



*Pinnacle Rock, Galapagos Islands*

## Ecuador & the Galapagos Islands

**9 Days / 8 Nights**

**\$4,250 – 4,650 PP**

*Price Varies with Group Size  
and Travel Dates*



*The Blue-footed Boobie, famous residents of the Galapagos Islands!*

### Day 1 Departure

Meet your group at the airport and depart on your **flight to Quito, Ecuador**. On arrival, transfer to your hotel in the heart of Colonial Quito and check in. **Overnight in Quito.**

### Day 2 Quito Tour & The Equator!

After **breakfast at your hotel**, enjoy a **guided tour of Quito**, Ecuador's capital city, featuring the colonial quarter, built atop Incan ruins by the Spanish. **Visit the St. Augustine Covent and San Francisco Church**, and travel to the 'Middle of the World', the Equator, latitude 0 (for which Ecuador is named), and stand with one foot in each hemisphere! See the monument here and **visit the Ethnographic Museum** before returning to Quito for a **welcome dinner** of local cuisine. **Overnight in Quito.**

### Day 3 Craft & Market Excursion

Today, enjoy a **full-day excursion north of Quito** to various locations featuring beautiful local crafts and workmanship of Ecuadorians. Stop in Calderon to see the traditional, hand-crafted bread dough dolls. Continue on to San Antonio de Ibarra and **visit a woodcarver's workshop**, followed by a stop in Cotacachi to **visit a leather factory**. Finally, have **lunch** and spend time at the famous **Otavalo Indian Market**, where you'll explore the main plaza and side streets lined with colorful fabric, fruit, and craft stalls. Return to Quito this evening and have dinner at your own expense. **Overnight in Quito.**

### Day 4 Flight to Baltra & Darwin Station

This morning, board a **flight to Baltra**, the gateway to the Galapagos Islands. A living natural laboratory that inspired Darwin's theory of evolution, the Galapagos are home to marine and land creatures found nowhere else in the world. Meet your **naturalist guide** and transfer to your hotel in Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island for check in, then **visit the Charles Darwin Station**, a biological research and conservation project, and see the famous Giant Tortoises. **Dinner and overnight in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island.**

### Day 5 Plazas Island and Punta Carrion

Spend today touring one of the smallest islands, Plazas Islands, with a dramatic steep-cliffed shoreline alive with animal, bird and marine life. Be greeted here by a large colony of sea lions, land iguanas, and tropical birds, and your hike will reveal a unique carpet of Opuntia Cactus and Sesuvium. Walking along the southern part of the island, you'll come across a perfect habitat for a wide array of very unique birds. Along the cliff edges, nesting swallow-tailed gulls are the predominant seabirds, along with tropicbirds and shearwaters. **Dinner and overnight in Puerto Ayora.**

### Day 6 Bartholomew Islands

Today, **visit Bartholomew Island**, where the prominent Pinnacle Rock marks your entry into Sullivan Bay. This small island offers beautiful white sand beaches fringed by luxuriant green mangroves, volcanic cones, and lava tubes. Hike to the summit of the ancient crater for a breathtaking view of the island. This afternoon enjoy swimming and snorkeling among a small colony of the beloved Galapagos Penguins! **Return to Puerto Ayora for dinner and overnight.**

### Day 7 Snorkeling

Today you will visit multiple **snorkeling venues** around the islands of Florena or Seymour. **Return to Puerto Ayora for dinner and overnight.**

### Day 8 Santa Cruz Island & Quito

Spend some time today enjoying Garrapatero Beach on Santa Cruz Island - a gorgeous sandy beach with beautiful turquoise waters, surrounded by mangroves that are home to flamingos, herons, stilts, and other shore birds. Later today, transfer to Baltra for your **flight to Quito**. **Dinner and overnight in Quito.**

### Day 9 Return Flight

Check out this morning and transfer to the airport for your return, **international flight to the United States.**

#### **Sample Tour Itinerary**

Customize for your group, your preferences,  
your budget, your timeline!