





10-DAY GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS EXPEDITION ON LINDBLAD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ENDEAVOUR II

Few places on the planet offer a wildlife experience, like the Galápagos Islands.

Governed by the South American country of Ecuador, the Galápagos Islands sit about 1,000 km off the coast of the South American continent and consist of around 20 main islands, most uninhabited. The word Galapagos loosely translates from "Insulae de los Galopegos" (Islands of the Tortoises) in old Spanish, with a number of species of these gentle giants endemic to the island. Most of the area is National Parkland and is UNESCO world heritage-listed. The islands are best known as the research source supporting Charles Darwin's theory of evolution. One of the pleasing things you will notice when you visit is that the vast majority of people working in the tourism and hospitality segment in the region are locals from mainland Ecuador.

There's never a bad time to visit these islands, but in November, there is an opportunity to observe whale sharks and baby sea lion pups in addition to the plethora of ocean, bird and ground wildlife. The famous blue and red-footed boobies, the spitting marine and land iguanas, Darwin's finches, sea turtles, Galapagos giant tortoise, Galapagos penguins, fur seals, pink flamingos hawks and dozens of bird species make it a nature-lovers must-see. The wildlife of Galápagos is legendary for being without fear in the presence of humans.

Experience the Galápagos aboard the Lindblad NG Endeavour II, an elegant 96-passenger small ship, well-equipped for up-close exploration. This is a fabulous opportunity to see this truly unique and unforgettable part of the planet.



Thursday 27th November TO ECUADOR

Fly from Australia or join the Expedition directly from the end of our Brazil's Best, Peru or Ecuador pre-tour.

Day 1, Friday 28th November TO QUITO, ECUADOR

Today, we'll fly to Quito. On arrival, we will be transferred to the group accommodation in Quito for an overnight stay. The next day, we'll fly to the Galapagos. Representatives of Lindblad NG will be on hand to assist and facilitate preparations for our expedition. **B**



Day 2, Saturday 29th November FLY TO GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Today, we'll fly to Galapagos and set sail on our Galapagos cruise , for

the first of 7 nights on board. Flights will be determined closer to the time. Overnight on board. *B/D*

Day 3 – 8, Sunday 30th November to Friday 5th December

GALÁPAGOS ARCHIPELAGO

Below are some of the islands we may visit during our expedition. Our captain will plan an itinerary that is

best suited to the conditions and in accordance with Galápagos National Park regulations. *B/L/D*

North Seymour:

Follow coastal trails past playful Galápagos sea lions on this wildlife-rich central island. Continue inland through a silvery forest of endemic palo santo trees, where frigate birds nest,



blue-footed boobies dance, and where we may also encounter prehistoric-looking land iguanas feeding on cactus. B/L/D

Isabela:

Cross the Equator at Volcán, Ecuador, northernmost of Isabela's six great shield volcanoes. Watch for whales, dolphins, sea turtles, and the elusive ocean sunfish. Over two days, land in the footsteps of Darwin and Melville and look for wildlife along the wildly eroded volcanic shore. B/L/D

Fernandina:

One of the most active oceanic volcanoes in the world, Fernandina is the youngest and most pristine island in Galápagos — and home to the strange flightless





cormorant, Galápagos penguins, and the largest marine iguanas. Hikes ashore lead across impressive recent lava flows. *B/L/D*

Española:

Observe swallow-tailed gulls, Española mockingbirds, Nazca boobies and, seasonally, the world's only population of waved albatross at this bird paradise, also home to vividly coloured marine iguanas. Watch sea lions on the white sand beach and snorkel offshore at Gardner Bay. *B/L/D*



Floreana:

Follow a trail past a rose pink-tinted lagoon sometimes frequented by flamingos. Snorkel among sea lions and abundant fish, or cruise along Champion Islet by Zodiac.

Visit the historic mail barrel at Post Office Bay. *B/L/D* Santa Cruz:

Visit Puerto Ayora, the largest town and headquarters of the Galápagos National Park and Charles Darwin Research Station. See the monument to Lonesome George and tour the giant tortoise breeding corrals. Witness the giant tortoises roaming in the wild in the lush, green highlands. *B/L/D*



Bartolomé:

Climb the steps to the summit of this 300-foot volcanic wonderland for stunning views. Explore, swim, and snorkel from the beach. Catch a glimpse of Galápagos

penguins, one of the world's rarest. *B/L/D* **Santiago:**

Explore tide pools and look for fur seals sheltered in quiet grottos of black basalt. Swim, snorkel, kayak, and paddleboard along Santiago's spectacular coast, and explore an enchanting coastal forest where Charles Darwin once walked. *B/L/D*

Genovesa:

Sail across the Equator to the remote northern realm of the Galápagos into this flooded caldera, home to



over one million seabirds. Visit Prince Philip's Steps at the top of the island. Highlights along the trail are many, from Nazca, red and blue-footed boobies and frigates to gulls, owls, fur seals, hammerhead

sharks, turtles, and manta rays. B/L/D

San Cristobal:

Search for red-footed boobies and the endemic mockingbird and lava lizard — found only on this easternmost island. Walk along the powdery white sand at a gorgeous beach fronted by iconic Kicker

Rock. Explore Baquerizo Moreno, where sea lions thrive in the middle of town. *B/L/D*

Day 9, Saturday 6th December DISEMBARKATION --- GUAYAQUIL / QUITO

This morning, we'll disembark the ship before returning to either Quito or Guayaquil for your final night's accommodation in Ecuador. **B**

Day 10, Sunday 7th December GUAYAQUIL / QUITO - Home

Breakfast in the hotel before we depart for the airport (flights to be advised). Depending on the flight schedule, there may be a day tour option. **B**

Note. Tipping is not included in your Expedition cost

Included amenities and services

- Dining room: Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Lounge: Daily recaps, cocktail hour and socialising
- Bar: Offering a variety of drinks
- Beverage station: 24-hour self-service beverage station with coffee, tea, soft drinks, water, ice, and snacks.
- Library: Includes a range of novels, puzzles, reference and illustrated books
- Observation deck: The best place to view marine life and wildlife
- Ship bridge: Guests are invited to visit the ship's bridge to meet the watch officers and learn about navigation
- Medical: Doctor on board available 24 hours a day, free of charge
- Fitness centre: Provides a variety of cardio equipment and free weights
- Water activities: Snorkelling gear and wetsuits are available for use during the expedition
- Zodiacs: Sturdy inflatable craft are the same time-tested brand Jacques Cousteau used in his expeditions
- Kayaks: Explore scenic shorelines, where you might encounter sea lions, turtles, penguins, and more
- Glass-bottom boat: Explore the undersea while staying dry
- Underwater camera: Undersea specialists will dive at snorkelling sites, shooting video to share during recaps
- Video microscope: To see the minute flora and fauna that teem in the Archipelago's rich waters
- Wi-Fi: Available throughout public spaces and in your cabin at an additional cost
- Photo kiosks for photographers: Three iMac stations available in the ship's lounge and library for sorting and transferring your photos, equipped with digital media reader and USB outlets
- Wellness: Spa treatments, including massages, body treatments, facials, and hand and foot treatments, are available in the LEXspa
- Laundry: Available at an additional charge. The ship's staff will handle personal laundry and pressing. There are no facilities for dry cleaning on board

