



RED-FOOTED BOOBY



GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

with KS Nature Photography

October 13–23, 2021



KS Nature Photography

The Galápagos Islands offer incredible opportunities for nature photographers, from up-close encounters with curious wildlife to endemic flora and unusual landscapes. Accompanied by an onboard naturalist-guide as well as photography expert Krisztina Scheeff, this 11-day small group cruise expedition offers a front-row seat for exploring and photographing the archipelago's many wonders. Stunning formations like saw-toothed Kicker Rock, sandy beaches, teeming lagoons and volcanic craters play host to unique wildlife such as Waved Albatross, white-tipped reef sharks, marine iguanas, sea turtles, lava lizards, and more. With no fear of human predation, many creatures can be approached up close, making for a once-in-a-lifetime photography adventure.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy the opportunity to photograph iconic wildlife including Blue-footed Boobies, Darwin's finches, sea lions, and giant tortoises.
- 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 Fé Island and observe colonies of land iguanas.
- Sail around Kicker Rock, a massive tuff-rock that abruptly juts almost 500 feet straight out of the sea and is a nesting place for many species of sea birds.
- Discover how the Jacinto Gordillo Breeding Center is working to ensure the survival of the islands' endangered giant tortoises.
- Practice photographing fast-moving objects at the hummingbird feeders in Bellavista Cloud Forest.

ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

OCTOBER 13 - QUITO

Upon arrival in Quito you will be met and escorted to your hotel. Dinner is on your own this evening. Check-in starts at 3:00pm. *Overnight at Rincon de Puenbo.*

OCTOBER 14 - QUITO

After breakfast have an orientation program then travel to Bellavista Cloud Forest Reserve and discover the beauty of the Ecuadorian cloud forest, considered one of the most biodiverse ecosystems on the planet. Visit a private 1,600 acre reserve, home to a multitude of epiphytes (air plants), including bromeliads, orchids, moss and ferns. Make a stop at the hummingbird feeders and watch different species of this beautiful bird. Continue on to a butterfly farm nearby, which exhibits 25 varieties of butterflies flying freely in a 7,000 square foot greenhouse. *Overnight at Rincon de Puenbo. (BLD)*



FAWN-BREASTED BRILLIANT HUMMINGBIRD

OCTOBER 15 - GALÁPAGOS

Fly from mainland Ecuador to Baltra. After boarding *M/C Tip Top II*, attend your first orientation and have a light snack. Disembark at Playa Las Bachas and take a guided walk to a flamingo lagoon. Have optional time for those who would like to swim and snorkel. Each day there will be a briefing about the next day's activities, and time for optional swimming, snorkeling and/or kayaking. *Overnight aboard M/C Tip Top II. (BLD)*

OCTOBER 16 - GALÁPAGOS

Today go for a panga boat ride landing on Genovesa Island at Prince Philip's Steps (El Barranco), to walk and observe the interesting lives of the birds here. Return to the yacht for lunch then make a wet landing at Darwin Bay, home to frigatebirds, herons, mockingbirds, boobies, shorebirds, turtles, marine iguanas and more. Have optional time for those who would like to swim, snorkel, or kayak. Enjoy dinner on the boat, and later attend an evening orientation to learn about conservation efforts to protect the islands. *Overnight aboard M/C Tip Top II. (BLD)*

OCTOBER 17 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast go ashore at South Plaza Island, observing the sea lions antics as you disembark. Go on a walk through a cactus forest and watch for land iguanas and many species of tropical birds. Return to the yacht for lunch and sail to Santa Fé Island to check out a different colony of land iguanas, native to the island. Later, have dinner on the yacht, followed by your nightly orientation. *Overnight aboard M/C Tip Top II. (BLD)*

OCTOBER 18 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, disembark to take the bus to the highlands of

Santa Cruz Island for a visit to the native forests of El Chato Reserve and the Twin Craters. Afterwards go to a farm to search for giant tortoises in the wild. Have lunch on the farm, then return to Puerto Ayora to visit the Interpretation Center Fausto Llerena Breeding Center inside the Charles Darwin Research Station. Return to the yacht for dinner. *Overnight aboard M/C Tip Top II. (BLD)*



SALLY LIGHTFOOT CRABS

OCTOBER 19 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, disembark at Floreana Island and walk to Baroness Viewpoint, named after the Baroness Eloise von Wagner. Enjoy the beautiful landscape and observe the ruins of her house. Continue to Post Office Bay, where, in the 18th century whalers placed a wooden barrel to use as an informal post office, and today, visitors continue the tradition by leaving their own postcards in the barrel. Return to the yacht for lunch. In the afternoon, visit Cormorant Point for a short walk to the island's Flamingo Lagoon. Continuing walking to a beach known as "La Picona" to observe marine turtles and their spawning grounds. Optional time for those who would like to swim and snorkel. Then, take a panga ride in Champion Islet for those who wish to snorkel. Return to the yacht for dinner and nightly orientation. *Overnight aboard M/C Tip Top II. (BLD)*

OCTOBER 20 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, visit Punta Suárez on Española Island to walk along lava beds and observe unique colonies of marine birds. From May to December, this is one of the best places in the world to see the Waved Albatross, which nests primarily on this island. After lunch aboard the yacht, take a panga ride around Osborn Islet and the islets of Gardner. Land at Gardner Bay for a walk on the beach to observe sea lions, which inhabit the beach in great quantities during the breeding season. This is also an important nesting area for sea turtles. *Overnight aboard M/C Tip Top II. (BLD)*



WAVED ALBATROSS



OCTOBER 21 - GALÁPAGOS

After breakfast, visit Cerro Brujo to walk on a white sand beach and observe sea lions, Brown Pelicans, marine iguanas and Blue-footed Boobies. Optional time for those who would like to swim, snorkel, or kayak. Then, sail around Kicker Rock (León Dormido), a massive tuff-rock that juts almost 500 feet above the ocean surface and serves as a nesting place for many sea birds. Optional time for those who would like to swim or snorkel. After lunch, disembark at San Cristóbal Island and drive to the Jacinto Gordillo Breeding Center to learn about the tortoise reproductive process and the programs to help maintain the species. Take the bus back to port for a visit at the Interpretation Center of Human History of the Islands. This tour tells the story of the geological and human history of the islands and its conservation. *Overnight aboard M/C Tip Top II. (BLD)*

OCTOBER 22 - 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 at 9:00 am. 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 before the farewell dinner at the hotel this evening. *Overnight at Rincon de Puembo. (BD)*

OCTOBER 23 - DEPART

Transfer to the airport for the flight home. Check-out starts at 12:00 pm. (B)

LAND PRICING

\$5,885 (15 participants)

Cost includes internal flights, meals, accommodations, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, Galápagos National Park fee and tax, private vehicle transportation, travel protection, full time guide for duration of program, most tips/gratuities, bottled water on the bus, non-alcoholic beverages with meals, and carbon offset.

Does not include international airfare, tips and gratuities for main guide(s) and driver, or items of a personal nature.

Single supplement (mainland only): \$250 per person

Single supplement (mainland plus boat): \$1,975 per person

(Note: Only 2 boat cabins are available for single accommodation.)



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

ABOUT YOUR LEADER



KRISZTINA SCHEEFF

Photographer / Guide / Owner
KS Nature Photography

Krisztina has been photographing the natural world, with an emphasis on wildlife, birds & landscapes, since the age of 18. She has been published in Wild Planet Photo Magazine, Audubon papers, won awards from National Audubon Society and local organizations. She had numerous art exhibits and she is a workshop leader every year at the San Diego Bird Festival run by San Diego Audubon

Society. Her enthusiasm and passion for wildlife photography rubs off on everyone who meets her.

Photography is an adventure, just like life itself. Come join me on this journey exploring the beautiful world of wildlife and landscapes!

ksnaturephotography.com

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.

THE FINE PRINT

Cost is based on double occupancy. A \$375 per person nonrefundable deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. Non-refundable final payment is due May 15, 2021.

Please note: Itineraries are subject to change without prior notice for various factors including, but not limited to: safety, weather, unforeseen emergencies, and the discretion of the Captain, Guide, and/or the Galápagos National Park.



TIP TOP II



FLAMINGO LAGOON



YELLOW WARBLER



MARINE IGUANA



SEA LION



KICKER ROCK



LAND IGUANA



SOUTH PLAZA ISLAND

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL

Visit holbrook.travel/ksphoto-gps21 or contact Debbie Jordan at **866-748-6146** or email debbie@holbrooktravel.com