

Indagare

INDAGARE  
JOURNEY

# EXPLORING THE GALÁPAGOS

OCTOBER 26 – NOVEMBER 4, 2025    10 DAYS | 9 NIGHTS



QUITO, ECUADOR | THE GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

# Exploring the Galápagos

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26 – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025 (9 NIGHTS)

An Edenic wonderland seemingly forgotten by time, the islands of the Galápagos have fascinated nature lovers and adventurers since Charles Darwin proposed his theory of evolution based on the living laboratory he found during his time in the islands. 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 *M/Y Grace*, 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 \$13,000 (PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY); \$18,850 (SINGLE OCCUPANCY)

BEST FOR

TRAILBLAZING

ACTIVE/ADVENTURE

NATURE/WILDLIFE

## HIGHLIGHTS & SPECIAL EXPERIENCES

**Discover the Galápagos by boat** in total comfort and convenience aboard the *M/Y Grace*—from Darwin Station to San Cristobal and beyond. Its illustrious history includes participation in the evacuation of allied soldiers from Dunkirk, France in World War II, as well as hosting the honeymoon getaway of Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier of Monaco.

**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.



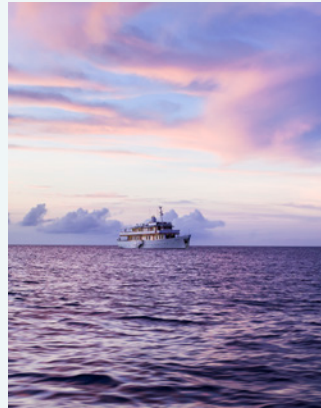
Cover photo and this page courtesy Indagare

# Your Accommodations & Impact Partner



## 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.



## M/Y GRACE

This 16-guest yacht once hosted Princess Grace and Prince Rainier of Monaco (hence its name). Cabins are spacious and charmingly furnished indoor and outdoor areas spread over three levels—perfect for bird-watching, lounging and enjoying *apéritifs*. [View the cabin layout here.](#)

**Indagare Impact:** As part of our commitment to conservation efforts around the world, Indagare will make a donation to the Charles Darwin Foundation on behalf of all trip participants.

The Charles Darwin Foundation is one of the most successful rewilding projects in the world. It focuses on conservation, including breeding programs of endangered island wildlife and the elimination of invasive species.

Ready to experience  
The Galápagos?

Click the link below to reserve your spot:

[BOOK NOW](#)



From top: Courtesy Relais & Châteaux (left); courtesy Quasar Expeditions (right); courtesy Indagare.



From left: Courtesy Indagare; Courtesy Quark Expeditions

## Itinerary



### DAYS 1-2, OCT. 26-27: QUITO

- Arrive at Quito International Airport, transfer to Casa Gangotena (40-minute drive).
- Enjoy a welcome dinner with a conservation expert at one of Quito's best restaurants.
- The following day, explore colonial Quito with a guide. See La Basilica Gothic Church, La Plaza Grande, San Francisco Convent and the gold-leaf-covered Church of La Compañía.
- After lunch, visit Casa del Alabado Archaeological Museum, a colonial residence-turned-Pre-Colombian artifacts museum.
- Join a chocolate-making experience at the Cacao Museum, and create your own chocolate bar. Dinner at leisure—Indagare is happy to provide restaurant recommendations.

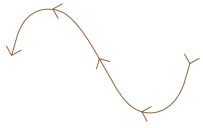
OVERNIGHTS: CASA GANGOTENA (X2) | MEALS: D (DAY 1), B, L (DAY 2)

### DAY 3, OCT. 28: QUITO TO TORTOISE RESERVE & DARWIN STATION

- Transfer to Quito International Airport for your flight to Baltra Island. Meet your National Park Guide.
- Visit Los Gemelos, or “The Twins,” where two large sinkhole craters create an otherworldly topography—look out for Darwin's famous finches and the elusive vermilion flycatcher.
- Continue to the Wild Tortoise Reserve and meet the Galápagos' iconic gentle giants.
- Board the *M/Y Grace*, your home while in Galápagos, and begin your adventure at sea.
- Stop at Puerto Ayora to see 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.
- Return to the boat for sunset cocktails on the sky lounge deck and a festive welcome dinner as you sail to Floreana Island.

OVERNIGHT: M/Y GRACE | MEALS: B, L, D

# Itinerary



## DAY 4, OCT. 29: FLOREANA ISLAND

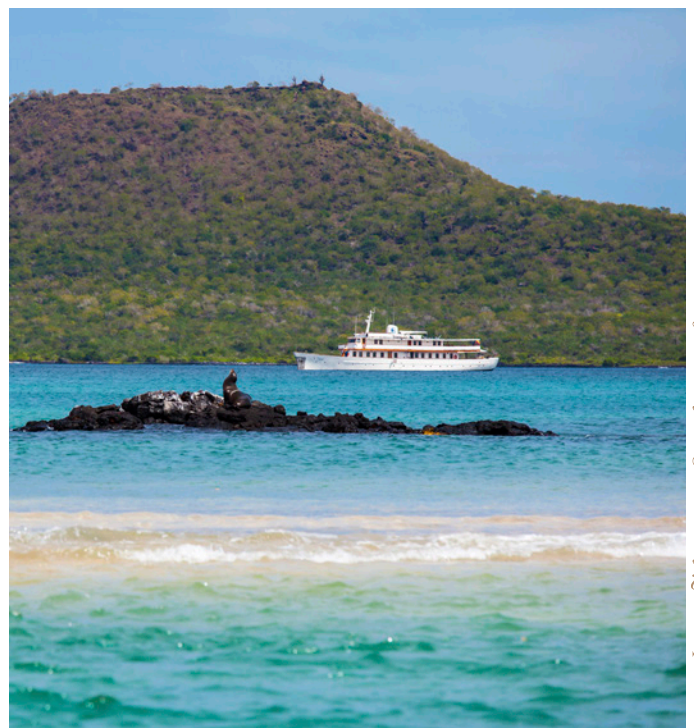
- After breakfast on board, disembark for the highlands of Floreana. This island once served as a port for pirates, whalers, free thinkers, a baroness and even convicts. Visit the famous post office, still in use today, as well as a lava tube that descends into the earth and comes out at the sea.
- Snorkeling and swimming with sea turtles and tropical fish in Post Office Bay
- Return to the *M/Y Grace* for lunch and perhaps a *siesta* while you sail to the northeastern coast of Floreana for a hike to see flamingo-filled lagoons. End at Flour Beach, a coral beach whose waters are teeming with sea turtles and rays.
- See Devil's Crown, a submerged volcanic cone populated by golden and eagle rays and a variety of sharks, for more snorkeling; or head to Champion to interact with sea lions and look for dolphins and humpback whales. Return to the boat to rest—and perhaps relax in the Jacuzzi; later, enjoy sunset cocktails on the Sky Lounge, followed by dinner.

OVERNIGHT: *M/Y GRACE* | MEALS: B, L, D

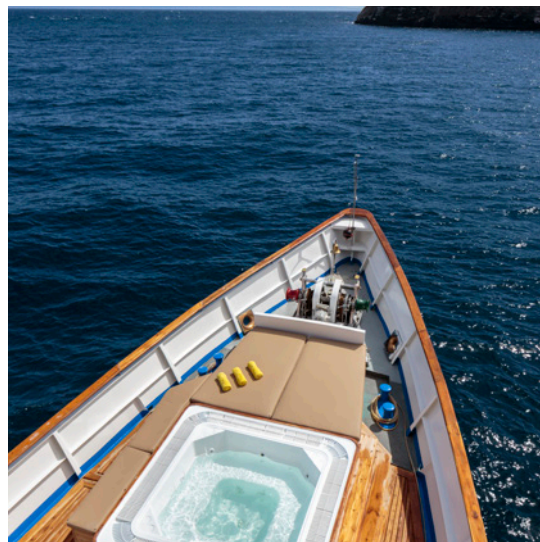
## DAY 5, OCT. 30: ESPAÑOLA ISLAND

- Spend the day at Española Island, beginning at Punta Suarez with the sea lions. Trek to the western edge of the island to “Albatross Airport,” home to waved albatross birds.
- After lunch, visit Gardner Bay and its magnificent white sand beach, 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.
- Enjoy the evening and dinner on board the *M/Y Grace*.

OVERNIGHT: *M/Y GRACE* | MEALS: B, L, D



From left: Courtesy Indagare; Courtesy Quark Expeditions



From left: Courtesy Indagare; courtesy Quark Expeditions

# Itinerary

## DAY 6, OCT. 31: SAN CRISTÓBAL & LOBOS ISLANDS

- 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.
- Return to the boat for lunch and a sail to Lobos Island. Snorkel in the channel that separates the two landmasses, as sea lions playfully swim up to you to say hello.
- Sail up the coast to Leon Dormido ("Kicker Rock"), a volcanic lava tuff that rises 500 feet above the water. Watch for hammerhead sharks while having dinner on board.

OVERNIGHT: M/Y GRACE | MEALS: B, L, D

## DAY 7, NOV. 1: SANTA FE & SOUTH PLAZA ISLANDS

- After breakfast, dock at Santa Fe Island to explore its beautiful sheltered coves and turquoise lagoons, home to sea lions, marine and land iguanas and Galápagos hawks. Embark on a challenging kayak excursion to beautiful sea caves.
- Return to the *M/Y Grace* for lunch and sail to South Plaza Island, one of the smallest lava-formed islands in the archipelago at just over 400 feet wide. Here, you will trek through fields of luminescent prickly-pear cacti, home to land iguanas, fiery sally lightfoot crabs and many species of birds. Return to the boat for dinner.

OVERNIGHT: M/Y GRACE | MEALS: B, L, D

## DAY 8, NOV. 2: NORTH SEYMOUR & BARTOLOMÉ ISLANDS

- Explore North Seymour Island, a sanctuary for blue-footed boobies and red-throated frigate birds. Snorkelers can see marble rays, golden eagle rays and more.
- Return to the *M/Y Grace* for lunch. Sail to Bartolomé Island for a hike to the lookout point, a towering obelisk on the ocean's edge—one of the best sites to view Galápagos penguins.
- Return to the boat to relax. Dinner on board.

OVERNIGHT: M/Y GRACE | MEALS: B, L, D

# Itinerary



## DAY 9, NOV. 3: SOMBRERO CHINA & DRAGON HILL

- After breakfast, land at Sombrero Chino, one of the least-visited islands in the archipelago, as it is closed to most visitors. Here, our group will have the special opportunity to go snorkeling in waters beloved by the Galápagos penguins.
- Return to the *M/Y Grace* for lunch before visiting Dragon Hill—so named for its impressive population of bright yellow land iguanas. Head up the beach to a trail to a hyper saline lagoon, a seasonal haunt for pink flamingos, before returning to the boat for dinner.

OVERNIGHT: *M/Y GRACE* | MEALS: B, L, D

## DAY 10, NOV. 4: GALÁPAGOS DEPARTURE

- After breakfast, disembark for your last outdoor adventure in one of the most beautiful places in the Galápagos: Black Turtle Cove. Surrounded by mangroves, this peaceful inlet is known for its baby sea creatures, including hammerhead and reef sharks, turtles, eagle rays and more. Sea birds, including brown pelicans, blue herons and lava herons, come to feed in the cove which has also been declared a “Turtle Sanctuary.”
- Return to the boat, where you will have lunch while you sail back to Baltra Island. 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 connect to your flight home or continue on to your private, Indagare-planned post-trip adventure in Ecuador or beyond (see p. 9 for details).

MEALS: B

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

\* *[To view the M/Y Grace cabin layout, click here.](#)*



Courtesy Indagare

## Journey Inclusions

- All accommodations as detailed in the itinerary. Indagare can arrange higher category accommodation upgrades at Casa Gangotena, subject to availability.
- All meals and beverages, as detailed in the itinerary
- All guided touring, admission fees and activities, as detailed in the itinerary
- Scheduled group airport arrival and departure transfers throughout to all included activities, in small luxury vehicles.
- All gratuities for the Quito portion of the trip
- Donation to the Charles Darwin Foundation
- Domestic commercial air transportation to and from the Galápagos (from Quito)
- Expert guides 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, see p. 9)
- 24/7 access to Global Rescue emergency medical, security and evacuation services for the duration of the trip (see p. 11)
- Carbon Neutrality: Offsetting 100 percent of unavoidable emissions, including flights booked through Indagare, through certified carbon projects



Courtesy Indagare

### JOURNEY EXCLUSIONS

- International air transportation to and from Quito and any visa or border fees
- Airport transfers outside of scheduled group arrivals and departures
- Meals not specified and premium beverages other than those included in the meals. Premium brands of wines, beer or spirits.
- Gratuities for *M/Y Grace* staff
- Optional activities and personal items and expenses
- 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)



# Pre- or Post-Journey Extension

INDAGARE CAN ARRANGE A SPECIAL EXTENSION TO ECUADOR'S MASHPI LODGE, NESTLED BETWEEN LOWER MONTANE RAINFOREST AND CLOUD FORESTS IN THE HEART OF A 2,500-ACRE PRIVATE RESERVE.

## Mashpi Lodge, Ecuador

**PRICING:** STARTING FROM APPROXIMATELY \$1,500 PER ROOM, PER NIGHT. ROOMS ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AT THE TIME OF BOOKING. RATES FOR 2025 WILL BE RELEASED CLOSER TO THE DATE.

**INCLUDES:** ALL MEALS, ACCOMMODATIONS AND SHARED ROUND-TRIP TRANSFERS

Tucked into a remote cloud forest where the Amazon meets the Andes, Mashpi Lodge is the most luxurious—and authentic—way to experience this special natural phenomenon. A contemporary glass structure set in the middle of 3,000 acres of protected nature reserve, the lodge offers guests the incomparable experience of being at one with nature, while still providing exceptional luxury. Among the lovely staff are a full-time team of biologists, naturalists and expert guides who have lived their entire lives in the area.

A schedule of activities starts with a nature walk with the in-house biologists. Next, guests can visit the butterfly Life Center, where scientists study and help sustain the reproduction of the stunning creatures, and then climb the eight-story Observation Tower, with its views of the magical forest. The exhilarating Sky Bike crosses 600 feet across the valley, and is a quieter (and more cardio) version of a zipline. Instead of loudly whipping through the jungle, guests can control their speed and observe animals who aren't scared away from such noisy contraptions.



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“The silence of nature was palpable in the atmosphere, broken only by the lapping of waves and the distinctive barks of sea lions basking on the rocks nearby.”

*Indagare's Colin Heinrich*



Clockwise from top: Courtesy Indagare; courtesy Indagare; courtesy Quark Expeditions



### 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. By offsetting all company operations, staff travel, and trips booked for both members and Journeys participants, our travelers know that they have done as much as possible to ensure they are not negatively impacting the environment. 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?

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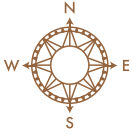
[BOOK NOW](#)

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# 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.** This means that in the event that an emergency occurs during the trip, guests have access to a variety of services, including medical assistance and evacuation assistance.

### Global Rescue Overview

Global Rescue was founded in 2004 and has five operations centers and offices in five countries, with 200+ medical centers of excellence worldwide and 20,000+ 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 (at no additional cost)**
- **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](http://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.*