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EXPEDITION CRUISES

# Ultimate Galápagos: Southern and Central Route

9 9 20

DAYS CITIES GUESTS (MAX)

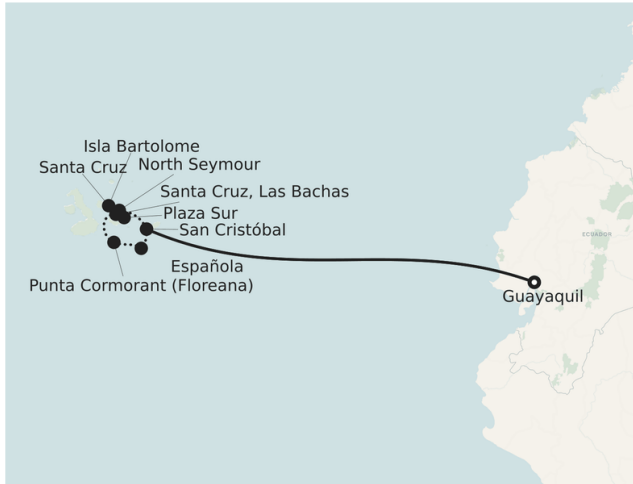
Get ready for an adventure beyond Darwin's wildest dreams. Cruising the islands' southern and central routes, our exclusive Ecoventura adventure yachts offer attentive Relais & Châteaux hospitality and the most intimate guest-to-staff ratio in the region. Our acclaimed Expedition Team leads the way, revealing giant tortoises, marine iguanas, blue-footed boobies, sea lions, penguins and more with a host of exciting snorkeling, kayaking, Zodiac and shore excursions. For the finest expedition in the Galápagos, look no further.

- ❖ Cruise the Galápagos Islands' southern and central routes for eight days aboard one of our Ecoventura adventure yachts, the most exclusive charter vessels in the islands
❖ Savor exceptional Relais & Châteaux dining and hospitality onboard, an A&K exclusive in the Galápagos Islands
- ❖ Encounter the islands' incredible wildlife, keeping watch for giant tortoises, blue-footed boobies, and marine iguanas, as well as sea lions, bottlenose dolphins, hammerhead sharks and more
❖ Explore by land and sea as our Expedition Team leads the way with exciting snorkeling, kayaking, Zodiac and shore excursions
- ❖ Broaden your horizons with the Expedition Team's onboard enrichment program of nature lectures, stargazing sessions and more

# Ultimate Galápagos: Southern and Central Route

9 DAYS | OCTOBER 3 - OCTOBER 31

FROM - | 20 GUESTS



## Day 1 | Arrive Guayaquil, Ecuador – Cosmopolitan Port City

Youthful, vibrant Guayaquil is Ecuador's largest city, drunk on Pacific breezes and crouching on the west bank of the mighty Guayas River. The candy-colored houses bounding down its hills are filled with interesting galleries and community initiatives, but the beating heart of the city is the picturesque Malecón 2000, which essentially operates as a waterfront town square. This breezy boulevard is where you'll find sleek restaurants serving coconut-rich encocado (fish stew) and university students milling around on the water's edge.

🏠 HOTEL DEL PARQUE

## Day 2 | San Cristóbal Island – In the Footsteps of Darwin

Catch your charter flight to Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the capital of the Galápagos Islands and San Cristóbal's main port. Although merely a few hundreds of miles from the mainland, the Galápagos Islands may feel even further away in reality; modern life has largely skirted this group of volcanic, windswept pearls, still every bit as wild and wondrous as when Charles Darwin set foot here in the 1830s. The wildlife he observed so carefully is still the main draw of any adventure here. Colorful Sally Lightfoot crabs and lumbering iguanas, curious boobies and a score of famous finches: many of them are found nowhere else, highly adapted to life on these lonely, elemental islands. Hop aboard a Zodiac for the brisk ride to your luxurious adventure yacht anchored in the bay. Then, sail to León Dormido (Kicker Rock), a remnant of a tuff cone formation rising some 500 feet from the ocean. Blue-footed boobies, Nazca boobies and frigatebirds are a common sight along these cliffs.

🏠 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 3 | San Cristóbal Island – Cerro Brujo and Punta Pitt

Watch for iconic Galápagos wildlife at Cerro Brujo, an eroding tuff cone formation with a breathtaking white coral beach, expansive views and excellent bird watching. Stroll along the beach, swim with sea lions, paddleboard or kayak. Later, go ashore at Punta Pitt, a nesting site for all three types of booby, both frigate species, swallow-tailed gulls, storm petrels, and shearwater and brown pelicans. Stay on land to do some birdwatching or dive in to snorkel with the resident sea lions.

🏠 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 4 | Española Island – Punta Suarez and Gardner Bay

Home to the highest concentration of endemic species in the Galápagos, Española Island's Punta Suarez beckons you ashore to encounter a diversity of species found nowhere else on Earth. Later, snorkel with Gardner Bay's sea lions, explore the bay's islets by kayak, or relax on a beautiful white-sand beach. Tonight, do a bit of stargazing beneath an incredible equatorial sky.

🏠 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 5 | Floreana Island – Punta Cormorant and Post Office Bay

One of the few populated isles in the Galápagos chain, Floreana boasts a rich and intriguing history. Head to Punta Cormorant to snorkel Devil's Crown or Champion, a shallow sunken crater colonized by a brilliant array of colorful fish and coral, oceanic whitetip sharks, sea turtles, spotted eagle rays and sea stars. Later, visit Post Office Bay, the former site of a post barrel used by English whalers in the late 18th century.

📖 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 6 | Santa Cruz Island – Into the Highlands

Awake in Santa Cruz's lively harbor of Academy Bay. Go ashore at Ayora Point and ascend through the seven vegetation zones of the Galápagos, making your way into the highlands to encounter giant tortoises at a private farm. Back on board, set out to see "the tunnels" — the largest lava tubes found in the Galápagos. Then head to the Charles Darwin Research Station to learn about ongoing conservation efforts and visit the Fausto Llerena Breeding Center, a vital resource harboring various species of giant tortoise. Spend the rest of the day relaxing onboard, capping your night off with a trip to shore for dinner in Santa Cruz.

📖 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 7 | Santa Cruz and Bartolomé Islands – Playa Las Bachas and Pinnacle Rock

Drop anchor on the northern side of Santa Cruz Island to visit Playa Las Bachas (Bachas Beach), home to bright pink flamingos that feed on the interior lagoons. Snorkel offshore or stroll along the long, glittering white sand beach. Next, cruise to Bartolomé Island. Featured prominently in the 2003 blockbuster Master and Commander, Bartolomé is easily distinguished by its towering basalt spire, Pinnacle Rock. Here, the hauntingly barren landscape steals the spotlight, as the volcanic terrain is largely inhospitable to plants and animals. After a dry landing, climb the summit of a once-active volcano for amazing views. Then, swim or snorkel crystal-clear waters amid schools of tropical fish and Galápagos penguins. Return to your yacht for dinner and an insightful lecture on Charles Darwin's legacy.

📖 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 8 | South Plaza and North Seymour Islands – Realm of Iguanas and Frigatebirds

Among the smallest of the Galápagos Islands, South Plaza is also known as the "red island" because of its brightly tinged sesuvium (seasonal flowering ice plants). Come ashore to watch as Galápagos land iguanas munch the low-lying leaves of a succulent forest while Nazca and blue-footed boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, and red-billed tropicbirds jockey for position along the water's edge. Next, sail to North Seymour Island to encounter frigatebirds as they puff out their red chests in search of mates. Take one last opportunity to snorkel the deeper waters offshore, home to sharks, rays, sea turtles and vibrant schools of fish. Back on board, gather for the Captain's farewell celebration.

📖 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## Day 9 | Depart Guayaquil or Quito – One Last Glimpse

Bid your Captain and crew farewell as you disembark your yacht for a final time on San Cristóbal. Visit the local Interpretation Center to learn more about the island's anthropology and natural history. Afterward, take some free time to walk a nearby trail or snap some last-minute photos. Later today, catch your charter flight to Guayaquil or Quito to connect with your homeward departure.

📖 THEORY

🍴 BREAKFAST

**DATES & PRICES**

## Plan Your Trip for 2026

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English Speaking Local Guides

Airport Meet and Greet with Transfers

Complimentary Wi-Fi on Board and in Hotels

24/7 A&K On-Call Support

Internal Air Included Guayaquil/San Cristóbal/Guayaquil or Quito

Prices are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy.

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Deluxe Stateroom

From \$13,495



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## Theory

As the only Galápagos vessels accepted into the esteemed Relais Chateaux collection, A&K's Ecoventura adventure yachts offer the most exclusive and intimate cruising experience in the islands. The adventure yachts accommodate 20 guests in 10 spacious staterooms, each with panoramic windows and modern decor. Onboard amenities include wet bars, large sun decks, Jacuzzis and fitness centers. The vessels also offer Wi-Fi, hairdryers and laundry service. English is the official language on board. Guests dine on world-class, local cuisine prepared fresh daily by professional on-board chefs. Origin, Theory and Evolve offer the finest Galápagos Islands cruise experiences, bar none.

