

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAMS

Valley Preparatory School



Valley Prep School firmly believes in the importance of *experiential learning* as a means to further enhance the school's overall academic program. International excursions are one way of providing such experiences. The school provides a three-year rotation of trips, chosen to reinforce the philosophy of the International Baccalaureate Program which



International
Baccalaureate

prioritizes international-mindedness and student-service opportunities. The details of the tours outlined below are subject to change from year-to-year. All excursions are arranged by *Explorika*.

Year 1: Making a Difference from Coast to Coast: Costa Rica

LENGTH: 10 DAYS

COST: \$2700 (subject to change)

WHEN: Summer

On this 10-day unforgettable adventure, you'll discover breathtaking volcanoes, amazing wildlife, serene lakes and what it means to change people's lives forever. From San José to Tenorio National Park, your experience will leave a mark on both the locals you'll encounter, as well as on yourself.

Day 1 Hola San José

- Meet tour director and check into hotel

Day 2 San José--Tortuguero

- Travel to Tortuguero
- Tour director-led sightseeing
- Caribbean Conservation Museum visit

Day 3 Tortuguero

- Canal tour
- Tortuguero National Park visit

Day 4 Tortuguero--Sarapiquí

- Travel to Sarapiquí
- Tirimbina Biological Reserve tour
- Red-eyed tree frog night walk

Day 5 Sarapiquí

- Sarapiquí river kayaking tour
- Broadwalk tour

Day 6 Sarapiquí—Arenal (Student-Service Day)

- Travel to Arenal
- Local school visit** (see details below)
- Volunteer activities

Day 7 Arenal--Rincón de la Vieja

- Travel to Rincón de la Vieja
- Tenorio National Park visit

Day 8 Rincón de La Vieja

- Horseback ride
- Canopy tour

Day 9 Rincón de la Vieja--Guanacaste

- Travel to Guanacaste
- Palo Verde boat tour
- Free time on Guanacaste Beach

Day 10 End tour

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Round-trip airfare
- 9 overnight stays (11 on extension) in hotels with private bathrooms
- Breakfast daily
- Lunch daily
- Dinner daily
- Note: On arrival day only dinner is provided; on departure day, only breakfast is provided
- Full-time services of a professional Tour Director
- Visits to select attractions as per itinerary
- Note: On arrival day only dinner is provided; on departure day, only breakfast is provided
- Note: Tour cost does not include airline-imposed baggage fees, or fees for any required passport or visa.



****Local school visit:** Learn how rural communities are working to give their children educational opportunities, often with dozens of students in all different grades taught in the same classroom.



Year 2: Québec & Montréal

LENGTH: 5 DAYS

COST: \$1800 (subject to change)

WHEN: Summer

Get a little taste of France with Québec's European architecture, cobble streets, outdoor cafés and crêperies, stop at the Montmorency Falls - which are 98ft taller than Niagara Falls - and head to Montréal to explore such memorable destinations as Old Montreal, Notre-Dame Basilica, and the museum of archaeology.

Day 1 Bonjour Québec

- Meet your tour director
- Travel to Québec City
- Québec city walk
- Dufferin Terrace, Old Québec & Château Frontenac
- Crêperie dinner

Day 2 Québec City landmarks

- Breakfast
- Québec tour director-led sightseeing
- l'Escalier casse-cou (breakneck steps), Notre-Dame-des-Victoires, Rue Saint-Jean
- Musée du Fort visit
- Plains of Abraham battlefield re-enactment
- Dinner
- *Optional Sugar shack excursion \$20*

Day 3 Québec--Montréal

- Breakfast
- Beaupré Coast panoramic tour
- Basilica of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupré guided tour
- Montmorency Falls visit
- Village des Hurons visit
- Travel to Montréal along the St. Lawrence River
- Montréal tour director-led sightseeing
- Old Montréal, McGill University, Place Ville Marie, Bell Center, Mont Royal
- Dinner

Day 4 Montréal landmarks

- Breakfast
- Notre-Dame Basilica visit
- Montréal Museum of Archaeology: Pointe-à-Callière guided visit
- Saint Joseph's Oratory of Mount Royal
- Olympic Park Tower Observatory
- Montreal Science Centre visit
- Dinner

Day 5 End tour

- Breakfast
- Travel home

TOUR INCLUDES:

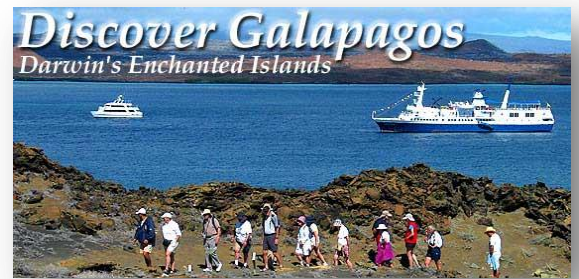
- Round-trip transportation
- 4 overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms (7 with extension)
- Breakfast daily (except arrival day)
- Dinner daily (except departure day)
- Full-time services of a professional Tour Director
- Guided sightseeing tours and city walks as per itinerary
- Visits to select attractions as per itinerary
- Overnight security chaperone
- Note: Tour cost does not include airline-imposed baggage fees, or fees for any required passport or visa. Please visit our Fees FAQ page for a full list of items that may not be included in the cost of your tour.

Year 3: Galápagos Island Adventure

LENGTH: 11 DAYS

COST: \$4000 (subject to change)

WHEN: Spring



Jump from the northern to the southern hemisphere in an instant at the equator monument in Quito, fly to San Christobal Island and swim among tropical fish, spot turtles, see penguins and explore lava tunnels as you island-hop through the Galapagos.

Day 1 Start tour

- Meet your tour director and check into hotel

Day 2 Quito landmarks

- Quito guided sightseeing tour
- Independence Plaza, Government Palace, San Francisco Church visit, Mitad del Mundo visit

Day 3 Quito--Galápagos

- Fly to San Cristóbal Island
- Interpretation Center visit
- Tijeretas Bay excursion
- Coastal hike to Tijeretas Bay, see Frigatebirds, rays, sea lions
- Playa Mann beach time

Day 4 La Galapaguera & La Loberia excursion

- La Galapaguera visit
- Observe giant tortoises endemic to San Cristóbal Island
- Hike to El Junco Lake
- La Loberia Beach excursion
- Snorkeling at La Loberia Beach, see sea lions, marine iguanas, blue-footed boobies & lava lizards

Day 5 San Cristóbal Island--Isabela Island

- Transfer to Isabela Island via boat
- Primicias Ranch visit
- See giant tortoises
- View lava tunnels

Day 6 Sierra Negra Volcano excursion

- Full-day guided Sierra Negra Volcano hike
- Puerto Villamil beach time

Day 7 Las Tintoreras excursion

- Travel to Tintoreras via boat
- Las Tintoreras visit
- See marine iguanas & Galapagos penguins
- Snorkeling adventure

Day 7 continued

- See green sea turtles, white tip reef sharks, rays & multicolored fish
- Wetlands visit
- Playa del Amor, estuary tunnels, Wall of Tears visit
- Giant Tortoise Breeding Center guided visit
- Flamingo Lake walk

Day 8 Isabela Island--Santa Cruz Island

- Transfer to Santa Cruz Island via boat
- Darwin Research Station guided visit

Day 9 Santa Cruz Island--Quito

- Transfer to Baltra Island via Itabaca Canal
- Twin Craters visit
- Fly to Quito

Day 10 End tour

- Fly home

Day 11 Return home

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Round-trip airfare
- Overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner daily
- Full-time services of a professional Tour Director
- Guided sightseeing and city walks as per itinerary
- Visits to select attractions as per itinerary
- Changes in the regulations of the Galapagos National Park may result in changes to the itinerary
- Tour Diary™
- Note: Tour cost does not include airline-imposed baggage fees, or fees for any required passport or visa.