



## INTRODUCTION

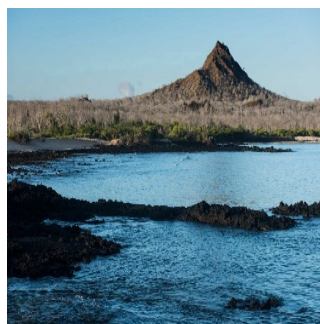
Discover the unique and outstanding flora and fauna in one of the most stunning places on Earth, the Galapagos Islands. With this unforgettable journey you will follow in Darwin's footsteps and discover some of the most beautiful beaches, snorkel and swim in crystal blue waters and spot lots of exotic species on land and in the sea. You will visit the Charles Darwin Research Station to see the Giant Tortoise and Land Iguana Breeding and Rearing Program as well as the Galapagos National Park Visitor Centre that presents a comprehensive exhibit of the islands' natural history, human interaction, ecosystems, flora & fauna.

This trip is a must for the nature lover and for those who want to get back to nature for a memorable adventure.

## ITINERARY

DAY 1: Saturday, Embark & Dragon Hill, Eden Islet

Today you fly to Baltra Island in the Galapagos, a flight time of approximately 90 minutes. Upon arrival you board M/Y Grace where you will have lunch and a quick briefing en route to the sites: Whaler Bay, a beautiful green sand cove at the base of Dragon Hill and Eden Islet, home to a great variety of seabirds and marine iguanas and also a great snorkelling site. After these visits you will get ready for a welcome cocktail and briefing before continuing to dinner.



### TRIP CODE

GATSFD8

### DEPARTURE

Selected Saturdays.

### DURATION

8 Days

### LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands,  
Ecuador



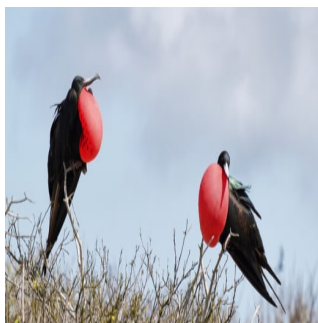
## DAY 2: Sunday, Santa Fe Island & South Plaza

Morning visit to Santa Fe Island, home to one of the most beautiful and sheltered bays of the archipelago and some of the best snorkelling with its crystal clear waters. Certainly one of the best locations to see sea turtles, swim with sea lions and get a glimpse of the Galapagos White-tipped Shark. After a wet landing you will walk up to a nearby cliff to see the land iguanas through an area of Opuntia Cactus. In the afternoon visit South Plaza Island and its land iguanas wandering through bright red carpet weed.



## DAY 3: Monday, Genovesa Island

Genovesa, otherwise known as Tower Island, or 'Bird Island' for good reason. The south-western part of the island is an ocean-filled caldera ringed by the outer edges of a sizeable and mostly submerged volcano. The island sits to the northwest, slightly removed from the Galapagos archipelago.



## DAY 4: Tuesday, Fernandina Island & Isabela

In the morning visit Fernandina Island, home to the spectacular La Cumbre volcano. Journey to Punta Espinosa, a narrow spit of land, where a number of unique species, such as marine iguanas, sea lions, flightless cormorants, herons, egrets and Galapagos hawks can be seen in close proximity. In the afternoon you visit Urbina Bay where you will make an easy wet landing (a hop into a few inches of water). A highlight of this excursion are the giant land iguanas and giant tortoises, as well as the opportunity to go snorkelling amongst marine creatures, or take a relaxing nap on the sand.



### TRIP CODE

GATSFD8

### DEPARTURE

Selected Saturdays.

### DURATION

8 Days

### LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands,  
Ecuador



## DAY 5: Wednesday, Isabela Island

Morning visit to Tagus Cove on Isabela Island. A wooden stairway rises to the trail entrance and continues around Darwin Lake through a dry vegetation zone and ends in a promontory formed by spatter cones. In the afternoon head north to Punta Vicente Roca. Snorkelling is incredible here and you will have a chance to see colourful fish, sea lions, penguins and sea turtles in the water. This is also a great spot to take an interesting panga ride to spot wildlife along the shores and cliffs.



## DAY 6: Thursday, Chinese Hat & Puerto Egas

Morning visit to Chinese Hat Islet, a fairly recent volcanic cone and so-called for its distinctive shape. On the rocky shoreline of nearby Santiago, Galapagos penguins are often seen. There is a small sea lion cove on the north shore where boats anchor and land at the visitor site. Late morning snorkelling with sea lions and penguins as well as swimming opportunities in the cove. Afternoon visit to Puerto Egas, James Bay, where you land on a black beach with intriguing eroded rock formations. A trail leads to a series of crystal-clear grottos formed of broken lava tubes, which are home to sea lions, fur seals, marine iguanas and tropical fish.



## DAY 7: Friday, Isla Santa Cruz Highlands

Santa Cruz is the second largest island in the Galapagos and its capital, Puerto Ayora, is the economic centre of the Islands. In the morning you visit the Charles Darwin Research Station to see the Giant Tortoise and Land Iguana Breeding and Rearing Program. In the afternoon you visit the Highlands, where the dry coastal vegetation transitions to lush wet fields and forests overgrown with moss and lichens. Your destination is the Tortoise Reserve where you will have a chance to see these animals in the wild, walk through lava tubes and see the Gemelos, twin collapsed craters.



### TRIP CODE

GATSFD8

### DEPARTURE

Selected Saturdays.

### DURATION

8 Days

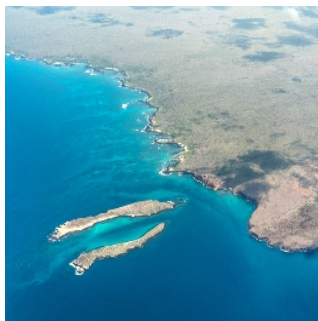
### LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands,  
Ecuador



DAY 8: Saturday, Interpretation Centre & Disembark

Today your Galapagos cruise comes to an end, but before you bid farewell to the M/Y Grace, visit the Galapagos National Park Visitor Centre that presents a comprehensive exhibit of the islands' natural history, human interaction, ecosystems and flora & fauna. From the Centre, a short trail arrives at Frigate Bird Hill, where both magnificent-frigates and great-frigates can be seen in the same colony. Return to the airport where you began your journey in the Galapagos for the flight back to the Ecuadorian mainland.



## TRIP CODE

GATSF8

## DEPARTURE

Selected Saturdays.

## DURATION

8 Days

## LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands,  
Ecuador



## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

### Accommodation

Cabin

### Inclusions

Shipboard accommodation  
All meals whilst on board including snacks  
All shore excursions  
Guiding and lectures by Galapagos Naturalist Guide  
English-speaking Expedition team  
Use of snorkelling equipment and wetsuits  
Soft drinks, juice, coffee and tea throughout the cruise

#### Exclusions

Return airfares from mainland Ecuador  
Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee (US\$100 per person subject to change)  
Galapagos Transit Control Card (US\$20 per person subject to change)  
Visa Fees (if applicable)  
Travel insurance  
Gratuities for the crew  
Optional activities whilst on board  
Personal Expenses  
Bar consumption on board (All-inclusive packages available)

### Difficulty Rating

1 - Easy

### Single Surcharge

Available upon request

### Notes

Contact us for more details

### Price Dependent upon

Seasons and availability

## SUSTAINABILITY



## GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - FOLLOWING IN DARWIN'S FOOTSTEPS (FROM SAN CRISTOBAL)

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

Quasar undertake a number of sustainability initiatives to enhance their commitment as a responsible Galapagos operator. Quasar support the Charles Darwin Foundation, which supports undertakes a number of conservation and preservation efforts throughout the islands. In addition, Quasar also sponsor the Galapagos Scouts Program, educating local youth in the Galapagos and fostering their knowledge toward conservation, under the vision of educating the current youth toward the future conservation of the islands. In a more physical effort, groups are smaller to minimise the disruption on both the wildlife and native species and single-use plastics are removed from all vessels.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

### TRIP CODE

GATSFD8

### DEPARTURE

Selected Saturdays.

### DURATION

8 Days

### LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands,  
Ecuador

