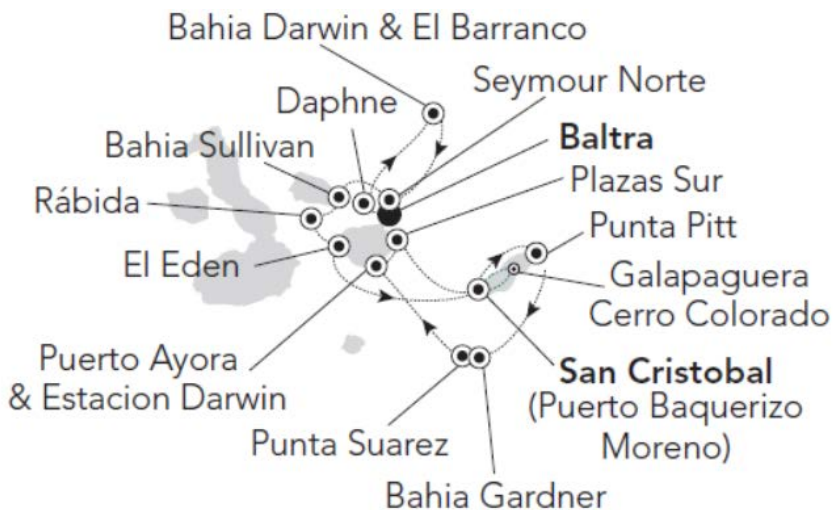


ECUADOR & GALÁPAGOS



ECUADOR – IT’S SO MUCH MORE THAN THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS! You must experience more of Ecuador’s amazing diversity than the Galapagos Islands. Join us as we show you the magic of the Highlands – Quito, Otavalo, Cotacachi, and even the Amazon region. All so very different. Of course in the Galapagos you will snorkel with sea lions and hike along lava tunnels and back to the beginning of time. The *Silver Galapagos* cruise takes you to the remote islands, whilst indulging you in unrivalled all-suite comfort and elegant sophistication. Admire the courtship of a Blue-footed Booby. Step over iguanas basking in the sun. It is not only the abundance of wildlife, but their fearlessness that makes the Galápagos island cruise a nature lover’s dream. Join our own **Annie Molnar** on this amazing itinerary. Arrive early and visit the Amazonia Region.

Galapagos Route Map -



DURATION: 13 DAYS/12 NIGHTS

DATES: 2018- Nov 26-Dec 08

EMBARK: BALTRA, GALAPAGOS

DISEMBARK: SAN CRISTOBAL,
GALAPAGOS

SHIP: SILVER GALAPAGOS

FROM: \$9,855 per person

BOOK BY SEPT 15 - Receive reduced rate
airfare or \$500 cruise credit; One suite
category upgrade or \$500 shipboard credit
(SBC); plus receive \$1,000 SBC.

SINGLE +25%

ITINERARY

DAY 1 – NOV 26 - ARRIVE QUITO

Overnight at Wyndham Airport Hotel.

DAY 2 – NOV 27 - TOUR TO ROSE FARM – SAN PABLO

Today you will cross the equator. Stop along the highway in Cayambe – You will follow the Pan-American Highway heading north into the Andean mountain range, and the Imbabura Province. You will have lunch in a farm house. After lunch, tour one of the largest rose farms of Ecuador. Continue to your overnight accommodations at a charming, 300-year old historic landmark, Hacienda Cusin (2 nights). Before dinner, enjoy a stroll through the fabulous gardens, filled with thousands of beautiful flowers and plants. Retire to your room to be warmed by the fireplace which was lit for you. (B, L, D)

DAY 3 – NOV 28 - OTAVALO – COTACACHI

Tour to Otavalo to visit one of South America's largest handicraft markets, and then to Peguche, one of the wealthiest towns in the Otavalo Valley. Enjoy lunch at the historic 300-year old Hacienda Pinsaqui. Visit the leather craft center of Cotacachi where you will find hundreds of leather stores selling all kinds of locally produced leather goods. Return this afternoon to your cozy Hacienda room. (B, L, D)

DAY 4 – NOV 29 - MIDDLE OF THE WORLD – QUITO

Today you will visit the "Center of the World" at the equator. You will have time to visit shops and exhibits. You will enjoy a wonderful lunch and spectacular view right on the edge of the dormant Pululahua volcano at the exclusive El Crater Restaurant. Then we will continue to Quito - You will see much of the long, narrow city along the way. Overnight at the JW Marriott – provided by Silversea. Tonight, enjoy a sparkling "city lights" Welcome to Quito dinner. (B, L, D)

DAY 5 – NOV 30 - TOUR HISTORIC QUITO

After breakfast at your hotel, you will visit Historic Quito, a UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE, with some of the beautiful Colonial Spanish architecture, cathedrals, churches and several noteworthy museums, including the Centro Cultural Metropolitano, Museum de la Ciudad (Quito City Museum), and the Casa de Alabado Museum of Pre-Colombian Art. Lunch on your own as you explore this beautiful historic center. After lunch visit the Museo Nacional del Banco Central (Central

Bank Museum) before returning to your hotel to relax and freshen up. Tonight, we will have a special dinner in the historic district. (B, D)

DAY 6 – DEC 01 - FLIGHT TO GALAPAGOS – BOARD SILVER GALAPAGOS – ISLA DAPHNE MAJOR

Transfer to the airport for your included flight to Baltra. Upon arrival and once through immigrations procedures, visitors are transferred directly to a nearby dock to join the ship by Zodiac.

Daphne Major is a volcanic tuff crater island, located to the north of Santa Cruz Island. It will be a special event to come in close with the ship and watch for Nazca and Blue-footed Boobies, frigatebirds, Red-billed Tropicbirds, Brown Noddies, Brown Pelicans, and Swallow-tailed Gulls riding the sea breezes swirling around this rugged landmass. (B, L, D)

DAY 7— DEC 02 - BAHÍA DARWIN, GENOVESA ISLAND

At Genovesa Island the ship tucks into Darwin Bay, an ancient volcanic crater now flooded by the sea. Zodiacs land on a picturesque sandy beach where Galapagos sea lions often rest on the fine, white sand. Explorations along the shore may reveal marine iguanas looking like prehistoric dinosaurs in miniature. Scores of immature Red-footed Boobies perch on branches within an arm's reach of the path.

From Darwin Bay on Genovesa Island explorers can access an area known as El Barranco or the "Prince Philip's Steps". A brief scramble up the stone steps brings you to the plateau of the island. From here, on flat ground, a small trail wanders past Red-footed Boobies, perching frigate birds, Galapagos Mockingbirds, Nazca Boobies, and Galapagos finches. The highlight however, is arriving on the windward side of the island to see hundreds of Wedge-Rumped Storm Petrels flying around in a frenzy of activity above the lava field where they nest. (B, L, D)

DAY 8 — Dec 03 - NORTH SEYMOUR, SULLIVAN BAY, SANTIAGO

The landing at North Seymour Island is onto black lava rock. After a short climb, visitors arrive on the island's flat plateau where a number of sea lions nurse pups and frigatebirds nest. The island is dry, and so the predominant tree is the prickly pear cactus favored by the yellow Conolophus land iguanas that live here in number. The undulating terrain is littered with red-brown volcanic boulders and large male Magnificent

Frigatebirds can be seen inflating their vivid red gular sacs in hopes of impressing females flying overhead.

The lava fields of Sullivan Bay on Santiago Island will inevitably remind visitors of the surface of the moon. As brilliant red Sally Lightfoot crabs scuttle along the black volcanic shores, learn about the formation of the islands through geological forces from your guides. The lava flows here are just over one hundred years old and date back to 1897. (B, L, D)

DAY 9 — DEC 04 - RABIDA AND EDEN, SANTA CRUZ

Rugged red cliffs rise from the sea and Zodiacs land onto a beach of dark red sand colored by iron ore. Ghost crabs and Galapagos sea lion pups often rest on the russet sands. Further inland, the rusty sand gives way to shrubby coastal vegetation dominated by prickly-pear cactus. Common Cactus Finches feed on the yellow flowers while Darwin finches and lava lizards skitter across the path in search of food.

Eden is a small, eroded tuff cone from an ancient volcano, and is an excellent example of the unique geology of the Galápagos. The shallow waters around the island are ideal for spotting Pacific green sea turtles, reef sharks, eagle rays, sea lions, marine iguanas and Sally Lightfoot crabs. (B, L, D)

DAY 10 — DEC 05 - LA GALAPAGUERA & PUNTA PITT, SAN CRISTOBAL

Giant tortoises are emblematic of the Galapagos Islands. Zodiacs take all ashore to the pretty little town of Puerto Baquerizo Moreno. From here we set out by bus for the Galapaguera Cerro Colorado Tortoise Reserve in the highlands of the island. The trails of the reserve lead to encounters with large, lumbering adult tortoises as well as small juveniles that could fit in the palm of a person's hand.

On the northern shore of San Cristobal Island is a peninsula known as Punta Pitt. The point is made up of two coalesced volcanoes and is much younger than the rest of the island. Some of the lava flows are only a few centuries old. (B, L, D)

DAY 11 — DEC 06 - BAHÍA GARDNER AND PUNTA SUÁREZ, ESPAÑOLA

Isla Champion is a small islet off Floreana Island's northeast coast. To cruise by it reveals a bare, rocky

island without much allure, but to enter the infinitely blue waters around this small landmass is to discover a spectacular underwater realm. The visibility is generally impressive and thanks to this water clarity snorkelers often spot reef sharks patrolling the reef wall, cruising Pacific green turtles, and playful Galapagos sea lions. Encounters in the blue with thousands of small silver minnows, large tuna fish, or oceanic sunfish are not unheard of either.

Punta Suárez lies at the western point of Española, the oldest island in the Galápagos. Sheer cliffs provide superb thermals for seabirds and you may spot Swallow-tailed Gulls, Nazca Boobies and Blue-footed Boobies on the breeze. The largest seabird to nest in the Galapagos Islands is the Waved Albatross. These ocean wanderers can be seen seasonally here from April through December, when pairs reunite on Española, going through an elaborate pair-bonding display. Mockingbirds, doves, and occasional Galápagos Hawks can also be seen on the point, along with sea lions and colorful marine iguanas. (B, L, D)

DAY 12 — DEC 07 - THE FAUSTO LLERENA BREEDING CENTER AND PUERTO AYORA TOWN VISIT, SANTA CRUZ, PLAZAS SUR

Silver Galapagos will anchor in front of Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz, where the prestigious Charles Darwin Research Station is located. The station also houses the Fausto Llerena Breeding Center for giant tortoises and land iguanas where guides interpret the center's captive breeding and reintroduction programs. Enjoy free time in town where local artists have created charming art galleries and corner cafés.

South Plaza is a serene island located close to the eastern coast of Santa Cruz. This small island is home to a large nesting colony of Swallow-tailed Gulls, along with marine iguanas and Galápagos sea lions. Seabirds crowd the island's shores including Blue-footed Boobies, Nazca Boobies, Brown Pelicans, and frigatebirds. (B, L, D)

DAY 13 — DEC 08 - SAN CRISTOBAL - DISEMBARK

Like so many of the islands in the Galapagos, San Cristobal is formed by dormant volcanoes. It lies to the east of the archipelago and is one of the oldest islands in the group. Approximately 6,000 people live on the island. Transfer to the airport for your included flight to Guayaquil.



SILVER GALAPAGOS

GUESTS: 100

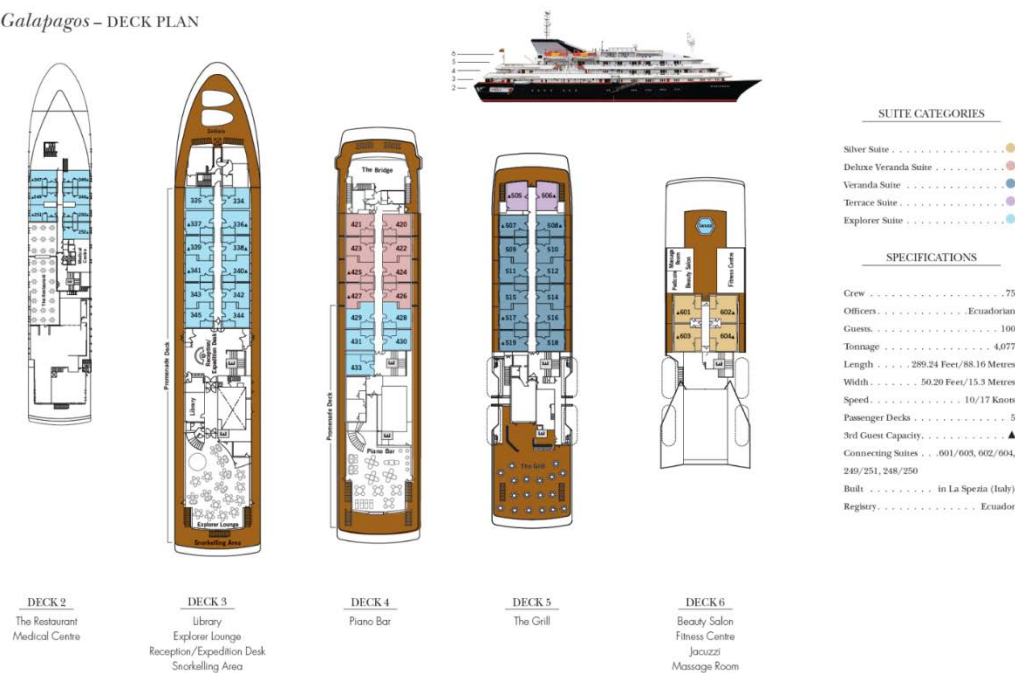
Silver Galapagos – DECK PLAN

This All-Inclusive Experience Includes:

All hotels, transfers, tours and meals as indicated. Flights between Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands; National Park fees; Free or Low Cost Economy Air from US, or \$500 credit.

Aboard Ship - Personalized service – the best crew-to-guest ratio in expedition cruising; Butler service in every suite; Open-seating dining options; Beverages in-suite and throughout the ship – select wines, premium spirits, specialty coffees and soft drinks, plus your own tailored

mini-bar; In-suite dining and room service; Enrichment lectures by a highly qualified Expeditions Team; Guided Zodiac, land and sea tours, and shoreside activities led by the Expeditions Team. Gratuities always included in your fare.



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\$9,855	\$11,955	\$12,155	\$12,855	\$15,355

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Be prepared for discovering the beautiful biodiversity the Amazon Rainforest hides in its forests and creeks. You will experience the forest During the hikes and excursions, a native and bilingual guide will be always with you to show you and other guests the secrets of the jungle.



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