# BikeHike Adventures Inc. connecting the world through active travel



### **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
BIKING

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 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 at a ranch, we'll bike 20 km / 12 miles to our hotel for the evening. The remainder of the evening is free to relax.

Biking Distance: 20 km / 12 miles

**Accommodation:** Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 3
SANTA CRUZ ISLAND - ISABELA ISLAND
KAYAKING

After breakfast in our hotel, we'll take a speedboat (2.5 hour ride) to Isabela Island. 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. Upon arrival to the town of Puerto Villamil, we'll check in at our hotel and then walk through mangroves and salty lagoons that are a refuge for flamingos, white-cheeked pintails and common stilts. We'll then have lunch by the town's park, before spending the afternoon kayaking through calm, turquoise waters. Keep an eye out for whitetipped sharks and stingrays in the waves below, and colonies of blue-footed boobies, tropic birds, herons and pelicans above the water. Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant in town.

**Kayaking Duration:** 2 hours **Accommodation:** Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4
ISABELA ISLAND
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 also take a boat to the small island of Tintoreras to look for more sea lions and marine iguanas. Upon arrival back to town, the remainder of the day is free. Overnight at the same hotel in Puerto Villamil.

**Accommodation:** Hotel

Meals: Breakfast



### Day 5 ISABELA ISLAND HIKING

We leave from the town for the highlands to hike on Sierra Negra, the largest 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 around the volcano include Darwin finches, yellow warblers and mockingbirds. After our hike, we'll return to town and have the afternoon free. Options include visiting a giant land tortoise breeding centre or simply relaxing at the beach and exploring the town more. Overnight at the same hotel in Puerto Villamil.

Hiking Distance: 16 km / 10 miles

**Accommodation:** Hotel **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch



#### 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. 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. We'll then 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. Overnight at hotel in Santa Cruz.

Biking Distance: 30 km / 18 miles

**Accommodation:** Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### Day 7 PINZÓN ISLAND SNORKELLING

In the morning, we'll transfer 1.5 hours by speedboat to Pinzón Island. We'll go snorkelling at two different sites that offer plenty to see such as tropical fish, sea lions and marine turtles. We'll have lunch on board the boat, and then get back to town in the later afternoon. You have the rest of the day free to explore Puerto Ayora. Dinner is on your own tonight.

**Accommodation:** Hotel **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

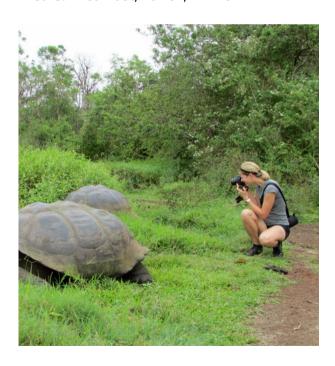
# Day 8 BARTOLOME ISLAND HIKING & SNORKELLING

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 snorkeling admiring the sea life. . If we're lucky sea lions will play around us. The snorkeling will either be under the Pinnacle Rock or at Sullivan Bay on Santiago Island. In the afternoon, we return to Santa Cruz Island.

Hiking Distance: 2 km / 1.2 miles

**Accommodation:** Hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



# 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 late afternoon we'll tour the old town of Quito, the largest colonial centre of Latin America, 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 - approximate cost \$775 US), airport departure taxes, gratuities, meals not indicated and items of a personal nature.