



HARVARD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

TRAVELS

Photo © Antoine Beyeler

ECUADOR & THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS
A FAMILY NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION ABOARD *ISABELA II*
WITH DANIEL E. LIEBERMAN

2010-2011 | DECEMBER 27 - JANUARY 5



Machu Picchu, Peru.



"MADE IT A TRIP OF A LIFETIME TO HAVE DAN WITH US INFORMING, DISCUSSING, [AND] DEBATING."

— M. GRAY, 2009
HAA FAMILY
GALÁPAGOS TRIP

OPTIONAL PRELUDE CHRISTMAS IN PERU DECEMBER 21 TO 27, 2010

Two nights in Lima offer ample time to explore the city's fascinating architecture, both colonial and contemporary. Fly to Cusco for an overnight before continuing by train to fabled Machu Picchu. Christmas Eve and Day will be spent at the Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge, overlooking the ruins. Return to Cusco, where a two-night stay includes a private dinner at the Pre-Colombian Art Museum and an excursion into the Sacred Valley to view the Inca fortress at Ollantaytambo.

PRELUDE RATE \$4,950 (*double occupancy*). \$1,650 Single Supplement

OPTIONAL POSTLUDE QUITO

January 4 TO 7, 2011

Quito, high in the Andes, is the site of one of South America's oldest civilizations, where Indians lived for thousands of years before the arrival of the Spaniards. It became a center for aristocratic Hispanic culture in the 18th century and retains many dignified buildings from that period. Highlights of our visit include an architectural tour; the Ethnographic Museum, which straddles the equator; and a lively Indian market. Accommodations for three nights are at the Swissôtel Quito.

POSTLUDE RATE \$450 (*double occupancy*). \$195 Single Supplement



Daniel E. Lieberman (top) and HAA Galápagos group (above).

FEATURED STUDY LEADER DANIEL E. LIEBERMAN

Daniel E. Lieberman is professor of human evolutionary biology and Department Chair of Human Evolutionary Biology. He studies the fossil record of human evolution to determine why the human body looks and functions as it does. Professor Lieberman was educated at Harvard and Cambridge University and has done fieldwork in Africa, Europe and the Middle East. He is especially interested in when, how and why early hominins first became bipeds, and then became so exceptional as long distance endurance runners. His work on early hominins (*Sahelanthropus*) suggests that the first hominins were bipeds and that the origins of upright walking was a major factor that helped set humans on a novel evolutionary trajectory from the African apes. His research with Dennis Bramble and other colleagues, suggests that long distance endurance running played a key role in the evolution of the genus *Homo*. They have found and continue to study novel human features, from head to toe, that help us be great endurance runners.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enrichment series of lectures by Daniel E. Lieberman, professor of human evolutionary biology
- Seven nights aboard the deluxe motor yacht *Isabela II*
- View marine life during an exciting glass-bottomed boat ride
- Snorkel in the pristine Pacific waters
- Observe sea lions, sea turtles and possibly Galápagos Penguins
- Visit a lagoon often frequented by flamingos
- Meet with scientists at the Charles Darwin Research Station

CO-SPONSORED WITH THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART.



ECUADOR & THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS
A FAMILY NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION
ABOARD ISABELA II
DECEMBER 27, 2010 - JANUARY 5, 2011
9 NIGHTS / 8 DAYS
SHIP SIZE: 40 • ACTIVITY LEVEL: MODERATE

Family with sea lions (top) and flamingos, photo by Erika Hamburg (left).

GIVE THE HOLIDAY SEASON AN EXTRA TOUCH OF MAGIC AS YOU TRAVEL WITH YOUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN TO THE ENCHANTING GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS, A FEAST FOR THE EYE, MIND AND SPIRIT. DURING OUR

one-week cruise aboard *Isabela II*, experience the natural wonders of this fascinating archipelago and observe species of animal life found nowhere else in the world. Nature lovers, birders and adventurous spirits will enjoy the wonderful opportunity to witness the inspiration for Darwin's numerous observations leading to the theory of evolution. The antics of sea lions, fur seals and other wildlife, seemingly without fear of humans, will delight photographers, and the opportunity to swim and snorkel in the clear Pacific waters promises to be the experience of a lifetime!



Opuntia Cactus Tree, photo © Marketa Ebert.

SCHEDULE BY DAY



View of the Galápagos Island, photo © Alexander Deursen.

Monday, December 27 MIAMI / GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR

Depart on a flight to Guayaquil. Upon arrival this evening, check in at the deluxe Hilton Colón Hotel.

Tuesday, December 28 GUAYAQUIL / GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Transfer to the airport for an early flight to Baltra Island, where we embark the awaiting *Isabela II* for our seven-night cruise. As we sail, attend an introductory briefing. Arrive this afternoon on North Seymour Island for a nature walk. Observe colonies of Blue-footed Boobies and Frigate Birds as well as sea lions and marine iguanas. This evening gather for the captain's welcome reception.

BLD

Wednesday, December 29 HOOD ISLAND

After breakfast we arrive at Hood Island and step ashore at Gardner Bay, a white coral beach where we will watch the sea lions,

mockingbirds and finches. Marine life can be viewed while snorkeling, or during a glass-bottomed boat ride around Gardner and Tortuga islets. Lunch is on board as we sail to another area of Hood Island. At Punta Suárez, hike over eroded boulders of pillow lava to see colonies of sea lions, Blue-footed and Masked Boobies, as well as lava lizards and inquisitive Hood Mockingbirds. View the magnificent Hood Blowhole with its display of assorted birds in flight. Return to the ship for dinner.

BLD



Sally Lightfoot Crab (left) and a pair of Waved Albatross (right).

Thursday, December 30 FLOREANA ISLAND

Punta Cormorant, where *Isabela II* docks this morning, is home to many of the same species observed by Darwin, including ducks and flamingos that inhabit a brackish water lagoon. Snorkel in the pristine Pacific waters, then visit historic Post Office Bay to learn about the human history of the islands, including the adventures of pirates and whalers. Take a *panga* (Zodiac) ride to nearby islets to observe sea lions, rays, sea turtles and possibly the Galápagos Penguin.

BLD

Friday, December 31 SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

Of particular interest on Santa Cruz Island are the giant tortoise (*galápagos* is the Spanish name for this animal), unusual cactus types and assorted finches. The island is also the location of the Charles Darwin Research Station. After a briefing about the station's work, there will be leisure time in the village of Puerto Ayora. This afternoon explore the splendid highlands and discover a wide variety of shore birds as well as several species of plants that exist nowhere else in the archipelago. Back on board *Isabela II* ring in the New Year with a festive dinner.

BLD





Land iguana.

**Saturday, January 1
TOWER ISLAND**

With its profusion of rare birds in their natural habitat, Tower Island provides an ideal setting for the study of island biogeography. Red-footed and Masked Boobies, Frigate Birds and lava gulls are all to be found in abundance. There will be time for swimming, snorkeling or taking a boat ride in this birders' paradise. Following lunch visit Prince Phillips Steps for a hike in the magical dwarfed forest of Palo Santo, nesting area to both Frigate Birds and Masked Boobies.

BLD



**Sunday, January 2
FERNANDINA ISLAND/
ISABELA ISLAND**

Spend the morning in Punta Espinosa on Fernandina Island, a geological and botanical wonderland with a number of marine iguanas, sea-diving reptiles who graze on algae along the ocean floor. Bird watchers will appreciate the wide array of shore birds, and plant lovers can view the unusual beach plants and mangrove forests that line the coast. After lunch *Isabela II* cruises the scenic Bolivar Channel, where you may spot whales and dolphins. Step ashore at Isabela Island's Tagus Cove, where we hope to see Galápagos Penguins.

BLD



Snorkeling in the Pacific.

**Monday, January 3
ST. JAMES ISLAND/
BARTOLOME ISLAND**

This morning visit Puerto Egas on St. James Island, home of a large fur seal colony. Here we may walk the shoreline and observe the deep grottos that have been cut into the lava beds by years of crashing waves. Bartolomé Island, the focus of our afternoon excursion, is one of the youngest of the Galápagos Islands and offers some of the most beautiful views on the archipelago. From the top of Cerro Egret, admire the panorama of beaches and lava fields. Swimming, snorkeling and beachcombing are excellent in the warm waters of this scenic bay. This evening join the captain for a farewell reception and dinner on board.

BLD

**Tuesday, January 4
SANTA CRUZ ISLAND/
GUAYAQUIL**

Disembark *Isabela II* after breakfast and drive to the Baltra airport for the flight to Guayaquil. Upon arrival, transfer to the Hilton Colón Hotel.

B



ISABELA II

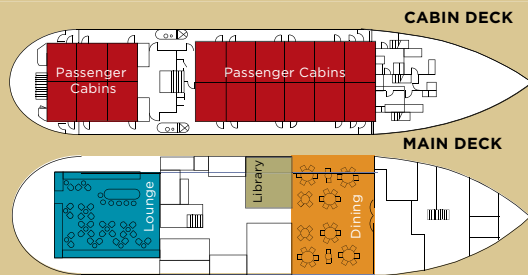


Blue-footed Boobies.

Wednesday, January 5 GUAYAQUIL/MIAMI

Transfer to the airport for the early afternoon flight.

B



Come explore the islands that captured the world's attention as a "living laboratory" and ecological showcase. Enjoy the camaraderie of fellow nature lovers as we navigate under southern skies. The deluxe forty-passenger M.V. *Isabela II* offers superb service from a knowledgeable and experienced crew. Public areas include a dining room, where guests may enjoy both continental and regional cuisine, a lounge and a library. Her spacious sun deck has a jacuzzi and solarium, and the observation deck is ideal for whale and dolphin watching. *Isabela II* features all outside cabins, is fully air conditioned and equipped with modern Zodiacs for ship-to-shore transport.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROGRAM RATE PER PERSON \$8,995 per person* (*double occupancy*). Single supplement \$5,995. *Limited availability*. Includes two nights hotel accommodations at the Hilton Colón, Guayaquil; seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *Isabela II*; all meals during the cruise; buffet breakfast daily and one dinner onshore; complimentary wine with dinners; Economy Class internal airfare: Quito / Guayaquil / Galápagos / Guayaquil; escorted sightseeing; entrance fees for all included visits; \$50,000 emergency evacuation insurance; lecture series, private musical events and performances; airport / hotel / pier group transfers; taxes, service and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers; pre-departure material and reading list.

OPTIONAL PRELUDE IN PERU \$4,950 per person (*double occupancy*). Single supplement \$1,650. Includes six nights hotel accommodation in Lima, internal flights and Lima / Guayaquil flight; meals and excursions as per itinerary.

OPTIONAL POSTLUDE IN QUITO \$450 per person (*double occupancy*). Single supplement \$195. Includes three nights hotel accommodation in Quito, breakfast daily, meals and excursions as per the itinerary.

TOUR COST EXCLUSIONS International airfare; passport fees; customary shipboard gratuities; alcoholic beverages other than house wine at included dinners; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on group flights; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENT To reserve a space on this program, a \$1,500 deposit is required per person. Please either call us at 800.422.1636 or 617.496.0806 or fill out and mail or fax the registration form found in the back of this brochure. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Payment terms will be sent to you with your reservation confirmation from our partner tour operator.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS All cancellations must be made in writing to the Harvard Alumni Association and are subject to a \$350 non-refundable administrative fee. Cancellation fees increase as the trip departure date approaches. Please refer to the full terms and conditions at <http://alumni.harvard.edu/haa/travel/trips/family-galapagos>

ITINERARY CHANGES The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Harvard Alumni Association and the tour operator. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual. All prices quoted are based on prevailing airfares, fuel prices and currency exchange rates in effect at the time of brochure printing and are subject to change. The tour operator will work to maintain the published trip price, but it may be necessary to institute a surcharge.

INSURANCE We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for insurance will be provided by the HAA upon confirmation.

RESPONSIBILITY Certain other provisions apply regarding limitations of liability and rights of HAA and the tour operator. The statement of responsibility is available at <http://alumni.harvard.edu/haa/travel/trips/family-galapagos>. If you are not able to access the Internet, please call HAA Travels at 800.422.1636 or 617.496.0806.

DISCLAIMER Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented in this publication. Neither HAA Travels nor the tour operator is responsible for errors in or damages resulting from use of the information contained herein. Information contained in this brochure is subject to change.

QUESTIONS Please call the Travel Program at the Harvard Association at 800.422.1636 or 617.496.0806, email: haatravels@harvard.edu.

* \$500 reduction for each child between the ages of 7 and 17.
CST 2059789-40

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Male Frigate Bird (above) and baby Galápagos Sea Lion (cover).

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