



Galápagos Islands: Wildlife Cruise by Private Yacht - A New Look

DURATION | 9 Days

TRIP LEVEL | Active

Trip Itinerary



Day 1

Welcome to Ecuador

Arrive in Guayaquil and take the hotel shuttle to the Wyndham Guayaquil, Puerto Santa Ana. Settle in and prepare for an unforgettable adventure exploring the precious ecosystems of the Galápagos Islands, a crucial location in the history of biology. Throughout your journey, you'll get to know your expert Galápagos naturalist guide, who will offer onshore and onboard talks about the islands, the surrounding sea, and their resident wildlife. Enjoy dinner at the lovely hotel restaurant this evening as you get ready for the days ahead.



Wyndham Puerto Santa Ana, Guayaquil

Situated just steps from the historic Santa Ana Hill and its famous Lighthouse, and minutes to the vibrant Malecon 2000, the Wyndham Guayaquil hotel offers an ideal location near Guayaquil's many attractions.

Amenities: Soap, shampoo, conditioner, hair dryer; electricity; Wifi



Trip Itinerary



Day 2

Your Adventure Begins!

Meet your group early in the morning (be packed and ready to go!) and head to the airport for your flight to the Galápagos Islands, where you'll be greeted by your guide and transferred to the dock to board your yacht. After getting acquainted with the yacht, your home for the next week, and settling into your cabin before lunch, you'll venture to North Seymour Island where you'll depart on a two-hour walk and snorkeling adventure to. Observe large colonies of blue-footed boobies, magnificent and great frigate birds, and swallow-tailed gulls, providing an in-depth look at sea bird breeding cycles and sea lions marking the start of an unforgettable adventure.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: M/Y Coral II



M/Y Coral II

The Coral II is a gorgeous, comfortable yacht offering charming social areas distributed on multiple decks, with both outdoor and interior spaces allowing you to enjoy an intimate expedition experience in your own way. The vessel offers open-deck areas with a Jacuzzi to make the best of your relaxing time while cruising the islands.

Amenities: En suite bathrooms with soap, shampoo, hair dryer; electricity; Wifi



Trip Itinerary



Day 3

Visit Charles Darwin Research Station

Today, explore Santa Cruz Island. Start your day with Charles Darwin Research Station, located within the Galapagos National Park Service, the center features various interpretative buildings. The grounds, with extensive native vegetation, are one of the best spots to see some of the rare Darwin's finches. Then, journey to wet land on Mosquera Islet. This flat, sandy island has a large colony of sea lions. It is also an excellent site to observe shorebirds such as herons and lava gulls.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: M/Y Coral II



Trip Itinerary



Day 4

Hiking, Snorkeling, and Hybrid Iguanas

Today, explore South Plaza Island, home to a cactus forest and vibrant yellow and red land iguanas. Spot hybrid iguanas and tropicbirds at the highest point. Then, visit Santa Fe Island, known for its white sand beaches and sea lion colonies. Hike through an endemic cactus forest, home to the island's largest land iguanas. The island also hosts species like the Galapagos hawk, Galapagos snakes, and the endemic rice rat. Experience unique wildlife and breathtaking landscapes on both islands.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: M/Y Coral II



Trip Itinerary



Day 5

Blue Footed Boobies on Lobos Island

Isla Lobos is home to a small population of blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds and sea lions. During the boat ride, you'll have the opportunity to spot various shorebirds. Once you arrive on the island, you can explore a 0.5-mile trail that combines rocky terrain with an easy sandy path. Then, explore the interpretation center, delivering a lesson on the formation of the Galapagos, its global significance, and conservation endeavors. End your exploration with a hike to Frigatebird Hill to view frigatebirds, accompanied by a bonus breathtaking view of the bay below.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: M/Y Coral II



Trip Itinerary



Day 6

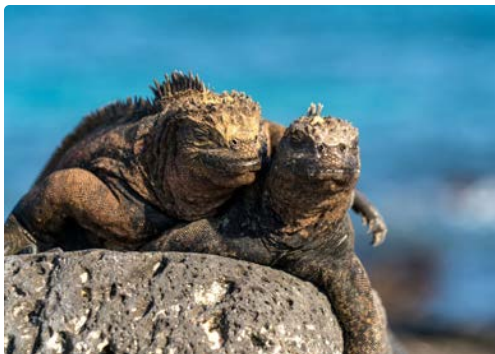
Unforgettable Wildlife on San Cristobal Island

Explore San Cristobal Island's iconic Leon Dormido (Kicker Rock), two towering volcanic tuff rocks resembling a sleeping lion. From the pangas, admire the cliffs of Sorcerer's Hill. Enjoy the beach with sea lions, snorkel, or visit a hidden lagoon to spot black-necked stilts, whimbrels, and pintails. Ascend the tuff cone for stunning views, where you can see all three booby species—red-footed, Nazca, and blue-footed—alongside frigatebirds. This unique spot offers unforgettable wildlife encounters and breathtaking scenery.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: M/Y Coral II



Trip Itinerary



Day 7

Punta Suarez Island Snorkeling

Today, visit Punta Suarez on Española Island, where you'll encounter marine iguanas, sea lions, and diverse wildlife, including boobies, endemic lizards, and gulls. Explore the island's blowhole and connect with the endemic waved albatross during their breeding season. Later, head to Gardner Bay, a beautiful stretch of white sand and turquoise waters, home to Galapagos sea lions, Hood mockingbirds, and Darwin's finches. Enjoy snorkeling in the bay's shallow waters, discovering the vibrant marine life right from the beach.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: M/Y Coral II



Trip Itinerary



Day 8

Exploring Floreana Island and Post Office

Start the day with a stroll to a shallow lagoon, often home to vibrant pink flamingos, followed by a visit to a white-sand beach where green turtles nest. Arrive at Post Office Bay on Floreana Island, named after a wooden barrel, set up by Captain James Colnett in 1793 as a post office for sailors. Today, visitors continue the tradition of leaving unstamped postcards. Spot Darwin's finches, Yellow Warblers, and Lava Lizards. Snorkel with sea lions before enjoying a farewell dinner to celebrate your unforgettable adventure.

Meals: breakfast, lunch, dinner | Overnight: M/Y Coral II



Trip Itinerary



Day 9

Farewell to Galapagos

Spend the morning on Santa Cruz Island exploring the Galapagos mountains and Highlands Tortoise Reserve, where you can marvel at a diverse array of birds. The journey to the reserve allows you to witness the island's various ecosystems, and it's common to encounter Galapagos Giant Tortoises and serves as a haven for birdwatchers. After the visit, meet with some local female artisans who will show you how they handmake their crafts. Afterwards, you'll be transferred to the airport for your flight to Guayaquil (or to Quito if you've purchased an Amazon extension).

Meals: breakfast | Overnight: Wyndham Puerto Santa Ana, Guayaquil



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What's Included

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- Accommodations as per itinerary based on double occupancy
- Activities as indicated in the itinerary
- All meals as listed in the itinerary
- All transportation throughout the trip
- Round-trip flights Guayaquil - Galápagos Islands as indicated in the itinerary. Back to Quito for extension only.
- Entrance fees and Galápagos entry card
- English-speaking, naturalist guide in the Galápagos Islands
- English-speaking guide throughout the Amazon trip (extension only)

Not Included

- International airfare to and from Ecuador
- Optional activities
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Alcoholic beverages (unless otherwise specified)
- Fees for passport, visas, immunizations, or travel insurance
- Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
- Items of a personal nature
- Gratuities

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.

