

ECUADOR - GALAPAGOS 11 DAY CRUISE | M/C GALAPAGOS SEAMAN JOURNEY



INTRODUCTION

FREE RETURN DOMESTIC FLIGHT OFFER TO THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS**

M/C Galapagos Seaman Journey is a first class catamaran offering superior comfort, size, style, and stability. The Galapagos Seaman Journey makes it possible to enjoy several cruises in the Galapagos with different itineraries that include amazing land tours on most of the Galapagos Islands. During these Galapagos Cruises, guests encounter many endemic species like Galapagos Giant Tortoises, Penguins, Land and Marine Iguanas, Frigate Birds, Blue Footed Boobies, and much more!

Please note that the below itinerary is a guide and that itineraries vary depending on departure date. Your sales consultant will provide you with more details on the different itinerary options available and applicable departure dates.

The Seaman Journey Experience

M/C Galapagos Seaman Journey is an expeditionary first class catamaran that began sailing the Galapagos Islands in January 2008. Superior comfort, size, style, and stability are what you can expect when choosing this catamaran to fulfill your Galapagos adventures wants and needs. This vessel, with a maximum capacity of 16 passengers, provides in each of its corners, areas for rest and recreation for everyone. For the adults who might want to relax and kick back, we offer a great bar and lounge area where they are served by our bartender whilst you relax and watch the Galapagos go by. Make landings on sites that offer beautiful scenery and the ability to get up close and personal with the archipelago, accompanied by the knowledgeable staff members found on board who will offer you intel and insight into this magnificent part of the world. The M/C Galapagos Seaman Journey, another jewel from the well known Galapagos Journey Fleet, the perfect combination of adventure, comfort, service and excellence that offers four,

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five, eight, eleven, twelve and fifteen day itineraries.

GREEN POINTS!


☑ The Seaman is single use plastic free ☑ Reusable water-bottles are offered to all guests ☑ Naturalist guides offer educational environmental lectures to all guests. ☑ All guest leave with a deep love and respect for nature.

The Seaman also offers a [4 day cruise](#), [8 day cruise](#), [12 day cruise](#) and [15 day cruise](#).

* Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions and government regulations.

** Free Return Economy Class Flight offer to and from the Galapagos Islands from mainland Ecuador (Quito or Guayaquil), Flights must be booked through Chimu Adventures for the Seaman Journey Galapagos cruises for 8 Days or more for 2024. An estimated value of USD \$540 savings per passenger. Please note: Flights NOT included already in the price above for this cruise package. *Discount is valid until 31 May 24 unless withdrawn, sold out or varied prior. Not combinable with other promotions and valid on new bookings only.*

PLEASE NOTE: Pricing is subject to change and availability at the time of booking. [Contact us](#) for more information.

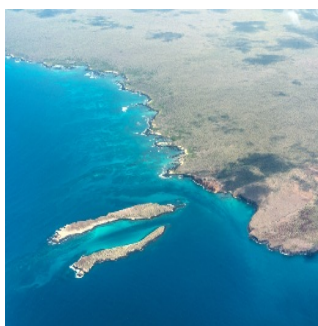
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ITINERARY

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DAY 1: Fly to the Galapagos - Santa Cruz Island

AM: Flight to Galapagos / Ranch Mazanillo Take a morning flight to the Galapagos from Quito or Guayaquil Airport. The flight from Quito to the Galapagos is approximately 2 ½ hours and from Guayaquil it is approximately 1 ½ hours. On arrival at Baltra Airport, you will be met by your naturalist guide who will collect your luggage which is directly taken to the Seaman Journey Catamaran. Your journey however will begin right here as you are taken to Ranch Mazanillo where you can see giant tortoises in their natural habitat. The visit to Ranch Mazanillo includes a picnic lunch and a short walk before you board the Seaman Journey, where you will be welcomed by our crew. **PM:** Highlands - Santa Cruz In the afternoon you will journey across Santa Cruz and into the highlands. You will be delighted by the island's variety of life and geology. Beginning at the coast and travelling across Santa Cruz, the road departs from Puerto Ayora climbing through the agricultural lands and into the mist covered forests. Santa Cruz possesses all the various life zones present in the archipelago. As you travel through these zones' birders are enchanted. Whether it's the bright red feathers of a vermillion flycatcher or one of Darwin's finches, almost every bird present in the Galapagos can be found here. Santa Cruz also offers excellent opportunities for viewing and tracking wild Galapagos tortoises. There are also plenty of lava tubes, sinkholes and craters to explore. These eerie formations offer a fascinating insight into the volcanic make-up of the island.



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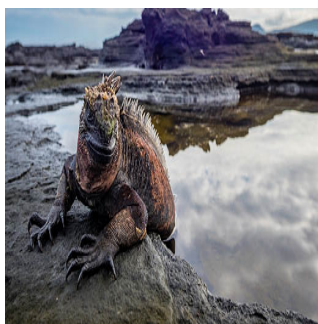
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DAY 2: Fernandina Island

AM: Mangle Point Mangle Point lies off the eastern coast of Fernandina and is a superior snorkelling site and a beautiful location for riding in a panga or Zodiac through a forest of mangrove trees. You are likely to see penguins, sea lions, pelicans, rays, marine iguanas and numerous birds. **PM:** Punta Moreno Punta Moreno is located on the north coast of Isabela Island between Sierra Negra Volcano and Cerro Azul Volcano. A trail runs along a pahoehoe lava flow (solidified lava with a smooth, shiny or swirled surface), into a complex of coastal lagoons. The main attractions are several species of birds that can be found around the lakes and mangroves. Three species of cactus are also found here.



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DAY 3: Isabela Island

AM: Urbina Bay Urbina Bay is located at the base of Alcedo Volcano on the west coast of Isabela Island, between Tagus Cove and Elizabeth Bay. The most unique feature at Urbina Bay resulted from a major uplift of the island in 1954, when a 6km stretch of coral reef rose up 5 metres, leaving marine life stranded on the new shore and coral exposed on the land. Urbina Bay has a path that starts at the beach where a wet landing is made, and takes you through the sand, pumice, lava, coral and vegetation. Flightless cormorants, pelicans, Darwin's finches, giant tortoises and land and marine iguanas can be seen on land, whilst rays and turtles can be seen in the bay. It is an ideal place to see red and blue lobsters and a great place for snorkelling. There is also a large amount of interesting vegetation including chamomile and rosewood, as well as the beautiful flowers of the Galapagos or Darwin's cotton, endemic to the Galapagos Islands. **PM:** Tagus Cove Tagus Cove is located west of Darwin Volcano on Isabela Island. Its name originated from a British warship that went through the islands in 1814 looking for the Galapagos tortoise for food. This was a favourite spot for pirates and whalers who etched their names into the cliffs and inside caves. Due to explosive eruptions that have occurred at the site, the substrate has a large amount of volcanic rocks of different sizes. Among the most common are small spherically shaped balls known as the "lapilli" or petrified rain. A short, steep hike brings you past Darwin Lake, a deep saltwater lake and a great spot for viewing land birds such as ground and tree finches, hawks, large-billed flycatchers, yellow warblers and sometimes the woodpecker finch.



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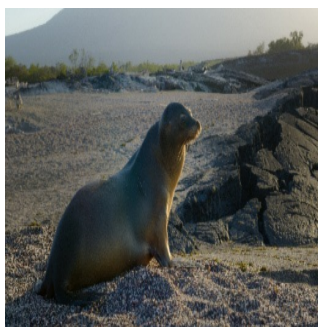
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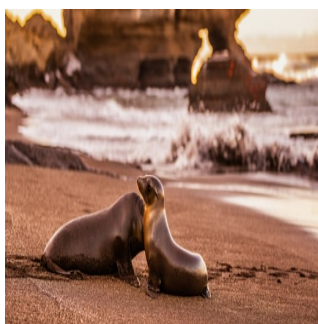
DAY 4: Fernandina Island / Isabela Island

AM: Espinoza Point Espinoza Point is famous for its large colonies of marine iguanas and as the habitat of species such as the flightless cormorant, Galapagos penguin, Galapagos hawk and Galapagos snake. Other attractions include sea lions and Sally Lightfoot crabs. Espinoza Point is one of the best places to see the lava cactus. La Cumbre volcano dominates the landscape. PM: Punta Vicente Roca This is one of the most impressive and spectacular places in the enchanting Galapagos Islands, with high cliffs, tuff stone, ash and lava formations giving the area a majestic touch. Located on the north-western coast of the island, this large bay has a spectacular marine life with seahorses, sea turtles and the strange yet fascinating mola-mola or sunfish. It is a great place for snorkelling. It is common to see "feeding frenzies" with groups of whales, dolphins, sea lions, tuna, blue-footed and Nazca boobies, pelicans and other marine birds all feeding simultaneously.



DAY 5: Santiago Island

AM: Playa Espumilla / Puerto Egas Espumilla Beach is located on the northern coast of Santiago Island in James Bay. The beach is an important site for nesting marine turtles. A walk through the mangrove forest leads to a lagoon usually inhabited by a group of flamingos as well as pintail ducks and common stilts. PM: Puerto Egas, Santiago Island Named after Hector Egas who attempted to mine salt from the island, Puerto Egas is a long, black lava shoreline located on the west side of the island. The tidal pools are populated by fur seals and Sally Lightfoot crabs. Colonies of land iguanas are often seen basking in the sun. Birds include the Galapagos dove and Galapagos hawk, oyster catchers and the night heron. The island's natural landscape features brown layered tuff stone and black basalt volcanic rock that creates apertures, crevices and natural bridges. Tours begin on a trail that runs along the coastline to one of the best tidal pool areas in the Galapagos. The black lava towers, basins and craters are filled with crystal-clear seawater.



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DAY 6: Rabida / Chinese Hat

AM: Rabida Island is unique because of the red colour of the rocks and sand. The volcanic material in this island is extremely porous and external factors such as rain, salt water and sea breeze have acted as an oxidizing agents. A short walk along a trail leads you to a coastal lagoon behind the beach where you can observe land birds such as finches, doves, yellow warblers and mockingbirds. At the lagoon there is a colony of flamingos. PM: Chinese Hat Sombrero Chino is a small islet (1 sq km) located just off the south eastern tip of Santiago Island and composed of delicate lava and spatter cones. It is a recent volcanic cone, shaped like a Chinese hat when seen from the north side. It is an excellent site for interpretation of geological features such as lava tubes and lava flows. The landscape is covered by sea lion colonies, marine iguanas and Galapagos penguins.



DAY 7: Santiago Island

AM: Sullivan Bay Santiago, also called James, or San Salvador Island, is located in the western central part of the Galapagos archipelago. It is the fourth largest island in the archipelago (following Isabela, Fernandina and Santa Cruz). Along with some of the large western volcanoes of Isabela and Fernandina, Santiago is also volcanically active, with many young flows and cones to be seen, particularly along the south, west and east coasts. A number of historic eruptions have been reported over the last 2 centuries. Lava is the main focus of the visit here with reddish-yellow tuff cones standing out in the middle of the lava flow and tiny Mollugo plants growing out of the fissures. PM: Bartolome Bartolome Island is situated across from Sullivan Bay. It has an altitude of 114 metres and is famous for its distinctive Pinnacle Rock. From the island's summit there are spectacular views of Pinnacle Rock, the vast black lava flows at Sullivan Bay and the rest of Santiago Island. There are volcanic cones, lunar-like craters, lava fields and lava flows. There is very little vegetation on this island but the tequila plant grows here as does the lava cactus. Marine turtles are found here as well as a very small colony of Galapagos penguins.



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DAY 8: Santa Cruz Island

AM: Bachas Beach Bachas Beach is found to the west of Turtle Cove. The sandy white-coral beach is a major nesting site for sea turtles. There is a small lagoon behind the beach where it is possible to observe flamingos and other birds such as black-necked stilts, white-cheeked pintail ducks and whimbrels. There are the remains of a floating dock and old abandoned barges used by the Americans during WWII to be found here. PM: North Seymour North Seymour was created by seismic uplift, as opposed to being of volcanic origin and was formed by uplift of a submarine lava formation. It is fairly flat and the whole island is covered with low, bushy vegetation. The island teems with life and it is home to one of the largest populations of nesting blue-footed boobies and magnificent frigate birds. Blue-footed boobies perform their courtship dance in the more open areas and swallow-tailed gulls perch on the cliff edges. Despite the tremendous surf that can pound the outer shore, sea lions haul out onto the beach and can be found bodysurfing. Marine iguanas are also common and North Seymour boasts a large colony of land iguanas. Flocks of pelicans feed off shore, and Nazca boobies can also be seen.

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DAY 9: Genovesa Island

AM: El Barranco Genovesa Island is a horse-shoe shaped island formed from the eruption of a shield volcano. Also known as Prince Philip’s Steps, El Barranco has a steep rocky path leading up to a high cliff face. The cliffs are composed of very fragile lava and the natural erosion that has occurred in these lava flows has created the ideal nesting site for storm petrels. Red-footed, Nazca and masked boobies are all found here as are red-billed tropicbirds, short-eared owls and wedge-rumped storm petrels that are active during the daytime. During the panga rides along the cliffs, fur seals may be seen as well as several species of seabirds. PM: Darwin Bay The eventual collapse of one side of the caldera resulted in a submerged crater that formed Darwin Bay. The wet landing is on a beautiful white coral sandy beach. This is a favourite site for birdwatchers as red-footed boobies, masked boobies, wandering tattlers, lava gulls, whimbrels, yellow-crowned and black-crowned lava herons, swallow-tailed gulls and yellow warblers can be seen in the area. The trail climbs gradually to the edge of the cliff where you may see red-footed boobies nesting in the mangrove trees below. Other birds to have been sighted here include sharp-beaked finches, large cactus finches, ground finches, Galapagos doves and Galapagos swallows. Reaching the end the trail at the cliff’s edge offers an incredible view of the island and the many birds living there.



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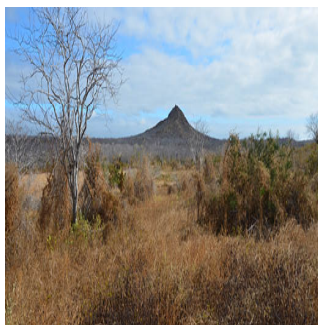
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The map illustrates the travel route through the Galapagos Islands. It begins at San Cristobal, proceeds to Baltra, and then follows a path through Santa Cruz, Santiago, Isabela, and Fernandina. From there, it visits Genovesa and returns to San Cristobal. A dashed line with an airplane icon shows the flight from Quito to the islands.

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