

## **Ecuador** - Galapagos Northern Islands Cruise | Elite

Trip Code

ECGGE5C

Departure



### Introduction

Set sail onboard the luxurious Elite to explore the Galapagos over five glorious days of adventure. You will fly into Baltra, where the main airport and largest town in the Galapagos is located. Embark on your vessel and set sail. Enjoy a mix of walks and hikes on land and snorkelling, kayaking and stand up paddle boarding in the water, as well as panga rides. You will spot animals such as giant tortoises, blue and red footed boobies and iguanas and keep your eyes peeled for turtles, sea lions, iguanas and the vibrant red, sally lightfoot crabs.

Explore more unforgettable adventures aboard the Elite with these exciting itineraries: 8-day [Galapagos Eastern & Western Islands Cruise](#) and 4-day [Galapagos South-Eastern 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

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Selected Tuesdays

Direct Arrive Galapagos Islands

Duration

5 Days you will arrive at Baltra Island

Locations where our team will provide

~~Ecuador Galapagos Islands~~

~~Reception and assistance to transfer you to~~

The M/C Elite. In the afternoon, we'll visit

Bachas Beach. A beautiful white-sand beach

on which the remnants of a rusted barge,

thought to have been abandoned by the

Americans during WWI, can be seen. It is a

popular nesting site for turtles, so if you go

for a snorkel, you might find yourself

sharing the water with these wonderful

creatures. The beach is also full of vibrant

Sally Lightfoot and hermit crabs, and

elegant pink flamingos that frequent the

saltwater pond located just behind the

beach.



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Ecuador, Galapagos Islands

Explore two of the most popular visitor sites. El Barranco, also known as Prince Philip's Steps, is a rocky stairway that will lead you past a colony of nazca and red-footed boobies leading up to a plateau of dried lava. Continuing through the thin Palo Santo forest and looking out over the plain, visitors are often treated to sites of storm petrels launching out over the ocean. A Zodiac ride or kayaking/paddle boarding along the edge of the cliffs provides a good chance to see the elusive Galapagos fur seals nestled on the rocks, and snorkelling is a great activity if you fancy a dip with a variety of shark species. In the afternoon, we'll visit Darwin Bay also on Genovesa Island, located on the interior side of the crescent-shaped island, protected from wind and currents. Darwin Bay has a small sand and coral beach that provides the perfect spot for snorkelling, kayaking or paddle boarding in calm, sheltered waters in the company of hammerhead sharks, rays and a plethora of colourful reef fish. Onshore, a short trail leads along a tidal lagoon and mangroves, home to a variety of land bird species, including Nazca and red-footed boobies and swallow-tailed gulls. The trail culminates at a viewpoint that offers a stunning view overlooking the cliffs and the bay below.



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Selected Tuesdays  
Day 3 - Espumilla Beach & Egas Port

Duration

5 Days  
On Thursday morning, we'll visit Buccaneer

Cove and Espumilla Beach on Santiago

Island. Espumilla Beach, located on the

northern coast of Santiago island, is an

exquisite white sand beach, whose name

refers to the meringue-like trails of foam left

by the lapping of the waves. Sally Lightfoot

crabs are in abundance here and as a result,

it is common to see predatory birds such as

hawks, herons and pelicans. This idyllic

location is perfect for snorkelling or

kayaking/paddle boarding amongst a raft of

marine life, including species of octopus,

eels and sharks. Buccaneer Cove has an

interesting history as it is where sailors,

buccaneers and whalers frequently

anchored their vessels in search for food

and water. In more recent times it has

become an important nesting site for turtles

and is also popular with sea lions. A zodiac

ride along the eroded shoreline provides

views of intriguing rock formations that

provide excellent ledges for boobies,

pelicans and gulls. In the afternoon, we'll

visit Egas Port, named after an Ecuadorian

who attempted to make his fortune mining

salt on Santiago Island. Once the site of a

salt mine, but now this impressive black

sand beach is an excellent location for

snorkelling and observing shorebirds, Sally

Lightfoot crabs and marine iguanas. A stroll

along the wide trails inland leads you past

tidal pools and rocky volcanic formations

known as grottoes where it is possible to

spot fur seals enjoying a spot of shade.



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Departure

Saturday 1st Tuesday Island

Duration

5 Days

The first visit of the day is to Black Turtle

Cove, which is located on the north shore of

Santa Cruz. It 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 a shallow lake which reaches

almost a mile inland. As you drift through

quiet waters in the zodiac, you are likely to

see spotted eagle rays and diamond-shaped

mustard rays, which swim in a diamond

formation. White-tipped reef sharks slip

beneath the boat and Pacific green sea

turtles come to the surface for air and to

mate. Waterfowl, including pelicans, herons

and egrets, all feed in the cove. It's a

peaceful place where visitors often have up-

close encounters with Galapagos wildlife,

making it a highlight of the trip! Later this

afternoon, on the highlands of Santa Cruz,

you'll have the opportunity to see the

famous giant tortoises in the wild. So

renowned are these endemic animals that

they gave the archipelago its name.

Birdwatching is also one of the activities do

to in the Santa Cruz highlands, since this

area is home of finches and other Galapagos

birds. After the visit to the highlands, we

continue to the famous Charles Darwin

Research Station that provides guests with

a unique opportunity to find out about the

vital work that is being carried out to

preserve the archipelago's ecosystems. The

Research Centre is also home to a

significant breeding program for Galapagos

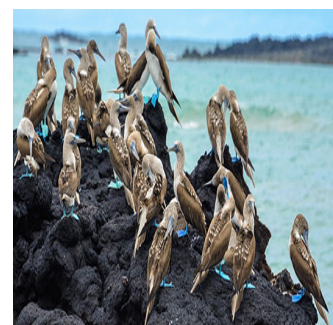
tortoises, whose numbers have been in

decline since the 1970's. These captivating

reptiles are very accustomed to humans, so

be sure to bring your camera for some

close-ups.



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Selected Tuesdays  
Depart Galapagos Islands

Duration

5 Days

On Saturday morning, we'll visit Isla Lobos,

also known as 'Sea Lion Island,' located off

Ecuador, Galapagos Islands. Accessed

by Zodiac, Lobos Island gets its name from

the herds of sea lions that have made their

home here. Snorkelling in the calm clear

water provides a unique opportunity to see

these inquisitive and playful animals up

close and it is also common to be

accompanied by green turtles and rays as

well. Inland, there is a trail where you can

expect to encounter nesting sites for blue-

footed boobies and frigates. After our visit,

we'll head to San Cristobal Airport where

our airport personnel will assist with the

check-in process and farewell as we board

our flight back to mainland Ecuador.



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### Inclusions & Details

Accommodation      Cabin On Board Ship

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Duration  
5 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