



BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY

# GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

Aboard M/Y Tip Top III  
Middle Georgia State University with Dr. John Pasto

11 DAYS | June 20 - 30, 2018



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*The Galápagos Islands have been intriguing explorers for centuries. Discover firsthand the fascinating biodiversity, volcanic terrain, and geological history that make the islands so compelling. This 11 day program includes visits to landmarks like Pinnacle Rock, Sierra Negra volcano, Punta Espinoza, and the steep cliffs and dark beaches of Buccaneer Cove, plus the chance to see iconic and unusual wildlife. Accompanied by an expert naturalist guide, you'll learn about the forces, both natural and human, that have shaped the archipelago through the years.*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Come face-to-face with the iconic wildlife of the Galápagos, including Blue-footed Boobies, marine iguanas, Darwin's finches, and the Galápagos Penguin.
- Discover fascinating geological history while trekking volcanoes and lava fields.
- Visit the Wall of Tears, a historical site that was a penal colony for 13 years, where prisoners built a wall with huge blocks of lava as punishment.
- See rare and endangered tortoises at the Tortoise Breeding Center on Isabela Island.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Bilingual local guides
- Accommodations
- Activities
- Private transportation
- Meals
- Beverages with meals
- Carbon offsetting



PHOTO BY RANDY MOORE



# ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

## JUNE 20 - QUITO

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

## JUNE 21- QUITO

After breakfast this morning take a city tour of Quito, including a visit to the Middle of the World Monument. *Overnight at Sheraton Quito. (BLD)*

## JUNE 22 - GALÁPAGOS

Fly from mainland Ecuador to Baltra. After boarding M/Y Tip Top III, attend your first orientation and enjoy a light snack. Disembark at Playa Las Bachas and visit a flamingo lagoon. Optional time is offered each day for swimming, snorkeling and/or kayaking. 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. *Overnight aboard M/Y Tip Top III. (BLD)*

## JUNE 23 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, go ashore at Sullivan Bay, a perfect place to get a feel for the volcanic origin of the islands. Return to the boat for lunch, followed by an excursion on Bartolomé Island in the afternoon to hike to the summit. During the hike, it's possible to observe colonies of marine iguanas and lava lizards, and on the summit you'll see an impressive view of the surrounding islands, including the eroded tuff cone of Pinnacle Rock. Return to the boat for dinner and your nightly orientation. *Overnight aboard M/Y Tip Top III. (BLD)*

## JUNE 24 - GALÁPAGOS

Today go for a panga boat ride and then land on 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 M/Y Tip Top III. (BLD)*

## JUNE 25 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, land at James Bay (Puerto Egas). Return to the boat for lunch. In the afternoon, the boat will navigate around Buccaneer Cove (Caleta Bucanero), an area with steep cliffs and dark beaches. This was a popular place for 17th and 18th century buccaneers to careen their vessels. The cliffs and pinnacle are used as nesting areas by several species of sea birds. Walk along a coastal trail to visit an abandoned salt mine. Return to the boat for dinner and attend the nightly orientation. *Overnight aboard M/Y Tip Top III. (BLD)*

## JUNE 26 - GALÁPAGOS

Today take a panga boat ride to Punta Vicente Roca for a chance to observe sea lions, marine iguanas, Blue-footed and Masked Boobies, and Flightless Cormorants. Eat lunch aboard the boat. Explore Punta Espinoza in the afternoon to observe a large colony of sea lions, marine iguanas, and Flightless Cormorants, as well as clumps of lava cactus. Return to the boat for dinner and nightly orientation. *Overnight aboard M/Y Tip Top III. (BLD)*

## FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL:

Contact Debbie Sturdivant Jordan  
at [debbie@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:debbie@holbrooktravel.com) or 866-748-6146.  
Visit [holbrook.travel/mgsu-gps18](http://holbrook.travel/mgsu-gps18)

## JUNE 27 - GALÁPAGOS

Today land at Urbina Bay, a coral area with land iguanas, Flightless Cormorants and giant tortoises. Return to the boat for lunch. In the afternoon, take a panga boat ride around the islets of Elizabeth Bay to look for marine iguanas, marine turtles, seabirds, shorebirds, herons, Galápagos Penguins, Blue-footed Boobies, and more. Return to the boat for dinner and your nightly orientation. *Overnight aboard M/Y Tip Top III. (BLD)*

## JUNE 28 - GALÁPAGOS

Today begins with a landing at Las Tintoreras. The islet has a small bay of calm, turquoise waters home to hundreds of marine iguanas, sea turtles, sea lions, Galápagos Penguins, rays, and often white-tipped reef sharks. Next, go on an expedition to Sierra Negra Volcano, which has a crater that is over six miles in diameter. Take a 45-minute bus ride to the highlands of Isabela and walk through slopes of the volcano. Optional horseback riding is available for an additional cost. The trail will take you to Volcán Chico (on the northeast of Sierra Negra Volcano). The sulfur, iron, and cooled magma create a colorful landscape. Then return to the boat for lunch. This afternoon, visit the Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center to observe tortoises of different ages and sizes and to learn about the reproduction of giant tortoises. Next, visit the Wall of Tears, a historical site that was a penal colony for 13 years, where prisoners built a wall with huge blocks of lava as punishment. There you may see lava lizards, Darwin's finches, and hawks. Before returning to the boat, visit Los Humedales to see a series of lagoons, mangrove species, flamingos, and numerous migratory birds. *Overnight aboard M/Y Tip Top III. (BLD)*

## JUNE 29 - GUAYAQUIL

After breakfast, disembark to the pier for a visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station and its Interpretive Center. Later, take the bus directly to the airport in Baltra. Afterward you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Guayaquil. Lunch light will be served during your flight. This afternoon is at your leisure. A farewell dinner will be served at the hotel. *Overnight at Hotel Oro Verde. (BLD)*

## JUNE 30 - DEPARTURE

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

## LAND PRICING

**\$5,275**

Cost includes all accommodations, meals, activities and entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary, Galápagos National Park fee, flights within Ecuador, in-country transportation, full-time guide, and carbon offset.

Does not include international airfare, estimated at \$975 from Atlanta, gratuities, or items of a personal nature.

## THE FINE PRINT

Cost is based on a minimum of 8 participants in double occupancy. A \$350 per person deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space. This deposit is refundable excluding a \$100 cancellation fee until March 17, 2018, when non-refundable final payment is due. Traveltrip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call Travel Insured at 800-243-3174 or visit [travelinsured.com](http://travelinsured.com). Holbrook Travel's agency number is 15849.



This program includes optional carbon offsetting with ClimateSafe. Learn more at [holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe](http://holbrooktravel.com/climatesafe)