

2026  
 ENCHANTED  
 ECUADOR &  
 GALAPAGOS  
 ISLAND  
 WITH  
 TIM TAGGART  
 AUG 7-18, 2026



Come join Tim Taggart on an unforgettable journey to Ecuador's most extraordinary destinations—Quito and the Galápagos Islands. With decades of experience leading groups and a deep passion for discovery, Tim brings an infectious energy and thoughtful expertise to every adventure. Your journey begins in Quito, a city where colonial charm meets Andean majesty. Wander through its vibrant plazas, marvel at gold-leafed cathedrals, and stand on the equator—where the hemispheres meet in one magical moment. Then, embark on an awe-inspiring voyage to the legendary Galápagos Islands, a living museum of evolution. Swim with sea lions, walk among ancient tortoises, and witness wildlife found nowhere else on Earth—all in the pristine beauty of this ecological wonder. Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime expedition, where each day is filled with wonder, discovery, and memories that will last forever.

**Date**

08-07 - Fri  
 08-08 - Sat  
 08-09 - Sun  
 08-10 - Mon  
 08-11 - Tue  
 08-12 - Wed  
 08-13 - Thu  
 08-14 - Fri  
 08-15 - Sat  
 08-16 - Sun  
 08-17 - Mon  
 08-18 - Tue

**Daily Schedule**

U.S.A. to Quito, Ecuador  
 Quito - Intiñan - Middle of The World Complex  
 Quito to Mindo (Cloudforest)  
 Mindo to Quito  
 Full day Otavalo Tour  
 Quito to Galapagos Islands  
 Galapagos Islands - Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island) - Punta Espinosa (Fernandina Island)  
 Galapagos Islands - Urbina Bay (Isabela Island) - Tagus Cove (Isabela Island)  
 Galapagos Islands - Egas Port (Santiago Island) - Sullivan Bay (Santiago Island)  
 Galapagos Islands - Quito  
 Colonial Quito  
 Quito to the United States

Price from **\$5,166**  
 per person/double occupancy  
 12 Days/11 Nights)

**MORRIS MURDOCK**  
 ESCORTED TOURS  
 Book online at [www.mmetours.com](http://www.mmetours.com)

Call Morris Columbus Travel:  
**(800) 888-6699**  
 or Morris Murdock Escorted Tours:  
**(800) 809-9910**



### Your Tour Host:



**Tim Taggart** has been a pioneer in LDS travel pretty much from the beginning of the industry, traveling to the lands of the scriptures in the Middle East and Europe the first time in 1981 and conducting tours since 1983. Tim has traveled to nearly every area of the world, professionally and as a tour guide. Needless to say he has a great love for travel, exploring the various regions of the world, learning of their cultures and photo journaling his experiences! His love of teaching has shown while he has conducted dozens of tours to Church History, Holy Land and Book of Mormon sites. He and his wife Gloria are the parents of two children and three grandchildren.

### Price includes:

- 1 tour-bus experience for the land tour
- 6 Nights Hotel Accommodations in First Class Hotels + Late check-out on August 17th
- Charter: 5 Days/4 Nights Galapagos Cruise (Transfers, 2 daily excursions to the islands, briefings, lectures, snorkeling)
  - Welcome & farewell cocktails, free coffee/tea at 24-hour station
  - Two daily excursions to the islands with naturalist guides
  - Transfers and dinghy rides to/from ports
  - Briefings, lectures, and activities on board
- Local Hotel Taxes
- Experienced Morris Murdock Group Tour Director
- English Speaking local guides
- Sightseeing as outlined on the itinerary
- Entrance fees to all sites
- Round trip transfers hotels to airport
- Tips for guides and drivers during Land Tour
- Digital Travel App
- Most meals as indicated on the itinerary (Daily breakfast)

### Price does not include:

- International flights from Salt Lake City/Quito/Salt Lake City: TBD
- Flights from Quito/Galapagos/Quito: \$ 600.00 pp
- Galapagos National Park Fee: \$ 200.00 pp
- Airport control Card: \$ 20.00 pp
- Airport transfers for those not arriving with the group
- Meals not included on tour
- Additional hotel nights or sightseeing tours not included
- Drinks on cruise: alcoholic or soft drinks
- Wetsuit rental: \$ 25.00 per person for entire cruise
- Kayak rental: \$ 25.00 per person/per use
- Tips for cruise staff and guides
- Internet plans available
- Travel Insurance
- Items of a personal nature (room service, phone calls, internet, etc.)

### Optional Pricing:

- Land tour + Galapagos Cruise -- Junior Cabin with Large window (1 DBL bed): \$ 5,566.00 per person (6 available)
- Land tour + Galapagos Cruise -- Junior Cabin with Large window (2 Twin beds): \$ 5,566.00 per person (1 available)
- Land tour + Galapagos Cruise -- Standard Plus Cabin with porthole (1 DBL bed): \$ 5,166 per person (2 available)
- Land tour + Galapagos Cruise -- Standard Plus Cabin with porthole (2 Twin beds): \$ 5,166.00 per person (1 available)

### Payment information:

- \$1,000 non refundable per person deposit due at the time of booking
- Final payment is due May 4, 2026
- \$100.00 Cash discount on final payment

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### Day 1: Friday, August 7, 2026

*U.S.A. to Quito, Ecuador*

We will depart Salt Lake City in the morning with a late evening arrival in Lima, Peru. Upon arrival, reception at the airport and transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Quito. **Meals: In-flight**

### Day 2: Saturday, August 8, 2026

*Quito - Intiñan - Middle of The World Complex*

Enjoy one of the most breathtaking views from one of the highest point in Quito; the Pichincha Volcano. After a typical lunch, we head approximately 11 miles (18 Km.) north of the city to arrive at the Middle of the World Complex which holds the Equator Monument situated at 0°0'0" latitude and in it, a Museum of Ethnicity of the peoples in Ecuador. In the eighteenth century, the French Geodesic Expedition erected one of three pyramids, as landmarks, to commemorate their calculation of the middle of the Earth. The complex replicates the Spanish colonial architecture with a typical central plaza, a church, and bull-fighting ring. We will then visit "Teleférico" cable car, and enjoy unsurpassable views of the city, its valleys, mountains and snow-capped peaks: ideal for photo opportunities. Welcome dinner. Overnight in Quito. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

### Day 3: Sunday, August 9, 2026

*Quito to Mindo (Cloudforest)*

Our journey begins early in the morning, and it will allow us to observe part of the great biodiversity treasure located only 52 miles northwest of Quito. We will come across in front of the famous complex "Ciudad Mitad del Mundo" well known as the Middle of the World. On the road, we will have the opportunity to see different landscapes with a variety of vegetation and animal species. Our first stop is in Alambi Reserve, a beautiful, pristine, and peaceful place, home to different types of birds, butterflies, and flowers such as orchids and bromeliads. Alambi describes itself as: "The forest and its conservation is the heart of what's Alambi are all about, through ecotourism we guarantee that we will preserve this beautiful cloud forest in Ecuador's north-west for generations to come." Our trip continues in Mindo, a famous hotspot for birdwatchers and adventurers. This small town is situated in the "Andes Chocó" corridor which is an extensive area known for its biodiversity. Once in town, we will visit a 71.00 farm with butterflies to learn more about their life cycle and interesting facts about their feeding and natural contribution. Lunchtime will be followed with free-time to explore Mindo's natural beauty. Overnight in Mindo.

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**



#### Day 4: Monday, August 10, 2026

##### *Mindo to Quito*

Free morning to enjoy the surrounding areas on your own. After lunch, transfer back to Quito. Evening at leisure. Overnight in Quito. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

#### Day 5: Tuesday, August 11, 2026

##### *Full day Otavalo Tour*

Departing from Quito to the north, we will ride across the colorful valleys of Guayllabamba and Cayambe. A ride through the breathtaking Andean setting offers great photo opportunities and after two hours of traveling through the riveting countryside, we will arrive at the province of Imbabura. Walkthrough the famed craft market of Otavalo, which is the most famous and picturesque in South America. For visitors, the market offers the possibility of approaching Ecuadorians at a more intimate level as you negotiate prices of a variety of woven goods, bags, hats, flutes or simply appreciate the skillful and generous people responsible for the elegance and beauty of the clothing and handicrafts. The tour also offers a range of alternatives to visiting nearby towns such as Peguche with traditional looms and, Andean wind instruments, workshop and, Cotacachi featuring leatherwork including bags, jackets, hats, belts and, more. Overnight by the Quito airport.

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

#### Day 6: Wednesday, August 12, 2026

##### *Quito to Galapagos Islands*

Early morning flight from Quito to Galapagos Islands with a stop in Guayaquil. Upon arrival in Galapagos, we will be greeted at the airport by our knowledgeable guides who will escort us on a ten minute ride bus ride to the pier where we will board our cruise.

PM: Black Turtle Cove (Santa Cruz Island) - Here we will find four species of mangrove in the extensive tidal lagoon system that stretches for almost a mile inland. During our panga ride through the labyrinth we will spot many turtles, herons of several species, sharks and rays. The experience is otherworldly and seems to transport us bac to the beginning of time. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

#### Day 7: Thursday, August 13, 2026

##### *Galapagos Islands - Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island) - Punta Espinosa (Fernandina Island)*

AM: Punta Vicente - Spectacular site, surrounded by immense cliffs of an eroded volcano. Studded with resting seabirds like brown noddies and Nazca boobies. Superb snorkeling with unique fish species. Swim with penguins and green turtles.

PM: Punta Espinosa - Pristine Fernandina, the marine iguana capital. Its desolate volcanic backdrop hosts a massive concentration of these enigmatic reptiles. Surprisingly, Galapagos penguins share the same shoreline. Snorkeling offers and exciting opportunity to witness marine iguanas feeding underwater, alongside penguins, turtles, and unique flightless cormorants. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**





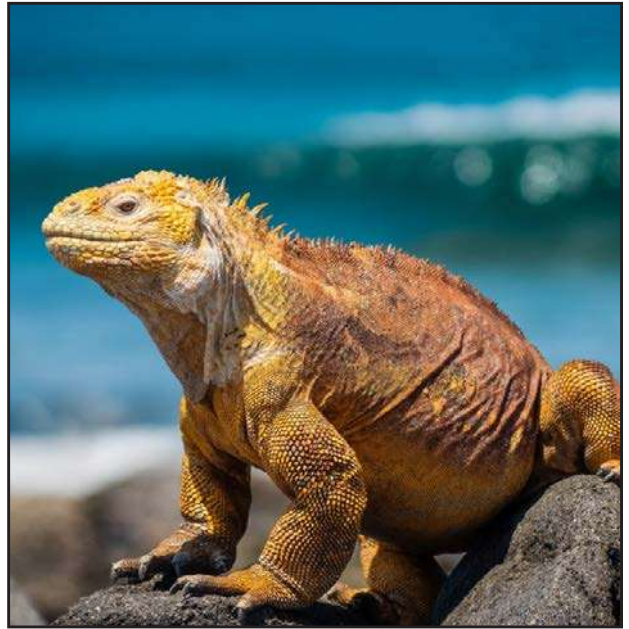
### **Day 8: Friday, August 14, 2026**

*Galapagos Islands - Urbina Bay (Isabela Island) - Tagus Cove (Isabela Island)*

AM: Urbina Bay - At the far end of a long level hike, we arrive at a strange phenomenon where large blocks of coral lie completely exposed after a dramatic geological uplift in 1954. Located at the western base of Alcedo Volcano, we hope to run into a few impressive land iguanas and some volcanoes endemic to Galapagos giant tortoises during the wet season.

PM: Tagus Cove - A historic pirate hideout and anchorage. Visited by Charles Darwin and the HMS Beagle in 1835. Hike past Darwin Lake and stunning volcanic landscape, revealing Isabela island's dramatic northern volcanoes. Snorkel along a submerged wall with turtles, fish, penguins, and flightless cormorants. Enjoy a panga ride or kayak for added excitement!

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**



### **Day 9: Saturday, August 15, 2026**

*Galapagos Islands - Egas Port (Santiago Island) - Sullivan Bay (Santiago Island)*

AM: Egas Port - The black volcanic sand sets this landing apart from most, it's best known for the dramatic shoreline where we meet a host of species that chose to live between land and sea. Among these are the endemic Galapagos fur seals, which maintain a small colony at the end of our walk.

PM: Sullivan Bay - has an extensive features relative to young pa-hoe-hoe lava flows formed during the last quarter of the 19th century. In the middle of the lava flow, older reddish-yellow-colored tuff cones appear. Mollugo plants with their yellow-to-orange whorled leaves usually grow out of the fissures. Walking on solidified lava gives the impression of being on another planet. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

### **Day 10: Sunday, August 16, 2026**

*Galapagos Islands - Quito*

AM: Highlands Tortoise Reserve (Santa Cruz Island) - In the central highlands of Santa Cruz Island, we have our best opportunity to interact at close quarters with totally wild, Galapagos giant tortoises. A short walk among these huge, 600lb, reptiles will also offer the chance for more highland species, especially species of the famed finches.

Transfer to the Baltra airport for our flight back to Quito. Upon arrival at the airport, transfer to the hotel. Overnight in Quito. **Meals: Breakfast**

### **Day 11: Monday, August 17, 2026**

*Colonial Quito*

Quito was the first UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage site declared in 1978. It displays the largest colonial town of the Americas with an eclectic architecture ranging from the modern quarters to varied colonial facades on churches and private residences decorated and balconies built along the last five centuries. See the gothic Basilica del Voto Nacional and the Independence Square flanked by the Presidential and the Archbishop's palaces dated back to XVII and XIX centuries. Share the spirit of Quito by walking to the Metropolitan Cathedral with excellent samples of the Spanish Renaissance. Visit the so-called street of the Seven Crosses and pass by the Jesuit convent, El Sagrario church with a unique orthodox cross lay outdated back to the seventeenth century and the jewel of the crown. Visit the

Jesuit temple of the baroque art in the Americas La Compañía de Jesús, and the jewel of the crown of the colonial architecture in Quito, continue to the Plaza of San Francisco which is a temple and convent, displaying a rich sample of artistic and cultural heritage.

Late check-out from hotel for an evening departure to the Quito international airport. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

**Day 12: Tuesday, August 18, 2026**

*Quito to the United States*

Today we will arrive in our home cities with memories to last a lifetime.

**A CASH DISCOUNT of \$100.00 applies for all payments made by check or ACH AFTER deposit.**

Introductory Terms and Conditions

(Full Terms & Conditions available on our website and included with each booking)

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