



**ECOLOGY PROJECT**  
INTERNATIONAL



### YOUR HOME IN THE PACIFIC:

The Galapagos Islands are a world-renowned archipelago off Ecuador's coast, and the surrounding waters are protected as the Galapagos Marine Reserve. These dramatic islands and waters are home to fascinating birds, abundant marine life, active volcanoes, and emblematic species like the giant tortoise and Darwin's finches.

### YOUR FIELD WORK:

With EPI, you'll make the most of your time in the Galapagos by monitoring wild adult tortoises as part of an exclusive partnership with the Galapagos National Park Service. You'll help restore habitat and eradicate invasive species before you develop a field-based research project from your collected tortoise data.

### CULTURAL EXCHANGE:

Your Ecuadorian peers are excited to meet you! During the time you spend with the MolaMolaEco Club, they'll give you a firsthand look at their community and ecosystem.

### ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE:

After finishing your fieldwork, your group will visit Isabela Island, the largest island in the Galapagos and a snorkeling paradise. You'll experience the island's wildlife on land and in the waters of the marine reserve. Learning in the Galapagos National Park is a unique and enriching experience that you won't soon forget.

# GALAPAGOS ISLAND ECOLOGY

## HIGHLIGHTS



**OBSERVE WILDLIFE FOUND  
NOWHERE ELSE ON EARTH**



**MONITOR GALAPAGOS TORTOISES**



**SNORKEL THE PRISTINE AND UNIQUE  
WATERS OF THE ARCHIPELAGO**



# GALAPAGOS ISLAND ECOLOGY SAMPLE ITINERARY



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## Days 1-2: ARRIVE IN QUITO & TRAVEL TO THE GALAPAGOS

- Arrive in Quito, meet with an EPI representative, and head to a local hotel for a good night's sleep
- Catch an early morning flight to the Galapagos, then travel by chartered bus to the highlands

## Days 3-4: HIGHLAND TORTOISE MONITORING

- Study tortoise biology, anatomy, and ecology
- Locate wild Galapagos tortoises and collect biometric data
- Build your scientific skills by collecting data on tortoise migration and diet

## Day 5: HIGHLANDS RESTORATION-GALAPAGOS NATIONAL PARK

- Eradicate invasive plant species and restore habitat for native plants & animals
- Learn about island biogeography, natural selection, & other important Galapagos ecology concepts

## Days 6-8: ISABELA ISLAND EXPLORATION

- Travel by boat to Isabela Island
- Snorkel in the Galapagos Marine Reserve and explore hypersaline lagoons
- Get up close and personal with incredible wildlife
- Visit the Galapagos National Park Breeding Center
- Enjoy local food and traditions while practicing Spanish
- Return to Puerto Ayora and celebrate with your instructors

## Day 9: DEPART GALAPAGOS

- Depart the Galapagos Islands and fly to Quito, Ecuador
- Head home from Quito



Length	Research & Service Hours	Coursework Hours	Focus
9 Days	15	30	tortoise biology, Galapagos wildlife conservation