



*Itinerary especially prepared for
Small Group Travel*

DAY 1 Thursday 19 March 2015
Sydney / Santiago / Lima

Please be sure that your check-in luggage is securely locked prior to check-in and that you have no sharp objects in your hand luggage. Please be aware of the carry on restrictions regarding liquids & gels.

This morning you depart Sydney on your direct flight to South America. As you cross the International Date Line you 'gain' a day, so you will arrive into Santiago also today. On arrival connect with your flight to Lima. On arrival at Lima Airport please collect your luggage, clear customs & immigration and meet with our *Representative*, who will exit the Arrivals Hall with you for the very short walk to the *Costa del Sol Ramada Airport Hotel*, where you have accommodation for one night. The representative will also assist you with check-in at the hotel. (MEALS IN FLIGHT)

COSTA DEL SOL RAMADA AIRPORT HOTEL – STANDARD ROOM

Av. Elmer Faucett s/n

Aeropuerto Internacional Jorge Chavez

Callao, Lima, Peru

Tel: 0011 (51 1) 711 2000 & Fax: 0011 (51 1) 711 2001

DAY 2 Friday 20 March
Lima / Quito

Please make your own way back to Lima Airport to arrive in plenty of time to check in for your flight to Quito. On arrival in Quito you will be met and transferred to your hotel where you have accommodation for three nights. Quito is located in a fertile valley, 2816 metres above sea level, and is surrounded by snow-capped volcanoes. It was founded in 1534. This picturesque Colonial City has been declared by UNESCO part of the Cultural Heritage of Mankind due to its outstanding styles and beauty in its architecture (Baroque, Spanish, Flemish, Moorish & pre-Columbian). (B)

PATIO ANDALUZ HOTEL, STANDARD ROOM

Garcia Moreno N6-52 between Mejia & Olmedo

Quito

Ecuador

Tel: 0011 593 2 228 0830

** I recommend that you take it easy this afternoon, perhaps even have a sleep for a few hours to help your body acclimatise to the altitude. I also suggest that you do not drink alcohol until your body adjusts.*

TravelManagers Australia Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mobile 0414598157 Email: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

ACN 113085626 AFTA

Website: www.smallgrouptravel.com.au

DAY 3 Saturday 21 March

Quito

This morning you will visit downtown Quito to relish in this urban jewel and its treasures of art and architecture. Quito's Colonial Quarter, the largest and best preserved of South America, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Your tour starts at the Independence Plaza, flanked by the Cathedral, the Presidential Palace, the Municipal Building and the Archbishop's Palace. Visit the temple of La Compañía de Jesús and its awesome gilded interior. Continue on to the Monastery of San Francisco, one the of great religious buildings of the New World; its impressive façade and atrium that lead to its Baroque interior influenced by Moorish style, with the winged Virgin of Quito at its main altar. You will then continue to the Equatorial Monument, 25kms to the North of Quito, which marks the exact 'Middle of the World', latitude 0°. You can stand with a foot on each hemisphere. Visit the Ethnographic Museum inside the monument, which shows the different Native American groups living in Ecuador. Beside the monument there is a Colonial-style town, complete with main square, church, post office, bullring, cafeterias, restaurants and many gift shops with postcards and souvenirs. Your afternoon is at leisure. (B)

DAY 4 Sunday 22 March

Quito

This morning you will travel north from Quito, through the Awakening Valley as it is known. You will see many beautiful Andean landscapes before arriving at Otavalo, home of the Otavalo Indians, a prosperous and enterprising indigenous group. You will spend the day at the famous Otavalo Markets, discovering enticing goods such as textiles, native paintings, ceramics, leather goods, jewellery, and tapestries. Lunch will be served at a typical country hacienda. You will return to Quito this afternoon. (BL)

DAY 5 Monday 23 March

Quito / Cotopaxi National Park / Patate

Early this morning you depart Quito by road, heading south to visit the Cotopaxi National Park, an ecological sanctuary of 88,920 acres, around the magnificent Cotopaxi Volcano, which rises 5897 metres above sea level. The evergreen landscape of the Ecuadorian highlands is one of the main attractions, along valleys and mountains covered by multi-coloured fields. After an hour and a half, the entrance to the park is reached and then it's up a dirt road for



approximately one hour. Upon arrival to the park there will be an introductory briefing given in the small Interpretation Centre about the habitat of the Andean Paramo or moorlands and its flora and fauna. A number of high-altitude birds may be observed around Limpiopungo Lagoon and occasionally wild horses. On clear days, the perfect snow-capped cone of Cotopaxi Volcano is quite a sight! At the foot of the volcano is a charming hacienda, where lunch is served in a room with

TravelManagers Australia Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mobile 0414598157 Email: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

ACN 113085626 Member IATA, AFTA

Website: www.smallgrouptravel.com.au

Inca walls, perfectly preserved through the centuries, truly an archaeological jewel. After lunch, mingle with the llamas of the hacienda and stroll through the rose plantation.

From here you descend towards the town of Patate, to spend the night at a 300 year old hacienda, which is hidden among the mountains, with a magical ambience where, as the afternoon mist descends, stories are told about those who left in search of the treasure of the Incas in nearby Llanganatis and never returned. Enjoy dinner at your hotel this evening. (BLD)

** Dressing in layers is suggested for Patate, Riobamba & Cuenca (t-shirt, blouse, sweater, coat). A mild subtropical climate is experienced year round with cool nights. A hat, sun block, rain protection and good walking shoes are also required. Average temperature during the day is 10 to 25 degrees and at night is 6 to 10 degrees.*

** Altitude experienced 2550 to 3000masl*

LEITO HACIENDA – STANDARD ROOM

Via Ecologica al Triunfo Km 8.5

Patate, Ecuador

(Entrance to Parque Nacional Los Llanganates)

Tel: 0011 593 3 285 9329 or 593 3 285 9328 & Fax: 0011 593 3 285 9331

DAY 6 Tuesday 24 March

Patate / Banos / Riobamba

This morning you are driven along a spectacular route, along the gorge of the Pastaza River to the town of Banos (Baths), at the foot of Tungurahua Volcano, from where the thermal waters that gave it its name emerge. You are driven along the 'Route of the Cascades to El Pailon del Diablo' (the Devil's Cauldron), the most adventurous may descend (medium difficulty) to observe the impressive cascade up close, surrounded by subtropical vegetation and orchids. The force and sound of the water can also be appreciated from a lookout point without descending. Lunch is served at a local hacienda. In the afternoon you take a short stroll through Banos, a town with an international pulse, full of people from all over the world as well as many locals who pilgrimage to the Sanctuary of the Virgin of Holy Water. From here, the route to Riobamba is up the mountain roads, to where the clouds can almost be touched, alongside the massive Chimborazo, the highest mountain of Ecuador, on the high paramo where vicunas graze. On the hillsides, where the land is worked beneath the plow, one might think the farmer's true objective was to paint the hills in fascinating patterns, not just to till the dark, fertile soil. There are great photo opportunities along this route. You arrive in Riobamba in time for dinner. You have accommodation here for one night. (BLD)



ABRASPUNGO HOTEL – STANDARD ROOM

Km 3 ½ via Riobamba - Guano

Riobamba, Ecuador

Tel: 0011 593 3 236 4031 or 236 4274 & Fax: 0011 236 4277

TravelManagers Australia Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mobile 0414598157 Email: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

ACN 113085626 Member IATA, AFTA

Website: www.smallgrouptravel.com.au

Mobile: 593 9 768 3450

DAY 7 Wednesday 25 March
Riobamba / Alausi – ‘Devil’s Nose’ /
Ingapirca / Cuenca (WED,FRI,SUN)

After a very early breakfast you depart by road to travel for approximately two hours, skirting the flanks of the Andes, an astonishing ride, twisting and turning, along bridging ravines and river gorges. You are driven through Indian villages and cultivated fields, where most of the cereals in Ecuador are grown. You arrive in the small town of Alausi, the centre of the rehabilitation of the Ecuadorian Railway Company in the last few years. Great effort has been made to restore the 100-year old train to its old glory and romance. Stations have been renewed, railways and sleepers replaced and engines and classic coaches renovated. The highlight today is the thrilling 800 metre descent on the zigzag cuttings in the rock of the ‘Devil's Nose’. At the bottom you will find the renovated Sibambe Station. You have time to visit the local museum, "Condor Pununa", built and run by the Nizag Community, to see the display of local handicrafts, fruit and medicinal plants and to try the local coffee. The train whistle will beckon you back onboard for the return to Alausi Station.

You are then driven to the ruins of the Inca Fortress of Ingapirca and then onto Cuenca, to your accommodation for two nights. A boxed lunch will be provided today. Enjoy dinner at your hotel this evening. (BLD)

SANTA LUCIA HOTEL – STANDARD ROOM
Antonio Borrero 8 – 44 & Sucre
Cuenca, Ecuador
Tel: 0011 593 7 282 8000

DAY 8 Thursday 26 March
Cuenca

This morning you will be taken on a tour of Cuenca, Ecuador’s third largest city. Its red tiled roofs, cobblestone streets, museums and flower-filled plazas make it a special place to visit. Your comprehensive tour includes a visit to the Plaza of San Sebastian, a colourful artisans' market, where handicrafts are sold, then the Museum of Modern Art, featuring an excellent collection of contemporary fine art. Next is a visit to the flower market



Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mail: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

26 Member IATA, AFTA

smallgrouptravel.com.au

at the small plaza in front of the carved stone entrance to the church of El Carmen de la Asuncion. From here you take a stroll to the main square, surrounded by the imposing blue-domed Cathedral, the Court of Justice, the Municipal Palace, the Governor's Palace and the Church of El Sagrario. You are then driven along the Tomebamba River to see the city's riverbank houses. Lunch will be at one of Cuenca's local restaurants. After lunch a short drive will bring you to a ceramics handcraft shop, followed by a visit to a Panama Hat factory to observe the process of making these famous hats. (BL)

DAY 9 Friday 27 March
Cuenca / Guayaquil

This morning you will be transferred to Cuenca Airport to check in for your flight to Guayaquil. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel where you have accommodation for one night. (B)

ORO VERDE HOTEL, STANDARD ROOM
Guayaquil, Ecuador

DAY 10 Saturday 28 March
Guayaquil / Galapagos

This morning you will be transferred to Guayaquil Airport to check in for your flight to the Galapagos. The Galapagos Islands comprise 13 major islands, 5 minor islands and scores of tiny islands that lie 1000kms off the coast of Ecuador. It's here that rare ecosystems co-exist in one of the most active volcanic areas on earth.

** The Galapagos Islands National Park Fee of US\$100 per person is payable in cash on arrival at San Cristobal Airport. There are no ATM facilities at the airport.*

** Please note that your cruise itinerary may vary without notice. This is usually due to readjustment by the National Park body, weather conditions and seasonal changes or for safety reasons.*

** Both wet & dry landings will be experienced during your cruise. A wet landing is when your dinghy edges onto a sandy beach and you step into knee-deep water to wade ashore. A dry landing is when you step from the dinghy onto rocks or a dock.*

DAY 11 Sunday 29 – Friday 3 April
- 15 Galapagos
-Galapagos Islands Cruise.

DAY 16 Saturday 4 April
Galapagos Islands – Daphne & Baltra Islands
/ Guayaquil



TravelManagers Australia Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mobile 0414598157 Email: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

ACN 113085626 Member IATA, AFTA

Website: www.smallgrouptravel.com.au

After this final visit, you will be transferred to Baltra Airport to check in for your flight back to the mainland, to Guayaquil. On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel, where you have accommodation for one night. (B)

ORO VERDE HOTEL, STANDARD ROOM
Guayaquil, Ecuador

DAY 17 Sunday 5 April
Guayaquil / Santiago

Early this morning you will be transferred to Guayaquil Airport to check in for your flight to Santiago. On arrival connect with your flight to Sydney, via Auckland. (B)

DAY 18 Monday 6 April
In Flight

Today is spent in flight as you re-cross the International Date Line and 'lose' one day.
(MEALS IN FLIGHT)

DAY 19 Tuesday 7 April
In Flight / Auckland / Sydney

Your flight arrives into Auckland extremely early this morning and after a transit of approximately 1.5 hours will continue on to Sydney.

Welcome Home!

TRAVEL INSURANCE IS COMPULSORY ON ALL SMALLGROUP TRAVEL TOURS

COST OF PRE CRUISE ECUADOR TOUR BASED ON A MINIMUM OF 10 PASSENGERS TRAVELLING TOGETHER.

TWIN SHARE: \$2629 PER PERSON**

SINGLE: \$3529**

CRUISE COSTS

Deluxe Stateroom \$ 5900 AUD – D Category

Premium Stateroom \$6290 AUD – C Category

FUEL SURCHARGE INCLUDED. **

AIRFARE GUAYAQUIL /GAPALAGOS/ GUAYAQUIL– AUD 579**

SINGLES IN STATEROOMS PAY AN ADDITIONAL 75% OF THE PER PERSON COST.

INTERNATIONAL AIRFARES

\$3115**

Sydney to Santiago to Lima to Quito to Cuenco to Guayaquil to Santiago to Sydney based on an early booking fare.

TravelManagers Australia Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mobile 0414598157 Email: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

ACN 113085626 Member IATA, AFTA

Website: www.smallgrouptravel.com.au

Your SmallGroup Holiday includes:

- * Economy-class airfares throughout.
- * Accommodation in Tourist & Superior-class hotels with private facilities.
- * *Private* airport transfers as described with English-speaking guides.
- * *Private* city and sightseeing tours as described with English-speaking guides.
- * All admission fees on such tours, except where noted otherwise.
- * Meals as indicated: (B = breakfast L = lunch D = dinner).
- * All ground transportation and touring vessels as described.
- * Re-confirmation of all onward flights when outbound transfers are included.
- * Porterage of 1 suitcase per person when transfers are supplied by Inca Tours.
- * All airport departure taxes payable from Australia.

Not included:

- * Airport departure taxes payable within South America.
- * Excess baggage.
- * Items of a personal nature.
- * Travel insurance, passport & visa costs.
- * Tipping.

Your Galapagos Islands Cruise includes:

- * Economy-class flights Quito/Galapagos/Guayaquil.
- * Cruise as described including shore excursions with other cruise guests, accompanied by an English-speaking Naturalist Guide.
- * Meals onboard.
- * Return *seat in coach* transfers airport/pier/airport on the Galapagos Islands.
- * The INGALA Tourist Card.
- * Use or snorkelling equipment.

Your Galapagos Islands Cruise does not include:

- * Airport taxes.
- * Galapagos Islands National Park Fee (US\$100pp).
- * Wetsuits.
- * Alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages.
- * Personal items, travel insurance & tipping.

Please Note:

‘Private’ tours include your own personal guides. This results in your time being utilised wisely, with our Latin Guides devoting 100% of their time to you and communicating with you in English. You will understand and learn more from this ‘private’ service.

TravelManagers Australia Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mobile 0414598157 Email: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

ACN 113085626 Member IATA, AFTA

Website: www.smallgrouptravel.com.au

Documentation:

For all international travel you must be in possession of a passport with at least 6 months validity remaining. You should also have ALL of the visas required for the countries you will be travelling to. Please check with us regarding which visas you will require

Price Increases:

Prior to full payment being made and air tickets issued, tour prices can increase due to reasons beyond the control of SmallGroup Travel : currency fluctuations, variation of hotel contract rates or airline price increases. It is therefore in your interest to protect against such increases by paying in full at your earliest possible convenience. Once you have paid in full, your tour price is 'locked-in'.

In order to secure your costs, and should you decide to travel I would recommend paying for your airfares & land arrangements in full to avoid any cost changes.

How to Reserve Your Tour:

* Please telephone Sue Kuti at Small Group Travel on 02) 9398 8558 to reserve your tour.

Or email suek@travelmanagers.com.au

* We will then send you our official booking form and booking conditions for the tour. Please complete this form and return it with your deposit of 20% of the tour cost per person.

* On receipt of your deposit and booking form, we will then forward additional pre-departure information regarding visas, medical requirements, weather and much more.

* Payment of your tour balance is then required 60 days before your departure.

Thank you for choosing SmallGroup Travel and Inca Tours and “feliz viaje” or happy travelling!

TravelManagers Australia Pty Ltd trading as SMALLGROUP TRAVEL

Mobile 0414598157 Email: suek@travelmanagers.com.au

ACN 113085626 Member IATA, AFTA

Website: www.smallgrouptravel.com.au