On this action-packed trip to Ecuador discover the rich history and stunning scenery that put this tiny country straddling the Equator at the top of every traveler’s bucket list. Visit the magical Galápagos Islands, where you’ll observe giant tortoises, sea lions, eagle rays, penguins, and more, all in their natural habitat. There is really no other place in the world like it!

This trip is open to all GOW Students and their families.

Tuition: $3,695 + Airfare (includes all accommodations, all activities and entrances listed on the itinerary, breakfasts, lunches, and dinners, ground transportation, guides, taxes, & tips)

We will hold an informational meeting when school returns, scan the QR code to view the trip's website!

Questions? Please contact Mr. Matt Fisher (MFisher@gow.org)
Day 1:
- Flight to Quito, Ecuador!
- Meet your TFT Counselors at the airport
- Check into our hotel in Quito
- First Ecuadorian dinner
- Head to bed after a full day of traveling

Day 2:
- City tour: Nestled between the Andean Mountain peaks, we will explore this city and discover its intricate architecture, vibrant plazas, and colorful markets.
- Mitad del Mundo: the Middle of the World, where you can be both in the northern and southern hemispheres simultaneously!
- Walking food tour - we'll discover the cuisine of Ecuador on our favorite walking food tour!

Day 3:
- Explore the amazing Mindo Cloud Forest, only 2 hours from the capital, where you can immerse yourself in this magical biologically diverse ecoregion.
- Hike through the waterfalls while encountering unique flora, butterflies, birds and bugs.
- Feel the adrenaline as you zipline over the forest!

Day 4:
- Morning Flight from Quito to the Galápagos Islands!
- Explore the highlands of the Island and their beautiful green landscapes. Visit a ranch where we can see Giant Tortoises in their natural habitat.

Day 5:
- Visit Tortuga Bay
- Take a walk to Playa Mansa, ideal for sunbathing, swimming and photography. You will also find marine iguanas along the shore.
- Charles Darwin Station: Learn about the habitats and conservation efforts in the region.
- Visit the Tortoise Breeding Center, where it is possible to view tortoises of various sizes and shapes.

Day 6:
- Depart early via speed boat to San Cristóbal
- Discover Galapaguera, where we will learn about the “Geochelone chathamensis” (the island’s own species of tortoise).
- Explore the Junco Lagoon, located in the middle of a volcanic caldera, where frigate birds dive
- Visit Puerto Chino beach for some hiking and swimming
- Discover the coral sand beach, La Loberia, where we will see incredible wildlife: sea lions, canaries, frigate birds, different types of finches, and enormous unique Galapagos marine iguanas resting on the rocks.

Day 7:
- Service morning - we'll work on giving back to the local communities after exploring the incredible nature of the Galapagos Islands! We will work with elementary or high school students and play games with them, help them practice their English, and learn about what life is like for them on the islands. We will also help out with any light maintenance projects or farming projects the school may need.
- Visit the Centro de Interpretación to learn about the geology of the Islands
- Visit the beautiful Punta Carola Beach
- Final dinner in the Galapagos

Day 8:
- Morning Flight from San Cristóbal to Quito
- Arrive in Quito, collect luggage, check into our hotel
- Head into Quito for last-minute souvenir shopping - check out the local mercados and enjoy the city one last time
- Fancy final dinner in Ecuador - we'll celebrate the past week

Day 9:
- Return Flight to the US

*This is a working itinerary, subject to refinement and change.