



of nights

| by air | by cruise |
|--------|-----------|
| 7 | 7 |

Flight from (& return to)
Guayaquil, Ecuador
(see mainland map)

Puerto Egas

Espumilla Beach

Bartolome Island

Santiago Island

Baltra

Santa Cruz Island

San Cristobal

Floreana

Española

Rancho El Manzanillo

Sombrero Chino

Isabela Island

Punta Moreno

Urbina Bay

Rabida Island

Punta Mangla

Fernandina Island

Punta Espinoza

Punta Vicente Roca

Tagus Cove

ITINERARY

Day 1: Thursday, January 18

Transportation is provided to Seattle and we stay at the Embassy Suites near the airport. Meet your fellow travellers during a reception with cocktails, beer, and wine.

Accommodation: Embassy Suites Sea-Tac

Day 2: Friday, January 19

Our Delta flight to Quito, Ecuador, leaves in the morning and there is a connection stop in Atlanta. Flight schedules should be final in December 2023. There is a two-hour time change from Seattle to Quito. **Welcome to Ecuador!** Our coach and local guide are waiting and it is an hour's drive to our hotel where we stay two nights.

Accommodation: Hilton Colon Quito

Day 3: Saturday, January 20

Quito has a picturesque location in the foothills of the Andes. Although it is just south of the Equator, the city has a pleasant, moderate climate due to its altitude of 2,850 metres. Quito is the oldest South American capital, settled in the first millennium, annexed by the Incas in 1487, captured by the Spanish in 1534, and liberated in 1822. It retains much of its unique Spanish Baroque architecture. The first stop on our local tour is Guapulo to admire the view of the city perched on the flanks of the Pichincha Volcano with two other volcanoes, Cayambe and Puntas, in the distance. The tour of colonial Quito highlights the city's historical and cultural background. We visit Independence Square, the narrow streets of La Ronda, the dazzling gold-leafed **La Compañía Church** and bustling San Francisco Plaza. We have a unique experience at the **Equator Line Monument**, standing with one foot in the Northern Hemisphere and one in the Southern. The

Ethnographical Museum displays the history of the Indian cultures of Ecuador.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Hilton Colon Quito

Day 4: Sunday, January 21

We drive north from Quito through mountains and valleys dotted with typical Andean Villages. We have the opportunity to taste the delicious biscuits "bizcochos", a traditional recipe of Ecuadorian highlands. We pause at San Pablo Lake, a place that inspires a romantic atmosphere. Our destination is the **El Angel Ecological Reserve** where we stay two nights at Polylephis Lodge, a magical place in the forest.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Polylepis Lodge

Day 5: Monday, January 22

Polylephis Lodge offers several options for activities today. Take a walk into the Ecological Reserve to observe the endemic flora and fauna of the area. Enjoy a relaxing spa treatment. In the evening, a forest walk features mysticism and legends accompanied by native guides.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Polylepis Lodge

Day 6: Tuesday, January 23

The morning is free time at the Lodge. It offers three museums to visit – Pastos Archeological Museum, Teska-Brito Biology Museum, and El Angel Ecological Reserve Living Natural Museum. We leave after lunch and drive to Otavalo. We leave after lunch and drive to Otavalo.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Pinsaqui Hotel



Day 7: Wednesday, January 24

The **Otavalo Market** is one of the most famous in South America, known for its artisans and textiles. A vast array of handicrafts can be purchased including tapestries made on the Spanish weaving loom and indigenous back strap loom. We also visit the residents of Peguche who are known for their weaving and farming skills, and for playing Andean music, and we see how they create the traditional Andean instruments. Afterwards, we head back into Quito.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Hilton Colon Quito



Day 8: Thursday, January 25

We take a short flight from Quito over the eastern Andes to Puerto Francisco de Orellana "El Coca". We board a comfortable enclosed motor boat for a two-hour excursion along the **Napo River**, one of the tributaries to the Amazon. Our destination is the remote **La Selva Nature Lodge**, a research facility accessible only by boat. After an orientation and some rest time, the guides lead a walk on the Matapalo Charapa Trail, named for the Strangler fig, and you can see mahogany trees over 400 years old. After dark, take a canoe ride across Garzacocho Lagoon, a great place to search for caimans, bats, owls, and night mammals with the help of a spotlight used by the guides. The stargazing is usually fabulous since there are no city lights nearby.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: La Selva Nature Lodge

Day 9: Friday, January 26

A 15-minute walk leads to a 40-metre tall observation tower. Your naturalist and native guides, with the help of a sighting scope, show you

colourful birds enjoying the canopy and sometimes even primates. After another 30-minute walk, we reach Mandi Cocha, a small lake which is home to the endangered giant otter. This afternoon, we visit Garza Cocha Lake where we may spot squirrel monkeys, capuchin monkeys, howler monkeys, and the hoatzin, a large unique bird found only in pristine Amazon environments. During tonight's walk, experience the jungle coming alive after dark with amphibians, insects, reptiles, birds, and nocturnal mammals.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: La Selva Nature Lodge



Day 10: Saturday, January 27

We board a motor boat for a trip on the Napo River to the **clay lick**, a fascinating display of the wild world. Hundreds of parrots and parakeets gather here to eat the mineral rich soil, an important part of their diet. At the indigenous community of Pilchi, we learn about life among the first nations of the Amazon, dating back thousands of years – how they dress, what they eat, how they cook, and the many ways they use what the forest provides in their daily lives. Be brave and try some of the traditional drinks and food! They love to share their ancestral knowledge and spread awareness about their culture. During a walk along the Coto Trail, our guide explains some of the medicinal plants that have been used for thousands of years.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: La Selva Nature Lodge



Parrots at the clay lick

Day 11: Sunday, January 28

We ride a boat up the Napo River to Coca, then fly to Quito for an overnight stay.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Hilton Colon Quito

Day 12: Monday, January 29

We leave Quito, heading south through the amazing "Avenue of the Volcanoes." **Cotopaxi Volcano** is an Ecuador landmark at 5,897 metres and the highest active volcano in the world. Since 1738, Cotopaxi has erupted 87 times and the most recent eruption has been ongoing since October 2022. During a walk in the national park, we enjoy lush endemic flora and fauna such as the Chuquiragua (mountaineer's flower), wild horses, deer, and llamas. We also visit Limpiopungo Lake, located near Rumiñahui Volcano.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Los Mortinos Hotel Cotopaxi

Day 13: Tuesday, January 30

Today is a spectacular drive from Cotopaxi to Quilatoa, called Pujilí's Way, highlighted by the **Quilotoa Crater**. The volcano erupted in the 13th century and a brilliant green-blue-turquoise coloured lake formed inside the crater. It is about 250 metres deep and the caldera is 3 km across with its highest point at 3,914 metres. Depending on your energy level and acclimatizing, you can walk around the rim or part of it, or hike down 280 metres to the lakeshore (horses may be available). Most of the people in this region are Indigenous and ancient customs are still observed. Painting is one of those ancient traditions and we get a glimpse into this during a workshop visit in Tigua. We stay overnight in Riobamba.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Hacienda Abraspungo



Quilotoa Crater

Day 14: Wednesday, January 31

Our first stop is Guamote, a little mountain village where Kichwa is still the main language spoken. We visit a traditional market selling large and small animals. Next is the incredible **Ingapirca Fortress**, built about 500 years ago by two powerful civilizations, the Incas and Cañari, who learned to live together in peace. The stones that make up the walls are so closely fitted that a paper cannot be inserted. These ruins are the most important in Ecuador. Temple of the Sun dominates the site which could have been a fortress, an observatory, or a temple. We continue to Cuenca for the overnight stay.

Note: If it is operating in 2024, we will ride Ecuador's renowned "Devil's Nose" train. It is a four-hour round trip ride, highlighted by the airy crossing of the rocky promontory, Nariz del Diablo, where the train shunts back and forth along switchbacks to descend into the valley.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Los Balcones Hotel



Cuenca

Day 15: Thursday, February 1

Cuenca is Ecuador's third largest city with a population of about 400,000. It is regarded as the

most European city in Ecuador due to its 16th and 17th century era Spanish colonial architecture. Its red tiled roofs, cobblestone streets, flowery plazas, and museums make it very special and it is recognized as a World Cultural Heritage Site. We enjoy a driving and walking tour of romantic chapels and fascinating architecture including the Museum of Modern Art, New Cathedral, the flower market, and Panama hat factory. Next, we visit **Cajas National Park**, an area of lakes, rugged peaks, and wetlands high in the Andes. Then we drive down to sea level at **Guayaquil**, Ecuador's primary port and largest city with a population of two million. Although its roots date to the 16th century, Guayaquil is a modern city with a distinct contrast to the historic architecture seen earlier.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Hilton Colon Guayaquil

Day 16: Friday, February 2

Our flight west to the **Galapagos Islands** takes 2½ hours. The plane lands on Baltra Island, then we take the ferry across Itabaca Channel to Santa Cruz Island. As we drive up into the highlands, we see many life zones of the Galapagos Islands. Whether it's the bright red feathers of a vermilion flycatcher or a Darwin's Finch, almost every bird present in the islands can be found here. Lunch is at Rancho Manzanillo which is a preserve for the wild Galapagos Tortoise and there should be excellent viewing opportunities. In the village of Puerto Ayora, we board the *Seaman Journey* and settle into ship life for the next week of our private charter cruise.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Seaman Journey*

Day 17: Saturday, February 3

Overnight, we cruise west to Isabela Island and around its south coast to reach **Fernandina Island**. Our first stop this morning is Punta Mangle, a superior snorkelling site and a beautiful location for riding in a zodiac through a grove of mangrove trees. We are likely to see sea lions, tortoises, pelicans, and rays. Next, we cross to Punta Moreno on **Isabela Island** between the volcanos Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul. The trail runs along a pahohoe lava flow into a complex of coastal lagoons where bird watching is superb.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Seaman Journey*

Day 18: Sunday, February 4

Urbina Bay is located at the base of Alcedo Volcano on the west coast of Isabela. This area experienced a major uplift in 1954 which caused the land to rise over 5 metres. The coast expanded 1 km out, leaving marine life stranded on the new shore. Our morning expedition ashore is along a 3 km trail across sand, pumice, lava, coral, and vegetation where we can observe iguana burrows, red and blue lobster, Darwin's finches, giant land iguanas, and even wild Galapagos tortoises. During lunch, the ship moves to Tagus Cove, located west of **Darwin Volcano** on Isabela Island. This was a favourite spot for pirates and whalers in the 1800s, and they started the tradition of inscribing the names of their boats in a small cave which we can see today. The Tagus name originated from a British warship whose crew crossed Isabela in 1814 looking for tortoises for food. The volcanic rocks are interesting here, especially the little balls of nearly spherical shape known as "lapilli" or petrified rain.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Seaman Journey*

Day 19: Monday, February 5

We return to Fernandina Island overnight and arrive at **Punta Espinoza** this morning. It is known for its large colonies of marine iguanas and as the habitat of unique species like the flightless cormorant, Galapagos penguin, Galapagos hawk, and Galapagos snake. This afternoon, we visit one of the most impressive sights of these enchanted islands – the soaring cliffs and lava formations of Punta Vicente Roca. This large bay has spectacular marine life, such as seahorses, sea turtles, and the fascinating Mola-mola or sunfish. On shore, we can find penguins, blue-footed boobies, terns, and sea lions. During snorkelling, we may observe sea turtles, stingrays, and puffer fishes.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Seaman Journey*

Day 20: Tuesday, February 6

Overnight, we round the north end of Isabela Island, headed east to Santiago Island. It is the fourth largest island in the Galapagos after

Isabela, Fernandina, and Santa Cruz. Santiago actually consists of two coalesced volcanoes: a typical shield volcano on the northwest end and a low, linear fissure volcano on the southeast end. We go ashore at Espumilla Beach, located on Santiago's northern coast. During the last El Niño phenomenon, one of the two lagoons here filled with sediment, causing the disappearance of a representative colony of flamingos. The main attractions are the palosanto forest and the nesting of baby turtles. This afternoon, we visit Puerto Egas, a black sand beach on the west side of Santiago. The volcanic tuff deposits have favoured the formation of this black sand.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Seaman Journey*

Day 21: Wednesday, February 7

Rábida Island is unique due to the red colour of all its rocks and sand. The volcanic material in this island is very porous and external factors as rain, salty water, and sea breeze have acted as an oxidizing agent. A short walk along a trail leads to a coastal lagoon behind the beach where we can watch birds such as finches, doves, yellow warblers, mockingbirds, and flamingos. During the afternoon, we visit **Sombrero Chino**, a tiny islet off the southeastern tip of Santiago. It is a recent volcanic cone, shaped like a Chinese hat when seen from the north. On the west, you can see lava formations, formed under the sea and raised upwards which explains the coral heads found on the lava. This is an excellent visit for interpretation of geological features such as lava tubes and lava flows. There are numerous colonies of sea lions, marine iguanas, and Galapagos penguins.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Seaman Journey*

Day 22: Thursday, February 8

We spend the morning on **Santiago Island** at Sullivan Bay, then move to Bartolome Island. From the top, we can admire a panoramic view including volcanic cones, lunar-like craters, lava fields, and the famous **Toba Pinnacle** eroded by the sea. There is very little vegetation on this island. It has two breathtaking beaches where marine turtles

live and, at the base of the pinnacle, there is a small colony of Galapagos penguins.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: *Seaman Journey*



Day 23: Friday, February 9

Our last stop is at Bachas Beach on **Santa Cruz Island**. The sand is made of decomposed coral so it is white and soft, making it a favourite nesting site for sea turtles. Nearby is a small brackish lagoon where it is possible to watch flamingos and coastal birds such as black-necked stilts and whimbrels. A historical attraction is two old barges that were abandoned during the Second World War when the USA used Baltra Island as a strategic point to protect the Panama Canal. In late morning, we say farewell to the *Seaman Journey* and go to the Baltra Island airport. Our flight to Guayaquil leaves this afternoon.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Hilton Colon Guayaquil

Day 24: Saturday, February 10

The morning is free time. You may wish to complete your shopping list of crafts or souvenirs. Mercado Artesanal, the city's largest craft market, is 1 km away and has 240 shops and booths. We fly to Quito in the afternoon and enjoy a special "Farewell to Ecuador" dinner. Our flight to Seattle on Delta Airlines leaves before midnight.

Meals included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 25: Sunday, February 11

After a connection in Atlanta, we arrive in Seattle in mid-morning. Transportation is provided to your Victoria area pickup point.

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

The Galapagos Islands are located 1,000 km west of the Ecuador mainland. They consist of 15 main islands and hundreds of tiny ones, created by volcanic activity up to four million years ago which continues periodically today. Much of the archipelago is protected by the Galapagos Islands National Park. The islands were discovered by the Spanish in 1535, then occupied by pirates and buccaneers during the 17th and 18th centuries. In 1835, Charles Darwin spent six weeks studying the islands' unique animal and bird life and published these observations in his book *The Origin of Species*.

Picture yourself walking around nests carelessly built by blue-footed boobies on the trail. Imagine feeling the cool Galapagos waters as you swim with penguins at the Equator and see playful sea lions, manta rays, and colourful fish through your snorkelling mask. Enjoy close encounters with armies of marine iguanas and hundreds of seabirds such as the waved albatross, flightless cormorants, and the magnificent frigatebird. Visit a giant tortoise. Animals do not fear humans, making it a natural paradise and haven for naturalists escaping a busy outside world. The Galapagos Islands are at the top of the list for most experienced travellers and this 7-day yacht excursion is sure to make it a lifetime memory.



Galapagos Tortoise



Blue-footed Boobie

M/C SEAMAN JOURNEY

One of the highlights of this tour is the 7 days and 7 nights cruise of the Galapagos Islands aboard the *M/C Seaman Journey*. Wells Gray Tours has chartered the vessel, thereby creating an intimate atmosphere and allowing a flexible itinerary. This first-class yacht, launched in 2007, carries only 16 people in 8 cabins. Each cabin is air conditioned, has a window, and includes a private bathroom with shower. There is lots of open deck space for guests to relax and enjoy the views of the natural wonders of the Galapagos Islands. Other amenities are a dining room, two lounges, and library. Use of snorkelling equipment and kayaks is complimentary. The *Journey* is 30 metres long and 12 metres wide, and its catamaran design ensures a smooth ride. There is a crew of nine including a cruise director and a bilingual naturalist who gives expert commentary throughout the voyage. For more pictures, deck plans and a detailed description of the ship, please refer to their website:

galapagoscatamarans.com/catamarans/seaman-journey



Dining room



Deck lounge

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Coach transportation to/from Seattle
- Flight on Delta Airlines from Seattle to Quito
- Current air transport taxes and security fees
- 16 nights of accommodation, hotel taxes and hotel service charges
- Transfer from Quito Airport to hotel
- 12 days of coach transportation in Ecuador
- Bilingual guide in Ecuador
- Driving and walking tour of Quito
- Church La Compañía
- Equator Line Monument
- Ethnographical Museum
- El Angel Ecological Reserve with guided walks
- Pastos Archeological Museum
- Teska-Brito Biology Museum
- El Angel Reserve Living Natural Museum
- Visit with residents of Peguche
- Otavalo artisan's market
- Transfer from Quito hotel to Airport and return
- Flight from Quito to Coca and return
- 2-hour boat transfer on Napo River from Coca to La Selva Nature Lodge and return
- 2-day nature program at La Selva Lodge with bird-life and wildlife viewing
- La Selva Observation Tower
- Cotopaxi Volcano National Park
- Quilotoa Crater
- Tigua workshop visit
- Ingapirca Fortress
- Locally-guided tour of Cuenca
- Cajas National Park
- Flight from Guayaquil to Baltra, Galapagos
- Transfer from Baltra Airport to cruise dock
- 7-day cruise of the Galapagos Islands on *Seaman Journey* with 7 nights in cabins
- Galapagos Islands National Park fee
- Ingala Transit Control Card fee
- Services of Galapagos Islands naturalist
- Use of snorkelling equipment and kayaks
- Flight from Baltra to Guayaquil
- Flight from Guayaquil to Quito
- Flight on Delta Airlines from Quito to Seattle
- Ecuador departure tax
- Gratuities for cruise crew, Galapagos naturalist, and Ecuador guides
- Knowledgeable Wells Gray tour director
- Luggage handling fee at hotels and airports
- **65 meals:** 22 breakfasts, 21 lunches, 22 dinners

TOUR NOTES

Currency & Expenses: The official currency in Ecuador is the US dollar and, as of April 2023, a Canadian dollar is worth about 73 cents. You should order US dollars from your bank 1-2 weeks before departure, or plan to use ATMs. Credit cards are widely accepted except in the markets where cash is used. Gratuities have been included for all group meals and for local guides, naturalists, and driver-guides.

Itinerary and Fare Changes: Due to continuing after effects of the pandemic, sometimes we are notified about changes to the itinerary prior to departure and sometimes during the tour. We do our best to substitute a similar service if something cancels, but occasionally the only alternative is to provide a refund for the missed activity. Please note that if we are forced to cancel a component of an extensive tour due to an issue beyond our control, the current penalties still apply if you choose to cancel the entire tour. Fuel surcharges by the airlines and vessel, currency exchange fluctuations, and changes to taxes or other tour costs can occur at any time, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up to departure.

Single Rooms are available only on the land portion of the tour. During the Galapagos Islands cruise, a single must share a cabin with another single of the same gender or with the female tour director. Therefore, we cannot confirm a single booking until an appropriate partner is ready to book and both agree to share a cruise cabin. Single fare quoted is based on single room on land and sharing on the ship.

Triples are not available on this tour.

Documentation: A passport is required, valid for 6 months after return date. A visa is not required for Canadians.

Food Allergies: You must notify us no later than at final payment if you have a food allergy. This tour goes to remote places where restaurants may not be able to satisfy all food allergies, and the vessel also has galley limitations. Please do not tell us about your food preferences, as restaurants ignore these requests. An allergy causes medical distress, a preference does not. For some allergies, please consider bringing your own snacks or food items so you are not dependent on what restaurants are able to serve.

Health Clinic: Visit a travel vaccination clinic two months before departure to discuss possible inoculations for this tour. Bring this itinerary and your personal vaccination record. There are currently no required inoculations, but you may want to discuss Hepatitis A/B and Yellow Fever.

Beverages: In many countries outside Canada and USA, it is not standard practice to include beverages with tour meals. On this tour, tea, coffee, or bottled water is usually included with each meal and other beverages can be purchased. A few dinners have a glass of beer or wine included.

Flight Seating: We are unable to take requests for window or aisle seating on the planes. The airline will not accept them, as group seating is assigned as a block. If this is important to you, we suggest you take the "No Flight" option with a fare reduction of \$1,800 and book your own flight Seattle to Quito return which allows seat selection.

Flight Upgrades: Please enquire about current prices for upgrades on the flights from Seattle to Quito and return. Premium economy and business class may be available.



Activity Level 3: Due to the historic nature of some cities and attractions, and walks looking for birds and animals, it will be necessary to climb stairs, walk on uneven surfaces, and walk up to 3 kilometres, plus stand for an extended time on walking tours. The La Selva Observation Tower is 40 metres tall or 12 storeys up by stairs. To fully enjoy the Galapagos experience, you must be able to get into zodiacs, get out of them into ankle-deep water, and walk on rough trails or beaches in hot weather. Quito is at an altitude of 2,850 metres and, in the rest of Ecuador, we sometimes reach altitudes of 3,500 metres which can be demanding on the body. Seeing everything mentioned in this itinerary requires participation at Activity Level 3. There can be longer walks in the airports. Prior to Wells Gray accepting your booking, you will be required to sign a declaration that you are capable of travelling on an Activity Level 3 tour. The tour director and driver have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance. If you are not capable of keeping up with the group or require frequent assistance, the tour director may stop you from participating in some activities or some tour days. In extreme situations, you may be required to leave the tour and travel home at your own expense; travel insurance will probably not cover you.

TOUR

15

This is a Tour 15 departure, meaning the tour is limited to 15 participants, a more intimate travel experience.

TOUR POLICIES

Payments: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is requested at the time of booking and balance is due October 12, 2023. By paying the deposit, you agree to the Terms & Conditions, Activity Level and Cancellation Policy outlined. Payments can be made by online banking or cheque (1.5% discount on tour fare), or by Visa or Mastercard (\$5,000 limit per person on credit cards).

Cancellation Policy: Up to September 12, 2023, the cancellation charge is \$100 per person. From September 13 to October 12, the cancellation charge is \$1,000 per person. From October 13 to November 9, the cancellation charge is 40% of the tour fare. From November 10 to December 12, cancellation charge is 80% of the tour fare. After December 12, there is no refund.

Travel Insurance: A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

Home pickups may be offered in Greater Victoria, depending on the number of people booked and coach size. Decision is made about 2 weeks before departure and you will be contacted about your pickup point and time.

Photo Credits: All photos from Latin Trails except Galapagos Tortoise is from Wikipedia.

Experience Points or E-points: This tour earns 301 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn e-points that are added to your account after the tour returns. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your earned points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until October 12, 2023.

Consumer Protection BC Licences: Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924, Victoria 65842

VICTORIA

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GALAPAGOS ISLANDS & ECUADOR — January 18, 2024

This tour is rated “Activity Level 3” by the tour planners at Wells Gray Tours. This rating is the highest activity level assigned to a tour, meaning that there is a lot of activity which could include one or more of (but is not limited to) the following:

- You can walk 3 kilometres in 1 hour.
- You can handle activity at high altitudes after acclimatization (up to 3,500 metres on this tour).
- You can climb into and out of a zodiac.
- You can walk on cobblestones, uneven sidewalks, rocky trails, beaches with sand or rock, and on boat docks that may have steep ramps.
- You can climb one or two flights of stairs to a hotel room if there is no elevator.
- You can carry your own luggage in airports.

Since a few people who are not capable of doing the above activities can hold up the entire group, Wells Gray Tours expects everybody booking a tour with “Activity Level 3” to be reasonably fit. You must be able to participate in activities without the assistance of the tour director, driver or other travellers. Please read the following and sign acknowledging that these statements are true. The tour deposit will be due after you have signed this statement.

- I want to travel on a Wells Gray tour with a rating of “Activity Level 3”.
- I have read the brochure with the full itinerary and description of the activities that are typical on this tour.
- I understand that this is the highest activity level that a Wells Gray tour can be rated.
- I am confident that I can participate in tour activities at this level and I will not hold up or delay the other members of the tour.
- I do not require the use of a wheelchair or a walker.

If my physical condition changes between booking and departure date such that I can no longer do this level of activity, I will notify the Wells Gray office or agent. The specified penalties will apply for cancelling and travel insurance may cover this.

If I am not capable of keeping up with the group or I require ongoing assistance, I understand that the Wells Gray tour director has the right to not allow me to participate in some activities or some days of the tour. In extreme situations, I acknowledge that I may be required to leave the tour and travel home at my own expense, and that travel insurance will probably not cover me.

This statement has been implemented by Wells Gray Tours to maintain high quality itineraries, accurate timing, and the enjoyment of all tour participants. Each person booking this tour must sign this statement. Thank you for your understanding.

Signature _____ Name _____ Date _____