



DMC ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS



5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS ITINERARY

DISCOVER WONDERS ALONG THE EQUATOR: GALAPAGOS CRUISE



Program designed for:
TMLA 2024

Travel Dates:
PRE TMLA: Sept 12-16, 2024

Passenger count:
7

Trip Style:
Luxury

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Experience the natural and cultural diversity Ecuador has to offer.
- Encounter beautiful wildlife along the trip.
- Discover with your own eyes spectacular landscapes.
- Admire up close fearless and endemic wildlife in the Galapagos.

YOUR ITINERARY IN A NUTSHELL

MEALS: 5B / 4L / 4D

ACCOMODATION: 4 nights in Galapagos Archipel Cruise

EXPERIENCES: Adventure, Landscapes, Wildlife, Birdwatching.

DAY 1

- Start of Galapagos Cruise Archipel I(5D/4N)
 - CC Fausto Llerena
 - Accommodation at Archipel I
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DAY 2

- Moreno Point (Isabela)
 - Urbina Bay
 - Accommodation at Archipel I
-

DAY 3

- Espinoza Point (Fernandina)
 - Vicente Roca Point (Isabela)
 - Accommodation at Archipel I
-

DAY 4

- Puerto Egas (Santiago)
 - Rabida
 - Accommodation at Archipel I
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DAY 5

- Black Turtle Cove
- Transfer to Baltra Airport
- End of services

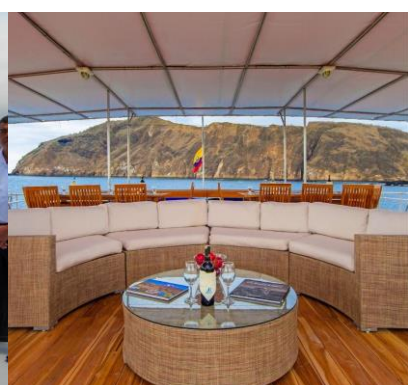


START OF YOUR
GALAPAGOS
CRUISE



What to expect onboard your Archipel I cruise:

- The days on-board normally begin early to make the most out of your time on the islands.
- Wake up call is around 7 am, unless activities start earlier.
- After the daily delicious breakfast the morning programme begins. The morning excursion will take you to a different location each day.
- Upon returning on-board you will either have a snack and have some time to relax; or lunch (depending on the duration of the morning programme).
- We will often head towards the next site on the itinerary while you are enjoying lunch.
- Upon arrival the afternoon programme will begin. Normally this ends before dinner is ready which means some leisure time for you to relax and refresh.
- During or after dinner the boat starts moving again to make sure you'll wake up to a different view to the night before.





DAY 1:
START OF THE
CRUISE

AM - Flight to the Galapagos and boarding of the Archipel I

Today you fly to the magical Galapagos Islands!

In the morning, you will be picked up at the hotel and brought to the Quito airport. There, at the departures hall, you must reach the Galapagos Government Council counter, to purchase the Transit Control Card (\$20 per person, must be kept safe during the trip as it has to be presented again upon return). Then your luggage will be inspected to make sure that no foreign plants or animals are introduced on the islands.

Next you will catch the flight to Baltra island, and upon landing there, authorities will collect the Galapagos National Park entrance fee (\$200 per adult, \$50 per child), unless it has been prepaid.

At the Baltra arrivals area, a guide holding an Oniric Cruises sign will meet you, help you collect your luggage, and escort you on a short bus ride to the harbour, and board the Archipel I cruise. After a greeting from the crew and captain, your cabins will be assigned and then lunch will be served.

PM - Fausto Llerena Breeding Centre, Santa Cruz island

Your first excursion will take place on Santa Cruz Island. You will disembark to the Fausto Llerena Breeding Centre, where you can observe tortoises that come from various islands of the archipelago. They are part of a breeding programme intended to repopulate the areas where the number of tortoises has decreased due to human activity or predatory invasive species.

One of the main attractions here is the embalmed Lonesome George tortoise. It hatched in 1910 and died in 2012, and with him, died an entire species (the Pinta Island giant tortoise). If it weren't for the scientists that work here, more species would have gone extinct. Return on board.

Accommodation: [Archipel I](#)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Excursions: Fausto Llerena Breeding Centre

Transport: Private transfer from hotel to airport,
private transfer from airport to cruise.





DAY 2:
ISABELA ISLAND



AM - Punta Moreno, Isabela island

During the night we navigated to the northwest coast of Isabela, where two huge volcanoes are found, the Sierra Negra and the Cerro Azul. In between these two is located our visit point, Punta Moreno.

There, we will follow a trail that runs along a solidified black lava flow until we reach a complex of tidal lagoons, where sharks and marine turtles are often seen.

Several species of birds can also be visible, including flamingos, which are found around the lakes and mangroves.

PM - Urbina Bay, Isabela island

Urbina Bay is located along the west coast of Isabela, and is close to the base of the Alcedo volcano, home to one of the rarest, most endangered species of the Galapagos: the endemic pink iguana of Isabela. The coastline here has undergone major changes recently due to volcanic activity, expanding the shore three quarters of a mile out to the sea. Observe corals, shells, molluscs and many curious organisms.

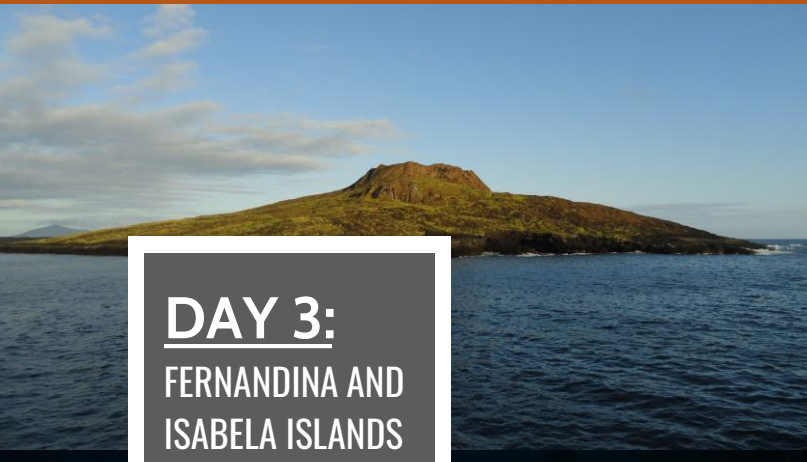
Accommodation: [Archipel I](#)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Excursions: Isabela island

Transport: Archipel I





DAY 3:
FERNANDINA AND
ISABELA ISLANDS



AM - Punta Espinoza, Fernandina island

After breakfast you will disembark to Fernandina, the Galapagos' westernmost and youngest island (less than one million years old).

It is so remote and pristine that has only 1 visitor site, Espinoza Point, where you will find some of the most bizarre animal species, products of natural selection.

Among them is the flightless cormorant, a bird which had to adjust its way of survival after arriving at the Galapagos Islands and being isolated here for thousands of years. It had to learn how to find food in the ocean, so its wings slowly lost the ability to fly and now work as fins. You are witnessing evolution!

The endemic marine iguanas can also be found conglomerated in the thousands, one over another to maintain their body heat, when they are not swimming near the shore or blocking the way.

PM - Punta Vicente Roca, Isabela island

During lunchtime onboard we navigated across the Bolivar Channel for a final visit to Isabela island. While entering a dark cave below a spectacular arch, you will be accompanied by the roaring echoes of the waves crashing the surrounding cliffs. Just around the corner, the collapsed amphitheatre of the Ecuador volcano offers an impressive view. The calmer waters of the coves are well-protected against the ocean swell and are a fairly cold, but a great place for snorkelling amongst various species of shark, penguins, puffer fish and even seahorses and the giant mola-mola!

Accommodation: [Archipel I](#)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Excursions: Punta Espinoza and Punta Vicente Roca

Transport: Archipel I





DAY 4:
SANTIAGO AND
RÁBIDA ISLANDS

AM - Puerto Egas, Santiago island

We will disembark to the Puerto Egas, where you will enjoy a very unique guided walk along its coastline, masterly sculptured with black basalts and polished multi-coloured ash-layers. All this scenery forms a photogenic location with collapsed lava tunnels, natural arches, caves and blowholes known as 'Darwin's toilet'.

The site is called Puerto Egas because at the beginning of the previous century, there was an attempt by a man named Hector Egas to extract the salt of the lagoons. The enterprise failed but it left traces of the infrastructure amidst the island's wilderness.

PM - Isla Rábida

In the afternoon you have a 'wet landing' on the extraordinary red beach of Rabida island. Oxidised iron particles have given its rocks and sand an intense rusty colour. Contiguous to the beach is a shallow green lagoon, an oasis on this otherwise arid island, which attracts all kind of aquatic birds, like pintails and American flamingos. Between the evergreen foliage of the surrounding mangrove bushes, many species of songbirds hide and breed.

One of the most outstanding attractions is the major breeding colony of brown pelicans, the only ones in the world that plunge-dive. On return you will be picked up by the inflatable dinghies, to get ready for snorkelling.


Accommodation: [Archipel I](#)

Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

Excursions: Puerto Egas and Isla Rábida

Transport: Archipel I





DAY 5:
END OF CRUISE-
TRANSFER OUT

AM - Black Turtle Cove

You will disembark the cruise for the last time, to get en route to the airport. Right on our way, we will stop to explore Black Turtle Cove from the dinghy.

This place is a living illustration of how mangroves alter the marine environment to create a rich and unique habitat. Three mangrove species crowd the area from the shore out into the lagoon, which reaches almost a mile inland.

As we drift through quiet waters in the zodiac, you are likely to see spotted eagle rays, which swim in a diamond formation. White-tipped reef sharks slip beneath the boat and Pacific green turtles come to the surface for air.

Transfer to Baltra airport.

**It's been a pleasure accompanying you on your adventure in Ecuador!
We hope to see you again soon.**

GENERAL INCLUSIONS



INCLUDED

- Accommodation specified
- Meals as specified in the program
- Excursions & entrances as specified in the program
- Services mentioned in program
- Transportation as specified

- Soft drinks and alcoholic drinks.
- Personal expenses, extras & gratuities.
- International flights.
- Travel insurance.
- Galapagos Round Trip Flights
- Galapagos Entrance Fee (\$200pp paid in cash)
- Transit Control Card Ingala (\$20pp paid in cash)

**NOT
INCLUDED**



Itinerary subject to change in case of Forced Majeure events.



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We look forward to welcoming you in Ecuador!

Price:

- Accordingly for TMLA participants (Buyer priority first)

Contact

- **COMPANY NAME:** Andean Travel Company - ATC
- **TOUR NAME:** Day tour Disconnect to Reconnect
- **CONTACT PERSON FOR QUESTIONS AND RESERVATIONS:**

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