



Galapagos Wildlife Cruise

\$24,870 per person, share twin (in a Superior Cabin)

19 – 31 May, 2026

Escorted by Jenni Shallard



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Request an extensive Free Information Pack which contains the full itinerary, tour inclusions, tour discounts and T's & C's.

May 2026

Tue 19 Auckland – Santiago – Lima
Economy Airfares included

After checking in at Auckland Airport we board our LATAM Airlines flight to Santiago.
We transit through Santiago airport and fly to Lima, Peru.
On arrival we are met and transfer to our hotel.

Wed 20 Lima
Meals: B, L
Hotel ****

Enjoy a full day guided sightseeing tour to the most attractive and important sites in Lima, the "City of Kings". Visit Lima's Historical Centre, passing by Plaza San Martin, Plaza Mayor, the Government Palace, the City Hall, the Cathedral and its Religious Art Museum; as well as San Francisco Monastery and its famous underground crypts.
We continue our visit through the residential Districts of San Isidro and Miraflores.
We **enjoy a delicious lunch at Café Museo Larco**, where we can savour exquisite Peruvian cuisine in a charming and historic setting.
After lunch we visit the **Larco Museum**, for an excellent overview of Peru's ancient past, as it holds the best private collection of pre-Columbian art in the country.
The museum chronologically exhibits hundreds of ceramics, textile, metal and precious stone pieces and inside you will find the vault which safeguards precious pieces of gold and silver with semiprecious stones.
After the tour we will drive back to our hotel.

Thu 21 Lima – Guayaquil Airport
Meals: B
Hotel *****

This morning we transfer to Lima airport for our flight to Guayaquil.
On arrival at Guayaquil airport we are met and have a short walk to our 5-star airport hotel.

Fri 22 Guayaquil Airport – Baltra

Meals: B, L, D

*La Pinta****North Seymour Island***

We embark on our adventure with a morning flight to Baltra Island, where a swift transfer awaits to take us to the dock for boarding the **Yacht La Pinta**.

We have an informative welcome briefing, participate in a boat drill and enjoy a delicious lunch aboard.

Upon disembarking in the afternoon, we stroll along the coastline and through the interior of captivating **North Seymour Island**. Witness a plethora of bird colonies, playful sea lions, and intriguing land iguanas as we explore the diverse terrain. Opt for a coastal exploration via dinghy for a closer look at the island's wonders. As the day winds down, we gather for an evening briefing, enjoy a welcome cocktail, and indulge in a delightful dinner onboard.

North Seymour Island

Baltra, the airport Island, has another name – South Seymour Island. One of the best islands to visit in the **Galapagos** is just north of it: **North Seymour Island**. This popular site is home to one of the largest non-endemic populations of **land iguanas**, relocated here from Baltra Island almost 100 years ago. This was done to protect the iguanas from goats introduced on Baltra. Today, these iguanas share the island with the Galapagos' largest colony of **magnificent frigatebirds**.



Sat 23 La Pinta

Meals: B, L, D

*Isabela Island**Fernandina Island*

As there is no designated landing site at **Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island)**, our exploration here unfolds via panga rides (inflatable, motorized dinghies) led by expert naturalists. They provide insightful commentary on the area's striking geology, showcasing remnants of lava flows and layers of tuff stone. Expect to encounter a rich array of wildlife, and if ocean conditions permit, relish the opportunity to snorkel along the cliffs with the hope of swimming alongside graceful **green sea turtles**.

In the afternoon, we venture to **Fernandina Island**, the youngest and most pristine in the archipelago.

Espinoza Point offers a unique juxtaposition of stark landscapes teeming with vibrant wildlife. Keep your eyes peeled for hawks soaring overhead, playful penguins frolicking in the water, and intriguing flightless cormorants. Marvel at the awe-inspiring vistas of the surrounding volcanic terrains, making this destination a standout favourite among nature enthusiasts.

Punta Vicente Roca

At this location are **colonies of Galapagos fur seals**, numerous nests of **Nazca boobies**, **gulps of flightless cormorants**, and plenty of **Galapagos penguins**, **sea turtles**, and **marine iguanas** to keep your eyes busy.

Espinoza Point

Along the northern shore of Fernandina, just beyond the Bolivar Channel, you'll find **Espinoza Point**, one of the best places to visit in the **Galapagos Islands**. As our certified naturalist guide will point out as we wind our way along a small peninsula or further inland to the edge of a lava flow, Espinoza Point is **home to flightless cormorants**, **marine iguanas**, **Galapagos penguins**, **sea lions**, and plenty more. Here, too, we'll see the unique lava cactus, which grows on

Sun 24 La Pinta

Meals: B, L, D

Isabela Island

We commence our day with a visit to **Urbina Bay** on the western coast of **Isabela Island**; a geographical marvel resulting from the uplifting of the ocean floor. These newly emerged lands, propelled from the depths, are being colonized by diverse species. Just as Darwin studied similar phenomena in Chile, gaining insights into the Earth's geological history and species adaptation, we too can witness this fascinating evolutionary process. Explore the shoreline adorned with corals, shells, and the vibrant **Galapagos land iguanas**, with occasional sightings of the iconic **giant tortoises**. While navigating the Bolívar Channel, watch for various **whale species** that frequent these waters.

Situated in the secluded northwest of Isabela, **Tagus Cove** has been a sought-after anchorage for pirates and whalers throughout history, including a notable visit by HMS Beagle in 1835. Today, this historic site offers a captivating visitor experience. Embark on a scenic uphill trek to the rear of Darwin Crater, a unique geological formation filled with saltwater. Dive into the crystal-clear waters for a snorkelling session or glide across the bay in kayaks, immersing yourself in the extraordinary landscape before embarking on a memorable hike.

Urbina Bay

This destination is the result of a tectonic uplift of the oceanic relief; this is why we can see a large number of corals and shells around the colourful **land iguanas**. If we are lucky, we may see **giant tortoises**. While we navigate through the Bolívar channel, there is a high probability that we will observe different types of **whales**.

Tagus Cove

Tagus Cove is a deep-water bay on the western coast of Isabela Island, offering stunning views of Fernandina Island. This historic anchorage has been a popular destination for ships since the 1800s, with ancient graffiti left by whalers and buccaneers still visible on its cliffs.

Mon 25 La Pinta

Meals: B, L, D

*Rabida Island**Santa Cruz Island*

This morning we land at Rabida Island's distinctive red-hued beach. A leisurely beachside stroll unveils the presence of **marine iguanas**, **mockingbirds**, **yellow warblers**, and various species of **Darwin's finches**. This idyllic setting not only offers a prime snorkelling spot right off the beach but also provides an opportunity for non-snorkellers to explore the marine life beneath the waves via a **glass-bottom boat**.

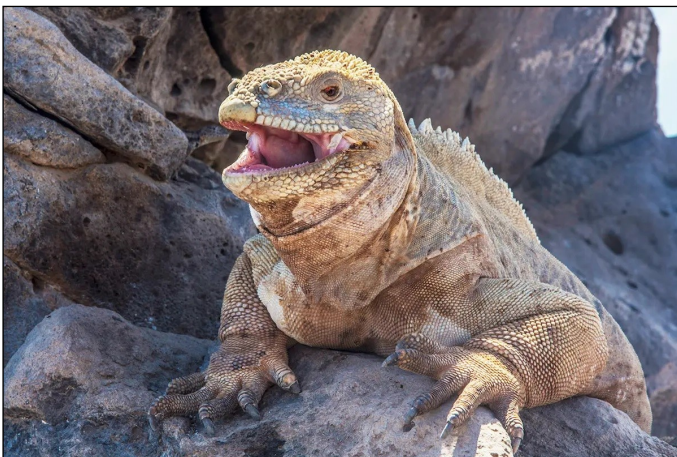
We journey to the captivating landscapes of **Dragon Hill** on the northern coast of Santa Cruz. The expedition encompasses a walk around a brackish water lagoon frequented by an array of bird species, while the inland trail treats us to panoramic views of the bay and the neighbouring western islands of the archipelago. Keep a lookout for the iconic **land iguanas** that inhabit this area, adding to the allure of this remarkable destination.

Rabida Island

With its dramatic red sand beaches and rich green vegetation, Rabida Island is located to the south of Santiago Island. The geology of Isla Rabida sets it apart from the other Galapagos Islands, as it consists primarily of spatter-cone volcanic lava and eroded hills in extraordinary shades of red and brown.

Dragon Hill

This low, rocky hill on the northwest side of Santa Cruz Island is home to an impressive population of *Conolophus subcristatus*, or **Galapagos land iguana**. The trail, one of the longest in the Galapagos, winds its way through a desert landscape, past cacti forests and fragrant Palo Santo trees.



Tue 26 La Pinta

Meals: B, L, D

Santa Cruz Island

We begin our morning with a visit to the **Charles Darwin Research Station**. Explore the station's facilities, including the impressive giant tortoise pens set amidst a striking forest of prickly-pear cacti. This site is the epicentre of scientific research, conservation efforts, and National Park administration in the Galapagos. Conclude the visit with a delightful lunch on the island.

Following lunch we venture into the lush **highlands of Santa Cruz Island**, offering a stark contrast to the arid coastal regions, thanks to the abundant rainfall they receive. This verdant setting provides a habitat for the iconic **Darwin's Finches** and the unique **Scalesia trees** found exclusively in the Galapagos. Delve into the rich biodiversity as we encounter roaming **giant tortoises** in their natural habitat. Visit a giant tortoise reserve for an up-close encounter with these gentle giants, before returning to the yacht at day's end.

Charles Darwin Research Station

The Charles Darwin Research Station is a biological research station operated by the Charles Darwin Foundation. It is located in Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island, in the Galapagos Islands.

Santa Cruz Highlands

One of the best places in the archipelago to see **giant tortoises** in their natural habitat. The tortoises are easy to spot, lumbering around, munching on grass and leaves and wallowing in small pools. There are several lava tunnels to explore in the reserve, too.



Wed 27 La Pinta

Meals: B, L, D

Floreana Island

We start the day with a picturesque panga (zodiac) ride through the intricate channels along Floreana's enchanting north shore. Follow this scenic journey to Baroness Cove, offering mesmerizing vistas of Floreana's coastal beauty. Our next stop is **Post Office Bay**, home to a historic barrel that has functioned as a post office in the archipelago for over two centuries. At this site in 1835, the Beagle made a significant observation under Captain Lawson's command.

Opportunities for kayaking and snorkelling await at this iconic location.

Before disembarking at **Punta Cormorant**, indulge in a snorkelling session or ride on the glass-bottom boat along the coast of the extinct cone, "**Champion Islet**". Later in the afternoon, our exploration continues at Punta Cormorant, where an olivine-crystal beach sets the stage for a stroll by a brackish water lagoon, offering sightings of avian treasures like **greater flamingos**. On the opposite side of the island lies a pristine white-sand beach frequented by **sea turtles** that emerge at night to nest, adding to the allure of this remarkable destination.

Post Office Bay

Post Office Bay on Floreana Island is known for its unique historical postal system. It's a place where sailors in the past would leave addressed letters in a barrel, hoping another ship heading to the letter's destination would pick it up and deliver it. This tradition continues today, with visitors often participating by leaving or picking up letters.

Champion Islet

Home to abundant marine and bird life, including the endangered Floreana mockingbird, Champion Islet also offers fantastic snorkelling and kayaking.



Thu 28 Baltra – Guayaquil – Santiago**Airfares**

Meals: B

Hotel ****

We conclude our unforgettable journey on Baltra Island, where we transfer to the airport for our flight to Guayaquil. We transit through Guayaquil airport and fly to Santiago, Chile.

On arrival we are met and transfer to our hotel.

Fri 29 Santiago

Meals: B, L

Hotel ****

After a leisurely breakfast we will head south of Santiago towards the Maipo Valley, a region well known for producing some of the most prestigious Chilean wines and often referred to as the Bordeaux of South America. The most famous wine of the Maipo Valley is the Cabernet Sauvignon variety, which stands out as among the best in the country.

Our first stop along the valley is at **Odifell Vineyard** for a tour and wine tasting. What could be better than being in beautiful surroundings with a few nice wines to sample?

We continue to another outstanding winery, **Las Araucarias boutique vineyard**, for another tasting and an opportunity to relax in the sunshine.

Time for lunch at **La Viluma** restaurant where we will enjoy a gourmet lunch, paired with premium wines.

In the afternoon, when we are ready we will return to our hotel.

Sat 30 Santiago – New Zealand

Meals: B

LATAM Flight

This morning we transfer to Santiago airport for our LATAM Airlines flight back to New Zealand.

Sun 31 ...Home

We arrive home with so many wonderful memories and amazing photos.

***Request a Free
Information Pack
with even more details
of this exciting tour***

Book Now