



# Galapagos Cruise

Motor Vessel Galapagos Explorer II 4 Days Cruise



## Characteristics:

One of the best and most beautiful cruise ships operated on the Galápagos Island. Galapagos Explorer II offers you a big variety of possibilities and activities. You are cordially invited to the daily lectures about the unique archipelago de Galápagos, rent one of the various reference books or videos about the islands and inform yourself about them in quiet minute in your suite. Enjoy life music in the bar or dancing in the lounge. Get spoiled by the chef de cuisine with Ecuadorian and international delicacies. Individual menu wishes will be fulfilled and for all meals you have free toss-up. Independent from the category of suite you choose, you will be surrendered by the luxury of Galapagos Explorer II. The suites feature Queen Size beds or 2 single beds. Each suite has an ample private bathroom with shower, wardrobe, TV with video and minibar. All are lovely decorated to feel like home.

## Technical facts and specifications:

Type	First Class Superior Vessel
Year of Construction	1990
Length	89.35 Meters
Speed	17 knots
Capacity	up to 105 passengers
Crew	6 naturalist tour guides





## Itinerary:

### Wednesday: Flight to Galápagos / Island San Cristóbal – Cerro Brujo

In the morning you will fly to the Galapagos Island San Cristobal from which you will start your cruise. After paying the National Park Entrance Fee, a crew member will accompany you to your cruise ship or yacht which anchors at Baquerizo Moreno harbour. After arrival on board, check- in and explanations in general, lunch will be served. Afterwards you will start with your first excursion. In the afternoon you will visit Cerro Brujo. This fascinating lava landscape is located on the northeast coast of San Cristobal. On the rocks you can observe boobies, sea gulls and some pelicans. The protected bay is very popular by young ocean turtles and rays and there are excellent swimming and snorkeling possibilities. **B**



### Thursday: Española Island / Suarez Point – Gardener Bay

Española is the southernmost and oldest island of the Galápagos archipelago. Because of its isolated position you can explore a lot of endemic wildlife. In the morning you will have an excursion to Point Suarez which is one of the most outstanding wildlife areas of the archipelago, with a long list of species found along its cliffs and sand or pebble beaches. In addition to five species of nesting seabirds there are the curious and bold Española Island mockingbirds, Galapagos doves and Galapagos hawks. Several types of reptiles, including the marine iguana and the oversized lava lizard, are unique to this island. When heavy swells are running, Point Suarez is also the site of a spectacular blowhole, with thundering spray shooting 30 yards into the air. The walkabout on a stony path is about 2km (duration about 3 hours). Gardener Bay is on the eastern shore with turquoise shot coloured water and a magnificent beach. Around the small islets nearby, snorkelers will find lots of fish and sometimes turtles and sharks. The bay is also frequented by a transient colony of sea lions which like to swim with you. Birds, like the endemic Hood-Mockingbird and different species of Darwin finches, are omnipresent. **B/L/D**





### **Friday: Island Santa Cruz / Charles Darwin Station / Rábida Island**

Today you anchor at the harbour of Puerto Ayora on Island Santa Cruz. Beside its rank as homestay for sea lions and pelicans, the marina is a popular starting point for round-the-world-yachtsman. The island itself has come to be both touristic and scientific center of the archipeleago. The Charles Darwin Research Station and the Galapagos National Park offices are based on Santa Cruz Island. The station encompasses an information centre, a museum, a library and the tortoise breeding station as well. Here you will have an opportunity to visit some of the best scientists of the Galápagos. Park rangers and park managers among others, who make huge efforts to preserve this Unesco World Heritage Site, conduct the conservation of the islands. In the tortoise breeding and rearing centre you can encounter tortoises of different subspecies, which are prepared for reintroduction to their natural habitats. The most popular inhabitant of this island is probably Lonesome George. He is the only survivor of his specific turtle species. In the past all approaches to find a partner for him failed. But in July 2008 the scientists found a carved nest wit nine eggs from a female tortoise. Three of them could be saved and now accordingly to strict instructions they are incubated synthetically. In the afternoon you will make an excursion to the small volcano island Rábida with its dark red beach. A small path there leads you to the little lagoon, which is often visited by flamingos. On your way to this lagoon you will pass nesting pelicans and other sea birds. The beach of Rábida Island is considered as one of the most beautiful places to go snorkeling. Because of a huge richness of fishes you can also observe a lot of sea lions there. **B/L/D**

### **Saturday: Island Santa Cruz / Las Bachas Beach - Baltra – flight back to mainland**

In the morning you will visit the long sandy “Las Bachas” Beach. Here you encounter sea lions, herons and marine iguanas and with good luck penguins. You also have the opportunity to swim offshore of this soft white sand beach. Snorkelling enthusiasts can explore the fascinating underwater world as well. Afterwards you will be escorted to the airport of Baltra Island and from there you will fly back to Ecuador mainland. **B**

B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner



### Prices per person 2009:

4 days / 3 nights

Wednesday to Saturday

Renaissance Suite

Explorer/ Erickson

USD 2,095.-

De Luxe Suite

Erickson

USD 1,965.-

Premium Suite

Marco Polo

USD 1,700.-

Classic Suite

Magellan/Columbus

USD 1,545.-

Fuel surcharge per person: USD 78 .-

Single cabins on request + depends on availability

Discount for children under 12 years: 50 %

Discount for children under 12 years on Christmas and New Year: 75 %

### Included in the price:

All transfers in Galapagos, 5 days cruise on board of the GALAPAGOS EXPLORER in double accommodation with all facilities, English speaking naturalist guide, purified water free to drink.

### Not included in the price:

flights mainland to/from Galápagos (e.g. Quito – Galapagos – Quito USD 414 .- per person), entrance fee to Galapagos National Park USD 100.- per Person, migration card USD 10.- per person, beverages, tips, personal items, insurance.

**NB** Itinerary is subject to change without previous notice, due to weather conditions, operational matters, National Park Authorities advice, or Captain's decision for passengers security.