



National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

Wonders of the Galápagos Islands



aboard the exclusively chartered, small ship

La Pinta

2025 Departure: February 2 to 11

Wonders of the Galápagos Islands

Immerse yourself in the otherworldly landscapes that inspired Charles Darwin on this unforgettable 10-day Galápagos journey, a singular experience with a bounty of wildlife. Encounter the natural splendor of six islands — Baltra, Santa Cruz, South Plaza, Santa Fé, San Cristóbal and Española islands.

Each day offers an abundance of the fascinating plants and animals found on the relatively untouched Galápagos Islands. Enjoy included shore excursions, from guided Zodiac cruises to hiking and snorkeling with the expedition team.

Traverse lava fields and beaches shared by land iguanas, lava lizards and Sally Lightfoot crabs. Marvel at the many endemic bird species living together. Walk with giant tortoises, swim alongside playful sea lions, spy incredible birds during cliffside boat rides. And visit a remarkable breeding center dedicated to the preservation of the endangered Galápagos giant tortoise.

Natural history is alive in this kaleidoscopic country, where mystical landscapes and rare birds, reptiles and marine animals reveal the secrets of evolution!

Front cover: *Blue-Footed Booby*. **This page:** *Galápagos Sea Lion sunning on beach*





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Dear National Trust Traveler:

Join us for this extraordinary voyage and experience the astounding biodiversity of the UNESCO-inscribed Galápagos archipelago. Home to unique reptiles, birds, plants and aquatic life, Darwin's "living laboratory of evolution" continues to inspire the thrill of discovery in every visitor.

These legendary islands, each with its own ecosystem, teem with endemic flora and fauna, including the waved albatrosses and the marine iguana, without the threat of large land-based predators. The wildlife is uniquely receptive to up-close human interaction. Only here can you almost touch spiny-backed iguanas and snorkel alongside playful sea lions.

The exquisite **La Pinta** was designed specifically to navigate the hard-to-reach Galápagos archipelago and features a team of expert Ecuadorian guides, Zodiacs and unparalleled luxury. Onboard naturalists share their expert insights during excursions into this extraordinary biome.

Reserve now while space is still available.

Sincerely,

Meg Annacone-Poretz
Director, National Trust Tours

Travel Insurance

USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers, providing coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and more. You can upgrade your plan with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage and be reimbursed up to 75% of your pre-paid, non-refundable trip costs. Purchase travel insurance today: 800-937-1387.

Other opportunities to travel with National Trust Tours and Gohagan & Company:

The Panama Canal and Costa Rica
January 31 to February 8, 2025
February 21 to March 1, 2025

Tanzania Safari
During the Great Migration
February 13 to 24, 2025
March 1 to 12, 2025

Amazon Adventure and Machu Picchu
March 25 to April 3, 2025
September 30 to Oct. 10, 2025

For a full list of travel programs visit
www.nationaltrusttours.com

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities.

Learn more at
www.savingplaces.org

Find us on

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2024
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Cruising the Great Lakes
The North American Big Five

September 29 - October 6, 2024



Breeding Giant Tortoises: A Success Story

The Galapaguera de Cerro Colorado on San Cristóbal Island is a tortoise reserve, sanctuary and breeding center. Established in the early 2000s by the Galápagos National Park Service, the center is dedicated to the preservation and breeding of the endangered giant tortoise.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the Galápagos giant tortoises were subject to overexploitation for food by sailors and pirates. Today, their main threats are invasive species, habitat loss, the illegal wildlife trade and poaching. Similar to centers found on Santa Cruz and Isabela islands, the goal of the Galapaguera de Cerro Colorado is to enhance the survival rate of hatchlings in the wild, thus increasing the island's tortoise population.

Resident tortoises and their hatchlings live in the sanctuary's semi-natural habitats. While adults can roam throughout the reserve, free to wallow in mud pools, baby tortoises live in protected breeding enclosures. Once juveniles are large enough to survive, typically at around five years old, they are re-introduced into the wild.

Through enriching exhibits and informative presentations, visitors can learn about the history and biology of the giant tortoises as well as the conservation efforts and challenges faced in protecting them.



The Incomparable Galápagos Islands



An astonishing vision of life without human presence, the Galápagos Islands represent a truly unique environment. Located six hundred miles off the coast of Ecuador, the archipelago's isolation combined with the nutrient-rich waters of the Humboldt Current have created one of the world's richest marine ecosystems. Darwin's "living laboratory," the Galápagos Islands spurred the naturalist's paradigm-shifting work, *On the Origin of the Species*. Published in 1859, his speculations on natural selection in the role of "aboriginal creations, found nowhere else," inspired one of the most revolutionary scientific theories in history. One of the first and most treasured UNESCO World Heritage Sites, the Galápagos sustains an astounding number of endemic species that continue to thrive with the absence of natural predators.



Green sea turtle



Mangrove warbler



Sally Lightfoot crab



INCLUDED FEATURES

- ◆ Transfers and luggage handling abroad if you purchased air through Gohagan & Company and your arrival(s)/departure(s) coincide with the scheduled group transfer(s).
- ◆ Experienced, English-speaking local guides for included excursions.
- ◆ Gratuities to local guides and drivers on included excursions and transfers.
- ◆ Complimentary bottled water in your suite or stateroom and on excursions.
- ◆ Experienced Gohagan & Company Travel Directors at your service.
- ◆ Complimentary use of an audio headset during guided excursions.
- ◆ Automatic \$250,000 flight insurance policy for each participant ticketed on flights by Gohagan & Company.
- ◆ Hospitality desk aboard the ship.
- ◆ Meals included as noted in the itinerary (B,L,R,D).



GOHAGAN & COMPANY



2025 | 10-DAY/9-NIGHT ITINERARY

Departure/Arrive Quito, Ecuador

Day 1 | Feb. 2

Depart your home city, and arrive in Quito, Ecuador. Transfer to **Swissôtel Quito** and enjoy a day at leisure, with lunch and dinner on your own.

Galápagos. After landing, check in to the deluxe oceanfront **Finch Bay Hotel**, one of National Geographic's "Unique Lodges of the World." (B,D)

amenities of a large ship but the exclusive feel of a yacht. Settle in and savor a delectable lunch on board as we sail to South Plaza Island. During a guided nature walk on the island, be on the lookout for endemic giant *Opuntia* cacti, a variety of birds and iguanas. (B,L,D)



Nazca Boobies

Quito

Day 2 | Feb. 3

Begin with a walking tour of Quito, taking in the UNESCO-designated historic city center as well as La Ronda, one of the city's oldest streets. Learn about — and taste! — local chocolate. Visit the Middle of the World equatorial monument and museum. Tonight, meet your fellow guests at a Welcome Reception. (B,R)

Quito/Baltra Island

Day 3 | Feb. 4

This morning, transfer to the Quito airport for your included flight to Baltra Island,

Santa Cruz Island

Day 4 | Feb. 5

Start the day with a visit to Tortuga Bay, boasting a white coral sand beach, turquoise water and an abundance of wildlife. Look for marine iguanas, green sea turtles and birds such as blue-footed boobies, brown pelicans, Darwin's finches and flamingos. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, then spend the afternoon at your leisure. (B,L)

Baltra Island/ Embark La Pinta/ South Plaza Island

Day 5 | Feb. 6

This morning, transfer to **La Pinta**, a sailing vessel with the

Santa Fé Island/ San Cristóbal Island

Day 6 | Feb. 7

This morning on Santa Fé Island, choose between snorkeling, swimming or taking a glass bottom boat ride — whatever your choice, you are sure to encounter amazing wildlife! You might see playful sea lions, colorful fish, sharks and stingrays. After lunch on board, sail to San Cristóbal Island and visit Galapaguera de Cerro Colorado, an important tortoise reserve and sanctuary. (B,L,D)

San Cristóbal Island

Day 7 | Feb. 8

On a guided nature walk, meet and learn about a raucous group of bachelor sea lions. Encounter hardy plants that thrive on the volcanic lava, and an impressive bird population — notable since three species of boobies happily co-exist here. After lunch on board, take a Zodiac ride along

Magnificent male Frigatebird



the cliffs, with stops for nature walks on shore. Keep your eyes peeled for graceful rays, sea turtles, Sally Lightfoot crabs and a multitude of bird species. (B,L,D)

come from all over the planet to nest and breed here in the black lava cliffs. Next, visit the magnificent blowhole, which spurts water high in the air as waves crash onto the

ship, and raise a glass to your epic Galápagos adventure! (B,L,R,D)

Disembark ship/Baltra Island/Guayaquil

Day 9 | Feb. 10

This morning after breakfast on board, disembark **La Pinta**. Stop at the Charles Darwin Research Station, learning about conservation efforts and observing awe-inspiring giant tortoises, as well as land iguanas and birds. Take your included flight to Guayaquil. Transfer to the **Hilton Colon Guayaquil Hotel**. After settling into the hotel, spend the evening exploring the area, and make your own dinner plans. (B)

Guayaquil/Depart for Home City

Day 10 | Feb. 11

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and transfer to the airport for your return flight home.



Land Iguana

Española Island

Day 8 | Feb. 9

During this morning's guided walk, experience two notable natural wonders. This area is the breeding site for nearly all the world's waved albatrosses. The birds, who have the largest wingspan in the Galápagos,

rocks below. After lunch on board, spend this afternoon on a walk, then a kayak or glass bottom boat ride, spotting an array of colorful and unique wildlife—on the land and in the water! Tonight, join your fellow passengers for the Captain's Farewell Reception on the



South Plaza Island



La Pinta

La Pinta is designed to navigate the narrow channels, shallow bays and environmentally sensitive waters of the Galápagos Islands. Employing the latest in sustainable cruising technology to protect the archipelago's delicate ecosystem, the ship maintains the highest international safety standards.

All luxury accommodations are ocean-view with a floor-to-ceiling window and air-conditioning. Included meals, featuring international and Ecuadorian specialties, are served in the ship's restaurant. Between excursions, guests may enjoy leisure time in the ship's bar, outdoor dining terrace, observation deck, natural history library with Wi-Fi access, fitness center, two hot tubs and two lounges.



2025 DEPARTURE DATE

February 2 to 11

Category-Description	Standard Rate	Early Booking \$1,000 Savings*
3 Standard cabin with floor-to-ceiling window (163 to 211 sq. ft.) <i>Cabin Deck, forward.</i>	\$8,495	\$7,495
2 Standard cabin with floor-to-ceiling window (163 to 210 sq. ft.) <i>Cabin Deck, midship and forward.</i>	\$9,995	\$8,995
1 Cabin with sofa and floor-to-ceiling window (210 to 253 sq. ft.) <i>Cabin Deck, aft.</i>	\$12,995	\$11,995

***Early Booking Savings of \$1,000 are available when you book by 07/24/24 and pay in full at time of booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$500 per person.**

All rates are per person, based on double occupancy, excluding taxes. Single supplements apply to category 2 at 160% of the per person double price and are subject to availability. All other categories are at 200%. Program reservations require a deposit of \$1,000 per person.

Port taxes are an additional \$505 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

Airfare Quito/Baltra/Guayaquil (internal program air) is included.

Gohagan & Company reserves the right to correct errors or omissions and to change any and all fares, fees, promotions and surcharges at any time. Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/

To secure your spot, call National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300, or visit www.nationaltrusttours.com



Swissôtel Quito

The deluxe **Swissôtel Quito** is centrally located near the old town, steps from restaurants, shops, museums and cultural gems. Guest rooms are air-conditioned with ensuite bathrooms and elegant, modern décor. **Swissôtel** boasts two restaurants plus a delicatessen and bar, as well as a spa, gym and wellness area.



Finch Bay Hotel

One of National Geographic's "Unique Lodges of the World," **Finch Bay Hotel** is the only beachfront hotel in Galápagos. With subtle architecture that mimics the surrounding volcanic rocks and attractive wooden walkways leaving the environment undisturbed, this hotel is distinctive, elegant and comfortable. All rooms and suites have private baths with hot-water showers, hair dryers and other amenities (such as biodegradable soap and shampoo) and all are smoke-free. All rooms access a porch or balcony with hammocks overlooking landscaped gardens.



Hilton Colon Guayaquil Hotel

The deluxe **Hilton Colon Guayaquil** offers luxurious secure accommodation, with spacious rooms and five restaurants on site. It boasts a tropical garden, wellness center and a spa with sauna, steam bath and treatment rooms.

Early Booking Savings* available | Save \$2,000 per cabin!



National Trust for Historic Preservation


National Trust Tours

1155 15th St., NW, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20005

888.484.8785 www.nationaltrusttours.com

info@nationaltrusttours.com

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