



QUITO-GALAPAGOS SOUTHERN & CENTRAL CRUISE (B) 7-DAYS





ITINERARY

DAY BY DAY



The travel experience leads visitors through colonial Quito and the Ecuadorian Andes and Galápagos Islands to experience their unique natural wonders. The daily schedule features a series of planned activities, including exploring cities while receiving wellness treatments and observing wildlife and volcanoes. This travel plan serves people who want to experience new places while finding peace through nature-based activities.

DAY 1 SATURDAY. 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 Garden or similar

DAY 2. HALF-DAY QUITO CITY TOUR

After breakfast, you will have a half-day city tour where you can choose a visit to the Historical Center, the Equator Line, or the Teleferiqo.

"Equatorial line" complex. Its monument is located at the latitude 0° 0' 0" and provides a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to straddle both hemispheres or hop between the two in the blink of an eye.

The monument forms the focal point of a park and leisure area with gift shops and restaurants. The site occupies an important place in the solar-based Andean cosmovision since ancient Andean people were aware of its significance many thousands of years ago. The Ethnographic Museum at the complex provides a fine overview of Ecuador's varied cultures and geography.

The largest historical center in the Americas, in a unique adventure, the route takes us along the street of the Seven Crosses. Enjoy the view of the old colonial houses and the facades of the churches, before entering Quito Main Square, known as Independence Square, which is located at the Government Palace.

Enjoy a scenic ride up the Teleférico to one of the highest viewpoints in Quito. As you ascend the slopes of Rucu Pichincha, the city unfolds beneath you with breathtaking panoramic views of the Andes. At the top, take time to explore the trails, breathe the fresh mountain air, and capture incredible photos of Quito's dramatic landscape. A short but memorable experience that lets you see the capital from an entirely new perspective.

Overnight Wyndham Garden or similar

(B/-/-)

DAY 3 MONDAY. GALAPAGOS SEAMAN JOURNEY - 5D/4N ITINERARY B

After breakfast, a representative of the staff will pick you up from the hotel in order to take you to the airport. You will fly to the **Galapagos Islands** today. The Galapagos Government requires a fee of \$20 USD for the migration control card.

Upon arrival in San Cristobal, you will pass through an inspection point at the airport to ensure you do not introduce foreign plants or animals to the archipelago. Here, you will also pay the entrance fee to the Galapagos National Park, which, as of September 2024, is \$200 for foreign passengers and \$100 for children under 12.

Your guide will meet you at the airport, assist with your luggage, and escort you to a motorized boat called a panga, which will take you to the **Catamaran Seaman Journey.**

PM: Gianni Arismendy Environmental Interpretation Centre

The Gianni Arismendy Environmental Interpretation Centre features lush gardens and stunning ocean views. Here, you will learn about the geological and human history of the islands, conservation facts, and natural history. This center serves as the oldest natural history museum in the Galapagos, striving to preserve the archipelago's unique ecosystem.

(B/L/D)

DAY 4 TUESDAY: SAN CRISTOBAL & LOBOS ISLAND

AM: SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

Punta Pitt, located at the eastern end of San Cristobal Island, features a 90-meter beach and several natural viewpoints overlooking an eroded hill of volcanic tuff.

A 1,400-meter trail leads from Oliviana Beach to the hilltop, showcasing vibrant colors from various types of lava. Strong winds have created stunning landscapes reminiscent of a science fiction movie.

Oliviana Beach's sand, adorned with bright crystals from lava erosion and shells, provides a sunbathing spot for sea lions. Here, you can observe frigate birds, pelicans, herons, and seagulls. Punta Pitt is one of the few places where you can see all three species of boobies—blue-footed, red-footed, and masked—along with two species of frigate birds.

PM: Lobos Island, San Cristobal Island

Isla Lobos is a small, flat islet known for its sea lion population, which frolics on the white sand beach. Located about 20 minutes by boat from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the island offers excellent snorkeling opportunities.

Two strands of beach provide access for tourists to explore the underwater world alongside sea lions. An 850-meter trail connects the brush and features saltwater-tolerant coastal vegetation. It is an important nesting site for blue-footed boobies and frigate birds. One of the easiest islands to walk on, as it is flat and everything is very close.

(B/L/D)

 DAY 5, WEDNESDAY.

ESPAÑOLA ISLAN & SUAREZ POINT

AM: GENOVESA, ISLAND EL BARRANCO - THE CLIFF

Gardner Bay, located on the northeastern coast of Hood Island, features a beautiful beach for relaxing, swimming, and kayaking. You can spot sea lions, swim with sea turtles, and even glimpse small white-tip reef sharks in the clear waters.

In this area, you can observe three species of Darwin finches:

- A subspecies of large-billed cactus finch (*Geospiza fuliginosa*)
- Small-beaked ground finch (*Geospiza fuliginosa*)
- Singing finch (*Certhidea olivacea*)

Both resident and migratory birds populate this region.

PM: SUAREZ POINT

Suarez Point is ideal for spotting blue-footed boobies, albatrosses, and Nazca boobies. Set along the oceanfront, this beautiful site features large waved albatrosses launching from cliffs. A famous blowhole here shoots water 50 to 75 meters into the air, offering fantastic photography opportunities.

 DAY 6, THURSDAY. CORMORANT POINT & POST OFFICE BAY

AM: CORMORANT POINT, CHAMPION ISLET

Cormorant Point likely boasts the best flamingo lagoon in the Galapagos, nestled between two tuff lava cones. You can observe various shorebirds, including common stilts and white-cheeked pintail ducks, alongside the flamingos. The area features two distinct beaches: "Green Beach," with its olivine crystal sand, and "Flour Sand Beach," made of coral.

After your exploration, the group will visit Champion Islet, a prime spot for snorkeling with sea turtles, sea lions, and vibrant fish among the nearby coral reefs.

PM: POST OFFICE BAY

Post Office Bay houses a wooden barrel placed by a whaling ship in the 18th century, serving as a makeshift post office for mariners and tourists. Visitors can hand-deliver letters or postcards. This site also marks the landing area for some of the first colonists. Spend the afternoon relaxing on the beach and enjoying the beauty of the Galapagos.

DAY 7, FRIDAY. FAUSTO LLERENA BREEDING CENTRE.

The Fausto Llerena Breeding Centre, located in the Galapagos National Park on Charles Darwin Avenue, is a 40-minute walk from Gus Angermeyer Tourist Pier.

Start your visit at the Galapagos National Park Service information booth. Follow the trail to the Van Straelen Interpretation Centre, then to the breeding center. An elevated wooden path allows you to view several species of Santa Cruz tortoises and the tortoises of Española Island, culminating at the baby-tortoise breeding corral.

After your visit, you will transfer to Baltra airport for your flight back to the mainland.

RATES

From \$4541
per person



Includes

- Transfer in/out,
- Accommodations in double rooms
- Accommodation on board in a double suite or double cabin
- Guided tours
- Indicated Meals
- Transportation
- Bilingual naturalist guide
- Activities mentioned in the itinerary
- Emergency contact 24/7



Not Includes

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

Hotel:

Quito: Wyndham Garden or Similar

Galápagos : on board Seaman Journey

HIGHLIGHTS

- Immersive cultural and sensory experiences in colonial Quito
- Close encounters with wildlife in the Galápagos Islands
- Enjoy an experience in Galapagos 360
- Discover Uninhabited Islands and pristine beaches

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 rainforest and island excursions.

WEATHER PREPAREDNESS

- **Quito & Andes:** Cool to mild temperatures (50–70°F); chilly evenings.
- **Galápagos:** Warm and sunny (70–85°F); sea breezes can feel fresh.
- Pack versatile layers and quick-dry clothing to adapt to the changes.

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

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

2. What kind of activities are included?

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

3. Will I encounter wildlife up close?

Yes, in both the Amazon and the Galápagos, you will see diverse species in their natural habitats under the guidance of expert naturalists.



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