

# GALAPAGOS UNBOUND SIGNATURE TOUR

## THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS ADVENTURE TOUR



### TRIP LENGTH

9 days

### SEASON:

January - December

### DESTINATION:

Galapagos

### MINIMUM AGE:

7 years

### TRIP BEGINS/ENDS:

Guayaquil, Ecuador/Guayaquil, Ecuador

### NEAREST AIRPORT:

José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport (GYE)

**FEW PLACES ON EARTH OFFER** such close contact with wildlife as the Galapagos Islands, with this far-flung Ecuadorian archipelago protected as a national park since 1959. While most Galapagos tours are cruise-based, this small group, multisport adventure offers an active way of discovering the islands while gaining a completely different perspective.

It combines gentle paddles to remote coves with nights spent camping on pristine beaches and a hike to the rim of an active volcano. During snorkeling excursions, you'll come face-to-face with the Galapagos Islands' abundant marine life, before watching as seabirds soar above your camp at sunset.

This trip is designed to offer an intimate experience of a world like no other while accessing sites that aren't visited by cruise vessels. While exploring five different islands, you'll enjoy peace of mind that you are traveling in the most sustainable manner possible, with a small carbon footprint and "Leave No Trace" principles in practice. Our tours are designed to bring a strong economic benefit to the local communities we visit and the opportunity for guests to experience the Galapagos way of life.





**ALL OF OUR STABLE SEA KAYAKS** are designed for two paddlers and trips include support from a panga to ensure everyone's comfort and safety on the water. While some paddling experience is advisable, we provide a briefing on kayaking techniques and safety at the start of our trips.

## Galapagos Unbound

*Galapagos Unbound was featured in the New York Times on January 8, 2006 with Tim Neville's article in the travel section.*

*While our original itinerary has been somewhat modified, the essence remains unchanged as our certified, local guides work with the Galapagos Park Service to provide an unsurpassed Galapagos multisport adventure.*





# ITINERARY

## DAY 1

### ARRIVE IN GUAYAQUIL

Fly into Guayaquil, which is located on Ecuador's mainland and serves as a gateway to the Galapagos Islands. After being greeted by a ROW Adventures representative, you'll be transferred to your hotel in the city center.

**Accommodation:** *Wyndham Hotel Guayaquil*

**Meals Included:** *None*



## DAY 2

### GUAYAQUIL TO SAN CRISTOBAL

After breakfast at the hotel, our ROW Adventures rep will transfer you back to the airport for your flight to the Galapagos Islands. Our journey begins in San Cristobal, the easternmost island in the Galapagos, where we will be met by a naturalist guide from Galapagos National Park. After lunch in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, we will try on our wetsuits then load our luggage on the support boat before embarking on the first kayaking trip. Our two to three-hour paddle will take us beneath volcanic peaks and along the shores of Lobos Island, which is a popular destination for spotting blue-footed boobies and marine iguanas. Our destination this afternoon is Manglecito Beach where our exclusive beach camp awaits

**Accommodation:** *Exclusive Beach Camping*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*



## DAY 3

### KICKER ROCK, SNORKELING, AND BEACH CAMPING

After a leisurely morning spent exploring Manglecito Beach, we'll embark on a three-hour paddle to another pristine beach. If you get tired or need assistance, our support boat is always nearby and you'll have the opportunity to rest over lunch at a secluded beach. After lunch, we will go snorkeling at Kicker Rock where you may be lucky enough to spot Galapagos sharks and eagle rays. In the mid-afternoon, we'll arrive at our beach camp where you can settle in to watch sea birds soaring above as the sunsets over the Pacific Ocean.

*\*Note: Boat ride to Kicker Rock on Shared Services in groups from 4 to 7 people*

**Accommodation:** *Exclusive Beach Camping*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast, Box Lunch, Dinner*





# DAY 4

## EXPLORE ISABELA ISLAND

Our day begins with a boat ride to the airport, from where we will fly to Isabela Island. After checking into our hotel, we'll visit the Tortoise Breeding Center, which is managed by the Galapagos National Parks Service to protect the archipelago's iconic tortoises. You can get up close to these gentle creatures during a walk through the surrounding marshlands.

Lunch will be served on one of Puerto Villamil's white sandy beaches, from where we will hop back into our kayaks for a paddle along the coastline. In addition to an abundance of birdlife, you may be lucky enough to spot Galapagos penguins nesting amongst the rocks. Keep your snorkeling gear handy if you want to observe the area's incredible marine life.

*\*Note: The order of the activities can vary depending on National Park schedules.*

**Accommodation:** *Isabela Hotel*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

# DAY 5

## SIERRA NEGRA VOLCANO

Wake to watch the sunrise before we drive into the highlands of Isabela Island where we will embark on a hike to the Sierra Negra Volcano. It is one of the largest calderas in the world, measuring more than six miles in diameter, and erupted as recently as 2005. Along the course of the hike, you'll encounter impressive lava formations and enjoy superb views across the caldera. After returning to the hotel, you'll have time to relax at the beach or enjoy a stroll around town.

**Accommodation:** *Isabela Hotel*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

# DAY 6

## LOS TUNELES + EL FINADO

Today begins with a boat ride to Los Tuneles, a remarkable lava formation that was created as a volcanic flow solidified upon contact with the seawater. It's a magnificent snorkeling destination, with its crystal clear waters revealing a remarkable underwater world.

After lunch onboard our boat, we will continue to El Finado, a tranquil inlet where you can snorkel alongside white-tipped reef sharks and a variety of tropical fish. Weather permitting, we will enjoy a barbecue on the beach in the evening.

**Accommodation:** *Isabela Hotel*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

## WHY GO WITH ROW?

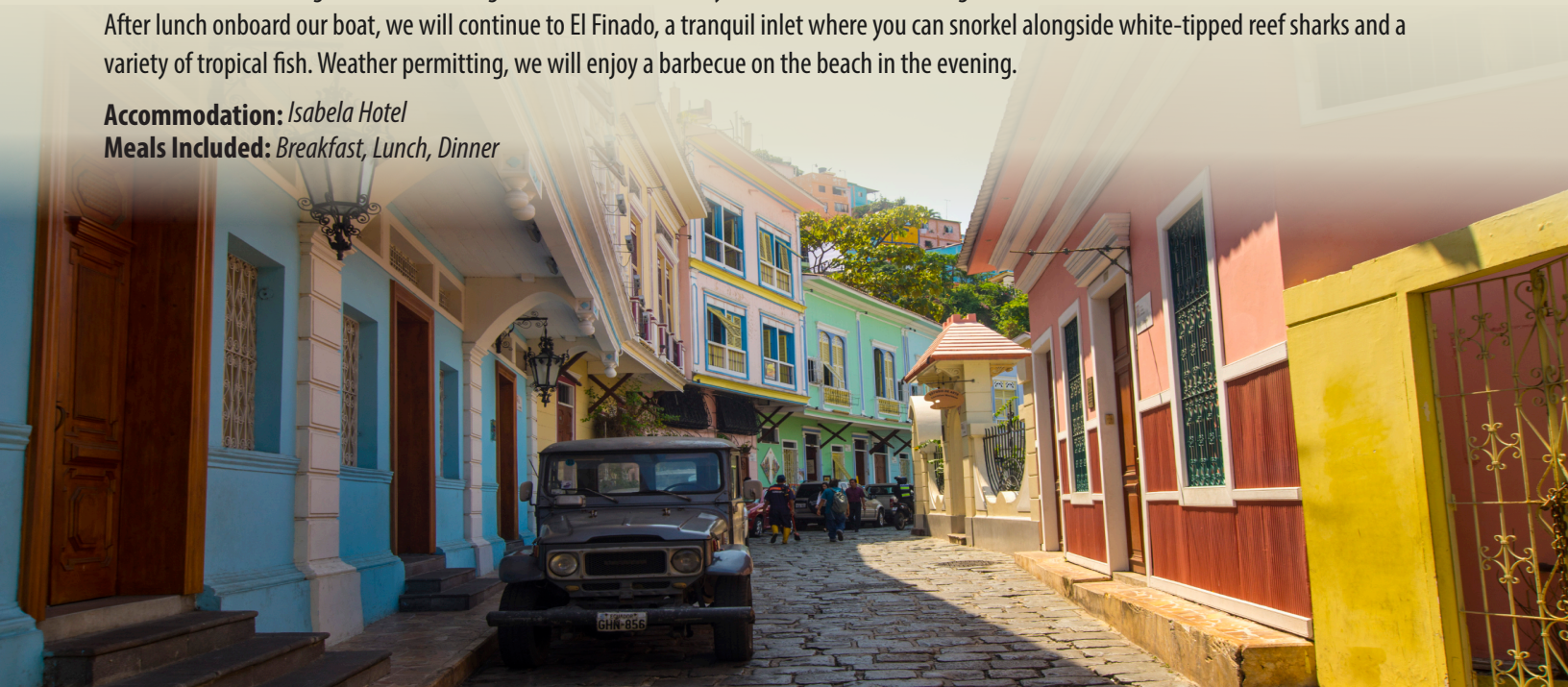
■ ROW is a family-owned, award-winning adventure outfitter with over 40 years of experience.

■ Customized travel for any adventurous traveler. Customize your own unique itineraries alongside Adventure Consultants and on-the-ground tour guides.

■ Commitment to environmental stewardship and responsible travel.

■ ROW Guides are superb, local, english-speaking and "people-friendly". Eager to share their country and connect with guests.

■ Commitment to risk management. ROW guides carry emergency satellite devices on all trips.





# DAY 7

## SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

After an early start, we'll depart by speed boat for Santa Cruz Island, home to the Darwin Research Station. On the island we will enjoy a scenic drive through the lush highlands. You'll have the opportunity to walk alongside Galapagos tortoises in their natural environment and watch as they feast on the surrounding vegetation. We will then continue to a series of old lava tunnels, which offer a fascinating insight into the island's geological past. Dinner tonight is on your own at a restaurant of your choosing.

**Accommodation:** *Santa Cruz Hotel*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast, Lunch*

# DAY 8

## TORTUGA BAY + SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

From Puerto Ayora we'll hike on a concrete path for 1.86 miles to get to Tortuga Bay. The hike is easy and runs through a field of prickly pear (Opuntia) cacti, Matazarno, and Palo Santo trees, where mockingbirds and finches are abundant. At Tortuga Bay, we'll find a beautiful white sand beach where we can spend some time relaxing and watching the wildlife. We'll walk the full length of the beach until we get to the small shore with very calm waters where we can do snorkel, kayak or simply enjoy the ocean water. In the afternoon, we will kayak for one hour and a half in a calm shallow lagoon where rays, mullets, and sharks can be seen while kayaking along the rocky coastline. In the evening, at to top of our day, we will have a special farewell dinner.

**Accommodation:** *Santa Cruz Hotel*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

# DAY 9

## RETURN TO GUAYAQUIL

This morning, we will travel to the airport on Santa Cruz Island for our return flight to Guayaquil, from where you can transfer to the international terminal for your flight home.

**Accommodation:** *None*

**Meals Included:** *Breakfast*





# KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## TESTIMONIAL

"Bucket list, trip of a lifetime - the Galapagos Islands are an amazing place and Galapagos Unbound offers a unique way to see the islands. We spent 9 amazing days with our guide who was personable, knowledgeable, passionate about the islands and fun to be around. We opted for this trip over the typical cruises because we wanted a different perspective on the islands, and we got it. Camping on Playa Manglecito, kayaking around the islands, and the concentrated effort to spend time with the locals were all special experiences that we will never forget. The wildlife that we saw up close and personal was awesome - sea lions, marine iguanas, rays, sharks, seahorses, blue footed boobies, and more. We are already trying to decide where to go next with ROW Adventures."

## PACKING LIST AND MORE!



Scan the QR code above to see our recommended packing list, weather conditions, travel tips, and more important trip details!

## CONTACT US

(208) 765-0841  
[info@rowadventures.com](mailto:info@rowadventures.com)

## INCLUDED

Services of our Adventure Consultants

Professional naturalist and bi-lingual guides

All meals/beverages as indicated in the itinerary

All kayaking, camping gear including dry bags, and snorkeling equipment

Galapagos Naturalist Guide

## NOT INCLUDED

International flights to Ecuador

Ecuador to Galapagos round trip flights

\$120 National Park Fee and Immigration Tax

Pre and Post trip hotel nights

Gratuities

Alcoholic Beverages

Travel insurance of any kind