



WORLDWIDE ADVENTURE GUIDES



GALAPAGOS

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS ITINERARY

DAY 1:

ARRIVAL IN QUITO

Take it easy today, since the elevation is nearly 10,000 feet above sea level and you will need to adjust to the altitude.

Overnight Hotel Quito

DAY 2:

QUITO CITY TOUR

Today you will have a private guided city tour of historical Quito and visit the equator and Intiñan Museum. The colonial architecture of Quito is truly unique, and the city was named a world heritage site by UNESCO in 1978, making it the first city in the world to acquire this status. You will walk the narrow streets of Old Town exploring historic squares, museums, churches and the Presidential

palace. You'll then visit El Panecillo, featuring a sculpture of Madonna a breathtaking 360 view high above Quito.

Overnight Hotel Quito

DAY 3:

BALTRA AIRPORT AND BACHAS

Arrival at Baltra airport, where our National Park guide will be waiting for you. In the afternoon, we will visit Bachas Beach. From November until May, this is one of the most important sea turtle nesting grounds in the Galapagos. After the walk, you will have the option to swim or snorkel from the beach.

Highlights: American flamingos, white cheeked pintails, sandpipers, lava gulls, blue footed boobies
Trail: 1.6 km / 1 mi, easy

Overnight Private luxury boat (L, D)

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DAY 4:

SULLIVAN BAY AND BARTOLOME

The Sullivan Bay hike is a journey into understanding the birth of these volcanic islands. You will walk in a very well-preserved flow of Pahoehoe lava, which will give you endless opportunities to see its delicate textures. At first sight, the barren landscape looks completely deprived of life, but look carefully for pioneer plants, lava lizards and small birds. By the shore, you can find penguins, pelicans and oystercatchers. You will have the option to swim or snorkel from a coral sand beach or from the dinghies.

Highlights: Pahoehoe lava, Galapagos penguins, oystercatchers, Galapagos hawks
Trail: 2.2 km / 1.4 mi, hard

Bartolome is one of the most iconic places in the Galapagos and one of the few where you can see penguins without going to the remote areas of western Isabela and Fernandina. You will get great views of Pinnacle Rock, located on the northern side of the island, right next to a beautiful peach-color sand beach. The hike to the top of the island is fantastic and will offer you incredible views of lunar landscapes with scattered volcanic cones. After the hike, you will have the option to swim or snorkel from the beach. This area is one of the best snorkeling spots in the Galapagos, not only because of the clear and calm water, but also because of the presence of penguins, along with an incredible diversity of fish, colorful invertebrates, sea lions, turtles, rays and reef sharks.

Highlights: Galapagos penguins, volcanic landscapes, Pinnacle Rock, blue-footed boobies, herons, sea lions, sharks
Trail: 1.5 km / 0.9 mi, moderate

Overnight Private luxury boat (B, L, D)

DAY 5:

HIGHLANDS AND CHARLES DARWIN STATION

A bus will take you to the highlands, stopping along the way at one of the reserves in the lush highland forests. This is the best place to see Galapagos giant tortoises casually grazing and resting in freshwater ponds. It is also home to a great diversity of birds rarely found at the lowlands, including finches, flycatchers and several species of water birds. You will visit a lava tunnel (depending on the itinerary) and learn how these extraordinary formations were created by ancient volcanic eruptions.

Highlights: giant tortoises, Darwin finches, barn owls, white-cheeked pintails, Galapagos flycatchers, lava tunnels
Trail: 1-1.5 km / 0.6-0.9 mi, easy

The Charles Darwin Station is a nonprofit organization that has been working for decades together with the Galapagos National Park to preserve the biodiversity of these unique islands. During this visit you will learn about the projects undertaken to protect the native species and eradicate the invasive ones that threaten the Galapagos environment. One of the most important and emblematic projects has been reproducing giant tortoises in captivity. The visit is mostly outdoors in a beautiful dry native forest with giant cactus and many other interesting native plants. It is also a fantastic place to find several endemic Darwin finches, as well as flycatchers and mockingbirds.

Highlights: giant tortoises and land iguanas breeding program, Darwin finches, Galapagos mockingbirds, Galapagos flycatchers, yellow warblers
Trail: 2 km / 1.2 mi, easy

Overnight Private luxury boat (B, L, D)

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DAY 6:

CORMORANT POINT / DEVIL'S CROWN AND POST OFFICE BAY

Punta Cormorant, in the north of Floreana, is known for its large coastal lagoon with American flamingos, white-cheeked pintails, black-necked stilts and other shorebirds. There is a beautiful white sand beach, which is an important nesting ground for green sea turtles. Devil's Crown, a heavily eroded little volcano near Floreana island, is one of the best snorkeling sites in the entire archipelago, as the current funnels plankton through the crown, attracting huge schools of snapper, Creole fish, parrot fish, angelfish, reef sharks, sea turtles, rays and a phenomenal amount of marine life.

Highlights: American flamingos, blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds, tropicbirds, Galapagos shearwaters, sea lions, sea turtle nesting site, finches, shorebirds, coral-sand beach
Trail: 1.6 km / 1 mi, easy

Post Office Bay was often used by whalers to anchor their ships and go up to the highlands to get freshwater and tortoises. A system of mail was established more than 200 years ago: A barrel near the beach became the way to get messages to other ships and to the outside world. This mail system is still in use and will allow you to send postcards from the Galapagos. Aside from a small beautiful beach and a lava tunnel, the area is great for dinghy tours to look for sea lions, green sea turtles, shorebirds and small sharks. There is also great snorkeling from the beach.

Highlights: sea lions, sea turtles, finches, shorebirds, marine iguanas, penguins
Trail: 0.7 m / 0.4 mi, easy

Overnight Private luxury boat (B, L, D)

DAY 7:

SUAREZ POINT AND GARDNER BAY

This rocky trail is one of the most amazing nature walks you can do in the Galapagos islands. Sea lions and marine iguanas will be the first to welcome us, followed by large colonies of sea birds, including Nazca and blue-footed boobies, gulls and tropicbirds. At the end of the trail we will visit a colony of waved albatross (April to January), the largest bird in the islands and one of the most interesting because of its powerful flight and elaborate courtship. This is the only place where you will see them at close range.

Highlights: sea lions, waved albatross, Galapagos hawks, Española mockingbirds, Darwin finches, marine iguanas, Nazca and blue-footed boobies, red-billed tropicbirds, swallow-tailed gulls, herons, lava lizards
Trail: 1.7 km / 1.1 mi, hard

Gardner Beach is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful and interesting beaches to visit in the Galapagos. Its fine coral sand and turquoise water give it a tropical appearance, which contrasts with the presence of sea lions basking on the beach. You will have the opportunity to walk along the beach and learn about the biology of sea lions and other endemic species, such as the Española mockingbird, marine iguanas and Galapagos hawks. There are several great snorkeling places at Gardner Bay. It is a fantastic site to swim with sea lions, reef sharks, rays and many species of fish, including Angelfish, Parrotfish, Damselfish, Surgeonfish and many others.

Highlights: Coral sand beach, sea lions, Galapagos hawks, Española mockingbirds, Darwin finches, marine iguanas
Trail: 0.8 km / 0.5 mi, easy

Overnight Private luxury boat (B, L, D)

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DAY 8:

INTERPRETATION CENTER

Located on the outskirts of Puerto Baquerizo, this center is dedicated to the history of human presence in the Galapagos. Covering the time of the early Spanish explorers to the present, this exhibition will take you through the dangers and struggles of the first settlers trying to survive the harsh Galapagos environment.

Highlights: Endemic plants, exhibition on human history

Trail: 0.2 km / 650 ft, easy

Transfer to the airport to take your flight back to continental Ecuador (B)



INCLUDED:

- Round trip airfare to Galapagos from Ecuador
- Accommodation in double cabin with private bathroom, hot water and air-conditioning
- All meals on boat (breakfast, lunch and dinner)
- All transfers in the islands
- Visits and excursions according to itineraries
- Bilingual National Park guide (English/Spanish)
- Use of snorkel equipment (mask, tube and fins) and kayaks
- Wetsuit
- Snack and juices after each excursion
- Free coffee, tea and purified water station
- Airport assistance the day of cruise
- Three nights of accommodation in a luxury hotel and transfer from hotel to airport in mainland Ecuador (Quito or Guayaquil)
- Transit control card (\$20)
- Historical Quito city and equator tour with private transportation and bilingual tour guide
- WAG swag

NOT INCLUDED:

- Cancellation and travel/medical insurance
- Galapagos National Park entrance fee (\$100 per person)
- Alcoholic beverages and soft drinks
- Meals while not on the boat
- Tips and personal expenses
- International flights from your country to Ecuador