

# Galapagos Islands Community Development & Agriculture

*Join a combination of community tourism and volunteer work to address the needs of the indigenous human population through community development and education, or therapy for disabled children.*

Visit the remote and striking archipelago of the Galapagos Islands with its stunning volcanic geography and landscapes and its hugely diverse and esoteric flora and fauna.

Although only five of its 13 major islands are inhabited, the islands have attracted a wide array of visitors over the centuries from pirates and seafarers to refugees and even Incas! Most famous of visitors to the Galapagos Islands is Charles Darwin whose observations of the island's birdlife led to his development of the Theory of Evolution expounded in his famous work *On the Origin of the Species*.

1,000 km from the Ecuadorian mainland, the islands enjoy fine weather all year round so, perhaps surprisingly, the Galapagos Penguins are one of the most famous indigenous animals to be found – supposedly stranded in this benign habitat after the ice age! Other fascinating species endemic to the islands include the giant Galapagos Tortoise which has an average lifespan of over 150 years and the Flightless Cormorant which, with only around 1,500 individuals, is one of the world's rarest birds. Visiting the Galapagos Islands is a unique and memorable experience and will open your eyes to the beauty of the natural world in ways you could never have imagined.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Visit the remote & striking archipelago of the Galapagos Islands
- Gain a life time of unmatched memories
- Directly help the local community

## PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum age of 18 years
- Intermediate level of Spanish required

## FAST FACTS

<b>Location</b>	Galapagos Islands, Ecuador
<b>Activities</b>	Livestock rearing & horse care Milking & milk delivery Wild blackberry control Fence maintenance Seedling & plant care Tree planting Teaching English or other subjects
<b>Transport</b>	Airport pick-up

	Taxi to accommodation on project site
<b>Accommodation</b>	Shared volunteer ranch house

## **WHAT WILL I BE DOING?**

This project offers a combination of community tourism and volunteer work, which – unusually for the Galapagos – addresses the needs of the indigenous human population rather than those of the native wildlife. There is widespread international support for the conservation of the Galapagos wildlife and the island's environment but much less attention has been paid to the needs of the human communities whose welfare impacts directly on the natural ecosystem. This important project seeks to remedy this.

There is a wide range of volunteer tasks to be carried out, either in the area of environment, community development and education, or therapy for disabled children. The main activities focus on supporting the local highlander families with livestock rearing and horse care, milking and milk delivery, wild blackberry control, fence maintenance, seedling and plant care, tree planting, teaching English or other subjects in the local school (depending on experience). Whatever tasks you end up doing you will be sure to receive a warm welcome and will engage in valuable and productive work. You will acquire new skills and experiences and return home with a life time of unmatched memories.

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I ARRIVE?**

You will fly into Quito airport in Ecuador and then onto the Galapagos island of San Cristobal via Guayaquil. Here you will be welcomed by your local project representative and taken by taxi to your accommodation on the project site. Please be aware that as you will be entering a National Park you will be required to pay a \$100 fee upon entry.

## **WHERE WILL I BE STAYING?**

You will be living in mixed sex rooms, with between two and four volunteers per room, in the six bedroom volunteer ranch house. You will be offered a choice of traditional bed or hammock and you will have the convenience of running water, hot showers and flushing toilets.

## **WHAT WILL I BE EATING?**

Food is not included but you will be able to buy food in nearby Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, which is a short \$4 taxi ride away or can be easily walked within 2 hours, and there is a kitchen in the volunteer house available for use.

## **COSTS**

1 week	US\$ 745
Extra week	US\$ 295

## DEPARTURE DATES

Monthly (please arrive Sunday in order to transfer to the project)

**This project is not available on the following dates in 2019:**

New Year: 1 January

Carnaval: 4-5 March

Good Friday: 19 April

Labor Day: 1 May

Battle of Pichincha: 24 May

Independence Day: 10 August

Guayaquil Independence Day: 12 October

Day of the Dead: 1 November

Cuenca Independence Day: 03 November

Christmas: 25 December - 01 January

## DURATION

Minimum 1 week

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

### Before you go

- Pre-departure support
- Travel & medical advice & documentation
- Discounted medical kit
- Free Frontier t-shirt

### In-country

- Accommodation
- Airport pick-up
- Ground transfers
- Local orientation
- Project training
- In-country emergency support
- 24-hour international HQ backup

## AIRPORT INFORMATION

Nearest airport(s): San Cristobal (SCY), Guayaquil (GYE)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Call us on 020 7613 2422 (UK) / 1 949 336 8178 (US)

Mail us on [info@frontier.ac.uk](mailto:info@frontier.ac.uk)

Check out our social media here:

*Project details were correct at the time this document was generated. Price, dates and other details are subject to change. Please see our website for current details for this project.*