

Indagare

INDAGARE
JOURNEY

EXPLORING THE GALÁPAGOS

SEPTEMBER 5 – 14, 2026 10 DAYS | 9 NIGHTS



QUITO, ECUADOR | THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Exploring the Galápagos

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2026 (9 NIGHTS)

An Edenic wonderland seemingly forgotten by time, the Galápagos have fascinated nature lovers and adventurers since Charles Darwin first proposed his theory of evolution, based on the living laboratory he found there. On this 10-day journey, designed to maximize the top experiences, sites and wildlife on land and sea, these islands, which are hard to navigate, have been made accessible onboard the andBeyond *Galápagos Explorer*, one of the most luxurious boats in the archipelago. Led by naturalists and expert guides, guests will experience the otherworldly landscape, along with the UNESCO World Heritage city of Quito.

FROM \$16,450 (PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY); \$24,500 (SINGLE OCCUPANCY)

BEST FOR

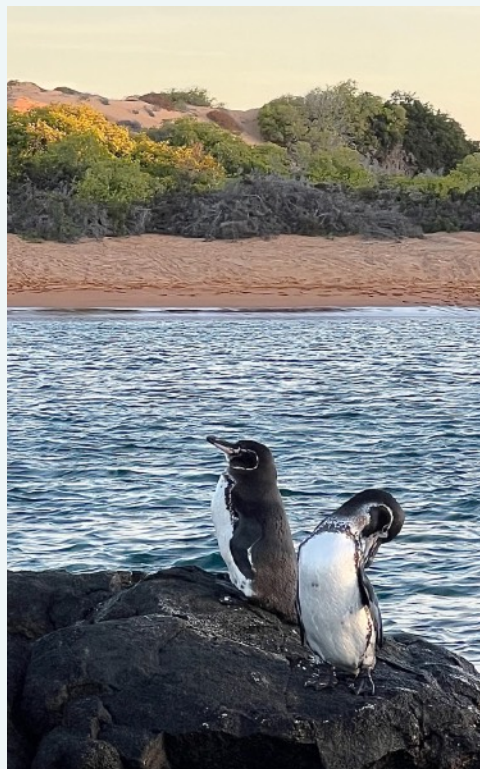


TRAILBLAZING

ACTIVE/ADVENTURE

NATURE/WILDLIFE

HIGHLIGHTS & SPECIAL EXPERIENCES



All photos courtesy Indagare unless otherwise noted.

Discover the Galápagos by boat in total comfort and convenience aboard the *Galápagos Explorer*—from Darwin Bay to San Cristóbal and beyond. You will be joined by your local host, Nicolas Hibbard, as well as two expert naturalist guides and 13 crew members on board—the most exclusive guest-to-staff ratio in the Galápagos.

Experience up-close encounters with rare species of island wildlife.

Observe sea lions, penguins, sea turtles and giant tortoises, long with dolphins, whales, and hammerhead sharks, marine and land iguanas, dancing blue-footed boobies and more.

Stop at Puerto Ayora, home to the Charles Darwin Research Station

and the center of restorative efforts in the park. Its Giant Tortoise Breeding & Rearing Program began by rescuing the remaining 14 tortoises on the island of Española in 1970.

Explore Quito, the first UNESCO World Heritage city, and see its most famous churches and museums, including La Basilica Gothic Church, the gold-leaf-covered Church of La Compañía, the Plaza Grande and other sites, all with top private guides.

Host, Impact Partner & Accommodations

HOST



Nicolas Hibbard joined Indagare over three years ago, bringing his global perspective and personal travel experiences to his role as a Creation Associate. Born and raised in Ecuador, and now based between Quito and Madrid, he has traveled to over 25 countries and is passionate about crafting journeys that foster cultural connection and discovery. Nico trained under Indagare founder Melissa Biggs Bradley and veteran Host John Cantrell, and has since hosted the Galapagos Insider Journey; co-hosted trips with Melissa in Egypt and Mallorca; and led Insider Journeys alongside Page Knox in Mexico City and Vienna & Budapest. As an experienced travel planner, Nico is committed to making sure every guest feels comfortable, cared for, and fully engaged throughout each journey.

ACCOMMODATIONS



CASA GANGOTENA

Quito's most elegant hotel is a Relais & Châteaux set on the San Francisco Plaza in the heart of the Old Town. Its 31 spacious rooms are well appointed with Osborne & Little fabrics, metallic-accented wallpaper and tropical flowers, but the star of the property is its gracious staff.



GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER

andBeyond is a conservation-focused brand who acquired the *Galápagos Explorer* in 2024. The boat features four levels, three of which have dedicated outdoor space. The cuisine is vibrant and elevated—and guests are sure to be well-fed for active days. [View the cabin layout here.](#)

From top: Courtesy Nicolas Hibbard; courtesy Relais & Châteaux; courtesy andBeyond

From left: Courtesy andBeyond; by Nico Hibbard, courtesy Indagare



Itinerary



DAYS 1-2, SEP. 5-6: WELCOME TO QUITO

- Arrive at Quito International Airport with VIP airport assistance, and meet your driver for your private transfer to Casa Gangotena (40-minute drive). The rest of the afternoon and evening is at leisure to rest and acclimate to the altitude.
- The following day, explore Quito, a UNESCO World Heritage City, with a guide. Visit Casa del Alabado Archaeological Museum, a colonial residence-turned-Pre-Colombian artifacts museum. Then, admire the Presidential Palace, the Archbishop's Palace, San Francisco Convent—one of the oldest religious structures in Latin America, built atop ancient Inca foundations—and the gold-leaf-covered Church of La Compañía.
- Lunch at a local restaurant before a chocolate-making experience at the Cacao Museum, and create your own chocolate bar.
- Festive welcome dinner on night two in the Foresta neighborhood

OVERNIGHTS: CASA GANGOTENA (X2) | MEALS: B, L D (DAY 2 ONLY)

DAY 3, SEP. 7: QUITO TO THE GALÁPAGOS

- Transfer to Quito International Airport for your flight to the Galápagos Islands. (Flight time is approximately two hours.)
- Upon arrival, transfer to the *andBeyond Galápagos Explorer*. Settle into your cabin and receive a welcome orientation from the expedition team followed by lunch on board.
- This afternoon, begin your journey with a guided hike on North Seymour Island, home to thriving wildlife colonies. Walk along the rocky coastline and interior trails in search of blue-footed boobies, frigatebirds, fork-tailed gulls, land iguanas and sea lions. The island is also dotted with palo santo trees, a signature species of the archipelago.
- Return to the *Explorer* for the evening and dinner at leisure.

OVERNIGHT: GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER | MEALS: B, L, D

Itinerary



DAY 4, SEP. 8: SAN CRISTÓBAL & LOBOS ISLAND

- After breakfast, spend the morning on San Cristóbal Island, Darwin's first stop in 1835. Disembark at Punta Pitt, the only place in the world where you can see all three species of booby and two species of frigate birds nesting in the same place. Hike the trail with your naturalist guide to observe seabirds, marine iguanas and views over the coastline.
- Return to the boat for lunch and a sail to Leon Dormido ("Kicker Rock"), a volcanic lava tuff that rises 500 feet above the water. Be sure to watch for hammerhead sharks!
- Continue to Lobos Island. Snorkel in the channel that separates the two landmasses, as sea lions playfully swim up to you to say hello.
- Return to the boat for dinner onboard.

OVERNIGHT: GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER | MEALS: B, L, D

DAY 5, SEP. 9: ESPAÑOLA ISLAND

- Spend the day off the coast of Española Island, at the magnificent white sand beaches of Osborn Islet and Gardner Bay, where colonies of sea lions laze in the sun and sea turtles swim offshore. Swim, snorkel or kayak among young sea lions and tropical fish. beginning at Punta Suarez with the sea lions. Trek to the western edge of the island to "Albatross Airport," home to waved albatross birds.
- Lunch on board before exploring Punta Suarez, one of the archipelago's top wildlife sites, which hosts a dense and diverse concentration of seabirds. Walk along the trail to reach the cliffs on the southern coast, where a natural blowhole sends ocean spray soaring up to 75 feet in the air—a striking display of coastal power and beauty.
- Return to the ship this evening for dinner on board and time to relax under the stars.

OVERNIGHT: GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER | MEALS: B, L, D





Itinerary

DAY 6, SEP. 10: FLOREANA ISLAND

- After breakfast on board, disembark for the highlands of Floreana. This island once served as a port for pirates, whalers, free thinkers, a baroness and even convicts. Explore Champion Island, where you can interact with sea lions and look for dolphins, and Punta Cormorant, to discover its flamingo-filled lagoon—one of the largest in the Galápagos.
- Walk along Flour Beach, a coral beach whose waters are teeming with sea turtles and rays.
- Return to the ship for lunch and perhaps a siesta before your next outing.
- Visit the famous Post Office Bay, whose 18th-century informal mail system lives on today.
- Enjoy dinner on board as you sail to your next destination.

OVERNIGHT: GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER | MEALS: B, L, D

DAY 7, SEP. 11: SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

- Start the morning at the Charles Darwin Research Station, home to the Charles Darwin Foundation. Your naturalist guide will teach you about the island's unique ecosystems, ongoing scientific research and the preservation programs that protect biodiversity.

One of the most successful rewilding projects in the world, the CDF heavily focuses on conservation, including breeding programs of endangered island wildlife and the elimination of invasive species.

- Continue to the Fausto Llerena Breeding Center to encounter giant tortoises and land iguanas of all ages. The center plays a key role in the recovery of endangered tortoise populations, and the trails offer an up-close look at these creatures in various stages of life.
- Return to the boat for lunch on board.
- This afternoon, travel to Los Gemelos, or “The Twins,” where two large sinkhole craters create an otherworldly topography.
- Visit the Wild Tortoise Reserve and meet the Galápagos’ iconic gentle giants.
- Enjoy dinner on board as you sail to your next destination.

OVERNIGHT: GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER | MEALS: B, L, D

Itinerary

DAY 8, SEP. 12: DRAGON HILL & BARTOLOMÉ ISLAND

- After breakfast, visit Cerro Dragón, or Dragon Hill—so named for its impressive population of bright yellow land iguanas.
- Lunch on board the boat as you sail to Bartolomé Island, one of the most iconic sites in the Galápagos known for a hike to sweeping panoramic views and the famous Pinnacle Rock—a towering lava formation that juts dramatically from the shoreline. Head down to the beach and snorkel in the clear waters, often alongside penguins, sea turtles and tropical fish.
- Return to the boat for dinner.

OVERNIGHT: GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER | MEALS: B, L, D

DAY 9, SEP. 13: GENOVESA ISLAND

- Today, experience the only northern island open to visitors, the remote and otherworldly Genovesa Island, which is made of the eroded rim of a submerged shield volcano rising above sea level.
- Head to Darwin Bay, one of the most picturesque and biodiverse spots in the Galápagos, for swimming, snorkeling and *panga* (Zodiac) excursions.
- Return to the ship for lunch on board and time to rest before the next activity.
- This afternoon, discover El Barranco, or Prince Philip's Steps. This steep lava staircase ascends to the top of a cliff, leading into a unique dry forest of palo santo trees that are home to large nesting colonies of red-footed boobies, frigatebirds and Darwin's finches.
- If time allows, enjoy a final snorkel at El Barranco, where underwater cliffs and lava formations offer sightings of rays, reef fish and perhaps even a shy hammerhead shark.
- Return to the ship this evening for a festive farewell dinner on board.

OVERNIGHT: GALÁPAGOS EXPLORER | MEALS: B, L, D



Itinerary

DAY 10, SEP. 14: GALÁPAGOS DEPARTURE

- This morning, make a final stop at Daphne Major, one of two eroded volcanic tuff cones located just north of Santa Cruz Island. Renowned as the primary site of Peter and Rosemary Grant's 40-year study on Darwin's finches, the island is rich in ecological significance and birdlife.
- Return to the boat and say your farewells to the crew and your guide, then disembark for your transfer to the airport and your flight back to Quito. Here, you will be driven to La Palma Polo Club where you will have use of a Day Room to rest and refresh before your international flight home.

MEALS: B

* *Please note that elements of the itinerary may change.*

* *To view the andBeyond Galápagos Explorer cabin layout, [click here.](#)*



INDAGARE IMPACT

At Indagare, we believe that travel can and should have a positive impact on the destinations we visit. We are proud to operate as a 100 percent carbon-neutral company, and you can rest assured that the unavoidable emissions from your trip have been offset through trustworthy carbon projects. And through the Indagare Impact Fund, we donate an additional percentage of our annual revenue to carefully vetted non-profits committed to helping preserve culture, heritage and the environment.

Ready to experience
The Galápagos?

Click the link to reserve your spot:

[BOOK NOW](#)

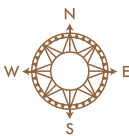
Journey Inclusions

- All accommodations as detailed in the itinerary. Indagare can arrange higher category accommodation upgrades, subject to availability.
- All meals and beverages, as detailed in the itinerary (inclusive of meal tips)
- All guided touring, admission fees and activities, as detailed in the itinerary
- VIP arrival assistance and private transfers to the hotel (2x pax per vehicle) in Toyota Fortuners SUVs or similar
- VIP Lounge at Galápagos Airport on arrival and departure
- Scheduled group departure transfers, as well as group transfers throughout to all included activities, in small luxury vehicles
- Domestic Economy flight from Quito (UIO) to The Galápagos (GPS) on Avianca Airlines (subject to availability)
- Baseline gratuities for drivers and guides on touring days, boat crew and naturalist guides
- Entrance Fee to the Galápagos National Park as well as mandatory migratory card for the Galápagos
- Expert guides, naturalists, and drivers, including the 24/7 support of Indagare's partners on the ground
- The services of Indagare's expert travel team to plan all trip details, international flights and trip extensions (costs not included)—subject to booking accommodation through Indagare.
- Complimentary Indagare Self-Planner Trial Membership (valued at \$395)
- 24/7 access to Global Rescue emergency medical, security and evacuation services for the duration of the trip (see p. 10)
- Carbon Neutrality: Offsetting 100 percent of unavoidable emissions through certified carbon projects

JOURNEY EXCLUSIONS

- International air transportation to and from Quito
- Meals not specified and premium beverages (including alcoholic beverages) other than those included in the meals
- Optional activities and personal items and expenses
- Gratuities for arrival / departure representatives, transfer drivers, porters, and housekeeping
- Trip insurance (highly recommended—please let us know if you would like quotes)
- Custom trip-planning for add-on travel to destinations not included in the Journey is available; please inquire.
- Liability for change in itinerary due to reasons beyond our control (such as flights, cancellations, natural phenomena)

Know Before You Go: Global Rescue & Trip Insurance



Complimentary International Global Rescue Services Coverage

*To help you travel more safely, responsibly and seamlessly, as part of your signup and registration, **all guests on International Indagare Journeys receive Global Rescue coverage for the dates of their journey as an added benefit.*** Global Rescue is not travel or trip insurance, but in the event that an emergency occurs during the trip, guests have access to a variety of services, including medical assistance and evacuation assistance. Indagare also strongly recommend that you purchase additional travel insurance for your trip, in case an unforeseen emergency arises or you need medical treatment while traveling. See below for more information.

Global Rescue Overview

Global Rescue was founded in 2004 and has five operations centers and offices in five countries, with 200-plus medical centers of excellence worldwide and 20,000-plus operations globally. Global Rescue operations centers are staffed by experienced nurses, paramedics and military special operations veterans.

For the duration of any Indagare Journey you have access to:

- **24/7 medical assistance and advisory services for natural disasters, terror attacks and civil unrest**
- **Evacuations from the point of injury / illness to home country hospital (pending the type of care and level of care needed)**
- **Travel intelligence services, including alerts and real-time destination reports for 215 countries**

Additional services include: symptom triage, referral to local hospital or clinic, urgent/emergency message relay, telephonic support, health information services, replacement of lost medical supplies & medical triage.

For more on Global Rescue, go to globalrescue.com.

Additional Trip Insurance Recommendation

It is important to note that the **Global Rescue coverage that comes with every purchase of an Indagare Journey is not the same as travel or trip insurance**, which—among other features—offers financial protection concerning situations that occur before a trip begins and require a change or cancellation of travel plans. These can include a personal or family illnesses or other unexpected factors such as lost luggage, flight disruption, illnesses or accidents that require emergency medical treatment and/or hospitalization.

So that guests can plan and undertake travel with the minimum possible financial risks, **Indagare also strongly recommends that guests joining Indagare Journeys trips purchase travel insurance to cover their trip(s).** Travel insurance may be obtained from any of a number of providers that specialize in such insurance, and as a courtesy to guests, **Indagare can arrange for a quote for coverage with our preferred providers to be prepared and emailed directly to you at your request.**

Note: Plans from some providers can be purchased up to 24 hours prior to departure; others require 14 days notice. Indagare recommends opting in to a plan well in advance of your trip. Please be advised that Indagare is not a licensed insurance company or advisor.