

ECUADOR - CAMILA



INTRODUCTION

Discover the startling beauty and unique wildlife of the Galapagos Islands, a volcanic archipelago in the Pacific Ocean 1,000 km off the coast of Ecuador. As you cruise between the islands aboard the M/T Camila, be enchanted by the wildlife - from mola-mola sunfish to Galapagos penguins, giant tortoises, the endemic Santa Fe land iguana, blue and red-footed boobies, sea lions and mangrove finches. Here there are species found nowhere else in the world set amongst landscapes of lava fields, volcanoes, coastal lagoons, cactus forests, mangroves and coral reefs.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival to Baltra Airport with transfer to M/T Cam

Welcome to the Galapagos Islands aboard the M/T Camila. The guide and crew will greet you and show you to your accommodations upon your arrival. Afterwards, the guide and cruise manager will hold a short briefing on all safety and emergency protocols, different areas of the vessel and the normal routine of the itinerary. PM: Santiago Island - Sullivan Bay Southeast of Santiago Island, Sullivan Bay shows off an interesting lava field with a geologically young flow from 1897. Because the rocks are black and formed of lava, it can get quite hot. Appropriate footwear is required for this visit in order to protect your feet.



NO IMAGE
AVAILABLE

TRIP CODE

ECTSC8A

DEPARTURE

Selected Saturdays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Ecuador, Galapagos
Islands



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DAY 2: Isabela Island - Vicente Roca Point

Isabela Island is the largest of all the Galapagos islands. It is most famously known as the island shaped as a seahorse. While in the panga, keep an eye out for the magnificent mola-mola sunfish! PM: Fernandina Island - Espinosa Point Between the Bolivar Channel dividing Isabela and Fernandina Islands lies Espinosa Point. The highlight of this visit is the nesting colony of the Flightless Cormorant, which over time lost its ability to fly due to evolutions distinct changes, helping it swim better and faster. Also seen at this site is the incredible remnants of solid magma, but watch your step for the many marine iguanas known to crowd the area.



DAY 3: Isabela - Tagus Cove


If you like historic remnants, then you will enjoy finding what was left behind from pirates and sailors in the 1800s. This site was one of their preferred pit stops while traveling the seas. The hike here will provide incredible views of the cove and on the other side the mangrove forest where the last 35 pairs of Mangrove finches thrive. PM: Isabela Island - Urbina Bay Millions of years ago, Urbina Bay was once laying on the ocean floor. Volcanic uplifts caused it to rise and now it is occupied by sea lions, land iguanas and flightless cormorants. It is a great place to enjoy some free time on the beach or the guide may suggest a hike.



DAY 4: Isabela Island - Elizabeth Bay

On the eastern coast of Isabela Island is Elizabeth Bay with many islets. These parts are visited by panga and on the rocky shores Galapagos penguins can be seen. There is a large abundance of marine life that can be seen in the clear waters. It is great for snorkeling. PM: Isabela Island - Moreno Point The beautiful rocky shores of Moreno Point offers a plethora of birds to be seen. It is truly a birders delight. The main attraction are the coast lagoons where white tipped sharks can be seen and the panoramic views of Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul volcanoes cannot be missed.



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DAY 5: Santa Cruz Island - Charles Darwin Station


The Charles Darwin Research Station is one of the Galapagos Island’s most important sites for visitors. It is a research facility that has an extensive collection of Galapagos plant life specimens carefully preserved and also acts as a biological research station and active breeding center operated by the Charles Darwin Foundation. PM: Santa Cruz Island - Highlands The highlands are located in the northern part of Santa Cruz and can reach elevations up to 1500 meters. This area is rich with hills, ferns, volcanoes and wildlife. A great contrast to the molten lava harden beaches and rocky areas of other islands already seen. It is home to giant tortoises, mockingbirds, finches and many other species.



DAY 6: Santa Fe Island

Santa Fe is home to the endemic Santa Fe iguana. The island was created by a volcanic uplift that now hosts a forest of Opuntia and Palo Santo trees. It is a picturesque island with two different trails, one leading to a scenic viewpoint and the other leading to a small beach. PM: South Plazas Island This small island with steep cliffs was formed by rising lava. It is home to one of the largest sea lion colonies, as well as colorful land iguanas. The most characteristic plant on the island is the Sesuvium that turns bright red during the dry season, creating a contrast on the island. The amazing colors of the turquoise waters against the black lava create a setting for amazing photography opportunities.




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DAY 7: Floreana - Post Office Bay

Ask the Cruise Manager for one of our complimentary postcards to write a message and address it home. Leave it in the barrel used before by pirates and sailors. While your there, see if there are any other postcards you can take home with you to send for fellow travelers who have already left their messages! PM: Floreana - Devil's Crown / Cormorant Point Just off of Floreana Island is a fantastic snorkeling site known as Devil's Crown. Various tropical fish species can be seen, even galapagos sharks or white-tipped sharks. Sea lions can be seen hunting for fish or playing through schools of hundreds of fish in circles, it is really quite the site to see. Cormorant point on Floreana Island is a great place to see one of the places where flamingos live in salt water lagoons. Walking along the trail after the lagoon leads to a hidden beach great for walking in the soft sand. Watch your feet if walking in the water, stingrays love to hang out here as well.



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DAY 8: San Cristobal Island - Interpretation Center / Gal


At the interpretation center you'll find many different exhibits on information about the natural and geological history of the Galapagos Islands. It first opened in 1998 to help enforce the efforts of wildlife protection and the natural environment through means of population and tourist control. Transfer to Airport The only visit you will have on this day is to the Interpretation Center. Afterwards, you will have time to gather your belongings and then the guide and cruise manager will thank you for your time. Then, you will be transferred to the airport and your cruise will come to an end.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Standard

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Inclusions	All shore excursions All meals throughout the cruise Regular soft drinks and juices Champagne reception Use of Kayaks Snorkelling gear and wetsuits Galapagos National Park certified guide Exclusions Tips for crew/guide Alcoholic beverages Plastic bottled beverages Personal expenses Roundtrip airfare to Galapagos Galapagos National Park Fee (USD\$100 per person subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD\$20 per person subject to change)
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you’re visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu’s “Pass it on” programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures’ offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure’s internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are

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also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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