



GALAPAGOS & ECUADOR

**GALAPAGOS MULTI-SPORT
BY BIKE, FOOT, KAYAK & SNORKEL
10-DAYS**

The Galapagos Islands are a living laboratory of evolution. The hot and frigid currents that meet at the Equator have produced an incredibly rich and unique diversity in the marine life. There are no predators, so the animals are friendly. It's possible to walk right up to blue-footed boobies, lava lizards, equatorial penguins, sea lions and pink flamingos without them scurrying off in fear. On BikeHike's 10-day Galapagos adventure, we travel far from the crowds and cruises and view the islands from a very different perspective. We bob through the ocean surf by sea kayak, paddling alongside giant sea turtles, seals and bottle-nosed dolphins. Inland we whisk along dirt trails on bikes and our own two feet. We've built in plenty of time for snorkelling in the turquoise waters and for the certified, scuba diving is available as an optional activity (*please note if you scuba dive you will miss a day of activity*).

Day 1

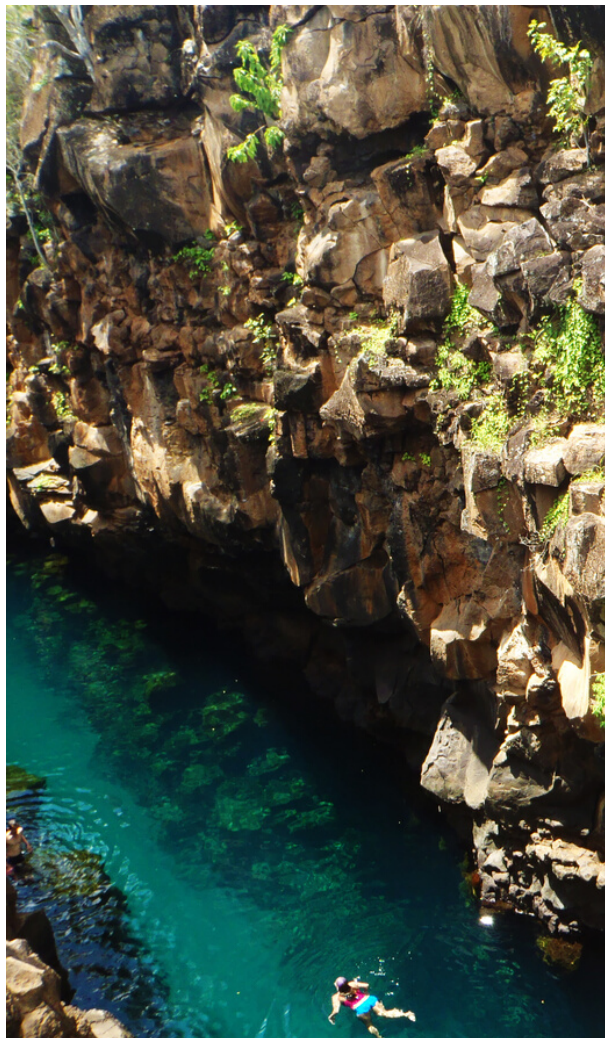
QUITO

ARRIVAL

The Galapagos land tour begins with a BikeHike Adventures representative meeting you at the airport and transferring you to a comfortable hotel in downtown Quito. The remainder of the day is free to explore the city and acclimate to this high altitude city, located at 2,800 meters/9,300 feet.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: none



Day 2

QUITO - SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

KAYAKING

In the morning, we'll transfer back to the airport to connect with our flight to the Galapagos Islands, located 625 miles/1,000 km off the coast of mainland Ecuador. After landing on Baltra Island, we'll head by vehicle and ferry to our hotel in the quiet, charming harbour town of Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island. In the afternoon, we'll go kayaking and navigate around Divine Bay and Punta Estrada, paddling through multiple lava channels of calm, turquoise waters. Within the channels, white-tipped sharks and stingrays patrol beneath the waves, while colonies of blue-footed boobies, tropic birds, herons and marine iguanas perch along the jagged cliffs. The evening is free in Puerto Ayora to relax or sample the local nightlife, liveliest on the weekends.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

BikeHike Adventures

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Day 3

SANTA CRUZ ISLAND - ISABELA ISLAND

HIKING

After a hearty breakfast in our hotel, we'll shuttle up to the humid tropical parts of the island to visit the giant Galapagos turtles living in the wild here. We'll also stop to walk through some lava tunnels on the island. After lunch, we'll take a speedboat (2.5 hour ride) to the town of Puerto Villamil where we'll visit the turtle breeding centre and walk through a dry forest, lava fields, mangroves and salty lagoons that are a refuge for flamingos, white-cheeked pintails and common stilts. Isabela is the largest island in the Galapagos archipelago and was formed by six main volcanoes. All of these volcanoes except one remain active, making this island one of the most volcanically active places on earth. Overnight at a hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4

ISABELA ISLAND

HIKING & SNORKELLING

We leave from the town for the highlands to hike on Sierra Negra, the oldest volcano on Isabela Island and one of the world's largest active volcanoes. It has a huge 6.5 mile/10 km caldera with great views of Perry Isthmus, Elisabeth Bay and Alcedo Volcano. Common birds on the volcano are the vermilion flycatcher, short-eared owl and the Galapagos Hawk. After lunch we take a boat to the small island of Tintoreras to look for more sea lions and marine iguanas. We end the day snorkelling amongst penguins, sea lions and turtles. Overnight at same hotel in Puerto Villamil.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



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Day 5

ISABELA ISLAND

HIKING & SNORKELLING

In the morning, we'll travel by boat to see some lava tunnels in the ocean. We'll hike over the tunnels and snorkel under them. There is a good chance of spotting rays and turtles in this beautiful site. We'll then return to town and have the afternoon free. Options include visiting a giant land tortoise breeding centre or going for a bike ride. Overnight at the same hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast



Day 6

ISABELA ISLAND - SANTA CRUZ

BIKING & COFFEE PLANTATION

In the morning, we'll take a speed boat back to the island of Santa Cruz where we'll take a vehicle up to one of the first coffee and cane plantations on Santa Cruz Island. We'll learn about the process of making organic coffee and sugar. After lunch we'll ride our bikes up to the look out point of Cerro Mesa, visit the largest pit crater on the island and then enjoy a great down hill bike ride to the beach of Garrapatero where we can refresh with a dip in the ocean. Overnight in Santa Cruz.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

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Day 7

BARTOLOME ISLAND

HIKING & SNORKELLING

We drive 35 minutes to our boat and then head north for three hours to one of the most beautiful islands in the archipelago, Bartolome. The effort to get there is worth every minute. This beautiful island offers the most well known views of the Galapagos, with its tuff cones, spatter cones, enormous lava flows on Santiago Island, the Pinnacle Rock and two golden sand beaches. After a hike to the look out point, we'll visit one of the golden sand beaches for some excellent snorkelling under the Pinnacle Rock, admiring the sea life. If we're lucky sea lions will play around us. In the afternoon, we return to Santa Cruz Island.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8

SANTA FE ISLAND

SNORKELLING

In the morning, we'll transfer by speedboat to Santa Fe Island, renowned for having some of the world's tallest cactuses. We'll cruise around the island getting as close to the cliffs as we can to view the sea lions, blue-footed boobies and the swallow tailed gulls. We'll then snorkel amongst tropical fish, sea lions and marine turtles. We'll return to town, have lunch, and then we'll hike for 50 minutes through vegetation dominated by the endemic Opuntia cactus to Tortuga Bay, one of the most beautiful white sand beaches in the Galapagos. Here we'll refresh with a swim and enjoy encounters with marine iguanas, sea turtles, pelicans and blue-footed boobies. Overnight in same hotel in Puerto Ayora.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



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Day 9

SANTA CRUZ ISLAND - QUITO

CITY TOUR

Today we start with an early breakfast and shuttle to the airport on Baltra Island for our flight back to Quito and the mainland of Ecuador. In the afternoon, we'll tour the old town of Quito, the largest colonial centre of Latin America. After dinner in the old town we can explore the night life of Quito before returning to our hotel.

Accommodation: Hotel

Meals: Breakfast

Day 10

QUITO

DEPARTURE

You'll be transferred to the international airport for your flight back home.

Meals: Breakfast

TRIP INCLUSIONS

Trip Includes

All accommodation (twin shared), meals as indicated, equipment, internal transportation (excluding flights), airport transfers and English-speaking guides.

Not Included

Galapagos Park Entrance Fee (\$100 US), internal flights (Quito-Galapagos Islands-Quito - cost \$775 US), airport departure taxes, gratuities, meals not indicated and items of a personal nature.

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