



## Galapagos Magic Expedition

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **20-09-2025** and is subject to change without notice based on availability and currency fluctuations.

### Escorted Experience

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 24-Hour Local Assistance      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fixed Dates                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Professional Guide Throughout | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modern Airconditioned Vehicle |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Guaranteed Departure          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Class Hotels            |

**Visit:** Quito-Santa Cruz-Isabela Island-Quito

### Detailed Itinerary

**Day 01: Arrive Quito**

Welcome to Quito! The largest, best-preserved colonial city in America – was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978. The city is considered the Cultural Capital of South America and is located on the equator in a valley at the foothills of the Pichincha volcano. Depending on your arrival time, you can spend your day exploring the old town of Quito and the surrounding area. We can help you to organize a day trip (please request in advance). In the evening, one of our trip leaders will meet you at the hotel's lobby for a welcome briefing at 18:00 hours. At this time, we will discuss the details and questions you may have regarding the adventure. Our first day is an acclimation and information day.

**Meal Plan**

No Meal

**Day 02: Arrive in Galapagos**

Today you will be transferred to the airport to catch your flight to Baltra airport in the Galapagos Islands. Upon arrival you will be picked up and transferred to Santa Cruz, a nearby island, crossing the narrow Itabaca channel by ferry. From here we will continue by car to our first stop in the highlands of Santa Cruz. The highlands are home to the iconic giant Galapagos tortoises. Here you will visit a private ranch where you will enjoy lunch before heading out for a walk-in search of the giant tortoises. During this visit, you will also visit some lava tubes, which are formed when the surface of a lava stream solidifies. After this tour, you will continue by private vehicle to your hotel. Here you will have a meet and greet with your local guide who will explain the following day's itinerary to you. Enjoy the rest of the evening at leisure to relax and introduce yourself to this beautiful Island.

**Meal Plan**

Breakfast and Lunch

**Day 03: Bay Tour Exploration - Charles Darwin Research Station**

Today after breakfast you will enjoy a half-day tour of Academy Bay. Be sure to pack everything you need for this trip. Optional snorkel equipment will be provided free of charge to anyone who wishes to use it. During the tour, you will take a boat to Academy Bay where you can swim and snorkel with all kinds of exotic fish and marine life, as well as the famous sea lions; they are very curious animals and like to swim next to you underwater. Here you can also see the sought-after blue-footed boobies. Afterwards, climb to a nearby viewpoint, and if you are lucky, you can see white-tipped reef sharks swimming in the ocean below. In the afternoon we will visit the Charles Darwin Research Station to learn more about many of the endemic species seen in the wild, as well as the ongoing conservation and management efforts on the Galapagos Islands.

**Meal Plan**

Breakfast

### **Day 04: Speed Boat to Isabela Island**

Today we will take a quick boat to the largest island in the archipelago and where most of the volcanic activity in the Galapagos is reported. The island was formed by six shield volcanoes, Alcedo, Cerra Azul, Darwin, Ecuador, Sierra Negra and Wolf; five of them are still active which makes the island one of the most volcanically active places on earth. Upon arrival we will visit the giant tortoise breeding centre located and the flamingo lagoon to admire this incredible species in their natural habitat. In the afternoon we will visit Tintoreras Islet located at a short distance from Puerto Villamil and home to a great variety of wildlife. Its turquoise, crystalline waters are inhabited by white-tipped reef sharks, Galapagos Penguins, marine turtles and sea lions. One of its beaches, surrounded by mangroves, is one of the few sites where marine iguanas can reproduce successfully.

#### **Meal Plan**

Breakfast

### **Day 05: Hike in Sierra Negra**

After driving up from Puerto Villamil to the trailhead, we will prepare our backpacks for the hike into a young forest ecosystem, a world of recent geological history. Our destination is the rim of Sierra Negra Crater, an active volcano that last erupted in June 2018. Upon arrival, we take in breathtaking views and explore the circumference of the massive, lava-filled crater, a caldera that is over six miles across at its widest point. If we feel energetic enough, we can continue our hike to Volcan Chico, a secondary crater that has a wild landscape of puffing fumaroles and colourful lava formations; great examples of the dramatic geological events that have formed the Galapagos Islands over millennia. In the afternoon you will have time to enjoy the crystalline water of Concha Perla and practice some snorkelling to observe marine wildlife.

#### **Meal Plan**

Breakfast and Lunch

### **Day 06: Flight back to Quito**

After our final breakfast on the Galapagos Island and the last photos taken of sea lions, we have a transfer to Baltra's airport in time to catch the flight back to the mainland.

#### **Meal Plan**

Breakfast

### **Day 07: Departure**

Today our trip will end and you will have your International departures. Take with you your memories and photos and leave a piece of your heart, as you will want to return to Ecuador soon to experience more of this enchanted land. We wish you a “Buen viaje”!

### **Meal Plan**

Breakfast

### **Inclusion**

Transportation: Private and comfortable land transportation; speed boat Santa Cruz – Isabela – Santa Cruz.

Accommodation based on double occupancy: 5\* Hotel in Quito, 3-star hotels in Galapagos.

Meals: 6 breakfasts, 2 lunches.

Activities: Hiking in Santa Cruz highlands, visiting the Charles Darwin Research Station, trekking to the top of Sierra Negra active volcano, snorkeling or kayaking in Tintoreras.

Outdoor gear: Life jackets, snorkeling equipment.

Trip Leader: Certified expert English-speaking adventure Trip Leader and local guides.

### **Exclusion**

International flights.

Domestic flights to Galapagos (Rates available on request).

Travel insurance (suggested).

Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee AUD 460 per person.

INGALA Transit Control Card USD AUD 46 per person

Isabela Port Fee USD AUD 23 per person.

Meals not described in the itinerary.

Tips for guides and drivers.

### **Note**

Hotels Used OR Similar

Quito - Sheraton Quito Hotel or similar.

Santa Cruz - La Casa de Judy or similar.

Isabela Island - Isamar Hotel or similar.

**Please note that the prices are starting from and that upon sending a new request with specific date we will send the applicable rate and availability.**

Departure on Saturdays.

**Tour Dates & Pricing****2-3 pax****21 Nov 2024 Till 31 Dec 2025****AU\$5,665.05 Per Single****AU\$5,234.80 Per Twin****On-Request****4-5 pax****21 Nov 2024 Till 31 Dec 2025****AU\$4,708.24 Per Single****AU\$4,277.99 Per Twin****On-Request****6 plus****21 Nov 2024 Till 31 Dec 2025****AU\$4,339.45 Per Single****AU\$3,909.20 Per Twin****On-Request**