



Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

ECUADOR & GALAPAGOS

Cloud Forest & Galapagos Multi Activity Tour

10 NIGHT TOUR: 3 nights (1 night Quito - 1 night Cloud Forest Lodge – 1 night Quito) + 7 nights (Galapagos Tour)



ABOUT THIS ADVENTURE

Ecuador really does have it all – we know this because we've been there and run our own brand of experiences designed with you in mind! Amazon rainforests, volcanoes over 20,000 feet, sand swept Pacific coastlines, colourful post-colonial centres and of course the Galapagos Islands. Above all, it has wonderfully engaging people of Indigenous Andean, European and African ancestry who truly define Ecuador's vibe.

Adventurebug loves Ecuador and its incredible diversity so we combine our 2 favourite aspects into one awesome adventure – **Quito and the Andean Cloud Forests with the Galapagos Islands**. From colourful Quito and the Andes to the planet's most curious tropical island group, this tour covers the essentials!

HOW IT WORKS – CAN I DO JUST THE GALAPAGOS TOUR?

Most of our travellers want to experience Quito **and** the surrounding Andes Cloud Forest with the Galapagos experience. Since all flights to the Galapagos are from the Ecuador mainland, our Quito tour & Cloud Forest Discovery makes your Galapagos adventure complete! If time and budget only permit you to visit the Galapagos, we can arrange for this and you can opt for the shorter 7-night Galapagos Tour with us instead. Both options exist and you'll have a great adventure!



ITINERARY

Our tour begins and ends in Quito, Ecuador's engaging capital. Our first visits are to Quito and the Andean Cloud forest for a 2 day stay in a wonderful jungle lodge with excellent guides and experiences. We will have a second night in Quito and fly to the Galapagos the next morning for our 8 day island adventure!

Meeting Point: Your tour begins on the afternoon of DAY 1 at our charming post-colonial Hotel in Quito's historic center - Hotel San Francisco, 3 star Boutique. (<http://www.sanfranciscocodequito.com.ec/>) Note - Airport transfers are not included but we can arrange this for you. Bus and Taxi options from the airport are plentiful.

Departure Point: We return mid-day from Galapagos to Quito's International Airport and your tour ends here.



Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

THE ANDEAN CLOUD FOREST EXPERIENCE

1 nights / 2 days – Start and Finish in Quito



Our two-day trip is a wonderful way to become acquainted with the special environment of a cloud forest so close to Quito – only one hour 45 minutes travel time over an incredibly scenic route! We offer guests a unique stay in paradise, above the forest canopy, surrounded by myriads of hummingbirds! You will enjoy our generous servings of gourmet food, the fabulous views of forest and mountains and our extensive network of safe, well-marked trails where we spot wildlife and experience superb botany first-hand.

ITINERARY (combined tour)

DAY 1 – Quito Arrival Day

Tour begins at the Hotel San Francisco (central Quito), 5 pm. Tour orientation meeting and meet your guide followed by a welcome dinner in a local restaurant.

Day 2 – Cloud Forest Adventure

- 6:15 am Departure from our Quito meeting point for a scenic 2 hour drive with incredible views on route!
- Arrival at *Bellavista Lodge* – meet our lodge guides, check in and enjoy a hearty breakfast.
- Morning guided hike through the Cloud Forest (2 hours / gentle pace), followed by a tasty mountain lunch.
- Afternoon forest hike where we discover the secrets of the cloud forest with bird watching and nature spotting.
- 7 pm Dinner and maybe the Olinguito (*Andean Racoons*) will visit tonight right at the Lodge!
(Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included today)

Day 3 – Cloud Forest Adventure

- Pre-breakfast we take an early morning bird walk as this is the best time to spot nature!
- 8 am return for Breakfast.
- Guided hike to one of various waterfalls hidden deep in the forest follow by Lunch at the lodge.
- Further time for self exploration, rest, photos and more.
- 3 pm Departure from Bellavista and arrive back to our Hotel in Quito 5 pm.
(Breakfast & Lunch included today)

Time permitting, we will explore the highlights of central Quito on foot however you may want to calculate personal time to visit any museums or monuments of interest in the capital!





Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

DAY 4: San Cristobal Island



We depart Quito and fly to our first destination in the Galapagos, **San Cristobal Island**. After a short transfer to our hotel, we take lunch and then visit the **San Cristobal Interpretation Center** where our guide will explain how the Galápagos Islands were formed, the evolution of species, the migration of the animals, and the human settlements within the Galápagos. After visiting the Interpretation Center, we make our way to "**Cerro Tijeretas**", or "Frigate Hill". Here we do some snorkelling to see colourful fish species, starfish, sea urchins, or to simply enjoy the crystal clear waters. The afternoon continues with a visit to **Playa Carola**, where we have time to enjoy the beautiful beach before returning to the hotel to rest before dinner.

Accommodation: **Hotel Blue Marlin 3+***

www.bluemarlinGalapagos.ec Lunch & Dinner included.



DAY 5: San Cristobal: Highlands "El Progreso"

After breakfast the day begins with a short bus or tour truck ride (depending on the size of our tour group) to visit the Highlands of San Cristobal. Along the way we will make a stop at the Mirador de la Soledad where you may enjoy a magnificent view of the island. Afterwards we will make our way to the Laguna del Junco, the only freshwater lagoon in San Cristobal, and also where frigate birds come to wash their wings. We then make a short stop and walk to Playa de Puerto Chino before eating a lunch in the Highlands. On the way back we pass by the spot where the island's locals cultivate their food and the famous Galápagos Coffee. We arrive at the hotel to rest and have free time for the remainder of the evening. Accommodation (as per above): Breakfast & Lunch included.

DAY 6: Santa Cruz Island: Charles Darwin St. / Highlands Hike (Giant Tortoise)



At 6:00 a.m. we head for the dock (wake-up at 5:00 AM for breakfast!). and take the **Public Speedboat Taxi**, which leaves at 7:00 a.m. (subject to change), to Puerto Ayora (2 hour estimated travel time). Upon arrival we'll visit the famous **Charles Darwin Research Station**, home to a large variety of Giant Tortoise representing of each island in the archipelago. Here we'll discover the ongoing conservation efforts directed at preserving the Giant Tortoises, as well as the environment of the archipelago as a whole. After, we make a visit to the **Art Galleries of Puerto Ayora** and we'll take lunch locally. In the afternoon we make our way to the **Highlands of Santa Cruz**. Here you may observe the famous **Giant Tortoises** in their natural environment, which also known as **Galápagos**, and from where the vegetation such as

Escelacias forests and Matazarnos. After this ecounter, return to Puerto Ayora for relaxation and free exploration time. Breakfast & Lunch included. Accommodation: **Galápagos Suites Hotel 4*** www.Galapagossuites.com



Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

DAY 7: Tortuga Bay Beach Hike / Transfer to Isabela Island / Visit Flamingos Lagoon

This morning we have a beautiful & easy 45-minute hike to the pristine **white sand beach** called **Tortuga Bay**. This is one of the most beautiful beaches in the Galápagos; here we enjoy the white sands, flora and observe pelicans, fish, sea iguanas and other species of wildlife. An option to kayak (often in safe shark waters!), awaits here. Return to the hotel to rest and have Lunch - served at a local restaurant.

After lunch, we embark once again on the **Public speedboat** towards **Isabela Island**, for approximately two and a half hours with amazing ocean views between the islands. At Isabela, we take a brief rest at the hotel and then head to the **Flamingo Lagoon**, the largest coastal lagoon found in the Galápagos and



one of the main reproductive sites for the majority of flamingos. After our boardwalk here you can stroll the beach spotting wildlife or have a swim, and experience dinner at any of the local restaurants near the hotel. Breakfast & Lunch included. Accommodation: Iguana Crossing Boutique Hotel (or similar)
<https://www.iguanacrossing.com.ec/en/>

DAY 8: Isabela Island

sunscreen, bring water, and a hat! A box lunch will be prepared by yourself at the hotel with the foodstuff of your choice. We will then travel approximately 45 minutes by truck or bus to begin this wonderful hike (appx. 2- 4 hours total). The hike is not very difficult as the inclines and declines are quite gradual. Sierra Negra Volcano has the second largest crater in the world, measuring approximately 6 miles in diameter and 300 feet deep. We will reach



Chico Volcano before heading back, which should provide a spectacular view of the incredible moonlike terrain.

Once we get back to the hotel we take a break to rest before heading out to do some snorkelling in **Concha Perla**. Here we swim with sea lions, colorful varieties of fish, and with luck sea turtles and rays. Return to the hotel to rest and have some free exploration time. Breakfast & Box Lunch included. Accommodation: **same as above.**



Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

DAY 9: Isabela Island: Snorkel in Tintoreras Islet / Humedales Bike Ride



After breakfast, we have a boat visit to **Tintoreras Islet**. First heading to the dock of Puerto Villamil in order to embark on small, open motorboats (12 passenger capacity), our scenic 20 minute cruise brings us to this wonderful Islet. The name derives from the **sharks** that inhabit the surrounding waters, the famous white-tipped-fin Tintoreras Sharks. The islet is one of the most fascinating places on Isabela Island. **Galápagos sea lions, marine iguanas, blue-footed boobies, Sally Lightfoot Crabs, sea turtles, pelicans, and Galápagos Penguins** can all be found in this site. It is also one of main breeding sites for marine iguanas, and a great spot to get a close-up with them. After a hike around the islet,

we cool off by snorkelling in the crystal clear waters nearby. Swimming next to multicolour fish, starfish, sea-urchins, and with luck **manta rays, sharks (friendly!) and sea lions**. This is a major highlight of today's excursion.

After lunch, we take a gentle bicycle tour through jungle woodlands in the **Humedales Trail Complex**. Our first stop is the **Giant Tortoise Breeding Centre** of Isabela. Here we will be able to see a variety of species of giant tortoises in captivity. We also learn how this centre has successfully been able to breed and raise the giant tortoises in order to preserve many of their endangered subspecies. We continue on bikes to the **Lava Tunnel**, as well as visits to **Mirador Orchilla, Estero de Isabela, and Playa del Amor**. We'll even take a short hike to reach the 100 meters long and 7 meters high **Wall of Tears (Muro de las Lagrimas)**. *Between 1946 and 1959 Isabela Island was used as a penal colony by the Ecuadorian government, and the prisoners were obligated to construct this wall out of the sharp and hard volcanic rocks. The name is derived from the arduous work and harsh conditions in which the prisoners work and by which many lost their lives.* To finish the day, we get back on our bikes and return to the hotel for rest and relaxation. Accommodation: **Same as above** / Breakfast & Lunch included.



DAY 10: Isabela Island: Kayaks in Puerto Villamil / Highlands: Campo Duro



After breakfast and depending on the tide, we make our way to the dock and prepare for a **kayaking excursion** towards **Tintoreras Islet** where we can observe a variety of fauna from our kayaks, including **Penguins, Blue-footed Boobies, and Marine Iguanas**. If conditions permit, we'll make our way to **El Faro** before heading back to shore (appx. 2 hours). Return to the hotel for lunch.

This afternoon we visit and hike part of **Isabel's Highlands**, specifically **Campo Duro** inhabited by approx. 42 Giant Galápagos Tortoises in a semi-natural protected environment. On return we visit the **Mirador del Mango, La Cueva de Sucre**, before arriving at the hotel. This evening we'll have our farewell dinner in a local restaurant. Accommodation: **same as above** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner included.



Adventurebug Worldwide Ltd

Bespoke adventure travel & events since 2000

REAT Tourism License AT/MA/00022 Company Registration B93050763
Apto. Correos 1031, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, SPAIN TEL (34) 635 817 819

DAY 11: Transfer out to Baltra Airport - Adios Galápagos & Ecuador!



On the final day we wake at 6:00 am to make our final boat transfer from Puerto Ayora (Isabela Island) to Santa Cruz Island and then on to Baltra Airport (bus and ferry crossing). The whole journey takes about 2.5 hours. We will eat breakfast on route (port of Santa Cruz), and then drive to Baltra (where the airport is located), for our return flight to Quito. Our tour ends at **Quito's Mariscal Sucre International Airport** (UIO).

Normally it's possible to transfer to a late afternoon or evening onward flight from Quito to your home destination. To be safe however, it's advisable to stay one more hotel night near the airport in Quito. Breakfast only included today.

YOUR TRIP – WHAT'S INCLUDED (Both Cloud Forest and Galapagos Combo Tour)

- 10 tour nights (1 night Quito – 2 nights Cloud Forest Lodge – 1 night Quito – 7 nights Galapagos)
- All meals as per above itinerary (stated at the bottom of each day's program)
- All group transfers as per itinerary including boat taxis, ferries
- Internal Flights from Quito to Galapagos return
- All activities, equipment and local guide leadership for Quito, the Cloud Forest and the Galápagos
- All entrance fees and regional permits during the island tour program – including Galápagos N. Park fees
- Tips for hotel, meals and transport (local guide tips not included)

NON INCLUSIONS

- Flights to / from Quito (from your home or other destination)
- Visas for Ecuador
- Personal travel insurance for health, accident, cancellation, etc.
- Drinks and any beverages at all meals (these can be paid directly at meal time)
- Personal Expenses
- Additional transfers (if arriving to Galápagos late or before / after group transfer times)
- Additional nights (hotel stay) in the Galápagos outside our tour itinerary
- Tips for local guide services

What to Bring (QUITO & CLOUD FOREST)

- T-shirts or comfortable blouses/shirts
- Sweater or fleece for the evenings
- Quick drying trousers (blue jeans not recommended)
- Change of clothes
- Sunhat and sunscreen
- Light hiking footwear (note - Rubber boots are provided – to size 47)
- Binoculars recommended (available for rent)
- Refillable water bottle for hikes
- Small daypack for hikes
- Flashlight and batteries
- Plastic bags to protect electronics & documents

What to Bring (GALAPAGOS ISLANDS)

- Swimwear and rash (sun protective) top
- Hiking Sandals
- Good quality sun protection
- Your own snorkelling mask / snorkel in case you want to have extended snorkel sessions

NOTE - Please enquire with us if you only wish to do the 7 night Galapagos Tour