. Visit the temple of La Compañía de Jesús, then continue on to the Monastery of San Francisco. Drive 15 minutes north of the city to the **Equatorial Monument and Ethnographic Museum** which features exhibits showing the different Native American groups living in Ecuador. Get your certificate for having crossed the Equator. *Hotel Dann Carlton Quito*

### Day 7 – Monday

B/L/D

**QUITO – GALAPAGOS (CRUISE)** After breakfast, take your shared transfer to the airport to board your flight to the Galapagos Islands. Upon arrival, a naturalist guide will transfer you to the pier to board the **M/V Galapagos Legend**, a boutique expedition ship. Depending on seasonality and weather conditions, itineraries and wildlife will vary. Many visitors spot red and blue-footed boobies, penguins, sea lions, giant tortoises and other fascinating wildlife. *M/V Galapagos Legend, Junior Suite \*\*\*\**

### Day 8 & 9 – Tues, Wed

B/L/D

Continue your astonishing journey in the Galapagos with daily lectures, excursions, activities and relaxation aboard your vessel. *M/V Galapagos Legend*

### Day 10 – Thursday

B

**GALAPAGOS – QUITO** On your last day aboard the ship, visit the north side of Santa Cruz and Bachas Beach. After your visit, disembark and transfer to the airport to board your flight to Quito. Upon arrival, check-in at the airport hotel. *Wyndham Quito Airport, Standard \*\*\*\**

### Day 11 – Friday

**QUITO – EL SALVADOR – TORONTO** Board your very early homebound flight via El Salvador.

Yellow Fever vaccination recommended if visiting certain areas of Ecuador and may be mandatory to enter certain countries. Effective Feb 2018, travel medical insurance is mandatory for those entering Ecuador.

\*\*Airport and departure taxes are included, subject to change at any time. Pricing based on two passengers travelling together. Optional tours and activities not included. Blackout periods apply.

For terms and conditions, refer to page 43. Ongoing monitoring of the Zika virus continues around the world including Central, South America and the Caribbean. Please evaluate your risks before travelling.

FOR RESERVATIONS, CONTACT YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL A GATEWAYS INTERNATIONAL SPECIALIST 1-800-268-0900