

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 marvelous 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.

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 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

TRIP CODE

GATSGOT

DEPARTURE

Tuesdays

DURATION

10 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador



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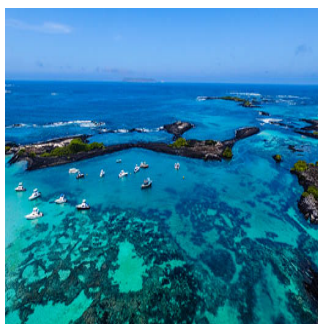
day itineraries.

The SeaStar also offers a [5 day cruise](#), [6 day cruise](#) and [11 day cruise](#)

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Tuesday, San Cristobal

Upon arrival at San Cristobal Airport, a guide will meet you, help you collect your luggage, and escort you on a short bus ride to the harbor. In the afternoon, visit to Cerro Colorado Tortoises Protection and Growing Center, located at 40 minutes aprox by bus to the south east of the island. This center was built to improve the status of the population of the island tortoises. The center includes a large corral, a Visitors center, breeding center and an interpretative trail. Along this trail is possible to see different species of native and endemic plants as well birds as the San Cristobal Mockingbird, Yellow Warblers, and many species of finches and the Galapagos flycatcher.



DAY 2: Wednesday, Isla Española

Spend the day on Isla Española, otherwise know as Hood Island. Gardner Bay offers an excellent beach for relaxing, swimming, snorkelling, kayaking, and the opportunity to observe sea lions. From the shore, you can see sharks swimming in the crystal clear ocean waters. Continue to Punta Suarez, a rocky area on the island, home to a number of different sea bird colonies, creating an impressive spectacle. Witness the blow hole that spouts water some 20 metres into the air.



DAY 3: Thursday, Isla Floreana

Today visits Isla Floreana, starting at the large flamingo lagoon at Punta Cormorant. You can also observe common stilts, white-checked pintail ducks and other shorebirds. Visit the two distinct beaches, Green Beach with its olivine crystals and Flour Sand Beach made of coral. Continue to Post Office Bay, where 18th Century whalers placed a wooden barrel for use as a post office.



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DAY 4: Friday, Isla Santa Fé & Islas Plazas

Make a wet landing in the clear waters of Isla Santa Fé. The island is home to a number of endemic species including the Galapagos hawk, snake, mockingbird and land iguana. Take a trail to marvel at the flora of salt bushes and pear cacti before snorkelling with sea lions and tropical fish. Travel north to Islas Plazas, two small islands to the east of Santa Cruz. The islands accommodate some of the most fascinating Galapagos life, with smaller than normal land iguanas as well as land and marine hybrids. Many seabirds can be found on the islands, swallow tailed gulls, Audubon shearwaters, red-billed tropicbirds, frigates and brown pelicans.



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DAY 5: Saturday, Isla Seymour Norte & Playa Las Bachas

On the wave-battered shore lie sea lion colonies on the uplifted island of Seymour Norte. Take a walk through the island on a circular path. You will see nesting sites for the large population of frigate birds and blue-footed boobies, while swallow-tailed gulls perch on the cliff edges. In the afternoon, head to Bachas Beach on Isla Santa Cruz, where you will find the partial remains of US barges from World War II. The beaches are also a favoured nesting site for sea turtles. There is a brackish lagoon behind one of the beaches where you may see flamingos, stilts and whimbrels.



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DAY 6: Sunday, Mosquera Islet & Cerro Dragón

In the morning visit the small islet of Mosquera where you can find a great white sand beach with a large population of sea lions. The site is excellent for swimming and snorkelling. On the rocks you can see Sally light-foot and red lava crabs. On Isla Santa Cruz, you will find Cerro Dragón, Dragon Hill, upon which you are afforded beautiful views of the bay. Take a trail to a hyper-saline lagoon situated behind a beach, where you can find flamingos and pintail ducks amongst other shorebirds. There is also a population of re-introduced land iguanas.



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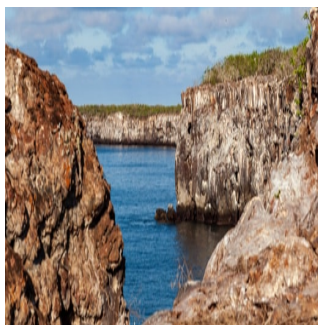
DAY 7: Monday, Black Turtle Cove & Chinese Hat

With an absence of bays, take a kayak or panga to the northern side of Santa Cruz for Black Turtle Cove. The calm waters are frequented by sea turtles that can often be seen mating. The area is also ideal for young sharks and rays that can easily be seen in the clear waters. Continue to the small islet of Chinese Hat, so-called for its distinctive shape. The recent volcanic cone shows lava formations on one side with lava tubes and flows all covered by sea lions, marine iguanas and Galapagos penguins.



DAY 8: Tuesday, Isla Genovesa

A great island for birdwatchers, Isla Genovesa, is in the north of the Galapagos Islands. Make a wet landing on the white sand of Darwin Bay. Take a trail towards a cliff edge, observing red-foots in the trees below, as well as sighting sharp-beaked finches, ground finches and swallow-tailed gulls. At the end of the trail, take in spectacular views of the island. Make your way south to the southern part of Darwin Bay to El Barranco, Prince Philip's Steps. Climb up to find large populations of red-footed and masked boobies as well as storm petrels and short-eared owls



DAY 9: Wednesday, Isla Bartolomé & Sullivan Bay

Visit the stunning beaches of Isla Bartolomé, home to marine turtles and a small colony of Galapagos penguins. Enjoy excellent views from this small volcanic island, also featuring the famous Pinnacle Rock. Continue to Sullivan Bay on Isla Santiago. The island is volcanically active with some recently formed cones and flows to be seen. You can walk across the lava that looks as if it has only just formed at Sullivan Bay.



DAY 10: Thursday, Isla Santa Cruz & Disembark

Head towards the Highlands of Isla Santa Cruz. Up on the trail, on a clear day you will have great views of rolling hills and volcanic cones covered with lush greenery. Transfer to Baltra Airport for your return flight to the mainland.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on boat.
Inclusions	<p>Accommodation All meals Water, Coffee and tea All excursions English-Speaking Naturalist guide Snorkelling equipment Kayak equipment</p> <p>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</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.
Notes	<p>All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. Please note kayak activities are subject to weather conditions.</p>
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, season & availability.

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

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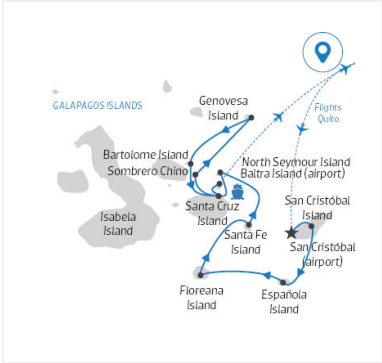
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and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience 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 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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