

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

\$2239*

ECUADOR



Iguana



Pinnacle Rock - Galapagos Islands

The Galapagos Islands are renowned for their unique wildlife. You can swim with sea lions, float eye to eye with penguins or stand beside a blue-footed booby as it feeds its young. Spread out over 50,000 square km of the Pacific Ocean, the archipelago comprises 13 main islands and six smaller ones.

Day 1 Quito (Saturday) • Upon arrival in Quito, assistance and transfer to your hotel. Accommodation: Mercure for 2 nights.

Day 2 Quito (Sunday) • Tour of colonial downtown Quito, first city to be included on UNESCO's World Cultural Heritage list in 1978. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

Day 3 Quito • Galapagos (Monday) • Transfer to the airport for your flight to Galapagos. Board the MV Galapagos Legend for a 3 or 7-night cruise in superior cabin or junior suite cabin (full board). Departure for Santa Cruz in the afternoon. (B/L/D)

Day 4 South Plaza (Plaza Island) • Santa Fe (Tuesday) • This is the southern partner of two small crescent-shaped islands that lie just a few hundred meters off the east coast of Santa Cruz. The northern island is used for scientific purposes only. South Plaza is one of the smallest yet richest islands in the archipelago. Later visit Santa Fe - Visits to Santa Fe begin with a panga ride across the lovely turquoise lagoon. Once ashore you are brought into contact with the many sea lion colonies in the Galapagos.

Day 5 San Cristobal • Cerro Brujo (Wednesday) • Visit the San Cristobal breeding center and learn about the National Park's breeding program with giant tortoises. Cerro Brujo is a beautiful beach of white coral beach where you can swim and watch birds and sea lions, plus you can snorkel. Located on the north coast of Isla San Cristobal. In the vicinity of the beach you can see seabirds like blue-footed boobies, Nazca boobies, herons, frigate birds and shore birds.

Day 6 San Cristobal • Cerro Colorado Tortoise Reserve (Thursday) • On the highlands of San Cristobal the national park has constructed a tortoise preserve at Cerro Colorado. The facility is slightly over 4600 square feet with almost 3000 feet of trail wandering through the native plants like cat's claw, manzanillo, Galapagos cotton, and acacia. The trails combine gravel and boardwalk trails through the terrain allowing you to view tortoises of various sizes as well as endemic birds including the Galapagos flycatcher, small ground finch, small tree finch and Chatham Mockingbirds.

Day 7 Gardner Bay (Espanola) • Suarez Point • Espanola (Friday) Spot Galapagos hawks, American oyster catchers, Galapagos doves, hooded mockingbirds. 3 species of Darwin finches, yellow Warblers, lava lizards and marine iguanas. Mating season from May through December is a major attraction for bird lovers in Suarez Point, besides the sea lion colonies.

Day 8 Post Office (Floreana) • Cormorant Point (Floreana) (Saturday) • At the Post Office, continue the tradition by placing unstamped postcards inside the barrel which reach their destinations for free. Observe the mocking bird of Galapagos. In the afternoon visit Cormorant point, this island features endemic plants such as *Scalesia villosa*, white and black mangrove and holy stick.

Day 9 - Highlands (Santa Cruz) • Charles Darwin Research Station (Sunday) • Trek through the highlands and visit the Charles Darwin Research Station, staffed with international scientists conducting biological research and conservation projects. Here you can admire the giant tortoises that are part of the breeding program. (B/L/D)

Day 10 Daphne • Baltra Airport • Return flight to Guayaquil. (Monday) Transfer to your hotel. One of the central islands, Daphne lies north of Santa Cruz and west of Baltra. It is also a popular dive site for local dive operators from Santa Cruz. Later transfer to the airport for your flight to Guayaquil. Transfer to your hotel. Hampton Inn. (B/L/D)

Day 11 • Guayaquil (Tuesday) Transfer to the airport. (B)

Note: Itinerary may be different depending on departure date.

The Package Includes

Transportation • Domestic flights Quito - Baltra - Guayaquil in economy class • **Transfers** • Meet and greet by our local representatives • **Accommodations and meals** • Superior accommodation in Quito and Guayaquil (with breakfast) • Superior exterior cabin or Junior suite cabin during the cruise (full board) • **Visits and excursions** • As per itinerary • **Guides** • English speaking local guides • **Taxes and special fees** • Hotel taxes and service charges • **Not included** • International air transportation • Galapagos National Park Tax: USD\$100 • Local Airport taxes: ± USD\$41 • Optional excursions • Beverages • Gratuities to hotel personnel, guides, drivers and crew members.

Price per person, double occupancy, from	\$CAD		
	3-Night Cruise	4-Night Cruise	7-Night Cruise
October 1 to December 31, 2011			
Superior exterior cabin	2239	2844	4290
Junior suite cabin	2557	3263	5129
January 1 to September 30, 2012			
Superior exterior cabin	2409	3017	4544
Junior suite cabin	2729	3436	5476

Seasonal surcharges may apply