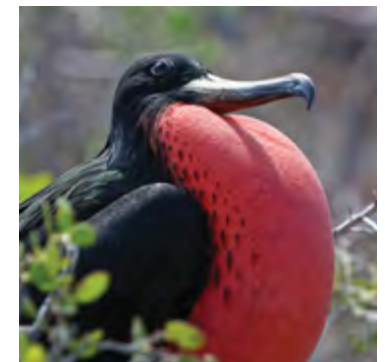


# GALAPAGOS

## The Wild Wonders of Galapagos With Your Grandchild

An intergenerational adventure for a grandparent traveling with a grandchild aged 8–17 years.

**JUNE 25 – JULY 3, 2024**



# THE WILD WONDERS OF GALAPAGOS WITH YOUR GRANDCHILD

An intergenerational adventure for a grandparent traveling with a grandchild aged 8 – 17 years.

JUNE 25 – JULY 3, 2024

The Galápagos is one of the most scintillating yet intensely personal nature experiences on Earth, highlighted by close encounters to wildlife that has no fear of humans.

Guided by expert naturalists, discover these tiny islands off the coast of Ecuador - volcanic landscapes explored on hikes and nature walks full of close encounters with amazing wildlife; swim and snorkel with colorful fish, rays and playful sea lions and delve into the wild wonders of the Galápagos - nature's most inspiring classroom.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- On naturalist - guided hikes and walks, get close to the islands' exotic residents: Iguanas, flamingos and giant tortoises.
- Enjoy up-close photographic opportunities as you observe the rituals of magnificent frigatebirds and blue-footed boobies, swim with sea turtles and stroll along beaches covered with Galapagos sea lions.
- Explore the rich, undersea world as you swim, snorkel and paddle amongst schools of colorful tropical fish, sea lions, sea turtles, spotted eagle rays, reef sharks, marine iguanas and even penguins.

## ITINERARY SUMMARY

Independent Arrivals to Quito, 1 night  
Fly to Galapagos Islands and embark Coral I, 7 nights  
Departures from Quito

→ **Make the most of your journey**, and explore Quito, Otavalo & the Cloud Forest before departing to the Galapagos on our exclusive 5-night extension.









and other sea birds are all around and the views from the top of the lava are breathtaking. *Coral I, BLD*

**Activity:** *Wet Landing. Moderately strenuous 2.5 hour uphill/downhill hike on rocky terrain; options to snorkel or kayak for 40 minutes.*

#### DAY 4 ESPAÑOLA ISLAND

**Friday, June 28**

Today we're on Española, the geologically oldest island of the archipelago. One of the highlights of the trip, **Suarez Point** is a



nature paradise due to the high percentage of endemic species due to its isolation from the rest of the islands. A slew of marine iguanas and sea lions greet us at the landing site. From here, our hike along a trail brings close encounters with boobies, lava lizards, colorful Sally Light-foot crabs. The famous Soplador a blowhole that spurts seawater up to 75 feet in the air is a dramatic backdrop to the abundant wildlife. *Coral I, BLD*

**Activity:** *Dry Landing. Strenuous 2.5 hour hike on rocky terrain.*

We continue our exploration of Espanola after lunch, at Gardner Bay, one of the most stunning beaches in all of Galapagos. The long, white, sandy coral beach, lapped by turquoise waters is home to a colony of Galapagos sea lions, indifferent to the humans that walk amongst them. The Hood Mockingbirds, endemic to this island, are plentiful and Darwin Finches may also join the throng that includes the reclusive Warbler Finch. This is the breeding site of nearly all of the world's 12,000 pairs of Waved Albatross, in the height of their breeding season between April and December. With luck, we may catch their complex courtship display. We can snorkel from the beach, in the shallow waters of the bay, amidst the King Angelfish, Damsel Fish, Parrotfish, manta rays and white-tipped reef sharks. *Coral I, BLD*

**Activity:** *Easy 1-hour walk on sandy terrain, option to snorkel.*

#### DAY 5 FLOREANA ISLAND

**Saturday, June 29**

We have a wet landing onto **Green Beach**, its intriguing color comes from a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand. We hike from black mangrove beds to a brackish lagoon, home to one





of the largest flamingo populations in the Galapagos, where other birds such as Common Stilts and White-Cheeked Pintails can also be seen. This island features endemic plants such as *Scalesia villosa*, white and black mangrove and Palo Santo. The trail continues to **Four Sand Beach**, a beautiful white coral sand beach, one of the most important nesting sites of Green Pacific Sea Turtles. Here, we'll keep to the beach, as Sting Rays may be lurking in the shallow water under the sand, and we don't want to step on one! From the beach, we can spot sea turtles, Blue-Footed Boobies plunging into the water and small reef sharks floating along the shoreline in the search for food. Returning to our starting point at the green sand beach, it's safe to swim or snorkel amongst sea turtles, reef fish, sea lions and maybe even white-tipped reef sharks. A small colony of penguins resides on Floreana and may sometimes be observed as well.

**Activity:** *Wet Landing. Easy 1-hour walk on flat, sandy beach; Option to swim or snorkel for 1 hour.*

After lunch, we're on the north side of Floreana in **Post Office Bay**, named for a wooden barrel that was placed there in 1793, that served as an informal post office for sailors passing through, who would take the letters on to their destinations. Today, visitors continue the tradition by placing unstamped postcards inside the barrel, hoping that some other traveler, going to the letter's destination, will take it back for free. Here we may also encounter Darwin's Finches, Yellow Warbler and Lava Lizards, and have an opportunity to snorkel with Green Pacific Sea Turtles and among playful sea lions. *Coral I, BLD*

**Activity:** *Wet Landing. Easy 30-minute walk on a sandy beach; Option to swim or snorkel for 1 hour.*

## DAY 6 SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

### Sunday, June 30

This morning we explore the highlands of Santa Cruz by bus, to discover giant tortoises in their natural habitat. Santa Cruz has a population of about 8,000 giant tortoises. The drive shows the contrasting ecosystems of the island, as road extends from the

coast through the agricultural zone and straight up to the dense, humid forests. Often, Galapagos Giant Tortoises are spotted, wandering through pastures. The deep green of the *Scalesia* trees is a lush contrast to the dry lowland. **The Highlands Tortoise Reserve** is a bird lover's paradise, as almost every land bird present on the island lives or migrates here; Tree and Ground finches, Vermillion Flycatchers, Paint-billed Crakes, Yellow Warblers, and Cattle Egrets, usually seen standing on the tortoises' back!

**Activity:** *Dry Landing. 45-minute drive. Easy 1.5 mile/1.5 hour walk on flat, dirt or muddy terrain.*

This afternoon, we're in **Puerto Ayora** and we visit the famous **Charles Darwin Research Station**. Here we'll learn about conservation programs carried out by the National Park, with the scientific support of the Charles Darwin Station. We visit the Tortoise captive breeding program and learn about famous "Lonesome George" who died in 2012, the last Pinta tortoise. Take some time to visit the town, where you'll have one of the only opportunities to shop locally. *Coral I, BLD*

**Activity:** *Dry Landing. 1.5-hour walking on flat terrain. Shopping.*



## DAY 7 GENOVESA ISLAND

**Monday, July 1**

We'll land on a beach where a small colony of fur seals lounge in the sun. We'll see the variety of sea life that shelters in the crevices of the lava cliffs of **El Barranco - Prince Phillip's Steps** – steep, rock steps that pass through a seabird colony of Nazca and Red-footed Boobies up to a high cliff-face and plateau. At the top, we'll take the trail inland where nesting booby colonies are found in the Palo Santo forest. We may also find Short-eared Lava Owls, Galapagos Swallows, and Galapagos Doves.

**Activity:** *Dry Landing. After a steep climb up a rock stairway, Moderately easy walk 45 minutes/1 mile on rocky lava terrain.*

After lunch on board, we disembark on the small sand and coral beach of **Darwin Bay**. A short trail heads west along through mangroves filled with Nazca Boobies and Swallow-tailed Gulls. It's estimated that more than 200,000 Red-footed Boobies live in the trees and bushes of Genovesa; one of the few places in the islands where we are guaranteed to see them.

Further down the path are tidal pools where sea lions swim playfully and we may find Lava Gulls, Yellow-crowned and Lava Herons. Arriving at the end of the trail, we'll have a spectacular

view over the cliffs and Darwin Bay. Snorkeling from the beach, we find rays, colorful reef fish and hammerhead sharks. *Coral I, BLD*

**Activity:** *Wet Landing. Moderate Hike 2.5 hours/1 mile over sand and lava. Options for snorkeling, kayaking & dinghy ride.*

## DAY 8 RABIDA & BARTOLOME ISLANDS

**Tuesday, July 2**

This morning, we're exploring **Rabida**, the volcanic lava red island, very rich in iron oxide and magnesium (typical of Galapagos basaltic lava); that when exposed, rusts, giving the island its astounding, unearthly reddish color. The island is a birdwatcher's delight, being the only Galapagos site where the nine Darwin's Finches are found, and Large-billed Flycatchers, Galapagos Hawks and Brown Pelicans. The unique landscape is punctuated by Palo Santo forests, endemic cacti, small craters and cliffs. The red beach is inhabited by hundreds of sea lions together with a nesting colony of pelicans. In the background, Flamingos inhabit a small salty lagoon. We can walk along the trail or navigate by dinghy along the shoreline to spot fur seals, pelicans, blue-footed boobies and Nazca boobies.

**Activity:** *Wet Landing. Trail: 1.5 hour/.5 mile walk. Option to snorkel or take a dinghy ride.*





Back on board, we navigate to **Bartolome Island**, at the center of the archipelago, is an extinct volcano with a variety of red, orange, black and even green volcanic formations. Here, we have a choice of two landings. Choose to take a trail and 388 wooden steps up to the island's summit of 374 feet, for one of the best views of the islands and the most iconic and photogenic site in the Galapagos: Pinnacle Rock.

Or, the beach is perfect for snorkeling and possible sightings of the Galapagos penguin reef sharks, rays, and colorful fish. *Coral I, BLD*

**Activity: Landing 1: Dry Landing.** *Strenuous 1.5 hour volcanic ash trail hike with 388 steps up/down. Landing 2: Wet Landing: 1 hour of snorkeling, swimming or walking on beach.*

## DAY 9 SANTA CRUZ & DEPARTURE

### Wednesday, July 3

This morning we navigate along the north shore of Santa Cruz Island, accessible only by sea. A dinghy ride explores the turtle sanctuary **Black Turtle Cove**, where four species of mangrove in the interior lagoon harbor turtles, fish, White-tipped Reef Sharks and rays in the calm waters and sea birds such as pelicans, herons and egrets perch in the mangroves.

**Activity:** *1-hour dinghy ride.*

Following the visit, we disembark and transfer to Baltra Airport for the flight back to the mainland, departing at 1:05 pm; arriving Guayaquil at 3:53 p.m. continuing to Quito, arriving at 5:43 p.m. Connect to your independently arranged international flights, departing after 9 p.m. *B*

*All Galapagos cruise itineraries are subject to change without prior notice or can be operated in a different sequence. All Galapagos itineraries are under the direction of the Galapagos Park administration, or can be changed at the captain's discretion.*

## PRICING PER PERSON

### SKY DECK - 6 JUNIOR SUITES

Double Occupancy . . . . . \$7,194

### EARTH DECK - 2 JUNIOR SUITES

Double Occupancy . . . . . \$7,194

### SEA DECK

#### 1 STANDARD SUITE

Single Occupancy . . . . . \$7,344

#### 2 STANDARD PLUS SUITES

Double Occupancy . . . . . \$6,497

Single Occupancy . . . . . \$8,764

#### 6 STANDARD PLUS SUITES

Double Occupancy . . . . . \$6,497

Final payment by credit card incurs a 3.5% credit card fee.

**CHILD DISCOUNT:** \$500 discount for a child who will be aged 8-11 years at the time of travel. Please register by paying the deposit and send your scanned photo page of your and the child's passports. Conservancy Travel will apply the \$500 discount to your order after you have registered.

## INCLUSIONS: \*Conservancy Travel Exclusive Benefit!

- ✓ Meet & Greet services, airport transfers and one night hotel accommodations with breakfast in Quito
- ✓ Conservancy Travel Trip Leader throughout your trip, Quito - Quito
- ✓ \*Trip Leader Gratuity
- ✓ Flight Quito - Galapagos - Quito
- ✓ Luggage handling Quito hotel - Galapagos flight - ship cabin - flight to mainland; for one piece of soft-sided, baggage with a maximum weight of 20 kg / 44 lbs.
- ✓ \*All mandatory Galapagos National Park entry permits, taxes and fees
- ✓ Bilingual (English-Spanish) Certified Naturalist Guides

## ABOARD COARAL I:

- ✓ Daily Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner; BBQ Dinner
- ✓ Welcome & Farewell Reception
- ✓ Complimentary Galapagos refillable water bottle and crossbody bag
- ✓ Unlimited Potable water
- ✓ 24-hour self-service coffee, tea, snacks
- ✓ Two daily guided excursions with choice of activities including hikes & walks; snorkeling, kayaking, dinghy rides
- ✓ Snorkeling equipment
- ✓ \*Wetsuit rental
- ✓ \*Kayak rental (shared use)

## EXCLUSIONS:

- International Airfare to Ecuador
- Passport fees. No visa required for US citizens traveling to Ecuador
- Alcohol and soft drinks
- Gratuities to ship's crew (\$20 per person/day) and Naturalist Guides (\$10 per person/day)
- Trip Cancellation/Interruption/Emergency medical insurance (You may purchase from any third party provider, but a policy is mandatory for all passengers and must be purchased within 2 weeks of tour registration. Please visit Travel Insurance Services for more information).
- Tips & personal expenses
- Internet plans available for onboard purchase (signal strength and availability vary and are not guaranteed.)
- Beverage Packages available for onboard purchase.
- SCUBA Diving available for onboard purchase

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS:** You may choose to make your own air arrangements, or request assistance from Conservancy Travel. Air travel assistance is facilitated by Conservancy Travel in conjunction with our partner air desk service, whose fee schedule is independent of Conservancy Travel.







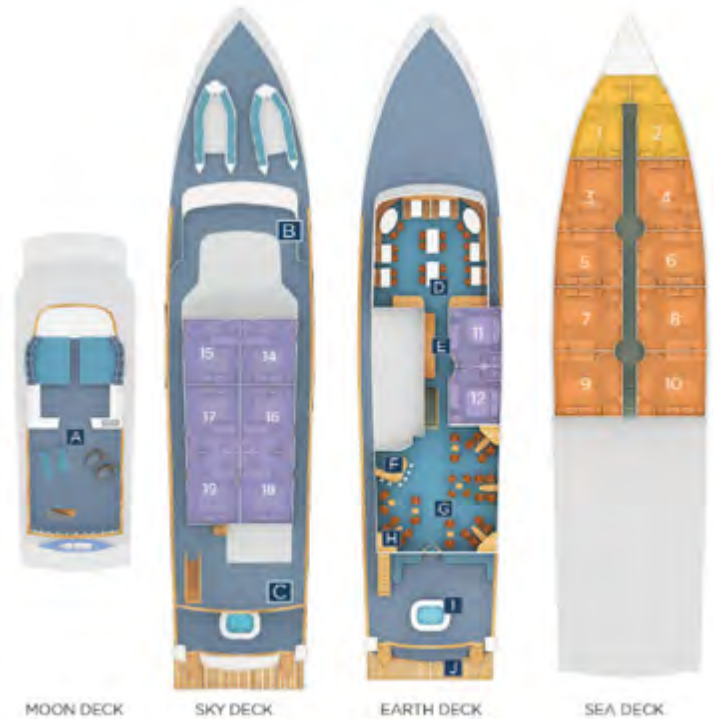


# Coral I

Enjoy a first-class cruising experience aboard your private expedition yacht. Open deck and interior social areas are designed for maximum relaxation and convenience. The embarkation area is designed for easy access, and the ship maintains the highest level of hygiene biosecurity protocols.

Onboard activities include lectures, briefings, yoga, stargazing. Facilities include a boutique, Jacuzzi, covered terrace, observation deck, sun/stargazing deck, 2 Kayaks, Library, indoor panoramic lounge, dining room, DVD / TV.

11 Crew, 1 Cruise Director, 3 multilingual Naturalist Guides. Guide to guest ratio: 1:12



## CABIN INFORMATION

Sea view cabins include Housekeeping 2 times per day with turndown service; air-conditioning, lower twin or queen beds, safe deposit box, multimedia system, hairdryer

### SKY DECK

6 Junior Suites: 129 sq. ft. with 2 Twins or 1 Queen bed; 2 picture windows. PRICE: \$7,194 per person, double occupancy

### EARTH DECK

2 Junior Suites: 118 sq. ft. with 2 Twins or 1 Queen bed; 2 picture windows. PRICE: \$7,194 per person, double occupancy

### SEA DECK

**1 Standard Suite:** 94 sq. ft. with 1 Queen bed; 1 porthole. PRICE: \$7,344 per person, single occupancy

**2 Standard Plus Suites:** 118 sq. ft with 2 Twins or 1 Queen bed; 2 portholes. PRICE: \$6,497 per person double occupancy; \$8,764 per person Single occupancy

**6 Standard Plus Suites:** 129 sq. ft; with 2 Twins or 1 Queen bed; 2 picture windows. PRICE: \$6,497 per person double occupancy

\*Prices do not include 3.5% credit card service fee.

# 5 NIGHT EXTENSION QUITO, OTAVALO & THE CLOUD FOREST

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore UNESCO World Heritage City of Quito, Ecuador's capital, one of the best-preserved colonial centers in Latin America.
- Stand with one foot in the southern hemisphere and the other in the north on the Equator
- Discover the beauty and wealth of biodiversity of the subtropical Cloud Forest
- Be immersed in multi-cultural diversity at the biggest Indigenous market in Otavalo and the Karanki Magdalena community.

## DAY 1 ARRIVALS IN QUITO, ECUADOR

**Friday, June 21**

Independent Arrivals to Quito UIO Airport.

Upon arrival in Ecuador's capital of Quito, that sits at 9,350 feet above sea level at the foot of the Pichincha Volcano. You will be met at the airport and transferred to your hotel for check in and overnight. The Conservancy Travel Trip Leader will be available to assist you this evening at the hotel.

*Accommodation: GO Quito Hotel*

## DAY 2 OTAVALO / INDIGENOUS CULTURE & COMMUNITY

**Saturday, June 22**

Buffet Breakfast in the hotel.

We'll check out of the hotel with an overnight bag (main luggage can be stored at the hotel) and depart with our Trip Leader and an expert local guide by motorcoach along the scenic Chaski Route through the Andes.

Walk through the famed craft market of Otavalo, which is the most famous and picturesque in South America. For visitors, the market offers the possibility of approaching Ecuadorians at a more intimate level as you negotiate prices of a variety of woven goods, bags, hats, flutes or simply appreciate the skillful and generous people responsible for the elegance and beauty of the clothing and handicrafts.

Drive by beautiful Lake Cuicocha, whose name comes from the Kichwa indigenous language and means "Lago del Cuy" or Guinea Pig Lake in English. It was given this name due to the guinea pig shape of the largest island in the middle of the lake. These animals play a significant part in the everyday life of indigenous people





as they make for a high protein meal especially for populations living in high altitude.

Visit the village of Peguche, known for traditional weaving and the handcrafted Andean musical wind instruments. The tour also offers a range of alternatives, including villages such as Cotacachi, an Indian village which features leatherwork including bags, jackets, hats, gloves, and belts.

The drive continues through marvelous Andean landscapes, as we head into the indigenous community of the Karanki Magdalena. Home of Atahualpa, the last of the Inca Emperors, Karanki Magdalena is at approximately 9,842 feet above sea level with a privileged location surrounded by valleys and lagoons.

Upon arrival, community members will demonstrate local planting techniques, including the materials and animals used to farm a variety of products including potatoes, quinoa, lupin, corn, beans, and other vegetables. Then enjoy a gastronomy lesson while the host family prepares a traditional lunch.

This afternoon, choose a 2-hour mountain bike journey across beautiful Andean landscapes or horseback riding through a variety of moorland vegetation.

Check into the hotel. Dinner included in the hotel.

*Accommodation: Hacienda Pinaquis, Meals: B, L, D*

### DAY 3 CONDOR PARK / QUITO

**Sunday, June 23**

After breakfast in the hotel, we'll return to the Karanki Magdalena community to explore the Karanki Atahualpa Sun Temple. Then, visit the Parque Condor which is a sanctuary for a variety of birds of prey including Ecuador's national bird, the Andean Condor. Learn about the local birdlife, conservation efforts and the threats they face.

After lunch at our Hacienda, we'll drive back to Quito and return to the hotel for check in and overnight.

*Accommodation: GO Quito Hotel, Meals: B, L*

### DAY 4 COLONIAL QUITO & MIDDLE OF THE WORLD

**Monday, June 24**

We begin our full day exploration of Quito with a scenic ride on the Quito cable car, then continue by private motorcoach to "Mitad del Mundo" - Middle of the World Complex - and the Equator Monument situated at 0°0'0" latitude. Next, we examine pre-colonial history and traditions of Ecuador's indigenous peoples at the Ethnographic Mindalae Craftsman Museum, which features pottery, weaving, and pre-Columbian religious and mythological iconography, created as a tribute by local craftsman to their ancestors. We'll have a lunch of typical dishes in a local restaurant.

With our expert local guide, walk through the enchanting streets of Colonial Quito to explore a vibrant tapestry of churches, structures and historical sites, each representing an aspect of the city's colonial history. Stop in the Plaza San Francisco, an em-

## 5 NIGHT PRE-EXTENSION QUITO, OTAVALO & THE CLOUD FOREST

June 21 – June 25, 2024

**\$1,444 per person sharing a double room**

**\$1,919 per person in a single room**

### INCLUSIONS:

- ✓ Conservancy Travel Trip Leader
- ✓ Trip Leader Gratuity
- ✓ 4 nights at GO Quito Hotel and 1 night at Hacienda Pinaqui (or similar)
- ✓ Bilingual English/Spanish expert local guides
- ✓ Private transportation as described in the itinerary
- ✓ Activities, Entrance Fees and Visits as described in the itinerary
- ✓ Daily Breakfast, 4 Lunches, 1 Dinner

### EXCLUSIONS:

- ✓ Alcoholic, non-alcoholic beverages and any meal not specified in the above itinerary.
- ✓ Medical services, travel insurance, personal expenses and other not specified.
- ✓ Local Guide / Driver Gratuities recommended at Guide: \$10 per person / per day; Driver: \$5/pp/day.

blematic urban scene since colonial times, step inside to behold the grandeur of the Church and convent of San Francisco, a majestic architectural complex, the oldest and most significant religious site in Ecuador. At La Plaza De La Independencia, we find the city's most important buildings: the Government Palace, the Arzobispal Palace, the municipality offices, and the Independence monument that embodies the spirit of Ecuador's historic struggle for freedom from Colonial rule. Return to the hotel for dinner and evening at leisure.

*Accommodation: GO Quito Hotel, Meals: B, L*

### DAY 5 ORCHIDS, BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES IN THE CLOUD FOREST

**Tuesday, June 25**

Early breakfast and departure by motorcoach on our full day excursion with our local guide. Today we explore the biodiversity of the cloud forest, located only 52 miles northwest of Quito. We drive through the changing landscapes, observing the variety of vegetation and animal species. Our first stop is in beautiful, pristine Alambi Reserve. Here, we'll take a nature walk to observe the many species of birds, orchids and bromeliads. We continue our journey along the Andes Chocó corridor, an area known for its biodiversity, to the small town of Mindo. Here, we'll visit a butterfly farm to learn more about their life cycle and their role in the ecosystem. After lunch in the town, we'll have some free time to explore independently.

Return to Quito in the late afternoon. Main group arrivals this afternoon and evening.

Dinner at leisure.

*Accommodation: GO Quito Hotel, Meals: B, L*



For more information contact:  
***journeys@conservancytravel.org***

Register online at  
***[conservancytravel.org/24CCC-galapagos](https://conservancytravel.org/24CCC-galapagos)***