The Galápagos Islands were Charles Darwin’s “Living Laboratory of Evolution,” named for the tortoises that roam the lush landscapes of the small archipelago. This active learning adventure with Cable Natural History Museum is an opportunity to experience the islands’ unique environments in a way that most visitors to the Galápagos seldom do—through fun activities like snorkeling, hiking, kayaking, biking and stand-up paddleboarding. The Galápagos have become world-renowned for diverse wildlife, including sea lions, turtles, marine iguanas, and more. You’ll learn about the natural history of the islands during visits to Tortuga Bay, El Chato Tortoise Reserve, the Wall of Tears, the Charles Darwin Research Station, and a host of other highlights of the Enchanted Islands.

**PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Snorkel the archipelago’s turquoise waters for the chance to view sea lions, Galápagos Penguins, marine iguanas, sea turtles, white-tipped reef sharks, and more.
- Hike, kayak, bike, and stand-up paddleboard your way through the islands.
- Discover the human history of the islands, from 17th century whalers and pirates to Charles Darwin’s 1835 voyage, 20th century settlers, and today’s inhabitants.
- Hike up to the edge of Sierra Negra, one of the Galápagos’ largest and most active volcanoes.
- See the iconic Galápagos giant tortoises in their natural habitat, the densely forested areas of Santa Cruz.
NOVEMBER 13 - QUITO
Upon arrival in Quito, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. *Overnight at Hotel Quito.*

NOVEMBER 14 - QUITO
After breakfast this morning take a city tour of Quito, Ecuador’s capital and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is a city surrounded by volcanoes, with one of the largest and best-preserved historical centers in Latin America. Also visit the equator at the Middle of the World Monument, just north of the city. *Overnight at Hotel Quito. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 15 - ISABELA
This morning transfer to the airport for your flight to the Galápagos Islands, where you will be met by your local guide. Transfer by speedboat to Isabela Island. Upon arrival, check into the hotel and visit the Interpretation Center to learn about the fascinating archipelago, including the natural history of the islands as well as the impact of humans on the ecosystem. Dinner at the hotel. *Overnight at Isa Mar Hotel. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 16 - ISABELA
Enjoy a full day of hiking at Sierra Negra. Measuring over six miles across from north to south and more than five miles from east to west, Sierra Negra is one of the most impressive examples of a volcano in the archipelago. Hike up to the edge of the caldera and have a boxed lunch on-site. At the completion of the hike, return to the hotel. *Overnight at Isa Mar Hotel. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 17 - ISABELA
Begin the day with kayaking in the bay, followed by lunch at a local restaurant. This afternoon, take a bike ride, starting on the trails of the Wetlands visitor site. Continue to the infamous Muro de las Lagrimas, or “Wall of Tears.” This wall was erected by convicts back in the days when the island housed a penal colony. Numerous prisoners died in the course of building the stone wall, leading locals to give it the now-famous name. According to local lore, it is possible to hear the convicts’ cries emanating from the area from time to time. *Overnight at Isa Mar Hotel. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 18 - FLOREANA
Transfer by speedboat to Floreana, the sixth largest island in the archipelago. It has a colorful history, with varying accounts of how the island was settled and how its first residents (German immigrants) mysteriously disappeared. The only family remaining from the original settlements are the Wittmers, who continue to live on the island. After lunch, enjoy a walking excursion to La Lobería to view Galápagos sea lions on the beach and to swim nearby in Lobería Bay. Hike along almost 3,000 feet of trail going through the Galápagos National Park, where you can also see marine iguanas and sea turtles. Dinner at a local restaurant this evening. *Overnight at Lava Lodge. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 19 - FLOREANA
After breakfast, hike in the highlands of Floreana to Asilo de La Paz (Peace Haven), where caves used by pirates in the 17th and 18th centuries are located. Hike to the hilltop for views of the island, and to possibly see the endemic Medium Tree-Finch. After lunch at a local restaurant, kayak and SUP (stand-up paddleboard) off the white sand beach of Post Office Bay. *Overnight at Lava Lodge. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 20 - SANTA CRUZ
Early this morning, transfer to Puerto Ayora by speedboat. After breakfast, enjoy the breathtaking views of the archipelago at Cerro Mesa and then continue on to Garrapatero Beach. Spend the afternoon snorkeling and enjoying the sandy beaches surrounded by mangroves. *Overnight at Mainao Hotel or similar. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 21 - SANTA CRUZ
In the morning, head to Tortuga Bay, one of the largest and most beautiful beaches in the Galápagos. Enjoy the spectacular white sand beach, where you can walk along the shore and swim among marine iguanas, sharks, and sea turtles. After lunch, transfer to the highlands for tortoise viewing at El Chato. Hike among densely forested areas in the highlands of Santa Cruz in El Chato, a reserve for the giant tortoises. They can often be seen in the ponds cooling themselves. Tree and ground finches, Vermilion Flycatchers, and Cattle Egrets all inhabit the area of the walking trails. *Overnight at Mainao Hotel or similar. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 22 - QUITO
After a morning visit to the Charles Darwin Research Center, transfer to Baltra for the return flight back to mainland Ecuador. Upon arrival in Quito, you will be met and transferred to the hotel for overnight. Attend a farewell dinner at the hotel this evening. *Overnight at Rincón de Puembo. (BLD)*

NOVEMBER 23 - DEPARTURE
This morning you will be met and transferred to the airport for your flight to the USA. (B)

**LAND PRICING**

$4,800 per person

Cost includes meals, accommodations, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, flights within Ecuador, in-country transportation, Galápagos National Park fee, local guides in each region for duration of the program, donation to Cable Natural History Museum, and carbon offset.

Does not include international airfare, gratuities, or items of a personal nature.

**TRAVEL PROTECTION**

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants traveling in 2018 or beyond. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more. Refer to the Plan Document for more details.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

**THE FINE PRINT**

Cost is based on double occupancy; for a single room throughout the trip add $645 per person. A $200 per person deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable minus a $100 cancellation fee until August 10, 2019, at which time non-refundable final payment is due.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL:

Visit holbrook.travel/cable-gps19 or contact Leslie Strapon at info@cablemuseum.org or 715-798-3890.