

# GALAPAGOS

(Note: This is only a sample tour)

**Day 1:** Depart home for **Quito, Ecuador**.

**Day 2:** Arrive Quito. Transfer to your hotel for overnight.

**Day 3:** This morning fly to **San Cristobal**. After a welcome lunch and briefing the adventure begins. Enjoy Carola Beach for the afternoon.

**Day 4:** Going north, explore bays and coves full of local wildlife - including **Darwin Bay**, the site of the first landing of the HMS Beagle. The route is home to colonies of **sea lions, marine turtles, blue-footed boobies, and frigate birds**. Continue to Isla Lobos on the lookout for **marine iguanas and sea lions**. Continue to Leon Dormido, the jagged remains of an old tuff cone whose flanks are home to thousands of sea birds. Enjoy excellent **snorkeling**. There is a good chance of seeing **Galápagos sharks, eagle and golden rays, dozens of species of tropical fish, clams, starfish, and marine invertebrates and even hammerhead and white-tipped sharks**.

**Day 5:** Embark in a fast boat to **Santa Cruz Islands**. Transfer to El Chato reserve which is the natural habitat of the incredible **Galapagos tortoise**. Hike and learn about these lumbering giants. Explore some amazing volcanic tunnels that were created by hot flowing lava. Continue to **Los Gemelos, two volcanic craters** near the top of the Island. Walk around these deep craters through a beautiful Scalesia forest covered with epiphytes and ferns

**Day 6:** Visit the **Charles Darwin Research Station** to learn about conservation and management efforts in the archipelago. Meet **Lonesome George**, the last giant tortoise of his species. Hike to Tortuga Bay, a beautiful white sand beach area, nesting site to thousands of marine turtles. This trail is 6 kilometers long and crosses through a dry forest lava habitat home to hundreds of iguanas.

**Day 7:** Embark on a fast boat to **Isabela Island**. Isabela is the largest Island in the archipelago, **formed by 6 shield volcanoes - Alcedo, Cerro Azul, Darwin, Ecuador, Sierra Negra and Wolf**. All of these volcanoes except one remain active, making this island one of the most volcanically active places on earth. Be on the lookout for dolphins and whales. Upon arrival enjoy a free day at beach.

**Day 8:** Continue along the coast exploring expansive white sand beaches, mangroves and brackish lagoons. This area is filled with birdlife such as **American oyster catchers, herons, flamingos, finches and many shore birds, as well as sea lions and marine iguanas**. In the afternoon snorkel at Tintoreras, a set of small Islets within Isabela bay. The Islets are filled with wildlife and are home to the **Galapagos Penguin**, the only penguin that lives in equatorial region. See sharks, marine turtles, sea lions and much more wildlife as you explore its many small coves and beaches.

**Day 9:** Enjoy a free day at the beach.

**Day 10:** Navigate to **Baltra Island** for your flight back to the main land. Upon arrival to Quito transfer to your hotel.

**Day 11:** Transfer to airport for flight home.



## **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

- Return airfare home - Quito Ecuador
- Flight Quito – San Cristobal
- Flight Baltra Island to Quito
- Transfers
  - o All airport transfer
  - o All coach transfers according to itinerary
  - o All boat transfers according to itinerary
- Assistance upon arrival
- 9 nights accommodation with private facilities
- 9 breakfasts
- 9 lunches
- 9 dinners
- All activities according to itinerary
- Naturalist guide

