



Galapagos Islands

Aboard 14 Passenger Sailing Catamaran

June 12-22, 2026

\$6,800 per person

Since the famed naturalist Charles Darwin first described the abundant and diverse wildlife of the Galapagos Islands, visitors have been flocking to this remarkable archipelago. Let all the wonders of these islands come alive for you on your sailing catamaran adventure.



June 12 Day 1: FRIDAY – Depart US

Arrive in Guayaquil Ecuador and transfer to hotel.

Overnight at Hotel Oro Verde 5*

June 13 Day 2: SATURDAY – Guayaquil

Optional half-day tour of Guayaquil with guide. Rest of day at leisure to explore. (B)

Dinner at hotel or local restaurant.

June 14 Day 3: SUNDAY

Depart Guayaquil - morning flight - Arrive in Baltra the Galapagos

Board the NEMO II – Sail to SEYMOUR ISLAND

We will disembark at North Seymour Island. Here we see frigate birds, the clownish blue-footed booby, and have course sea lions. With luck we will witness the striking courtship display of the male frigate bird, in which he inflates a red balloon-like sac below his throat and struts his stuff for all of the young females. Seymour North, Plaza Sur and Plaza Norte, Baltra, northeastern Santa Cruz, Santa Fe and part of Española, were formed by uprisings of underwater volcanic lavas. They were part of a volcanic lava table deposited in sheet form along cracks located on the ocean floor. The uprisings occurred sporadically and lasted more than a million years to reach its current level.

All marine fossils found in the archipelago are found in these islands, and the best examples are found in the North Channel side of Baltra. The fossils date from the Pleistocene era when the volcanic tables were close to the surface, about a million years ago.

June 15 Day 4: MONDAY

GENOVESA: El Barranco, Darwin Bay

Early in the morning you'll have breakfast and then you'll disembark at Genovesa "Tower" Island, which is located in the northeastern part of the Galapagos (less than half a degree north of the equator). At "Tower" Island you'll anchor at Darwin Bay, which is located on the southern part of the island, and is actually the caldera of an extinct, partially eroded volcano, with the surrounding cliffs forming the inner lining of the rim. While the origin of the name "Tower" is not known, one can imagine it had something to do with these towering cliffs. The tour will be a long, fairly easy walk, but it is usually hot and dry here, so you may want to carry some water. After a wet landing on a coral beach the trail begins in an area where there are several swallow-tailed gulls. As you walk back from the beach, you'll see a variety of Opuntia cactus and mangroves.

Tower is an outpost for many sea birds (as Española is in the south). This is the only island where we will see the **red-footed booby** (only Island). Interestingly, there are almost no land reptiles on Tower, only very small marine iguanas. This is attributed to the direction of the ocean currents, which wouldn't have carried the terrestrial animals here. Visit El Barranco during the afternoon then return to the boat for dinner.

June 16 Day 5: TUESDAY

Santiago: Sullivan Bay, Rabida

Wake-up in the morning to the sound of barking sea lions and the lapping of the sea. After breakfast travel by dingy to the seashell-pink sands of Rabida Island. Here we will see a pelican nesting area on the beach, and then we will set off on the short path across the island, gazing at the sea birds whirling overhead. After stopping at two photo-worthy viewpoints we will return to the boat for lunch.

Rábida Island that consists of a **red sand beach**, a coastal lagoon behind the beach, and a loop trail. The approximate distance of the trail is 1.1 kilometers. The color of the rocks and sand on the beach is due to the very porous volcanic material, which with the help of environmental factors (rain, salt water and sea breeze, has acted as an oxidizing agent. The main attraction is the red sand beach, scenery, and the presence of native and endemic species.

Awe-inspiring Sullivan Bay. At the turn of the century a huge **lava flow** spilled forth and right down to the sea; today you can stroll across this black volcanic expanse admiring its time-frozen ripples, bubbles and ropes.

June 17 Day 6: WEDNESDAY

SANTA CRUZ: Finca Primicias Highlands – Charles Darwin Station.

After breakfast you'll sail to Santa Cruz Island, where you'll visit the world-famous **Charles Darwin Station**, a non-profit institution that dedicates itself to studying and protecting the flora and fauna of the Galapagos. This is one of the best places to see land tortoises.

Visit the station's Tortoise Breeding Center. Here you can find baby, hand-sized tortoises, between the ages of one and five, and marvel at how they achieve such large sizes as adults (500 lbs. or more!). Galapagos tortoises are believed to have a lifespan of over 100 years, so the young ones have a long life ahead of them as long as they receive the protection they need. Aside from the Station headquarters, Santa Cruz Island is home to the largest town and economic center of the Galapagos, Puerto Ayora. In this portside town you can buy souvenirs (postcards, t-shirts, books, etc.) of the islands.

After shopping in Puerto Ayora and lunch on the boat (guests may dine in town if they desire), you'll explore the upper region, "parte alta" of the island, which is a moisture-rich area with fertile volcanic soils. You'll learn about the vegetation and animal life of this zone, often strikingly different than that found at lower elevations.



Darwin's Finches, Yellow Warblers, and Bright Red Vermillion Flycatchers will fly in and out of the moss-covered trees. From this high vantage point you'll be treated to beautiful views of the surrounding

archipelago. We visit a farm to wander and **witness the giant land tortoise in the wild**. A climb through a huge lava tunnel is a highlight as well.

June 18 Day 7: THURSDAY

ISABELA: Punta Moreno, Elizabeth Bay & Urbina Bay

After night navigation we arrive in Punta Moreno on the west coast of Isabela, a dry landing on a lava field. The vegetation found in the area is small and concentrated mainly in the mangrove area and around the lakes. It should be noted that all three kinds of cacti are found here. The main attractions at Punta Moreno are coastal lagoons amid black lava flows: Here there are several species of birds with a panoramic view of three volcanoes: The most active in the Galapagos that Sierra Negra, Cerro Azul of Isabela Island and La Cumbre of Fernandina Island. Today we will visit Puerto Villamil and explore the **Research Center**.

After lunch on board we continue on our way to Elizabeth Bay, located on Isabela Island's west shore: this is extremely important for observing marine life. We motor past a few islands where you usually see **Galapagos penguins**. One of the best areas to take photos! A colony of these magnificent birds inhabit a rocky islet at the entrance to Elizabeth Bay. We let our boat drift through a small passage lined with mangroves as you emerge into an enclosed cove. We turn the motor off and look in the sheltered waters for marine turtles, rays, flightless cormorants, sea lions, and circling overhead, Galapagos hawks.

June 19 Day 8: FRIDAY

ISABELA: Caleta Tagus, Fernandina Punta Espinoza & Punta Vicente Roca

The visitor's site of Tagus Cove is located west of Darwin Volcano on Isabela Island. The trail route is about 1800 meters and was a favorite spot for pirates and whalers. The road, mostly gravel, leads into the interior, along **Darwin Lake**. During the walk, you can see various land birds as we identify the characteristic vegetation of the arid zone. We arrive at the lava fields of Darwin Volcano. Back on board for lunch and short navigation to Elizabeth Bay on Fernandina Island

Punta Espinoza is a narrow ledge of lava and sand that extends from the base of the volcano to the sea. There is a vivid description given by Captain Benjamin Morrell that from the boats anchorage at Bay Banks they witnessed an eruption of Fernandina in the decade of the 1820s. In 1975 there was a more recent which is why the pier built for landing can only be used during high tide. Punta Espinoza is a place famous for its large colonies of marine iguanas and is the habitat of unique species like the **flightless cormorant** (only Island to see them), Galapagos penguin, Galapagos hawk, and Galapagos snake, among others. It is an ideal place to observe the lava cactus, which grow on young lava and survive with little water. After visiting Fernandina we will start our navigation to the central part of the Galapagos and on the way we will see from Boat Punta Vicente Roca, part of a mostly eroded and destroyed volcano which now is a great site for seeing blue footed boobies, frigate birds and other marine birds from the boat.

June 20 Day 10: SATURDAY

SANTIAGO: Puerto Egas, Espumilla Beach, and Bucanero Cove

At Egas Port we disembark and follow a footpath across the island, admiring the grinning marine iguanas, Darwin finches, rainbowed lava lizards, and endemic Galapagos hawks along the way. A special sight on Santiago is the **endangered fur seals** (only place to see them) cooling off in the shade formed by the seashore grottos.

June 21 Day 10: SUNDAY

BLACK TURTLE COVE / BALTRA

After an early breakfast we will disembark at Black Turtle Cove en route to Baltra Airport. Transfer to airport for return flight to Guayaquil. (B)

June 22 Day 11: MONDAY

Transfer to Airport and flight back to USA. (B)

The itineraries and program are subject to change without prior notice, due mainly to adjustments in the policies and regulations of the Galapagos National Park, weather conditions, seasonal changes and safety reasons.

* Itinerary subject to change

Accommodations

Hotel Oro Verde – The 5* Hotel Oro Verde in Guayaquil, Ecuador is part of the Oro Verde Hotels group and stands out from the competition thanks to a superb location, commitment to traditional European-style service, a superior range of elegant services and amenities available, and our sensitivity to the local lifestyle and tradition. But above all, it's the dedication to discreet and thoughtful service that sets this hotel apart.

The Nemo II - is a large trans-oceanic, alumarine, 72-foot, multihull yacht; a wonderfully stable cruising vessel with full sailing capabilities. The ingeniously designed salon, the vast cockpit and the unique exterior surface make this beautiful catamaran, an exceptional cruising boat. Be amazed by the stability and service on board the S/C Nemo II. Ideal for families or groups of friends. This large fully air conditioned catamaran (designed by Lagenvin) was specially built to take up to 14 passengers accommodated in 7 double cabins, each with private bathroom and air conditioning. The ingeniously designed salon, vast cockpit and unique exterior surface make this beautiful catamaran an exceptional choice for your Galapagos cruise. Kayaks, snorkeling equipment and wet suits are available on board. The Nemo host a crew of eight.

Tour Price Includes:

- * Round-trip airfare from mainland Ecuador to the Islands
- * First class mainland accommodations including breakfasts
- * 6 nights, 7 days cabin accommodations on the boat
- * All food on the boat and non-alcoholic beverages
- * All Ground Transportation
- * English speaking Naturalist Guide on board
- * Snorkeling gear, wet suits and kayaks on board

Not Included:

International Air from the US to Guayaquil, Ecuador

Entrance Fee for the Galapagos National Park

½ day optional tour of Guayaquil

Some meals on the mainland, tips and alcohol

Our Galapagos Naturalist Guide is an expert on all flora and fauna on the Islands as well as local history, and all things environmental.

All Prices subject to change

Rates Based On Double Occupancy
Single Supplement Applies
Subject to Availability

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