



ECUADOR & PERU

GALAPAGOS AND MACHU PICCHU ABOARD THE M/V ECLIPSE



DURATION: 15 days / 14 nights

SEASON: April through December

DEPARTURES: Guaranteed with a minimum of 2 participants

TRIP RATING: Easy/moderate Natural History Cruise & Cultural Tour, Grade (II) – This trip includes occasional wet landings (ankle to knee deep water) to reach the observation sites, optional water activities such as swimming, kayaking or snorkeling and nature hikes up to 4 hours duration on occasionally rough or rocky trails. The Cusco/Machu Picchu segment includes walking tours of 1-3 hours duration and takes place at high elevations with a maximum altitude of 12,335'. The itinerary has been designed to allow gradual adjustment to the altitude. Anyone in good fitness and condition able to walk up to 4 hours, should be able to enjoy this trip.

2016 DATES : On request any week throughout the year, subject to availability
Eclipse will be on dry dock from Aug 27 through Oct 08, 2016

INTRODUCTION:

Galápagos National Park straddles the equator 600 miles west of Ecuador's Pacific coast. Undisturbed for centuries and isolated from the mainland, unusual species of birds, plants, reptiles and some mammals developed on the rocky, volcanic atolls of the *Enchanted Isles*. Darwin's visit and subsequent studies of the island's flora and fauna in 1835 contributed to the formulation of his theory on the evolution of species and brought this fascinating ecosystem to the attention of the world. The park, Ecuador's largest, was established in 1959 to protect the archipelago's unique environment and wildlife. Its landmass consists of nearly 3,000 square miles which is divided between 6 large islands, 12 smaller islands, and over 40 islets. In 1986, the creation of the Marine Resources Reserve expanded the preserved area to include more than 27,000 square miles of ocean. This exciting program offers a great value in the archipelago, featuring one of the most complete 6-day cruise itineraries, aboard one of the most comfortable vessels in these waters.

After a night in Guayaquil, our first day is spent touring this historical and vibrant city. Following a morning flight to Baltra Island, we begin the cruise aboard our 48-passenger, luxury expedition ship. Accompanied by some of the best English-speaking naturalist guides in the Galápagos, we learn about the natural history of these enchanted islands, visiting the most outlying sites as well as important central and southern islands. We learn about fascinating species such as marine and land iguanas, flightless cormorants, and the diving blue-footed boobies. Water activities include swimming with Galápagos penguins or snorkeling with sea lions and fur seals! Enjoy beautiful views of white, olive or red sand beaches and turquoise water and prepare to be impressed by powerful forces of nature. Following our cruise, we fly back to Guayaquil and connect to Lima. The following morning we fly to Cusco where we spend a couple of days exploring impressive Inca sites such as the Coricancha, Sacsayhuaman, Chinchero and Ollantaytambo. A visit to Pisac is another opportunity to experience and shop in a colorful Andean market before taking the Vistadome train to Machu Picchu. Spending the night at the most exquisite hotel in town we have plenty of time for in-depth explorations of the Incas' *Lost City* before returning to Cusco and Lima.

Ecuador & Peru: Galápagos and Machu Picchu

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY:

DAY 01 (THU): USA / GUAYAQUIL

Arrive this evening to Ecuador's vibrant coastal and commercial city of **Guayaquil**, located at the western banks of the Guayas River. A Southwind representative greets you on arrival and bring you by private vehicle to one of the city's finest hotels just 20 minutes away, the centrally located [Oro Verde](#) for the night.

DAY 02 (FRI): GUAYAQUIL

The full day city tour of Guayaquil starts with a stop at the historical park, a glimpse into the beginnings of this important port city, as well as its lively present-day culture and natural environment. The park's gardens burst with the region's endemic flora. It is also an ideal location to learn about the birds, reptiles, and mammals of this region. Then we go for a short walk to the Southern Malecon 2000, a boardwalk overlooking the Guayas River, where you'll peruse the Integration Plaza with its famous Southern Marketplace and Cristal Palace. Lunch is included at a traditional Ecuadorian restaurant with samples of fine local cuisine. Next, visit the Olmedo Plaza and see the monument to Jose Joaquin Olmedo, a recognized Ecuadorian poet. We also stop at the Morisca Tower for excellent views of the city and the famous monument to the four elements of the planet. For our final visit of the day, we head over to the oldest sectors of the city, the colonial neighborhood of Las Peñas (declared as Cultural Heritage in 1982) where we can admire the magnificent wood architecture. From here you'll have the opportunity to climb up to the Cerro Santa Ana for a breathtaking view of Guayaquil and the Guayas River. Overnight at the [Oro Verde](#) hotel.
(B,L)

DAY 03 (SAT): GUAYAQUIL / BALTRA ISLAND / NORTH SEYMOUR (GALAPAGOS)

Following breakfast, we're picked up at the hotel to return to the airport. Our guide assists us with check-in for the two-hour commercial jet flight to **Baltra Island**. We pass through an inspection point where park officials ensure that no foreign plants or animals are introduced to the islands. We meet our naturalist guides and transfer to the boat docks to catch the motorized zodiac rafts, or dinghies, out to our well-appointed vessel, the [M/V Eclipse](#). After our crew welcomes us aboard there is a briefing and safety drill. Lunch is served onboard en route to **North Seymour**. This visit with a dry landing may very well be the perfect introduction to the Galápagos. Although the island is characterized by arid vegetation, fauna abounds and you will soon find yourself surrounded by sea lions, blue footed boobies, marine iguanas, frigate birds and more. With some luck you may even get to see land iguanas. Back on board we receive a briefing and a welcome cocktail before dinner.
(B,L,D)

DAY 04 (SUN): SOUTH PLAZA / SANTA FE ISLANDS

After breakfast our dry landing excursion is on **South Plaza Island**. Although small, this site is home to a large Opuntia cacti forest, land iguanas and one of the largest sea lion colonies in the central region of the archipelago. An endemic plant, *Sesuvium*, inhabits this island and is a great climate indicator as its color is a greenish-yellowish during the rainy season and a bright red during the dry season. Nazca boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, variety of sea birds and finches are found here. Back on board we enjoy lunch and leisure time. This afternoon we experience a wet landing and excursion at **Santa Fe Island**. Formed by uplifting, rather than by a volcano, Santa Fe is known for having one of the most beautiful coves in all the Galápagos. Some of the island's endemic species include the Galápagos Hawk, Galápagos Snake, rice rats, different types of finches, and the Galápagos Mockingbird. The visit includes a hike on a trail past salt bushes where Galápagos hawks as well as the Santa Fe land iguanas tend to roam. Playful sea lions will usually accompany swimmers and snorkelers during beach time. Swimming and snorkeling from the beach or kayak or zodiac ride. Dinner and briefing on board.
(B,L,D)

DAY 05 (MON): SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

Wet landing this morning at **Punta Pitt**, which is located on the eastern top of San Cristóbal Island. The visit begins with a rewarding 2.5 hour hike up to a plateau where views of the landscape are spectacular. At Punta Pitt, conditions are good for spotting the rare Red Footed Boobies nesting in the cliffs. In fact, it is the only visitor site where it is possible to view all three types of Booby. To complete this active morning of hiking, you can choose between water activities like kayaking, snorkeling, and zodiac rides to catch a glimpse of the astounding marine life at Punta Pitt. After lunch on board the ship, we'll disembark at **Cerro Brujo**, famously the first coast where Charles Darwin stepped foot on the archipelago in September of 1835. Here, we'll enjoy a fantastic white coral beach landscape with fun swimming, snorkeling and zodiac ride experiences among the white sands and clear turquoise waters. You can expect to see healthy populations of sea lions on the beach. Birdwatchers are likely to spot boobies, herons, and possibly the Chatham mockingbird, which is endemic to San Cristóbal Island and not to be found anywhere else. Return to the ship for dinner and the daily briefing.
(B,L,D)

DAY 06 (TUE): FLOREANA ISLAND

Dry landing this morning on **Floreana Island**. This is one of the Galápagos most famous islands due to many strange stories of past settlers. There are many wonderful and diverse sites to visit including **Post Office Bay** and the "Baroness's Viewing Point" followed by snorkeling or kayaking. Marine life abounds on Floreana's coast making it a fantastic site for snorkeling. Flamingos also populate the island and may be seen during your visit. The Baroness's Viewing Point is the perfect place to take in the

Ecuador & Peru: Galápagos and Machu Picchu

special environment that defines Floreana, and a great spot to talk and ponder regarding the intriguing history of the Baroness and her three lovers! In the 18th century whalers passing through the islands placed a wooden barrel on Floreana Island for use as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards (see your ship log book) in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. For the more adventurous, there is the option to visit a lava tunnel, which has been kept untouched and completely natural. This afternoon, we visit **Punta Cormorant** and **Champion islet** with snorkeling, kayaking or a zodiac ride. A great site for birdwatching, Cormorant Point has a large lagoon where everything from Flamingos to stilts and pintail ducks can be observed. The beach nearby has a unique green hue from a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand. Returning to the vessel, we enjoy dinner on board the ship. (B,L,D)

DAY 07 (WED): ISABELA ISLAND

The morning light shines on the summit of Darwin Volcano, and as one of the most active volcanoes in the archipelago this area is a perfect example of the geological activity of the islands. While navigating the waters between Fernandina and Isabela islands, if we're lucky, we may observe whales or dolphins. Morning zodiac ride to the **Elizabeth Bay** mangroves. Here, we enter a sheltered cove – a wonderful mangrove ecosystem that is a refuge for sea turtles, rays, blue-footed boobies, penguins, herons and perhaps circling overhead, Galápagos Hawks. A small colony of penguins inhabits a rocky islet at the entrance to this bay. After lunch onboard, this afternoon offers snorkeling or a zodiac ride at Punta Moreno. **Moreno Point** is located just southwest of Elizabeth Bay on the west coast of Isabela Island and is known for large populations of sea birds which can be appreciated during a zodiac ride along the striking rocky shores or a hike along path through lava rock leading to tide pools and mangroves. In the tide pools green sea turtles or white-tip sharks can be spotted. (B,L,D)

DAY 08 (THU): SANTA CRUZ ISLAND / GUAYAQUIL / LIMA

This morning we anchor in Academy Bay on **Santa Cruz Island**, home to the bustling village of Puerto Ayora. After breakfast, say goodbye to our crew and board a zodiac to the **Charles Darwin Research Station**. Here we learn about the threats that exist to the wildlife and the conservation efforts to protect the islands. We watch both hatchling and young Galápagos tortoises in the baby tortoise house where the young are raised until large enough to survive on their own. We also watch some of the remaining 11 subspecies found on the islands and interact with them during our visit to the bachelor pad where 4 or 5 solitary males pass their days, quietly munching on greens and greeting visitors. These lumbering vegetarians are very impressive; for many guests coming face-to-face with the giant tortoises is a trip highlight. A full-grown adult can weigh up to 550 pounds, and we see just how large they are as we approach to within a few feet! Later this morning, board a private bus to the Baltra airport for the flight back to **Guayaquil**. Arriving in the afternoon, we're met at the airport and assisted with catching an evening flight to **Lima, Peru**. Reception in Lima by a Southwind staff member and assistance checking-in to the [Costa del Sol Hotel](#) located near the International Terminal. (B)

DAY 9 (FRI): LIMA / CUSCO / SACRED VALLEY

We're picked up at the hotel early this morning and accompanied to the airport to catch the one-hour flight to **Cusco**, the former Inca capital. You are met at the airport and we drive one-hour to Pisac in the **Sacred Valley of the Incas**. The route follows a winding mountain road providing superb vistas of the rugged canyon formed by the Urubamba River. Descending into the warm valley, our first stop is the town of **Pisac** (9,708') where we visit the main square and some craft shops. Artists and vendors set up their stalls around the main plaza to sell colorful handicrafts. We enjoy a delicious Andean lunch and later on tour Pisac's impressive Incan ruins, perched spectacularly on a ridge overlooking the town and countryside. The walking tour is about 2 miles and follows a wide, exposed, stone-paved trail high above the valley. We visit the main sections of the site including the religious center *Intihuatana*, or Hitching Post of the Sun. Observing dozens of agricultural terraces, these formations were aesthetically built to follow the contours of the hillside rising from the Urubamba River valley. We continue down the valley to the community of Urubamba and check-in to the charming Andean hacienda-style, [Sol y Luna Lodge & Spa](#). The remainder of the afternoon is at your leisure with dinner together this evening. (B,L,D)

DAY 10 (SAT): CHINCHERO / OLLANTAYTAMBO

This morning, we drive back up to the highlands, enjoying panoramic views of the snow-capped Urubamba range including Mount Veronica and Pitusiray, both over 18,000 feet high. We arrive midmorning at **Chincho** (12,335'), a charming community characteristic of Andean towns in that it combines both Incan and colonial architecture. We observe a massive Inca wall with ten trapezoidal niches, which dominates the village's main square, and visit the colonial church. After exploring the ruins of Inca Yupanqui's palace, we join a local community in their courtyard for an overview of the Andean weaving process. After wool is carded, spun, and dyed, learn about the different techniques used to create ponchos, belts (*fajas*), and shawls (*mantas*). On the way back to the fertile Urubamba Valley we stop at the Inca Salt Mines, then continue in our private vehicle to enjoy a buffet-style Andean lunch. Here we have a chance to sample a variety of native delicacies including: several types of potatoes (tubers such as oca); quinoa (sacred to the Incas, referred to as the "mother of all grains"); fava beans; and perhaps try a taste of *cuy*, a savory meat roasted with a variety of herbs. Afterwards, we drive past burial tombs and ancient farming terraces still in use today to reach the town of **Ollantaytambo**. We visit the main plaza and some of the side streets of this unique community which still retains the original street plan and foundations designed by the Incas. We'll explore the impressive terraced remains of the Sun Temple before returning to the [Sol y Luna Lodge & Spa](#). (B,L)

Ecuador & Peru: Galápagos and Machu Picchu

DAY 11 (SUN): MACHU PICCHU

We head back to Ollantaytambo early this morning to catch the Vistadome train for the 1.5 hour ride to Machu Picchu town (formerly Aguas Calientes). Ascending to **Machu Picchu** (7,874') by bus, we join our expert guide for a private tour of this superb archaeological site. Perched atop a crest high above the meandering Urubamba River and surrounded by rugged, green Andean hillsides, Machu Picchu stands as more than just the jewel of Inca architecture. It represents the perfect union of human engineering and the natural environment, a city in harmony with its surroundings. Never reached by the Spanish, this magical place was brought to the world's attention in 1911 by the American historian, Hiram Bingham. Our explorations of *The Lost City of the Incas* include all of the various sectors of the ruins: the industrial area, the Temple of the Sun and the Royal Tomb, the ceremonial water fountains and baths, and the Sacred Plazas. There should be time in the afternoon for the 30-minute walk to the Inca Drawbridge. We stay at the charming [Inkaterra Machu Picchu Hotel](#) (situated in 12 acres of secluded cloud forest garden along the Urubamba River), where we partake in a *Novoandino* cuisine dinner this evening.

(B,L,D)

DAY 12 (MON): MACHU PICCHU / CUSCO

Rising early, those who wish may head back to the ruins to catch the early morning light as the sun comes up over *Intipunku*, or the Gateway of the Sun. Afterwards, there are several optional hikes available in and around the site for more ambitious group members. At 8,860' **Huayna Picchu**, or Young Peak, looms over the citadel. An optional 1 hour climb along a very steep and exposed trail ends at terraces and ruins on the mountain's top, providing an excellent, bird's-eye view of Machu Picchu. Another 1.5 hour up and downhill hike on a shaded trail ends at the mysterious, partially excavated *Temple of the Moon*. Since the schedule is flexible, those who prefer can relax or explore their favorite spots at their own pace. We meet together for lunch before catching the early afternoon Vistadome train for the 1.5 hour scenic journey back to Ollantaytambo. Tracing the course of the Urubamba River, we wind our way past Inca terraces and Quechua communities as we leave the lush cloud forests and make our way back to the highlands. Reception upon arrival and transfer 1.5 hours by private vehicle to **Cusco** (11,150') and the historic [Libertador Palacio del Inka Hotel](#) (Palace of the first governor of Peru, Francisco Pizarro, built over the foundations of the Inca's *Aclla Huasi* or "house of the chosen women"). Dinner is on your own this evening to try some of the gourmet restaurants in town.

(B,L)

DAY 13 (TUE): CUSCO

After breakfast, we enjoy a private orientation tour (combination of walking and vehicle) of this friendly, historical city. As we explore the main plaza and side streets, we realize that **Cusco** is still a very colonial city. There are no skyscrapers and most buildings are whitewashed adobe with red tile roofs set on Inca foundations. Cobble streets lead up narrow passageways with brightly painted balconies overhead. Small plazas are filled with flowers and fountains. Our visits include such impressive sites as the *Coricancha*, the Inca's Sun Temple; the main square and cathedral with stones built from nearby Inca palaces; and the Incan walls along *Hatunrumiyoc Street*, named for the 12-angled stone that is clearly visible. Driving up to the surrounding hills we explore the Incan fortress of *Sacsayhuaman*, a spectacular complex with commanding views of the Cusco valley, and time permitting, *Tambo Machay*, whose ceremonial pools have remained clear and cold since the time of the Empire. We return to the [Libertador Palacio del Inka Hotel](#) with lunch on your own and the remainder of the afternoon available for personal activities. Tonight, you may try the hotel's Inti Raymi restaurant for a delicious dinner and pisco sour, a traditional Peruvian drink.

(B)

DAY 14 (WED): CUSCO / LIMA / USA

Morning at leisure to explore Cusco's colorful San Pedro market and the many side-street craft shops, museums and plazas. We are picked up at the hotel late-morning for the drive to the airport in **Cusco** to catch the flight back to **Lima**. Upon arrival we join our local guide for a private tour of colonial Lima and the fascinating Larco Herrera Museum with an extensive collection of pre-Columbian artifacts. Lunch and dinner are on your own to try a typical seafood meal such as ceviche at one of the several fine restaurants in the upscale Miraflores district. Participants leaving tonight have a return transfer to the airport this evening.

(B)

DAY 15 (THU): USA

Arrive in the US this morning and make onward connections home.

NOTES ON THE ITINERARIES: Although we do our best to adhere to the schedule listed above, the day-by-day activities on these itineraries are subject to change at any time for numerous reasons beyond our control including Galápagos Park Regulations and/or participant health, weather, sea and/or road conditions. Reservations are recommended well in advance of your preferred departure (at least 4-6 months for regular programs or 1 year for holiday departures) to ensure your place on the trip of your choice. Reservations made less than 90 days prior to departure are subject to availability and must be paid in full at the time of booking.

These programs are suitable for physically fit participants accustomed to outdoor activities age 7 and up. The Huayna Picchu ascent is only recommended for kids age 12 and older. Regular departures may include some families and children

Ecuador & Peru: Galápagos and Machu Picchu

on the cruise. Hiking or driving distances and altitudes are approximate, and times indicated are NET (they do not include lunch breaks, rest stops, time to explore the area, etc.).

2016 LAND COSTS:	<u>Stateroom cabins</u>	<u>Superior Stateroom cabins</u>
	<u>(Main deck)</u>	<u>(Upper Boat deck)</u>
	\$11,565 ppd	\$12,200 ppd (2-3 participants)
	\$11,025 ppd	\$11,660 ppd (4-6 participants)
	\$10,605 ppd	\$11,240 ppd (7-12 participants)
	ppd = per person double occupancy	

There are eleven outside "Stateroom Doubles" on the main deck (#'s 3-12 & 14) at the Land Cost indicated above as well as eight larger outside "Superior Staterooms" (#'s 21-28). These cabins have either two twin beds or one king/queen bed. Larger "Deluxe Staterooms" (with one queen only) are also available for \$400 per person additional to the Superior Stateroom cabins land costs. For families traveling with children, 2 Triple "Deluxe Staterooms" Cabins are available (#'s 19 & 20). Eclipse also features 2 connected Staterooms (cabins 8 & 10) and 2 connected Superior Staterooms (cabins 24 & 26). Additionally, there are 2 "Single Staterooms" (cabins 1 & 2).

Due to Government measures in Ecuador, most vessels operating in the Galápagos have implemented a fuel surcharge. Effective for cruises departing after Jan 01, 2016, the additional \$260 per person will be added to above land costs.

Low Season discount: For cruises departing Jan 02 & 09 and cruises from Aug 27 through Dec 10, 2016 save \$100 for Stateroom cabins and \$200 for Superior cabins per person off the Land Cost as indicated above.

Peak Season cruises: For departures during Christmas (Dec 24-31) and New Year (Dec 31-Jan 07), there is a higher land cost in addition to a \$400 per person Holiday surcharge. Different deposits, cancellation fees and payments procedures apply for these departures. Please contact your Travel Consultant for details.

Children's Discount: Kids 7-11 years old at the time of travel are entitled to a discount of \$1,700 ppd (Main deck) or \$1,825 ppd (Upper Boat deck) on the *Galápagos and Machu Picchu* Land Cost. On designated family departures children as young as 4 years old can participate.

- **Note:** Children's discounts are limited to one per each accompanying adult sharing a Cabin. No discounts are allowed during the Easter (Mar 19-26), Christmas and New Years departures. Other restrictions may apply.

SERVICES INCLUDED:

- Comprehensive **pre-departure planning packet** and expert travel advice.
- All **in-country transfers** as scheduled (transfers on different days are additional). Ground transportation in spacious and comfortable private vehicles with professional drivers. Occasionally, other Southwind travelers may share the same vehicle, particularly for transfers in Guayaquil & Lima.
- **First-class round trip Vistadome or similar train** from Ollantaytambo to Machu Picchu town. Machu Picchu bus service to/from town and the archaeological sanctuary.
- Local and return flight reconfirmation, **in-country airport check-in and luggage assistance.**
- Galápagos National **Park entrance fee** of \$100 p.p. (\$50 per child 11 or under).
- Galápagos **Transit control card fee** of \$20 per person.
- All **accommodations in first-class (4-5 star) hotels** as listed (or at similar hotels) on a shared basis with private bath. Double beds for couples (primarily queen or king-sized) can be requested in advance, but cannot be guaranteed, as most hotels offer very few rooms with double beds.
- All **meals** indicated on the itinerary (B=breakfast; L=lunch; D=dinner). **Vegetarian diets accommodated** on request (advance notification required). For other diets, consult your travel specialist before making a reservation. Bottled water is provided on the cruise and mainland.
- All **guided tours** and excursions listed on the mainland (including entrance fees), accompanied by knowledgeable, English-speaking resident guides in Guayaquil and Cusco/Machu Picchu regions.
- Arrival and departure transfers in the Galápagos.
- Accommodations on the luxury-class, 48-passenger, **M/V Eclipse** in an outside cabin with private bath. Wetsuits and snorkeling gear is provided on board at no extra cost.
- Experienced sailing crew and staff of 31 plus up to 4 naturalist guides. Officers on board are also bilingual.

Ecuador & Peru: Galápagos and Machu Picchu

NOT INCLUDED:

- US Domestic, International nor local flights from Guayaquil-Lima-Cusco-Lima, and to/from the islands (see **Estimated Airfare** on page 8).
- Ecuadorian departure taxes (\$41 when leaving the country and \$6-8 per local flight; although these taxes are generally included in your airfare).
- Peruvian airport departure taxes (for USA and Canadian travelers these taxes are included in the airfare).
- Alcoholic beverages or items of a personal nature like laundry, telephone calls, souvenirs etc.
- Tips to the local staff as warranted.
- Any expenses incurred in preparing for this trip such as but not limited to non-refundable airline tickets or travel insurance, nor additional costs resulting from flight schedule changes, delays, cancellations or missed connections.

TRAVEL INSURANCE: We strongly recommend purchasing coverage to protect your trip investment. Travel insurance is important in case of unexpected events prior to departure causing the need to cancel or change your dates. Weather, geologic events, local strikes, personal injury/illness for you, your traveling companion or family members, could require itinerary interruption or changes. Missed connections, delayed arrival, lost/delayed baggage or the need for medical attention or evacuation are also reasons why coverage is important. Southwind offers several plans through Travel Insured International (TII) to fit your budget and coverage amount. We recommend TII's *Worldwide Trip Protector* which offers a good value and **free coverage for kids 17/under traveling with a related adult**. If you, your traveling companion or a family member has a pre-existing medical condition, you can still receive coverage if a recurrence of the condition forces you to cancel your trip (some restrictions apply and plan purchase needs to be done **within 21 days of your deposit date**). **Please call our office for a quote** or to discuss your insurance options. See our [Travel Insurance](#) page to learn more and purchase a plan.

M/V Eclipse: The [M/V Eclipse](#) entered into operation in November 1999, bringing a new level of comfort and elegance to Galápagos cruises. She is a 210-foot-long, 41 foot-wide expedition cruise ship accommodating up to 48 passengers (half the number carried by other vessels her size) in 26 cabins situated on two of the three decks. A smaller boat atmosphere is preserved by supplying a naturalist guide for every 12 guests and offering "al fresco" dining for all passengers. Additional amenities include 3 double and 1 single sea kayaks, a jacuzzi, a souvenir shop, an observation deck with exercise equipment, a library/video room, a lounge with a side bar and an air renewal system. Eclipse provides snorkeling equipment and wet suits at no extra charge. She also has an infirmary with an M.D. on board at all times. Comfortable and attractively decorated with rich Seike furnishings and writing desks, the Eclipse's eight Superior Staterooms are among the largest of any vessel in the Galápagos and feature large closets, ocean view windows and spacious private baths. There are four double-bedded Deluxe Staterooms, located on the boat deck, plus thirteen outside Stateroom Doubles & two outside Stateroom Singles with porthole windows on the main deck. All doubles feature either a king/queen or two twin beds, and each is equipped with air conditioning and internal communication phones.

ON BOARD: A typical day on board begins with a beautiful sunrise and breakfast served generally at 07:00. Afterwards, at about 08:30, we join our English-speaking naturalist for a 3-4 hour shore excursion. (Certified by the Charles Darwin Research Station and the National Park Service, the guides aboard these boats are typically level III, meaning they have achieved the highest level of certification and experience.) We board our *zodiac*, or small motorized dinghies, and travel to a specified visitor's site for disembarkation. We may have either a dry landing on a rocky beach or special jetty, or a wet landing where wading through knee or thigh deep water is required. Once on shore our guide will explain the unique features of this location and talk about the life forms we encounter as we hike along designated trails and beaches. There is typically time for about 45 minutes of swimming or snorkeling before lunch for those that enjoy these activities.

We return to the ship for lunch at about 12:00 and an opportunity to rest as we cruise to our next visitor site. In the afternoon we again head out for a 3 hour excursion that might include snorkeling amid colorful tropical fish, swimming with sea lions or cruising in the zodiac to view marine birds and wildlife along the cliffs if there is not a designated landing site. Our guides will discuss the next day's activities and special features of the observation sites we visit before we enjoy a delicious dinner featuring Ecuadorian as well as International specialties, which is served on board at about 19:30. The ship guarantees all its departures without a minimum of passengers and a maximum of 48. SWA will operate this program for a minimum of 2 passengers. There will be other passengers on board the ship who have booked through other tour companies and/or travel agencies. They will not participate in the full Southwind program that includes Guayaquil and the other mainland services and does not count toward group size for land cost pricing.

FAMILY ADVENTURES: A visit to the enchanted isles of Galápagos makes an ideal family vacation. Adults and children alike love the contact with wildlife and water activities. Children age 4-11 are welcome aboard and qualify for the discounts indicated on page 5. Ask for the designated Family Departures (Mar-Apr, Jun-Aug & Dec).

Ecuador & Peru: Galápagos and Machu Picchu

PRIVATE GROUPS: Special charters of the Eclipse (or any of our other vessels) are available for private parties. We suggest making charter arrangements 1.5-2 years in advance and would be happy to provide you with prices and more information.

WEATHER: The Galápagos Islands have a surprisingly cool, sub-tropical climate. Weather is regulated by the cold Humboldt Current (flows north-westward along western coast of South America and out to the islands) during the dry season and the warm waters from the Panama Basin during the wet season. The islands only receive an average of 10" of rain per year so it is never "rainy". Temperatures vary according to the strength of the trade winds.

December – June: Cooling currents subside and temps rise. Many consider this the hot/wetter season. Daytime highs are upper 80's-low 90's and 70's at night. The water temp is at its warmest (ave 72-76°F). Feb-Apr have the highest precipitation levels (1-2"/month), rest of year is less than 1"/month.

July – November: The trade winds pick up and the climate becomes cool & breezy. Many consider this the cool/drier season. Daytime air temp ave is 73°F and 62°F at night. The ave water temp is 68°F. The sea can be a bit choppy during these months and the sky can be misty, a phenomenon locally called "garua."

TEMPERATURES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
MAX AIR TEMP	84	86	88	86	82	78	76	74	76	77	78	80
MIN AIR TEMP	70	74	74	72	72	68	66	64	62	64	66	68
AVE SEA TEMP	74	76	76	76	74	74	72	66	68	70	72	74
AVE RAINFALL	1	1	2	1.5	0.75	0.25	0.5	0.25	0.5	0.25	0.5	0.5

Temperatures are given in degrees Fahrenheit and rainfall amounts are in inches.

Peru: The second half of the trip is in mountainous regions where weather conditions change suddenly. The best policy for enjoying such capricious weather is to be prepared for all possibilities ranging from intense sunshine to rain, cold, and/or wind. Generally the Andean climate during the months of April-November is clear, dry and cool, but as this program includes time in the cloud forests on the eastern slopes of the Andes, rain should be expected anytime. Brief hail, sleet or snow storms might also occur at the highest elevations anytime. Andean nights are cold, while the days are pleasant and springlike. **Cusco** has daytime highs in the mid-70's and nighttime lows in the upper 30's. Both daytime and nighttime temperatures in the Sacred Valley are about 10-15° warmer. The Cusco region gets more precipitation (averaging 4-6 inches/month) during the wet season, December-March, when high temperatures average between the mid-60's & 70 degrees during the day and mid-40s at night. The likelihood of rain at Machu Picchu is high. Expect showers, overcast days or mist on most departures. The daytime temperatures in the Lost City are hot (78-85°F), with mild nights (lows around 45-50°F). The sun is quite intense at these elevations, (and in the Galápagos), so a good sun hat along with sunscreen is needed to prevent severe sunburns. Insect repellents such as Skintastic or Skin-so-Soft or long pants are a wise choice to guard against the no-see-ums at Machu Picchu.

ESTIMATED AIRFARE: The Land Cost for this trip DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY FLIGHTS. Round-trip airfare for US gateway-Guayaquil and Lima-US gateway is about \$800-\$1,100. In-country flight estimates are \$500 for Guayaquil-Galápagos-Guayaquil, and \$750 for Guayaquil-Lima-Cusco-Lima. All fares are per person estimates. International flights into Guayaquil and out of Lima are currently serviced by American Airlines (Miami or JFK) or LAN (JFK).

Note: We recommended you **DO NOT** purchase any airline tickets until your trip has been confirmed.

HOW TO SIGN UP: Submit Southwind's [Trip Reservation Form](#) along with a \$1,500 per person per trip deposit by credit card via our secure [Online Payment Form](#). If you prefer, you can also call us at 1-800-377-9463 to make payment arrangements or send a check. **Your deposit will be charged and your reservation confirmed once we receive your Trip Reservation Form.** Once your trip is guaranteed to operate, you will receive comprehensive pre-departure planning documents by email.

Land Balance: Final payment is due at 90 days by Visa, Mastercard, Discover, American Express or check. You will receive a trip invoice indicating your balance due. Provided services and space are available, reservations can be accepted up to 30 days before departure.

Ecuador & Peru: Galápagos and Machu Picchu

Galápagos vessels are relatively small compared to other cruises, so they typically sell out several months in advance. Early booking is required for all departures. Galápagos trips do not qualify for any Southwind discounts except the Low Season and Children Discounts mentioned under the Land Cost section. Cancellation Fees and other policies are outlined under the [Terms & Conditions](#) on Southwind's website.

16.Gmp.Eclipse/Version:Sep15

PO Box 621057 Littleton, CO 80162 • Tel: (303) 972-0701 or (800) 377-9463 • Fax: (303) 972-0708
info@southwindadventures.com • www.southwindadventures.com