GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - GALAPAGOS NORTH & CENTRAL ISLANDS CRUISE | SEAMAN JOURNEY



TRIP CODE
ECSJ5A
DEPARTURE
Selected Thursdays
DURATION
5 Days
LOCATIONS
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador

INTRODUCTION

M/C Galapagos Seaman Journey is a first class catamaran offering superior comfort, size, style, and stability. The Galapagos Seaman Journey makes it possible to enjoy several cruises in the Galapagos with different itineraries that include amazing land tours on most of the Galapagos Islands. During these Galapagos Cruises, guests encounter many endemic species like Galapagos Giant Tortoises, Penguins, Land and Marine Iguanas, Frigate Birds, Blue Footed Boobies, and much more!

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 Seaman Journey Experience

M/C Galapagos Seaman Journey is an expeditionary first class catamaran that began sailing the Galapagos Islands in January 2008. Superior comfort, size, style, and stability are what you can expect when choosing this catamaran to fulfill your Galapagos adventures wants and needs. This vessel, with a maximum capacity of 16 passengers, provides in each of its corners, areas for rest and recreation for everyone. For the adults who might want to relax and kick back, we offer a great bar and lounge area where they are served by our bartender whilst you relax and watch the Galapagos go by. Make landings on sites that offer beautiful scenery and the ability to get up close and personal with the archipelago, accompanied by the knowledgeable staff members found on board who will offer you intel and insight into this magnificent part of the world. The M/C Galapagos Seaman Journey, another jewel from the well known Galapagos Journey Fleet, the perfect combination of adventure, comfort, service and excellence that offers four, five, eight, eleven, twelve and fifteen day itineraries.

GREEN POINTS!

â¢ The Seaman is single use plastic free â¢ Reusable water-bottles are offered to all guests â¢ Naturalist guides offer educational environmental lectures to all guests. â¢

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All guest leave with a deep love and respect for nature.

The Seaman also offers a 5 day cruise, 7 day cruise, 9 day cruise, 11 day cruise and 15 day cruises.

* Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions and government regulations.

PLEASE NOTE: Pricing is subject to change and availability at the time of booking. Contact us for more information.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival & Bartolome Island

Today marks the beginning of your journey to the Galapagos Islands. Please note that due to regulations set by the Galapagos Government, a fee of 20 USD must be paid for the migration control card. Upon arrival in Santa Cruz, passengers are required to pass through an airport inspection point to ensure compliance with regulations prohibiting the introduction of foreign plants or animals to the archipelago. Additionally, at this inspection point, passengers must pay the entrance fee to the Galapagos National Park. As of August 2024, foreign passengers pay $200, while children under 12 years old pay $100. Later, your guide will meet you and assist with carrying your luggage to the bus. Passengers will then arrive at the Catamaran Seaman Journey via a motorized boat called a panga. Later today, you'll explore Bartolome Island, located across Sullivan Bay. With an altitude of 114 meters, Bartolome offers stunning panoramic views of the Galapagos Islands' landscape, including volcanic cones, lunar-like craters, lava fields, and the iconic Toba-formed pinnacle eroded by the sea. Vegetation on the island is sparse. Bartolome Island boasts two picturesque beaches inhabited by marine turtles and a small colony of Galapagos penguins at the base of the pinnacle.



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DAY 2: Mosquera Islet & North Seymour Island

This morning, you'll head to Mosquera Islet, located between North Seymour and Baltra. Despite being one of the smallest islands in the Galápagos, Mosquera Islet's volcanic origin and geological uplift offer a unique landscape with a flat terrain and no visible crater. Mosquera is known for its stunning color contrast, featuring white sand beaches, turquoise waters, vibrant green vegetation, and jet-black lava rocks. It's a paradise for landscape photography, especially during the golden hours of sunrise and sunset. In the afternoon, your destination is North Seymour. Unlike volcanic islands, North Seymour is a raised island with a flat terrain dominated by rocky formations. It's home to a large population of magnificent frigatebirds with ample nesting sites. Blue-footed boobies showcase their courtship dances in open areas, while swallow-tailed gulls perch on the cliff edges. Despite the strong surf along the outer shore, you can spot sea lions enjoying the waves and body-surfing on the beach.



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DAY 3: Genovesa Island: El Barranco & Darwin Bay

Today's excursion takes you to Genovesa Island, specifically to El Barranco, also known as The Cliff. Situated in the southern part of Darwin Bay, El Barranco offers a trail on volcanic rock spanning 1.5 km, allowing for a leisurely two-hour exploration. This area represents the youngest geological region of the island. The cliff itself, composed of delicate lava formations, has been shaped by natural erosion, creating ideal nesting grounds for Storm Petrels. Here, you'll encounter two petrel species nesting in the lava's crevices and holes. Keep an eye out for the short-eared owl, a primary predator in this ecosystem. The red-footed booby, unique to the outer islands like Genovesa, can also be spotted here, alongside the masked booby. During panga rides along the cliffs, you may glimpse fur sea lions and various seabird species. In the afternoon, your journey continues to Darwin Bay, formed by the collapsed crater of Genovesa Island below sea level. Upon a wet landing on its pristine white coral sandy beach, birdwatchers will delight in sightings of red-footed boobies, masked boobies, wandering tattlers, lava gulls, and more. As you traverse the trail, ascending gradually to the cliff's edge, you'll witness red-footed boobies nesting in the Mangrove trees below. Keep your eyes peeled for sharp-beaked finches, Galapagos doves, and swallow-tailed gulls. At the trail's end, a breathtaking vista awaits, offering panoramic views of the island and its vibrant avian inhabitants.



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DAY 4: South Plazas Island & Santa Fe Island

Today's journey leads you to Plazas, situated east of Santa Cruz Island and comprising two islets known as Islas Plazas. Despite its modest size, Plazas boasts some of the Galapagos' most fascinating and unique species. Notably, the land iguanas found here are smaller than their counterparts on other islands. Throughout Plazas, you'll encounter hybrid iguanas, a remarkable result of crossbreeding between male marine iguanas and female land iguanas. These hybrids sport a distinctive black/gray coloration, featuring a land iguana's crest alongside the face and tail of a marine iguana. The island's abundant iguana population owes much to the availability of tunas, their preferred sustenance. Along the rugged cliffs, swallow-tailed gulls nest alongside other seabirds such as Audubon shearwaters, red-billed tropicbirds, frigate birds, and brown pelicans. Later in the day, you'll venture to Santa Fe, located in the southeastern reaches of the Galapagos. Unlike most islands, Santa Fe emerged from an uplift rather than volcanic activity, resulting in its predominantly flat terrain. Some theories even propose Santa Fe as the archipelago's oldest island. Home to an array of endemic species including the Galapagos hawk, Galapagos snake, Galapagos mockingbird, rice rats, and one of the two land iguana species in the region. Upon arrival, you'll be greeted by the clear, inviting waters and the bustling sea lion colonies. As you traverse the trail, keep an eye out for salt bushes and towering giant prickly pear cacti, a hallmark of island gigantism. Snorkeling opportunities abound, offering encounters with playful sea lions and colorful tropical fish in the surrounding marine environment.



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DAY 5: Land Tortoise Breeding Centre & Departure

On this final day of your journey, you'll visit the David Rodriguez Land Tortoise Breeding Centre. Established in 2002 by the Galapagos National Park Service, this program focuses on the breeding and conservation of tortoises in captivity. Initially named the Jacinto Gordillo Tortoise Breeding Centre, it was later renamed in 2016 to honor David Rodriguez for his remarkable 39 years of service as a park ranger. Located in the southeastern region of San Cristobal, approximately 22.5 km from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the David Rodriguez Tortoise Breeding Centre is accessible by land. A scenic 40-minute bus ride near Cerro Colorado brings you to this facility, meticulously designed to simulate the natural habitat conditions of the giant tortoises (Chelonoides chathamensis) native to San Cristóbal Island. Its mission is not only to bolster the population of these iconic creatures but also to contribute to the sustainable tourism development of San Cristóbal. Following your visit, you'll be escorted to the San Cristobal airport, ensuring you arrive in time for your return flight to the mainland.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board a Catamaran Yacht

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Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** Accommodation All meals Water coffee and tea All excursions English-Speaking Naturalist guide Snorkelling equipment Kayak equipment **EXCLUSIONS** Return airfares from mainland Ecuador Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee (US$200 per person from Aug 2024 - Subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (US$20 per person - Subject to change) Wet suit rental Soft drink & alcoholic drinks Personal expenses Gratuities for crew/guides
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. Please note kayak activities are subject to weather conditions. Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated) Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time * 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.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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