

Ecuador Southern Galapagos Island Cruise

06 Nights / 07 Days from 14 NOV – 25 DEC 2018

Nowhere else can you find such a bizarre and fascinating biodiversity, penguins swim with dolphins, sea lions share sand with iguanas and don't forget about the giant tortoises! 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador a hidden gem lies in wait for the adventurous traveller – the Galapagos Islands features incredible landscapes that are just as picturesque and memorable as the wildlife.

Some islands feature cloud forests and lush tropical vegetation while others feel as though they are from an alien planet, formed by volcanic activity and home to strange desert vegetation that is seemingly out of place. About half of the species on this remote volcanic archipelago are found nowhere else on earth.

Cruise around the island and spend each day being escorted by your private guide and end each night back on-board your comfortable cruise.

Departing every two weeks on Tuesday.

Departure Dates 2017 – 2018

NOV 14, 28	DEC 12, 26	JAN 09		
FEB 06, 20	MAR 06, 20	APR 03, 17		
MAY 01, 15, 29	JUN 12, 26	JUL 10, 24		
AUG 07	OCT 16, 30	NOV 13, 27	DEC 11, 25	

Day 01 New York – Guayaquil – San Cristobal (Board Cruise)

Depart flight from New York via Guayaquil to San Cristobal.

Day 02 San Cristobal



Tortoise Protection & Growing Center

Dinner on board, arrive in San Cristobal and begin your Galapagos adventure with a visit to **Cerro Colorado Tortoise Protection and Growing Center**. This center is dedicated to improving the status of the islands' tortoises. Take time to explore the corral, breeding center, and interpretive trail, learning about the Galapagos' native flora and fauna.

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Day 03 Espanola Island (Full Board)

Journey to Espanola Island. Swim, snorkel, kayak, and relax in the beautiful **Gardner Bay**. Spot sharks in the crystal-clear waters and observe sea lions lounging on the shore.

In the afternoon, head to **Punta Suarez**, a rocky outcropping sustaining one of the largest and most varied populations of sea birds in the archipelago. Watch these birds as they swoop and dive along the cliffs, dodging impressive water spouts and pounding surf.



Gardner Bay

Day 04 Floreana Island (Full Board)



Flour Sand Beach

Travel to Punta Cormorant on Floreana Island. One of the largest lagoons in the Galapagos is found here, along with one of the strongest colonies of flamingos. Observe various species of shore birds amid the tuff lava cones and visit the two distinctive beaches of Punta Cormorant: Green Beach, made up of olivine crystals, and the white coral **Flour Sand Beach**.

This afternoon, visit the historic **Post Office Bay**, landing area for the island's colonists and site of the famous wooden barrel that has served as a post office for mariners and tourists since the 18th century. Continue to Baroness Lookout and be rewarded by stunning views of the island below.



Post Office Bay

Day 05 Santa Fe – South Plaza Island (Full Board)



Santa Fe Island

Spend the morning exploring **Santa Fe**, a flat, uplift island, theorized to be the oldest in the Galapagos. Home to many native species including the Galapagos hawk, snake, and mockingbird. Enjoy a snorkel in Santa Fe's crystalline waters before heading to South Plaza Island.

South Plaza Island, though small in stature, is home to some of the Galapagos' most interesting creatures. Notably, hybrid iguanas are found in abundance here. These species are a cross between marine and land iguanas. The rugged cliffs of the island are also home to a variety of entertaining sea birds.



South Plaza Island

Day 06 North Seymour – Bachas Beach – Santa Cruz Island (Full Board)



North Seymour Island

In the morning, venture to **North Seymour Island** where the landscape is flat and boulder-strewn, providing excellent nesting conditions for blue-footed boobies and vibrant frigate birds. Take a circular path around the island and along its lovely, rocky shore. Spend the afternoon at Bachas Beach, Santa Cruz Island. Decomposed coral has formed the soft, white sand of Bachas, making it a nesting site for sea turtles. Abandoned barges are visible

off of the coast, remnants of WWII military presence.

Day 07 Mosquera – Baltra (Breakfast)

Visit Mosquera Islet, a beautiful place to snorkel and swim, home to a rock and coral reef, a pristine white sand beach, along with a large population of sea lions and shorebirds. Travel back to Baltra for your departing flight.