

Luxury Galapagos Cruise on The Beagle



Highlights

A deluxe, 105-foot steel-hulled schooner, The Beagle (named after the HMS Beagle on which Darwin toured the Pacific) is a vessel of unparalleled luxury. Step aboard and discover the Galapagos in style on this eight-day cruise!

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.

This eight-day cruise promises an adventure like no other! With the wind in her sails and the sun overhead, The Beagle evokes a golden age of marine exploration, when vast fleets voyaged to the ends of the earth in search of land, loot and the unknown! In the 21st century, the Galapagos Islands are the perfect location to indulge such fantasies, their rugged remoteness and bizarre beasts a relic of the ancient world! This luxury cruise features all the major islands of the archipelago, from Baltra and Bartholome to South Plaza and Santa Fe. En route, you'll encounter many of the islands intriguing inhabitants, including tortoises, iguanas, penguins and sharks! You'll also have the chance to walk and swim with the animals on your daily trips ashore.

Is it for me?

This is a truly magical tour that's the perfect introduction to the timeless wonder of the Galapagos! Children and adults alike will be enchanted by the islands' charismatic inhabitants, not to mention their 'end-of-the-world' topography, and what better way to discover it than in time-honoured seafaring fashion? This trip is perfect for those who want to tour the region in style, combining safety and spectacle, comfort and character. Adrenaline junkies might find the pace a bit leisurely, but all else are sure to be charmed by this once in a lifetime classic cruise!

Accommodation

The Beagle is without doubt one of the most stylish boats in the Galapagos. The 105-foot steel-hulled schooner has a teak deck with shaded spaces and an al fresco dining area, while inside is a saloon and six luxurious cabins, with air conditioning throughout. Meals are prepared by an expert chef, and can be taken inside or out on deck. The cuisine is gourmet Ecuadorian, meaning lots of fresh and exotic fruits and vegetables, exquisite fish and seafood dishes, soups, stews and a mind-boggling variety of potatoes! You can also expect some great wines and beers from nearby Chile.

Itinerary

Day 1 - Baltra Island, North Seymour island.

Prices from
2,110 GBP (8 days) per person

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Day 2 - Darwin bay (Tower I), El Barranco (Tower I).

Day 3 - South Plaza island, Santa Fe island.

Day 4 - Darwin Station. (Sta. Cruz I), Santa Cruz highlands - (Dinner served at owner's farm).

Day 5 - Gardner Bay (Española I), Point Suarez (Española I).

Day 6 - P. Cormorant, Post Office Bay (Floreana I).

Day 7 - Puerto Egas (James I), Bartholome Island.

Day 8 - Turtle cove (Sta. Cruz I), Baltra island.

Details

Getting there

Air: Baltra Airport from Quito International Airport

Price includes

Accommodation, meals, naturalist guide, on-shore excursions.

Not included

Airfare Quito-Galapagos-Quito (from \$418), Galapagos Park fees (\$100), alcoholic beverages, tips and personal expenses. Transit control card \$10 per person

Price details

Price quoted above is per person based on two sharing.

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