They rank as two of South America’s greatest treasures, and a small group tour is the natural selection for both: the enigmatic ruins at Machu Picchu, where you spend the night at an intimate on-site hotel, and the fascinating Galápagos Islands, Darwin’s “living laboratory,” where you cruise aboard an intimate privately chartered ship. It’s an exhilarating discovery of lost worlds.

STUDY LEADER: JEFFREY QUILTER is the William and Muriel Seabury Howells Director of the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Harvard University and a senior lecturer in the Archaeology Program. Since 2002, he has been working in cooperation with Peruvian archaeologists at the El Brujo Archaeological Complex in Peru’s Chicama Valley. Quilter has published on a number of topics in archaeology as well as edited numerous volumes.

SHIP SIZE: Up to 16 guests

PRICING (Per person double occupancy):

Sea Deck with porthole

- $9,093 per person air inclusive from Miami ($8,395 air, land & cruise inclusive plus $698* airline taxes and departure fees)
- $9,493 Total Price per person from Boston ($8,795 air, land & inclusive plus $698* airline taxes and departure fees)
- $9,095 per person Land Only (Includes the internal air within Peru and Ecuador)

- Earth Deck with window
  $ 395 in addition to Sea Deck cost
- Sky Deck with window
  $ 495 in addition to Sea Deck cost
- Single Supplements:
  Sea Deck $3, 195
  Earth Deck $3,790
  Sky Deck $3,990

SCHEDULE BY DAY
B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner, R=Reception

TUESDAY, MAY 27
DEPART U.S. FOR LIMA, PERU

Depart Miami early this evening on your flight to Lima. After arriving late this evening, meet the Tour Director and transfer directly to the hotel.

Overnight: JW Marriott Hotel
WEDNESDAY, MAY 28
LIMA

After a morning briefing about the journey ahead, set out this morning to discover the treasures of this historic capital city. The first stop is the Rafael Larco Herrera Museum, housing a unique display of pre-Hispanic ceramics, including an acclaimed collection of erotic pre-Columbian pots.

Then a mid-afternoon tour introduces you to the highlights of both colonial and contemporary Lima, including Plaza de Armas, the bustling main square; Government Palace, occupying the site of the palace built by Lima’s founder Pizarro; and the Cathedral, rebuilt in 1758 after an earthquake destroyed the original building. You also see Palacio Torre Tagle, a lovely colonial mansion with Moorish-influenced architecture, and 16th-century Santo Domingo Church. This evening enjoy a welcome dinner together at a local restaurant.

Overnight: JW Marriott Hotel (B, D)

THURSDAY, MAY 29
LIMA/CUZCO/SACRED VALLEY

A morning flight brings you to Cuzco where you will enjoy lunch together before continuing north into the Sacred Valley of the Incas (Valle Sagrado de los Incas) and the town of Pisac, once the largest fortress-city complex of the Incas. Designed with its terraced fields in the shape of a partridge (or pisaca), Pisac was destroyed by the conquistador Pizarro in the 1530s; the current town was built some forty years later. You will also stop at a colorful Quechua market set amidst the mountains where there’s free time to explore and peruse the diverse handicrafts and other wares at your own pace.

From here depart for the hotel, arriving late afternoon, with time to rest and relax before you attend a native “Offering to the Earth” ceremony. Led by a shaman, this ancient ritual embodies an offering of various elements to Mother Earth in exchange for her life-giving provision. Dinner afterward is at the hotel.

Overnight: Casa Andina Private Collection (B, L, D)

FRIDAY, MAY 30
SACRED VALLEY

This morning embark on a full-day exploration of the Sacred Valley, a fascinating region of Inca sites and indigenous villages. The first stop is in the Quechua village of Chinchero on the road between Cuzco and Machu Picchu. Here residents live much as their ancestors did, weaving their colorful textiles and keeping ancient Incan traditions alive.

The next stop is at the colonial village of Maras, for a panoramic view of its salt pans. Before the Incas, native people created an intricate system of over 3,000 terraced pools from which they collected salt filtered in from the water of a subterranean spring; this ancient practice carries on today. Also view the circular terraces of Moray: large natural depressions in the landscape that were sculpted into terraces hundreds of years ago to serve as an experimental station for the development of different crop strains.

After lunch at a local restaurant, visit the Incan ruins at Ollantaytambo, once a ceremonial center whose steep terraces and walls resemble a fortress. Ollantaytambo also is known as the staging point for hikers tackling the Inca Trail. Tonight dinner is at the hotel.

Overnight: Casa Andina Private Collection (B, L, D)

SATURDAY, MAY 31
SACRED VALLEY/MACHU PICCHU

Early this morning, take a 1½-hour journey by train to Aguas Calientes, where you board a shuttle bus for the 20-minute ride to Machu Picchu, the legendary “Lost City” of the Incas. Perched in a high saddle surrounded by Andes peaks, it was virtually intact when discovered in 1911 by adventurer Hiram Bingham. Because the Inca did not have written language, there is only speculation about the origins of Machu Picchu. Some claim it wasn’t a city at all, but rather a royal and religious retreat built in the mid-1400s
and abandoned a century later because of war and smallpox.

The mid-day guided tour introduces you to the wonders of this UNESCO World Heritage site, which encompasses five square miles of terraced stonework linked by 3,000 steps. After lunch at the hotel just steps from the entrance to Machu Picchu, you are at leisure to spend the remainder of the afternoon exploring, hiking, or photographing this time-encapsulated marvel.

Tonight enjoy an intimate dinner at the hotel, adjacent to the entrance of the ancient ruins.

Overnight: Machu Picchu Sanctuary Lodge (B, L, D)

Please note: Because of limited space, in addition to your one piece of checked luggage, you will need to bring a smaller, soft-sided duffel-type bag for your overnight stay at Machu Picchu, as well as for the four-night Galápagos cruise. This additional bag should be small and flexible enough to fit inside your checked luggage (or you can use your carry-on luggage as your small bag). Your checked bag will be held in safe keeping until you meet up with it tomorrow in Cuzco.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1
MACHU PICCHU/CUZCO

The convenient location of the hotel allows you to be among the first to enter Machu Picchu, before the day trippers arrive. This morning take a second guided tour of the ruins, with time to admire the play of early-morning shadows on the surrounding peaks.

After lunch, leave Machu Picchu, returning to Aguas Calientes for some free time, perhaps to shop for woven blankets, alpaca sweaters, or other traditional handicrafts for which the area is known.

This afternoon board the train for Cuzco, a journey of approximately 3½ hours. Dinner tonight is on your own in Cuzco, where some restaurants on the local scene have begun fusing modern cooking styles with traditional Andean ingredients.

Overnight: Hotel Monasterio (B, L)

MONDAY, JUNE 2
GAZIANTEP/URFA

The Inca Empire's former capital and the continent's oldest continuously inhabited city, Cuzco bears the marks of its mixed Spanish-Inca heritage. Colonial and modern buildings incorporate Incan walls, arches, and doorways; charming houses surround elegant squares; and Inca descendants speak Quechua, the indigenous tongue.

The morning tour of this UNESCO World Heritage site introduces you to grand Plaza de Armas, the main square surrounded by arcades and lovely houses with ornate carved-wood balconies and terra cotta roofs. Presiding over the plaza is the 16th-century Cathedral and its churches, boasting gold- and silver-plated altars; a 1958 silver-plated truck that carries statues in an annual procession; perhaps the finest carved-wood choir stalls in Peru; and famous paintings including "La Ultima Cena" ("The Last Supper") by Zapata. Visit the Church of Santo Domingo, built on the foundations of Qoricancha, the Inca Temple of the Sun. Then travel to Sacsayhuamán, the most impressive Incan ruins near Cuzco, whose ramparts comprise massive, precisely fitted boulders, some 33 feet high and weighing 360 tons.

At noon savor a small group highlight: lunch hosted by local Cuzco families in their homes. Then the remainder of the afternoon is at leisure. Here's your chance to wander Cuzco's beautiful streets and admire its crafts stalls (wonderful places to buy jewelry, blankets, and other handcrafts). Tonight is free to dine where you wish.

Overnight: Hotel Monasterio (B, L)

TUESDAY, JUNE 3
CUZCO/QUITO

This morning depart Cuzco for Lima where you bid farewell to our Peruvian tour director and connect with the flight to Quito, arriving in Ecuador's capital late afternoon. Nestled in a valley surrounded by Andes volcanoes, Quito sits at over 9,000 feet above sea level and is said to be South America's most beautiful city. Its mixture of pre-Colombian, Baroque, Spanish, Moorish, and Flemish architecture prompted
UNESCO to declare colonial Quito a World Heritage site.

After meeting your Ecuadorian tour director upon arrival at the airport, transfer to your hotel, and dine together tonight.

*Overnight: JW Marriott Quito (B, L)*

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4**

**QUITO/BALTRA/EMBARK SHIP/GALAPagos CRUISING – SANTA CRUZ ISLAND**

Early this morning, transfer to the airport for the 2½-hour flight to Baltra Island, embarkation point for the cruise of the Galápagos Islands. About 600 miles off the Ecuadorian coast, Galápagos National Park is home to some of the world's most unusual flora and fauna. Millennia ago, winds and ocean currents carried seeds, plants, animals, and birds to the Galápagos; over time they evolved into distinct species, including some that exist nowhere else – as naturalist Charles Darwin discovered when he visited the islands in 1835. His island-hopping here was the stimulus for his groundbreaking book *On the Origin of Species*, which changed the course of evolutionary thought.

Upon arrival in Baltra, take a short bus ride then, with the help of a *panga* (a small rubber landing craft used for embarking and disembarking a larger ship), board *Coral II*. The privately chartered 20-passenger boat features small but comfortable cabins, all with private bath and shower. The *Coral's* 10-person crew will brief you on boat facilities, safety regulations, and National Park rules. After settling into your cabins, enjoy your first lunch on board.

Throughout your cruise there will be either wet landings, where you disembark directly from the ship into shallow water; or dry landings, where you step directly onto dry land, either a dock, rock, or beach. The first visit is on Santa Cruz Island, where you make a wet landing at Ballena Bay, a cove of green sand situated at the base of Dragon Hill that reflects the large amounts of olivine crystals from eons of volcanic eruptions.

After a one-hour walk over rocky terrain to admire marine iguanas and sea birds, continue on to Eden Islet, home to Nazca and Blue-footed boobies. You will have time here to swim and snorkel in this singular natural preserve. Back on board late this afternoon to relax – and perhaps watch the sun set – before dinner.

*Overnight: Coral II (B, L, D)*

**Please note:** As noted on Day 5, because of limited storage space aboard Coral II, you will need to bring a smaller, soft-sided duffel-type bag in addition to your piece of checked luggage. This additional bag should be small and flexible enough to fit inside your checked luggage (or you can use your carry-on luggage as your small bag). Your checked bag will be held in safe keeping at the hotel until our return to Quito.

**THURSDAY, JUNE 5**

**GALAPagos CRUISING – ISABELA/FERNANDINA ISLANDS**

This morning make a dry landing at Tagus Cove on Isabela Island, the largest island in the Galápagos. It is here that the Bolivar Channel separates Isabela and Fernandina islands, and where you embark on a one-hour walk to learn about the five volcanoes that formed Isabela Island.

Then board a *panga* for a ride along the shoreline; you are likely to see the Blue-footed boobies, pelicans, Brown nodies, Flightless cormorants, and the penguins that live in the rocky cliffs above.

After some deep-water snorkeling, return to the ship for lunch followed by a dry landing and two-hour walk along Espinosa Point on the coast of Fernandina Island. Among the residents that call Fernandina Island home: the Galápagos' largest marine iguanas, hornsharks, pelagic fish, seahorses, Scorpion fish, sea turtles, Galápagos hawks, sea lions, and Flightless cormorants.

After time at leisure to further explore the island or to swim and snorkel, return to the ship and enjoy dinner together on board.

*Overnight: Coral II (B, L, D)*

**FRIDAY, JUNE 6**

**GALAPagos CRUISING – ISABELA ISLAND**
This morning board the pangas for a cruise along the shoreline of Elizabeth Bay on the east coast of Isabela Island; here you are likely to see flightless cormorants and Galápagos penguins perched on the rocks and diving in flocks after schools of fish. The only penguin species that ventures north of the equator, the endangered Galápagos penguins are especially vulnerable to food shortages in addition to predators, volcanic activity, and illegal fishing. Fewer than 1,000 breeding pairs of Galápagos Penguins remain from a population estimated up to 15,000 in 1970. Next we head towards the island’s red and black mangroves, where you watch sea turtles and Brown pelicans move about.

After lunch on board the ship, make a wet landing at Santiago Island’s Sullivan Bay, where you enjoy a 1½-hour walk along the bay’s lava field this afternoon. In 1897, the island’s volcano erupted, engulfing everything standing in its way. As you tour the bay, examine the shapes and textures of the trees that once stood here, as well as the hornitos, small volcano-like formations formed when pockets of gas or water exploded underneath the lava. While few plants have managed to take root in this harsh environment, the low-lying mollugo and lava cacti show that life slowly is returning to Sullivan Bay.

As you approach the shore, Black and White oystercatchers may be fishing for crabs and mollusks in the tide pools. Tonight enjoy your final dinner on board the ship.

**Overnight: Coral II (B, L, D)**

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**SATURDAY, JUNE 7**

**GALÁPAGOS CRUISING – ISABELA ISLAND**

This morning make a wet landing onto Santiago Island’s Espumilla Beach, located just north of a large freshwater supply that once attracted pirates and whalers – along with Galápagos finches, Vermillion flycatchers, lava lizards, mockingbirds, and nesting sea turtles. Take a one-hour walk inland through the Palo Santo (“holy stick”) tree forest inhabited by long-legged Common (or Black-winged) stilts wading in the waters around you. Continue on behind the mangroves to a brackish lagoon where White-cheeked pintails reside. Upon returning to the beach, you have time at leisure to swim and snorkel.

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**SUNDAY, JUNE 8**

**DISEMBOARK SHIP/SANTA CRUZ ISLAND/BALTRA/QUITO**

This morning make a dry landing on Santa Cruz Island and take a 45-minute drive to visit Primicias, a private farm in the highlands where you can observe giant tortoises in their natural habitat. The drive to the farm offers prime viewing of land birds, including Tree and Ground finches, Vermillion flycatchers, and Cattle egrets. Travel from Primicias to the airport for the flight from Baltra back to Quito. Upon arrival, check in at the hotel; lunch is on your own today, followed by time for independent exploration or to relax.

This evening gather together for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

**Overnight: JW Marriott Quito (B, D)**

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**MONDAY, JUNE 9**

**QUITO/RETURN TO U.S.**

The first city to be named a UNESCO World Heritage site, Quito boasts many well-preserved vestiges of its colonial past, some of which you see on this morning’s city tour. You also have the opportunity to stand with your feet in two
hemispheres when you visit the Middle of the World Monument at latitude 0° 00’ 00″, the spot where an 18th-century French expedition determined the exact location of the equatorial line.

Following the tour and lunch together, return to the hotel for time at leisure (rooms are ready for late check-out). Late this evening transfer to the airport for the overnight flight to Miami.

TUESDAY, JUNE 10
ARRIVE U.S.

Arrive in the U.S. this morning and connect with your return flights home.