

11-DAYS

*Travel for
Travellers*
BY GLP WORLDWIDE

GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS **NINE OF THE** **BEST ISLES**

WESTERN & NORTHERN ROUTE



GALÁPAGOS

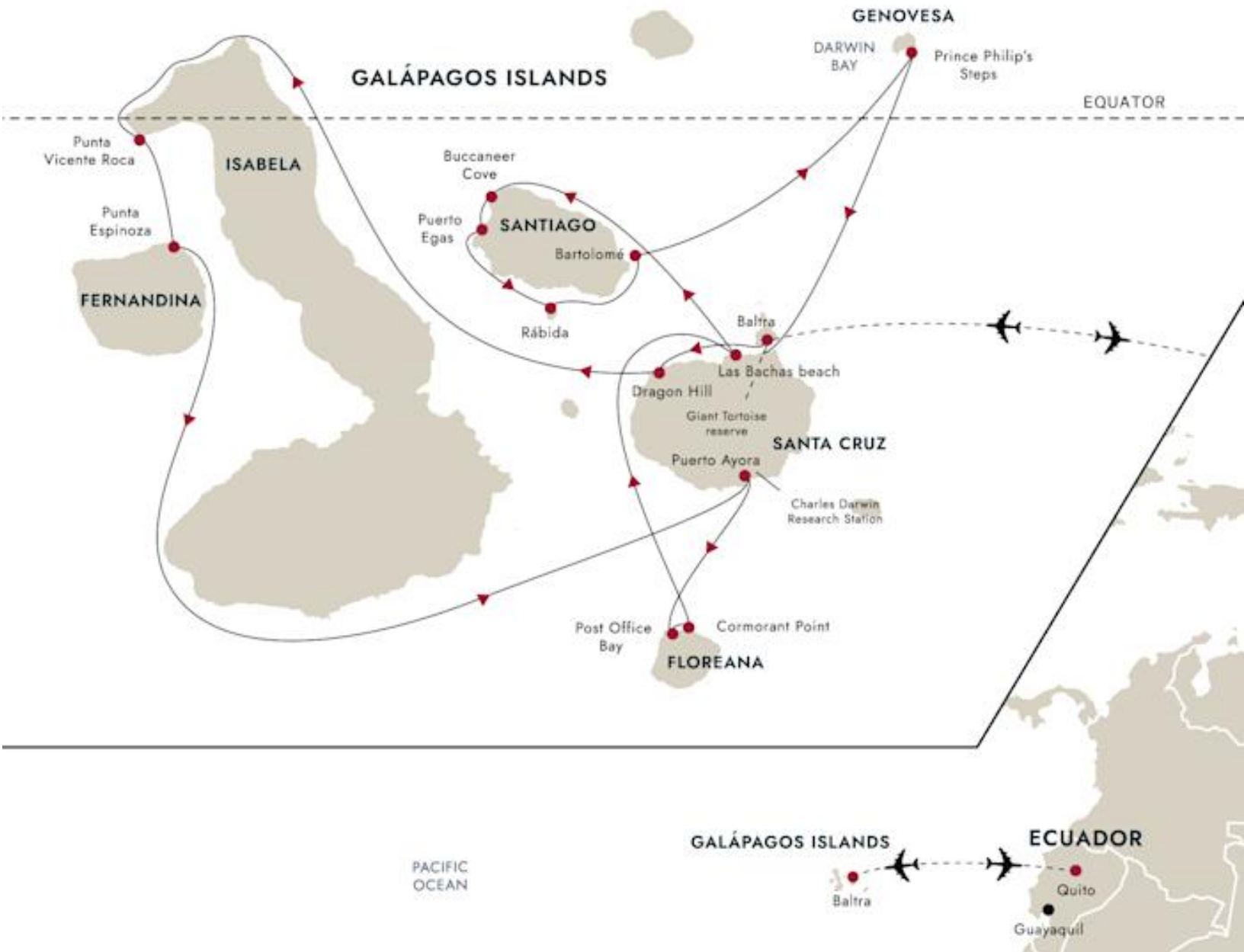
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ITINERARY



- | | | | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Vibrant Quito | 5 | Darwin's Santa Cruz | 9 | Stunning Rábida and Bartolomé |
| 2 | Visit historic Quito | 6 | Picturesque Floreana | 10 | Genovesa, a bird paradise |
| 3 | Your cruise begins | 7 | Relax in Baltra | 11 | One last adventure |
| 4 | Wildlife-rich Isabela and Fernandina | 8 | Pristine Santiago Island | | |



DAY 1

Quito



Welcome to Quito

Your journey begins high in the Andean foothills, where Quito sits 9,350 feet above sea level. Its beautifully preserved Old Town, built on an ancient Inca settlement, is recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Admire colourful plazas, magnificent churches and elegant colonial architecture as you get your first taste of Ecuador's capital. Settle into your hotel and enjoy a relaxing overnight stay.

DAY 2

Quito

Quito & the Equator

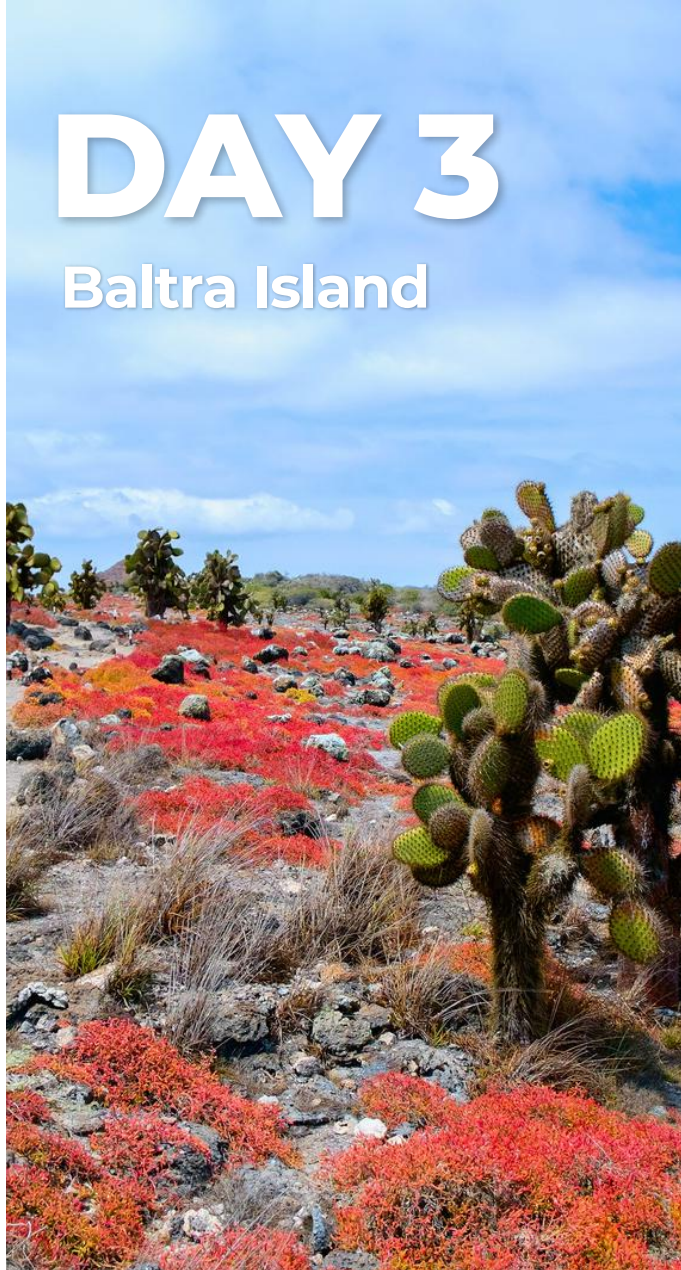
Explore Quito's historic Old Town, one of South America's best-preserved colonial districts. Stroll along cobblestone streets, admire elegant architecture and sample chocolate made from fine Ecuadorian cacao.

After lunch, visit the iconic Middle of the World City and its famous Equator monument. Capture the perfect photo as you stand with one foot in each hemisphere.



DAY 3

Baltra Island



Dragon Hill Adventure

After breakfast, take a short flight to Baltra Island and transfer to the port, where your expedition ship MS Santa Cruz II awaits. Settle onboard and get ready for the next chapter of your journey as you begin exploring the remarkable Galápagos Islands.

In the afternoon, sail along the northern coast of Santa Cruz Island to Cerro Dragón (Dragon Hill). Follow a scenic trail past a brackish lagoon frequented by shorebirds and American flamingos, then continue inland for sweeping views across the bay and your first opportunity to spot the island's distinctive Galápagos land iguanas.

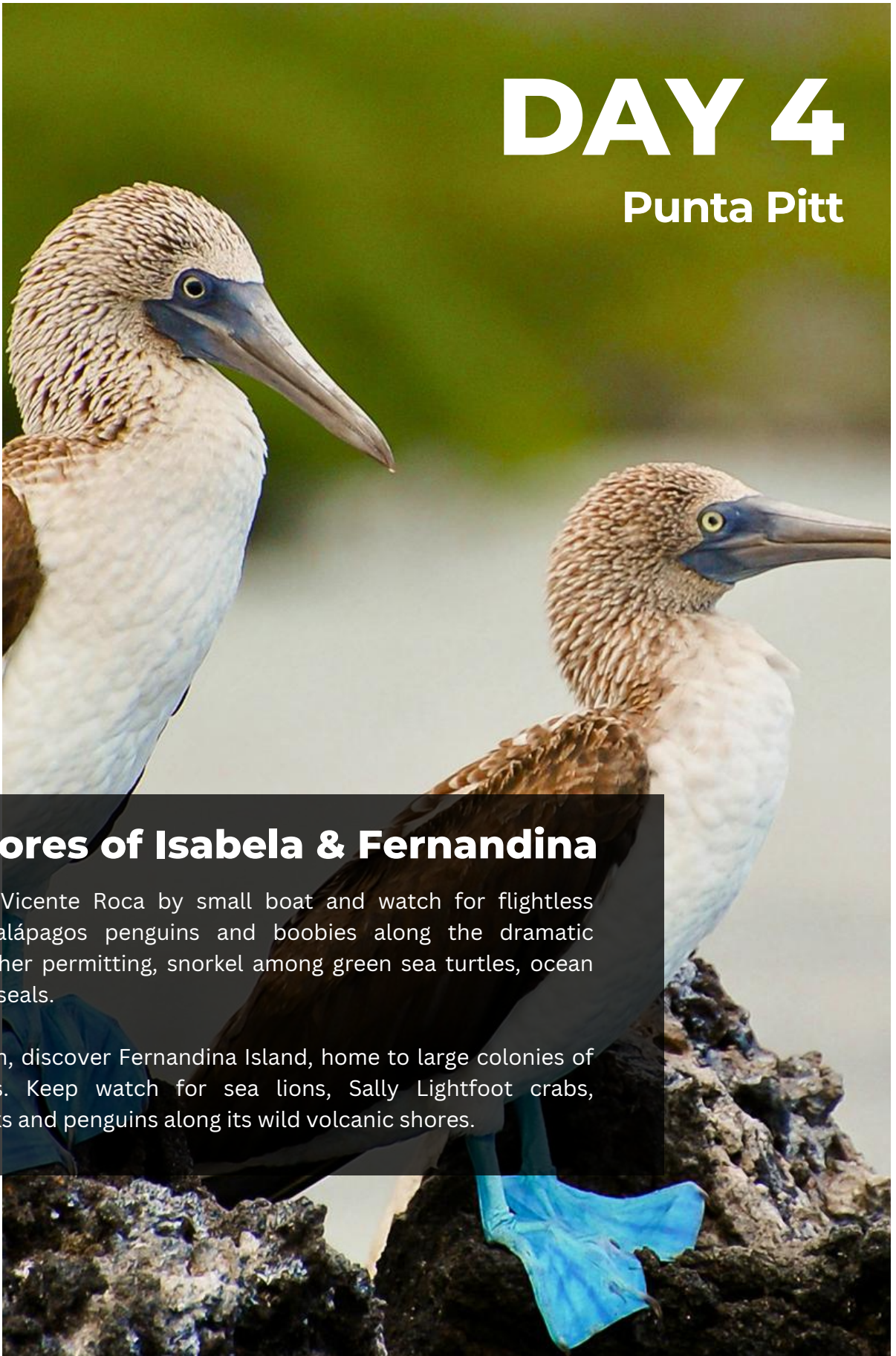
DAY 4

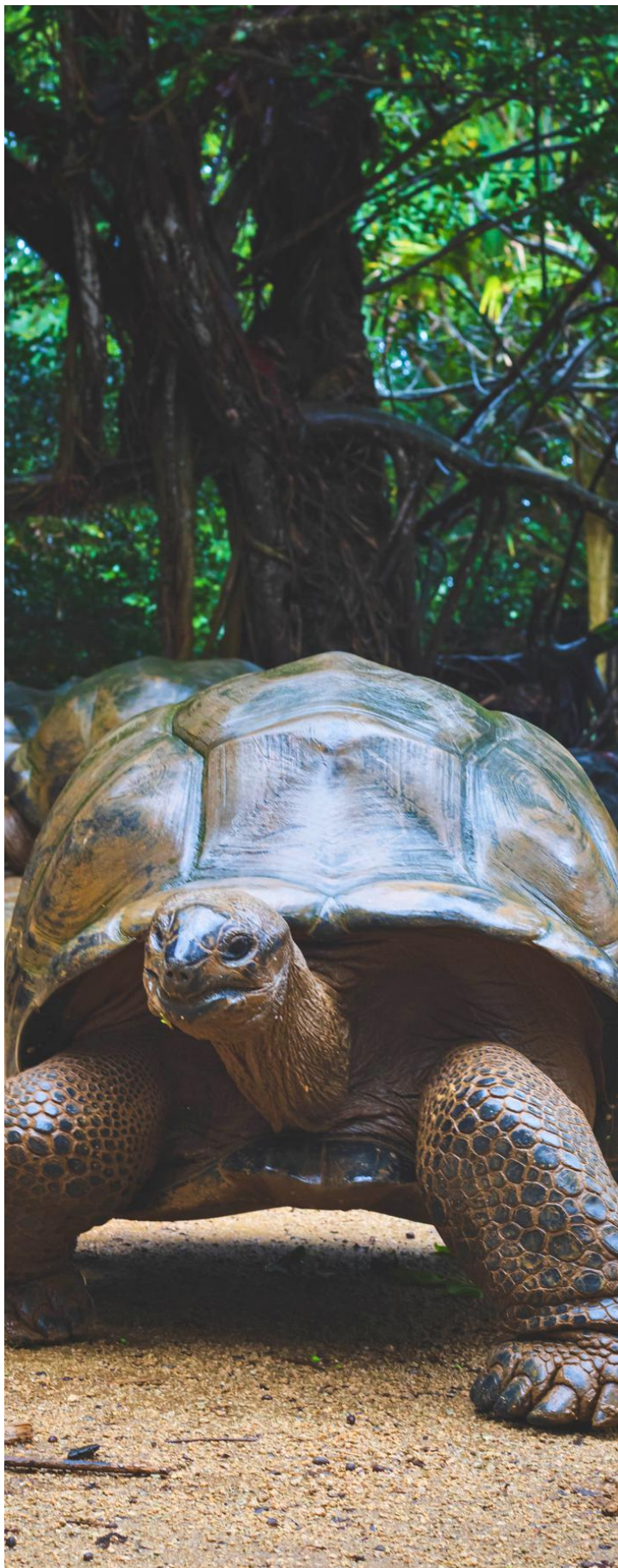
Punta Pitt

Wild Shores of Isabela & Fernandina

Explore Punta Vicente Roca by small boat and watch for flightless cormorants, Galápagos penguins and boobies along the dramatic coastline. Weather permitting, snorkel among green sea turtles, ocean sunfish and fur seals.

In the afternoon, discover Fernandina Island, home to large colonies of marine iguanas. Keep watch for sea lions, Sally Lightfoot crabs, Galápagos hawks and penguins along its wild volcanic shores.





DAY 5

Puerto Ayora

Darwin's Santa Cruz

Visit the Charles Darwin Research Station in Puerto Ayora, where you can see young giant tortoises, Darwin's famous finches and native birdlife among forests of prickly pear cacti.

Later, head into the lush Santa Cruz Highlands, where giant tortoises roam freely through the cooler landscape. After lunch, enjoy time for an additional activity such as mountain biking or visiting a local sugar plantation.

Floreana Highlights

Explore the scenic north shore of Floreana Island, taking in sweeping views from Baroness Cove before visiting historic Post Office Bay, where a wooden barrel has served as the islands' informal postal system for more than two centuries.

After lunch, discover the marine life around Champion Islet by small boat, glass-bottom boat or snorkelling. Continue to Cormorant Point for a walk from its distinctive olivine beach to a brackish lagoon, where flamingos, pintail ducks and other birdlife are often seen.





DAY 7

Baltra Island



Baltra & Las Bachas

Enjoy a relaxing morning on board while anchored off Baltra Island. Take time to recharge with the ship's facilities, browse the library, or enjoy a workout before the next stage of your Galápagos adventure.

In the afternoon, visit Las Bachas Beach on Santa Cruz Island, a beautiful stretch of white sand and turquoise water. Watch for flamingos and sea turtles, then enjoy swimming or snorkelling before returning to the ship for the next day's expedition briefing.



DAY 8

Santiago Island

Wild Santiago

Explore the dramatic shores of Santiago Island, starting at Buccaneer Cove, where towering cliffs, sea lions and abundant marine birdlife surround striking formations such as Elephant Rock and The Bishop. Enjoy the scenery through a variety of water activities.

Later, visit Puerto Egas, one of the island's top wildlife sites. Look for Galápagos fur seals and exotic birdlife, or swim and snorkel along the rocky coast where marine turtles are often seen.





DAY 9

Rábida Island

Rábida & Bartolomé

Discover the striking red shores of Rábida Island, where sea lions, marine iguanas and colourful birdlife gather along the coast. Explore by small boat and watch for mockingbirds, yellow warblers and several species of Darwin's finches.

In the afternoon, sail to Bartolomé Island, dominated by iconic Pinnacle Rock. Swim, snorkel or explore by glass-bottom boat, watch for Galápagos penguins, or hike to the island's summit for spectacular panoramic views.



DAY 10

Genovesa Island



Genovesa Bird Paradise

Climb Prince Philip's Steps to the rocky plateau of Genovesa, where large colonies of Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, frigatebirds and storm petrels fill the landscape. You can also explore the coastline by kayak.



In the afternoon, head to Darwin Bay for swimming, snorkelling or kayaking along its beautiful beach. Take a leisurely walk to spot even more birdlife, or simply relax by the water and enjoy this remarkable natural setting.

DAY 11

Santa Cruz Highlands



One Last Adventure

Spend your final morning in the Santa Cruz Highlands, where giant tortoises roam freely among lush forests of Galápagos daisies, orchids and bromeliads. It's a memorable final wildlife encounter before your expedition comes to an end.

Afterwards, transfer to Baltra Airport for your flight to Quito or Guayaquil to connect with your onward journey. You may also choose to extend your stay and discover more of Ecuador with a post-voyage option.



WHAT IS INCLUDED

HOTEL

- Two nights at a hotel in Quito before the expedition cruise, including breakfast and dinner on Day 2

FLIGHTS

- Flights in economy class between Quito and Baltra, and Baltra and Quito, including all taxes

TRANSFERS

- Transfers between the airport and the hotel in Quito before the expedition cruise
- Transfers between the airport and the ship in Baltra
- Note: If your flights have not been booked with us, please provide us with your full flight details no later than 30 days prior to travel (applies to all transfers from the airport to your booked hotel via HX in Quito on the tour start date)

EXTRAS

- Galápagos Islands National Park admission fee
- Transit Control Card for the Galápagos Islands
- Access to the airport lounge at the Quito (or Guayaquil) airport upon return from the Galápagos Islands for guests flying internationally on the day of disembarkation

EXPEDITION CRUISE

- A stay in a cabin of your choice
- Daily breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Wine, beer and spirits available at meals and throughout the day and evening (subject to licensing laws, excludes premium drinks)
- All day coffee, tea and soft drinks
- A complimentary reusable Ocean Bottle water bottle to refill on board and take home
- A lightweight drawstring backpack to use on board and take home with you
- Professional photos from your trip taken by our onboard photographer
- Complimentary Wi-Fi. Please note, streaming is not supported
- Use of hot tubs, fitness room, lounges and more
- Gratuities included. Fantastic service is standard at HX – though if you'd like to leave something extra, it's always appreciated
- Range of included activities

EXCURSION

- Full-day excursion: Historic Quito and Middle of the World, including lunch, before the expedition cruise

ONBOARD ACTIVITIES

- In-depth lectures and discussions hosted by our knowledgeable Expedition Team
- Full access to the ship's Science Corner
- The Citizen Science Program allows guests to assist with ongoing scientific research
- An onboard professional photographer will give tips and tricks for taking the best landscape and wildlife photos
- Daily briefing with the Expedition Team about the plans for the next day

LANDING ACTIVITIES

- Escorted and guided landings with small boats.
- All necessary equipment for activities, such as walking poles, short wetsuit, and snorkelling equipment (varying sizes for adults, one size for children), will be provided on board on loan. Your HX travel documents will have a recommended packing list.
- Expedition photographer on hand to assist you

NOTES

- All planned activities are subject to weather conditions
- Your flight from Baltra will be to Quito. If you wish to end your expedition in Guayaquil instead, contact our Expedition Specialists. You can also change your final destination from Quito to Guayaquil when booking online.
- Quito's altitude is at approximately 9,350 feet above sea level and during your stay, you might experience mild altitude sickness
- We provide snorkelling gear for adults, but please bring your own if you require a special prescription and for children to ensure the best fit and comfort.
- Excursions and activities are subject to change
- Please make sure you meet all entry and boarding requirements
- No gratuities expected
- Depending on your flight times, an additional overnight might be needed (not included)

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Session 1 | 1:00 - 2:00 PM (EDT)

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CONTACT



1.866.760.1987



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26-1211 Denison St, Markham, ON
L3R4B3, Canada