



Ecuador for Families

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Luxury Adventures That Bring Generations Together

Ecuador, the "Land of Four Worlds", offers an extraordinary journey for families seeking nature, culture and adventure. From colonial Quito to the enchanted Galápagos, each destination invites discovery through thoughtfully curated experiences.

At Akorn, we understand that unforgettable family travel is about more than just seeing the sights — it's about creating shared moments that resonate across generations. Our family journeys are thoughtfully designed to blend education, adventure and comfort, with age-appropriate activities, expert local guides and seamless logistics that take the stress out of travel.

Soak in thermal springs in the heart of the Andes, explore butterfly-filled cloud forests and cycle across the Avenue of Volcanoes. Venture deep into the Amazon with expert guides and uncover ancient secrets hidden in jungles that were never conquered.

With flexible pacing, family-friendly accommodation and insider access you won't find elsewhere, Akorn delivers enriching, worry-free experiences that inspire connection, curiosity and lifelong memories. It's luxury travel — built for bonding.

Quito

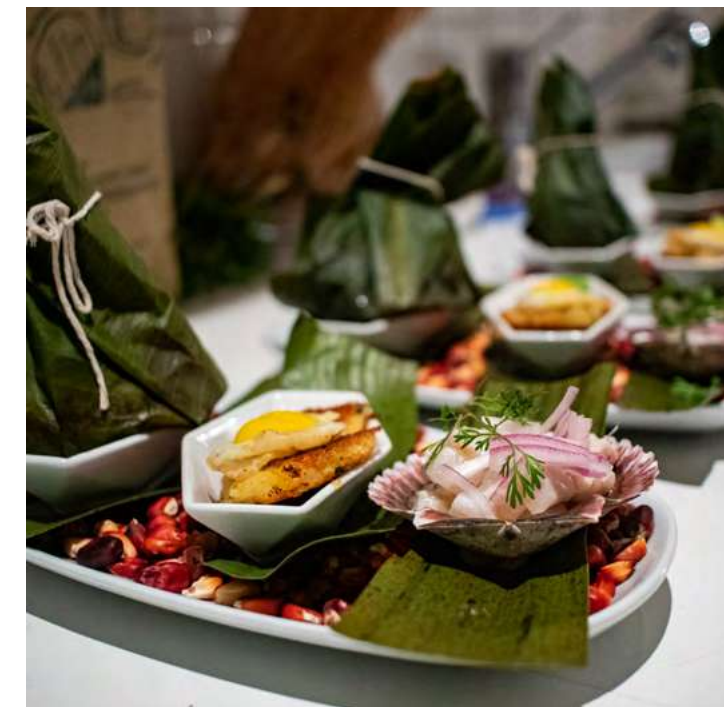


DIVE INTO CHOCOLATE WORLD

Enjoy Chocolate Land on an experience that explores the world's finest cacao and learn all about its exciting journey — from bean to bonbon. Taste fresh cacao, nibs and cocoa butter while learning techniques that will have you tempering and crafting your own signature truffles and bonbons.

FLAVORS OF ECUADOR

Discover Ecuador's rich culinary heritage as you cook with fresh ingredients from the Andes and the Pacific coast. Guided by ancestral techniques, this hands-on experience celebrates flavors and memories passed down through generations.



COPPER-POT SORBET TASTING

There's always time for ice cream — but in Ecuador, we make it special. Fresh fruit juice is spun in a bronze pan over ice until it becomes a smooth, fruity sorbet that not only tastes like heaven, but also delights children as they watch their favorite treat come to life with a little bit of magic and tradition.



MIMES & DOMES

Dressed in seven tons of gold, La Compañía de Jesús is the jewel of Quito. Step into this radiant church and discover hidden passageways that lead to a privileged spot few can access — the church's domes. From here, take in sweeping views of Quito's colonial district, accompanied by a performance from local harlequins or mimes.

THE MIDDLE OF THE WORLD

Forty minutes north of Quito, you'll find the dream of your inner child — the Middle of the World — where you can stand on both hemispheres at once and take the picture you've always wanted.

Then, as a complement to your already extraordinary experience, visit the Intiñan Museum, where you'll enjoy an interactive approach to Ecuadorian culture, wildlife and astronomy before playing hands-on games that reveal the beauty and benefits of living at the Middle of the World.



Papallacta



NATURE & SPRINGS

Two hours from Quito, in the heart of the Andes, we offer the perfect place for the explorer in you. Hike through cloud forests where ferns, moss and high-altitude vegetation coexist in an ecosystem that brings together both the Amazon and the Andes. Home to rare and colorful bird species, this area is a paradise for early birders seeking a peaceful start to the day. Next, follow the historic Cinnamon Road once taken by conquistadors in search of El Dorado, heading toward the Papallacta Thermal Springs, nestled at the foot of the 5,700-meter (18,714-ft) Antisana Volcano. Along the way, take in sweeping mountain views and, with luck, spot the Andean condor.

Upon arrival, unwind in curative, alkaline thermal waters surrounded by the Cloud Forest, then explore scenic trails lined with native flora, including the polylepis, or "paper tree."



Cloud Forest



HUMMINGBIRD'S PARADISE

Just one hour from Quito, the Yanacocha Reserve offers a peaceful escape into a world of extraordinary birdlife.

Leave behind the city for the melodic calls of native species in this high-altitude sanctuary, home to over 20 species of hummingbirds. Follow scenic trails through the lush cloud forest, ranging from 2,800 to 4,000 meters (8,000 to 12,000 feet) above sea level. Keep an eye out for wild rabbits, rare small mammals and vibrant orchids and bromeliads.



DANCING BIRDS IN THE CLOUDS

Just 90 minutes from Quito, the Cloud Forest is one of Ecuador's premier birding destinations. It holds the world record for the most hummingbird species seen in one place and once led the Audubon Christmas Bird Count.

Explore trails and backroads in search of the plate-billed mountain toucan, tanager finch and dazzling hummingbirds, with a chance to spot elusive antpittas or the almost-mythic cock-of-the-rock.



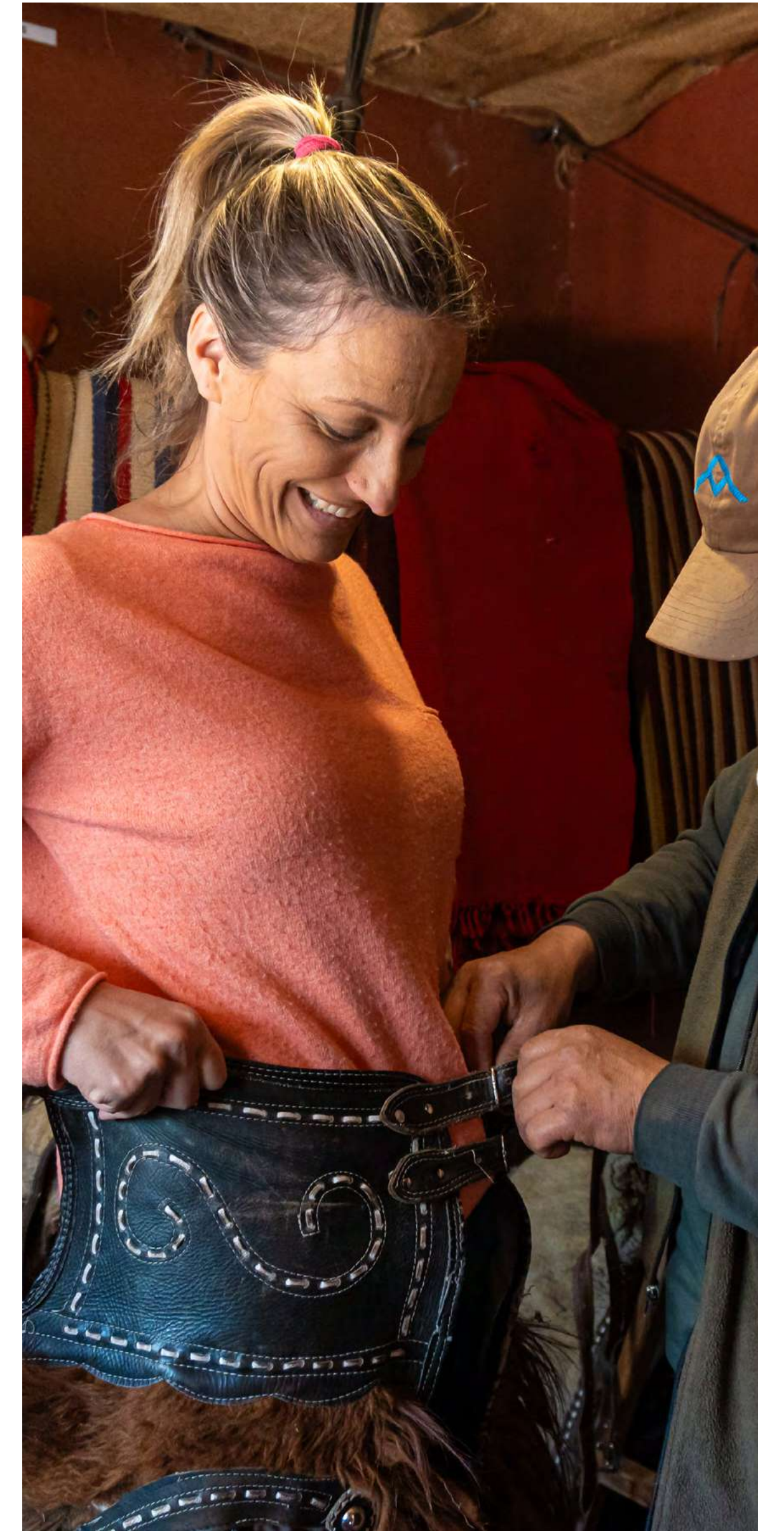
Cotopaxi



BECOME AN ANDEAN COWBOY

Venture into Cotopaxi National Park, where dramatic landscapes unfold in the shadow of Ecuador's second-highest peak, Mount Cotopaxi, one of the world's tallest active volcanoes. This protected area is not only home to remarkable geology, but also to a rich array of wildlife.

Over generations, the people of the central Andes have learned to live in harmony with these vast moorlands, wetlands and towering volcanoes. Today, the chagras (the Andean cowboys), welcome you into their world, sharing time-honored skills and stories passed down through the ages, shaped by their deep connection to the spirit of the mountains. And then, at midday enjoy a traditional Andean lunch featuring regional delicacies, rounding out a day immersed in the wild beauty and living culture of the highlands.



Amazonia



MEET THE AMAZONIAN BEES

In the heart of the Ecuadorian Amazon, enjoy a sweet — and sting-free — encounter with native stingless bees.

Ideal for families, this hands-on experience invites children to discover how these tiny pollinators help sustain the rainforest. With local experts, observe active hives, taste pure honey and learn how bees live in harmony with nature — all without a single sting.



FROM JUNGLE BEAN TO CHOCOLATE BAR

Discover how cacao becomes the silky chocolate we all love in this fun, hands-on experience for the whole family. In the chocolate lab, learn about the origins of cacao before roasting, grinding and tempering beans like real chocolatiers. Children will love tasting each step and taking home their very own handmade bar.



AMAZONIAN FLAVORS

Roll up your sleeves and learn how to make traditional maito — a typical Amazonian dish featuring fish wrapped in leaves and slow-cooked over fire with jungle herbs. Guided by a local chef, families take part in each step, just as Amazonian ancestors once did. As the meal cooks, hear stories of how this tradition has united communities for generations. Then gather to enjoy a smoky, tender fish dish that captures the true flavor of the forest.



AMAZONIAN FARM TRADITIONS

Visit a local farm where Amazonian families share traditions passed down through generations. Walk with your hosts as they guide you through their land, tasting exotic fruits straight from the tree and learning about their cultural and medicinal value. Join seasonal activities like harvesting, planting, or preparing traditional food.



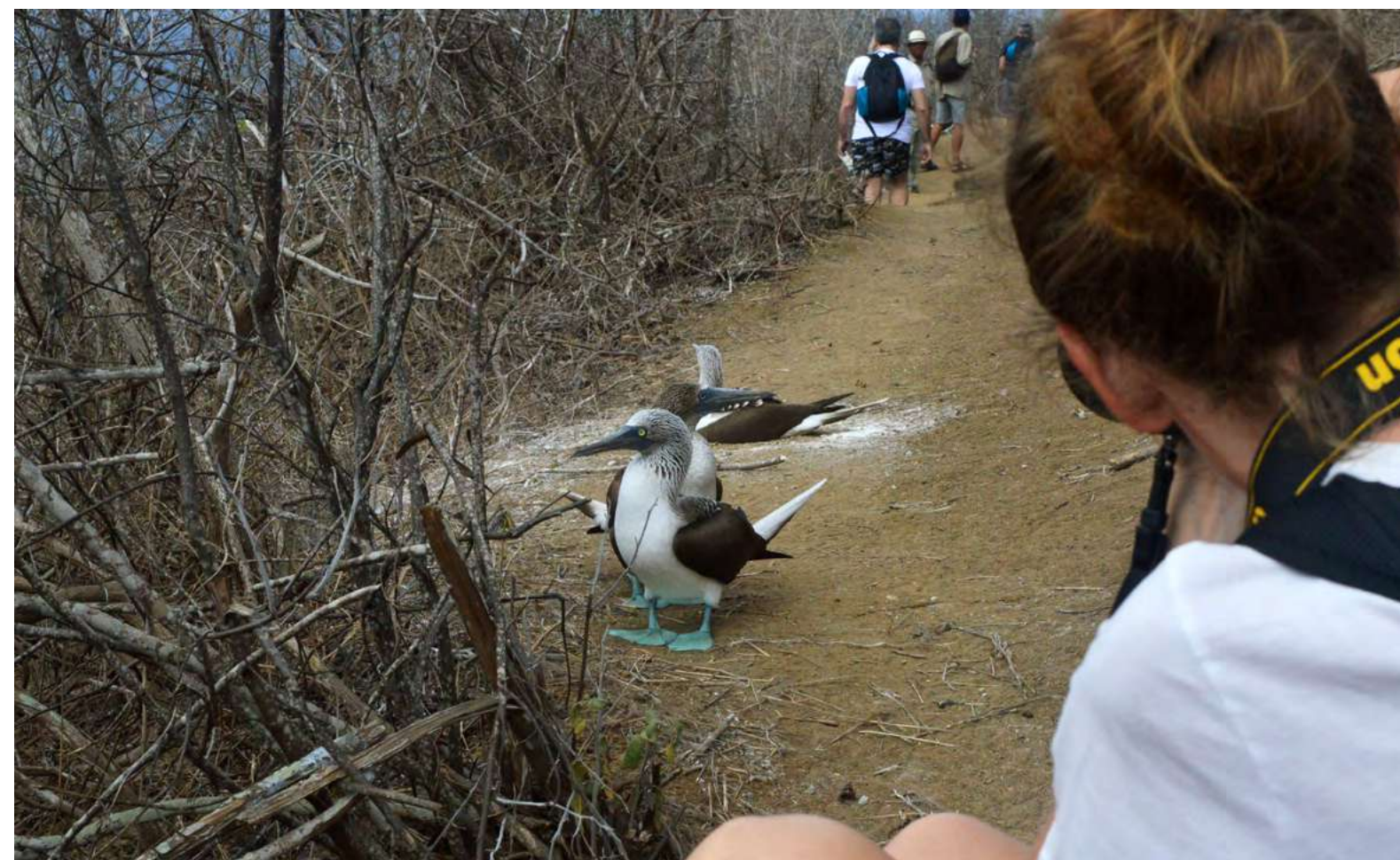
The Coast



DISCOVERING A HIDDEN TREASURE

Embark on a journey to Isla de la Plata in Manabí province, guided by a renowned historian and filled with tales of pirates and hidden treasures. Legend has it that in 1578, Sir Francis Drake buried or sank stolen silver on this island, earning it the name "Silver Island".

Walk in Drake's footsteps, embrace coastal views and encounter the island's unique wildlife. Then, snorkel in the vibrant waters of Machalilla National Park, where colorful marine life and the thrill of discovery await.



PIRATE TALES OF GUAYAQUIL

Step back into the 17th century and uncover the pirate history of Guayaquil on this unforgettable family excursion. Explore the paths where real pirate invasions once took place, spotting ancient cannons and massive anchors that still guard the city's past. Children will love imagining epic battles, while parents take in the rich history and scenic views of this iconic port. With tales of treasure hunts, secret hideouts and brave defenders, history comes to life in a hands-on experience the whole family will remember.



Galápagos



FROM FORESTS TO LAVA TUNNELS

Explore the lush highlands of Santa Cruz, where a cooler, greener side of the Galápagos emerges through misty forests and fertile pastures. Discover the island's volcanic soul walking among endemic vegetation and birdlife, from vermilion flycatchers to Darwin's finches. Then, descend into a centuries-old lava tunnel for a private gourmet lunch in a softly lit stone chamber.

GIANTS OF THE HIGHLANDS

Enjoy a scenic drive into the misty highlands of Santa Cruz, home to one of the Galápagos' most iconic encounters: giant tortoises roaming freely in their natural habitat. Stroll through lush pastures as these ancient creatures, some weighing over 300 kg (661.39 pound) and more than 100 years old, graze or soak in mud pools. This walk offers more than remarkable wildlife; it is a timeless moment of connection with the islands' evolutionary legacy.



PADDLING THE ENCHANTED COAST

Glide quietly by kayak through mangrove-lined inlets, lava formations and hidden beaches, where sea turtles, rays and playful sea lions often appear just within reach. Led by an expert naturalist, this experience offers close encounters with coastal wildlife and insight into the island's volcanic geology and fragile ecosystems. An ideal blend of adventure and discovery.



Galápagos



RIDING SANTA CRUZ



Discover the natural beauty of Santa Cruz by bike on a guided ride through the island's diverse terrains. Pedal from lush highlands to arid coasts, past volcanic rock formations, cactus forests and panoramic ocean views. Accompanied by a certified naturalist and supported by a vehicle, this adventure offers an immersive way to connect with the island's landscapes.

SNORKELING THE GALÁPAGOS

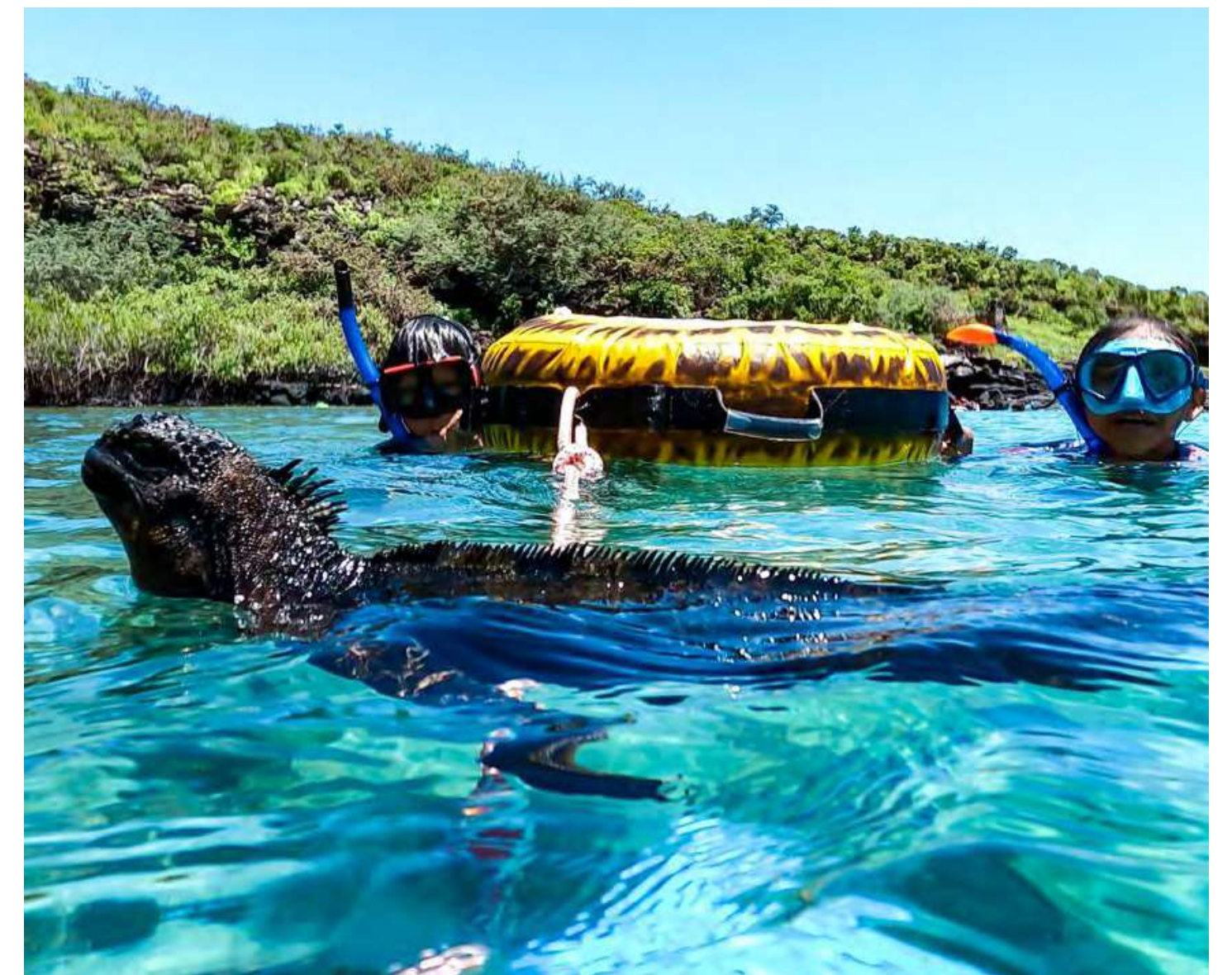
Immerse yourself in the underwater world of vibrant marine life, where tropical currents fuel one of Earth's richest ecosystems. Guided by an expert naturalist, snorkel above lava reefs and sandy seabeds as sea turtles glide by, sea lions play and schools of colorful fish shimmer below. Enjoy calm, clear waters with chances to spot rays, reef sharks, or marine iguanas.



TORTUGA BAY ESCAPE



Step into one of the Galápagos' most iconic and unspoiled beaches. This exclusive experience includes a gourmet picnic in natural comfort, plus time to relax or explore with a naturalist guide. Whether spotting marine iguanas, birdwatching, or paddling calm waters, this is a curated immersion into the raw beauty of Tortuga Bay.





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