



Educational Tours



MEANINGFUL. SUSTAINABLE. UNFORGETTABLE.

Travel to the top of the Andes Mountains where indigenous customs and local culture come to life. While you connect with Andean communities, you'll gain insight into the challenges they face including poverty, access to education and gender inequality. Together with WE Charity, you'll work side by side implementing sustainable solutions to these challenges. Then, embark on a tropical adventure to the Galápagos Islands where nature, wildlife and Darwin's theories come into focus as you explore the land.

6

Estimated service hours

YOUR SERVICE PROJECT THEMES

We work with the award-winning WE Charity to better understand the needs of each community and then focus projects on those issues. Themes include:

- Education
- Health
- Clean water and sanitation
- Alternative income and livelihood
- Agriculture and food security

EXPEDITION AND SERVICE FROM GALÁPAGOS TO THE ANDES

11 days, estimated 6 service hours

What to expect on this Service Learning Tour

MEANINGFUL SERVICE

Working side by side with locals, you'll gain insight into the challenges they face and build lasting solutions to help empower the community.

Projects include:

- Building and refurbishing schools so local students have a safe place to learn
- Constructing public hand-washing stations and digging trenches to provide access to clean water
- Planting trees and community gardens

CULTURAL IMMERSION

Live near the communities you serve—celebrating customs and forming lasting connections with locals.

Activities include:

- Visiting a local women's co-operative group and meeting Maria Angela Pacheco—the first female leader of her community
- Learning to make jam and exploring reforestation areas in the sustainable community of Yunguilla
- Interacting with community members

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Your Field Director takes your global service experience even further, developing and strengthening leadership skills through activities and workshops.

Exercises include:

- Investigating global issues, exploring social issues and building leadership skills in expert-led workshops
- Contextualizing the day's events through thoughtful discussion and group dialogue
- Reflective journaling to deepen the service experience



Despite the physical work, students find time to laugh and smile



Explore the Galápagos Islands by boat





Students interact with young locals at a visit to a nearby village

11-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive in Quito

Meet your Field Director at the airport.

Day 2: Yunguilla Community Development

Visit Yunguilla, a sustainable community devoted to raising organic crops and livestock. Together with your guide, you'll:

- Learn how to make jam and cheese.
- Explore reforestation areas now protected by the community.
- Then, tour the Intiñan Solar Museum and witness the natural forces at work near the equator.

Day 3: Chimborazo Province

Travel to the village where you'll complete your service project. After a visit with local students, learn about WE Charity's unique Adopt a Village model.

Days 4-5:

Service Project—Chimborazo Province

As communities evolve, so do their needs. That's why we work closely with WE Charity to understand each community's challenges. Since projects are determined closer to your actual tour date, here's a glimpse at what a typical day might look like.

- Each morning, you'll begin your service project in a nearby village.
- Spend afternoons immersed in cultural activities.
- Evenings are a chance to reflect, discuss events and draw connections between the day's work and relevant global issues.

Day 6: Transfer to Guayaquil

Transfer to Guayaquil and spend the night.

Day 7: Quito | Baltra Island | Santa Cruz Island

- Fly to Baltra Island.
- Visit the Twin Craters and the lava tunnels.
- Visit a tortoise ranch in the Santa Cruz Highlands to see wild tortoises.

- Visit the Charles Darwin Research Station and a giant tortoise breeding centre.

Day 8: Galápagos Islands

- Travel by boat to Santa Fe Island for a full-day excursion to enjoy wildlife, beach time, and a snorkeling activity.

Day 9: San Cristóbal Island

- Travel by boat to San Cristóbal Island.
- Visit the San Cristóbal Interpretation Centre.
- Hike up Tijeretas Hill.
- Enjoy a snorkeling activity and take a coastal walk at La Loberia beach.

Day 10: San Cristobal | Quito

- Fly to Quito

Day 11: Depart for home



LOCAL INSIGHT AND SUPPORT

Your Field Director deepens your connection to the land, people and culture. With local perspective on community challenges and skilled training in service leadership, they'll provide insight and global context, as they:

- Lead skill-building workshops and meaningful group reflections
- Connect you with local non-profits and nearby villages
- Facilitate group orientation and safety training
- Handle all on-tour details, from meals to transportation



Your experience includes: 10 overnight stays; Round-trip flights on major carriers; daily breakfast, lunch and dinner on days 2-6, 8, and 9; local ground transportation; Full-time Field Director; sustainable service project with WE Charity; sightseeing tours led by expert guides; entrance fees



A local woman demonstrates traditional fabric dyeing



A local enjoys a ride on his family's donkey



Take in the Andes Mountains

Your partners in global education

EF EDUCATIONAL TOURS

For over 50 years, EF has worked with educators across the world to help millions of students become citizens of the world through one global mission: Opening the World Through Education. With more than 500 schools and offices in over 50 countries, our staff can respond in person wherever you are, 24 hours a day.

ME TO WE

ME to WE is an innovative social enterprise that provides people with better choices for a better world. It measures the bottom line—not by annual dollars earned, but by the number of lives changed and the positive social and environmental impact made. Half of ME to WE's annual net profit is donated to WE Charity, and the remainder is reinvested to further the social mission of their enterprise.

START PLANNING

To enrol on this tour, ask your teacher for the tour number and visit eftours.ca/enrol or call 1-800-263-2806