



GALAPAGOS CRUISE & MACHU PICCHU EXPEDITION

11-DAYS





ITINERARY

DAY BY DAY



Discover Ecuador through a travel experience that unites Quito's historic colonial beauty with the natural wonders of the **Galapagos Islands**. This experience combines modern comfort with cultural elements and natural surroundings. The itinerary provides an exceptional travel experience that combines UNESCO-listed Quito with a Galapagos Islands Cruise for travelers who seek genuine luxury experiences.

After an amazing cruise in **Ecuador**, discover Peru, which combines vibrant urban experiences with historical sites and stunning natural beauty. The itinerary allows you to explore Peru's cultural center through a relaxed and rewarding journey, which starts at Lima's coastal beauty and famous food scene before reaching Cusco and the Sacred Valley. Your adventure reaches its peak with a visit to the majestic citadel of **Machu Picchu**, one of the world's most iconic archaeological sites.



DAY 1- WEDNESDAY. ARRIVAL IN QUITO.

Upon arrival at Quito airport, you will meet with your guide, who will transfer you to your hotel.

Situated in a circle of Andean peaks, Quito is the world's second-highest capital, with arguably one of the finest settings in the world. Originally settled by the Quito tribe in the first millennium, **Quito** was an important part of the Inca Empire before being destroyed and re-founded by the Spanish conquistador Sebastián de Benalcázar in 1534.

The colonial center, declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1978, is one of the largest and best-preserved in Latin America. It is home to excellent museums, churches, and art galleries.

Overnight Wyndham Airport

DAY 2 - THURSDAY. QUITO - SAN CRISTOBAL

After breakfast, you will go to the airport in order to depart from Quito to San Cristobal is a 2 ½ hour flight.

The Galapagos airport welcomes visitors with our experienced guides who will escort them during a brief ten-minute bus journey to the pier, which serves as the boarding point for the Letty Cruise.

The interpretation center contains many fascinating details that provide a complete understanding of the Galapagos formation. The view from Frigatebird Hill (Cerro Tijeretas) reveals both frigatebird species to visitors while displaying a stunning panorama of the bay below.

If time allows, visit Playa Mann and then return to Yacht Letty, where you will receive a briefing, dinner, and overnight accommodations on board.

(B/L/D)

Overnight: Letty Lower Deck
Optional: Upgrade Upper Deck

DAY 3- FRIDAY. GARDNER BAY AND PUNTA SUAREZ

After Breakfast, board the Zodiac to Pitt Point (wet-landing at beach) to take an active trail that leads you to the summit of a volcanic tuff where you can experience spectacular views. You will be able to spot all three species of boobies in one place: Blue, Red & Nazca boobies. The area contains Blue, Red, and Nazca boobies alongside frigate birds and multiple sea-bird species and playful sea-lions. The location provides excellent conditions for both snorkeling and swimming activities.

In the afternoon, the landing takes place at Witch Hill (Cerro Brujo), which stands as an eroding tuff cone made up of lava formations and volcanic rocks and features a beautiful white-sand beach that serves as an ideal spot for snorkeling and swimming activities. The location serves as an excellent site for watching migratory birds, including whimbrels and white-cheeked pintails, and stilts, and other species. The path leads to Kicker Rock, which stands as a massive rock formation that remains from a volcanic cone that formed into the shape of a sleeping lion. The rock summit provides shelter to numerous blue-footed boobies and tropical birds and frigate birds, and other species. The location offers snorkeling activities, which enable visitors to discover its stunning underwater creatures, while hammerhead sharks occasionally appear. The boat will return to your yacht. The group will receive a briefing before they have dinner and spend the night at the location.

(B/L/D)

Overnight: Letty Lower Deck
Optional: Upgrade Upper Deck

DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY. GARDNER BAY & SUAREZ POINT. ESPAÑOLA ISLAND

After Breakfast, the Zodiac will take you to Española, which stands as the oldest island of the Archipelago. The wet-landing at Gardner Bay reveals a breathtakingly large coralline sandy beach that hosts curious sea lions who will greet you during this experience. The place demands snorkeling because it lets you see rays and white-tipped sharks together with vibrant reef fish schools. The area provides excellent conditions for kayaking activities. The area contains colonies of marine iguanas together with endemic mocking birds and sally light-foot crabs, and blue-footed boobies. People should eat their lunch while sitting on the Letty.

In the Archipelago bird sanctuary, Suarez Point allows visitors to enter dry while they observe the diverse bird species, including the waved-albatross, which nests from April through December, and the endemic mockingbirds and swallow-tailed gulls and Nazca, and blue-footed boobies, and tropical birds. The boat will be your home after you finish your enjoyable afternoon hike. Dinner and overnight.

Overnight: Letty Lower Deck

Optional: Upgrade Upper Deck

(B/L/D)

DAY 5 - THURSDAY. POST OFFICE & CORMORANT POINT. FLOREANA ISLAND

The wet-landing on the north side of Floreana Island will happen today during your visit to the island.

The sandy beach at Post Office Bay serves as the location for the wet-landing, which Captain James Colnett established in 1973 by placing a wooden barrel that functions as a makeshift post office for sailors to leave letters, which other sailors will pick up during their European voyages; letters have reached their destinations after the sender has passed away. The hike to the Baroness viewpoint provides visitors with breathtaking island views. The site offers visitors the chance to view Darwin finches, lava lizards, sea lions, yellow warblers, and more species; visitors can also enjoy swimming and snorkeling in the area.

In the afternoon, the southern part of Floreana Island leads to Cormorant Point, where visitors find a golden-greenish beach filled with olivine minerals. The sand contains volcanic crystals that originate from Earth's mantle and consist of aluminum, silica, magnesium, and iron, as well as broken tuff fragments, which give the sand its distinct color. The location includes a brackish lake, which hosts various migratory and coastal birds and provides an excellent environment for flamingo observation. The area contains a large number of flamingos, which equals the total Galapagos Flamingo population of 1,200 to 1,500 birds distributed throughout the Galapagos Islands. The birds travel between islands to find food, but they stay away from flying over mainland Ecuador. The family comes from the Caribbean region. The path leads to a stunning white sand beach, which serves as a vital nesting area for Green Pacific Sea Turtles. The Yacht Briefing will happen before you return to the yacht for your dinner and overnight stay.

(B/L/D)

DAY 6 - FRIDAY. NORTH SEYMOUR. COME BACK TO THE MAINLAND

In the early morning hours, North Seymour Island served as the last stop of our visit before we left Galapagos.

The dry-landing area of North Seymour Island allows visitors to take brief walks through the nesting grounds of blue-footed boobies while also observing magnificent frigate birds, sea lions, lizards, swallow-tailed gulls, and extensive native plant life. Sail to Baltra Island

The sail to Baltra Island begins at 9:30 until 10:00 when the vessel reaches the island, to either head back to the Mainland or stay at Itabaca Channel's pier area for additional Galapagos exploration. The tour services end at the conclusion of the trip.

Transfer to the Airport, where you will have a flight to Guayaquil, where you will have a flight to Peru.

Lima, the capital city and cultural heart of Peru. Upon arrival at Jorge Chávez International Airport, you'll be welcomed by one of our representatives and transferred in private service to your hotel in the lively district of Miraflores or San Isidro, modern, vibrant areas known for their ocean views, gardens, and excellent gastronomy.

After check-in, take time to relax and recover from your travels. If you arrive earlier in the day, you may wish to stroll along the Malecón, a scenic clifftop promenade overlooking the Pacific Ocean, or enjoy a coffee in one of the many cafes surrounded by bougainvillea and palm trees.

For dinner, Lima offers a world-class culinary scene that blends indigenous ingredients with European, Asian, and African influences. From fresh ceviche to award-winning tasting menus, the city is a global food capital. We would be happy to recommend a local restaurant or reserve a table if you're interested in an early taste of Peru's flavors.

Settle in for the night and prepare for the cultural treasures and natural wonders that await you in the days to come.

(B/L/D)

Overnight: Courtyard Marriott or similar

DAY 7 - TUESDAY: LIMA CITY TOUR & FLIGHT TO CUSCO

Start the day with breakfast at your hotel before joining your guide for a fascinating journey through Lima's historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Visit the impressive Cathedral of Lima and the San Francisco Convent, whose catacombs reveal Lima's colonial past.

In the afternoon, transfer to the airport for your flight to Cusco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire. Upon arrival, a private transfer will take you to your hotel. Take the evening to rest and acclimate to the altitude in this magical highland city.

(B/-/-)

Overnight: Hotel Sonesta or similar

DAY 8 - WEDNESDAY: CUSCO AND NEARBY RUINS TOUR

After a nutritious breakfast, you will have the Cusco and Nearby Ruins Tour allows visitors to experience the ancient Inca capital, which combines Inca and colonial architectural styles.

The tour includes visits to major attractions, which consist of the Cathedral and the Plaza de Armas, and Koricancha, which is known as the "Temple of the Sun." The visit to the oldest continuously inhabited city in the Western Hemisphere also includes Kenko, Puca Pucara, Tambomachay, and the Sacsayhuaman fortress, an impressive example of Inca military architecture.

(B/-/-)

Overnight: Sonesta or similar

DAY 9 - THURSDAY: PISAC MARKET AND OLLANTAYTAMBO ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPLEX

The Sacred Valley of the Incas leads us to Pisac, a charming colonial town renowned for its vibrant indigenous market, which draws numerous visitors. The market of Pisac attracts artisans from surrounding villages who bring their beautiful alpaca textiles and handcrafted products for sale. The market visit enables visitors to participate in price discussions with residents about their available items.

The Incas established this site as a military stronghold, which contains a temple along with terraced fields and an urban area. There are two distinct areas, which include the religious worship section and the residential living section. The administrative center of Ollantaytambo functioned through its military operations, which became evident from its walls and defensive towers. The people of Ollantaytambo continue to practice Inca traditions, which earned their village the name "Pueblo Inca Viviente." The meal plan includes lunch.

(B/L/-)

Overnight: Sonesta or similar

DAY 10 FRIDAY: CUSCO – MACHU PICCHU – CUSCO

The trip started with a combination of bus and train transportation. The breathtaking and enormous fortress stands as Peru's most significant tourist attraction. The explorer Hiram Bingham from North America found this hidden city after it had stayed concealed for 400 years within the mountainous terrain and tropical rainforest in 1911. Machu Picchu served as both a religious center and an astronomical observation site, and it functioned as the personal retreat of Inca Pachacútec. The site contains two main sections, which include agricultural land and urban areas with temples and royal mausoleums, and plazas that display masterful construction techniques. The journey back to Cusco begins during the afternoon hours.

(B/-/-)

Overnight: Sonesta or similar



DAY 11 SATURDAY: CUSCO - LIMA

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your return home. Share your unforgettable experience in Peru, a Land of Wonders, with your family and friends.

(B/-/-)

RATES

From \$ 5070
per person



Includes

- Transfer in/out
- Accommodations in double rooms
- Guided tours
- Indicated Meals
- Flights to Galapagos
- Transportation
- Bilingual naturalist guide
- Activities mentioned in the itinerary
- Emergency contact 24/7
- Machu Picchu Entrance Fee is subject to availability
- Bus Tickets (Aguas Calientes - Machu Picchu - Aguas Calientes)
- Vista Dome Train Tickets (Ollantaytambo to Aguas Calientes) (Aguas Calientes to Poroy)



Not Includes

- Tips
- Wet suits
- International Flights
- Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages
- Personal expenses
- Meals not described in the program
- Galapagos Islands fees (TCT and National Park Entry)

Hotels:

- **Quito:** Wyndham Airport or similar
- **Galapagos:** Letty Cruise
- **Lima:** Courtyard Marriott or similar
- **Cusco:** Sonesta

HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the perfect balance of culture, comfort, and nature in one journey from Quito to and Galapagos
- Close encounters with wildlife in the Galapagos Islands
- Discover Uninhabited Islands and pristine beaches
- Explore Lima, known for its world-class gastronomy and historic UNESCO-listed center.
- Discover Cusco, the former capital of the Inca Empire, with its unique blend of Inca and colonial architecture.
- Experience the colorful Pisac Market and connect with Andean traditions through local textiles and handicrafts.
- Explore the remarkable fortress and living Inca town of Ollantaytambo in the Sacred Valley.
- Enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime visit to Machu Picchu, the legendary Lost City of the Incas.

TRAVEL TIPS

- Adjust to Quito's altitude gradually, stay hydrated and rest upon arrival.
- Pack lightweight, breathable clothing and layers for varying climates.
- Bring insect repellent, sunscreen, and a reusable water bottle.
- Respect local customs and wildlife, observe but never disturb.
- Prepare waterproof gear for island excursions.
- Wear comfortable shoes, as you'll explore archaeological sites with uneven terrain.
- Bring lightweight jackets and multiple clothing items because weather conditions between Cusco and Pisac, and Ollantaytambo shift quickly.
- Stay hydrated, especially at higher altitudes. Carry a reusable water bottle.
- Carry cash, ideally in small bills, for purchases at local markets

WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

- **Quito & Andes:** Cool to mild temperatures (50–70°F); chilly evenings.
- **Galapagos:** Warm and sunny (70–85°F); sea breezes can feel fresh.
- **Peru:** weather varies by region and altitude. Lima offers a mild coastal climate with cooler, humid mornings and warmer afternoons. In contrast, Cusco and the Sacred Valley experience cooler highland conditions, with warm, sunny days and chilly nights.

Fitness Requirements

Moderate fitness is recommended. The itinerary includes walking tours, short hikes, light kayaking, and optional spa treatments. Participants should be comfortable with humidity and occasional uneven terrain. The wellness therapies focus on relaxation rather than strenuous activity, suitable for travelers seeking a mindful yet active experience.

FAQS

1. When is the best time to visit Ecuador and the Galapagos?

Ecuador serves as a travel destination that remains accessible throughout the entire year. The Galapagos provides year-round wildlife observation.

2. The package contains what types of domestic flights?

The package doesn't include your round-trip flights from Quito to the Galapagos Islands.

3. Is this tour suitable for first-time travelers to Ecuador?

Yes, it offers a balanced introduction to Ecuador's key ecosystems, Andes, and Galapagos while maintaining a relaxing pace.

4. What kind of activities are included?

Transfers and transportation during the tour, City Tour, museum visits, and activities inside of the cruise.

5. Will I encounter wildlife up close?

Yes, in the Galapagos, you will see diverse species in their natural habitats under the guidance of expert naturalists.

6. Do I need to present my passport during the tour?

Yes. You will need your passport for the train ride and for entering Machu Picchu.

7. Is lunch included during the Sacred Valley day?

Lunch is not included. You'll have a scheduled stop in Urubamba, where you can choose from several restaurant options.

FAQS

8. How strenuous is the tour?

The tour involves moderate walking on uneven terrain, especially at Pisac and Ollantaytambo. Altitude may also make the walk feel more demanding.

9. Is the train to Aguas Calientes included?

Yes, the train ride is included. The scheduled departure is around 4:30 p.m., but times may vary.



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