

## **Ecuador** - Extended Eastern Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

ECIG8DE

Departure



### Introduction

Over 8 fantastic days you will sail the crown jewel of South America, the **Galapagos Islands!** Spot a range of wildlife from **giant tortoises** in the highlands of Santa Cruz to **sea lions** and **turtles** at Gardner Bay and all three species of **booby birds** nesting together at Punta Pitt.

Marvel at landscapes from the stunning cliff views at Suñirez Point to Santa FÉ's giant Opuntia cactus groves and Prince Phillip's Steps, where dramatic landscapes await.

Explore white sandy beaches with turquoise waters, recent lava flows at Sullivan Bay and snorkel with **Galapagos Penguins** at Bartolomé Island.

The Galapagos really has it all! Cruising on the Integrity you will be able to participate in a range of activities from walks to hikes, snorkelling, kayaking and zodiac (panga) cruising with a local expert National Park guide.

Check out some of the other itineraries onboard Integrity including: [7 Day Western Islands Cruise](#), [8 Day Eastern Islands Cruise](#) and [8 Day Western Islands Cruise](#)

### Itinerary

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Departure

~~Selected Saturdays~~  
Departure: Quito & Charles Darwin

Duration

8 Days

~~Today, you arrive in the Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America~~  
where we'll facilitate a transfer from the

airport in Baltra to the Santa Cruz Highlands. Here, you'll have a unique opportunity to witness the islands' most renowned reptile, the giant tortoises, in their natural habitat. It's a rare privilege to observe these endangered species freely roaming amidst the lush surroundings. The area boasts a diverse vegetation, including the endemic Scalesia Forest, home to an array of avian species such as Darwin's finches, notably the famed Woodpecker Finch. Keep an eye out for the elusive vermilion flycatcher, whose scarlet plumage contrasts beautifully with the emerald green forest. In the afternoon, our itinerary takes us to the Charles Darwin Research Station and Galápagos National Park headquarters. Here, you'll gain firsthand insight into the conservation and research endeavors undertaken in the islands. Witness several subspecies of adult tortoises and numerous hatchlings, and learn about the vital repatriation programs aimed at preserving various tortoise and iguana subspecies from extinction. Later in the afternoon, we'll board our yacht, INTEGRITY, for dinner and embark on our island cruise. You'll reside aboard the yacht, maximizing exploration time within the confines of park regulations. Each night, we'll set sail to our next destination, ensuring a seamless and immersive island-hopping experience.



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Departure

Selected Saturdays  
Day 2: Gardner Bay & Punta Suarez

Duration

6 Days

Today's adventure begins at Gardner Bay, where you'll stroll along a magnificent white sand beach, accompanied by lounging sea lions and nesting marine turtles. Curious Española Mockingbirds may follow your every footstep as you explore. Enjoy a brief swim in the crystal-clear waters or embark on an amazing snorkeling excursion alongside schools of colorful fish, turtles, sea lions, and possibly small sharks along the underwater cliffs of Gardner-by-Española, a small satellite islet. In the afternoon, we visit Punta Suarez, one of the Galapagos' most renowned visitor sites. Prepare to be captivated by spectacular cliff views, pounding surf, and an abundance of seabirds. Brightly colored marine iguanas and the largest lava lizards of the Galapagos frequent the coastline and rest along the trail. From the cliff top, marvel at a blowhole spraying water 30 meters into the air. Española is the only island where you can observe waved albatrosses and possibly witness their fascinating mating dance.



## Ecuador - Extended Eastern Islands Cruise | Integrity

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Departure

Selected Saturdays  
Departure: Punta X Cerro Brujo

Duration

6 Days

Today's exploration begins at Pitt Point,  
where visitors disembark onto a small beach  
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America  
greened by the strong scent and lively bark

of sea lions. A steep gully ascends the cliff  
to a breeding ground for all three varieties  
of boobies: Red-Footed, Blue-Footed, and  
Nazca. It's the only location in the  
Galapagos where you can observe all three  
species nesting together. Two species of  
frigatebirds, Swallow-Tailed Gulls, and  
Storm Petrels also inhabit the area. The  
trail across Punta Pitt offers a closer look at  
the resilient vegetation thriving in this  
volcanic landscape. From Saltbush and  
spiny shrubs near the beach, the trail leads  
to an area of Palo Santo trees, large yellow-  
green shrubs, tiny cacti, and, during the dry  
season, carpets of red Vesuvius. In the  
afternoon, we visit Cerro Brujo. A short  
panga ride along the cliffs is followed by a  
visit to the lovely coral sand beach,  
frequented by waders and migrant birds.  
Guests can enjoy a leisurely evening sunset  
cruise as INTEGRITY sails to the next day's  
activities.



## **Ecuador** - Extended Eastern Islands Cruise | Integrity

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Departure

Selected Saturdays South Plaza

Duration

6 Days

This morning, your destination will be Santa

Fe. Upon landing on a pristine white beach,

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

Green adorned with bounding sea lions, you

venture into a vast grove of towering

Opuntia cacti, where the chance to

encounter the native land iguanas awaits.

Following the land exploration, immerse

yourself in snorkeling and/or kayaking

adventures in the bay's turquoise waters,

teeming with sea lions, rays, urchins, eels,

and a kaleidoscope of colorful fish. In the

afternoon, we'll head to South Plaza. Here,

you'll encounter another fascinating species

of Galapagos land iguana, alongside cactus

finches. Both North and South Plazas were

shaped by geological forces, tilting towards

the north, their southern coasts adorned

with dramatic cliffs. In the intimate setting

of these small islands, terrestrial and

marine species engage in unique

interactions, with sightings of hybrid

iguanas, sporting distinctive "zebra-like"

stripes, not uncommon. The south-facing

cliffs serve as bustling hubs for a diverse

array of birdlife. As dusk approaches,

bachelor sea lions ascend the steep cliffs,

seeking refuge from the larger dominant

bulls.



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Departure

Selected Saturdays

Duration

8 Days

Locations

This morning, we'll set our course for  
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

Darwin Beach is situated along the north side

of Darwin Bay, this beach owes its existence

to the rim of a sunken crater. As you

traverse the hiking trail, shaded by vibrant

red mangroves, keep your eyes peeled for

Yellow Warblers, Yellow-Crowned Night

Hérons, and Pintail Ducks. The true

spectacle of this locale lies in the

remarkable abundance of Red-Footed

Boobies, Great Frigatebirds, Swallow-Tailed

Gulls, and Yellow-Crowned Night Herons.

Notably, while Red-Footed Boobies are

among the most prevalent boobies in the

islands, witnessing them in their natural

habitat is a rare treat reserved for visitors

to Darwin Beach. In the afternoon, our

adventure leads us to Prince Phillip's Steps.

As we navigate along the base of the

eastern cliffs of Darwin Bay aboard a panga,

prepare to delve into the hidden world of

cliff crevices teeming with diverse animal

life. Our journey will bring us to a rockfall,

forming a natural staircase aptly named

Prince Phillip's Steps or the "Stairway to

Seabird Heaven." Here, amidst massive

colonies of Red-Footed and Nazca Boobies,

and an extraordinary Palo Santo forest,

we'll ascend to a lava ridge. Thousands of

Wedge-Rumped Storm Petrels dart about,

while Short-Eared Owls stealthily stalk them

for prey.



## **Ecuador** - Extended Eastern Islands Cruise | Integrity

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Departure

Selected Saturdays  
DAY 6: Sullivan Bay & Bartolome Island

Duration

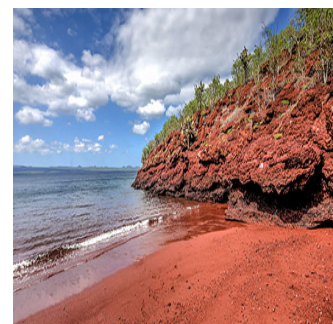
6 Days  
This morning, we'll explore Sullivan Bay on  
Santiago Island. You'll walk across a recent  
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America  
lava flow, noting its unique structural

features. This flow, formed in the second  
half of the 19th century, lacks much plant or  
animal life due to its youth. The focus of this  
visit is on the lava itself, with contrasting  
black pahoehoe flow and reddish-yellow tuff  
cones providing striking visuals, ideal for  
photography. In the afternoon, our  
destination is Bartolomé Island. Here,  
Pinnacle Rock rises prominently from the  
northern bay, a well-known landmark in the  
Galapagos. Snorkeling in the bay offers the  
chance to swim alongside Galapagos  
Penguins. For panoramic views, a climb up  
the 600-meter trail to the island's summit  
reveals spectacular vistas of Pinnacle Rock,  
Santiago Island, and Daphne Major and  
Minor.



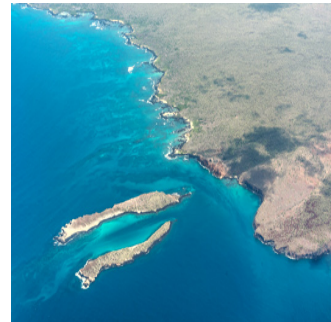
### DAY 7: Rabida Island & Chinese Hat

This morning, our journey begins at Rabida  
Island. Upon landing at Red Beach, you'll  
encounter wading birds and ghost crabs  
scattered along the sand. Beyond the beach  
lies a saltwater lagoon, where sightings of  
Pintail Ducks, Common Stilts, and bachelor  
sea lions are common. Brown Pelicans nest  
amidst the nearby salt brush. A brief inland  
trail offers opportunities to observe finches,  
Galapagos Doves, Yellow Warblers,  
mockingbirds, and the occasional snake. In  
the afternoon, we'll head to Sombrero  
Chino. The turquoise waters surrounding  
Sombrero Chino provide an excellent  
chance to spot Galapagos Penguins. A  
panga ride in search of wildlife precedes a  
snorkeling session often featuring  
encounters with sharks, sea lions, penguins,  
and rays. We'll make landfall at a stunning  
white sand beach, where a leisurely walk  
along a meandering trail offers views of  
diverse lava formations.



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 Departure  
 Selected Saturdays  
 Departure Date  
 Duration  
 8 Days  
 This morning, we'll enjoy breakfast on board  
 before disembarking at Baltra Island.  
 Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America



**Inclusions & Details**

Accommodation

Cabin on board ship

**INCLUSIONS**

- Accommodation onboard the Integrity in chosen cabin type
- All Galapagos airport transfers to/from group flights
- All meals, complimentary soft drinks, house wine & beer, coffee, tea, and juice
- Complimentary laundry service available
- Unlimited internet
- Complimentary use of wetsuits, masks, fins & snorkels
- Complimentary use of eight 2-person sea-kayaks, where permitted by the National Park

**EXCLUSIONS**

- Return airfares from mainland Ecuador (Group Flights: Cost: approx. \$555 USD per person, please contact us for more details)
- Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee (US\$200 per person from Aug 2024 - Subject to change)
- Galapagos Transit Control Card (US\$20 per person - Subject to change)
- Mandatory travel insurance
- Premium wine and other spirits are available for purchase aboard (\$10-\$15 USD per glass)
- Gratuities for naturalist guides and yacht crew. Gratuities are always at the guest's discretion; however, the recommended amounts are \$75-\$115 USD per guest for the naturalist guide and \$150-\$225 USD per guest for the yacht crew.
- Any extra personal expenses
- Pre or post cruise arrangements
- Passport or visa fees

Inclusions

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)  
 No single supplement for single staterooms (limit 2 per voyage).

Single Surcharge

95% single supplement for single use of double-occupancy staterooms.  
 No single supplement is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.  
 All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Notes

Please note water activities are subject to weather conditions.  
 Prices are based on per person, twin share\* (unless otherwise stated)  
 Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time  
 \* Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions and government regulations.





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- Trip Code  
ECIG8DE
- Departure  
Selected Saturdays
- Price Dependence upon Seasonality, fuel surcharges, currency fluctuations and availability at time of booking.
- Duration  
8 Days
- Sustainability
- Locations  
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South Ameirca

