

# Luxury Galapagos Cruise on the M/Y Grace



## Highlights

**Aristotle Onassis, Winston Churchill, Princess Grace and now you! Join the jet set on this luxury cruise aboard the M/Y Grace, and witness the wonders of evolution in the process!**

Like flotsam detached from some ancient wreck, the Galapagos Islands appear lost and lifeless, adrift in the eastern Pacific. Straddling the Equator 1000km off the coast of Ecuador, the volcanic archipelago rises from the waves like a jagged, reptilian crest, a lacerated lava-scape of barren brilliance. From the scattered mangroves, through the arid cactus lowlands to the lush cloud forests of the upper regions, these young islands embody life in its infancy. Flora and fauna of unparalleled diversity confound modern visitors just as they did Charles Darwin some 175 years ago. It was here, observing the specific variation between islands, that the naturalist refined his theory of evolution. The species that inspired him – the finches, tortoises and marine iguanas – remain to this day (along with sharks, rays and near-tame sea lions!), a timeless testament to nature's genius.

Welcome aboard the M/Y Grace! This luxury Camper & Nicholson yacht has a stellar past, with millionaire tycoons Sir George Tilley and Aristotle Onassis among previous owners! She's also hosted such luminaries as Sir Winston Churchill and Princess Grace of Monaco, after whom the ship is now named. This cruise offers a comprehensive introduction to the archipelago, its flora, fauna and history. Each day you'll visit a different island, where guided hikes give you the chance to meet the animals and enjoy some spectacular views. There's also the option of daily snorkelling sessions – the Galapagos Marine Reserve is one of the world's largest – as well as side trips 'round the bays and mangroves in kayaks – perfect for spotting native penguins at play! Then, after a hard day's exploration, it's back onboard to watch the sunset from the comfort of the sundeck bar!

## Is it for me?

This is a seriously special tour, as unique and spectacular as the islands' many endemics! Landlubbers aside, it's difficult to think of anyone who wouldn't enjoy a luxury cruise in this most stunning of settings. There's a range of activities on offer, from kayaking and snorkelling to star-gazing and movie nights for the kids, and plenty of space on board to relax in private, so there's no risk of cabin fever! Needless to say, an exclusive Pacific cruise doesn't come cheap, and many people would rather backpack for six months than live like a star for a week. But if it's time, not money, that's the scarce resource, then this Galapagos tour comes highly recommended.

## Accommodation

The accommodation and food on this tour are truly world-class! All cabins are en suite, spacious and lovingly decorated, with climate controls, safe-boxes and ample storage space. Public areas include a large lounge and bar equipped with stereo and TV/video system, a sun deck with Jacuzzi and inside and al fresco dining areas! Speaking of dining, this cruise promises some spectacular culinary experiences. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are prepared by expertly trained chefs and served buffet-style either inside or on deck. All ingredients are fresh and locally sourced, so expect excellent seafood and organic meats, not to mention a terrific variety of tropical fruits and vegetables and some of South America's finest wines and coffees!

## Itinerary

Prices from  
**3,106** GBP (8 days ) per person

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**Day 1: Saturday**

Morning: Arrival to San Cristobal Island

Afternoon: San Cristobal: Playa Ochoa and Kicker Rock

**Day 2: Sunday**

Morning: Tower (Genovesa) Island: Prince Phillip's Steps (kayaking optional)

Afternoon: Tower: Darwin Bay

**Day 3: Monday**

Morning: Isabela (Albemarle) Island: Tagus Cove

Afternoon: Fernandina (Narborough) Island: Punta Espinosa

**Day 4: Tuesday**

Morning: Isabela (Albemarle) Island: Urbina Bay (kayaking optional)

Afternoon: Isabela (Albemarle) Island: Punta Vicente Roca

**Day 5: Wednesday**

Morning: Bartolome (Bartholomew) Island: Pinnacle Rock & Overlook

Afternoon: Santa Cruz (Indefatigable) Island: Dragon Hill

**Day 6: Thursday**

Morning: Santa Cruz (Indefatigable) Island: Highlands

Afternoon: Santa Cruz Island: Charles Darwin Research Station

**Day 7: Friday**

Morning: Hood (Española) Island: Punta Suarez

Afternoon: Hood (Española) Island: Gardner Bay (kayaking optional)

**Day 8: Saturday**

Early Morning: San Cristobal: Interpretation Centre

Late Morning: Depart for Mainland Ecuador

**Details****Getting there**

Air: San Cristobal Airport (flights from Quito or Guayaquil)

**Price includes**

Accommodation, meals, non-alcoholic drinks, service, snorkelling gear, shortie wetsuits

**Price details**

Charter: USD 72,900 (16 persons)

Master Suites USD 5,650 p.p.

Suites USD 5,200 p.p.

Premium Staterooms USD 4,750 p.p.

**Available**

Jan—Dec

**Typical Duration**

8 days

**Comfort level**

Refined (boutique or luxury accommodation and food)

**Experience required**

A reasonable interest is all that is needed