

Ecuador & Its Galápagos Islands

8 day Cruise Quito to Quito



This exciting cruise vacation lets you sample the natural wonders of Ecuador and its Galápagos Islands. Enjoy guided sightseeing in Quito and have your photo taken at the "Center of the World." You'll also explore one of the oldest streets in Quito to visit with local artists and taste some Ecuadorian chocolate at a chocolate factory. Before taking to the sea, a highlight of your trip will be a visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station to learn about conservation efforts for the giant tortoises.

Then, embark on an exciting 4-night cruise among various Galápagos Islands on the recently refurbished Treasure of Galápagos. Have your camera ready as your Naturalist points out colonies of sea lions, pelicans, albatross, several species of Darwin's finches, marine iguanas, flamingos, masked boobies, blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds, storm petrels, short-eared owls, and other birds. Each day venture to a new island which is home to species found nowhere else in the world! During your cruise, you'll also have a chance to snorkel in the tropical waters and perhaps get a look at sea turtles, sharks, and rays. A remarkable cruise adventure!

HIGHLIGHTS

- *An incredible unique destination which is yet untouched, natural and filled with rare wildlife*
- *A river cruise experience with your unique style in mind*
- *Luxurious standards in elegant atmosphere*
- *Expedition team of multilingual Naturalists*
- *Daily multi-media natural history lectures*
- *Observation area to watch sea creatures*

Day 1 - ARRIVE IN QUITO, ECUADOR



¡Bienvenido a Ecuador! South America's Most Biodiverse Country

Take free time today to relax and prepare for your upcoming Galápagos adventure, or walk through the historic city to sample ceviche or helado (Latin-American ice cream). Dine out tonight or ask about the best clubs for music and dancing.

Day 2 - QUITO



A Gold Altar, Artistic Avenues, and Two Hemispheres in One Day

Choose from one of these tours:

CLASSIC

Take a Guided Sightseeing Tour of Quito that showcases the colonial city's historic sites, including the impressive Legislative Palace with its enormous sculpted mural of Ecuadorean history. You'll also see Independence Plaza and visit the 16th-century San Francisco Monastery, and La Compañía Church—the exquisite Jesuit cathedral with its spectacular Spanish baroque architecture—more than 160 years in the making.

DISCOVERY

Take a Guided Walk down Calle La Ronda—one of Quito’s oldest streets—with a wealth of artist’s workshops and galleries where you’ll meet local artists and learn about their original works. Later, visit a local chocolate factory for a tour and a tasting to discover why Ecuador is one of the world’s finest chocolate producers.

CLASSIC

Your day in Quito ends with a Guided Excursion to the Ciudad Mitad del Mundo—a monument to the Equator—the “middle of the world.” Stand in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres at the same time at the exact location of the Earth’s Equator. Observe the equatorial effects of the dual-spiraling directions of water and balancing eggs on end.

This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner with delicious regional cuisine.

Day 3 - BALTRA-GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS (EMBARKATION)-SANTA CRUZ ISLAND



The Theory of Evolution—and Giant Babies

This morning, take a flight to the Galápagos island of Baltra where you’ll embark on your five-day cruise aboard the Treasure of Galápagos.

DISCOVERY

Join your naturalist on a Guided Excursion to Santa Cruz Island to visit the Charles Darwin Research Station—established to help conserve the Galápagos’ natural habitat and protect the famous giant tortoises. While here, learn about the tortoise-rearing program and see many of the various islands’ tortoises.

Later on board your ship, join in a briefing of the next day’s adventures, and enjoy a Captain’s welcome with cocktails and dinner.

NOTE: *The ship’s itinerary may vary according to Galápagos National Park policies and regulations, weather conditions, and seasonal changes to create the perfect cross-section of sites visited.*

Day 4 - SANTIAGO ISLAND



Volcanos, Marine Life, and Lunar Landscapes

DISCOVERY

This morning, you will find yourself anchored in the western-central part of the archipelago where volcanoes are still active, attributing to the dramatic scenery. Take a Naturalist Led Excursion of Sullivan Bay on Santiago Island where you will walk on newly-formed (less than 100 years ago) lava flows reminiscent of the lunar landscape. You can catch sight of lava lizards, marine iguanas, Sally Lightfoot crabs, and even the Galápagos penguin.

This afternoon, cruise to Bartolomé Island.

BARTOLOMÉ ISLAND

Hike the Summit, Snorkel, and Swim

ACTIVE

Take a Guided Hike to Bartolomé's 114-meter summit for spectacular panoramic views of the region with two beautiful bays and fascinating formations of lava flows and spatter cones, including the iconic Pinnacle Rock. Later, take a snorkel and swim off the beach here—home to playful sea lions, Pacific green turtles, white tip reef sharks, and Galápagos penguins.

Day 5 - NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND



Masterful Marine Iguanas and Birds of a Different Color

CLASSIC

Take a Naturalist-Led Excursion to see colonies of remarkable bird species, including blue-footed boobies, great frigate birds, and magnificent frigate birds—with its inflated red chest and nearly 7-foot wingspread. Watch for gulls and herons of all assortments.

ACTIVE

Take a Guided Snorkeling Excursion in the aqua blue waters just off North Seymour Island's shore—teeming with sea lions and amphibious marine iguanas—found only in the Galápagos.

This afternoon, cruise for the sandy island of Mosquera Islet.

MOSQUERA ISLET

A Sea Lion Haven of White Coral Sand

DISCOVERY

Take a Guided Walk on the white coral beaches to the islands' largest congregation of Galápagos sea lions. You'll see a wide variety of shore birds reflecting the island's amazing biodiversity—from the deep-gray lava gull to the yellow-crowned night heron.

Day 6 - SOUTH PLAZA ISLAND



Tracing Darwin's Footsteps and Audubon's Muses

DISCOVERY

This morning, take a Naturalist-Led Excursion to South Plaza Island to observe wildlife, including sea lions, land iguanas, marine iguanas, and hybrid iguanas (only found on this island and a result of a cross between land and marine iguanas). You will see blue-footed boobies, Nazca boobies, frigate birds, swallow-tailed gulls, Audubon's shearwaters, and many other species.

This afternoon, cruise to Cerro Brujo on San Cristobal Island.

SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

Blue Herons, Blue Lagoons, and a Sleeping Lion

ACTIVE

Take a Guided Walk at the site where Charles Darwin first visited the Galápagos. See the volcanic remains of magnificent Kicker Rock—also called León Dormido (Sleeping Lion). Walk beside one of the island's blue lagoons to see a number of migratory birds, including pelicans and great blue herons.

Day 7 - GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS (DISEMBARKATION)-SAN CRISTOBAL-QUITO



The Geological Genesis of a Magical Archipelago

DISCOVERY

This morning, cruise to Puerto Baquerizo Moreno for a Naturalist Guided Tour of the San Cristobal Interpretation Center. You'll learn about the Galápagos' fascinating volcanic origins, remote location, climate, and the arrival of diverse species that inspire both imagination and science.

This afternoon, you'll say farewell to the magical islands of Galápagos and fly to Quito. This evening, spend free time relaxing or enjoy one of Quito's many fine restaurants.

Day 8 - QUITO

Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning.

*** Return home with wonderful memories ***

Price per person on a twin-sharing basis: from US\$5200

Single supplement: US\$ 3410

Dates

- 4th to 11th March 2020
- 18th to 25th March 2020
- 13th to 20th May 2020
- 22nd to 29th July 2020
- 30th September to 7th October 2020
- 28th October to 4th November 2020
- 11th to 18th November 2020

Prince Includes:

- 6 nights on the Treasure of Galápagos Cruise ship
- 2 nights in Quito
- Daily Breakfast in Quito
- All meals on the cruise
- Quito – Baltra // San Cristobal - Quito flights
- Daily multi-media natural history lectures
- Complimentary snorkeling gear available
- Stargazing Program
- Included shore excursions with Naturalist
- Tours and transfers as mentioned

Price excludes

- Air ticket for travel to and from Quito
- Visa & Insurance
- Meals and sightseeing not mentioned
- Tips
- Items of a personal nature
- **GST at 5%**
- Anything not specifically mentioned under “Price includes”

Notes:

- Standard check in at hotels is at 1400 hours onwards. Where necessary we will request an early check-in however, this is not guaranteed. The same applies to check out, which is at 12h00.
- Rates subject to change without prior notice due to circumstances beyond our control e.g. fuel increases, rate of exchange fluctuations.
- Please note that your passport should be valid for more than 6 months beyond the date of travel and that you must have at least 2 blank pages on your passport.
- Please contact us if you would like to book pre-tour or post-tour accommodation
- ROE calculated at 1 USD = Rs. 70.61. Any fluctuations at the time of payment will alter the cost

Map



- 1 = Overnights
- 2 = Start City
- 3 = End City

Terms & Conditions

BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS

1. A deposit of Rs 30,000 per person will be at the time of booking. If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to Odyssey Tours & Travels.
2. At the time of making the booking, please send a copy of the first page of your passport
3. Balance payment is to be made 75 days prior to the tour.
4. All rates are subject to a revision if there is a fluctuation in the currency rates.
5. Payment of the booking deposit constitutes acceptance of our terms and conditions.

CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

1. Should you wish to cancel any part or all of a confirmed booking / reservation all such cancellations must be advised in writing. Given below is the cancellation policy.
2. All Cancellations are as per the terms set by the Globus Family of Brands
3. Refunds due can take up to 5 weeks to process.