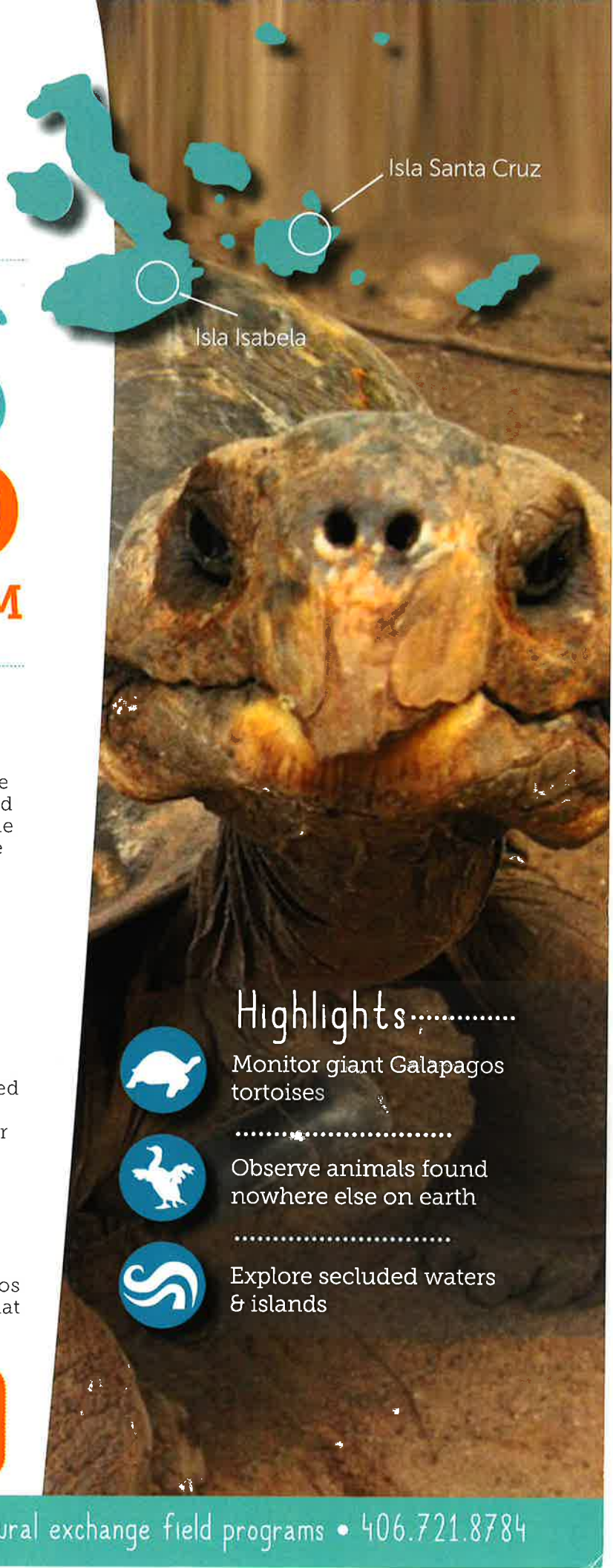




ECOLOGY PROJECT
INTERNATIONAL

GALAPAGOS ISLAND ECOLOGY PROGRAM



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 day you spend with the Mola Mola Eco 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, a snorkeling, hiking, and kayaking 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.

Highlights.....



Monitor giant Galapagos tortoises



Observe animals found nowhere else on earth



Explore secluded waters & islands

| Length | Research Hours | Coursework | Focus |
|---------|----------------|------------|---|
| 12 days | 20+ | 30+ hours | tortoise biology, island biogeography, Galapagos conservation |



Sample Itinerary

Days 1-2: Arrive in Quito & Travel to the Galapagos

- Get to know your EPI representative on the mainland
- Catch an early morning flight to the Galapagos then transfer by chartered bus to the highlands
- Preview comparative ecology and Galapagos ecosystems

Days 3-4: Highland Tortoise Monitoring

- Study tortoise biology
- Locate wild Galapagos tortoises and collect data on their habits & interaction with the landscape
- Assist world-renowned tortoise experts in a project studying 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
- Explore the reserve

Days 6-7: Explore Santa Cruz

- Hike to Tortuga Bay, a favorite local swimming beach
- Learn about Galapagos wildlife through a marine census
- Explore the Charles Darwin Foundation and visit Lonesome George's Monument

Days 8-9: Isabela Island

- Snorkel in the Galapagos Marine Reserve
- Explore hypersaline lagoons & spend time kayaking
- Visit the Galapagos National Park Breeding Center

Day 10: Cultural Exchange

- Enjoy local food and traditions; practice your Spanish
- Spend a day with the Mola Mola Eco-club on a student-led tour of Puerto Ayora

Day 11: Depart Galapagos

- Celebrate a successful course with your instructors
- Depart Galapagos Islands and fly to Quito, Ecuador

Day 12: Celebrate and Head Home

GALAPAGOS
ISLAND
ECOLOGY PROGRAM

Program Partner:



Parque Nacional
GALÁPAGOS
Ecuador

