

Discover Ecuador and the Galapagos Islandswith Robert Burridge



Join **Robert Burridge** as he paints beautiful and exotic Ecuador. Bob's enthusiasm and fun style, along with the magic of this beautiful country and its Spanish and Inca culture, will provide the most amazing workshop experience imaginable.

Bob left the corporate world after 25 years as an Industrial Designer to be a full time, contemporary painter. Today he is a juror for international exhibits, workshop instructor, and is currently the Honorary President of the International Society of Acrylic Painters. A Signature Member of the Philadelphia Water Color Society and the International Society of Acrylic Painters, his honors include the Franklin Mint Award and the prestigious Philadelphia Watercolor Society's Crest Medal for Achievement in the Arts, previously awarded to the likes of Picasso, John Singer Sargent, and Georgia O'Keeffe.

Burridge's work is featured in many books and magazines, on Starbucks Coffee mugs, Pearl Vodka bottles, and on eight commercial tapestries. His paintings are sold in galleries worldwide, including Sausalito, Raleigh, Sedona, Maryland, Ashland and Hawaii.

Here are some of Bob's thoughts about painting-- "Why is Making Art Important to me? I've always felt making art was something I just had to do. It came out of me easier than any other skill I had, or wanted to learn. It always felt natural for me to draw and make things, doing things with my hands; crafts and models as a child, doing magic tricks as a teenager, and inventing new products as a corporate designer. The underlying and connecting thread to all this was my "life long" preoccupation with making things better. It's important to me because it has always been there with me -- making art. I don't know when I wasn't curious about looking for something new. I always felt safe to play with new ideas and was always encouraged by my parents. I was the middle child of 5 boys so I suspect I was an overachiever at getting some attention: "Hey look at me!" I think, deep down, all artists are saying the same thing... "Hey, look at me!"

THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS! Add-on Nov 26 - 30, 2009

It's not too often you come across a place that is unique in the world, like the unique Galápagos Islands. Everyone has heard of this archipelago, far out in the Pacific Ocean, protecting a bubble of life like nowhere else in the world, where doe-eyed sea lions, birds with blue feet, and tortoises as big as armchairs roam free and fearless. The islands, strictly monitored by the National Park Service to insure that this unique ecosystem is minimally impacted, are one of the world's natural treasures. Only a lucky few actually get to swim with puppy-sized penguins and walk past nesting seabirds close enough to touch, and all are completely nonplussed by human presence. The feeling of looking at acres of wild animals that don't flee at your arrival – a place where you actually have to be careful not to step on any creatures as you walk down the trail – is nothing short of amazing. By the end of your stay, you will have gotten a taste of what the earth was like before the human race showed up and started throwing its weight around. You'll go home understanding how a short visit to the islands over 170 years ago sparked one of the most controversial scientific theories. Come experience it while you can. **OPTIONAL**

Workshop Setting and Highlights...

Quito... Ecuador's capital city, second highest capital in the world, at 9,842 ft, has one of the most magnificent settings in a basin surrounded by Andean mountain peaks. Designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, Quito boasts one of Latin America's richest concentration of colonial churches, plazas, museums, and historic buildings... We will enjoy a visit to the Middle of the World Monument at latitude 0'0'0", where it is possible to stand in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres at the same time.

Avenue of the Volcanoes and Hacienda Agustin De Callo...

Travel south through the Avenue of the Volcanoes along the Central Sierras to visit Cotopaxi National Park with 82,533 acres, where wild horses roam, and home to the highest active volcano in the world, Cotopaxi. Stay at Hacienda San Agustin de Callo, built on the site of an Inca Palace, one of the two most important archeological Inca sites in Ecuador. www.incahacienda.com

The renowned Hacienda Cusin and the Otavalo Inca Market

High among Ecuador's Andean peaks you will find incredible scenery with ice capped volcanoes and pastoral scenes of colorfully dressed indigenous herders watching sheep and llamas graze windswept fields of grass. The indigenous market of Otavalo offers crafts for tourists from the many nearby small villages that specialize in a particular craft. We stay at the Hacienda Cusin a restored 17th century Andean estate, now a country inn. Terracotta roof tiles, cobblestone and fountain courtyards, and several acres of perennial gardens. www.haciendacusin.com

To enroll...

Detach the registration form and send it with your deposit or full payment check (**class size limited**, date of registration request determines priority of space) made **payable to Explore Guatemala, L.L.C.** Upon enrollment, additional information will be provided to assist you in planning your trip. **Do not make airline arrangements until you have been notified by Explore Guatemala to do so.**

Robert Burridge's Ecuador Art Workshop/Tour

November 30 – December 9, 2009

Galapagos Option – November 26 - 30

Explore Guatemala, L.L.C.

Tel/Fax 210-599-8468

e-mail: registrar@exploreguatemala.com

web site: www.exploreguatemala.com

P.O. BOX 17217, San Antonio, TX 78217

Registration Request

Name as it appears on your passport:

Name you go by: _____

Passport Number (**Current passport required**):

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Other phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Sex: M/F _____ Date of Birth: _____

Occupation: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Medical/dietary considerations:

_____ I am on my own but wish to share a room.

_____ I am a smoker.

_____ I prefer the single supplement charge.

_____ **Galapagos Island add-on (Nov 26-30)**

Enclosed is check/money order

payable to Explore Guatemala, L.L.C.

Deposit: \$ _____ or Total Fee: \$ _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

X _____

(indicates you have read our Terms and Conditions available on our website)



Robert Burridge Art Workshop/Tour

*Experience Ecuador and the *Galapagos Islands
November 30 – December 9, 2009*

**Galapagos Add-on Tour – Nov 26 - 30, 2009*

Galapagos Add-on November 26 - 30, 2009

Thu 26th: Arrive Quito-you'll be met and taken to Hotel Sebastian.

Fri 27th: Fly to the Galapagos Islands and board M/V Santa Cruz. Visit Cerro Brujo's white coralline beach by dinghy with good views of Bluefooted Bobbies, frigate birds, and Galapagos sea lions.

Sat 28th: An exciting walk on the lava terrain of Punta Suarez to walk among waved albatross and many bird colonies, sea lions, and the red-green-black iguanas. Sail to Punta Cormorant where you'll see Greater Flamingos and many other amazing species of bird. Snorkel or glass bottom boat the crystal clear waters here.

Sun 29th: On Fernandina you'll observe the highest density of marine iguanas with lots of sea lions, and sally light-foot crabs. Then sail along the Bolivar Channel with astonishing views of Galapagos' youngest volcanoes. Punta Isabela will offer the most incredible snorkel outing of your life along the cliffs of a partly sunken volcano where you may swim with penguins, green sea turtles, and sea lions. An amazing adventure not to be missed!

Mon 30th: Visit the famous Charles Darwin Research Station to see the Giant Galapagos Tortoise Rearing in Captivity program. Strolling amongst these giants is incredible. Fly back to Quito.

Workshop/Tour November 30 – December 9, 2008

Mon 30th: Fly into Quito where you will be met at the airport and taken to Hotel Sebastian awaiting all arrivals.

Tue 1st: The day begins with a half day tour of Old Town. Then a visit to the *Medio Mundo* (middle of the world) monument. We then travel along the Avenue of the Volcanoes to Hacienda San Agustín de Callo built around an ancient Inca Palace. (B,D)

Wed 2nd: Wake up to roosters crowing and horses and llamas grazing under the views of Volcano Cotopaxi. A discussion of goals and intentions, a demo, painting a series in one location will be the work of the day with Bob in this Ecuador hacienda. (B,D)

Thurs 3rd: Breakfast in a room of finely chiseled Inca stone walls. After a relaxed talk about painting on location and addressing your specific questions, explore the hotel environs, hike, sketch, photograph, horseback riding, or sit by the fireplace and enjoy the library. (B,D)

Fri 4th: Travel through dramatic scenery of volcanoes, patchwork covered mountains and rose plantations to the oldest hacienda in the country, Hacienda Cusin. It will take your breath away. (B,D)

Sat 5th: Paint in, and shop, the famous Otavalo indigenous market where you'll find Treasures galore. Afternoon critique. (B,D)

Sun 30th: The beautiful grounds of this ancient hacienda will provide amazing subject for Bob to do a demo and provide hours of individual instruction. (B,D)

Mon 7th: A relaxing day of painting in the Monastery with a demo, and one on one attention. Many other optional activities include; horseback riding into the mountains, a Condor Park, many hiking trails overlooking Otavalo, reading in the library, exploring the grounds, and off-site adventures. (B,L)

Tue 8th: Some time for exploring before we head back to Quito (B)

Wed 9th: Departure flights home.

Accompanying your Workshop/Tour

Anita Rogers lived in Guatemala for 25 years, speaks Spanish, and was a collector of Maya weavings and Spanish Colonial antiques. She has been around the travel industry most of her life. She and **John Korte** have lived and traveled throughout Central and South America for the past 8 years. They understand local customs and business practices. They stay in the hotels, eat in the restaurants, and ride the transportation, personally experiencing every aspect of their workshop/tours. They know the "hidden treasures" as well as the little bits of information only the locals know. Their experience, relationships, and knowledge of the country allow them to provide a worry-free, life enriching travel adventure.

Included in your Discover Ecuador Workshop:

- A superbly crafted workshop/travel experience to amazing Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands (add-on).
- Travel and learn with renowned artist Robert Burridge.
- 10 days, 9 nights (most at haciendas) with most meals included (per itinerary). (Galapagos 5 days, 4 nights)
- Deluxe motor coaches viewing the most scenic and colorful venues...an artists paradise.
- Hotel baggage handling, driver, meal service tips, all entrance fees, and excursions included in the itinerary.

NOT included:

- Airfare from your hometown to Quito, Ecuador.
Our flexible plan allows you to:

1. use your Frequent Flyer miles to obtain your own tickets
2. **or**, purchase your tickets through your own sources
3. **or**, call our travel coordinator Gretchen of G&G Travel at 877-809-8900. Tell her you are traveling with **Explore Guatemala – Bob Burridge Group**. She will find the best airfare and arrange for you to arrive by the appointed time, even arrange Frequent Flyer miles tickets for you.

Obviously, the sooner you make your reservation, the better the price and availability. However, **do not make airline arrangements until you have been notified by Explore Guatemala to do so...**

Terms:

Prices:

- **\$2495** Plus airfare (based on double occupancy).
- Single room supplement: **\$385**.
- **Reservation Deposit: \$500**
- **Galapagos add-on** DBL \$1985, SGL Supplement \$1155.

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