

Two blue-footed boobies are perched on a rocky shore. They have white bodies, dark wings, and bright blue feet. Their heads are turned towards each other, and they have long, pointed beaks. The background shows a rocky coastline with some greenery.

South American Adventure

**June 30 - July 17
2019**

DELUXE TOUR OF GALAPAGOS, MACHU PICCHU AND THE AMAZON RAIN FOREST

Sunday, June 30 – Tuesday, July 02

JW MARRIOTT HOTEL, QUITO

Arrival in Quito, Ecuador

Monday, July 01

Half Day Tour of Quito:

Quito is one of the world's highest capital cities. The views from its high vantage points are stunning. We will make a visit to the Presidential Palace and the Government's Palace, as well as La Basilica and San Francisco Churches, whose ornate décor and impressive architecture can be marveled.

Finally, we will make our way to Panecillo Mirador, Quito's most famous hill. Wonder at the juxtaposition of colonial and contemporary as you look out over the capital city. While in Quito we will eat all our meals at the hotel in our own private dining room. All meals under the strict supervision of Rabbi David Shalem

Tuesday, July 02 – Friday, July 05

LA CASA DEL SUIZO LODGE – AMAZON RAIN FOREST

We begin our journey over the Andes Mountain Range to the Amazonas Rain Forest, through some of Ecuador's most awe inspiring scenery.

We will eat all meals at the lodge...Again under the strict supervision of Rabbi David Shalem.

Our lodge, the deluxe, La Casa Del Suizo, will be our home for the 3 nights. Click on the following link to see for yourself the amazing activities that await us. <http://www.casadelsuizo.com/activities/>
In short, these 3 days are action-packed, exciting, educational...and very humid!!

Friday, July 05 – Monday, July 08

JW MARRIOT HOTEL, QUITO

After breakfast we take our leave of the Amazon Rainforest and head back to Quito.

Before we return to the hotel and free time to prepare for Shabbat, we will visit the ECUATOR LINE In the Middle of the World City – One foot in the Southern Hemisphere and one foot in the Northern Hemisphere.

Shabbat , July 06

After Shabbat lunch we will take a short, guided walk in the vicinity of the hotel . Before Mincha and Seuda Shlishit, we will learn about some of the history of South America in general and Ecuador in particular.

Sunday July 07

Today we will take a full day tour to the Cotopaxi National Park and the Limpiopungo Lagoon.

The Cotopaxi National Park lies 53 kilometers southeast of Quito and is the second most visited national park in Ecuador.

Cotopaxi National Park's main attraction is its still active volcano, which stands at a towering 19,000 feet above sea level, dwarfing the surrounding valleys, rivers and lagoons.

Referred to by the Incas as the 'Neck of the Moon', the volcano has had over a dozen recorded eruptions, making it the most volatile volcano in South America. That does not deter the many climbers who attempt to climb it each year. It last exploded in 1877. A visit to Cotopaxi is not complete without a visit to the Limpiopungo Lagoon. No matter what the weather, you are guaranteed to see birds, small finches and wrens hopping up and down the trail itself and larger waterfowl and shore birds in the many small ponds and marshy areas. You are also guaranteed stunning vistas of the surrounding mountains and of wild horses on the paramo.

The trail around the lake takes about 1.5 hours.

It is well maintained and practically flat, making it a perfect hike for those that are not handling high altitude well.

Monday, July 08 – Thursday, July 11**THE M/V LEGEND – THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS**

It would be futile to describe the experience of the Galapagos in a few sentences.

For an overview please click on the link <https://www.galapagosislands.com/info/>

The actual itinerary for the 3 nights/4 days adventure can be seen here: <https://www.gogalapagos.com/itinerary-legend-a/>

These few days are an experience of a lifetime

Thursday, July 11 – Sunday, July 14**THE COUNTRY CLUB HOTEL, LIMA**

We check in for our flight to Guayaquil, where we will arrive at 1250pm.

Since we have a few hours before our connecting flight to Lima, Rabbi Tawil will show us Beit Chabad in Guayaquil, and give us a brief talk about the Jewish Community there. We will have lunch at the only kosher restaurant in Ecuador, opened by a local Israeli businessman, and under the hashgacha of Rabbi Tawil.

We will return to the airport for our flight to Lima.

All meals will be at the Shul, and are under the strict supervision of the Rabbi of Lima, Rabbi Shlomo Cohen-Scali.

Friday, July 12

Our tour of Lima will provide us with a comprehensive historical oversight of the city, while visiting all the must-see sites.

We will drive along Lima's first freeway, built during the 1960s and 70s, arriving in downtown Lima, a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. Here we will be able to appreciate the impressive monuments and imposing architecture from the colonial times.

We will visit the 16th. Century Convent of Santo Domingo, one of the best preserved monasteries in the whole of Lima, where we view the magnificent old Lima from its tower. We continue to the Larco Museum, featuring the finest gold and silver collection from Ancient Peru, and the famous "erotic" archaeological collection.

We will be spending Shabbat with the very friendly, but small, Jewish Community of Lima.

Shabbat, July 13

After davening we will join the community in their weekly gala Kiddush/lunch. After the Kiddush, Lima's Rabbi will tell us about Jewish life in Peru.....past and present.

Shabbat afternoon rest and return to Shul for Mincha and Seuda Shlishit.

Motzei Shabbat will take us to the Magic Water Circuit – one of the best in the world

Sunday, July 14 – Wednesday July 17

ARANWA BOUTIQUE HOTEL, CUSCO

Farewell to Lima, and transfer to the airport for our flight to Cusco.

On arrival in Cusco we will transfer to our hotel, the famous and deluxe Aranwa Hotel. We will take a leisurely walk to acclimatize to the altitude, which is 3,400 meters(for a point of reference....Jerusalem's altitude is 790 meters!!!).

We will eat lunch at Chabad....a short walk from the hotel. All our meals will be at Chabad during our stay in Cusco.

Our afternoon tour will take us to The Cathedral, the Koricancha(Temple of the Sun) and the nearby ruins...Qenqo(Ceremonial and Ritual Center where sacrifices were made... Puca Pucara, which was used by Emperor Pachacutec as a tambo, Tambomachay and Sacsayhuaman Fortress.

Monday, July 15

This link will give us a valuable explanation of the history of Machu Picchu.

<https://www.britannica.com/place/Machu-Picchu>

We will travel to Machu Picchu by the Vistadome Train – an experience in and of itself – with an amazing, colorful, comic fashion show on the return train journey back to Cusco.

Tuesday, July 16

Our last full day on this tour will take us to Peru's historic Sacred Valley or the UruBamba Valley. This valley is famous for its lush scenery, picturesque colonial towns and a magnificent Inca fortress.

Our first stop is the Andean village of Chinchero. Here we will take in magnificent mountain views, visit the main square and view an ancient church with unique floral designs. From there we will head off to the small town of Maras, which is well known as a former salt-producing center that dates back all the way to colonial times. From here we

continue to the fascinating display of terraces in Moray, located about 2 miles from Maras. Moray boasts three amphitheater-like terraces made by the Incas. These terraces, which are carved deep into the earth in a bowl shape, were thought to be used to determine the optimal conditions for growing crops.

We continue to Ollantaytambo, home to a magnificent Inca fortress that we will explore. This historic fortress was where the Spanish conquistadors lost a major battle against the Inca Empire. Before we head back to Cusco, we will have time to walk around the cobblestone streets of Ollantaytambo.

Wednesday, July 17

We will have some free time before our transfer to the airport for our flight back to Lima Airport, where we all head back to our respective countries and home.

Our wonderful tour has come to an end.

A safe journey to everyone.