

ECUADOR - M/Y GALAPAGOS SEA STAR JOURNEY



INTRODUCTION

M/Y Galapagos Sea Star Journey is a luxury motor yacht with a capacity for 16 passengers. Featuring 8 spacious suites (25m2 approx) and 1 Master Suite (35m2 approx) equipped with panoramic windows to enjoy the marvellous landscapes of the islands, private bathroom, hot/cold water, air conditioning with independent controls, minibar and TV. Twin beds or one faux queen bed and connected suites for families.

Local and international dishes are designed by our onboard chef and will be served in the cosy atmosphere of the ships dinning room. The yacht also offers a large solarium with shaded area, two jacuzzis, comfortable sun loungers and a Mini Spa offering therapies and massages. Social areas include a large living area, mini library and video library and a play zone for kids (during family departures). Snorkelling equipment and kayaks are also available free of charge.

The SeaStar Journey Experience

The SeaStar Journey is designed to offer a luxurious escape to the archipelago of the Galapagos. This luxury boat was built in 2011 and features a combination of contemporary design, privacy and comfort. With a maximum of 16 passengers, the Seastar yacht features seven spacious Galapagos Suites. During this luxurious escape, you can enjoy the breathtaking views, and private areas to relax. Enjoy the Seastar's large solarium and two jacuzzis whilst you soak up the sun as you cruise from island to island. Go snorkelling, swimming or kayaking and get a real look into the underwater world and all the beauty it has to offer. The M/C Galapagos Seastar Journey, another jewel from the well known Galapagos Journey Fleet, the perfect combination of adventure, comfort, service and excellence that offers five, six, ten, eleven and fifteen day itineraries.

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

TRIP CODE

GATSGO6

DEPARTURE

Thursdays

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos



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itinerary options available and applicable departure dates.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Thursday, Embark & Charles Darwin Research Station

Upon arrival at Isla Baltra in the Galapagos Islands, you will meet your guide to transfer to, and embark upon, the M/Y Galapagos Sea Star Journey. In the afternoon visit the Charles Darwin Research Station. Here, you can learn about the protection and conservation of the islands. You can also visit the Information Centre, Tortoise Breeding Centre and the giant tortoises that have been reared here.



DAY 2: Friday, Tintorerias Islet & Sierra Negra Volcano

Spend the day at Isla Isabela, first visiting Tintorerias Islet, the name for white tipped reef sharks of which there are an abundance. You will also find Galapagos penguins and sea lions in the waters. In the afternoon, land at Puerto Villamil to hike into the highlands for the Sierra Negra slope before hiking on uneven terrain to the rim of the Sierra Negra Volcano, the world's second widest at 6 x 5 miles. Hike to Chico Volcano for its striking lava formations, examples of the geological occurrences that have created the Galapagos Islands.



NO IMAGE AVAILABLE

DAY 3: Saturday, Punta Moreno & Elizabeth Bay

Enjoy a hike on Isla Isabella between its volcanoes, Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul, to Punta Moreno. The trail runs along a pahohoe lava flow where the solidified lava appears corrugated like an accordion. The flow runs into lagoons where several species of birds can be found amongst the mangroves. Elizabeth Bay is the next attraction on Isla Isabela, although no land contact will be made. Aboard a zodiac you can see the largest colony of penguins on the Galapagos at Marielas Islets. Continue into a cove surrounded by red mangroves to spot sea turtles, flightless cormorants, spotted eagle rays, golden rays, brown pelicans and sea lions.



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DAY 4: Sunday, Punta Espinoza & Tagus Cove

Land on Isla Fernandina between many marine iguanas at Punta Espinoza. You can also see the flightless cormorant here, witnessing how it has evolved to find food in the ocean. Continue to Tagus Cove to see Galapagos penguins waddling along the cliff’s edge. Land and hike up to the top of the cliff for views over Darwin Lake, several volcanoes and surrounding cliffs complete with graffiti by pirates, whalers and buccaneers.



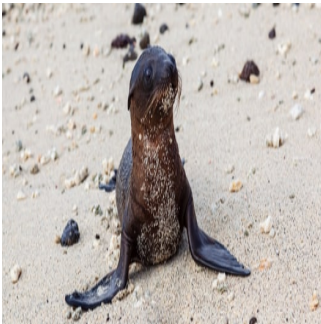
DAY 5: Monday, Playa Espumilla & Puerto Egas

Visit two sites on Isla Santiago today, starting at Playa Espumilla on the northern coast. With marine iguanas, rays, octopi, sharks and Sally-lightfoot crabs hunted by herons, Espumilla Beach is an excellent spot for swimming and snorkelling. The beach is also an important nesting site for marine turtles. Back on dry land, the palo santo forest is of interest. In the afternoon, visit Puerto Egas, James Bay on the west of Santiago. The black beach is made up of eroded lava and occupied by marine and land iguanas. Further wildlife can be found, with tropical fish, crabs, birdlife and sea lions further down the beach.



DAY 6: Isla Lobos & Disembark

Visit the small island, Lobos, in a panga from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno. On land, take a trail across dry vegetation, volcanic rocks and sand to find a nesting population of blue-footed boobies and frigate birds. On the beach, you will see a large colony of sea lions. Following the excursion, transfer to San Cristóbal Airport for your return flight back to Ecuador.




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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Cabin on boat.

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Inclusions	Accommodation All meals Water, Coffee and tea All excursions English-Speaking Naturalist guide Snorkelling equipment Kayak equipment
	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) Wet suit rental Soft drink and alcoholic drinks Personal expenses Gratuities for crew/guides
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.
Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, season & availability.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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.

The Sea Star follows a number of sustainability initiatives in line with general Galapagos

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National Park Policy. Reusable water bottles are provided for all guests on board, food is sourced as sustainably as possible from local markets and plastic has been eliminated 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](#)

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