



Ecuador Birds Tours – Tailor made Itineraries

Quito, Ecuador

+593 99 373 2879

sales@ecuadorbirdstours.com

GALAPAGOS ONBOARD A CRUISE – ECO GALAXY CRUISE

Itinerary C

6 Days - 5 Nights



			Hiking	Snorkel	Panga Ride	Paddle Board	Kayak
THURSDAY	AM	Santa Cruz Island : Baltra - airport (arrival)	*				
	PM	Santa Cruz Island : Black Turtle Cove			*		
FRIDAY	AM	Chinese Hat Island : Chinese Hat	*	*	*	*	*
	PM	Rabida Island : Rabida	*	*	*		
SATURDAY	AM	Seymour Island : North Seymour	*				
	PM	Santa Cruz Island : Highlands	*				
SUNDAY	AM	Genovesa Island : Barranco	*	*	*	*	*
	PM	Genovesa Island : Darwin Bay	*	*	*	*	*
MONDAY	AM	Santiago Island : Sullivan Bay	*	*	*		
	PM	Bartolome Island : Bartolome	*	*	*		
TUESDAY	AM	San Cristobal Island : San Cristobal Interpretation Center	*				
	PM	San Cristobal Island : San Cristobal - airport (return)	*				



DAY 1

AM: BALTRA AIRPORT (ARRIVAL)

Welcome to Galapagos! Upon arrival at Baltra Airport, your naturalist guide will greet you and assist with the transfer to Itabaca Channel. This initial journey offers your first connection with the archipelago as you take a short ferry ride to Santa Cruz Island. Along the way, observe Baltra's arid landscape and learn about its history as a former U.S. WWII airbase. This is just the beginning of the many fascinating stories awaiting you on your adventure.



Trail:	
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING

PM: BLACK TURTLE COVE

Black Turtle Cove gets its name from the abundance of green sea turtles, locally known as: “tortugas negras”. There is no landing here so you will be doing a boat tour on the dinghies, exploring shallow channels and small coves surrounded by beautiful mangrove forests. Reef sharks, sea turtles and several species of rays inhabit this beautiful area which is considered an important mating area for turtles and a nursery for several species of sharks. Herons, pelicans and boobies are also common here as they pray in schools of anchovies.



Mangroves, White-tipped and black-tipped reef sharks, Green sea turtles, Rays, Herons, Blue footed boobies, Reef sharks



Food:	-/L/D
Trail:	
Lodging:	M/C EcoGalaxy
Level:	1
Activities:	PANGA RIDE

DAY 2

AM: CHINESE HAT

Named for its distinctive cone shape, Chinese Hat is a small islet separated from Santiago by a narrow channel, forming one of Galapagos' most picturesque bays. Its turquoise waters, coral-sand beaches, and volcanic rocks create a stunning landscape. A coastal trail leads you through a sea lion colony, while on the lava rocks, you may spot penguins resting. This site perfectly blends breathtaking scenery with Galapagos' remarkable wildlife, making for an unforgettable experience.

Snorkel Experience: Snorkel into the crystal-clear waters of Chinese Hat and marvel at the vibrant colors of the fish. Spot sleek reef sharks and, if lucky, a penguin darting through the water like a swift underwater torpedo chasing anchovies.

Highlights: Lava tubes, Galapagos sea lions, Galapagos penguins, Oystercatchers, Galapagos hawks



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Trail:	1,3 km / 0,8 mi
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING, SNORKEL, PANGA RIDE, PADDLE BOARD, KAYAK

PM: RABIDA

Rabida is a small island famous for its reddish lava rocks (rich in iron) which gives it a unique look. The beach is also red and hosts a small colony of sea lions. There is a small salt water lagoon where we will see ducks and stilts and sometimes flamingoes. The trail will take you inland to get beautiful views of the beach and the lagoon. Look for Darwin finches, flycatchers and mockingbirds. In the cliffs along the coast you can find Nazca and blue-footed boobies, brown nobby, herons and the two species of sea lions: Galapagos and fur seals.

Snorkel Experience: You can snorkel from the beach and explore a sheltered rocky area, which is excellent for fish, sea lions and reef sharks. Look at the high diversity of small invertebrates attached to the vertical walls.

Highlights: Red-sand beach, Galapagos sea lions, Galapagos hawks, Darwin finches, Galapagos flycatchers



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Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	2 km / 1,2 mi
Lodging:	M/C EcoGalaxy
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING, SNORKEL, PANGA RIDE

DAY 3

AM: NORTH SEYMOUR

This island is home for large colonies of both magnificent and great frigatebirds and you can see them displaying their red balloons to attract a female. Blue-footed boobies nest in the ground and perform their famous dance in the open areas, while swallow-tailed gulls perch on the cliff edges. Land iguanas are common inland while their marine cousins bask in the rocks by the sea, close to sea lions, which often like to body surf in the waves.

Snorkel Experience: This place is a really great snorkeling location, as it has tremendous diversity and amount of fish, but also sea lions, sharks, eels, turtles, rays and many more.

Highlights: Galapagos sea lions, Magnificent and great frigatebirds, Land and marine iguanas, Darwin finches



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Trail:	1,4 km / 0,8 mi
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING

PM: HIGHLANDS

Embark on a pleasant journey into the verdant highlands, where a bus ride leads you through lush forested landscapes home to Galapagos Giant Tortoises. These impressive creatures, reaching up to 300 kg/600 lbs, can often be seen peacefully grazing or resting in freshwater ponds. The highlands are also home to a variety of bird species rarely found in the lowlands. Depending on your itinerary, you may have the opportunity to visit a lava tunnel and learn about the volcanic forces that shaped these remarkable islands.

Highlights: Lava tunnels, Darwin finches, Galapagos flycatchers, Giant tortoises, Barn owls, White-cheeked pintails



Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	1-1,5 km / 0,6-0,9 mi



Lodging:	M/C EcoGalaxy
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING

DAY 4

AM: EL BARRANCO

El Barranco is located in the southern part of Darwin Bay at Genovesa Island. The cliffs facing the sea are made of very fragile fractured lava, making it the ideal place for storm petrels to build their colonies, which attracts an important population of short-eared owls preying on the nesting birds. Red footed and Nazca boobies are abundant along the trail. At the base of the cliffs you can see Galapagos fur seals resting in shaded areas, as well as several species of seabirds.

Snorkel Experience: You can snorkel along the cliffs where there are many fish and great chances of seeing sharks, rays and sea lions.

Highlights: Nesting great frigatebirds, Galapagos sea lions, Genovesa ground finch, Genovesa cactus finch, Galapagos mockingbirds, Galapagos fur seals



Trail:	1,2 km / 0,7 mi
Level:	3
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD,KAYAK



PM: DARWIN BAY

Genovesa is a favorite island for birdwatchers as it is home for very large colonies of seabirds. From the minute you set foot at the beach you will be amazed by the noise of hundreds of boobies, gulls and frigatebirds flying over your heads, perched in the bushes or nesting on the sandy terrain. The trail is an ultimate wildlife experience as there are animals everywhere; sea lions and marine iguanas near the sea; night herons, lava and swallow tailed gulls, Darwin finches, Galapagos doves, mockingbirds and many more species inland.

Snorkel Experience: The bay offers several places to snorkel; from deep waters along the cliffs across the bay, to shallow waters by the beach. In either case, there are many fish to see and great chances of seeing sharks, rays and sea lions.

Highlights: Nesting great frigatebirds, Red-footed and Nazca boobies, Galapagos sea lions, Yellow-crowned night herons, Genovesa ground finch, Genovesa cactus finch, Galapagos mockingbirds



Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	1,2 km / 0,7 mi
Lodging:	M/C EcoGalaxy
Level:	3
Activities:	HIKING, SNORKEL, PANGA RIDE, PADDLE BOARD, KAYAK

DAY 5

AM: SULLIVAN BAY

This hike is a journey into understanding the birth of these volcanic islands. You will walk in a very well preserved flow of Pahoehoe lava, which will give you endless opportunities to see the delicate



textures of these types of lavas which only appear in a few places throughout the world. At first sight the barren landscape looks completely deprived of life, but look carefully for pioneer plants, lava lizards and small birds. By the shore, you can find penguins, pelicans and oystercatchers.

Snorkel Experience: You will have the option to swim or snorkel from a coral sand beach or from the dinghies. Getting underwater is like traveling to another world: if the land is almost lifeless, the sea is teeming with life, including large schools of fish, Galapagos penguins, reef sharks, turtles and rays.

Highlights: Lava tubes, Galapagos penguins, Oystercatchers, Galapagos hawks



Trail:	2,2 km / 1,4 mi
Level:	3
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE

PM: BARTOLOME

Bartolome is one of the most iconic islands in Galapagos, renowned for its dramatic volcanic landscape and the famous Pinnacle Rock. Nestled beside a peach-colored sand beach, this island is one of the few places where you can spot penguins without traveling to remote Isabela and Fernandina. The hike to the summit offers breathtaking views of a lunar-like terrain dotted with volcanic cones, with stunning panoramas of Sullivan Bay and Pinnacle Rock. From the top, the vast beauty of the archipelago unfolds before you, creating a truly unforgettable experience.

Snorkel Experience: Enjoy an unforgettable snorkeling experience in Bartolome, one of Galapagos' top spots. Swim in calm, clear waters alongside penguins, colorful fish, sea turtles, sea lions, rays, and reef sharks in a thriving marine ecosystem.

Highlights: Volcanic landscapes, Pinnacle rock, Herons, Bluefooted boobies, Galapagos penguins



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Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	1,5 km / 0,9 mi
Lodging:	M/C EcoGalaxy
Level:	2
Activities:	HIKING, SNORKEL, PANGA RIDE

DAY 6

AM: INTERPRETATION CENTER

Located in the outskirts of Puerto Baquerizo, this center is dedicated to the history of human presence in the Galapagos. Since the times of the early Spanish explorers to the present times, including illustrious visitors such as Charles Darwin, this permanent exhibition will take you through the dangers and struggles of the first settlers trying to survive the harsh Galapagos environment.

Endemic plants and an exhibition on human history

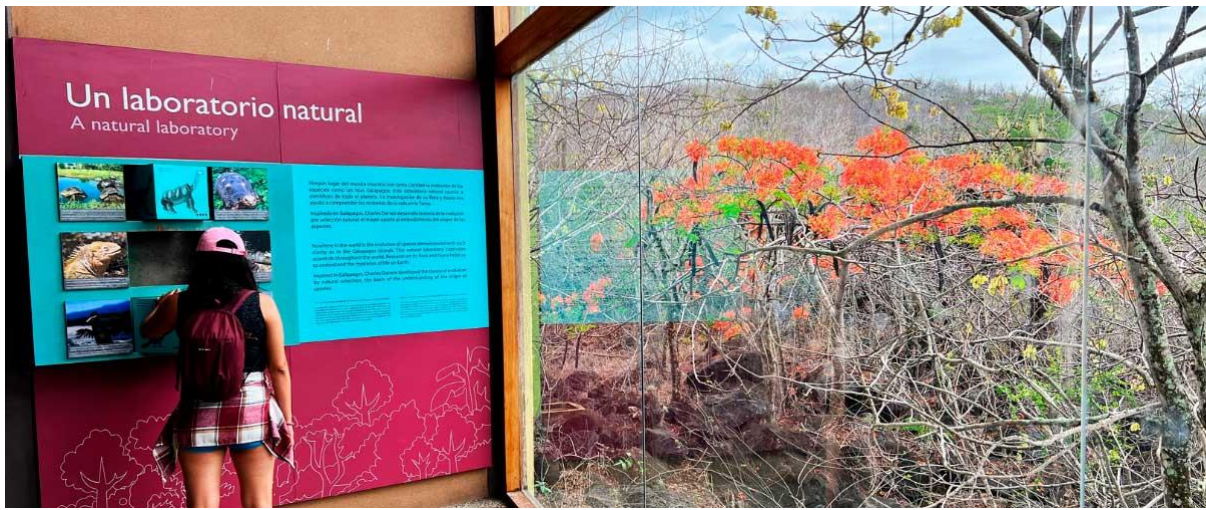


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Trail:	0,2 km / 650 ft
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING

PM: SAN CRISTOBAL AIRPORT (RETURN)

After exploring the breathtaking biodiversity and unique landscapes of the Galapagos, it's time to return to mainland Ecuador. You'll be transferred to the airport, bringing this unforgettable journey to a close. Every encounter with giant tortoises, blue-footed boobies, and volcanic landscapes will remain etched in your memory. Galapagos is not just a destination—it's a transformative experience that will stay with you forever. Wishing you a wonderful journey back!



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Food:	B/-/-
Trail:	
Lodging:	M/C EcoGalaxy
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING

GLOSSARY

Feeding	Breakfast	B
	Lunch	L
	Dinner	D
Difficulty of the hike	Level 1	Easy
	Level2	Moderate
	Level3	Difficult