



Introduction

Take an 8-day Galapagos Islands Cruise onboard the small ship expedition vessel, Integrity. You will sail the Western Islands and see a range of flora and fauna. From the Santa Cruz Highlands, home to giant tortoises who roam free in the wild to Cormorant Point, with green sands and the historic site of Post Office Bay

Embark on an exhilarating journey through the Galapagos Islands, starting with an encounter with giant tortoises in their lush natural habitat at the Santa Cruz Highlands. Marvel at the unique flora and fauna, including Darwin's finches and the elusive vermilion flycatcher. Delve into conservation efforts at the Charles Darwin Research Station before boarding your luxurious yacht for a week-long island exploration.

Experience the diverse landscapes and rich biodiversity of the Galapagos archipelago. From the olivine sands of Punta Cormorant to snorkelling adventures with playful sea lions at Champion Island, each day offers new discoveries. Explore historical sites at Post Office Bay and investigate the intriguing geological formations of Punta Moreno. Encounter marine life in the mangrove lagoons of Elizabeth Bay and witness the dramatic landscapes of Fernandina's Punta Espinosa.

Uncover the secrets of Tagus Cove's pirate history and immerse yourself in nature at Puerto Egas. Kayak through Buccaneer Cove and stroll along the red-sand beaches of Espumilla. Conclude your voyage at North Seymour, home to magnificent frigatebirds and Blue-Footed Boobies, before a serene farewell at Bachas Beach and Caleta Tortuga Negra. Enjoy a final breakfast onboard before bidding farewell to the Galapagos Islands at Baltra Island.

Check out some of the other itineraries onboard Integrity including: [7 Day Western Islands Cruise](#), [8 Day Eastern Islands Cruise](#) and [6 Day Eastern Islands Cruise](#)

Itinerary

Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

ECIG8DW

Departure

Selected Saturdays
Departed Highlands & Charles Darwin

Duration

8 Days

Today, you arrive in the Galapagos Islands,
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

vermillion 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

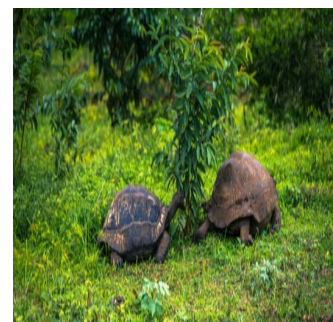
aboard the yacht, maximizing exploration

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.



Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

ECIG8DW

Departure

Selected Saturdays
Punta Cormorant Point & Post Office Bay

Duration

6 Days, your journey begins with a visit to

Punta Cormorant and Champion Island.

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

Upon landing on a green, olive sand beach

adjacent to a sprawling lagoon, you'll likely

spot feeding flamingos and other water

birds. A brief hike through diverse plant

communities leads to Flour Beach, a nesting

ground for sea turtles and a playground for

small rays in the surf. Next, snorkeling

awaits at Champion Island, where curious

sea lions abound, and if luck is on our side,

we may catch a glimpse of the rare Floreana

Mockingbird. In the afternoon, our

exploration continues at Post Office Bay,

Asilo de la Paz, and Black Beach. Our first

stop is the iconic wooden barrel, serving as

a mariner's "post office" since the 18th

century, offering you the chance to

participate in the timeless tradition of the

"postmaster." We then venture into the

Floreana Highlands to encounter a

collection of tortoises and delve into the

island's captivating human history at

Wittmer Caves and one of the Galapagos'

few freshwater springs. The day concludes

with a leisurely walk on Black Beach

followed by a barbecue onboard

INTEGRITY.



Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

ECIG8DW

Departure

Selected Saturdays
Depart Punta Moreno & Elizabeth Bay

Duration

6 Days
6 Days adventure begins at Punta Moreno.

As you step onto the young lava flow at the

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

base of Cerro Azua, you'll pass by each and

other pioneering plants. This dynamic

landscape is punctuated by numerous

"oases" of brackish lagoons teeming with a

diverse array of life, including flamingos,

Paint-Billed Crakes, White-Cheeked Pintails,

and Common Gallinules. In the afternoon,

we'll explore Elizabeth Bay. Glide silently in

our skiffs through the narrow channels of

this mangrove lagoon, where a wealth of

marine life awaits. Keep your eyes peeled

for rays, Flightless Cormorants, penguins,

pelicans, Lava herons, sea turtles, sea lions,

Blue-Footed Boobies, and an abundance of

fish and other species that thrive in this

vital ecosystem.



Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

ECIG8DW

Departure

Selected Saturdays & Espinosa Point

Duration

6 Days exploration commences at Urbina

Bay on Isabela Island. This site holds a

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

remarkable tale of nature's power. In 1934,

volcanic upheaval uplifted a 6-kilometer

stretch of coastline by 5 meters in a matter

of hours, leaving coral heads and marine life

stranded over a kilometer from the new

shore. As you traverse among the skeletal

coral garden, now inhabited by lizards and

mockingbirds, keep an eye out for the large,

colorful land iguanas that call Urbina Bay

home. Depending on the season, you might

even encounter Alcedo Tortoises descending

from the highlands to nest in the warm

sands of Urbina Bay. In the afternoon, our

journey leads us to Punta Espinosa on

Fernandina Island, the most pristine and

youngest island in the Galapagos

archipelago. Fernandina is characterized by

its intense volcanic activity, with eruptions

occurring frequently, including the latest in

2008. Upon arrival, you'll be greeted by an

abundance of small, dark marine iguanas

and vibrant Sally Lightfoot Crabs. As you

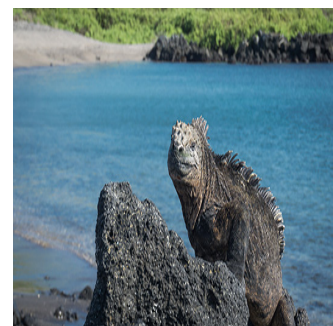
walk across the younger pahoehoe lava

flow, past pioneering plants, you'll be

treated to sightings of Flightless

Cormorants, pelicans, and numerous

lounging sea lions along the sandy shore.



Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

ECIG8DW

Departure

Selected Saturdays & Vicente Roca Point

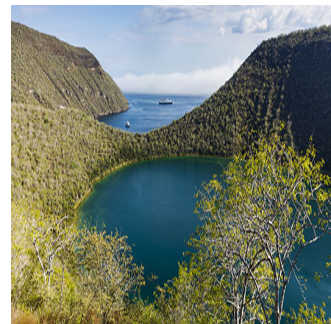
Duration

6 Days

This morning you will visit Tagus Cove, a historical site frequented by pirates and Galapagos Islanders in the 19th century. Their legacy is etched into the cliffs of this sunken caldera,

a tradition that endures today. A short, steep hike leads past Darwin Lake, nestled within a tuff cone. This spot is ideal for birdwatching, offering sightings of Ground and Tree Finches, Galapagos Hawks, Yellow Warblers, Large-Billed Flycatchers and even sometimes the Woodpecker Finch. Land iguanas are occasionally spotted, adding to the allure. A dinghy ride or kayak along the cliffs provides views of geological features and birdlife, including penguins. In the afternoon, we head to Punta Vicente Roca, known for its impressive geological formations. Nesting birds such as Blue-Footed and Nazca Boobies, gulls, Storm Petrels, and Brown Noddy Terns, while sea turtles gather in the calm waters.

Snorkelers can observe colorful fish, penguins, sea lions, sea anemones, small jellyfish and other marine creatures.



Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

ECIG8DW

Departure

Selected Saturdays & Espumilla Beach

Duration

6 Days exploration begins at Puerto Egas.

Two separate trails offer diverse

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

experiences: the first follows the coastline

to the fur seal grottoes, a sanctuary for the

elusive Galapagos Fur Seal. Here, amidst

craggs and swimming inlets, you'll encounter

American Oystercatchers, marine iguanas,

and ubiquitous sea lions. The second, less-

traveled trail leads inland to a lagoon at the

Salt Mine Volcano, home to flamingos and

various bird species. In the afternoon, we

visit Espumilla Beach and Buccaneer Cove.

Espumilla boasts a red-sand beach and

serves as a nesting site for sea turtles. An

inland trail meanders past a small lagoon

and into the arid zone, offering glimpses of

Galapagos Hawks and other land birds

against a picturesque backdrop. Meanwhile,

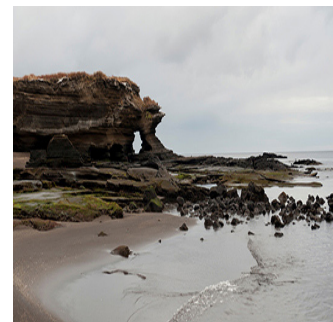
snorkeling or kayaking at Buccaneer Cove

may yield sightings of sea lions, fur seals,

sea turtles, rays, sharks, pelagic fishes, and

fascinating underwater geological

formations.



Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code

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Departure

Selected Saturdays

Duration

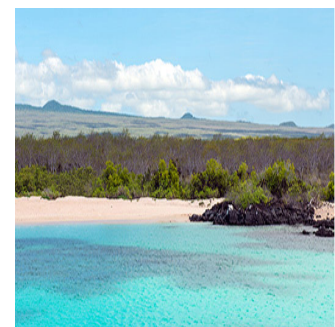
8 Days

In the morning you will explore North Seymour, renowned for its flat terrain. The Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

Magnificent Frigatebirds in the Galapagos, alongside Blue-Footed Boobies and occasionally bush-climbing land iguanas.

Along the coast, ample opportunities arise to observe sea lions and marine iguanas.

Snorkelers can savor their final underwater experience in the channel between North Seymour and Mosquera, known for its captivating marine life. In the afternoon, we visit Bachas Beach and Caleta Tortuga Negra. Enjoy a tranquil morning at Bachas' pristine white sand beach, where two small lagoons occasionally host flamingos. The name "Bachas" stems from the remains of a barge that ran aground decades ago, leaving only a few rusty spines visible today. A silent skiff ride takes us to Caleta Tortuga Negra, a mangrove lagoon where sea turtles feed and mate in the calm waters. Here, encounters with sharks, rays, egrets, and Lava Herons are common. Caleta Tortuga Negra serves as a shark nursery, offering glimpses of very small sharks in the shallows. Conclude the day with a serene sunset aboard INTEGRITY.



DAY 8: Disembarkation

This morning, we'll enjoy breakfast on board before disembarking at Baltra Island.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation Cabin on board a ship

Ecuador - Western Islands Cruise | Integrity

Trip Code
 ECIG8DW
 Departure
 Selected Saturdays
 Duration
 8 Days
 Locations
 Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

INCLUSIONS

Accommodation in chosen cabin onboard the Integrity
 All Galapagos airport transfers to/from group flights
 All meals, complimentary soft drinks, house wine & beer, coffee, tea, and juice
 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: \$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
 2 (light adventure)
 No single supplement for single staterooms (limit 2 per voyage).

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.
 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.

All guests must arrive in Ecuador at least one day prior to facilitate flight connections.
 The Government of Ecuador requires all foreign visitors to the Galapagos to have coverage for medical expenses during their stay,
 Additionally, all INTEGRITY guests must have emergency medical evacuation coverage of at least \$100,000 USD per person.

Price Dependent upon Seasonality, fuel surcharges, currency fluctuations and availability at time of booking.

Sustainability