ECUADOR - SOUTHERN ISLANDS CRUISE | GRAND MAJESTIC



TRIP CODE

ECTSGM4

DEPARTURE

Select Mondays

DURATION

4 Days

LOCATIONS

Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, South America

INTRODUCTION

Step aboard the modern and sleek Grand Majestic mega-yacht on this memorable 4-day Galapagos Islands cruise. Highlights include snorkelling at Devil's Crown, the flamingo lagoon and Green Beach at Cormorant Point, El Junco freshwater lagoon, historic Post Office Bay, the incredible birdlife of Espanola and the Twin Craters of Santa Cruz. Explore on foot, by panga (zodiac) and kayak as you admire the beautiful landscapes and the fascinating and varied wildlife, from blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds and sea lions, to lava lizards, tropicbirds and the waved albatross.

Check out the 5 Day North Eastern Islands Cruise on Grand Majestic.

ITINERARY

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DAY 1: San Cristobal Island

In the morning, you will arrive at San Cristobal Island. After going through immigration and baggage claim, you will be met by a Grand Majestic staff member and transferred to the yacht. You will be shown to your cabin where you will have some time to settle in before lunch and a welcome briefing. In the afternoon, your first visit takes you to El Junco Lagoon. Located in the highlands 19 kilometres from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, El Junco is located in the caldera of an extinct volcano. Rainwater feeds the lagoon. There are many farms and ranches in this area of San Cristobal Island, and sometime cows can be found near the lagoon.



DAY 2: Espanola Island

This morning excursion takes you to the spectacular Gardner Bay. After landing, you can walk across a lovely white-sand beach amongst a busy sea lion colony or dive into the water to swim with sea lion pups. You may also see curious mockingbirds on the beach. In the afternoon, you will visit Suarez Point. On the trail you will have the chance to see blue-footed boobies, albatrosses, and Nazca boobies. This island is the breeding site of nearly all of the world's 12,000 pairs of waved albatrosses. You will also visit a beautiful site on the ocean front where there is a cliff that the large albatrosses use as a launching pad! You will have the chance to see the famous blowhole that spurts sea water into the air. The landscape is great for photography.



DAY 3: Floreana Island

Your Morning visit is to Cormorant Point. Here you will enjoy a hike to a salt-water lagoon which is home to flamingos. You will also have a chance to snorkel around Devil's Crown which is the rocky remains of an offshore volcano sticking out of the water. This is a great location to spot a wide range of marine creatures. In the afternoon, you will visit the famous Post Office Bay. You will land on a beach and head to a spot where 18th century whalers placed a wooden barrel used as an unofficial mail box. The custom continues to this day with Galapagos visitors. So, don't forget your postcards, and don't be surprised if the post card arrives to its destination before you even get home.



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DAY 4: Santa Cruz Island

In the morning, you will visit the Twin Craters located opposite to each other on both sides of the road leading from Puerto Ayora to Baltra. The name is only figurative; not real craters, these formations were created by the collapse of surface material in underground fissures and chambers. The view is breathtaking. After visiting the Twin Craters, you will be transferred to the Baltra airport to catch your flight to Guayaquil or Quito on mainland Ecuador.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** All meals and excursions while onboard the ship Transfers in the islands Bilingual National Park Guide Use of snorkelling equipment/wetsuit Use of underwater camera Free Airport Assistance* Hotel night in Quito or Guayaquil (the day before the cruise)* Free transfer to Galapagos Flights one way* *Applies only when purchasing roundtrip Galapagos/mainland airfare from the cruise operator **EXCLUSIONS** Roundtrip airfare to/from the Galapagos Alcoholic drinks Galapagos National Park Entrance fee (US$200 per person from Aug 2024 - Subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD$20 per person - Subject to change) Travel/Medical insurance Gratuities for staff and guides onboard Personal Expenses
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.

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Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. * Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions and government regulations.
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality, fuel surcharges, currency fluctuations and availability at time of booking.

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.

As a Gold Corporate member of the Galapagos Conservation Trust, Royal Galapagos supports ongoing conservation efforts and projects in the Galapagos Islands.

The Galapagos Conservation Trust (GCT) is a British not-for-profit organization that focus on the sustainability and conservation of the Galapagos Islands. Launched in 1995 at the Royal Society, GCT supports, develops and promotes projects that achieve measurable conservation, sustainable living, and protection of this unique ecosystem.

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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