

## GAL PAGOS BY CATAMARAN: AN INTIMATE VOYAGE

Zodiac to pristine beaches, kayak, or stand-up paddleboard along volcanic shores, explore wildlife on land or under the sea. Experience the Galapagos aboard a stylish and stable double-hulled yacht for 16 guests, well-equipped for up-close exploration. See and do more with two veteran naturalists, including a National Geographic certified photo instructor.



### **ITINERARY**

DAY 1 Quito or Guayaquil, Ecuador

We meet you on arrival in Ecuador, either in Quito, Ecuador's capital city in the Andes, or in the coastal city of Guayaquil, for an included transfer to your convenient hotel for overnight. Both cities are well-served by international carriers, and Galapagos flights start and end in Quito with a stop in Guayaquil. You may opt for a pre-voyage extension to Mashpi Reserve in the tropical Andes outside Quito or take just one extra day on the See Quito pre-voyage extension.

Arrival Time: Anytime

Arrival City: Quito or Guayaquil, Ecuador





DAY 2 Quito or Guayaquil / Galápagos Islands

Fly to the Galapagos and embark National Geographic Delfina awaiting us at anchor. Explore the islands and their remarkable wildlife.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAYS 3-8 Exploring the Galápagos Islands

Below are a selection of islands we may visit during our expedition. Itineraries are subject to Galapagos National Park regulations.

North Seymour: Follow coastal trails past playful Galapagos sea lions on this wildlife-rich central island. Continue inland through a silvery forest of endemic palo santo trees, where frigatebirds nest, blue-footed boobies dance, and where we may also encounter prehistoric-looking land iguanas feeding on cactus.

Bartolome: Climb the steps to the summit of this 300-foot volcanic wonderland for stunning views. Explore, swim, and snorkel from the beach. Catch a glimpse of Galapagos penguins, one of the world's rarest.

Santiago: Explore tide pools and look for fur seals sheltered in quiet grottos of black basalt. Swim, snorkel, kayak, and paddleboard along Santiago's spectacular coast, and explore an enchanting coastal forest where Charles Darwin once walked.

Isabela: Cross the Equator at Volcan Ecuador, northernmost of Isabela's six great shield volcanoes. Keep an eye out for whales and dolphins, sea turtles, and the elusive ocean sunfish. Over two days, land in the footsteps of Darwin and Melville, and look for wildlife along the wildly eroded volcanic shore.

Fernandina: One of the most active oceanic volcanoes in the world, Fernandina is the youngest and most pristine island in Galapagos -- and home to the strange flightless cormorant, Galapagos penguins, and the largest marine iguanas. Hikes ashore lead across impressive recent lava flows.

Española: See swallow-tailed gulls, Española mockingbirds, Nazca boobies and, seasonally, the world's only population of waved albatross at this bird paradise, also home to vividly colored marine iguanas. Watch sea lions on the white sand beach, and snorkel offshore at Gardner Bay.

Floreana: Follow a trail past a rose pink-tinted lagoon sometimes frequented by flamingos. Snorkel among sea lions and abundant fish, or cruise along Champion Islet by Zodiac. Visit the historic mail barrel at Post Office Bay.

Santa Cruz: Visit Puerto Ayora, the largest town and headquarters of both the Galapagos National Park and Charles Darwin Research Station. See the monument to Lonesome George, and tour the giant tortoise breeding corrals. Witness the giant tortoises roaming in the wild in the lush, green highlands.

Santiago: Explore tide pools and look for fur seals sheltered in





quiet grottos of black basalt. Swim, snorkel, kayak, and paddleboard along Santiago's spectacular coast, and explore an enchanting coastal forest where Charles Darwin once walked.

Genovesa: Sail across the Equator to the remote northern realm of the Galapagos into this flooded caldera, home to over one million seabirds. Visit Prince Philip's Steps at the top of the island. Highlights along the trail are many, from Nazca, red- and blue-footed boobies and frigates, to gulls, owls, fur seals, hammerhead sharks, turtles, and manta rays.

San Cristobal: Walk along the powdery white sand at a gorgeous beach fronted by iconic Kicker Rock. Explore Baquerizo Moreno, where sea lions thrive in the middle of town.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9 Galápagos Islands / Disembark Ship / Guayaquil or Quito

Disembark this morning for a return flight to the mainland. The afternoon and evening are at your leisure. You may be able to take advantage of overnight flights home. Ask your expedition specialist about Peru, Quito, and other post-voyage options, including Galapagos by Catamaran + Machu Picchu and Peru's Land of the Inca.

Meals Included: Breakfast

DAY 10 Guayaquil or Quito

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and board flights home, unless you have arranged for additional nights or an extension.

Departure Time: Anytime on day 10, or anytime after 7:00 p.m.

local time on day 9

Departure City: Guayaquil or Quito

Meals Included: Breakfast

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.





## YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC DELFINA

YOUR SHIP: National Geographic Delfina

VESSEL TYPE: Catamaran

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 16

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** 

Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic welcomes the newest and most intimate addition to the Galapagos fleet, National Geographic Delfina. Setting sail in early 2025, this sleek, contemporary vessel is a luxury catamaran designed for cruising the Galapagos Islands in style and stable comfort. The elegant, well-appointed ship, with a double hull, accommodates 16 guests in eight spacious, air-conditioned double staterooms with polished wood decor. Located on two decks, staterooms have either a private balcony (Category 5) or direct access to an expansive wood deck (Category 4). The open-air Observation Deck, which provides 360-degree views, has a shaded area for relaxation, a whirlpool hot tub, and lounge chairs to take in your surroundings. On the wrap-around Upper Deck, dine al fresco at the stern and enjoy spectacular island views from the bow as you watch for dolphins, whales, and other dazzling marine life. The dining room, bar, and cozy lounge with library are on the Main Deck, which is also the boarding area and marina. An authentic, immersive experience in the Gal apagos National Geographic Delfina provides an authentic sense of place in these legendary islands informed by decades working closely with local communities and conservation groups. Contributing to

the fully immersive experience on board are the Ecuadorian officers and crew, as well as the locally sourced and sustainable farm-to-table and ocean-to-table culinary ingredients you'll enjoy at every meal. You will travel with a veteran Expedition Leader and National Geographic certified photo instructor, both licensed naturalists who will guide you on all your adventures in the Galapagos National Park and

Marine Reserve.





# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**

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