

Galapagos Journey I

Catamaran Adventure Cruise

Explore the islands that inspired Darwin and the theory of evolution. Experience wildlife so diverse, abundant and unafraid of people you'll have to watch out to keep from stepping on a napping sea lion or nesting iguana!

The Galápagos Islands, 600 miles off the Pacific coast of Ecuador, provide a nature laboratory unlike any on earth. The number and diversity of wildlife, their isolation from other populations and their sublime indifference to people, make these islands one of the legendary wildlife experiences in the world.

Choose from 4, 5 and 8-day cruises. See the Trip Details section below for the dates of departure and the islands visited for each program.

Following is a description of some of the major islands of the Galapagos archipelago:

San Cristobal Island:

Interpretation Center: Built with the cooperation of the Spanish Science Center, the interpretation center gives a very good introduction to the Galapagos islands: its marine and land life--fauna and flora. It is located in the outskirts of the small city of Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, (the capital of the Galapagos Province).

Cerro Tijeretas (Frigate Bird Hill):

The trip to Tijeretas Hill takes approximately 20-40 minutes. Once there, visitors are treated to a spectacular view of the white beaches on one side and the roofs of Puerto Baquerizo on the other. The hill is named after the Frigate birds who frequent the area. Here you will be able to see both the Magnificent Frigate birds and Great Frigate birds in the same colony so this is the perfect place to compare and learn to distinguish them.

This site offers some safe snorkeling, a great place for beginners as there are no strong currents and a brilliant opportunity to look out for stingrays, barber fish and butterfly fish.

Isla Lobos (Sea Lion Islet):

This small islet, located only an hour by boat from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, is separated from the main Island by a narrow stretch of calm water. Upon its rocky shores blue-footed boobies nest and sea lions rest. The atmosphere is one of tranquillity and primitive beauty and reveals a very typical Galapagos environment.

Española Island:

Bahia Gardner: Located on the northeastern coast of Hood (Española), Gardner Bay is an excellent beach for relaxing, swimming and observing sea lions. Here we will also have the opportunity to observe sharks in the crystal-clear ocean waters.

Punta Suarez: This rocky land-point sustains one of the most impressive and varied colonies of sea birds in the Galápagos. Along its southern shore, high cliffs rise up from the sea allowing the visitor spectacular views of soaring birds and of the blow hole, a lava tube where water can spout up to 75 feet into the air depending on the intensity of the surf.

Floreana Island:

Post office bay: This site is home to a wooden barrel, historically placed there in the 18th century by the crew of a whaling ship. Ever since this time the barrel has been used by mariners and tourists as a sort of postal service. Whalers and Galapagos residents used to leave their mail inside it, waiting for the captain of any boat headed to where the mail was addressed to deliver it... why not try it out to see if it still works? What's more, apart from being the location of the Post Office Barrel, this site was also the landing area for some of the first colonists to the Galapagos Islands.

Punta Cormorant: This site offers one of the largest and best flamingo lagoons in the Galapagos. It is situated between two tuff cones, giving the area its special atmosphere. Aside from the flamingos, various species of shorebirds can be seen, the most common being stilts, white-checked pintail ducks and other migratory birds. This is a unique zone due to the huge amount of endemic plant life. It is also very interesting to observe the two distinct beaches: the “green sand beach (due to the high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand) and the “flour sand beach” made up of coral.

Santa Cruz Island:

Charles Darwin Interpretation Center: Although the majority of Galapagos visitors come here to observe and appreciate the natural wonders the Islands have to offer, many also find it interesting to learn more about the protection and conservation programs in place on the islands. Some of the principal attractions of the National Park Information Center are; the Van Staelen Exhibition Hall, the Breeding and Rearing Center for young tortoises, Lonesome George (the last surviving tortoise from Pinta Island) and other adult Galapagos tortoises in captivity.

Bachas Beaches: Located to the west of Turtle Cove, the sand on these two small beaches is made of decomposed coral. As a result the sand here is very white and soft, making it a favorite nesting site for sea turtles. Behind one of the beaches there is a small water lagoon, where occasionally it is possible to observe flamingos and other coastal birds, such as black-necked stilts and whimbrels. The other beach is longer and has two old barges that were abandoned during the Second World War, when the U.S. used Baltra Island as a strategic military point in order to protect the Panama Channel. (The metal is rusty and sharp, so it is not a good place for swimming).

Highlands of Santa Cruz Island: The trail to the highlands leaves from Bella Vista and passes through the agricultural zone, near the National Park boundary, the Miconia Zone and then goes to the Fern and Sedge zone. With clear weather (unpredictable) this area offers beautiful scenes of rolling hills and extinct volcanic cones covered with grass and lush greenery all year round.

Tortuga Bay: The path to Tortuga Bay is good for birdwatching and it is easy to spot several species of finches as you walk along the path. Many consider the sandy white beach the nicest of the archipelago and the beach’s name derives from the sea turtles that go there to lay their eggs. The sunsets here are excellent and although the main beach is used primarily for surfing, the west cove is a nice spot for relaxing, swimming or snorkeling. Flamingos, marine iguanas, pelicans, and whimbrels can also be found here.

Bartolome Island:

A small barren island that is located across from Sullivan Bay off James Island, Bartolome has two main visitors’ sites. The first site offers the possibility to climb to the summit of the island, from where visitors can observe a variety of volcanic formations including lava spatter and cinder cones, lava flows and lava tubes. The moon like landscape provides one of the most scenic panoramas in the archipelago. At the second site, visitors have the chance to relax on a beautiful beach, which offers great snorkeling opportunities. Multi-coloured fish and occasionally penguins and sea turtles have been seen at the base of the tall pinnacle rock, which dominates Bartolome’s landscape. A short walk leads to Bartolome’s second beach, where swimming is strictly prohibited. Here visitors can see white-tipped reef sharks at a safe distance swimming along the shoreline.

Plazas Island:

These are two small islets that were formed a short distance from the east coast of Santa Cruz. Despite its small size, some of the most interesting and outstanding species of the archipelago occur here. The principal attractions of Plazas are the land iguanas, sea lions and swallow-tailed gulls. It is possible to observe land iguanas relaxing in the shade of cactus plants and swallow-tailed gulls nesting on the rugged southern cliffs. The protected rocky seashore is also prime habitat for a large colony of noisy sea lions. Other likely sightings include yellow-tailed mullets, Audubon’s shearwaters, red-billed tropic birds, frigate birds, and brown pelicans gliding past the cliffs.

Santiago Island:

Puerto Egas: The excursion to Puerto Egas with its black sand beaches leads to the site of a small salt mining operation from the 1960s, one of several unsuccessful attempts to commercialize the Galapagos. A hike inland to the salt crater is an excellent opportunity to see land birds such as finches, doves, and hawks. A walk along the rugged shoreline, especially at low tide, will let us observe many marine species as iguanas bask on the rocks and sea lions laze in the tide pools. At the end of the trail there is a series of grottoes or sea caves where fur seals and night herons are regularly found resting on the shady ledges. For many, this is the only opportunity to see the Galapagos fur seal, once thought to be on the verge of extinction.

Sullivan Bay: This visitor site provides a unique opportunity to view a lava flow that is approximately 100 years old. The Sullivan Bay Lava is known a Pahoehoe (Hawaiian for Rope) due to the lava flow having solidified into a ropey-like appearance. It is rare to the rest of the world but is common to the volcanoes of Hawaii and Galapagos. Only a few plants have managed

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to take root in this harsh environment. The low-lying Mollugo is commonly the first plant to emerge from a bare lava field. Together with the Lava Cactus (Brachycereus) found here, these plants are evidence of life returning to Sullivan Bay.

Chinese Hat:

Chinese hat (sombbrero chino) is a tiny Island just off the southeastern tip of Santiago Island and is less than a quarter of a square kilometer in size. It is a recently-formed volcanic cone and its descriptive name comes from the fact that it appears to take the shape of a downward-facing Chinese hat. (The hat shape is best appreciated from the northside.) Opposite Sombrero Chino, on the rocky shoreline of nearby Santiago Island, Galapagos penguins and eagle rays are often seen. The island is home to a large sea lion colony and plenty of marine iguanas who cover the volcanic landscape. There are some excellent snorkelling opportunities in the cove.

Isabela Island:

Isabela is the largest island in the archipelago and consists of a chain of five volcanoes, from which Volcano Wolf is the highest.

Puerto Villamil: This is a small port on Isabela, where not many travelers pass by. The Experimental Station is located very near Puerto Villamil in the south of Albemarle. Here the Galapagos National Park experiments with the reproduction process of the subspecies of geochelone elephantopus gunteri (tortoise). Volcano Sierra Negra, located at the southern end of Isabela, is one of the best and most impressive examples of a volcano in the archipelago. This is the second largest crater in the world after Ngorongoro in Africa.

Urbina Bay: Located on the western coast of Albemarle Island at the foot of Alcedo Volcano, Urbina Bay was uplifted from the sea in 1954. Flightless cormorants and pelicans nest along the coast during their nesting seasons, and turtles and rays can be seen in the bay. The highlands are home to large and colorful land iguanas.

Tagus Cove: A tour along the cliffs in a zodiac will give visitors a good chance to see the Galapagos penguin, the flightless cormorant and other sea birds. From the landing dock it is about a 30-minute hike along the trail up to the top of the cliff from where you can view Darwin Lake.

Elizabeth Bay: As this is a marine visitor site, the excursion is carried out in a zodiac and so there is no landing point. Your zodiac ride starts with a visit to the

Marielas islets where there is the largest and most important penguin colony in the Galapagos Islands. The excursion continues into the cove that is surrounded by red mangroves where you can admire their red roots and green leaves. It is here that you are able to observe sea turtles, flightless cormorants, spotted eagle rays, golden rays, brown pelicans and sea lions. Frequently visitors have been able to see Galapagos Hawks soaring overhead whilst schools of Pompano and Dorado fish swim below.

Fernandina Island:

Fernandina is the third largest, youngest and westernmost island in the Galapagos. Many volcanic eruptions have been recorded since 1813, making this island the most likely to experience a volcanic eruption.

Puerto Espinosa: Just across from Tagus Cove, there is a visitor's site where some of the unique Galapagos species can be seen. Marine iguanas unite in larger groups than on any other island as they stretch out on the sand, basking in the sun, swimming near the shore and sometimes even blocking the path at the landing dock. Among the unique species found here is the Flightless Cormorant--a bird that due to a lack of predators had to adjust its way of survival and perfect its skills of finding food in the ocean. Their wings, tails and feet progressively adapted for swimming. Observing these birds is like witnessing evolution happening right in front of you.

Santa Fe Island:

Santa Fe is one of the most entertaining destinations for shore excursions in the Galapagos Islands. It has two trail choices for visitors, one of which takes you to the tallest Opuntia cactus in the Galapagos. The other trail takes you into the highlands where land iguanas can be seen. After a long walk, the opportunity to swim in calm waters or snorkel with playful sea lions will be pretty tempting.

North Seymour Island:

Located slightly to the north of Baltra, North Seymour is a low, flat island formed as a result of a submarine lava formation uplift. Covered with low, bushy vegetation, it contains the largest colony of magnificent frigate birds in the Galapagos. There is also a large population of blue-footed boobies that perform an amusing courtship dance when nesting conditions are right. The dance consists of the birds taking big goofy strides, slowly picking their blue feet up high, and spreading their wings while whistling and honking – it really is one of the highlights of this island.

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Itinerary C1: 8D/ 7N:

<u>Friday:</u>	
A.m. Airport in Baltra. Transfer to the yacht Anahi.	
P.m. Visit Playa Bachas	
<u>Saturday:</u>	
A.m. Genovesa: B. Darwin	SN, PR, KY
P.m. Genovesa: El Barranco	SN
<u>Sunday:</u>	
A.m. Plazas Sur	SN
P.m. Isla Santa Fe	SN, PR, KY
<u>Monday:</u>	
A.m. San Cristóbal: Punta Pitt	SN, PR, KY
P.m. San Cristóbal: Leon Dormido / Isla Lobos	SN, PR, KY
<u>Tuesday:</u>	
A.m. San Cristóbal: Interpretation Center/Ce. Tijeretas	
P.m. San Cristóbal: La Lobería	
<u>Wednesday:</u>	
A.m. Española: Punta Suarez	SN, PR, KY
P.m. Española: B. Gardner / I. Gardner / I. Osborn	SN, PR, KY
<u>Thursday:</u>	
A.m. Floreana: Punta Cormoran / Corona Diablo	SN
P.m. Floreana: Post Office Bay	SN, PR, KY
<u>Friday:</u>	
A.m. Visit to the Charles Darwin Station.	
Transfer to the airport in Baltra.	



Services: SN—snorkeling, PR—panga (canoe) ride; KY—kayaking

2011 Dates: October 28-November 4, November 11-18, November 25-December 2, December 9-16, December 23-30

2012 Dates: January 6-13, January 20-27, February 3-10, February 17-24, March 2-9, March 16-23, March 30-April 6, April 13-20, April 27-May 4, May 11-18, May 25-June 1, June 8-15, June 22-29, July 6-13, July 20-27, August 3-10, August 17-24, August 31-September 7, September 14-21, September 28-October 5, October 12-19, October 26-November 2, November 9-16, November 23-30, December 7-14, December 21-28

Prices: Per person, double occupancy for each cabin category. At booking please give us your name as it appears your passport, passport number, nationality, occupation and date of birth.

8 days/7 nights:

Standard Ocean View Cabins (6 on the main deck): **\$3640** / Single Supplement: **75%** (as available)

Suite Cabins (2 on the upper deck): **\$4368** / Single Supplement: **75%** (as available)

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Kids Discount: Children under 12 enjoy a 15% discount if accompanied by 2 adults.

Prices Include:

- Accommodations on the cruise
- All meals as specified
- Airport transfers
- Activities as specified above
- Snorkeling gear
- Land and sea transfers
- Water, coffee, tea, hot chocolate
- Bi-lingual naturalist guide
- Federal & local taxes

Prices Exclude:

- International flights and Quito/Galapagos/Quito flights (\$422 for adults and \$217 for children under 12--prices subject to change)
- Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee of \$100 per person (subject to change)
- Galapagos Transit Card of \$10 per person (subject to change)
- International departure taxes of \$41 per person (subject to change)
- Travel insurance
- Alcoholic beverages, bottled water and soft drinks such as Coke, Pepsi, etc.
- Wetsuit (rental approx. \$20 per person for cruise above)
- Personal expenses such as laundry, Internet, phone, gifts, etc.
- Tips to crew and guide as deemed appropriate

Meeting Time & Place: Upon arrival at the airport in the Galapagos (see the itinerary for the appropriate airport)

Trip Conclusion: At the airport in the Galapagos (see the itinerary for the appropriate airport)

Flights to Galapagos: We will arrange your flight from Quito to the Galapagos and return to Quito for \$422 per person (\$217 for children under 12). Price subject to change without notice

Payments & Cancellations: A \$500 per person deposit is due at booking and the balance is due 90 days before departure. Late payments can result in cancellation. All cancellations are required in writing--see penalties below.

- Cancellation 90 Days or more before departure: Loss of \$100 per person
- Cancellation 60-89 Days or more before departure: Loss of 50% of total cruise price
- Cancellation 30-59 Days or more before departure: Loss of 75% of total cruise price
- Cancellation 30 Days or less before departure: Loss of 100% of total cruise price

Our Ship:

Journey I

<http://www.galapagosjourneycruises.com/journeyi>

The *Journey I* is an artful combination of stability, comfort and maneuverability making her the perfect partner for a Galapagos adventure. She is a Luxury Class motor catamaran built in 2006 and offers comfortable accommodations in 6 standard cabins on the main deck (150 sq. ft) and 2 suite cabins on the upper deck (193 sq. ft). All cabins have private baths, air conditioning, U.S. standard 110v / 220v power, locker and closet. She features a comfortable dining room, upper deck outdoor bar, lounge with TV, DVD player and stereo system plus a Jacuzzi and spacious sun deck. *The Journey I* has a crew of 10 including a cruise director and bilingual Naturalist Guide Level III, trained and licensed by the Galapagos National Park Service.

Specifications

Type: Motor catamaran

Category: Luxury Class

Length: 90 ft.

Width: 36 ft.

Passenger Capacity: 16

Crew: 10 including naturalist guide

Speed: 10 knots

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Package airport transfers and pre-and post-hotel stays in Quito:

Price: \$285 per person in double occupancy

Single Supplement: \$215

Prices Include:

- Private airport pickup and transfer to the hotel upon arrival into Ecuador before the cruise and from the hotel to the airport to catch your flight home at the conclusion of your trip
- Private transfer from the hotel to the airport to catch your flight to the Galapagos and from the airport to the hotel upon your arrival back in Quito from the Galapagos
- Accommodations at **Patio Andaluz** (011-593-2-2280830 / private bath) www.hotelpatioandaluz.com for the night before your departure to the Galapagos and for the night of your return from the Galapagos
- Breakfast both mornings at the hotel

The Next Step...

References Don't take our word for it that The World Outdoors trips are the finest in the adventure travel industry. Ask our past guests. *Call about any of our trips and we'll be happy to refer you to someone who's been there with us.*

The Best Value in Active Travel Guarantee: *We commit to you that all of our trips are of the highest quality at the best value.* If you find a trip of equal quality that matches our itinerary and inclusions at a lower fare within 30 days of booking your trip with us, we will gladly refund the difference. A simple guarantee that assures you of the best trip at the best fare!

How do I join this trip? Call The World Outdoors at (800) 488-8483 and a Trip Consultant will reserve your space(s) or register online at www.TheWorldOutdoors.com. Your travel agent can also book your trip at no extra cost and provide other helpful assistance.

Special Requests: If you have any special dietary needs or any special request that will make your trip more enjoyable, please be sure to notify your Trip Consultant or travel agent upon booking.

Then Leave the Rest to Us... Before you go, we provide you with extensive pre-departure information, including your reservation payment receipt and confirmation, travel insurance application, suggestions for preparing for your trip, a packing list, information on pre- and post-trip arrangements, a guest questionnaire and a liability release agreement.

Travel Protection: Travel insurance is required for this cruise. Our travel insurance plan is designed to protect you in case of lost or damaged luggage, a sudden illness or death in the family, emergency medical expenses and transportation costs, and flight delays. We'd be happy to arrange travel insurance coverage for you, so contact us at (800) 488-8483 with any questions.

How do I book airfare for this trip? Call our in-house travel agent, Sherry Malanify, at 800-488-8483 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time Monday through Friday or you can email her at sherrym@theworldoutdoors.com. Sherry is also available to assist you with pre- and post-lodging needs. If Sherry is unavailable and your needs are urgent, please call James TravelPoints, a local travel agency, at 800-538-7461 and ask for Georgia (ext 251) or email her at GeorgiaT@travelpoints.com. Be sure to tell her you are traveling with The World Outdoors. Alternatively, you are welcome to book your airfare online, directly with the airline or through your personal travel agent.

Frequently Asked Questions

What weather conditions can I expect? The Galapagos Islands enjoy a warm and relatively dry climate all year. The cool Humboldt Current brings the "Garua" season from July to December with fog and cooler water temperatures. Expect daytime highs in the 70s and water temps in the mid to high 60s. January to April is the warmer, wetter season triggered by the warm Panamic Current. Expect daytime highs in the 80s and water temps in the mid 70s. Seas are calmer and rain showers are more common. December /January and May/ June are transition months with the exact timing of the change in seasons varying year to year. Wildlife is active throughout the year and mating, nesting and the rearing of young occur in both seasons depending on the species.

How strenuous is this trip? The trip is designed for healthy adults who are comfortable being active outdoors. To participate in excursions, guests do need to be able to climb in and out of small boats and walk over uneven terrain. Guests can participate in activities as much or as little as they choose.

Is this cruise suitable for children? Children love the Galapagos and kids under 12 get discounts, see price information above. However, our cruises are best suited for children 8 years old and above.

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How rough will the water be? We travel in protected waters much of the time, but we will do some open ocean cruising. If you are prone to motion sickness, consult your doctor and bring appropriate sea sickness medications.

Are snorkeling gear and wet suits available on the cruise? Yes, snorkeling gear is provided free of charge. Wet suits are available for rent, \$20 per person for cruise above.

Is scuba diving available? Call for the details 1-800-488-8483

Local Tour Operator: The World Outdoors operates this adventure through an Ecuadorian tour operator based in Quito named *Latin Trails*.

Emergency Contact Information: Our office in Boulder, Colorado is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mountain Time 1-800-488-8483. For emergencies outside of our normal business hours call Bill Marriner at 720-289-0460, Sherry Malanify at 303-915-9660, Darcie Carr at 303-595-8561 or Eric Wagner at 303-324-7795.

Latin Trails is open Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. They can be reached from the U.S. at 011-593-2286-7832, from outside Ecuador +593-2286-7832 or within Ecuador 2286-7832. After hours, call from the U.S. 011-593-9524-1939, from outside Ecuador +593-9524-1939 or within Ecuador 09524-1939. + means you need to dial the appropriate international calling code for the country you are calling from before the rest of the number. Ask local information for the correct code.

** If your flight is delayed or changed, or you have problems being met at the airport, contact Latin Trails directly. They are in the best position to give you immediate assistance.*

We're Always Improving! While the information presented here details this trip's planned activities, routes, accommodations, departure and conclusion times, we are consistently seeking new opportunities to enhance this itinerary and your experience. Our actual activities and sites may vary due to season, special events, or weather. As a result, we reserve the right to alter the itinerary since unforeseen circumstances that mandate change may arise. Naturally, we will keep you up-to-date on any changes that may affect your arrival or departure times.

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