

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - ECOGALAXY | 6 DAY WESTERN



INTRODUCTION

Explore the Western Islands of the Galapagos on this 6 day itinerary. The pristine archipelago of the Galapagos superimposes the notion of uniqueness. As you cruise through the carious islands you notice each one is different than the last. From the bright red sand shores of Rabida island to the volcanic craters of Egas Port. The Galapagos is a unique place shaped throughout the ages. This is a truly unique destination, sure to shape your perspective of precious ecosystems and natural beauty in the same way.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Baltra Island and Santa Cruz Island

Take a morning flight from either Quito/Guayaquil to the Galapagos. At the airport you will be met by our representative who will transfer you to your ship where you will be introduced to your crew and have a welcome lunch. In the afternoon you will be transferred to the Charles Darwin research Station. You will take a private bus to the entrance of the breeding center where you will see tortoises and land iguanas in captivity. This center is the main breeding site on the islands. Animals that were in danger of extinction on various islands are maintained here in captivity. Thanks to the dedicated work of several institutions, some species are being saved. This is where Lonesome George lived, the famous last survivor of the species of giant tortoise found on Pinta Island.



TRIP CODE

ECGSE6W

DEPARTURE

Select Saturdays

DURATION

6 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands,
Ecuador



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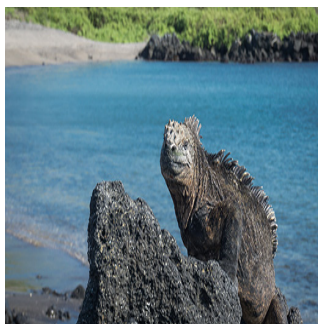
DAY 2: Moreno point and Elizabeth bay

We will be visiting Moreno Point this morning, where you can enjoy a relaxing hike through the rough terrain while taking in the distinctive flora and fauna of the area. Along the way, keep an eye out for the blue-footed boobies and Galápagos penguins as they carry out their daily activities, and marvel at the playful antics of the sea lions in the nearby tide pools. As you explore this unique environment, your expert guide will provide insights on the island's history and geology, making your visit both an educational and memorable experience. In the afternoon you will arrive at Elizabeth Bay. This is one of the island's breeding sites for penguins. Located along the west coast of Isabela, Elizabeth Point is a marine visitor site. Visit Red Mangrove Cove: Brown pelicans, flightless cormorants, spotted eagle rays, golden rays and sea lions are often seen.



DAY 3: Urbina bay and Tagus cove

Urbina Bay, offers a range of exciting activities, from exploring the diverse marine life while snorkeling or scuba diving to hiking through the volcanic terrain and observing the iconic Galapagos giant tortoises in their natural habitat. The bay is also home to an abundance of land and marine iguanas, sea lions, and a variety of bird species, providing ample opportunities for wildlife viewing and photography. Tagus Cove is a must-see destination for anyone visiting the Galápagos. This historic site on Isabela Island has been used as an anchorage for over 300 years, and is surrounded by breathtaking volcanic formations. Take a hike up to the ridge for a panoramic view of the cove and its picturesque surroundings. Along the way, you'll see fascinating geological formations, including lava fields and volcanic tuff cones. Keep an eye out for the unique flora and fauna of the area, including the Galápagos hawk and Darwin's finches.



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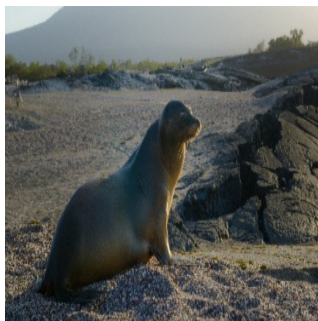
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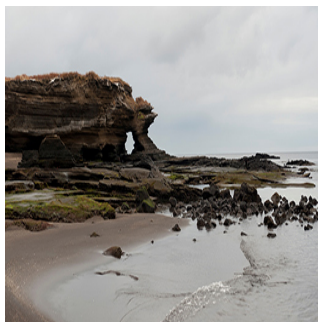
DAY 4: Espinoza point and Vicente roca point

Espinoza Point, famous for the large colonies of marine iguanas and the home of the flightless cormorant, the Galapagos penguin, snakes, and more. From Espinoza Point, we can admire the beauty of Fernandina Island and its volcano, which last erupted in May of 2005. Fernandina is the only island that doesn't have mammals, and the open areas are extremely fragile. January to June is the nesting period of the marine iguana, and as such we take great care while walking here. In the afternoon you will make your way to Vicente Roca Point. made up by two separate coves, this site is a large bay with spectacular sea life. Keep an eye out for seahorses, sea turtles, and the strange, yet fascinating, Mola-mola



DAY 5: Egas Port and Rabida

In the morning you will arrive at Egas Port. Here we find a beautiful black sand beach; to the south of the beach is Pan de Azucar Volcano, whose volcanic deposits have contributed to the formation of the black sand beach. The crater of this volcano contains a saltwater lake that dries up during hot weather. Between 1928 and 1930, explorations to develop a salt mine were carried out, but it was decided that a mine was not feasible. In the afternoon you will arrive at Rabida Island. The visitor site, located on the east coast of Rabida Island, consists of a red sand beach, a coastal lagoon behind the beach, and a loop trail approximately 1.1 km in length. The red color of the rocks and sand on the beach is due to the interaction of the very porous volcanic material with environmental factors. Rain, saltwater and the sea breeze, act as oxidizing agents, creating the red color. The scenery, arid zone vegetation and the presence of native and endemic species add to the beauty of this island.



DAY 6: Black Turtle Cove and Departure

Today you will visit Black Turtle Cove. which is situated in the northern region of Santa Cruz. This bay is surrounded by mangroves and is accessible only by dinghy. The shallow cove is a safe refuge for marine life. Black-tip reef sharks, marine turtles, and a variety of rays are often spotted here. After this activity you will be transferred to the airport for your departure flight from the Galapagos.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Standard
Inclusions	Cabin accommodation on board vessel All meals whilst on board Guiding and lectures by experienced naturalist guides Transfers in the islands Use of snorkelling gear (mask, tubes and fins) Kayaks Drinks including water, coffee and tea. Exclusions Roundtrip airfare to/from the Galapagos Galapagos National Park entrance fee (US\$100pp subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (US\$20pp subject to change) Travel Insurance Personal expenses Gratuities for staff and crew
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.
Notes	Please Note park entrance fees may be subject to change without prior notice.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, seasonality and 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 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

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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.

EcoGalaxy cruise contributes to a number of sustainability initiatives in line with Galapagos park policy and their own unique contribution philosophy. Plastic is eliminated throughout the Galapagos, naturalist guides provide in depth education and respect for ecosystems when undertaking tours, and suppliers are chosen from locally-owned organisations and operators to ensure economic sustainability within the region. 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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