An aerial photograph of a Galapagos island, showing a dark, rocky coastline with patches of green vegetation. The surrounding water is a vibrant turquoise, revealing a complex coral reef structure beneath the surface. Several white motorboats are scattered across the reef flat, some anchored and others moving. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The top of the image features a dark blue banner with white tropical leaf silhouettes.

ISLANDS OF THE GALÁPAGOS

Avanti[®]
Destinations

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AVANTI DESTINATIONS PRESENTS: THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS



Since 1981, Avanti has been selling independent vacations and customizable experiences to numerous exciting destinations across Europe, Latin America, and Asia. Among the large volume of available options, one place stands out as an exotic location that has all the necessary ingredients to deliver the preeminent eco-adventure. That place is the Galápagos — the biodiverse archipelago of volcanic islands that is synonymous with Charles Darwin and his famous work on the theory of evolution.

So why should you book this amazing place through Avanti? Avanti is perfectly positioned to enable travelers to experience the beauty of the Galápagos in the best and most convenient manner possible. This is achieved through the following key factors:

We are adept at creating unique multi-country itineraries that combine the Galápagos and mainland Ecuador with other bucket list locations such as Machu Picchu in Peru.

We carefully craft travel experiences from a curated selection of the best itineraries, ships, and guides in the Galápagos, with a wide variety of options for different budgets, schedules, and preferences.

We are a one-stop shop that caters to individuals and to groups of 15 people or more.

Our proprietary booking system and strong relationship with local suppliers ensures rate and product availability far into the future.

HOW TO BOOK:

We are 100% business-to-business! Travelers need to book through their Travel Advisor of choice in order to access Avanti's wide product range and expertise.

EXPERIENCE THE GALÁPAGOS WITH EASE

From snorkeling in the warm waters alongside sea turtles and penguins, kayaking with sea lions beside you, or hiking across dried lava beds to observe famous inhabitants like blue-footed boobies and marine iguanas at close range – the Galápagos Islands are the perfect destination for eco-adventure. This isolated yet biodiverse archipelago is one of the few places on earth where visitors can interact with wild animals in their natural habitat.

The islands provide striking scenery coupled with exotic and endemic species. Consisting of 18 main islands – each with their own unique variations of wildlife species due to relative isolation from one another – the Galápagos harbor many treasures as travelers hop from island-to-island, discovering new species at every step of the way. Booking a trip to this destination can be challenging, especially in light of the intricate logistics and regulations involved. Which is why Avanti, with the help of its valued partners, developed this educational tool for travel advisors to support them with everything they need to craft the ultimate Galápagos itinerary.



EXPLORATION METHODS



CRUISE

Board an all-inclusive ship and start exploring! By far the most popular option, cruises are very time efficient because they can reach more islands compared to other exploring methods.



ISLAND HOPPING

Island hopping combines the best of both worlds. Travel by boat and spend the nights on the islands, enjoying more of the local culture.



LAND BASED

More fun, less boat! A relaxing vacation, spend less time traveling between islands and more on the islands themselves, focusing on the local experience.



FAMILY FRIENDLY



AGE RECOMMENDATIONS

A child's expression when first encountering a sea lion is priceless. With an exotic fauna, dramatic landscapes, and active experiences, the Galápagos is a top destination for families, offering plenty of entertainment and learning opportunities.

Although age restrictions vary from cruise to cruise, the minimum age is often 5 to 8 years. Some cruises will also offer cabins designed to accommodate families. Otherwise, booking a land-based package is ideal, offering flexibility and amenities like pools and access to a town.



GUIDES & CHILDREN

The fun continues on board! Take part in the celebrations such as karaoke nights or themed parties, enjoy a barbeque dinner, and learn from the naturalist experts while stargazing at the night sky.

EDUCATION

Parent or child, a trip to the Galápagos is truly enlightening. Learn from expert guides how this fragile ecosystem is able to thrive and harbor such a variety of wildlife. Here are a few things to know:

Flora & Fauna

There are over 9,000 species living on the islands and the surrounding waters.

Geology

Explore the intricate maze of lava tunnels formed on the islands, either on land or underwater.

Oceanography

Enjoy the great temperatures here by engaging in marine explorations and snorkeling adventures.

Environment

Travel consciously, respect the fragile ecosystem, and learn how to reduce your carbon footprint from your expert guide.

ENGAGE YOUR ACTIVE SIDE

Keeping true to the exploratory nature of the Galápagos, all trips to the 'Enchanted Isles' require a moderate amount of fitness. No matter what type of cruise, land package, or island-hopping option is chosen, travelers ideally need to be able to safely board and dismount from a small boat, as well as walk for reasonable distances on relatively rocky terrain.



LAND & SEA EXPERIENCES

The Galápagos provides adventure enthusiasts a hefty variety of exciting sea and land activities.

SEA

For those who feel at home on water as much as they are comfortable on land, there's plenty to be excited about such as kayaking and snorkeling alongside seals and Pacific sea turtles.

LAND

For those who prefer to stay dry, they can opt for activities like biking and horseback riding. The star attraction though is hiking, wherein travelers walk across dried lava beds to observe famous inhabitants like blue-footed boobies and marine iguanas at close range.



THE PERFECT ECO-ADVENTURE



RENTALS & ADD-ONS

Specialist equipment like kayaks and wetsuits are conveniently available. For those keen on more adventurous activities like scuba diving, it is often possible to include it with cruises or land packages.

It is possible to add diving to expedition cruises, but this option must be requested in advance. We recommend booking a longer stay or cruise when heading to the Galápagos with diving in mind.

ADVENTURE HONEYMOON

The Galápagos Islands set the stage for a new type of honeymoon, one focused on creating special memories with a loved one. Swim with penguins, explore islands, and celebrate your union with a romantic dinner and a sunset like nowhere else. Travel either by cruise or land and enjoy the splendors of these islands.



AMENITIES

All cruises are highly equipped with the necessary amenities, and with itineraries planned to the smallest detail, you can simply enjoy the ride and look forward to each day's adventure.



ROMANTIC DINNER

Spend a delightful evening with a loved one, enjoying a romantic candle-lit dinner on deck, along with island views in the background.



DISCONNECT

Now is the time to unwind. With no Wi-Fi on board, enjoy the quality time in each other's company with no distractions on this romantic escape.



QUITO

A distinctive culinary scene, combined with the laid-back setting and a scenic background, can awaken the romance in any couple. Stroll through colonial Old Town with its pastel-colored buildings and experience the essence of Quito. Artisan shops showcase their finest crafts, restaurants lure in passerbys with inviting aromas, and the music of street performers resonate through the streets.

QUITO

5 REASONS TO STAY IN QUITO

1 The Old Town

Quito's historical center is the largest and best-preserved colonial town in South America.

2 Bridging the Hemispheres

The equator is located just around 125 miles north of the city, and makes for a great day trip.

3 Otavalo

The world-renowned indigenous market dates all the way back to pre-Inca times, and is an excellent day trip destination.

4 Guayasamin Museum

The Quito residence turned museum houses the works of Ecuador's most famous artist.

5 Foodie Town

Quito's burgeoning culinary scene fuses Ecuadorian traditions with craftsmanship and soul.

Quito, the first city to be declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is located at the heart of the Andes and sits at 9,350ft. above sea level. Called 'Florence of the Americas', Ecuador's capital is notable for its colonial architecture, religious culture, indigenous art, and beautiful mountain scenery.

PRIVATE SCENIC TOUR OF QUITO

Explore the capital city's Old Town and visit the 40 churches, 16 convents, 17 plazas, and 12 museums that are dotted across the beautifully preserved area.

PRIVATE OTAVALO HANDICRAFT TOUR

Journey through dramatic Andean landscape on the way to the famous Otavalo market. Shop for intricately designed tapestries, woven ponchos, alpaca scarves, and more!



ILLA EXPERIENCE HOTEL

This elegant hotel is located in the charming San Marco neighborhood, an area that has been home to generations of artists, writers, and musicians. Illa's mix of colonial and contemporary style perfectly complements the creative vibe of the surrounding community.



TRAVEL TIPS

① BOOK AHEAD

Traveler count to the Galápagos is strictly regulated, and most locales are only accessible with certified naturalist guides. To avoid cruises or hotels selling out, it is important to book ahead, and have flexible booking dates.

② BOAT TYPES

Choosing the right vessel is an important aspect when booking a vacation to the Galápagos. While smaller ships are more intimate, have a better crew to passenger ratio, and are less impactful on the fragile ecosystem, larger ships provide more stability for those who suffer from sea sickness, and offer spacious cabins with more amenities.

③ WHAT TO PACK

The Galápagos is a unique destination, and you want to be sure not to leave essential items off the list. Here are a few indispensable items:

- Waterproof Phone Case
- Biodegradable Sunscreen
- Sandals or Water Shoes for Wet Landings
- Battery Pack
- Extra Memory Cards for Camera
- Light Backpack
- Binoculars

④ PACK LIGHT

Flights to the Galápagos and cruise ships have limited space in terms of luggage. Packing light and smart will save you a lot of trouble during the vacation.





⑤ MOTION SICKNESS

If you are sensitive to the movement of the ocean, bring medication or look into alternative remedies for motion sickness.

⑥ ALLERGIES

When booking the itinerary, remember to notify us of any food restrictions, allergies, or medical conditions so the crew may plan accordingly.

⑦ CARRY CASH

When traveling, not all businesses will accept credit cards, and ATMs are sometimes hard to find. Remember to withdraw cash ahead of time. Conveniently, Ecuador's currency is the US Dollar.

⑧ MUST-KNOW SPANISH PHRASES

"Yo quiero"

Means "I want"

"Tengo alergia a..."

Means "I am allergic to..."

"Con Permiso"

Means "Excuse me"

"Quisiera la cuenta, por favor."

Means "I would like the check, please."

"¿Cuándo sale el vuelo?"

Means "When does the flight leave?"

⑨ DARE

For a truly unique experience, step outside of your comfort zone! Build the courage to snorkel with the majestic marine life, try new foods, and let the destination set the pace. Many surprises await on this voyage.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO VISIT?

Due to its position along the equator, the Galápagos have a relatively temperate climate that makes the archipelago a fantastic year-round destination. The best time to go depends on the type of activities that travelers want to do and the specific wildlife that they want to see because various species are present at different times.



The hot season runs from December to May and offers the perfect conditions for snorkeling due to the calmer and warmer ocean. The cooler months of June to November make up the dry season. The waters are at their choppiest during this time, but it's the ideal period for hiking and other land activities.

HOW MUCH LUGGAGE CAN I BRING?

Flights to and from the Galápagos allow one checked luggage and 2 small carry-ons.

Please take note that the spaces allocated for holding luggage are quite compact.



1 Large Suitcase



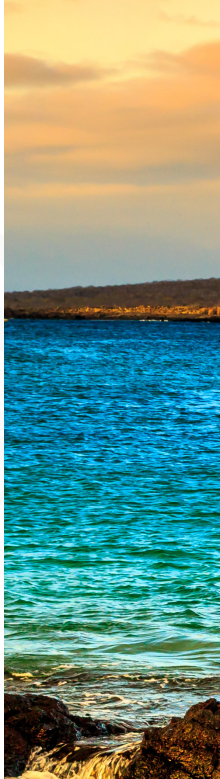
2 Small Carry-Ons

WHAT KIND OF ELECTRICITY IS USED?



110V AC
ON ALL VESSELS

The standard voltage on all Galápagos cruise vessels is 110V AC. Most outlets accept plugs with two flat-prongs. Please bring the appropriate socket adapters accordingly.





HOW TO GET TO THE GALÁPAGOS

All trips originate from mainland Ecuador, either from Quito or Guayaquil. The flight from Guayaquil to the islands takes approximately 1.5 hours. The flight from Quito makes a brief stopover at Guayaquil and takes approximately 2.5 hours to reach the Galápagos. Depending on the chosen itinerary, travelers will either land in San Cristóbal or in Baltra. Cruises are packaged with flights and the cruise company handles the booking to make sure that everyone arrives at the same time. Please take note that there is a 1-hour time difference between the mainland and the islands.



PRE-CRUISE

Before arriving to the Galápagos, we recommend a 2 night stay on mainland Ecuador. Flights from the US usually arrive late at night, and a flight delay could mean missing the cruise. Once the ship has departed, there is no way to board it from another point.

LUGGAGE CHECK

Before boarding any flight to Galápagos, you must pass through luggage control with SICGAL at the National Terminal of Domestic Departures.

For environmental reasons, all luggage will be checked for animals, seeds, plants, fruits, vegetables, and any items that might influence the ecosystem.

For cruise passengers, a representative will provide the boarding pass, with taxes, and other documentations.

For island hopping travelers, entrance fees may need to be purchased locally.

ARRIVAL

Visiting the islands of the Galápagos is only possible in the presence of a certified, naturalist guide. After landing in either San Cristóbal or Baltra, you will be greeted by your guide at the airport.

Take a short bus ride to the Itabaca Channel, followed by a ferry to Santa Cruz Island, and finally a car or a boat to either the cruise or hotel, depending on the selected package.

RETURN IN A DAY

At the end of the cruise or land-based program, it is possible to fly to mainland Ecuador, and eventually back to the US on the same day.

With that being said, this option can be quite long and strenuous, and we recommend spending a night in Quito or Guayaquil before returning home.

GALÁPAGOS LOGISTICS



POTENTIAL & REQUIRED COSTS



TRAVEL PROTECTION

The Ecuadorian government may require that all visitors purchase travel protection that includes international health insurance. Regardless of the legislation, we always recommend the coverage, regardless of the destination.



REQUIRED FEES

For island hopping or land itineraries, all visitors are required to pay up-front a \$100 National Park entrance fee and a \$20 INGALA tax. The amounts are subject to change.



BOOKING A CRUISE

For cruise passengers, the taxes and fees will be paid for ahead of time, and are included in the cruise rate. Upon arrival, a cruise representative will present all the necessary documentation.



WHILE YOU'RE THERE

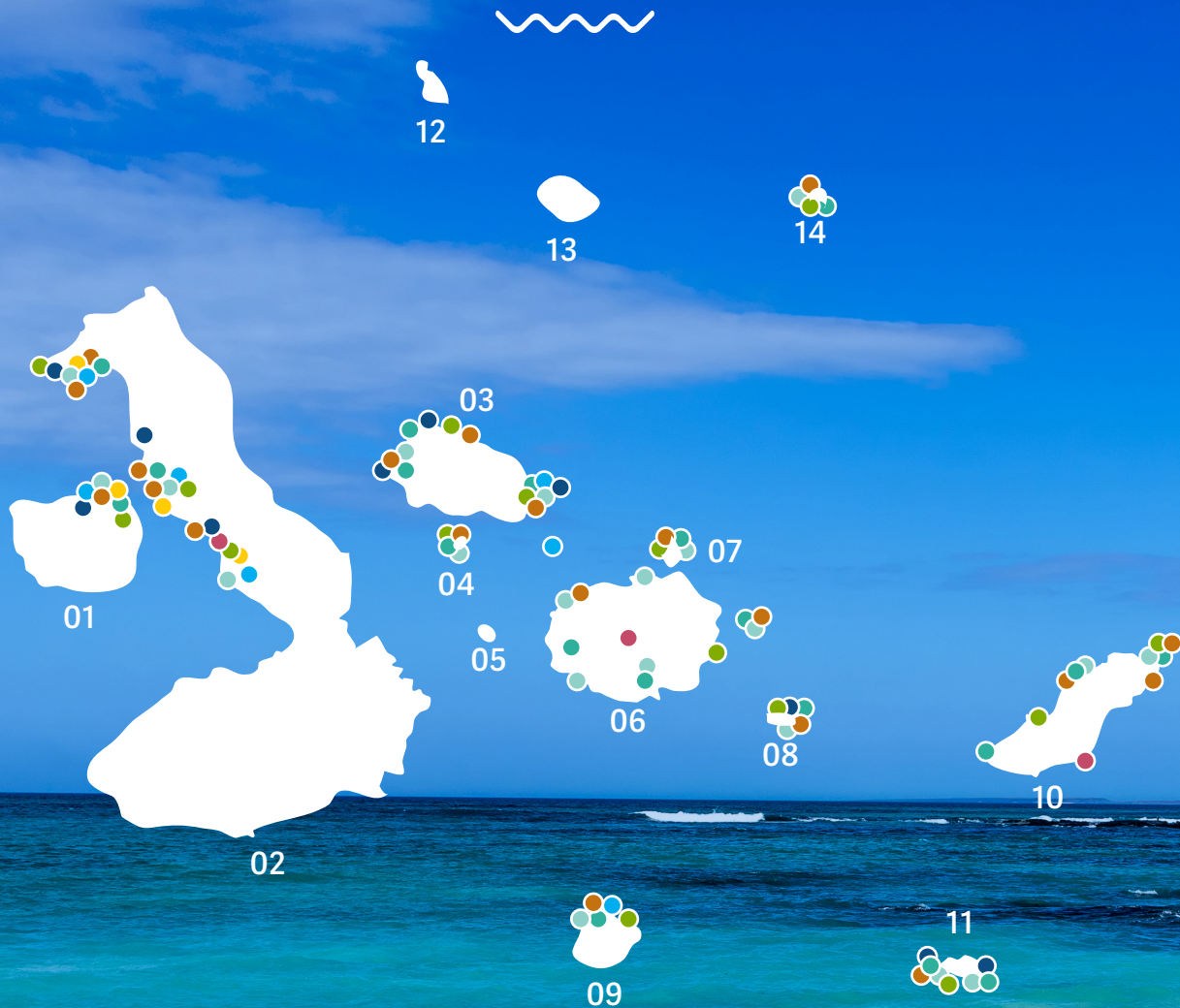
PANGA BOATS

These small inflatable boats will be used for short excursions and reaching land from the cruise ship. Be sure to wear appropriate footwear, depending on the type of landing. Active-wear shoes are ideal for dry landings (on land) whereas sandals are better for wet landings (just offshore, in very shallow waters).

NATURALIST GUIDES

Most sites in the Galápagos can only be visited in the presence of a certified naturalist guide. The process of becoming one is difficult and competitive, resulting in highly skilled professionals. The guide will be present the entire trip, acting as an instructor while safeguarding the environment.

A MAP OF THE GALÁPAGOS



ISLAND NAMES

01 FERNANDINA

02 ISABELA

03 SANTIAGO

04 RABIDA

05 PINZON

06 SANTA CRUZ

07 BALTRA

08 SANTA FE

09 FLOREANA

10 SAN CRISTÓBAL

11 ESPAÑOLA

12 PINTA

13 MARCHENA

14 GENOVESA

LIKELY PLACES TO SEE THESE ANIMALS

● GALÁPAGOS TORTOISE

● GALÁPAGOS SEA LION

● FRIGATE BIRD

● FLIGHTLESS CORMORANT

● MARINE IGUANA

● GALÁPAGOS PENGUIN

● BLUE-FOOTED, RED-FOOTED,
OR NAZCA BOOBIE

● GALÁPAGOS HAWK

ANIMALS OF THE GALÁPAGOS



The Galápagos are a natural laboratory for evolution, despite its volcanic nature and lack of lush vegetation. The endemic wildlife that came to populate the isolated islands is truly amazing; many of which have adapted specifically to their environments. Due to the absence of large predators, these marvelous creatures have developed a remarkable lack of fear which is why many of them are not camera shy at all!

GALÁPAGOS TORTOISE

It's only fitting that the Galápagos giant tortoise is one of the most recognizable inhabitants of the islands, since the archipelago owes its name to the large stoic creatures. Their most famous representative — Lonesome George — was a global icon and served as an important symbol for nature conservation.

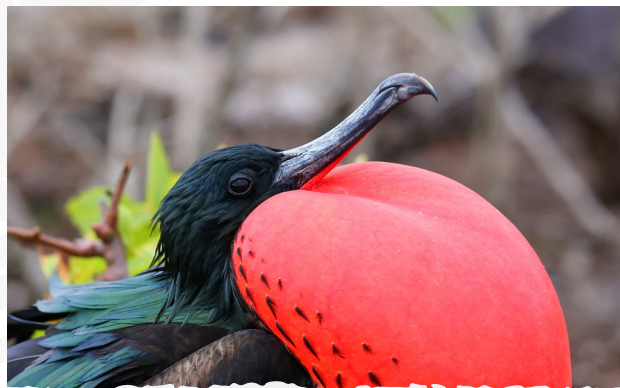
Weighing up to 550 pounds, these gentle giants are the largest living tortoise species and have the longest life spans among all vertebrates. There are currently around 15,000 giant tortoises spread across 7 locations; particularly in the highlands of Santa Cruz, Isabela, and San Cristóbal. As with many animals in the Galápagos, the tortoises have adapted differently according to the landscape of their respective habitats.



GALÁPAGOS SEA LION

Playful, curious, and exceptionally charming, the sea lion is a common sight in the Galápagos. Found lounging on rocky coastlines or gracefully swimming in search for fish, this majestic animal is a delight to photograph, and it is not camera shy.

Visit from August to October during the pupping season – when beaches become a cheerful playground – for an overdose of cuteness or enjoy a graceful underwater display on either a snorkeling or a kayaking experience.



FRIGATE BIRD

With the largest wingspan to body ratio, the exceptional frigate bird can remain aloft for months at a time, being able to cross an ocean in one flight. The males' bright red throat pouch is used to attract females during mating season.



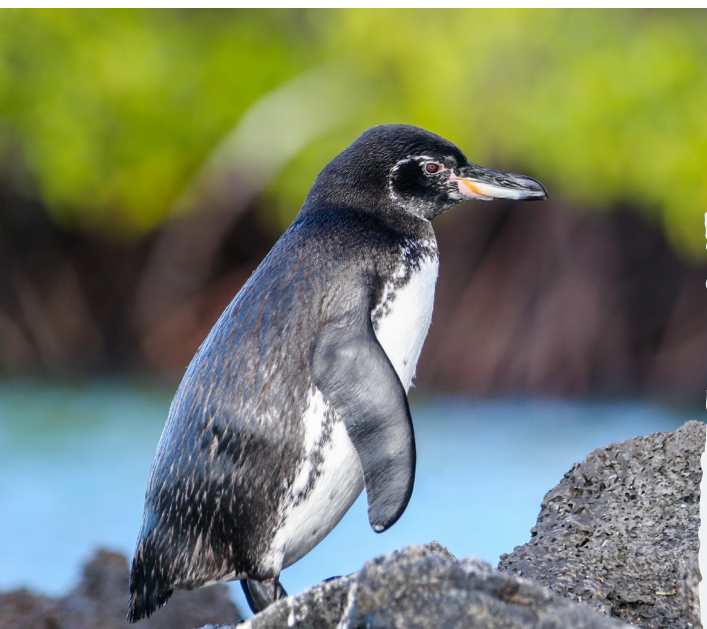
FLIGHTLESS CORMORANT

With wings too short to fly, these cormorants are skilled swimmers. Catch them in their iconic pose while drying their wings in the sun and during mating season for a unique dance performance.

MARINE IGUANA

To say that the marine iguana is a good example of evolutionary biology is an understatement; mainly because they are the only marine species of lizard in the entire world! There's a total of 7 subspecies, and they all vary from island to island.

These 'imps of darkness', as Charles Darwin called them, have the amazing ability to slow down their metabolism and heartbeat in order to optimize their energy consumption. They are even capable of diving up to 40 feet and can hold their breath for up to one hour! It's simply astonishing to imagine how the formerly terrestrial creatures adapted their behavior, diet, and physiology to their environment through thousands of years of natural selection.



GALÁPAGOS PENGUIN

These cute aquatic birds have the distinction of being the only penguin species that can be found north of the equator. Endemic to the islands, the Galápagos penguins can survive the tropical climate because their breeding biology has fully adapted to the unpredictable upwelling of the cool and nutrient-rich water in the archipelago. Ninety-five percent of these rare penguins live on Fernandina Island and on the west coast of Isabela Island.

A blue-footed booby is shown from the side, standing on a light-colored rock. It has a white body, dark brown wings, a blue beak, and bright blue feet. Its eyes are a pale yellow-green color. The background is a blurred natural setting.

BLUE-FOOTED BOOBIES

Often likened to a clown due to its blue feet and silly walk, the blue footed booby is a true sight to behold. Found on most islands in the Galápagos, it seems to be enjoying the attention of curious visitors.

The name derives from the Spanish term *bobo*, meaning foolish or goofy. Although unusual, their seemingly uncoordinated strut is gracious enough to woo a potential partner. Visit during July and August to witness this one-of-a-kind performance.

GALÁPAGOS HAWK

This exceptionally rare predator bird, estimated at only 150 breeding pairs, is endemic to the Galápagos. Their numbers have significantly decreased after the introduction of cats on the islands by humans, increasing competition for food.





AVANTI GOES TO THE GALÁPAGOS

GALÁPAGOS TIPS

- 1 Take Photos Underwater**
Immortalize every moment! During a snorkeling experience, a waterproof disposable camera or a waterproof smartphone case are indispensable.
- 2 Bring Cash**
The currency used in the Galápagos is the US dollar and, since ATM's are not easy to find, be sure to withdraw money before the trip.
- 3 Relax**
Nature expeditions can be quite tiring and taking the time to rest and enjoy the destination can mean a world of a difference.

At Avanti Destinations, we believe that true expertise is gained through hands-on experience. That is why most of our staff travels on a yearly basis to gain first-hand knowledge of the services and experiences we offer.

A DAY IN GALÁPAGOS

A day in Galápagos can create many memorable experiences. Enjoy snorkeling in the warm waters along golden rays and schools of fish, get close to the sea lions on the volcanic beaches – unfazed by curious eyes and camera shutters, and then return to the boat for lunch. In the afternoon, set out on a glass bottom boat and marvel at the underwater wonders. Return to the ship for an exquisite dinner and a sunset like no other.

There's no place on earth like the Galápagos Islands. Personally, I love Fernandina Island. A magical and rich experience, you can go from being greeted by sea lions on a morning hike to snorkeling with marine iguanas and sea turtles in the afternoon.

Ellen - Inside Sales Coordinator





**ANDANDO^o
TOURS**
Mainland Ecuador &
Galápagos Islands

**VIEW THE
EXPERIENCES:**



**7 NIGHT
EASTERN**



**7 NIGHT
WESTERN**

WATCH VIDEO

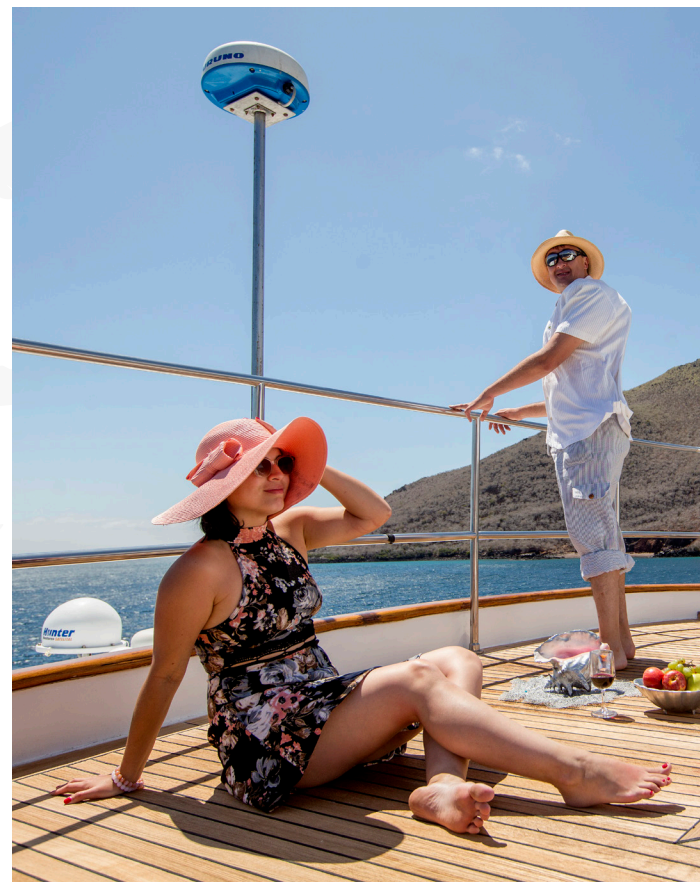
PERSONALIZED EXPERIENCE

With over 40 years of experience, Andando Tours is a family-owned tour operator providing personalized experiences while protecting the vulnerable Galápagos ecosystem. To this day, the Andando passion continues.

PERSONALIZED EXPERIENCES

The highly trained staff boasts years of experience in the Galápagos, and with a great crew member per passenger ratio, the service is quick and efficient. Indulge in the gourmet cuisine onboard, with breakfasts on the scenic sundeck and dinners in the spacious dining room.

Andando's personalized attention combined with the small group of travelers will render this experience unique and truly unforgettable.





HELP SAVE THE GALÁPAGOS

To help preserve this precious ecosystem, Andando has been involved in conservation, restoration and community activities such as waste management, coastal cleanups, and educational programs. More so, they have partnered with WildAid in an attempt to protect the marine ecosystem by stopping illegal fishing and preventing invasive species.

Since 2016, the Galápagos Conservation Fund has received \$100 for every passenger booked on the M/Y Passion, the luxury yacht has been renamed in honor of this responsible collaboration.



THE PASSION OF THE GALÁPAGOS

Once a private yacht, M/Y Passion has been converted into a luxury cruise ship, accommodating a total of 14 passengers in 7 cabins. At 159 ft. long, there is plenty of room to unwind, either in the social areas or on any of its 4 decks.

This vessel offers 2 suites and 5 staterooms, with ample interior and exterior social areas, a panoramic sky lounge with bar, along with a Jacuzzi® and other amenities. Equipped with electronic stabilizers that automatically sense current shifts, it provides one of the smoothest rides in the Galápagos.



**VIEW THE
EXPERIENCE:**

**+ 4 NIGHT
WESTERN**

WATCH VIDEO



FAMILY FRIENDLY & AFFORDABLE

Klein Go Galápagos' prized vessel, M/V Legend, has been specifically designed for families. With a capacity of 100 guests, it still offers a good degree of intimacy and is best suited for families with children. Enjoy the stunning views from three different decks, along with spacious social areas.

Aboard M/V Legend, enjoy 52 ocean view, air-conditioned cabins. A new cabin configuration has been designed to accommodate families and friends traveling together, and the balcony suites have private balconies with panoramic windows to enjoy the scenery. With great amenities, activities, and very competitive rates, the M/V Legend is the ideal cruise!

AMENITIES FOR ALL



KID-FRIENDLY

Kids will enjoy the play corner along with onboard events, and glass-bottom boats for expeditions.



SHORT ITINERARIES

Go Galápagos offers shorter 3- and 4- night itineraries, better suited for families.



WATER ONBOARD!

M/V Legend is the only vessel in the Galápagos equipped with 2 Jacuzzis® and a pool.



**VIEW THE
EXPERIENCE:**

**+ 7 NIGHT
NATURAL
PARADISE**

WATCH VIDEO

THE BENEFITS OF A SMALL CRUISE

Since starting in 2012 as a boat operator, Royal Galápagos has emerged as a solid player in the Galápagos tourism market. The company's fleet has grown to include luxury yachts and catamarans, each of them perfectly suitable for a comfortable and safe voyage through the 'Enchanted Isles'.

One thing that remains unchanged, though, is the company's focus on high quality service and local expertise — and there's nowhere else where this is more evident than on Royal Galápagos' relatively smaller offerings, like the M/Y Natural Paradise Yacht.

There's the simple fact that on small voyages with 16 people or fewer, the overall experience is designed to be more intimate and special. Due to the great crew-to-passenger ratio, travelers have better interactions with the naturalist guides and enjoy quality personalized service. This enhances the luxurious aspect of the trip and gives travelers a sense of privilege that they are part of a lucky few who can enjoy an adventure of this magnitude.

Other benefits include easier embarkation and disembarkation at ports and visitor sites, reduced environmental impact, and less competition when taking pictures of the animals. Now this is a case of "small is better" indeed.





RE-DEFINING LUXURY

WITH EXPERTLY DESIGNED ITINERARIES



Since 1953, Metropolitan Touring has enabled discerning and well-heeled travelers to enjoy luxurious top-of-the-line Galápagos itineraries. They maintain success by keeping true to one simple core ideal: the delivered experience must match, and ultimately surpass, the traveler's expectations.

Supporting this dedication to provide the ultimate Galápagos adventure, Metropolitan Touring has a fleet of upscale expedition vessels that are filled to the brim with experienced personnel, 'luxe' amenities, and sustainable cruise technology. Time and again, guests have always returned home with a cache of unforgettable memories and an array of bucket list experiences under their belts.



VIEW THE EXPERIENCES:



**SANTA CRUZ 4
NIGHT NORTHERN**



**ISABELA II 6 NIGHT
NORTHERN**



**LA PINTA 6 NIGHT
WESTERN**

WATCH VIDEO

THE LUXURIOUS MINDSET

Luxury in the Galápagos is, in a way, a state of mind; and Metropolitan Touring knows exactly how to enable travelers to achieve that. From gourmet meals prepared by a Cordon-Bleu gastronomy director to state-of-the-art onboard amenities, guests truly feel that they are not aboard an average expedition vessel. Opulence is all about offering a wide array of exquisite and impressive options — a suite of quality Galápagos experiences that travelers would treasure for life.

Nature-oriented activities are at the core of the Galápagos experience. The number of animals that travelers encounter while hiking, kayaking, or snorkeling is a big factor in satisfying their expectations. These activities are well-supported by a world-class team of expert guides and skilled ship personnel. Aside from having hotel managers to make sure that guests are well taken care of, all of Metropolitan's vessels have an MD officer onboard at all times for that extra layer of safety and peace of mind.

MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY

Metropolitan Touring's itineraries were designed to deliver the perfect Galápagos adventure in the most efficient way possible. In order to cover a wide gamut of the archipelago's excellent diversity, the cruise ships sail at night. This allows passengers to maximize their island-to-island experiences as well as increase their chances to encounter a greater range of the fascinating and iconic Galápagos wildlife.

All the expedition vessels have sustainable cruise technology and reduced fuel consumption, which significantly lowers a traveler's environmental footprint. Itineraries were planned and scheduled in such a way that up to ninety percent of visitor sites are not shared with other vessels. Landing parties enjoy a completely immersive experience as they explore an almost-otherworldly paradise without encountering the tourist crowds.



COMFORT & CONVENIENCE

Haugan Cruises combine luxury experiences with competitive rates, making them a great choice for any type of adventurer, from families to solo travelers. The highly trained staff, along with the bilingual guides, offer personalized services in a timely manner, thanks to a high crew to passenger ratio. With a modern fleet and 16 years of experience, Haugan Cruises provides the comfort and safety needed for a seamless experience in the legendary Galápagos.



VIEW THE EXPERIENCES:

**+ OCEAN SPRAY
3 NIGHT**

**+ PETREL
5 NIGHT**

**+ CAMILA
7 NIGHT**

WATCH VIDEO

WHY A CATAMARAN?

A catamaran is a multi-hulled vessel with two, equally sized hulls. When compared to single hull ships, catamarans offer a higher level of stability, especially in rougher waters. This is an important aspect to consider, especially for those who suffer from motion sickness.

Thanks to their modern design, catamarans offer more space than the conventional single hull vessels, which translates directly into more comfort for guests. Enjoy larger cabins, social areas, and the deck space for open air dinners, tanning, or stargazing.



THE FLEET

Haugan vessels are luxurious, modern, and safe. With only 16 cabins per ship, guests are ensured a great level of comfort, privacy, and personalized service, allowing them to peacefully enjoy this unique adventure. Indulge in exquisite meals on the ship, enjoy the spacious common areas, or marvel at the Galápagos sunset, from either the deck or your own private balcony.

M/C OCEAN SPRAY

The Ocean Spray is a mega-catamaran, offering the best performance and comfort. The ample social areas, Jacuzzi®, and private balconies on all cabins, make it the ideal vessel to explore the Galápagos.

M/T CAMILA

The newest addition in the Galápagos waters, Camila is a swift, elegant, and silent trimaran. Cruises aboard this ship will emphasize on the natural history of the area, with expert guides in biology and ecology.

M/Y PETREL

The new Petrel is a comfortable and quiet yacht, ideal for al fresco dinners after an exciting adventure-packed day. Spend some down time on the sun deck or on any of the two spacious lounges.





**VIEW THE
EXPERIENCES:**



**SEA STAR JOURNEY
5 NIGHT**



**SEAMAN JOURNEY
4 NIGHT**

WATCH VIDEO

ECO-TOURISM WITH A PERSONAL TOUCH

For Latin Trails — an established business with 22 years of experience in local and sustainable tourism — it's all about the noble dream of creating a better world through travel. A key factor in keeping their vision alive is the company's most important asset: its employees. Composed of a superb mix of tourism professionals, well-traveled explorers, and highly trained personnel, the Latin Trails family is passionate about sharing unforgettable Galápagos experiences with travelers from all over the globe.





BEHIND EVERY MAGICAL VOYAGE IS AN EXCELLENT CREW



RITCHER "ROJO" ULLOA ONBOARD HEAD CHEF

A trip to the Galápagos no longer evokes spartan living and dining options. It's more of the opposite today and any luxurious voyage would be bereft without the epicurean nature of gourmet cuisine. Ritcher "Rojo", Sea Star Journey's head chef, certainly knows how food and drink play a critical role in the overall success of the experience. Backed by his culinary techniques and training with renowned chefs in Quito, Rojo creates unique dishes that combine innovative farm-to-table concepts with traditional Ecuadorian flavors.

HANZEL MARTINETI LEAD GUIDE

Latin Trails is fortunate to have Hanzel Martineti — one of the kindest and most knowledgeable experts working within the archipelago — under its impressive roster. He leads a top-ranked team of English-speaking certified naturalist guides who are very experienced and proficient with all aspects of the Galápagos Islands including wildlife, geology, history, biology, and more. Hanzel has been imparting his knowledge and delivering the same high quality service as part of the company for more than 5 years.



CPT. WLADIMIR BARZOLA SEA STAR JOURNEY

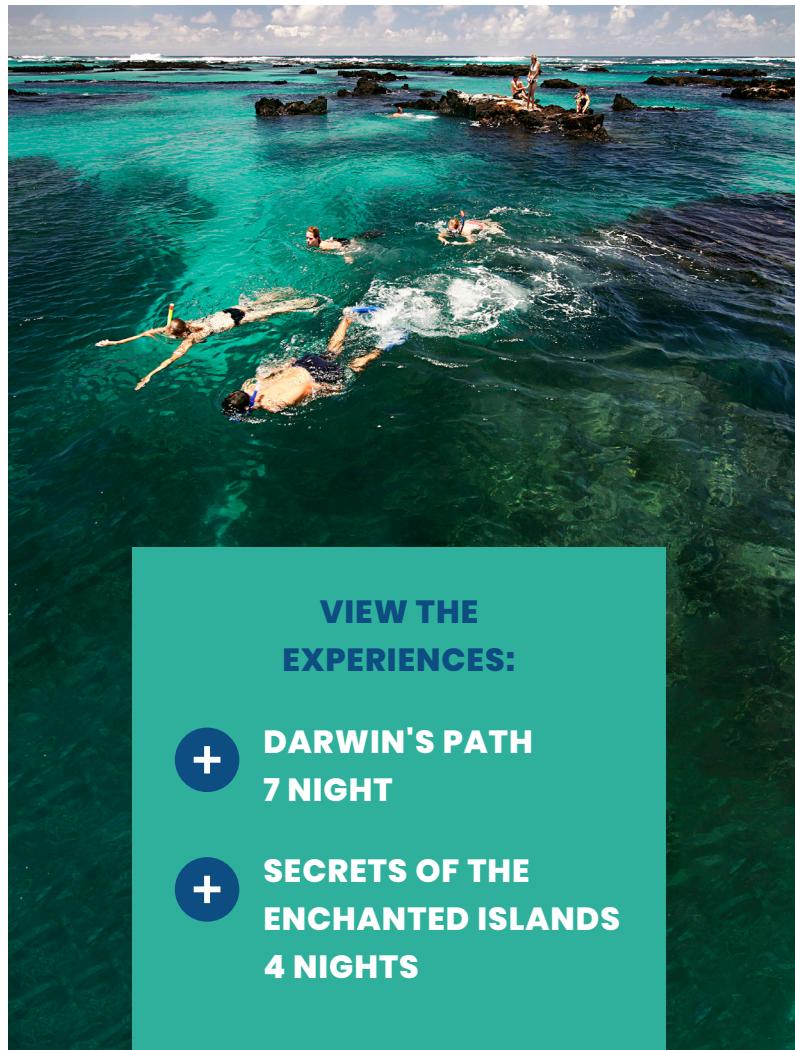
Like a lot of sailors who have spent a significant amount of time on the open sea, there is an aura of gravitas and wisdom surrounding Captain Wladimir Barzola. As the skipper of the Sea Star Journey, one of several top quality cruise vessels that travel across the Galápagos, Captain Barzola carries decades worth of valuable sailing experience. Aside from a dedication to provide excellent service, the hardworking captain loves meeting new travelers because he passionately wants to share Ecuador's natural beauty and rich culture with as many people as he can.



A DIFFERENT & FLEXIBLE WAY TO SEE THE GALÁPAGOS

For over 14 years, Geo Reisen has specialized in delivering sustainable high-quality island-hopping programs that have consistently adapted to the evolving needs and requests of the market. Over time, the company has mastered the art of crafting tailor-made services that are designed to cater to various types of clients such as individual passengers, families, and groups.

Flexibility is at the core of Geo Reisen's way of curating itineraries. It is a key factor in enabling travelers to assimilate and enjoy a spectacularly complex destination such as the Galápagos in the way that they want to. Regardless if the focus is on nature exploration, eco-adventure, or historical and cultural appreciation, travelers are guaranteed to come back from their trip filled to the brim with priceless and unforgettable memories.



VIEW THE EXPERIENCES:

- + DARWIN'S PATH
7 NIGHT**
- + SECRETS OF THE
ENCHANTED ISLANDS
4 NIGHTS**



FLEXIBILITY

Geo Reisen's Island Hopping programs provide keen explorers the ability to decide and plan the way they want to experience their Galápagos voyage. They can define the kind of excursions that they are willing to go for, as well as the specific islands and animals that they want to see, based on their preferred schedule and budget.



REAL LIFESTYLES

There are plenty of opportunities to get acquainted with the human aspect of the Galápagos by visiting Puerto Ayora. Land-based itineraries give visitors a tremendous insight on how the small number of Galápagos inhabitants survive daily life, and how they share their home with more famous residents such as sea lions and blue-footed boobies.



DEPARTURE OPTIONS

From set voyages with small groups (comprised of up to 12 passengers) to everyday departures that would suit individuals, there's plenty of availability options to select from. Travelers can choose according to the pricing and itinerary components that they wish. Regardless of the choice, all trips to the Galápagos are facilitated by knowledgeable guides.

SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL

Geo Reisen strictly adheres to a sustainable tourism model that preserves the Galápagos environment while strongly promoting the country's economic and social development. The 'green focus' of the company's offerings are designed to maximize the quality of the experience while having the least amount of environmental impact.

PROMOTING LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

As sustainable tourism in the archipelago continue to flourish, various communities and businesses thrive as well. The travel industry not only allows the government to maintain the pristine 'living laboratory' nature of the Galápagos Islands, it also supports local jobs and encourages economic growth and opportunities.



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