

South America - Galapagos Western Islands Cruise | Elite

Trip Code
ECGGEWA
Departure



Introduction

Experience 8-days in the Galapagos Islands aboard the luxurious Elite. Enjoy daily land excursions and water activities like kayaking, snorkelling, paddle boarding, and panga rides. Discover diverse landscapes and rich wildlife across the Western Islands, including birds, sea lions, turtles, giant tortoises, and possibly whales or sharks. Highlights include visiting Sierra Negra volcano and a giant tortoise breeding centre supporting conservation efforts.

Explore more unforgettable adventures aboard the Elite with these exciting itineraries: 5-day [Galapagos Northern Islands Cruise](#) and 4-day [Galapagos Southern Islands Cruise](#).

Combine your Galapagos cruise on the Elite with a stay at the premium [La Selva Lodge](#) in the Amazon for an exclusive saving. [Contact us](#) for more information and pricing!

Itinerary

South America - Galapagos Western Islands Cruise | Elite

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Departure

Selected Saturdays
Direct Arrive in San Cristobal & El Junco

Duration

8 Days

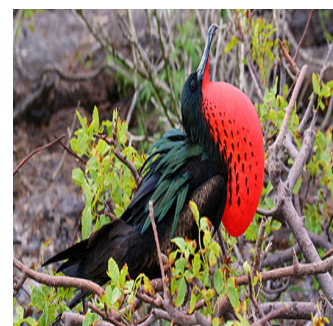
Locations
Arrive at San Cristobal airport where
Ecuador, Galapagos Islands

You will be transferred to the vessel. PM: El Junco Lagoon Walk up the rocky path surrounded by rich vegetation and wildlife to the rim of the El Junco Lagoon, an impressive crater lake located in the highlands of San Cristobal island. Here you will enjoy superb panoramic views of the island, and you can often catch frigate birds diving and bathing in the crystal clear water below.



DAY 2: North Seymour Island & Dragon Hill

AM: North Seymour North Seymour island is a small island named after Lord Hugh Seymour, a senior British Royal Navy officer. Walking amongst the low, bushy vegetation you will be able to observe a large variety of birds, including blue-footed boobies, swallow tailed gulls and a large population of frigate birds. Look out for the marvellous bright red chests of the male frigates used to attract a mate. PM: Santa Cruz Dragon Hill The name Dragon Hill refers to the large population of Galapagos land iguanas that have made their home here. As you walk along the rocky coastline and through the forests of cacti and Palo Santo trees, you will no doubt encounter a number of these incredible creatures that resemble miniature dragons. The high tide also makes this a fantastic place to snorkel as the coral attracts a plethora of colourful fish close to the shoreline.



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Selected Saturdays
Departure: Antoreras and Sierra Negra

Duration

8 Days
Antoreras & Sierra Negra Volcano

Today you will visit 'Las Tintoreras', a group

of small islands on the coast of Isabela Island,

known for their striking dark lava

formations that create a distinctive habitat

for diverse wildlife. This makes it an

excellent spot for water activities, dinghy

rides and walking. Visitors often get the

chance to see turtles, sharks, penguins, and

sea lions up close. Next you will visit Sierra

Negra Volcano, one of largest craters in the

archipelago with a diameter of five

kilometres. It offers mesmerizing views with

great contrast in colours between lava

fields, vegetation and fumaroles. Hiking to

the top provides breathtaking views of the

islands five other volcanoes, visible on a

clear day. PM: Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding

Center This afternoon enjoy a visit to

Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center, where two

species of giant tortoise are bred to

increase the population of these incredible

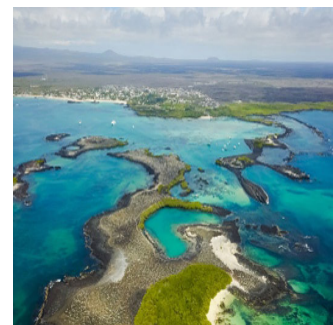
animals. This plays an essential role in

protecting the future of the Galapagos. As

you walk around the centre you can

appreciate a wide variety of native plants in

the beautiful gardens.



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Selected Saturdays
Departure: Moreno Point & Urbina Bay

Duration

8 Days
AM: Isabela - Moreno Point Punta Moreno is

an excellent site for fans of geology and bird

life. The ground is covered in rough lava,

dried out after an eruption decades ago. The

formations of the lava rock indicate how it

flowed and dried and are very interesting

for geologists. The lava flow cooled

unevenly, and in places there are little

ponds of brackish water popular with

wading birds like flamingoes, herons and

stilts. You may even get to see the

occasional Pintail Duck in one of the pools!

There is little in the way of vegetation, but

some hardy pioneer plant species and cacti

have begun the process of breaking the lava

rocks down into something friendlier for

plants and animals. There are small lizards

and snakes to be found in and among the

rocks. Along the coastline, tidal pools may

trap some interesting sea life, and you may

get to see some marine iguanas swimming

and diving down to feed on underwater

algae. Also snorkeling along the shoreline,

lucky guests may spot some Galapagos

Penguin, green sea turtles and white tip

sharks. PM: Isabela - Urbina Bay Urbina

Bay is located at the foot of the Alcedo

Volcano and is the result of a major volcanic

uplift that took place in 1954, resulting in

6km of coral reef being lifted out of the

ocean. Walking along this new shore, you

can observe the corals and remains of

marine life that were stranded during this

event. Now home to giant land iguanas and

giant tortoises, it has fast become a great

spot to see Galapagos hawks and flightless

cormorants. Also a popular spot for

snorkelling as turtles, rays and tropical fish

frequent the coastline.



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Departure

Selected Saturdays: Santa Cruz Point & Vicente Roca Point

Duration

8 Days: Espinosa Point, Fernandina Years after

your trip, many of your favorite photos will

have been taken here on Espinosa Point.

Hundreds of marine iguanas bask in the sun

near the landing point: sharp-eyed guests

may even spot some swimming in the surf,

ready to dive down and gnaw some algae off

of the rocks offshore. Galapagos hawks soar

overhead, looking for a meal, or stare,

stony-eyed, at visitors from their perch in a

tree. At the end of one of the trails,

flightless cormorants - a species unique to

the islands - make their nests and clumsily

waddle around. In the gentle surf off the

point, monstrously large sea turtles surface,

gulp a mouthful of air, and sink again. Some

visitors will spot the shy Galapagos snakes

slithering between the cracked lava rocks.

Tidal pools have been known to capture

large stingrays, which then must await the

next tide to escape to the sea again.

Geology buffs will marvel at the lava

formations which make up the rugged

ground here. Unforgettable! PM: Vicente

Roca Point, Isabela Vicente Roca Point, on

the rocky coast of Isabela Island, is not a

walking tour. The visitor site is the coastline

itself: rocky and pounded by the surf.

Pangas keep a safe distance from the

treacherous waves, making their way along

the coastline. Visitors can expect to see both

varieties of sea lions native to the

Galapagos: the Galapagos Sea Lion and the

Fur Sea Lion. Also, lucky guests may see

penguins along the rocky shore and any

number of sea birds nesting along the cliffs

and soaring overhead. The snorkeling is

excellent here: the guides will pick the best

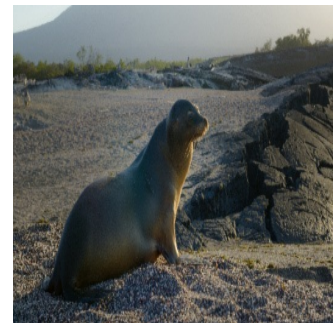
spot depending on the conditions, and

guests have the possibility of seeing sea

lions, penguins and turtles in addition the

usual parrot fish, surgeon fish, sergeant-

majors and other stars of the pacific reefs.



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Selected Saturdays

Duration

8 Days

AM: Rabida Rabida island is most known for

its white sand beach surrounded by a

background of cliffs and steep

hills full of Palo Santo trees and endemic cacti. A

panga ride around the shoreline gives the

chance to spot blue-footed and nazca

boobies and water activities such as

snorkelling, kayaking or paddle boarding

are ideal for seeing white tipped sharks and

rays. On the beach you will find a large

noisy colony of sea lions and the

surrounding salt brush is home to a nesting

colony of pelicans. Inland, bird watchers

will delight in seeing mockingbirds, yellow

warblers and Darwin finches - Rabida is the

only site where all nine Darwin's finches are

found. PM: Bartholomew Island

Bartholomew island is an islet located in

Sullivan Bay and its most famous landmark

is a huge volcanic cone named Pinnacle

Rock. A walking trail leads up to a viewpoint

at the summit of the island where you can

enjoy spectacular views of Pinnacle Rock

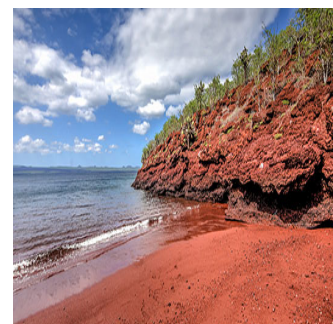
and the surrounding lava flows. The

northern beach, a nesting site for green sea

turtles, is perfect for snorkelling where

sightings of spotted eagle rays, penguins

and reef sharks are possible.



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Departure

Selected Saturdays, Witch Hill & Tortoise

Reserve

8 Days

Locations San Cristobal - Kicker Rock & Witch

Hill - Ecuador, Galapagos Islands

Kicker Rock is an iconic feature of the

Galapagos that has been formed over time

by the erosion of the cone of an extinct

volcano. In addition, on the rock formation

itself, blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds and

sea lions can often be seen perched on the

ledges above which makes an excellent site

to take great pictures while the vessel

circumnavigate the rock formation. Witch

Hill features an idyllic white sand beach

which can be accessed by dinghy and is a

superb vantage point for seeing Kicker Rock

in the south of the island. The hill itself is an

eroded tuff cone and the calm waters at the

base of it offer a magnificent spot for

snorkeling. Meanwhile, a walk along the

beach or on one of the inland paths,

provides opportunities to see a variety of

shore birds, finches and mockingbirds. PM:

Giant Tortoise Reserve The visit to the Giant

Tortoise's Reserve is the longest hike on

San Cristobal; the walk is about 5 km one

way and may be quite hot. This is an

excellent site for observing giant tortoises

in their natural habitat. San Cristobal has a

population of six thousand giant tortoises; in

a good day, hundreds of them can be seen

along with other endemic species, such as

lava lizards, and mockingbirds. Snorkel is a

great activity as you have opportunities to

see sea turtles and tintoreras (white tipped

reef sharks). The beach of this visitor site is

a nesting area for sea turtles.



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Saturday 10th October

Duration

8 Days

Location Cristobal Interpretation Center A

Ecuador - Galapagos Islands

Short distance from the centre of San

Cristobal is the San Cristobal Interpretation

Center, which provides an overview of the

fascinating history of the islands. The main

areas of focus, which are addressed through

a number of expositions are: natural history,

human history and conservation for the

future. You can also take one of the trails

behind the center that lead to some great

viewpoints of the ocean and volcanic rocks

below. Depart from San Cristobal Airport.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation

Cabin On Board Ship

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Selected Saturdays

Duration

8 Days

Locations

Ecuador, Galapagos Islands



INCLUSIONS

Transfers in the Galapagos
 Airport reception and assistance
 Accommodation on board the yacht
 Guided expeditions according to the itinerary
 Top bilingual National Park guide (English/Spanish)
 Cruise Service Officer
 Activity daily briefing
 All meals and snacks
 Soft drinks and juices
 Captain's welcome and farewell cocktail
 Use of sea kayaks and paddle-boards
 Expedition gear
 Yoga mats
 Kettlebells and dumbbells
 Stargazing laser pointer
 One free beer or wine per guest per day

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

International & internal flights
 Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)
 Travel insurance
 Personal expenses
 Tips and gratuities for guide and crew
 Beverages other than specified
 Local taxes
 Galapagos National Park Entrance fee (USD\$200 per person, subject to change)
 Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD\$20 per person, subject to change)
 Any items not mentioned as included
 Micro SD Card 4K

Difficulty Rating

2 (Light Adventure)

Single Surcharge

A single supplement surcharge may apply and is subject to availability. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

Prices are based on per person, twin share.

Notes

Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.

All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Kayaking and water based activities are subject to weather conditions.

Price Dependent upon

Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

Sustainability