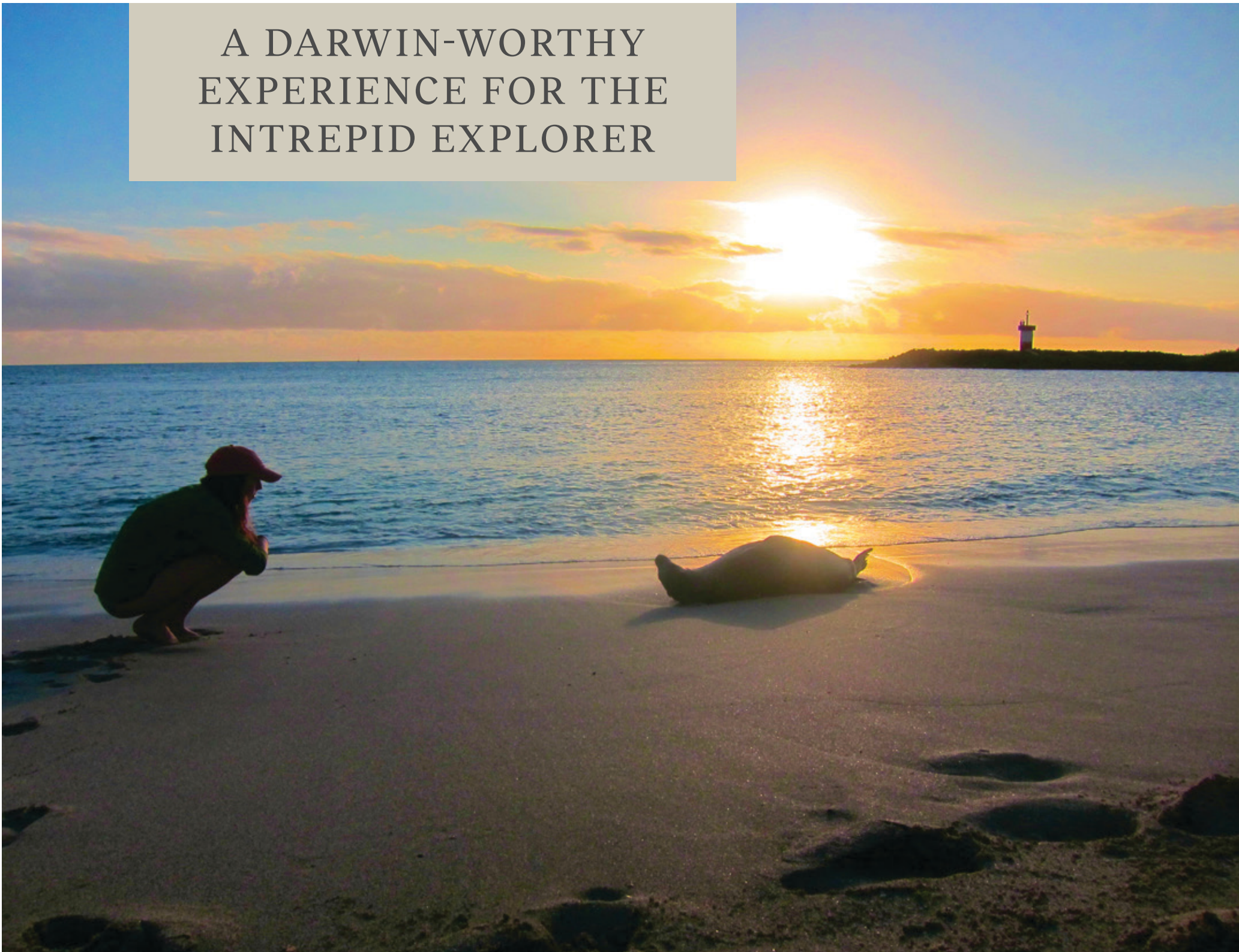


ECUADOR + GALAPAGOS



moondance
ADVENTURES

A DARWIN-WORTHY
EXPERIENCE FOR THE
INTREPID EXPLORER





TRIP OVERVIEW

Right on the Equator, Ecuador sits, holding court as a cultural mecca and natural wonder. Featuring lush jungles, tropical waters, huge mountains and abundant wildlife, this paradise also hosts some of the most vibrant history and civilization on the planet. Right off its rugged coastline sits the ecological wonders of the Galapagos Islands, a place more unique in its biodiversity than anywhere else in the world. This trip offers an exploration of both Ecuador and Galapagos, featuring a white water expedition, cultural immersion, service opportunities, snorkeling, and world famous wildlife exploration. For those with a thirst for adventure, travel, and a penchant for deep connection, this trip delivers.



EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Ride through Cotopaxi National Park on horseback

Whitewater raft through the jungle on the giant waves of the Jatunyacu River

Visit the Shandia Village and earn community service hours

Snorkel among sea lions and explore the exotic wildlife and ecosystems of the Galapagos Islands

DAY 1

Land in Quito and orient yourself to Ecuador. At 9,350 feet, Quito sits in the beautiful Andes mountain range. You and your team will spend your first night in this vibrant city.

DAY 2

Explore local markets and cap off the evening with a salsa dancing cultural immersion class.

DAY 3

Today you'll get to explore the lush landscapes of Ecuador from the back of horse. Take a ride through the mountains and orient yourself to high altitude life. Travel south to the small town of Baños, known as a mystical destination at the foot of the Tungurahua volcano. Spend the night in Baños.

DAY 4

Explore the surrounding Quito area by enjoying the local Papallacta hot springs and experiencing the largest hummingbird sanctuary in the world.

**Itinerary and order of activities subject to variation.*





DAY 5

Spend the afternoon at the Parque Aventura, Ecuador's very own adventure park. Cap the day off with some healthy competition as you and your group go head to head in a soccer tournament.

DAY 6-9

The next few days are going to be action packed! Fly to Santa Cruz and spend the days exploring the Highlands area. Snorkel the famous Concha de Perla, learn from the tortoise breeding center, try your hand at beach volleyball, hike through majestic volcanic geology, surf and visit Tortuga Bay - all in one region.

DAY 10-12

Visit Isla Lobos and Loberia for world class snorkeling.

Observe hundreds of species of fish in the crystal clear turquoise waters. You'll also get the opportunity to assist in an ecological conservation project. Then you'll get to enjoy a fresh lunch at the farm after your hard work and experience a local cooking class!



DAY 13-14

Travel from the Galapagos Islands back to Quito where you will celebrate all you've experienced with your group at a final banquet. Say goodbye to your new friends family, and to the incredible places you've come to know in Ecuador and the Galapagos as you fly with your group back to the United States.

**Itinerary and order of activities subject to variation.*



“Moondance is how I met some of the most impactful and caring people who I know I will keep in touch with. It also allowed me to experience things that I never imagined I would.”

» CALLIE OXFORD, RALEIGH, NC





TRIP DETAILS

LENGTH	14 Days
GRADE FOR CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR	9th-10th
CHALLENGE LEVEL	Moderate
BEGINS/ENDS	Quito, Ecuador (UIO) <i>Suggested flight details provided upon acceptance</i>
GROUP SIZE	13 Students
AVERAGE AIRFARE FROM EAST COAST	\$900
*Internal airfare included	

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Two dynamic trip leaders
- Professionally outfitted activities
 - White water rafting
 - Boat tour + snorkeling
 - Community service
- Accommodations
 - Hotels/ Hostels
- Private ground transportation
- Internal flight to/from Galapagos Islands
- All meals
- Photos taken during your trip

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Airfare to and from Quito, Ecuador (UIO)
- Baggage fees
- Personal clothing + equipment
 - Full clothing + equipment list provided upon acceptance
- Personal spending money (\$150 recommended)
- Trip Insurance (Highly recommended)

CONTACT

ADMISSIONS

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EXPERIENCE MOONDANCE IN 2023

