



TRAVEL
DIFFERENTLY

Bespoke Adventures in Nature

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LATIN AMERICA TRAVEL GUIDE

... AND HOW TO DO IT DIFFERENTLY

TRAVEL
GREENER

TRAVEL
SLOWER

TRAVEL
FAIRER

TRAVEL
BETTER

ECUADOR AND GALAPAGOS

Ecuador is quite simply one of the most diverse countries on the planet, featuring an astonishing array of wildlife, landscapes and indigenous cultures in an area only slightly larger than the UK. From the Amazon Rainforest to the Galapagos Islands, via the mighty Andes Mountains, there is something for every nature enthusiast.

DO IT DIFFERENTLY

Embark on a multi-day lodge-to-lodge trek around the communities of Otavalo, to the snowline of iconic Cotopaxi Volcano, or the remote Quilotoa loop. Stay in small mountain lodges and enjoy delicious local food. A perfect adventure for those with a passion for hiking and cultural immersion.



ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS ACTIVE ADVENTURE

Breathe in the mountain scenery of Otavalo and Cotopaxi, as you trek, horse-ride and mountain bike under the gaze of volcanoes. Try river tubing and cycling at a charming lodge, interspersed with opportunities for thermal baths and spa relaxation. Finally, head to the Galapagos for a week of outdoor activities amongst the iconic wildlife and dramatic scenery of the archipelago.

17 days from £4,300 per person



CRUISE VS ISLAND HOPPING

To fully enjoy one of the world's greatest wildlife destinations, the first question our guests often ask is, do I want a cruise or island-based adventure?

Our travel experts will happily talk through the options in full, but in brief a cruise is best for those wanting the widest variety of flora and fauna, whilst an island-based trip gives you more activities and flexibility.

You are sure to see the most iconic creatures either way – including giant tortoises, iguanas, blue-footed boobies, and sea lions – but it is only by cruise that you reach the more far-flung corners of the archipelago. This is where you can truly appreciate how Darwin came up with his theory of evolution, through the startling diversity of species found on different islands.

Meanwhile, on one of our island-hopping adventures you will see a fascinating array of wildlife, but can also include treks to volcanic craters, cycle through wetland trails, sleep under the stars in a Giant Tortoise reserve, go kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding on crystal clear waters, and have as much beach time as you want (often accompanied by marine iguanas and sea turtles!).

Or for the best of both worlds... we love combining the two; a shorter cruise with an island-based adventure (both start from 3 nights), for the ultimate Galapagos experience.

PERU

Famed for its Inca heritage sites and vibrant cities, Peru's dramatic mountains, deep canyons, sparkling lakes and lush rainforest make this a natural as well as a cultural wonder of the world.

DO IT DIFFERENTLY

Spend an unforgettable day with an authentic welcoming Andean Community, the Misminay. Take part in a traditional activity such as textile weaving or preparing a traditional Pachamanca dish and learn about the Andean lifestyle. A unique cultural exchange that will broaden your travel horizons.



PERU IN-DEPTH



Go beyond the usual highlights to include the white city of Arequipa, condors soaring above the Colca Canyon, inspiring island visits on Lake Titicaca, and a full week exploring the magical Sacred Valley and its fascinating communities. Bookend the trip with unmissable Lima, Cuzco and Machu Picchu, and you have the ultimate Peru adventure.

22 days from £3,900 per person

BRAZIL

Brazil is one of the great nature-travel destinations. From the wildlife wonderlands of the Amazon and Pantanal to paradise beaches and thundering waterfalls, via historic colonial towns and iconic cities. Brazil is a country of world class adventures and unique variety.

DO IT DIFFERENTLY

Join a unique community- and nature- based tourism initiative, at the remarkable Ibiti Project. First a luxury hotel, now grown outwards to reinvigorate the local town and community. Enjoy mountain hikes, horse riding, cycling, bird watching and so much more at this special, positive-impact project.



WILDLIFE, WATERFALLS AND BEACH



Explore Brazil, from the flora and fauna of the Pantanal Wetlands, to the breathtaking Iguazu Falls, all the way to iconic Rio de Janeiro via the Green Coast. Kayak through mangroves, hike into the Atlantic Rainforest, and discover dozens of hidden beaches, accompanied by mouthwatering cuisine, hidden communities, and charming lodges.

16 days from £3,950 per person



WHY TRAVEL DIFFERENTLY...

BY SAM GOUGH, FOUNDER.

Travel Differently was formed on the idea that tourism can be a force for good, if it is planned thoughtfully, mitigating environmental impacts, and ensuring that local habitats and communities benefit from our visits.

We launched during the 2021 COP26 conference in Glasgow and were a founding signatory of *The Glasgow Declaration*. Reflecting our commitment to sustainable travel, we also joined the campaigns *Tourism Declares (a Climate Emergency)* and *Future of Tourism*, are members of the *Inspire Global Community*, and created our founding pillars; to **Travel Greener, Slower, Fairer and Better**.

One of the most important decisions we made was to only work with the most ethically-minded, eco-focussed, inspirational and innovative partners in each country. We wanted to make sure our trips left a positive impact locally, but also got under the skin of each destination, and delivered an exceptional experience for every guest.

One of these is Tropic, our partners for Peru and Ecuador. We sat down for a Q&A with their CEO and Founder, Jascivan Carvalho...



Q&A WITH JASCIVAN CARVALHO

What are your key travel principles?

Our business was founded on the concept of sustainable tourism – both ecologically and culturally – long before it was a buzz phrase. Tourism has an impact, no matter how you look at it, and we want that impact to be positive. To enhance the lives of the locals through connections or employment opportunities. Better yet – opportunities that allow them to share their culture with the world while helping to preserve it.

What is your top suggestion for “travelling differently” in Ecuador and/or Peru?

We want guests to get under the skin of the country. We have relationships with locals who joyfully welcome people into their homes, their daily lives and their cultures. You can stay at a hacienda and have a wonderful time. Or you can trek through the beautiful mountains, stop at a family's home to cook and share a meal with them and then go to your lodge.



What does sustainable travel look like to Tropic?

It means taking a hard look at every single thing we do – from the partners we choose to work with in our various destinations to the sources of power in our offices – and finding a way to do it the best way we know how. Our unique Guardians program helps to invest our hosts/guides in every aspect of the guest experience – this means guests have an expert local resource that will help guide them to meaningful interactions and ensure their approaches and exchanges are respectful of local cultures, customs and individuals.

Can you give us an example of a really special eco-lodge or destination?

Recently I trekked Apu Ausangate in the Southern Valley of Cusco. This is the land of the Chilca and Osefina people – the last alpaca and llama herders in the world. We spent our days exploring the breathtaking mountain landscapes on foot, hosted by community leaders who share the importance of the sacred Ausangate Mountain, which is closely linked to the Andean Cosmivision and mythology. These same hosts run the lodges where we stay. After a long day of hiking, you want a warm, comfortable bed, delicious meals to refuel and a crackling fire to sit around and share the day's stories – that's what you'll find – along with no distractions from the outside world. It's really special and has to be experienced firsthand.

What is your favourite travel memory / experience?

Our last family adventure in Patagonia and Torres del Paine is fresh in my mind. We spent time exploring the park and staying at a traditional hacienda, living like locals. Every day in the park we encountered mind blowing landscapes, from glaciers to the base of the iconic towers. We then hit the other side of Las Torres and made a traditional hacienda our home. We had delicious traditional food (and lots of wine!), learned about the working farm, saw pumas up close as well as lots of condors – it was incredible!



Tell us about any really unique / different activities Tropic can offer our guests?

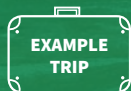
I'm really proud of our May I Introduce You programs. These are special local, insider experiences we've created that run the gamut from an afternoon painting workshop with a talented local artist to a sit down (and taste!) with the 'potato whisperer,' an agricultural wizard who shares his secrets with visitors and initiates them into the unknown world of the Andean potato and other tubers. These are great examples of how you can “Travel Differently”!



CHILE

Spanning over 2600 miles in length but averaging only 110 miles in width, Chile is a land of startling contrasts. From the lunar landscapes of the high-altitude Atacama Desert, to the glistening glaciers of Patagonia, via world-class wineries and vibrant cultural hotspots, Chile offers something for everyone.

CHILE WILDERNESS ESCAPE



Chile is one of the world's real wilderness playgrounds, and this itinerary places you at the heart of its natural wonders. After a relaxed introduction at a charming vineyard, enjoy extended stays at eco-friendly lodges in both the arid Atacama Desert and glistening Torres del Paine. Take your pick from a daily menu of included activities, returning to the lodge each evening for delicious food and sublime Chilean wine.

14 days from £5,500 per person



DO IT DIFFERENTLY

Whilst the towering mountains and sparkling lakes of Torres del Paine are the "must see" gem of Patagonia, we love combining this with a hacienda stay outside of the National Park. Here you can also experience a working farm, track pumas, enjoy traditional homecooked meals, and connect with not just the natural wonders but also the fascinating people of the region.



ARGENTINA

Argentina is simply epic. From the icefields of Patagonia to the stunning waterfalls at Iguazu, via timeless gaucho estancias, hidden wildlife wonderlands, glistening lakes, captivating cities, and the incomparable Puna. A country of startling beauty, to be enjoyed alongside the finest food and wine on the continent.

DO IT DIFFERENTLY

Head off-road into the remote and otherworldly high-altitude landscapes of The Puna, in the far Northwest. This is a land of multi-coloured lagoons, red rock valleys, towering sand dunes, pumice stone fields, blinding salt flats, black volcanic cones, and tiny oasis communities. Possibly Latin America's best kept secret.



NORTHERN ARGENTINA IN-DEPTH

Go deep and diverse on this incredible adventure through Northern Argentina. Explore the waterfalls and jungles of Iguazu and Macona, the historic sites of San Ignacio, and wildlife wonderland of Ibera. Continue to the high altitude landscapes around Salta, cultural Purmamarca, picturesque Cachi, the vineyards of Cafayate, and unforgettable days driving across the mind-blowing landscapes. This is a trip of epic proportions!

22 days from £7,400 per person

CENTRAL AMERICA

A region of vibrant cultures, rainforest-cloaked ruins, stunning beaches, exotic wildlife and nature-adventures galore. Away from the over-touristed beach resorts, Mexico's real gems range from the immense Copper Canyon and wildlife-filled Sea of Cortez, to welcoming colonial towns and incredible cuisine. Belize and Guatemala offer a dream combination of paradise beaches, thick rainforest, caves and volcanoes. As one of the world's great biodiversity destinations, Costa Rica invites you to discover sloths, monkeys, caiman, whales, and sea turtles. Go rafting, surfing, and zip lining. Or simply relax on tropical sands under swaying palm trees; Pura Vida!



TRAVEL DIFFERENTLY... MONTH BY MONTH

Know when to travel but not where? Latin America offers year-round holidays. Some months are better for wildlife, some months are dryer, some months avoid the crowds, and certain places can be enjoyed every month. If your holiday time is fixed, here are our top tips and favourite places to consider each month....



JANUARY – MARCH

Costa Rica – experience the famous biodiversity in the dry season, perfect for wildlife spotting, outdoor activities and high-octane experiences.

Antarctica – an icy wilderness as magnificent as it gets. Humpback Whales, penguin colonies and sheer scale.

MEXICO, BELIZE & GUATEMALA ADVENTURE



Embark on an epic overland journey across three remarkable countries. Explore welcoming Mexican culture in Oaxaca, San Cristobal and Merida, the imposing ruins of Palenque, Chichen Itza and Tikal, the stunning beaches of Belize's coastline, and the rainforests, lakes and volcanoes of mysterious Guatemala.

28 days from £8,000 per person



COSTA RICAN ACTIVE ADVENTURE



Explore one of the worlds greenest destinations, on a coast-to-coast adventure. After rafting in to your first lodge, continue with canoe trips, hikes, hanging bridges, canopy walks and zip lines whilst visiting the Arenal Volcano, Monteverde Cloud Forest, Tortugeuro National Park, and finish with sea kayaking, snorkelling, and surfing lessons on the Pacific Coast. There's even plenty of hot springs and beach time, to relax and recover.

14 days from £3,700 per person



APRIL – JUNE

Ecuador and Galapagos – great year-round but fantastic months for diving, rich vegetation, and active wildlife.

Mexico – avoid the crowds and enjoy dryer days. Clear skies and calm seas.



JULY – SEPTEMBER

Brazil – jaguar spotting season in the Pantanal. Cooler temperatures for exploring the beaches and jungle.

Peru – another year-round contender. Perfect trekking conditions; sunny days and bright blue Andean skies.



OCTOBER – DECEMBER

Chile – unmatched hikes, scenery to take your breathe away and kayaking in glacial lakes.

Argentina – Patagonia is spellbinding, the Lake District comes alive with wildflowers and Salta is remote and vivid.

DISCOVER OUR OTHER DESTINATIONS

Travel differently to more of our carefully chosen destinations. We purposely don't cover everywhere. We are passionate about only designing holidays to destinations that demonstrate how to travel greener, travel slower, travel fairer and travel better.



BHUTAN

A Pioneer in green travel. One of the world's most authentic and pristine destinations; This secret Kingdom is all about vivid mountain scenery, remote Himalayan culture, and peace and tranquillity. Do it differently by cycling the valleys with your guide, witness a remote festival and go beyond the highlights deep into the Himalayas. And you don't need to forgo luxury.

12 days from £5,900 per person



UGANDA AND RWANDA

World famous for the ecotourism success story of the endangered mountain gorillas, these neighbours offer a chance to track chimpanzees and golden monkeys, climb volcanoes, interact with local communities and soak up some of Africa's most glorious panoramas and landscapes. Travel differently by horseback, take an epic 1000-mile slow travel trip or stay in luxurious lodges.

14 days from £7,300 per person



RAJASTHAN, INDIA

India is cities, colour, people, noise, vibrancy. We want to show you the bits between the highlights, the unexpected moments of solitude, the parts that connect the palaces and forts. India in slow motion, differently. Stay in generationally run boutique hotels, go leopard spotting without a tourist in sight, see the temples... but hear the stories too.

18 days from £4,800 per person



CONTACT US TO DESIGN YOUR BESPOKE ADVENTURE. ALL OUR TRIPS ARE TAILOR-MADE TO SUIT YOUR OWN PERSONAL INTERESTS, TIME FRAME AND TRAVEL STYLE.

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