



8 DAYS • 16 MEALS • QUITO > GUAYAQUIL

CRUISING ECUADOR'S GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Departure Date: September 7, 2027

This fascinating journey into the untouched natural wonder of the Galápagos Islands begins in Ecuador's capital city of Quito. Feel what it's like to stand in the middle of the world at the Equator Monument before boarding the Galápagos Legend for a four-night cruise through this extraordinary archipelago. Exotic landscapes and unique wildlife await your discovery during expertly guided shore excursions. After your cruise, return to the mainland for an overnight stay in Guayaquil, where you'll enjoy a guided city tour and experience the charm of Ecuador's vibrant coastal hub.





Four nights cruising aboard the *MV Galápagos Legend*

DAY 1 Depart the USA

Depart the USA on a flight to Quito, Ecuador. Upon arrival, you'll be met by a representative of Mayflower Cruises and Tours and assisted with the transfer to the hotel. Enjoy the remainder of the evening to experience this amazing city on your own.

DAY 2 Quito, Ecuador

After breakfast, enjoy a guided tour of Quito. The first city to be named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978, Quito boasts a historic center and centuries-old landmarks, dating back 500 years. See Independence Square, flanked by Presidential and Archbishop's palaces. Visit 'Mitad del Mundo' and the Equator Monument, which stands at 0 degrees, and feel what it's like to be standing in the middle of the world. During the included city tour, see a bull fighting ring and the gilded Spanish colonial church. This evening, enjoy the city on your own. **Meals: B, L**



Sea lions lounging on the red-sand beach

DAY 3 *MV Galápagos Legend*

After breakfast, board your flight to Baltra. Upon arrival, embark the *MV Galápagos Legend* for a four-night cruise. Set sail for Mosquera Islet, a tiny, low lying islet covered in coral sand. Experience your first wet landing and see lazy sea lions sunning themselves on the sand as you reach the shore. Shorebirds as well as herons, lava gulls and boobies are also found here. While snorkeling, one can often see sharks, rays and barracuda. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 4 Egas Port (Santiago Island) – Rabida Island

This morning, visit the fourth largest island in the Galápagos, Santiago Island. It provides spectacular views of powerful volcanic activity. A wet landing brings you to Egas Port, a black volcanic sand beach, visited by Darwin in 1835. The unique, truly striking layered terrain of the Santiago shore is home to a variety of animals including the bizarre yellow-crowned night heron, sea lions and lava lizards. Marine wildlife including lobster, starfish and marine iguanas graze on algae beds alongside Sally light-foot crabs. You may also see colonies of endemic fur seals swimming in cool-water volcanic rock pools. The afternoon's adventure is on Rabida Island. Lying at the heart of the archipelago, this dramatic island, with its distinctive red-sand beach, is home to sea lions, mockingbirds, finches, endemic Galápagos doves and vermilion flycatchers. A walk takes you through a forest of palo santo and cacti to a beautiful overview of the bay. During a dinghy ride along the marine cliffs, observe nesting seabirds. Snorkeling here can be excellent, often with large schools of black-striped salemas, sea lions and the ubiquitous turtles. **Meals: B, L, D**

DAY 5 Urbina Bay and Tagus Cove (Isabela Island)

Start your day with a wet landing on the volcanic black beach at Urbina Bay. In 1954, a volcano uplifted the coral reef, leaving marine skeletons that tell of its ancient past. Look for Darwin's finches, land iguanas and the Galápagos cotton flower in bloom. After a short walk inland, outstanding snorkeling awaits in the crystal clear waters, showcasing fascinating marine life. Amazing views of the Alcedo Volcano, which spewed an unusual combination of rhyolite and basalt lava, stands as a powerful backdrop and reminder of nature's power. This afternoon,



Blue-footed boobies

a dry landing takes you into Tagus Cove. A well-known hideout in the days of pirates, it was also one of the few sites visited by Darwin and the *HMS Beagle* in 1835. A trail walk leads to Darwin's salt-water crater lake with excellent views of lava fields and volcanic formations. The dinghy ride along the shoreline showcases blue-footed boobies, brown noddys, terns, and other seabirds. You can also snorkel in the deep water, along the submerged wall with turtles and native fish.

Meals: B, L, D

DAY 6 Punta Espinosa (Fernandina Island) – Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island)

Arrive via dry landing at Espinosa Point on Fernandina Island, one of the most well-preserved of the Galápagos Islands. Discover one of the world's most pristine island ecosystems as you observe hundreds of prehistoric marine iguanas sunbathing on black lava rocks. Quiet now as you encounter flightless cormorants on their nesting site, the only place in the world to find this species. These birds once flew, but over time, adapted to their environment and lost their ability to fly. Be on the lookout for the major predator on the island, the Galápagos hawk. This afternoon, visit Vicente Roca Point. This is a marine-only visitor site with great opportunities for deep-water snorkeling. See plenty of red-lipped batfish, sea horses, frogfish, marine turtles, sunfish, nudibranchs and octopi in these waters. On a dinghy ride along the coast, observe brown pelicans, penguins, flightless cormorants, nazca and blue-footed boobies, all ready to pose for pictures! Meals: B, L, D

DAY 7 Santa Cruz Island / Guayaquil

As your cruise comes to an end, you'll be filled with wonder at the sights and sounds of the Galápagos Islands. Disembark the vessel after a dry landing and journey by coach from the coast to the dense humid forest of the mountains and the Highlands Tortoise Reserve. A variety of birds - tree and ground finches, vermilion flycatchers, paint-billed crakes, yellow warblers and cattle egrets (usually standing on the tortoises' shell!) make this their home, while the Galápagos giant tortoises are also seen meandering through pastures in their



EXCEPTIONAL INCLUSIONS

- 16 Meals: 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 4 dinners
- Airport transfers on tour dates when air is provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours
- Pre-cruise hotel stay and touring in Quito
- Local English-speaking guides in Quito and Guayaquil
- Four-night cruise aboard the *MV Galápagos Legend*
- Two excursions per day during the cruise
- English-speaking Naturalist Guides aboard the vessel
- Complimentary snorkel gear onboard
- All meals included onboard the vessel
- Post-cruise hotel stay and touring in Guayaquil

natural habitat. Continue to the Baltra airport for your flight to Guayaquil. Upon arrival, enjoy a city tour with a local guide as you visit Centenario Park dedicated to the independence and freedom of the old city. A walk through the legendary colonial district Barrio Las Peñas provides panoramic views of the city and Guayas River. While strolling along the charming river promenade, admire the Rotonda Monument dedicated to leaders of South American Independence, along with other historical landmarks and the Moorish clock tower. The tour concludes at the hotel for an evening at leisure. Meal: B

DAY 8 Guayaquil / USA

Bid a fond farewell to Ecuador and its Galápagos Islands and return home filled with so many fond memories of the beauty, animal encounters and life enriching experiences of your small ship adventure. Meal: B

Itinerary and vessel are subject to change based on operating conditions

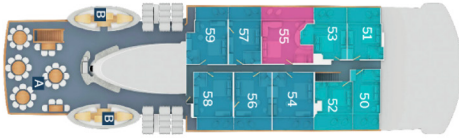
HOTEL AND CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

- Days 1 and 2** – Go Quito, Quito, Ecuador
- Days 3 through 6** – *MV Galápagos Legend*
- Day 7** – Oro Verde, Guayaquil, Ecuador

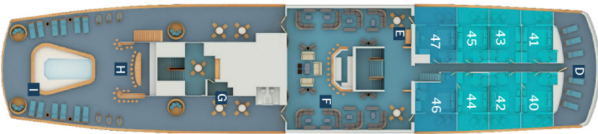
MV GALÁPAGOS LEGEND

Refurbished: 2019 Speed: 19.5 mph Cabins: 54 Length: 301 ft. Crew: 60

MOON DECK



SKY DECK



EARTH DECK



SEA DECK



Public Areas and Ship Amenities

- Swimming pool and sun terrace
- Spa with 2 Jacuzzi's
- Library
- Medical Station
- Panorama Lounge
- Glass bottom boat
- Boutique
- 24 hour coffee / tea station

Standard Plus Cabin (118 ft²)

Features two port holes, lower beds, private bath, telephone service for internal, local and international calls, air conditioning, safe deposit box and hair dryer

Junior Cabin (161 ft²)

Features two panoramic windows, lower beds, either two twin or one queen, private bath, telephone service for internal, local and international calls, air conditioning, safe deposit box and hair dryer

Balcony Cabin (237 ft²)

Features private balcony with door, panoramic window, lower beds (either two twin or one queen), private bath, telephone service for internal, local and international calls, air conditioning, safe deposit box and hair dryer

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



EASY

ENERGETIC

Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) for River Cruises

This nonrefundable fee will provide a refund to you during the instance that you have to cancel your trip. The cancellation has to be for a covered reason (see Plan for details on coverage) and we have to be notified at least one day prior to departure. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness or the illness or death of an immediate family member, TPP will provide a refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets are purchased through Mayflower Cruises & Tours. Please review the Plan for details on coverage. Should you choose not to purchase our TPP, the following per person cancellation charges will be assessed for all tours and optional excursion costs:

- 121 days or more prior to departure: Deposit Amount
- 120 days to day of departure: 100% of total tour
- No refund on unused portions of the tour

Exclusions: Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its Refund and Cancellation Policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours. Plan and benefits offered and administered by Trip Mate, Inc.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:



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