



GALAPAGOS ISLANDS Expedition

October 5-14, 2024

Optional Post Trip to your Easter Island Annular Eclipse Expedition

Galapagos tortoise



Galapagos penguin



Come discover the Galapagos Islands on board the Coral yachts.

With leadership by excellent Galapagos guides, this will be a memorable adventure!



Galapagos flycatcher



Galapagos sealions



Marine iguanas



Darwin's finch



Galapagos Islands Trip Fee:

From \$6,420 per person
twin share + air (Std+ cabin)

Junior Suites:
\$6,890 + air

*See page 2
for more
details!*

*For Info,
please contact
Betchart Expeditions Inc.,
(800) 252-4910 or email
info@betchartexpeditions.com*

We invite you to join us!



Betchart Expeditions Inc.

17050 Montebello Road., Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

www.betchartexpeditions.com

For more information call Terri 800-252-4910

or Email BetchartTerri@gmail.com



This morning, we'll explore the natural world near Prince Philip's steps. We'll walk up the rock stairway to a path that leads through a seabird colony full of Nazca and Red-footed boobies. The trail continues inland to nesting booby colonies in the Palo Santo forest. We may see Wedge-rumped storm-petrels in flight. In the

afternoon we will disembark onto a small sand and coral beach. Along a trail near the tidal lagoon, we may see Swallow-tailed gulls, Lava gulls, Yellow-crowned and Lava herons. The trail continues through Palo Santo trees, Opuntia cacti, and saltbush, home to Red-footed boobies and Great frigatebirds.

DAY 4 Tue Oct 8 RABIDA ISLAND & BARTOLOME ISLAND

We'll explore Rabida Island this morning, which lies at the heart of the archipelago. This dramatic island, with its distinctive red-sand beach, is home to sea lions, mockingbirds, finches, endemic Galapagos doves and vermilion flycatchers. A walk takes us through a forest of Palo Santo and cacti to a beautiful overview of the bay. Snorkeling here can be excellent, often with large schools of endemic black-striped salemas, sea lions, and the ubiquitous turtles. In the afternoon we will visit Bartolome Island, the most iconic landscape of the entire archipelago. The view from the top of Bartolome overlooks famous Pinnacle Rock and austere Santiago Island beyond. It is well worth the climb up the wooden boardwalk. This volcanic scene has often been likened to a lunar landscape. Our snorkel here might put us face-to-face with Galapagos penguins, White-tipped reef sharks and playful sea lions.

DAY 5 Wed Oct 9 SANTA CRUZ – Highlands Galapagos tortoise reserve

Today we will explore the Highlands Tortoise Reserve on Santa Cruz Island.. We'll also look for tree and ground finches, Vermillion flycatchers, Galapagos flycatchers, Yellow warblers, and cattle egrets (usually standing on a tortoise). The journey to the reserve offers great opportunities to see the contrasts that the island offers and the variety of ecosystems. The road goes from the coast through the agricultural zone and straight up to the dense humid forests. Often Galapagos tortoises are also seen on the way, wandering through pastures in the paddocks. This spot is a birdwatchers haven, since almost every land bird present on the island lives or migrates here. In the afternoon, we will visit Black Turtle Cove on Santa Cruz Island. Here we will discover four species of mangroves, many turtles, herons, and rays.



DAY 6 Thur Oct 10 FERNANDINA & ISABELA ISLANDS

Fernandina is the youngest island in Galapagos and one of the most pristine. It is the marine iguana capital of the world. The desolate volcanic backdrop is home to a huge concentration of these enigmatic reptiles. Galapagos penguins share the same shoreline. Here we also have the exciting opportunity to snorkel with marine iguanas feeding underwater, and with penguins, turtles, and flightless cormorants.

Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island) is a spectacular site, surrounded by the immense cliffs of Isabela Volcano. Studded with resting sea birds such as brown noddies and Nazca boobies, we will enjoy them in close proximity from our dinghies. Snorkeling here is superb, with some fish species only found in the western part of the Galapagos archipelago. We may also have a chance to swim with penguins and potentially a plethora of green turtles.

DAY 7 Fri Oct 11 ISABELA ISLAND (URBINA BAY & TAGUS COVE)

From Urbina Bay, we will walk inland to discover the large blocks of coral that lie completely exposed after a dramatic geological uplift in 1954. Located at the western base of Alcedo Volcano we hope to run into a few land iguanas as well as some of the volcano's endemic Galapagos giant tortoises.

Tagus Cove was a well-known hideout and deep water anchorage in the days of pirates, It was also one of the sites visited by Charles Darwin and the HMS Beagle in 1835. A beautiful hike leads us past an overview of Darwin Lake and on to a stunning volcanic landscape which reveals Isabela island's dramatic northern volcanoes. Once back at sea level the perfect activity is to snorkel along a submerged wall with turtles, lots of fish, penguins and potentially flightless cormorants.

DAY 8 Sat Oct 12 PUERTO EGAS & SULLIVAN BAY (SANTIAGO ISLAND)

This morning we will land on the dark volcanic sand beach visited by Darwin in 1835. Here the trail leads through volcanic ash to basalt. It is home to Yellow-crowned night herons and marine life including lobsters, starfish, and Marine iguanas grazing on algae beds alongside Sally lightfoot crabs. Endemic fur seals may be seen swimming nearby.

In the afternoon we will visit Sullivan Bay, which has extensive young lava flows formed during the end of the 19th century. Plants with yellow-to-orange leaves grow out of fissures in the lava, and tree molds can be seen in the lava.



DAY 9 Sun Oct 13 BALTRA - GUAYAQUIL

After a morning excursion, we will go to Baltra Airport for the return flight to Guayaquil. *Hotel (1 night).*

DAY 10 Mon Oct 14 GUAYAQUIL - HOME

Having had a tremendous journey, fly from Guayaquil home.

COSTS & CONDITIONS

Questions, Reservations, Deposits, and Payments: To reserve your place on the Easter Island Annular Eclipse Galapagos Islands Post Trip October 5-14, 2024, please phone **Terri** at **Betchart Expeditions Inc.** (800) 252-4910 or (408) 867-4973 or email: betchartterri@gmail.com

Please mail the reservation form and your deposit check for \$1,000 per person to: Betchart Expeditions Inc., 17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014. Final payment is due March 1, 2024.

Expedition Fees: Prices are per person twin share + air + Galapagos national park entry & migration card + optional activities (scuba/kayak, wet suit rental).

- _____ \$6,890 in Junior cabin, per person twin share
- _____ \$6,420 in Standard Plus cabins, per person twin share

- Single supplement from 50% additional (*limited availability, all singles are encouraged to share*).
- Galapagos national park entry & migration card \$120.

Airfare: Airfare from your hometown to/from Galapagos is an additional cost. International airfare: Home to Santiago with return Guayaquil-Home RT is additional; internal group airfare Guayaquil/Galapagos, RT is \$525 per person and will be itemized on your invoice.

Optional activities:

- Scuba Diving if desired \$325 per half day.
- Kayaking \$40 per use.
- Wet suit rental \$50 per person.

Expedition Fee Includes: Seven nights shipboard accommodations twin share in Galápagos; two nights accommodations twin share at hotel in Guayaquil with breakfast; all meals aboard ship; excursions in Galapagos; group airport transfers by hotel shuttle or taxi; entrance fees; leadership, administration.

Expedition Fee Does Not Include: Air fare quoted separately from your home to Guayaquil, RT, and Guayaquil/Galapagos RT; lunch or dinner in Guayaquil; Galapagos national park entry & migration card; gratuities to expedition leader, naturalist guides, and ship's crew; personal items such as laundry, alcoholic beverages; beverages at meals; snacks, personal insurance; or scuba diving or other optional activities.

What to Expect: This expedition is for travelers who would like to explore the Galapagos Islands with a superb naturalist and excellent local guides. Travel on board the 32- or 20- passenger Coral yachts for 7 nights and 8 days. Explore the islands on foot or by bus to the tortoise reserves, with frequent panga rides to discover wildlife and scenic locations from the water. Enjoy snorkeling and swimming with penguins or other wildlife. Optional diving may be available. This expedition is an excellent opportunity for an adventurous traveler who enjoys the camaraderie of exploring with a like-minded group. No smoking in vehicles, during lectures, or meals please.

Reservations, Deposits & Payments: To reserve a place on this expedition, please mail a deposit of \$1,000 per person with the completed reservation form. Balance is due 180 days before departure (March 1, 2024).

Cancellations & Refunds: Deposit is refundable less \$250 per person until 180 days before departure. Within 180 days of departure, payments are not refundable. Trip cancellation insurance will be offered. There are no refunds for unused meals or other expedition features.

----- cut off & mail -----
RESERVATIONS **#1739 GAL**

YES! I/We want to join the **Galapagos Islands Expeditions, October 5-14, 2024** offered by Betchart Expeditions Inc. Please reserve _____ space(s). As a deposit, I/we have enclosed a check for \$_____ (\$1,000 per person), payable to Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account.

Name _____ Age _____

Name _____ Age _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Please reserve _____ double _____ twin or _____ single accommodations.

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:

1st choice: _____ 2nd choice: _____

Please mail to: **Galapagos Islands Oct 5, 2024**
Betchart Expeditions Inc.
17050 Montebello Road
Cupertino, CA 95014-5435

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