ECUADOR - GALAPAGOS ISLAND HOPPING

TRIP CODE
ECTSGIH5
DEPARTURE
Daily
DURATION
5 Days
LOCATIONS
Ecuador, Galapagos Islands

INTRODUCTION

The Galapagos Islands overflow with exotic wildlife set against backdrops of spectacular landscapes. Our Galapagos Island Hopping Tours are a great alternative to Galapagos cruises, especially for those non-seagoing travellers who prefer to stay on dry land. Explore the natural wonders and fascinating wildlife of the Galapagos archipelago by day, sleeping in comfortable boutique hotels at night. Speed boats or public transportation takes you from island to island and at the end of each day you return to your island hotel.

On this 5 day tour you will get to enjoy the highlights of the inhabited islands of San CristÃ³bal, Isabela, Floreana and Santa Cruz that offer the perfect combination of amazing destinations, great activities and lovely accommodation. Snorkel with rays, sea lions and iguanas and experience the breath-taking beauty of the Galapagos Islands as you explore the archipelago.

We use small island hotels that have been artfully built with an inspirational design. Our trips are activity-packed and include visits to see the unique Galapagos animals and volcanic landscapes found nowhere else on the planet. Your excursions also include time for snorkelling and discovering the underwater magic of this wilderness sanctuary.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival in Baltra, Puerto Ayora

Upon arrival at Baltra's airport via flight from Quito or Guayaquil, a naturalist guide will transfer you to Puerto Ayora. En route, we'll make a stop to visit the highlands, followed by lunch at the harbor before continuing on to the hotel. After a brief rest, we'll head to the Charles Darwin Station where we'll have the opportunity to see various species of Giant Tortoises in captivity, and learn about their size, age, and the islands they originated from. Our guide will also provide insight into ongoing conservation efforts aimed at preserving the Giant Tortoises and the environment of the archipelago as a whole. We'll return to the hotel for dinner and accommodation. *Note: To execute this itinerary, it is important to book a early flight that arrives maximum at 10am to Baltra.



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DAY 2: Island excursion

Today you will visit one of these four islands: Bartolome, North Seymour, Santa Fe, or South Plaza. The island will be chosen according to available spaces. After breakfast, you will make your own way to the meeting point (this will be advised to you) where we will begin the tour. Lunch will be included onboard the small yacht. Bartolome Island: One of the most popular islands in the Galapagos due to its stunning landscape. Visitors can hike to the top of Bartolome for panoramic views of the surrounding bays and volcanic cones. The island's beach is also a great spot for swimming and snorkeling. North Seymour Island: Home to a variety of unique wildlife species, including frigatebirds, boobies, and Galapagos sharks. Visitors can hike along the island's trails and enjoy views of the sea lions and marine iguanas that also call North Seymour home. Santa Fe Island: One of the oldest in the Galapagos, with volcanic rocks that date back about 4 million years. Visitors can hike through the island's brush and stands of prickly pear cactus to see a variety of wildlife, including sea lions and land iguanas. South Plaza Island: A small island with a unique landscape and diverse wildlife population. Visitors can walk through the island's rocky terrain and observe colonies of sea lions, land iguanas, and a variety of bird species such as red-billed tropicbirds and swallow-tailed gulls. Afterward the island visit we will return to the hotel for your overnight stay and dinner.



DAY 3: Tortuga bay & transfer to Isabela island

SANTA CRUZ – ISABELA After breakfast, your naturalist guide will lead you to Tortuga Bay, a stunning beach just a short 45-minute walk away. Along the way, you'll follow a cactus trail and eventually reach Playa Brava, known for its strong currents and diverse marine life, including iguanas, birds, and pelicans. From there, you'll continue your walk for an additional 15 minutes to reach Playa Mansa, a tranquil lagoon frequented by blue-footed boobies and pelicans, perfect for swimming and sunbathing. After lunch at the town, you will go to the port in order to embark on a public speedboat that will take you to Isabela Island (departure time: 3pm, approximately 2-2.5 hour navigation). On your arrival, a driver will take you to the hotel for check in. Time to relax before dinner at a local restaurant.



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DAY 4: Full Day Isabela

FULL DAY ISABELA At approximately 7:30 am, the excursion to Sierra Negra Volcano will commence. You will be transported by bus or other means of transportation for around 45 minutes to the Galapagos National Park control site to register your visit. Then, we will start a hike to the Sierra Negra and Chico Volcanoes, which will take approximately 3-4 hours. A boxed lunch will be provided during the trek. In the afternoon, we will return to the hotel. This afternoon,we head to the dock of Puerto Villamil in order to embark on small speedboats. After a short ride (approx. 20 min), we arrive at Tintoreras. After the hike through the islet, we will snorkel to see starfish, sea-urchins, and with luck manta rays, sharks, and sea lions that may swim close up with us. Please note that all tours on Isabela Island are shared with other individuals.



DAY 5: Departure Day

Your last day in the Galapagos Islands will start early with a transfer to the Port at 05:15 am. You'll be ready to board your boat for embarkation and begin your journey back to Santa Cruz. Upon arrival at Santa Cruz at around 8:30 am, a knowledgeable guide will be waiting to transfer you to Baltra airport. Along the way, you'll have the opportunity to make a brief stop and visit the two sunken "holes", or "Los Gemelos", which are fascinating geological formations and a must-see for any Galapagos Islands visitor. After the visit, the guide will continue to transfer you to Baltra airport for your flight back to Quito or Guayaquil.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Hotels

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Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** Accommodation in double rooms Meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner) as per the itinerary Transportation and Maritime timed views Bilingual naturalist guide (English/Spanish) Scheduled visits Snorkelling equipment Transfers in the Galapagos Shared sailing tours **EXCLUSIONS** Domestic flights Galapagos National Park entrance fee (USD$200, subject to change) INGALA Migration Control Card (USD$20, subject to change) Wetsuits for snorkelling Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages Tips
Difficulty Rating	2 (Light Adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Prices are based on per person, twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.
Price Dependent upon	Currency fluctuation, seasonality and availability at time of booking.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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