



Galapagos Islands

Independent Trip
(call for availability)

For Questions or Booking Information:
info@walkingconnection.com / (800)-295-WALK



Galapagos Trip Details

Trip Dates: Dates available by request

Length of Trip: 5 days / 4 nights

Pre and Post Adventure Optional Extension: Ask about options!

Activity Level: Moderate

Galapagos Trip Details - Itinerary

Itinerary:

Please note that the details of this itinerary are subject to change. Many of the planned activities are organized according to availability, events or seasonal dates, appropriate weather conditions or the discretion of our guides. We make every effort to provide the experience described in the itinerary with the understanding that some things may change.

Day 1 – In Search of the Giant Tortoise

Welcome to the Galapagos! You are met in the VIP Lounge at Baltra Airpost by an English-speaking expert naturalist guide, who whisks you away to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island. There you enjoy a delicious locally-sourced lunch at a farm restaurant in the scenic western hills. Explore the Scalesia and Guayabillo forests as you discover pit craters, lava tunnels, and unique native shrubs and trees. At the Tortoise Reserve, try to spot a giant tortoise and identify some of the abundant bird life in their natural habitat. Complete the day at Galapagos Safari Camp with a sunset cocktail and dinner.

Meals Included: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: The Galapagos Safari Camp

Days 2 & 3 – Explore Neighboring Islands

Wake bright and early to motor over to one of 4 neighboring islands. Each island is an endemic treasure to explore and enjoy. The Galapagos Marine Reserve surround the entire archipelago and is the second largest marine reserve in the world; snorkeling off the boat is the perfect way to appreciate the colorful underwater world of the Galapagos.

Destinations will be given when dates have been selected.

Bartolomé

Start the day with a hike to the highest point on the island, by way of a 600-meter wooden boardwalk and stairway across ancient red, black and orange lava fields. The lookout point offers a

Walking Connection

panoramic view framing the iconic Pinnacle Rock, with Sullivan Bay in the distance, and Daphne Major and Minor on the horizon. Following the hike, relax with a dinghy ride around the coastline, keeping an eye on the cliffs for Galapagos penguins and hawks. In the afternoon, explore the beach where Sally Light-Foot crabs and marine iguanas spend their days and snorkel with Galapagos sea lions, penguins, reef sharks and rays.

Santa Fé

Take two short walks to explore the island of Santa Fé: one loops at Barrington Bay through the endemic Opuntia Cacti, the other ascends to the cliffs for a sweeping view of the horizon. Both trails are bursting with animal activity and travel through red and green fields of Galapagos carpet weed. The rest of the morning is reserved for snorkeling, swimming and relaxing on the beach. Playful sea lions line the shores and swim alongside when you are snorkeling. Marine iguanas bask in the sunshine and dart quickly past under the water. Sharks and rays may be spotted in these waters, while Galapagos hawks and blue-footed boobies soar overhead.

North Seymour

Take a 2-mile stroll on a loop trail through the southern section of the rocky island. At the beginning of the walk, you come across nests of comic-looking blue-footed boobies. It is coming to see land iguanas, Galapagos mockingbirds and yellow warblers before reaching the Frigate Colony. The colony is densely populated with nests in almost every tree, but the impressive birds are capable of flying hundreds of miles from the colony. Back in the dinghy, you head to Mosquera Islet, in the channel between Baltra and North Seymour. Here you will be greeted by a thriving sea lion colony, they are a loud bunch, so be ready to say hello!

South Plaza

En-route to Plaza, stop at Punta Carrión to snorkel in the shallow waters of the sheltered cove which schools of fish, rays and reef sharks are known to frequent. Take a short hike along a beautiful trail that winds its way through groves of prickly pear cactus up to a vista in the cliffs overlooking the island. The vibrant landscape features black lava outcrops and a carpet of red and yellow sesuvium cactus. At the island's southern cliff edge, observe an assortment of birds swirling in the currents, including dazzling red-billed tropic varieties. Following the trail round to the west, you might see land and marine iguanas, Nazca and blue-footed boobies and swallow-tailed gulls. Look down on the resident sea lion colony, boasting more than 1,000 members.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: The Galapagos Safari Camp



Day 4 – Experience the East

A morning drive takes you to the eastern part of Santa Cruz Island. At 490m above sea level, Cerro Mesa Reserve offers spectacular views of the largest crater on the island, exotic plants, and seven unique subspecies of finch and the elusive vermilion flycatcher. After lunch, check out Garrapatero Beach, where mangroves, black lava, white sand, a flamingo lagoon and turquoise water create stunning color contrast. Kayaking and mountain biking are available.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: The Galapagos Safari Camp

Day 5 – Sunrise Walk and Departure

Enjoy the serenity the Galapagos Safari Camp has to offer. Take the last morning to relax, walk, or take in the sunrise from the observatory before departure.

Meals Included: Breakfast

Galapagos Trip Details - Inclusions

This Walking Connection trip includes:

- Custom itinerary designed and delivered by our partner: Galapagos Safari Camp
- 4 nights accommodation at the luxurious Galapagos Safari Camp
- Daily meals, as indicated in itinerary
- Resident, local, English-speaking naturalist guides
- Transfers and ground transportation
- Boat excursions with snorkeling (shared with group)
- Wetsuits and snorkeling equipment
- All activities detailed in itinerary
- Detailed *Know Before You Go* information, including recommended website, reading lists, packing list, and weather forecast

This Walking Connection trip DOES NOT include:

- Local guide gratuities
- All international and domestic airfares with tax (flights from mainland Ecuador)
- Tourist transit card (\$20 US per person)
- Galapagos National Park entrance fee (\$100 US per adult/\$50 US per child under 12)



- All passport and visa application fees, vaccination and medical consulting fees
- All international departure taxes collected at airport of departure
- Additional hotel stay pre- or post- scheduled itinerary
- Early check-in or late check-out of rooms
- Laundry service
- Optional tours
- All items of a personal nature, including beverages and shopping
- Photographs or phone calls
- Discounts/Refunds on any unused portion of the tour
- Travel Insurance
- Anything that is not expressly stated in the itinerary or on the inclusion list above

Galapagos - Price & Payments

Price: From \$4035 per person/double occupancy

Deposits:

An initial deposit of \$1000 USD per person is required to reserve your space. No space will be held without a complete deposit. Deposits are non-refundable.

Payments:

Payments must be made according to the schedule & are subject to cancellation and penalty policy. Final payment is due on or before 90 days prior to the trip. We request that all final payments be made by check, wire transfer or credit card/PayPal. Credit card and PayPal payments for final amount due are subject to a 3% surcharge of total due. Canadian (or other non U.S. Credit cards) are subject to a 4.5% surcharge. Payments can be made online or by phone.

Price Variation:

Prices are based upon the current government fees for park, camping, concession fees and sanctuary entry and all taxes at the time of publication of this information. Should the government impose any new taxes, raise the current tax or increase the entry cost to any park or sanctuary, the price increase will be passed along and charged to you. You will be notified of this increase at the time that Walking Connection is notified. All payments received by Walking Connection are subject to the cancellation policy already published and in effect.



Cancellation, Penalty & Refund Policies:

Should you have to cancel your tour the following terms will apply:

Due to the exclusive and small group nature of this adventure, all cancellations requests will forfeit the initial trip deposit (\$1000.) After that:

- For cancellations 61-90 days prior to the trip, 50% penalty of the total trip cost.
- For cancellations and no shows 60 days or less prior to the trip, no refunds.

No refunds will be made for any unused portion of the tour.

All cancellations must be made in writing and delivered to Walking Connection via e-mail and/or US Postal Service. Your cancellation date is the date your notice is received and confirmed by Walking Connection, not the date of postmark.

Galapagos Trip Details - Travel Arrangements

Ecuador Passports/Visas:

Valid passports must have 3 blank pages and a minimum of 6 months remaining before expiration. Visas are NOT required for US and Canadian citizens to enter Ecuador.

For passport applications and renewals:

<http://www.passportvisasexpress.com/?affId=992183579f5e584ff2a965b511618cc9>

Air Arrangements:

BEFORE you make your international airline arrangements, please contact Walking Connection by phone – (800)-295-9255 to reconfirm the details of the trip. Walking Connection will provide you with recommended arrival and departure airports, times and any additional information you may need BEFORE you book your flights.

Travel Roommates and Single Supplements:

If you have registered for double occupancy but don't have a travel roommate, you may be charged for a Single Supplement for any portion of the trip where you will be rooming as a single.



Galapagos Trip Details - Final Details

Trip Grading – Moderate:

- Each day usually consists of 3-5 hours of activities, most centered around walking over various terrains
- Terrain includes city streets, village cobblestone walkways, well-worn countryside paths with uphill and downhill components
- Achieving a specific destination (point A to B) is not usually the goal and alternative transportation of participation level is generally available
- Other activities may include a river float, smooth water kayaking or mountain biking
- Your day pack will include a liter of water, snacks, rain jacket, sunscreen, personal items, and a camera

Gear & Personal Items:

We will provide a detailed list of personal items you will need that will make your journey safe and convenient. There is no special gear required for this trip though you will receive a list of recommended items, including supportive hiking boots and socks. We can help with information on types, brands and what to look for if you are purchasing new gear items for the trip.

Special Supplier Gifts & Items:

As a local custom, vendors, suppliers, ground operators, restaurants and hotel properties may offer complimentary beverages that may or may not contain alcohol. Should you elect not to accept this gift, complimentary water may not be offered as a replacement and may only be offered for sale. This is a local custom beyond the control of Walking Connection.

Your Personal Guides:

At Walking Connection, our philosophy is simple: each trip is designed in partnership with locals and delivered by local legends. We work with a small number of trusted travel partners to deliver the best experiences in the safest way possible. During this trip, you and your small group will be accompanied and led by one of our professional guides.

CONTACTS:

Christine Reed – Christine@WalkingConnection.com

Jo Ann Taylor - +1 800.295.9255 Voice/Text/Whatsapp ja@WalkingConnection.com