Quito – 3 nights Cuenca – 2 nights Guayaquil – 1 night Puerto Ayora (Santa Cruz Isl) – 4 nights





Day 1: Arrival in Quito

Day 2: Mindo Cloud Forest (private group)

Day 3: Otavalo Market - Cuicocha Lagoon (private group)

Day 4-5: Arrival to **Cuenca - City Tour** UNESCO World Heritage (private group)

Day 6: From the **Highlands to the Coast**: Cajas National Park to Guayaquil (private group)



Day 7: Welcome to Puerto Ayora, **Santa Cruz Island**: Visit Highlands & Charles Darwin Research Station In Style (private group)

Day 8: **Reforestation Program** in Galapagos Islands : Rancho Primicias (private group)

Rancho Primicias in Santa Cruz, Galápagos, is a critical initiative to **combat invasive species** and restore the natural habitat of one of the archipelago's most iconic species: the **Galápagos giant tortoises.**

Over the years, the spread of invasive plants and animals has threatened the delicate ecosystem of the islands, disrupting the natural balance and **endangering native species**.

Galapagos Reforestation Project

Bring gardening gloves







PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Reforestation Project at Rancho Primicias in Santa Cruz, Galápagos, is a critical initiative to combat invasive species and restore the natural habitat of one of the archipelago's most iconic species: the Galápagos giant tortoises. Over the years, the spread of invasive plants and animals has threatened the delicate ecosystem of the islands, disrupting the natural balance and endangering native species.

WHAT RANCHO PRIMICIAS DOES?



Rancho Primicias, located in the highlands of Santa Druz, has taken a leading role in reforesting areas that have been overrun by invasive species. By removing harmful plants and replacing them with native and endemic flora, the project seeks to regenerate the ecosystem, ensuring that the giant tortoises have a safe and thriving environment to live and reproduce.

WHY CHOOSE THE REFORESTATION PROJECT IN RANCHO PRIMICIAS?

The reforestation efforts not only help maintain the biodiversity of the Galapagos but also directly support the conservation of the tortoises. These gentle giants, which can live for over 100 years, rely on specific plants for food and shelter. Restoring their natural habitat is crucial to the species' survival, especially as they face increasing pressures from human activity and environmental chances.



HOW MUCH THIS PROJECT COST?

 FOR \$36 PER PERSON, PARTICIPANTS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH THE TREES TO BE PLANTED, ALL NECESSARY TOOLS, GUIDANCE FROM TRAINED PERSONNEL THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS, AND A DELICIOUS LUNCH.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BIRNG ?

 PARTICIPANTS ARE REQUESTED TO BRING THEIR OWIN GARDENING GLOVES TO ENSURE THEY CAN COMFORTABLY AND SAFELY ENGAGE IN THE WORK.
THROUGH THIS IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE, YOU CAN DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTE TO RESTORING THE LAND AND PROTECTING THE FUTURE OF THESE ICONIC CREATURES.





Day 9: Kayaking at Tortuga Bay at Santa Cruz

Day 10: Experience the Pristine Beauty of Galápagos Islands: **Discovering an Uninhabited Island** (snorkeling if you like) Santa Fé, South Plaza, Bartolomé, or North Seymour, **depending** on the permit granted by the National Park authorities for that daily activity.

Day 11: Transfer to Baltra Island for return flight to Quito

\$3,349/pp. based on 20 people

11 Days 8 Breakfasts plus 5 Lunches

Transportation

Private transfer from airport to Quito hotel

Private English Speaking Driver and Guide

Flight: Quito to Cuenca ~ 50 Minutes

Private coach between Cuenca and Guayaquil

Flight: Guayaquil to Galapagos

Flight: Galapagos to Quito

Accommodations

3 nights stay at Dann Carlton Quito (Quito)

2 nights stay at Hotel Oro Verde Cuenca (Cuenca)

1 night stay at Wyndham Guayaquil, Puerto Santa Ana (Guayaquil)

4 nights stay at Villa Laguna (Puerto Ayora)

Contact Lenet Compton: lenetcompton@gmail.com

Anyone interested in travel insurance can contact Mike Philson for quote: World Travel Bucket List <u>www.worldtravelbucketlist.com</u> 785-477-1559

Not included:

• International airfare

Exact # of people will influence overall price

• Galapagos US \$ 20 TCT card

Nonrefundable deposit \$1,006.50/pp. due Jan. 24, 2025

 US\$ 200 per person in cash Galapagos National Park entry fee

• Wetsuits/if you want one