



# GALAPAGOS

REMOTE NORTHERN & CENTRAL ISLANDS  
ABOARD THE 32-GUEST *M/V EVOLUTION*  
APRIL 3-12, 2020

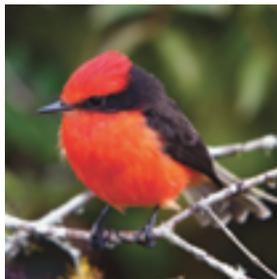




### **AN INTIMATE NATURE EXPERIENCE**

Thirteen major islands, six minor islands and 42 volcanic islets make up Ecuador's Galapagos Archipelago, and while most of these islands are known by both English and Spanish names, you'll find the landscapes and wildlife on each isle to be singularly enchanting. The islands' compelling wildlife inspired Darwin and will do the same for you.





## A VISUAL FEAST

Galapagos is a canvas splashed with a variety of brilliant hues. A visual feast of chocolate chip sea stars, prehistoric marine iguanas, 500-pound tortoises with shell shapes that vary from island-to-island, flamboyant Sally Lightfoot crabs and the jewel-hued feet of blue-footed and red-footed boobies. This is an archipelago boasting 77 endemic species — animals that are found only here.



## SLIP UNDER THE WAVES TO A RICH UNDERSEA WORLD

Life below the cool Pacific waves is unimaginably rich, with more than 3,000 species of marine plants and animals calling these waters home. Beneath the sea, golden rays and white-tipped reef sharks swim just feet away. Playful sea lions encourage you to dive and roll with them during snorkeling excursions. The cool Humboldt and Cromwell currents carry oxygen and nutrients, even making it possible for the Galapagos penguin to live quite happily on the Equator.



## EXPERTS, EDUCATORS AND FRIENDS

So intensely protected is the Galapagos National Park and Marine Reserve that visitors are prohibited from visiting 97% of the islands without the guidance of a licensed naturalist. Beyond just “visiting” the islands, we want you to reach a deeper understanding. That’s why we’ve selected guides, like Bolivar Sanchez, who are natives of the islands, licensed at the highest level (Level 3) by the park, and have decades of experience.



Only on this Galapagos Expedition can you enjoy the combination of an in-depth, naturalist-guided expedition and the Galapagos’ largest cabins and outdoor spaces, all aboard an intimate, classically styled yacht.

### A SMALL SHIP FOR A SELECT FEW

Other companies have ships carrying 48-100 guests while some sail on cramped, uncomfortable 16-passenger boats. Only the *Evolution* is uniquely sized to offer just 32 guests an opportunity for intimate exploration of the islands without sacrificing gracious outdoor spaces. In fact, with an open-air bar, hot tub, indoor and outdoor dining areas as well as two sun decks, the *Evolution* offers guests more open-air public space than any boat in her class!

### THE LARGEST CABINS IN THE GALAPAGOS

Ranging from 143 to 263 square feet, our oversized cabins aboard the *Evolution* are the largest on average of any ship in the islands.

### EVERY DAY IS A HIGHLIGHT

Our Galapagos experience includes an astounding list of highlights that combine to make this a once-in-a-lifetime experience! Island excursions like snorkeling, kayaking and picnicking in the lush highlands blend with time onboard spent dancing to the tunes of a local band and savoring snacks and exotic juices after every excursion.

### TRAVEL WITH THE HIGHEST RATED GALAPAGOS GUIDES

Your guides not only grew up in the islands but they are rated at the highest level (Level 3) by Galapagos National Park. You gain insight only a local can offer and benefit from their 20 years of field experience.



## EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Enjoy the archipelago's best guest-to-guide ratio on small-group departures of just 26-32 guests.
- ✓ Hike among red-footed boobies, storm petrels & short-eared owls on outlying Genovesa Island.
- ✓ Snorkel in an extinct volcanic cone at Devil's Crown.
- ✓ Savor the most public outdoor space & largest cabins of any ship in this class aboard the M/V Evolution.
- ✓ Learn about conservation efforts at the Charles Darwin Research Station.

## VOYAGE ITINERARY

Day 1 • Friday **ARRIVE GUAYAQUIL**  
Fly independently to Guayaquil, Ecuador, and transfer to the Hotel Oro Verde. (Meals Aloft)

Day 2 • Saturday **GUAYAQUIL / SAN CRISTOBAL / ISLA LOBOS** Fly to the islands and board the *Evolution*. After a safety briefing, snorkel with sea lions at Isla Lobos as well as watch boobies and frigatebirds. Enjoy a sunset stroll with view of Kicker Rock. (B,L,D)

Day 3 • Sunday **SOUTH PLAZA ISLAND / MOSQUERA ISLAND** At only 426 feet wide, South Plaza is one of the smallest islands in the archipelago. Look for yellow land iguanas on a walk to a grove of prickly-pear cactus. Non-hikers can enjoy a Zodiac ride, watching for swallow-tailed gulls, red-billed tropicbirds and blue-footed boobies. Enjoy snorkeling with sea turtles at Punta Carrion. Since there is no true trail on Mosquera Islands, you are able to stroll at your leisure. (B,L,D)

Day 4 • Monday **SOMBRERO CHINO ISLAND / SANTIAGO ISLAND: PUERTO EGAS** The tiny uplifted island of Sombbrero Chino — or Chinese Hat — features a primeval landscape of volcanic rubble and lava tubes. The “land” is made

of a few adjacent craters and old, fragile pahoehoe lava flows. Vegetation is just starting to take hold, including colorful carpetweed plants. Enjoy a Zodiac ride and swim before lunch. This afternoon, search the tide pools of Puerto Egas for sea life. During low tide, we may see marine iguanas feeding on algae. The *Evolution's* naturalists will point out the birdlife, including great blue herons, lava herons, oystercatchers and yellow-crowned night herons. (B,L,D)

Day 5 • Tuesday **GENOVESA ISLAND** Genovesa is often referred to as “Bird Island” for the vast numbers of pelagic seabirds that come here to nest. And while Genovesa harbors one of the Galapagos’ largest and most diverse bird populations, there are no land reptiles — with the exception of some very small marine iguanas. This is due to the direction of the ocean currents, which couldn’t carry the terrestrial animals here. Climb Prince Philip’s Steps to an area with colonies of red-footed boobies. Watch for short-eared owls which feed on the petrels that fly about. Explore Darwin Bay, home to the rare lava gull. While anchored at Genovesa, enjoy an opportunity to swim, kayak and snorkel in the calm caldera of this partially eroded volcano. (B,L,D)

Day 6 • Wednesday **NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND / SANTA FE ISLAND** North Seymour is the nesting site for a large population of magnificent frigatebirds and the only place where we can always find males showing their red pouches to attract females. Plus, we are sure to see blue-footed boobies perform their comical courtship dance in the open areas. Hike to a scenic lagoon, where we may observe Galapagos hawks, mockingbirds and a variety of Darwin's finches. You may kayak and snorkel from the beach. (B,L,D)

Day 7 • Thursday **SANTA CRUZ ISLAND** Begin our day in the forested highlands, with ample opportunity to see and photograph giant tortoises in the wild. Stop at a family run farm before learning about the work being done to study and preserve wildlife at Fausto Llerena Tortoise Breeding Center at the Darwin Research Center. (B,L,D)

Day 8 • Friday **FLOREANA ISLAND** Swim and kayak in the bay before a walk along the olivine beaches of Punta Cormorant. After hiking to a flamingo lagoon, spot fish and sea turtles during a relaxing stroll along the beach. Enjoy superb snorkeling at Devil's Crown, where sea water has filled the sunken cone of an extinct volcano. Hike to Post Office Bay, once used by navigators to send mail with homebound messengers. (B,L,D)

Day 9 • Saturday **GALAPAGOS / GUAYAQUIL** Enjoy a Zodiac ride through Black Turtle Cove, drifting silently through this area of mangroves. Fly to Guayaquil, with time to relax at the Hotel Oro Verde. (B,L Aloft)

Day 10 • Sunday **DEPART** Board your independent flights home. (Meals Aloft)

*All itineraries are subject to approval by the Galapagos National Park and may vary according to changes in park regulations.*



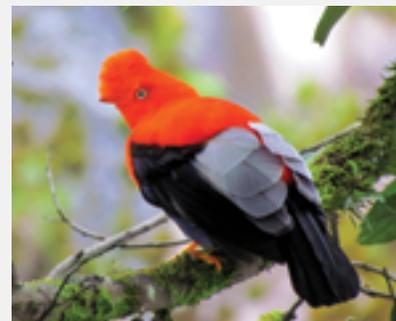
### OPTIONAL EXTENSION: Machu Picchu & Cusco

Day 9 • Saturday **GALAPAGOS / GUAYAQUIL / LIMA** Disembark and fly to Guayaquil to connect with flights to Lima. Overnight at the Costa del Sol. (B,L Aloft)

Day 10 • Sunday **LIMA / CUSCO / URUBAMBA VALLEY** Fly to Cusco — the heart of the Inca Empire. Drive into the historic Urubamba Valley, stopping in Chinchero to browse Andean handicrafts. Visit the Urubamba Market and spend tonight at the Aranwa Hotel. (B,L,D)

Days 11 & 12 • Monday & Tuesday **MACHU PICCHU** Board the train to Machu Picchu, where we spend the afternoon exploring the ruins. A full day is available to return to Machu Picchu or explore our hotel's extensive orchid gardens. Spend the next two nights at the Inkaterra Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel. (B,L,D Daily)

Day 13 • Wednesday **OLLANTAYTAMBO / SACSAYHUAMÁN / CUSCO** Catch the morning train back to the Sacred Valley. Explore the mighty archaeological wonder of Ollantaytambo, where ancient temples and fortresses were built to protect the Sacred Valley. After a Paso Fino horse show at Wayra Ranch, continue



to Cusco. We stop at Sacsayhuamán — a huge fortress of massive stones which zigzags across the side of the mountain. Spend two nights at the Aranwa Hotel. (B,L,D)

Day 14 • Thursday **CUSCO** Stroll the streets of Cusco, exploring the Koricancha — also known as Santo Domingo, Santa Catalina Convent and the Cathedral. The afternoon is free to explore on your own before a farewell dinner featuring Andean fare. (B,L,D)

Day 15 • Friday **CUSCO / LIMA / EN ROUTE** After a morning at leisure fly back across the Andes to Lima. Transfer to the airport this evening for flights home. (B,L)

Day 16 • Saturday **ARRIVE** Arrive and connect with your flight home. (Meals Aloft)

YOUR EXPEDITION SHIP

# M/V Evolution



Whether in the dining room or *al fresco* dining area, each meal is something to rave about. Meals feature both international and traditional Ecuadorian cuisine, from fresh fruit juices and savory snacks to lobster and sumptuous soups.

*"The Evolution had character... Food was excellent (kudos to chef!), public places were quite comfortable and cabins were roomy. The crew all went out of their way to be accommodating."* David Kalwinsky of Johnson City, Tennessee

*"The food on the Evolution was truly outstanding. Having Champagne and a small cake celebrating our 25th anniversary was very special!"* Laula Ashley of Fairway, Kansas



### **YOUR PRIVATE RETREAT ONBOARD**

The newly-renovated *Evolution's* interior is fully air-conditioned, and cabins on all three decks offer ample storage space, a writing desk, bedside tables and en-suite facilities. The *Evolution's* spacious cabins — ranging from approximately 143 to 263 square feet — are the largest cabins on average in the Galapagos and the perfect haven for an afternoon siesta between our frequent excursions.



### **FRIENDLY AMBIANCE AND SPACIOUS PUBLIC AREAS**

While the *Evolution* may carry just 32 guests, she is generous in size with a host of amenities. From relaxing on the sun deck to reading in the lounge, you're sure to relish the friendly ambiance. Enjoy briefings by our naturalists in our comfortable lounge. Or spend time with a snack and your fellow passengers at the canopied bar, a superb place for watching the sun set over the Pacific. After excursions, relax in the hot tub or find a cushy deck chair while enjoying more outside space than any other yacht of this class.





7:00 AM



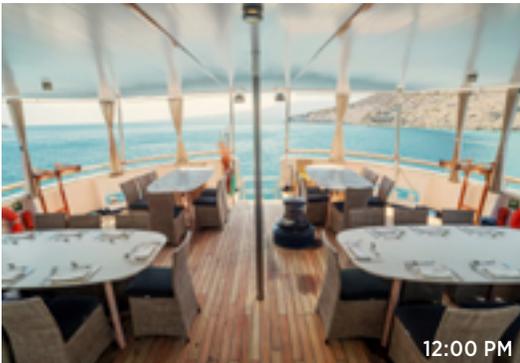
8:00 AM



9:00 AM



11:00 AM



12:00 PM



1:00 PM



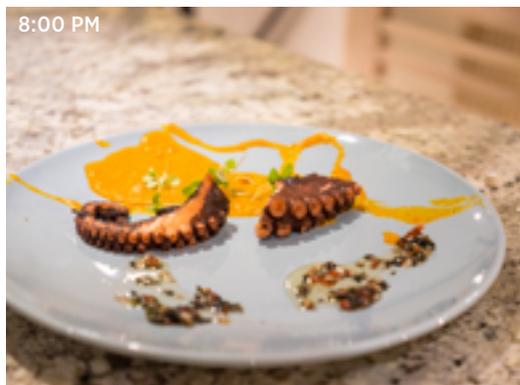
3:00 PM



5:00 PM



7:00 PM



8:00 PM

## A Day in the Life: Aboard the *Evolution*

While every day in the Galapagos Islands is a new adventure, each day follows a similar pattern anchored by delicious meals, exciting excursions and informative briefings by your local naturalist guides.

**7:00 AM** Enjoy a hearty breakfast and strong cup of coffee as you prepare for a big day of exploration.

**8:00 AM** Our small group of travelers can easily board Zodiacs and be among the first visitors to each island. This ensures you have great light for photography and observe the active morning wildlife.

**9:00 AM** Daily hiking excursions are a chance to walk in the footsteps of Darwin as you discover the singular landscapes and wildlife on each island.

**11:00 AM** Nothing tops off a morning like kayaking or snorkeling in clear Pacific waters!

**12:00 PM** An *al fresco* lunch is a true treat. Be sure to add popcorn to your ceviche for an Ecuadorian twist!

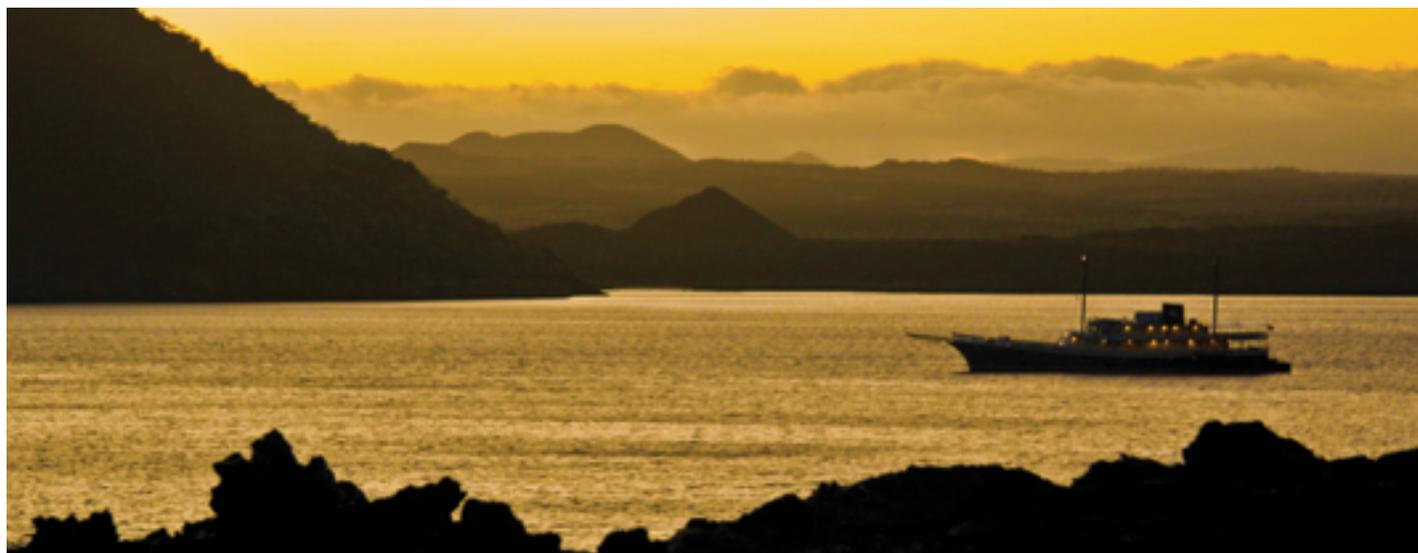
**1:00 PM** *Siesta* time is perfect for relaxing or reading in one of the *Evolution's* cushy deck chairs.

**3:00 PM** Back in the water! The rich marine life is sure to dazzle on your afternoon swimming and snorkeling excursions.

**5:00 PM** No sunset stroll would be complete without a group of your new best friends — the Galapagos sea lions!

**7:00 PM** Our Level 3 naturalists give nightly briefings on biology, history, volcanology and more.

**8:00 PM** You have had a busy day! So enjoy a sumptuous three-course meal and dessert (or two desserts!) before settling into your cabin for a good night's sleep. Or take advantage of the TV or small library in the lounge for some after-dinner entertainment.



**Type:** Expedition Vessel  
**Staff & Crew:** 16  
**Flag:** Ecuador  
**Cabins:** 16  
**Cruising Speed:** 10-12 knots

**Gross Tonnage:** 675 metric tons  
**Length:** 192 feet  
**Breadth:** 29 feet  
**Draft:** 12 feet

#### CATEGORY 1 (D DECK)

Cabins with queen or twin beds and porthole at/below water level. Approx. 178 sq. ft.

#### CATEGORY 2 (C DECK)

Cabins with queen or twin beds and porthole. Approx. 143 sq. ft.

#### CATEGORY 3 (A DECK)

Cabins with queen or twin beds and window. Approx. 198 sq. ft.

#### CATEGORY 4 (A DECK)

Cabin with queen bed and window. Approx. 263 sq. ft.

**All Cabins** feature private bathrooms with hair dryers and toiletries, climate controls, writing desk and safe-boxes.

## Galapagos Voyage April 3-12, 2020

### PRICE PER PERSON

#### Category 1 (D Deck)

Double Occupancy \$6,950  
 Single Occupancy \$10,290

#### Category 2 (C Deck)

Double Occupancy \$7,400  
 Single Occupancy \$10,965

#### Category 3 (A Deck)

Double Occupancy \$8,350  
 Single Occupancy \$14,353

#### Category 4 (A Deck)

Double Occupancy \$8,700  
 Single Occupancy \$14,965

In-Country Airfare (Adults) \$665  
 In-Country Airfare (Kids) \$548

Park Fee (Adults) \$120  
 Park Fee (Kids) \$70

In-country airfare is subject to change and must be purchased through IE.

• **\$500 Discount for kids 7-18**

## Machu Picchu & Cusco Extension April 12-18, 2020

### PRICE PER PERSON

Double Occupancy \$3,999  
 Single Occupancy \$4,999

In-Country & International Airfare \$809  
 Park Fee \$192

In-country airfare is subject to change and must be purchased through IE.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO MAKE A RESERVATION CONTACT:**

**Massachusetts Audubon Society  
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208 South Great Road  
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773**

**(800) 289-9504 or (781) 259-2166  
[travel@massaudubon.org](mailto:travel@massaudubon.org)**

By traveling with the Massachusetts Audubon Society and International Expeditions, you are supporting IE's conservation efforts in the Galapagos Islands, including programs to bring environmental education to local school children.