

Bring a
Friend!
Everyone
saves \$100



2024 | Explore Galápagos Islands | 11 days Quito & Santa Cruz, Isabela & Floreana Islands

August 11 - 21

The untouched world of the Galápagos Islands is at your fingertips!

- ▶ Hike, snorkel and explore your way through one of the **world's most unique environments**.
- ▶ Enjoy **up-close encounters with myriad animal life**, including sea lions, birds, manta rays and giant tortoises.
- ▶ Roam through **lava tunnels, walk with giant tortoises** and **hike up the Sierra Negra Volcano**.
- ▶ Connect with the origins of evolution at the celebrated **Charles Darwin Research Station**.
- ▶ Uncover **Floreana's rich, mysterious history** of buccaneers, convicts, whalers and colonists.
- ▶ Experience the diverse underwater world while **snorkeling with tame reef sharks, turtles and stingrays**.



Included Features

- **Small Groups** sized just right at 16 travelers
- **Comfortable accommodations**
- **Active Discovery Adventures** connect you to the local community and culture via foot, boat, bike and more; all led by **resident guides and experts**
- **Expert-led Enrichment talks** enhance your insight into the region
- Welcome Reception to mingle
- **Flexibility for free time** to pursue your interests and book optional adventures
- Tipping of guides and drivers
- Departures guaranteed to operate with just 8 travelers
- **AHI Sustainability Promise:**
We strive to make a positive impact by directly benefiting the communities we visit

Discovery Adventures & Enrichment

Unique Quito. Visit the Middle of the World, the Equator line. Then get an insider's look at Quito's beautiful UNESCO-listed historic center.

Galápagos Highlands. Explore lava tunnels and search for giant tortoises.

Tortuga Bay & Turtle Conservation. Discover the endemic animal life of Tortuga Bay and tour the exulted Charles Darwin Research Station.

Las Tintoreras. Enjoy the vibrant underwater world of this snorkeling destination.

Volcano Hike & Tortoise Center. Hike up the Sierra Negra Volcano and visit the giant tortoise breeding center.

Floreana Island & Highlands. Visit a white-sand beach for swimming and snorkeling. In the Floreana highlands, your guide shares the island's history.

Beach & Swimming Holes. Splash 'n swim at a beach and local swimming holes.

Accommodations

- **3 nights** in Quito, Ecuador
- **3 nights** on Santa Cruz Island
- **3 nights** on Isabela Island
- **1 night** on Floreana Island

Transfers & Meals

- Private vehicle transfers in the Land Program
- 10 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 6 dinners, including Welcome & Farewell Dinners

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Itinerary

Days 1-2 Touch down in Quito, 🌐 transfer ➡️ to the hotel and head out to explore. Later, meet up with your group. The next morning, head to Mitad del Mundo to set foot on the Equator line. After, tour Quito's historic center, rich with colonial heritage and architectural gems.

Days 3-4 Board a morning flight for Baltra. Upon arrival, cross the Itabaca Channel and journey up to the Santa Cruz highlands. At El Reserva el Chato, watch majestic giant tortoises amble through their natural habitat. Then descend into fascinating lava tunnels. You may get a bit muddy as you explore and crawl through these geological wonders!

Travel to beautiful Tortuga Bay, host to diverse marine and bird life. Enjoy an enriching tour of the Charles Darwin Research Station, home to turtles old and young. Later, encounter the lively social and culinary scene of Puerto Ayora. Dig into authentic local fare during dinner.

Days 5-6 Depart via speed boat for Isabela Island. Here, enjoy a wildlife boat excursion to the islet of Las Tintoreras. You may see the white-tip sharks for whom the area is named. Don your mask and slip into the inviting water to swim with myriad sea life, such as manta rays, vibrant fish and playful sea lions!

Lace up your boots for a heart-pumping hike up the Sierra Negra Volcano. Take in the sprawling views and marvel at the world's second-largest volcanic caldera.



Also, visit a tortoise breeding center to learn more about the conservation and varieties of tortoises found on the islands.

Days 7-8 Take advantage of time to book optional activities during a free day, then board a boat to cruise to Floreana island, host to pretty black-sand beaches and misty highland peaks.

Swim and snorkel on the local beaches of Floreana. You may encounter turtles and iguanas at sea and yellow warblers and finches on land. Hike into the highlands as your guide shares the fascinating and sometimes sinister history of the island.

Days 9-10 Return to Santa Cruz and visit a local beach and swimming holes. Enjoy time to swim, splash and sunbathe! The afternoon is at leisure.

Fly back to Quito and gather tonight to celebrate at a Farewell Dinner.

Day 11 After breakfast, transfer ➡️ to the airport for your return flight home! 🌐

Flights 🌐 and transfers ➡️ provided for AHI Further FlexAir participants.

AHI Travel Expertise

Passenger Service Representative | Helps with everything from arranging flights to fulfilling special requests.

Travel Director | Locally based guide who knows the area like the back of their well-traveled hand.

Travel Information | Prepares you fully for your journey.

Local Specialists | Provide friendly, knowledgeable service and share their expertise and passion for their country.

Let us arrange your flights!

AHI Further FlexAir | Our personalized air program offers incredible advantages:

- price guarantee
- flexibility to change or cancel
- assistance with changes or delays
- flight insurance

PRICES

Full Price

\$3,495

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$895 (limited availability)

Program-specific terms and conditions are available at <https://uscfr.ahitravel.com/destinations/1847A?school-id=688>. You can also request a copy from our travel experts.

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