

## ECUADOR - M/V ORIGIN & THEORY: WESTERN & NORTHERN ROUTE



### TRIP CODE

GATSWNR8

### DEPARTURE

Weekly

### DURATION

8 Days

### LOCATIONS

Ecuador



## INTRODUCTION

Set sail aboard the luxury mega yacht, the M/V Origin to explore the Galapagos Islands where the scenery is as diverse and spectacular as the wildlife. Giant tortoises, red-footed and Nazca boobies, land and marine iguanas, flightless cormorants, frigatebirds, tropicbirds, whales and dolphins - the list of fascinating species is endless. Snorkel with Galapagos penguins on Isabela Island, kayak at Darwin Bay and Tagus Cove and explore the volcanic formations on Fernandina Island. Every day a different experience awaits as you explore this remarkable UNESCO World Heritage site.


## ITINERARY

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## DAY 1: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas

Land at Bartolomé, on moon-like terrain. This young Island is inhospitable to most plants and animals. After a dry landing, climb 30 minutes up stairs leading to the summit of a once active volcano. Along the way, pause to marvel at lava bombs, spatter cones and cinder cones. From the top of the wooden stairs, you can gaze out across the island for a panoramic view of the island and Pinnacle Rock, an eroded tuff cone. Crystal clear water is an invitation to snorkel from the beach with schools of tropical fish and Galapagos penguins. Continue to Playa Las Bachas, a long stretch of a soft white sand beach and interior lagoons where greater flamingos can be found. After a wet beach landing with sea lion colonies, the trail gives way to a primeval landscape of volcanic rubble including cracked lava formations and lava tubes. Spot marine iguanas and pairs of oystercatchers or you can choose to snorkel at a site that is frequented by Galapagos penguins.



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## DAY 2: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas

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## DAY 3: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas

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## DAY 4: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas

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DAY 5: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas

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DAY 6: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas

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DAY 7: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas

Land at Bartolomé, on moon-like terrain. This young Island is inhospitable to most plants and animals. After a dry landing, climb 30 minutes up stairs leading to the summit of a once active volcano. Along the way, pause to marvel at lava bombs, spatter cones and cinder cones. From the top of the wooden stairs, you can gaze out across the island for a panoramic view of the island and Pinnacle Rock, an eroded tuff cone. Crystal clear water is an invitation to snorkel from the beach with schools of tropical fish and Galapagos penguins. Continue to Playa Las Bachas, a long stretch of a soft white sand beach and interior lagoons where greater flamingos can be found. After a wet beach landing with sea lion colonies, the trail gives way to a primeval landscape of volcanic rubble including cracked lava formations and lava tubes. Spot marine iguanas and pairs of oystercatchers or you can choose to snorkel at a site that is frequented by Galapagos penguins.



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DAY 8: Bartolomé & Playa las Bachas


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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Standard

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<b>Inclusions</b>	<p>Cabin accommodation, all meals and snacks, All beverages including open bar, Captain’s welcome and farewell party, Guided shore excursions, Cruise director, Use of wet suits, snorkeling equipment, stand up paddle boards and sea kayaks, Transfers in the Islands between the airport and dock.</p> <p><b>Cruise rates do not include</b> International Airfare, Airfare to Galapagos, Galapagos entrance fee (park tax), transit control card, Premium alcoholic beverages, Gratuities to guides and crew, purchases on board laundry service, Wi-Fi (when available) and travel insurance.</p> <p>Galapagos Park Tax: The entrance fee to the National Park is \$100 for adults and \$50 for children 11 and younger and is not included in the cruise rate.</p> <p>Transit Control Card – A TCT card or tarjeta de control de transito is \$20 per person and is required by INGALA for all visitors to Galapagos to control migration to the Islands.</p>
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	2 (light adventure)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	Available upon request
<b>Notes</b>	Contact us for more details
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	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.

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- 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 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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