

### **Ecuador & Galapagos**

# Classic Galapagos: Quito and Southeastern and Western Galapagos Islands on Isabela II Yacht

Quito – Santa Cruz Island – San Cristóbal Island – Española Island – Floreana Island – Isabela Island Fernandina Island – North Seymour Island – Puerto Ayora

**BEST SEASON** 

**PRICE** 

**How LONG** 

All year round

From US \$11,275 pp including local flights

10 Days/9 Nights



#### ITINERARY OVERVIEW

This Southeastern Galapagos Yacht itinerary kicks off with an enriching two-night stay in Quito at the beginning of your adventure. Upon arrival, you'll be treated to a private tour of the city, where you can soak in its historic charm and cultural vibrancy, providing a perfect prelude to the natural wonders that await. The journey in the Galapagos Islands then begins with an introduction to the beautiful beaches of the archipelago at Las Bachas on board the Isabela II Yacht, committed to carbon-neutral operations since 2017. The following day, we'll venture down to San Cristobal Island, offering a genuine taste of island life and a visit to a giant tortoise breeding center. Next, prepare to be captivated by magnificent Española Island, home to the largest bird in the Galapagos, along with its epic coastlines and geography. The adventure continues with Floreana, offering insights into the intriguing human history of the Galapagos. We then explore the Isabela and Fernandina Islands, where you can marvel at the unique

geology as well as the flightless cormorants and penguins that call these islands home. The itinerary concludes with visits to Santa Cruz and North Seymour, featuring tours of the lush highlands and spectacular wildlife encounters. After completing this immersive exploration, enjoy additional time at your leisure to unwind and reflect on your extraordinary journey at the luxurious Finch Bay Hotel. This extra day ensures you're perfectly poised and refreshed for your return flight back to Quito, rounding off your Galapagos experience with comfort and ease.

Note: Galapagos Itineraries are subject to change due to weather, logistical, Galapagos Park regulations or operational reasons. **100% carbon-neutral experience.** 

### **Quick Summary**

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner OV: Overnight

Day & Location	Transportation, Highlights and	Meals
	Accommodations	
Day 1 - Wednesday	Transfer to Hotel	
Arrival in Quito	OV: Casa Gangotena	
Day 2 – Thursday	Cultural day in Quito	BL
Quito	OV: Casa Gangotena	
Day 3 – Friday	Transfer to airport, flight to Baltra Island (GPS),	BLD
Baltra Island, Santa	board Isabella II Yatch – Las Bachas Beach	
Cruz Island	OV: Isabela II Yatch	
Day 4 – Saturday	Galapaguera Cerro Colorado, Punta Pitt	BLD
San Cristobal Island	OV: Isabella II Yatch	
Day 5 – Sunday	Gardner Bay, Suarez Point	BLD
Española Island	OV: Isabella II Yatch	
Day 6 – Monday	Punta Cormorant, Post Office Bay	BLD
Floreana Island	OV: Isabella II Yatch	
Day 7 – Tuesday	Punta Moreno, Mangle Point	BLD
Fernandina Island	OV: Isabella II Yatch	
Day 8 – Wednesday	Eden Islet, North Seymour Island	BLD
Santa Cruz Island,	OV: Isabella II Yatch	
North Seymour Island		
Day 9 – Thursday	Isabella II disembark, transfer to hotel	В
Baltra – Puerto Ayora	OV: Finch Bay Hotel	
Day 10 – Friday	Transfer to Baltra Airport (GPS) for a flight back	В
Puerto Ayora – Baltra –	to Quito (included), connect with your	
Quito – Departure	international flight (not included)	

#### ITINERARY DAY BY DAY



#### Day 1 | Arrival to Quito, Ecuador

Upon your arrival at Quito International airport, a representative from our organization warmly greets you. We accompany you to your hotel, providing a brief but informative overview of Quito and the country, including valuable insights you need to know. Quito, the capital of Ecuador, nestles on the slopes of the formidable Pichincha volcano within the Guayllabamba river basin. Its Old Town is a major highlight, celebrated as one of the most meticulously

preserved in Latin America and recognized as the inaugural UNESCO World Heritage Site. Immerse yourself in the charm of ancient, colorful streets; explore magnificent historic churches; or indulge in an afternoon of exploration at the lively markets, where you can discover the rich traditions of Ecuadorian Sierra culture. With numerous picturesque public parks and a burgeoning culinary scene, Quito offers all visitors a vibrant and diverse experience. Overnight: Casa Gangotena Boutique Hotel, Luxury room.

**Note:** You must arrive on a Saturday by 2 pm to Belize City on your arrival day to make the transfer to the island on time.



# Day 2 | Quito – Full-Day Cultural Tour (Experience Quito like a Local!)

Experience Quito through the eyes of its locals with our Live Quito Like a Local tour. This full-day adventure in the UNESCO World Heritage city will immerse you in its rich culture and history. Begin your exploration from the Panecillo, a hill offering panoramic views of Quito, crowned by the iconic aluminum statue of the Virgin of

Quito. Delve into the past as you discover the site of a former Sun Temple and enjoy breathtaking 360-degree city vistas. Next, journey through the historic San Roque neighborhood, where you'll witness the vibrant daily life of locals. Explore bustling markets, visit a traditional healer, and meander through cobblestone streets lined with artisanal shops. Step into Independence Square, the heart of Quito, where history and folklore intertwine. Marvel at architectural wonders such as the Presidential Palace, Archbishop's Palace, Cathedral of Quito, and Municipal Palace. Enter the ornate La Compañía Church, adorned in gold leaf, and uncover the secrets of the San Francisco Church and Monastery. Continue your cultural odyssey with a visit to Casa del Alabado Museum, showcasing a fascinating collection of archaeological artifacts dating back to 4,000 B.C. Wander along La Ronda Street, known for its bohemian charm and artisanal stores. Indulge your senses with a chocolate tasting at Chez Tiff, followed by a sumptuous lunch at Casa Gangotena, where you'll savor fine Ecuadorian cuisine. Join us for a day filled with unforgettable experiences, as you truly Live Quito Like a Local. Overnight at Casa Gangotena Boutique Hotel. Luxury room.



#### Day 3 | Galapagos Islands - Santa Cruz Island

Upon landing on Baltra Island by plane in the morning, we will transfer to the nearby pier to board the Isabela II Yacht. During this time, we attend a welcome briefing, participate in an emergency drill, and enjoy lunch. Las Bachas, a beautiful visitor site on Santa Cruz Island's north coast, awaits us. A glorious white beach and a couple of brackish lagoons lie just steps from the sea,

serving as feeding grounds for various wading birds, from royal lapwings to flamingos. Upon returning to the ship, we settle in with a briefing on the next day's expedition plan and indulge in a delicious dinner. Overnight: Yacht Isabela II



#### Day 4 | San Cristobal Island

Our journey leads us to Punta Pitt, situated on the island's eastern tip. As we land, the trail ascending from the beach unveils breathtaking vistas of the coastline. This site holds a unique distinction as the only place in Galapagos where all three species of boobies coexist, alongside two species of frigatebirds and a colony of solitary sea lions. Weather permitting, guests could

engage in activities such as swimming, kayaking, snorkeling from the beach, or taking a panga ride. Upon disembarking in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, we will embark on a scenic 40-minute drive to the south coast of the island. Here lies Galapaguera Cerro Colorado, the breeding center for endangered giant tortoises nestled within a captivating deciduous forest. This habitat is rich in biodiversity, hosting numerous bird species including the San Cristóbal mockingbird, as well as the endemic San Cristóbal lava lizard. Overnight: Yacht Isabela II



#### Day 5 | Española Island

In the morning, we disembark on the pristine white coral beach of Gardner Bay. A stroll allows us to observe the fascinating array of wildlife, including sea lions, mockingbirds, and finches, or simply relax on the beach. The area offers excellent snorkeling opportunities, with options for kayaking, panga rides, or glass-bottom boat excursions. The crystalline waters gently caressing the

white-sand shores of the bay create a mesmerizing sight. Following lunch on board, our afternoon excursion at Punta Suarez leads us along an exhilarating trail that traverses lava and rocky terrain. Along the way, guests will encounter unique colonies of seabirds, including majestic albatrosses, boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, and the renowned water geyser, El Soplador. This island is also renowned for its abundance of large and colorful marine iguanas. Overnight: Yacht Isabela II



#### Day 6 | Floreana Island

In the morning, we disembark on the olive-sand beach of Punta Cormorant, offering an effortless stroll to a brackish water lagoon teeming with bird species, including the captivating American flamingos. On the opposite side of the island, a pristine white sand beach awaits, serving as a nesting site for sea turtles during the night. At Champion Islet, guests have the option to

engage in snorkeling, panga rides, or enjoy the underwater scenery through our glass-bottom boat. Following lunch, we arrive at Post Office Bay to explore the historic barrel, which has functioned as an informal post office in the archipelago for over two centuries. Guests can then immerse themselves in the vibrant marine life through snorkeling adventures off the beach. Overnight: Yacht Isabela II



#### Day 7 | Isabela Island and Fernandina Island

In the morning, we embark on a journey through the mangroves in pursuit of sea turtles. Our first stop is Punta Moreno, nestled amidst the imposing backdrop of Isabela Island's six giant volcanoes, some of which remain active. As we venture along the rugged trail stretching inland from the coast, we are treated to aweinspiring vistas of unique lava formations, pioneering

lava cacti, and exotic scalesia trees. Wildlife abounds, with sightings of Galapagos penguins, flightless cormorants, pelicans, herons, sea lions, marine iguanas, and numerous Sally Lightfoot crabs. Following the excursion, we return to our glass-bottom boats or partake in snorkeling activities. In the afternoon, our exploration continues at Mangle Point on the coast of Fernandina Island, aboard our pangas. This region boasts the youngest ecosystem in the archipelago, where little Galapagos penguins and green-eyed flightless cormorants find sanctuary amidst the black rocks of the shoreline. Beneath the waves, rays and sea turtles gracefully glide. The nutrient-rich waters of the Bolívar Channel, separating Fernandina Island from Isabela Island, attract dolphins and whales, offering a chance encounter if fortune smiles upon us. Depending on sea conditions, we conclude our visit with snorkeling adventures and a glass-bottom boat excursion, unveiling the mangrove-rich and rocky shores adorned with vibrant lava cacti. Overnight: Yacht Isabela II.



#### Day 8 | Santa Cruz Island and North Seymour Island

Embark on a captivating Panga ride to reach the enchanting Eden Islet, nestled off the shores of Santa Cruz. Here, a splendid opportunity awaits to observe the fascinating blue-footed boobies, graceful reef sharks, and majestic frigatebirds. Immerse yourself in the underwater wonders through snorkeling or a mesmerizing glass-bottom boat ride, weather

permitting. The volcanic landscape surrounding this area adds a dramatic touch, enhancing the overall awe-inspiring ambiance. We have saved one of the best visitor sites in the archipelago for last: North Seymour Island. In the afternoon, we will disembark for a walk along the coast and inland of this beautiful flat island. Guests will have the chance to witness numerous frigatebird nests, as well as encounter land iguanas and colonies of sea lions along the coast. A panga ride along the coastline in search of sea lions and an enjoyable snorkeling session round off the day's activities. As the evening sets in, we gather for an informative briefing, followed by a farewell cocktail and dinner. Overnight: Yacht Isabela II.



#### Day 9 | Puerto Ayora

As our journey on Isabella II comes to an end, we arrive at Baltra Island, the airport island. After bidding farewell to your fellow travelers and new friends from the yacht, a transfer will take you to Finch Bay Hotel where you have the time to soak in the beauty of the Galapagos Islands and enjoy the amenities offered at Finch Bay Hotel. Overnight: Finch Bay Galapagos Hotel



## Day 10 | Departure from Galapagos, connect with Intl flight back home

Our representative will meet you at the hotel lobby for a transfer to the Baltra Airport and a flight back to Quito where you connect with your flight back home.

#### **Pricing**

2025	Per person sharing double occupancy
Price based on 2 people sharing double	\$ 11,275
occupancy	

10% discount for Children 6 to 11 applies, except for Peak Season Dec 19 to Jan 02

During Peak Season: Dec 19 – Jan 02

- There will be a surcharge of \$219 per adult and \$133 per Child.
- No discounts apply.
- Twin/Double Cabins for single use have a surcharge of 100%.
- Children's policy does not apply during peak season

This is a preliminary costing; hotels may vary according to availability at the time of booking. Please be aware that surcharges might be applicable during certain holidays Isabela II Yatch departs every Friday.

#### Included

- All land transportation by land, boat, and local flights
- All accommodations as per the itinerary
- Meals as indicated [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Airport assistance to take the Galapagos.
- Park entrance fee and transit control card
- Flight tickets Quito Galapagos
- Isabela II 7 days/6 nights itinerary
- Fuel surcharge
- Semi-private transfer to the Finch Bay Hotel
- Semi-private transfer to Baltra Airport
- Flight tickets Galapagos Quito
- Permanent assistance during the trip
- Green Planet Expeditions travel consultation and pre-departure services

#### On Board Isabela II:

- Accommodations
- All meals
- Island sightseeing, naturalist guides, and lecture services in English/Spanish only
- Snorkeling gear
- Luggage handling, medical care on board (but not the cost of medication), taxes and transfers in the Islands.

#### Not included

- International flights
- Meals or any other item not described in the itinerary
- Drinks, additional alcoholic beverages, and meals other than those listed above
- Early check-in, late check-out, services, and non-mentioned meals in the itinerary
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Wi-Fi internet (Intermittent and low-bandwidth. Available for an additional fee)
- Gratuities: Details will be provided in our pre-departure material for your convenience.
- Mandatory Travel Insurance: To ensure a smooth travel experience, all participants are
  required to have a comprehensive travel insurance policy. This policy should include trip
  cancellation, medical services, and coverage for active adventures or evacuations. "Cancel
  For Any Reason" (CFAR) coverage is highly recommended to protect your investment in
  case of unforeseen circumstances.
- Any other items not mentioned above.

2025 Departures		
Start	End	
06/08/2025	15/08/2025	
20/08/2025	29/08/2025	
03/09/2025	12/09/2025	
29/10/2025	07/11/2025	
12/11/2025	21/11/2025	
26/11/2025	05/12/2025	
24/12/2025	02/01/2026	

#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**



#### Casa Gangotena, Quito

Situated in the heart of Quito's Old Town, the beautifully and eclectically appointed mansion sings with the history of the city, while following the strictest safety protocols for both staff and guests. Whether it be the rooms, suites, terrace or gardens, or Casa Gangotena's restaurant, every space is designed for guests to unwind, discover and dream. The rooms at Casa Gangotena boast plush carpets, towering window frames, flowing curtains and Art Deco furniture such as desks, armoires, tables and armchairs. The hotel has created their very own

signature cuisine: cocina mestiza, a tribute to Ecuadorian traditional food with a contemporary twist. At Casa Gangotena, guests feel fascinating with Ecuador's culture through their exclusive, free evening activities with the staff, both in the hotel and out in the neighborhood, which seek to enrich your experience of this World Heritage Site city. Finally, you can be sure your stay has a positive impact since the property has been carbon neutral since 2017.



#### Yacht Isabela II

Yacht Isabella II offers the perfect, intimate space for exploring Darwin's islands in comfort. Traditionalists will enjoy feeling at home with a crew that has remained almost unchanged for years, leading to seamless attention to detail. With just 20 guest cabins, the yacht's convivial atmosphere leads to a close-up experience of the unique world. On-board, guests find delicious cuisines, faultless service and excellent facilities,

including a hot tub, fitness room, bar and outside deck for al-fresco meals, drinks, and sunbathing. Activities involve scouting the island sites for Big 15 wildlife in groups that average no more than 11 to 14 guests per naturalist guide and exploring the coast on the yacht's pangas, glass-bottom boats and kayaks.



#### Finch Hotel, Puerto Ayora

Finch Bay Hotel is a Galapagos carbon-neutral, ecoresort situated on a secluded beach. The hotel offers various amenities, including an on-site swimming pool, air conditioning, and a restaurant serving a diverse menu of local and international cuisine. Guests can enjoy easy access to the beach, where they can relax, swim, and observe the local wildlife. Additionally, the hotel provides private tours and excursions to explore the unique ecosystems of the Galapagos Islands

#### **Booking your Green Planet Expedition**

#### How to reserve a trip

To secure your spot on a trip, you can conveniently book online using our <u>Reserve a Trip form</u> or by calling **1-800-430-9498**. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of the reservation form and the initial 50% trip deposit.

Please note that we are unable to hold space until the deposit is received. If the requested space is unavailable, we will promptly provide alternative options for your consideration (if an upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply).

#### Pre departure service

Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will email you a comprehensive Predeparture Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including immunizations, visas, trip insurance, packing checklist, reading list, maps, cross-cultural information, optional trip extensions, and more. You will receive a final trip email including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks before departure.

#### **Terms and Conditions**

Green Planet Expeditions has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels, and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary; however, it is possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays, and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included.

Caring for our planet is integral to our ethos. In alignment with our commitment to sustainability, a carbon emissions mitigation fee is incorporated into all our trips. This fee contributes to environmental initiatives that offset the carbon footprint associated with our journeys, ensuring a positive impact on the destinations we explore. Your safety and peace of mind during the journey is our top priorities. The purchase of traveler's insurance is mandatory for all participants, and it must cover trip delays, trip cancellations, baggage, accident, or sickness. In some specific cases like Antarctica, it must cover evacuation.

All information and services provided are subject to our Terms and Conditions.

At Green Planet Expeditions, we craft strategically curated journeys that immerse travelers in the finest of nature, culture, and local traditions, always seeking out opportunities for exceptional dining experiences. Our expertise lies in tailor-made trips to destinations where we maintain close relationships with local partners, ensuring flawless execution with the assistance of passionate guides deeply connected to their heritage and committed to its preservation. We believe that tourism, when harnessed thoughtfully, becomes a powerful catalyst for conservation and community upliftment in the destinations we visit.

#### As with any good recipe, our trips are infused with the following flavors:

- Positive impact on the areas you choose to visit, directly or indirectly.
- Amazing private local guides.
- Lovely small boutique hotels according to your budget.
- Good food, no matter how remote the destination is, we strive to offer good cuisine.
- Our trips frequently include surprises, which often turn out to be the highlight of the journey.
- When open to it, visits to less-known destinations, reserved for the daring few, and
  engages in intimate and meaningful encounters with locals—a cherished treasure
  highly valued by discerning travelers, as we have discovered through our years of
  experience in the industry.

#### Still haven't found what you're looking for?

We offer a wide range of amazing trips that may not all be listed on our website. Plus, we can custom-build pretty much whatever your heart desires, so let us know what we can do for you. If you have any questions about our expedition cruises, private trips, or just want to talk travel, give us a call at + 1 800- 430 9498 or contact us via email at travel@greenplanetexpeditions.com