

GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

South - West Islands



Join us aboard our beautiful *Silver Origin* as we explore the islands where nature has taken her evolutionary course. Enjoy learning about the strange and wonderful creatures that inhabit the islands and let our team of expert leaders guide you through the past present and future of the archipelago. If you are a traveller with both compassion and curiosity, then the Galapagos Islands are for you.



DATES: 2022-23

Every other Thursday

DURATION: 10 DAYS/9 NIGHTS

EMBARK: SAN CRISTOBAL, GALAPAGOS

**DISEMBARK: SAN CRISTOBAL,
GALAPAGOS**

SHIP: SILVER ORIGIN

FROM: \$12,100*

**Rates vary by departure date.*

ALL INCLUSIVE – Includes gratuities, open bar, unlimited WiFi, port charges, 2 nights Quito Hotel, transfers, park fees, and free air to Galapagos and from North America

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Walk across spectacular lava fields
- Explore tidal pools, lush mangroves and scalesia forests
- See giant tortoises, pelicans and the largest colony of marine iguanas
- Snorkel with green sea turtles, penguins, sea lions and manta rays
- Hike through fragrant forests of Palo Santo “Incense” trees
- Watch for a unique species of flightless cormorant
- Visit one of the most volcanically active places on Earth
- See wild flamingos (in season) and nesting sea turtles
- Photograph iconic Pinnacle Rock

ITINERARY

DAY 1 – THU - ARRIVE QUITO, ECUADOR

Meet and transfer to your included deluxe hotel. Arrive earlier to explore more of this wonderful, diverse country. Visit the Amazon region and stay at a fabulous wildlife center. See the colorful birds of Ecuador’s Cloud Forest near Quito. We can make all the arrangements for you.

DAY 2 – FRI - FREE DAY TO EXPLORE QUITO

Take in some of the numerous museums, and explore the beautiful historic district, a UNESCO World Heritage site. This evening, enjoy a night walking tour of old Quito, where the historic buildings are illuminated.

DAY 3 – SAT – EMBARK *SILVER ORIGIN*-KICKER ROCK

You will be transferred to the Quito airport for your included flight to San Cristobal and the *Silver Origin*. Puerto Baquerizo Moreno on the southwestern tip of the island is the capital city of the Galapagos Islands. A statue of Charles Darwin graces the harbor, marking one of the first places he likely stepped ashore in the 1830s. The *Silver Origin* will circumnavigate Kicker Rock, one of the most iconic features of the Galapagos Islands. The small landform is formed by two tall towers of lava rock and when viewed from the south, resembles a sleeping lion.

DAY 4 — SUN – ISLA BARTOLOMÉ

Our ship anchors in sight of the volcanic moonscape of Isla Bartolomé, at Sullivan Bay. Zodiacs bring guests ashore to ascend a boardwalk of 388 steps. Passing through the arid volcanic landscape provides a chance to

watch for lava lizards, Galapagos Hawks, and Blue-footed Boobies.



ISLA SANTIAGO

Playa Espumilla is located on the northwestern side of Santiago Island and is home to a variety of wildlife including nesting green sea turtles, and plentiful birds such as flamingos, White-cheeked Pintails, Yellow Warblers, Galapagos Hawks, Whimbrels, and American Oystercatchers

DAY 5 — MON – ISLA ISABELA, PUNTA VICENTE

The agile *Silver Origin* can anchor in deep water right up against the cliffs of Punta Vicente Roca on the northwest side of Isabela Island. From our anchorage Zodiacs set out to cruise beneath the imposing volcanic coastline. The cliffs support endemic Flightless Cormorants, Galapagos fur seals, Blue-footed Boobies, and marine iguanas. The waters below hold scores of Eastern Pacific green sea turtles swimming all around the Zodiacs.

PUNTA ESPINOZA, FERNANDINA

With the gentle slopes of La Cumbre volcano in the distance, the low, lava-forged coast of Punta Espinoza on Fernandina Island is a spectacular sight. Hundreds of marine iguanas rest on the black rock of recent lava flows absorbing heat from the stone and defending their territories against one another. Galapagos sea lions and their pups also take shelter here, resting on the beach and playing in the shallow tide pools sprinkled along the coast. Walk past high sandy areas where marine iguanas lay their eggs and along low, shallow mangrove ponds ringed with bright red Sally Lightfoot crabs and Flightless Cormorants drying their stubby wings in the sunshine.

DAY 6 — TUE – TAGUS COVE, ISABELA ISLAND

Tagus Cove is a sheltered area southwest of Volcán Darwin on Isabela Island. The protected waters of this cove are home to sea turtles, marine iguanas, Flightless Cormorants and Galapagos Penguins.

ELIZABETH BAY, ISABELA ISLAND

The tranquil inlets of Elizabeth Bay are the perfect spot for a Zodiac cruise. In the easternmost embayment lies a hidden inlet. Our nimble Zodiacs can enter this small cove to look for sea turtles, rays and even sharks.



DAY 7 — WED – POST OFFICE BAY, ISLA FLOREANA

Post Office Bay is steeped in history and received its name thanks to a post box that was placed ashore before 1813. Ships that were visiting the Galapagos on multi-year voyages would leave letters here to be collected and delivered by vessels on their way home.



CHAMPION ISLET

Champion Islet is a small islet some 700 meters off the northeast coast of Floreana. It is one of four marine sites surrounding Floreana and offers excellent deepwater snorkeling opportunities. Curious sea lions approach the snorkelers while turtles slowly swim by and sharks, sting rays, and a high diversity of colorful fishes can usually be seen. During a Zodiac cruise around Champion Islet not only seabirds such as Nazca Boobies, Swallow-tailed Gulls, or Red-billed Tropicbirds will be seen, it is also possible to spot the rare Floreana Mockingbird.

DAY 8 — THU – SANTA CRUZ - HIGHLANDS

The species of flora and fauna found near the shoreline are extremely different from those on the highlands. Life in the highlands is much easier due to the presence of fresh water, from the constant drizzle that happens during the dry season to heavy rains that occur during the wet season. Local people take advantage of this climate to cultivate a large number of crops and giant tortoises love this ideal weather to mate, feed and rest before their next long migration to the shorelines.

PUERTO AYORA

Santa Cruz is 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. To round out the stay in Puerto Ayora, enjoy free time in town where local artists have created charming art galleries and corner cafés.

DAY 9 — FRI - CERRO DRAGON (SANTA CRUZ)

A dry landing onto volcanic rock covered by Sally light-footed crabs will welcome you as you disembark for this walk discovering Cerro Dragon. Enjoy this visit that mixes a brackish water lagoon inhabited by shorebirds, some elusive pink flamingos and a volcanic rock cover dry enough to be the perfect ecosystem for the Galapagos land iguana.

ISLA GUY FAWKES

Guy Fawkes is a group of four islets situated on the northwestern side of Santa Cruz Island. They are satellite cones, surrounded by deep waters. As they rise from the deep, they intercept with the strong sea currents making the area a place full of life. These small islets have beautiful underwater cliffs covered with all sorts of marine invertebrates such as sponges, corals, sea stars, urchins — making it a very colorful place for deep water snorkeling. Due to the conditions mentioned above, it results in some immense aggregations of fish, and, due to the depth of the water, it is not unusual to find Sharks or Manta Rays. Guy Fawkes is one of the most exciting places to deep water snorkel. You never know what you will find.

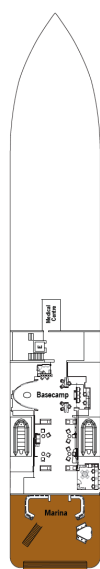
DAY 10 — SAT – SAN CRISTOBAL

Following breakfast, disembark *Silver Origin* for your return flight from San Cristobal Airport to Guayaquil and connect with your flight home, or to other adventures in Ecuador, Peru, or other South American attractions.

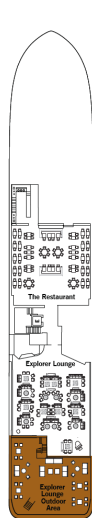


Silver Origin - The most elegant ship ever to sail the Galapagos

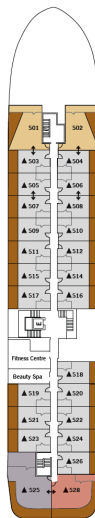
SILVER ORIGIN – Deck Plans



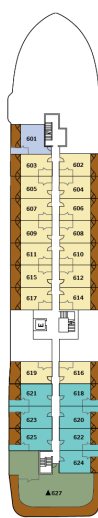
DECK 3
Medical Centre
Basecamp
Marina



DECK 4
The Restaurant
Explorer Lounge



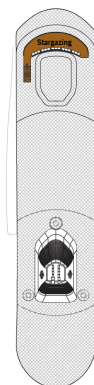
DECK 5
Beauty Spa
Fitness Centre



DECK 6



DECK 7
The Grill
Observation Lounge
Open Deck



DECK 8
Stargazing



SUITE CATEGORIES

Owner's Suite	●
Grand Suite	●
Royal Suite	●
Silver Suite	●
Medallion Suite	●
Deluxe Veranda Suite	●
Superior Veranda Suite	●
Classic Veranda Suite	●

SPECIFICATIONS

Crew	90
Officers	Ecuadorian
Guests	100
Tonnage	5,800
Length	331.4 Feet / 101 Metres
Width	52.5 Feet / 16 Metres
Speed	14 Knots
Passenger Decks	6
Connecting Suites	501/503, 502/504, 505/507, 506/508, 525/528*
3rd Guest Capacity	2020
Registry	Ecuador

*Suites 525 and 528 are connected through a shared foyer
Deck plans are for illustration purposes only and may be subject to change.

The Galápagos All-Inclusive Experience Includes:

- 7-night Galápagos Expedition aboard *Silver Origin*
- Roundtrip Economy Air between Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands
- Two-night pre-cruise hotel stay with breakfast at the Quito JW Marriott
- Evening tour of Quito's historic city highlights
- All transfers in Quito, Galapagos and Guayaquil
- Post-cruise hotel day room at Hotel Oro Verde in Guayaquil *
- National Park, Ingala Transit Card and portage
- Roundtrip Economy Air to Ecuador

*For guests with flights after 10pm

**Flights are available only for guests traveling from select US/Canadian gateways



Reservations & Information

1-855-EXPLOR1 (397-5671)

Email - info@explorcruises.com

www.explorcruises.com