

# GALÁPAGOS

February 28-March 9, 2024  
Feb 24-27 Lowland Extension (Optional)



Magnificent Frigatebird

Galapagos Tortoise



Red-footed Booby



Sally Lightfoot Crab



THE ENCHANTED ISLES

**WILDSTOCK™**  
Photography



Lava Cactus at Punta Espinosa

# GALÁPAGOS

Explore the magic of the Enchanted Isles on this island-hopping trip aboard the TipTop IV a top-notch vessel. Nothing like going to sleep in your cabin, just to wake up at sunrise on another great island destination. We'll retrace Darwin steps as we meet some of the most iconic species including the Galapagos tortoises, finches, flightless cormorants and penguins. The underwater world holds some amazing life including the beautiful King angelfish and Moorish idols and the playful sealions.

On this tour you'll be accompanied by two guides. Jaime Dominguez is a certified naturalist III guide with over 32 years of experience leading tours in the Galapagos, and an excellent photographer. Reinier Munguia is a professional photography instructor and seasoned visitor of the islands where he has led seven liveaboard tours. You'll will learn about the geology and biology of the islands and the history behind its first inhabitants a fascinating mix of mystery and suspense.

This trip was designed to offer excellent wildlife opportunities and one of the best experiences of any sailing vessel in the Galapagos.

Thank you for joining us on this trip.

Reinier Munguia

rmung@wildstockphotos.com  
863-797-7374



Day	Itinerary	Activities
WED 28	Guayaquil, Ecuador	<p>Upon arrival in Guayaquil you will be met and escorted to your hotel. Check in starts at 3 pm.</p> <p>Lodging: Hotel Oro Verde <a href="https://www.oroverdeguayaquil.com/es/">https://www.oroverdeguayaquil.com/es/</a></p>
THU 29	Guayaquil, Ecuador	<p>Your wonderful day in Guayaquil will be spent exploring gardens and natural areas surrounding this coastal city of Ecuador. On the way out of town, stop for a quick visit to Lineal Park, a small but charming park with ornamental and endemic species that are found in this region. Continue on to the Cerro Blanco Protected Forest, a 15-acre reserve within the tropical dry forest ecosystem of the Ecuadorian coast, located in the extreme southwest area of the Chongón-Colonche mountain range. The ecosystem of this lush native flora is home to 54 mammal species, 221 bird species, 8 amphibian species, and 12 reptile species. In addition, there are more than 700 species of vascular plants, 20% of which are endemic to the southwest of Ecuador. After your time in the reserve, have lunch at a typical restaurant, and then visit Jardín Botánico de Guayaquil. The garden sits on a hill overlooking the Guayas and Daule rivers. Development of the garden began in 1979, and it was opened to the public in 1989. There are approximately 324 plant species that can be observed in their natural habitat, as well as timber and fruit trees, ornamentals, and exotics. Orchids are the main attraction. Return to your hotel; dinner is on your own.</p> <p>Hotel Oro Verde</p>
FRI 1	Baltra, Galápagos North Seymour	<p>Fly from mainland Ecuador to Baltra Island. After boarding M/Y Tip Top IV, attend your first orientation and have a light snack. After lunch, your first stop will be a dry landing for a walk along the coast and the interior of North Seymour Island, a low, flat island that was uplifted from the sea by underground seismic activity. Observe blue footed boobies (they nest from May to November), marine iguanas, pelicans, frigate birds, shore birds, sea lions and endemic Palo Santo. You will have time to swim, snorkel and/or kayak should you wish to do so. Return to the Yacht for a welcome cocktail with the entire crew, then enjoy your first dinner at sea.</p> <p>Lodging: Tip Top IV <a href="https://www.tiptopcruises.com/tour-item/tip-top-iv-2/">https://www.tiptopcruises.com/tour-item/tip-top-iv-2/</a></p>
SAT 2	Genovesa	<p>After breakfast, you will have a wet landing on Darwin Bay to walk and observe frigatebirds, herons, mockingbirds, boobies, shorebirds, turtles, marine iguanas, etc., as well as have time to swim, snorkel or kayak. After lunch on board, there will be a dry landing on Prince Phillips's Steps (Barranco) for a hike to observe the interesting lives of the avian species found here. Dinner on the Yacht, and then our orientation about conservation efforts made to protect the Islands.</p>

## GALAPAGOS 2024

SUN 3	Santiago	This morning starts with a wet landing on James Bay (Puerto Egas) to walk and observe sponges, snails, hermit crabs, a variety of shore birds, barnacles and the endemic four-eyed blenny, marine iguanas and sea lions. You may also wish to snorkel in this area. After lunch, there will be a wet landing on Espumilla Beach, a brown sand beach. This beach is an important site for nesting marine turtles. Here you can also observe a number of land birds like yellow warblers, Darwin's finches, and Galapagos flycatchers. A trail takes you through a Palo Santo forest. Walk behind the beach and arrive to a salt-water lagoon, which occasionally flamingos are seen. For those that would rather snorkel, you can do so. Next, navigate around Buccaneer Cove (Caleta Bucanero), an area of steep cliffs and dark beaches. The cliffs and pinnacle are used as nesting areas by several species of seabirds. This was a popular place for 17th & 18th century buccaneers to careen their vessels. Return to the yacht for dinner and your nightly orientation.
MON 4	Isabela	Today begins with a panga ride on Punta Vicente Roca to observe sea lions, marine iguanas, blue-footed and masked boobies, and flightless cormorants. Should you wish to swim and/or snorkel, you can do so in this area. Following lunch on board, there will be a dry landing on Punta Espinoza to observe and see yet another large colony of sea lions, marine iguanas and the flightless cormorants, as well as and clumps of lava cactus.
TUE 5	Isabela/Fernandina	After breakfast, take a panga ride on Tagus Cove, a protected cove between the shoulders of two volcanic craters which protect it from the open sea; observe penguins, marine iguanas, sea lions and a variety of birds including flightless cormorant and blue footed boobies. It is great fun to swim with the penguins! Return to the Yacht for lunch. In the afternoon, there is another panga ride around the islets of Elizabeth Bay to see marine iguanas, penguins, marine turtles, seabirds and shorebirds, herons and blue-footed boobies.
WED 6	Isabela	Today starts with a wet landing on Urbina Bay to take a walk and observe a coral area, land iguanas, flightless cormorants and giant tortoises. For those that wish to swim, snorkel and/or kayak in the Bay, you may do so. Sail to Punta Moreno, again take a wet landing. Walk along shore lagoons located among petrified lava flows where different type of birds can be seen. On top we have a panoramic view of the famous volcanoes Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul, as well as the highest part of Fernandina Island. Return to the yacht for dinner and your nightly orientation.
THU 7	Floreana	After breakfast, there is wet landing on Point Cormorant for a short walk to the Flamingos Lagoon of this island. Continue until you reach the beach called "La Picona" to see marine turtles and their spawning grounds. Snorkeling in this area is offered. Later, take a panga ride on Champion Islet, a small island off the Coast of Floreana Island. The principal attraction of Champion Islet is the nearly-extinct Charles (Floreana) Mockingbird. Visitors can also observe bird species such as Swallow-tailed Gulls, Nazca Boobies or Brown Noddies. It is a great place for snorkeling; you will see sea turtles, reef fishes, Galapagos Penguins and white-tipped reef sharks. After lunch, take a wet landing on Post Office Bay, a historic site that recalls the days of the whalers, who presumably placed a wooden barrel in the 18th century to use it as a post office. Have a swim, then continue to the Baroness Point view, named due to the presence of a person who lived on Floreana Island, Baroness Eloisa von Wagner. Enjoy the beautiful landscape and ruins of her home. Return to the Yacht for your last dinner at sea.
FRI 8	Santa Cruz	After breakfast, you will disembark and take a bus to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island for a visit to the native forests and twin craters. After your time there, your guide will accompany you on the bus ride directly to the airport. Lunch is on your own at the airport. Upon arrival in Guayaquil, you will be met and transferred to your hotel. You will have time this afternoon to explore your surroundings, perhaps stroll along the Malecon, before gathering for an early Farewell Dinner at the hotel. Depending on your international flight schedule, you will either be transferred to the airport this evening for your flight home, or tomorrow morning.
SAT 9	Guayaquil	Assuming your departure was not the night before, this morning you will be transferred to the Guayaquil International Airport for your flight(s) home.

## Cost \$6,495

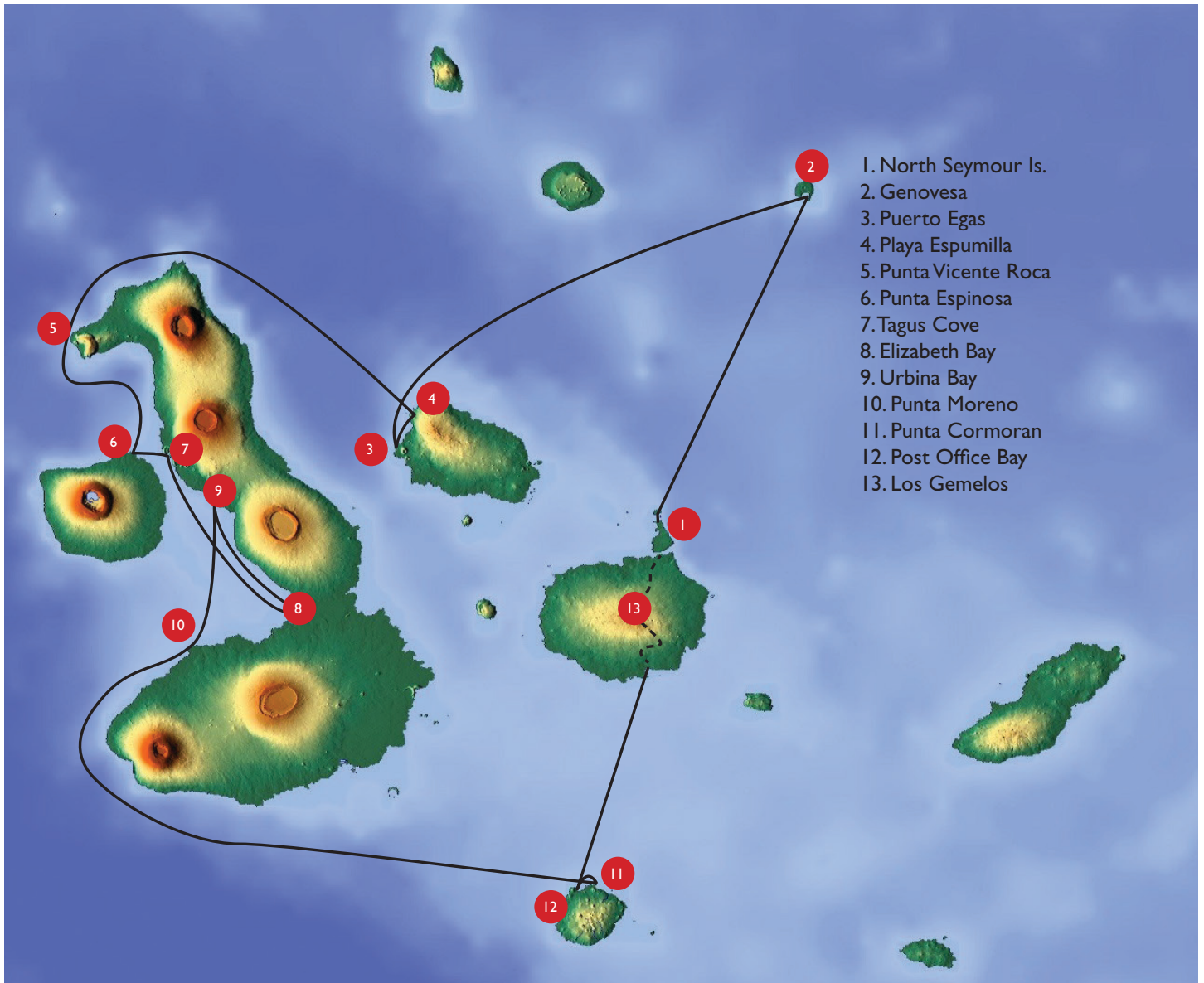
Single Supplement – Full Tour \$1800 per person

Single Supplement - Mainland ONLY \$250 per person

### Includes:

- Accommodations, meals, entrance fees, and activities listed in itinerary
- Private vehicle transportation unless otherwise noted in itinerary
- Non-alcoholic beverages with meals
- Internal flights (Guayaquil to Baltra)
- Local guides in each region for duration of program
- Galapagos National park fee and tax
- Bottled water on the bus
- Carbon offset
- Departure tax

## Our Sailing Route



GALAPAGOS 2024



Fur Seal



Blue-footed Booby



Galapagos Tortoise



Flighless Cormorant



Marine Iguana



Humpback Whale



**WILDSTOCK™**  
*Photography*

4029 Sunny View Dr. Lakeland, Florida, 33813 Phone: 863-797-7374

[info@wildstockphotos.com](mailto:info@wildstockphotos.com)