The Galápagos Islands
Darwin’s Laboratory of Evolution
Aboard the Santa Cruz II

August 1–8, 2017

Laurie Santos
Associate Professor of Psychology
Dear Fellow
Galápagos Travellers,

I am very pleased to write as the Yale faculty member who will be travelling with you to the Galápagos Islands. I am both a faculty member in the Department of Psychology as well as the new Head of Silliman College.

Our trip will be my fourth visit to the archipelago. My other trips were absolutely unforgettable, and I am so grateful that we have the opportunity to return to such an enchanting place. If my other visits were any indication, we are certain to have a wonderful time, and it will be great fun for us to be able experience this natural wonder together!

The Galápagos Islands are truly special. Historically, of course, Charles Darwin’s visit to the islands inspired one of the greatest scientific advances in history, the theory of natural selection. The plants and animals that are endemic to the Galápagos are awe-inspiring. As a psychologist interested in the evolution of human cognition, I am most excited about the chance to watch these amazing animals up close. With any luck, we’ll see Blue-footed Boobies and Waved Albatross performing their mating dances, marine iguanas sunning themselves, and penguins surfing the waves! During my last trip, we even had the chance to swim alongside a few inquisitive sea lion pups who seemed to love playing tag with human snorkelers.

During the trip I’ll try to put the Galápagos into historical context in terms of their role in our understanding of evolution, animal behavior, and even human nature. I’ll start by telling you a bit more about Charles Darwin’s story of discovery, explaining how Darwin’s legacy extends far beyond biology to the psychological study of what makes us human. I’ll give you a crash course in evolutionary theory, trying to explain how natural selection shapes not only morphological traits but also all the behaviors we’ll witness in the amazing animals we’ll get to see on our trip. Finally, I’ll discuss how natural selection has shaped human cognition, telling you a bit more about some of my own studies exploring the evolutionary origins of human cognition. Of course, I’m also anxious to share some of my experiences at Yale, both as a new Head of College and as one of the faculty members pioneering some of Yale’s new online courses.

My husband, Mark, will be joining us on the trip. Mark is the Associate Head of College at Silliman and a PhD student in Yale’s Philosophy Department. He’s also an avid game player and a fellow animal behavior aficionado. We’re both really looking forward to meeting and traveling with you all!

See you very soon in Ecuador!

With warm wishes,

Laurie Santos

Professor of Psychology and Head of Silliman College
Yale University
Department of Psychology
New Haven, CT 06520-8205

cover: marine iguana
Laurie Santos, Professor of Psychology and Head of Silliman College, is a cognitive psychologist who explores the evolutionary origins of the human mind by comparing the cognitive abilities of human and non-human animals. Her research focuses on the minds of non-human primates living in the field and domesticated dogs living around New Haven. She received her A.B. in Psychology and Biology from Harvard University and her Ph.D. in Psychology from Harvard. She has investigated a number of topics in comparative cognition, including primates' understanding of others' minds, the origins of irrational decision-making, and the evolution of social learning in dogs. Laurie’s scientific research has been featured in The New York Times, The Economist, The New Yorker, Smithsonian, and on the TODAY Show. She has also won numerous awards, both for her scientific achievements and for her teaching and mentorship. She is the recipient of Yale University’s Arthur Greer Memorial Prize for Outstanding Junior Faculty and was recently voted one of Popular Science Magazine's “Brilliant 10” Young Minds. She says: “We live in an extraordinary time—one like no other that humans have lived in before us—where we have a fabulous technique for studying the mysteries of life: the scientific method. As a cognitive scientist, I have tools to study what makes us and other animals tick, and to get at the roots of human nature. What I’d most like to convey to my students is how incredibly cool this is, and how lucky we are to be a part of it.”

Want to learn more about Galápagos? Here are some selections to get you started.

**The Galapagos: A Natural History**
by Henry Nichols

The author of Lonesome George, charts the human and natural history of the archipelago from its fiery origins through famous visitors and current conservation challenges.

**The Tree of Life, Charles Darwin**
bby Peter Sis

This book illuminates Darwin's travels, ideas and impact, using watercolor and pen-and-ink illustrations.

### Upcoming Trips

**Alaska Family**
July 17–25, 2017
Professor Paul Turner
Professor, Chair of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Professor Marybeth Decker
Research Scientist, Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
Lecturer, School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

**Exploring Iceland**
August 5–15, 2017
Professor Jay Ague
Henry Barnard Davis Professor of Geology and Geophysics

**Cuba Family**
December 26, 2017–January 1, 2018
Professor Anne Eller
Assistant Professor of History

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ALL YET PROGRAMS, PLEASE VISIT www.YaleEDTravel.org

### Highlights

- **Lectures** and discussions with Professor Laurie Santos.
- **Explore** the Galapagos Islands for 6 days with expert naturalists.
- **Photograph** close-up nestling sea birds, salt-encrusted marine iguanas and colorful Sally Lightfoot crabs.
- **Snorkel** alongside sea lions, sea turtles and Galápagos Penguins.
- **Marvel** at the Giant Galápagos Tortoises, Blue-footed Boobies, and frigate birds.
- **Learn** about the conservation successes and challenges at the Charles Darwin Research Center.

Yale Study Leader Reader’s Corner

SNORKELING WITH SEA LIONS

Yale Educational Travel Association of Yale Alumni
Box 209010
New Haven, CT 06520-9010
Reservations: (203) 432-1952
yaleedtravel.org/galapagos17
**Welcome Phone Call**

*Thursday, July 13, 2017 (Tentative)*

Join the group at 4pm EST for a pre-trip welcome call with Professor Santos, in order to learn more about what to expect and get the chance to ask any questions you might have.

**USA / Guayaquil**

*Tuesday, August 1*

Depart the U.S. on a flight to Guayaquil, Ecuador and transfer to the hotel upon arrival.  
*Hilton Colón Guayaquil (Meals Aloft)*

**Guayaquil / Baltra Island / North Seymour Island**

*Wednesday, August 2*

Fly this morning to Baltra Island in the center of the Galápagos Archipelago and board the *M/V Santa Cruz II*. Welcome introductory briefing and lunch. In the afternoon disembark on North Seymour Island for a great introduction to the Galápagos. This island is full of colonies of Blue footed-Boobies, two species of frigate birds, Swallow Tailed Gulls, as well as sea lions and marine iguanas. In the evening, join the captain for a welcome cocktail reception and dinner.  
*M/V Santa Cruz II (B, L, D)*

**Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island) / Fernandina Island**

*Thursday, August 3*

This morning, explore Punta Vicente Roca, one of the most fascinating marine sites in the Galápagos. A dinghy ride along the coast provides the opportunity to observe Galápagos Penguins, Flightless Cormorants, green sea turtles, Noddy Terns, Blue-footed Boobies, Magnificent Frigate birds, sea lions and fur seals. The afternoon is dedicated to explore the youngest and most volcanically active islands in the archipelago. Fernandina Island has only indigenous mammals and, is one of the only places on earth to see the Flightless Cormorant. The island is also known for the highest population of marine iguanas.  
*M/V Santa Cruz II (B, L, D)*

**Tagus Cove (Isabela Island) / Urbina Bay**

*Friday, August 4*

Morning anchorage at Tagus Cove, once frequented by whalers and pirates. An uphill hike takes us to the dramatic viewpoint to see the beautifully symmetrical Darwin Crater, filled with salt water. Take a dinghy ride to spot wildlife. Conditions permitting, the adventurous among us will snorkel along the cliffs in areas rich in marine life, especially green sea turtles. After lunch disembark at Urbina Bay at the foot of Alcedo Volcano. The area is home to colorful Galápagos land iguanas, Darwin’s Finches and occasionally to giant tortoises.  
*M/V Santa Cruz II (B, L, D)*

**Puerto Ayora / Charles Darwin Research Station (Santa Cruz Island)**

*Saturday, August 5*

Sail to the town of Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island to visit the Charles Darwin Research station staffed with international scientists conducting biological research and conservation projects. Observe and photograph the giant tortoises that are part of the breeding program to release them into the wild. This afternoon board our motor coach to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island, home of the famous Giant Tortoise Reserve. See these amazing creatures and look for some unique land birds, such as the rare Woodpecker Finch, one of the world’s few tool-using species.  
*M/V Santa Cruz II (B, L, D)*

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POST OFFICE BAY
(FLOREANA ISLAND)

Sunday, August 6
Visit Post Office Bay where in 1793 British navigators placed a barrel so that mail could be left for guests from other vessels to be hand-delivered to its destination. Explore the north shore of Floreana along narrow channels teeming with life. In the afternoon, explore the underwater wonders around Champion Islet, an extinct shield volcano, regarded as one of the best snorkeling spots in the archipelago. Disembark at Cormorant Point on an olivine-crystal beach to observe many bird species such as Greater Flamingos, Pintail Ducks, Common Stilts, herons, sandpipers, and others. Snorkeling is also available here just off the beach. M/V Santa Cruz II (B, L, D)

BALTRA ISLAND/
GUAYAQUIL

Monday, August 7
After breakfast disembark at Baltra Island and transfer to the airport for a flight back to Guayaquil. Gather tonight for a farewell dinner.* Hilton Colón Guayaquil (B, D)

*Passengers have the option of flying home later this evening to Miami and connecting home or flying home the following day. The hotel room at the Hilton Colón Guayaquil is included in the program cost for the night and passengers may choose to use it until their flight home in the evening or stay the night and depart in the morning on the 8th. Other flight schedules may become available in 2017.

ARRIVE U.S.

Tuesday, August 8
Arrive in U.S. to catch connecting flights back home. Passengers continuing on the Machu Picchu Extension fly to Lima today.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The itinerary and program are subject to change without prior notice, due mainly to adjustments in the policies and regulations of the Galápagos National Park.

MACHU PICCHU
OPTIONAL EXTENSION

Tuesday–Monday, August 8–14
Discover the breathtaking Lost City of the Inca, Machu Picchu. Fly from Guayaquil to Lima, Peru where we’ll journey to Cusco, the capital city of the Inca Empire. From here transfer to the lovely town of Yucay in Urubamba Valley and overnight in Yucay. The next day take a dramatic train ride to the mystical site of Machu Picchu. Return to Cusco where a highlight will be a visit to the UNSAAC-Yale Center which houses the Machu Picchu artifacts excavated by Hiram Bingham. This five-night, six-day post-tour extension includes first-class accommodations; all excursions, all breakfasts, three lunches and three dinners, air transportation Lima/Cusco and Cusco/Lima; airport taxes; airport-to-hotel transfers; and the services of a Peruvian guide. Airfare from Guayaquil to Lima is not included. Additional information and itinerary will be sent to confirmed travelers.
Completely refurbished in 2015, the Santa Cruz II is a 90 passenger expedition vessel, ideally suited to cruising the Galápagos Islands. The ship boasts five spacious decks, with modern interiors with 50 cabins located across three decks: Horizon, Expedition and Panorama decks. Most cabins can accommodate either two twins or one double bed. Horizon Deck Explorer, Expedition Deck Explorer and Panorama Deck Explorer cabins each measure 163 square feet and the Panorama Deck Darwin Suite measures 325 square feet. Many cabins can be interconnected.

Guests can relax in the beautifully designed communal areas and viewing platforms, two lounge bars, a well-stocked library, two indulgent ocean-view hot tubs and a state of the art gym. Both indoor and outdoor dining options are available. The ship has a medical doctor aboard, with a fully equipped infirmary.

**What is Included**

- Educational program of lectures and discussions with Dr. Laurie Santos.
- All accommodations as specified in the itinerary including a 5-star hotel in Guayaquil.
- A five night cruise aboard the M/V Santa Cruz II, airport/hotel/pier group transfers.
- All meals throughout the Galápagos cruise and on the mainland as specified in the itinerary.
- Internal roundtrip airfare to the Galápagos Islands (Guayaquil/Galápagos/Guayaquil).
- Galápagos National Park entrance fee.
- Professional English-speaking guides throughout.
- Taxes, service and porterage charges.
- Basic gratuities to land based guides and drivers.
- Leadership.
- Coordination and administration.

**What is Not Included**

- International airfare (quoted separately).
- Customary shipboard gratuities; international departure tax from Ecuador (usually included in cost of international ticket).
- Excess baggage charges.
- Meals not specified in the itinerary.
- Personal items such as wetsuit rental, laundry, fax or telephone calls.
- Alcoholic beverages, dishes or beverages not included with meals.
- Room service.
- Passport fees.
- Individual transfers.
- Medical expenses, travel insurance, optional extensions or deviations from the scheduled tour. Any increases in the in-tour airfare (included as part of the program cost), airport taxes, security, or fuel surcharges imposed after the initial pricing of this program are not included.

**Land/Cruise Rates, per person double occupancy**

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*12-17 years old **applies to a child under 12 sharing a cabin and hotel room.

**Sample airfare JFK / GUAYAQUIL / JFK (as of April 2016 and subject to change) ... $884**

**Optional Post-Trip Extension to Machu Picchu (per person, double occupancy) ... $3,195**

Single supplement for the extension is $595. The third person sharing the same room is $200 less. Extension rates are based on a minimum of 10 guests.
Enclosed is a deposit for __________ ($1,000 deposit per person, plus $200 for the Machu Picchu extension, if applicable) to hold your place(s) on the Galápagos Islands trip August 1–8, 2017. Final payment is due April 25, 2017.

Contact Information

1) NAME AS ON PASSPORT DATE OF BIRTH YALE AFFILIATION
2) NAME AS ON PASSPORT DATE OF BIRTH YALE AFFILIATION
3) NAME AS ON PASSPORT DATE OF BIRTH YALE AFFILIATION
4) NAME AS ON PASSPORT DATE OF BIRTH YALE AFFILIATION

ADDRESS
CITY/STATE/ZIP
PRIMARY PHONE SECONDARY PHONE
E-MAIL

Payment Options

☐ Pay by check made out to “Royal Adventures”

☐ Please charge the deposit of $________ per person to:
  ☐ AMEX ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Card

CARD #
EXP. DATE SEC. CODE

☐ I wish to share accommodations with: ________________________________

☐ I wish have a single accommodation (limited availability—please call)

To book, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Royal Adventures” to Yale Educational Travel, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010. Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587. or Visit www.yaleedtravel.org/galapagos17 to book online.

Terms & Conditions

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a deposit of $1,000 per person payable to “ROYAL ADVENTURES”, along with the completed reservation form, to: Yale Educational Travel, Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or Fax to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due April 25, 2017 and must be paid by check. Royal Adventures handles all invoicing.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be made in writing to the Association of Yale Alumni. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of $500 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before April 25, 2017. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

PHYSICAL HEALTH: Participation on this program requires that passengers be in generally good health. Normal activities include leisurely walks, often over uneven terrain and excursions aboard Zodiac-type dinghies and wet and dry landings. It is essential that persons with any medical problems and related dietary restrictions make them known to us well before departure. We can counsel participants on whether an expedition is appropriate for them.

INSURANCE: Yale Educational Travel highly recommends that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance as the cancellation penalty in this brochure will apply. However, Yale does not recommend a particular insurance company. Yale travelers are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. Most travel insurance must be purchased within 14 days of paying a deposit in order to include certain provisions including pre-existing conditions. Neither the Association of Yale Alumni nor Royal Adventures accept liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable air-line ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour.

RESPONSIBILITY: Royal Adventures, its owners and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services connected with this tour. Such travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services and transportation are offered or provided, and the Association of Yale Alumni and Royal Adventures are not responsible for the acts or omissions of such suppliers and contractors. Royal Adventures and their respective, employees, agents, representatives, and agents, accept no liability therefor. The Association of Yale Alumni and Royal Adventures, assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, and acts of nature or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. The Association of Yale Alumni and Royal Adventures reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants. They reserve the right to withdraw this tour without penalty. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, airfare, or fuel increases will be passed onto participants. Neither the Association of Yale Alumni nor Royal Adventures accept the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

QUESTIONS: Please visit www.yaleedtravel.org/galapagos17, email edtravel@yale.edu, or phone (203) 432-1952.
Cruise to pristine islands and encounter species found nowhere else on earth

The Galápagos Islands

*Darwin’s Laboratory of Evolution*

**Aboard the Santa Cruz II**

**August 1–8, 2017**

**Laurie Santos**, *Associate Professor of Psychology*

**DISCOVER** this UNESCO World Heritage Site where birds and unusual animals are unfazed by your presence.

**ENJOY** an abundance of opportunities for hiking, snorkeling and photography