



Marine iguana and lava lizard by Reinier Munguia



GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

INVESTIGATING ENDEMIC WILDLIFE AND GEOLOGICAL FORMATIONS WITH REINIER MUNGUIA ABOARD THE TIP TOP V

July 10 - 20, 2019

The Galápagos Islands offer incredible opportunities for nature photographers, from up-close encounters with endemic flora and fauna to unusual landscapes and geological formations. This 11-day program includes visits to sandy beaches, teeming lagoons, volcanic craters, and landmarks like Kicker Rock and Playa Las Bachas, plus the chance to see iconic and unusual wildlife. With no concern about human predation, many creatures are curious and unafraid. Explore the archipelago under the expert leadership of professional photographer Reinier Munguia on this unforgettable adventure!

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the Galápagos Islands with professional nature photographer Reinier Munguia.
- Come face-to-face with the iconic wildlife of the Galápagos, including Blue-footed Boobies, marine iguanas, Darwin's finches, and the Waved Albatross.
- Discover fascinating geological history while trekking volcanoes and lava fields.
- Explore diverse islands by boat and small panga craft, making wet and dry landings and stopping to hike, swim and snorkel.
- Walk through the incredible cactus forest on Santa Fe Island and observe colonies of land iguanas.
- Take a day trip to Antisana Ecological Reserve on Ecuador's mainland for the chance to observe more than 70 bird species, including the endangered Andean Condor.

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER



Mockingbird by Reinier Munguia

JULY 10 - QUITO

Upon arrival in Quito you will be met and escorted to your hotel. *Overnight at Rincón de Puenbo.*

JULY 11 - QUITO

Today you'll have a full day at Antisana Reserve. The Antisana Ecological Reserve is located on the edge of the Amazon prairie, making it a corridor or nexus between the Ecological Reserve of Cayambe-Coca and the Sumaco Napo Galeras National Park. Its approximately 300,000 acres are considered a paradise for birdwatchers due to its various ecological zones ranging from páramo (high grasslands and small shrubs where bushes and flowers grow close to the ground) to the lowland rainforest with more than 70 bird species, including the endangered Andean Condor. The snow-capped Antisana Volcano is the fourth highest peak in Ecuador with an altitude of 18,890 feet. Walkers will enjoy spectacular scenery and abundant wildlife along the trails. *Overnight at Rincón de Puenbo. (BLD)*

JULY 12 - GALÁPAGOS

Fly from mainland Ecuador to Baltra. After boarding M/C Tip Top V, attend your first orientation and have a light snack. Disembark at Playa Las Bachas and visit a flamingo lagoon. Attend an evening orientation about the origin and evolution of the Galápagos Islands, and enjoy a welcome cocktail with the entire crew, followed by dinner. Each day there will be a briefing about the next day's activities, and time for optional swimming, snorkeling and/or kayaking. *Overnight aboard Tip Top V. (BLD)*

JULY 13 - GALÁPAGOS

Today go for a panga boat ride and then land on Genovesa Island at Prince Philip's Steps (El Barranco), to walk and observe the interesting lives of the birds here. Enjoy lunch aboard the boat. Later in the afternoon, visit Darwin Bay, home to frigatebirds, herons, mockingbirds, boobies, shore birds, turtles, marine iguanas and more. Eat dinner on the boat, and later attend an evening orientation to learn about conservation efforts to protect the islands. *Overnight aboard Tip Top V. (BLD)*

JULY 14 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, go ashore at South Plaza Island where a walk through a cactus forest allows you to observe land iguanas and many species of tropical birds. Return to the boat for lunch and sail to Santa Fé Island to check out a different colony of land iguanas native to the island. *Overnight aboard Tip Top V. (BLD)*

JULY 15 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, disembark to take the bus to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island for a visit to the native forests in El Chato Reserve, then go to a farm to search for giant tortoises in the wild. After lunch on the farm return to Puerto Ayora to visit the Fausto Llerena Breeding Center and Interpretation Center inside the Charles Darwin Research Station. Return to the boat for dinner and nightly orientation. *Overnight aboard Tip Top V. (BLD)*

JULY 16 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, disembark on Floreana Island and walk to Baroness Viewpoint, named for the Baroness Eloise von Wagner Bosquet. Enjoy the beautiful landscape and see the ruins of her house, then continue to Post Office Bay. In the 18th century, whalers placed a wooden barrel at this site to use as an informal post office, and today, visitors continue the tradition by leaving their own postcards in the barrel. Return to the boat for lunch. In the afternoon, disembark at Cormorant Point and take a short walk to the Flamingo Lagoon. Continue the walk to La Picona beach for the chance to see marine turtles and their nesting grounds. Afterwards visit Champion Island for a snorkeling excursion. *Overnight aboard Tip Top V. (BLD)*

JULY 17 - GALÁPAGOS

Today we visit Punta Suárez on Española Island to walk along lava beds and observe unique colonies of marine birds. From April to December, this is one of the best places in the world to see the Waved Albatross, which nests primarily on this island. In the afternoon visit Gardner Bay for a walk on the beach. Sea lions inhabit this beach in great quantity during the breeding season. Then take a panga ride around Osborn Islet and the islets of Gardner. *Overnight aboard Tip Top V. (BLD)*

JULY 18 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, disembark at Baquerizo Moreno Port on San Cristóbal Island and drive to the Jacinto Gordillo Tortoise Breeding Center, where you'll learn about the tortoise reproductive process and the programs in place to help maintain the species. Drive back to the port to visit the Interpretation Center, which features exhibits on conservation and on the geological and human history of the islands. This afternoon, sail around Kicker Rock (León Dormido), a massive tuff formation that juts almost 500 feet above the ocean surface and serves as a nesting place for many sea birds. Then visit Cerro Brujo to walk along the white sand beach and observe sea lions, brown pelicans, marine iguanas, and Blue-footed Boobies. *Overnight aboard Tip Top V. (BLD)*

JULY 19 - QUITO

One last boat ride this morning around Black Turtle Cove, a series of coves and islets surrounded by mangroves, where you can observe white tipped reef sharks, marine turtles, spotted eagle rays, and yellow cow nosed rays. Return to the boat and disembark on the pier to take the bus directly to the airport in Baltra for your flight to Quito. A snack will be served on the flight. This afternoon is at leisure. A farewell dinner will be served at the hotel followed by a transfer back to the airport for those with an evening departure. *Overnight at Rincón de Puenbo. (BD)*

JULY 20 - DEPARTURE

Today you will transfer to the airport for your flight home. (B)

Important note: *This itinerary is subject to change without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g. weather) or at the discretion of the captain, guide, or the Galápagos National Park.*

LAND PRICING

\$5,685

Cost is based on a minimum of 8 participants, and includes meals, accommodations, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, in-country transportation, internal flights, local guides for the duration of the program, and carbon offset.

Does not include international airfare, estimated at \$875 from Orlando, tips/gratuities, or items of a personal nature. Other departure cities available. Holbrook can assist with your flight arrangements if desired.

THE FINE PRINT

Cost is based on double occupancy. A \$350 per person deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable excluding a \$100 cancellation fee until April 06, 2019 at which time non-refundable final payment is due.



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe



ABOUT YOUR LEADER



Reinier Munguia is a commercial and nature photographer with a strong education and conservation vision. His work has appeared in several publications including textbooks and magazines. His passion for nature has taken him to become an advocate for causes related

to the protection of species. Educating people about nature has become his most important goal.

Reinier has also taken on the role of vice-president of education for the Lake Region Audubon, where he has been doing multiple presentations as well as leading conservation and outreach programs. Over the years he has presented at large nature and photography events such as the Space Coast Birding Festival, The Big "O" and the First Coast Nature & Photo Fest among others.

Wanting to explore more of the natural world has led Reinier to lead photography and birding trips through the United States, as well as other countries including Costa Rica, Ecuador and Puerto Rico. As the President and teacher of the Polk County Camera Club, he has been educating amateur photographers not only in the proper use of their equipment but also in the ability to self-evaluate their work.

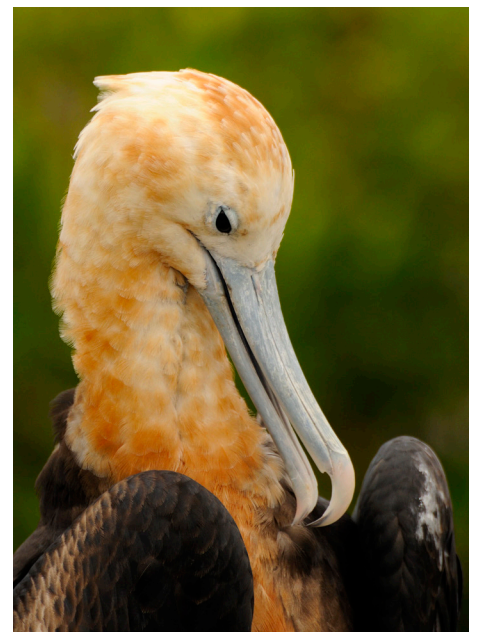


Giant tortoise by Reinier Munguia

TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants traveling in 2018 or beyond. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL

Visit holbrook.travel/munguia-gps19 or contact Sandy Schmidt at schmidt@holbrooktravel.com or 877-907-5360.

PHOTOS BY

Reinier Munguia