



# Ecuador Galapagos Islands Private Adventure

## Lodge-Based Wildlife Experience on Santa Cruz & Isabela

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

**We love talking travel!**  
Contact us at [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)  
or call **800-974-0300**



# Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

## **Unrivaled Expertise**

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Tour Company in 2022 by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

## **Unique Trip Design**

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail — the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

## **Small Groups**

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.





## Leading the Way

### World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.





# Why take this trip with us?

## REASON 1

MT Sobek was one of the first North American companies to bring visitors to the Galápagos Islands, with an inaugural charter for the Sierra Club in 1970.

## REASON 2

Guests love our Galápagos adventures because we work with our own team of expert naturalist guides — all certified to the highest level.

## REASON 3

This trip is the perfect alternative to our yacht-based adventures with eight nights at comfortable hotels and inns, hand-picked by our Galápagos specialists.

## At A Glance

### ACTIVITIES

Easy walks, snorkeling, kayaking, and enjoying the endemic wildlife that made these islands famous.



### LODGING

Island inns with beautiful beach and waterfront views. Enjoy your first and last nights at conveniently located hotels in Quito.



### CLIMATE

Mild climate year-round. December-May has daytime temperatures of 76-86°F and water temps of 70-75°F. June-November has daytime temps 67-77°F and water temps of 65-72°F



### KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

*“What a total comfort to know that with MT Sobek, you're in the hands of professionals who have been doing it so long and so well. That was part of why we landed on them as our operators for our dream trip, and everything about the experience they gave us—from tailored expertise to unswerving professionalism—confirmed the company's emphasis on excellence.” - Alex M.*



# Ecuador Galapagos Islands Private Adventure

## Lodge-Based Wildlife Experience on Santa Cruz & Isabela

See another side of the Galapagos on this lodge-based adventure that combines the enchanting islands of Santa Cruz and Isabela. Follow expert naturalist guides to explore hidden spots where cruise passengers don't go, and experience the many landscapes of this nature-lover's paradise. Each day brings a new excursion, including the fumaroles and caldera of Sierra Negra Volcano, snorkeling with Galapagos penguins and marine iguanas, and spotting the unique native wildlife. Your trip begins and ends in historic Quito, the capital of Ecuador and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

## 9 Days

**Start:** Quito, Ecuador

**End:** Quito, Ecuador

**Departing:** January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

**Activities:** Safari & Wildlife, Private Travel

**Lodging:** Comfortable Hotels

**Group Size:** 2-12 Guests

### ACTIVITY:



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*“MT Sobek is the best. Our trip to the Galapagos ran like clockwork. Excellent guide, hotels and activities. As the trip planner in our household, it was a great experience to rely on the expertise and coordination of MT Sobek for an effortless trip. I would travel with them again without hesitation.”*

- Jennifer T.

Check [mtsobek.com](https://www.mtsobek.com) for date-specific pricing.

# The Itinerary

DAY  
01

## Arrive in Quito

Welcome to the historic city of Quito, the capital of Ecuador. An MT Sobek representative will meet you outside customs at the airport and escort you to your hotel. After settling in at the hotel, the rest of the day is free to unwind, take advantage of the hotel's pool and spa services, or begin your exploration of this dynamic city. Dinner is on your own tonight.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Swissotel Quito

**TRANSPORTATION:** 45-minute private vehicle transfer

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DAY  
02

## Explore Quito

After breakfast, enjoy a half-day guided sightseeing tour of colonial Quito, the oldest part of the city. This colorful neighborhood, one of UNESCO's first declared World Heritage Sites, is rich with Spanish colonial architecture, gilded churches, lively restaurants, museums and small shops. Your guide will explain the history and traditions of Quito and offer special insight into everyday life. After lunch in an area restaurant, the rest of the day is free to relax, shop, or explore on your own.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Swissotel Quito

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch

**ACTIVITY:** 2.5-3 hour city walking tour

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DAY  
03

## Journey to the Galápagos Islands

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to the Quito airport and fly to Baltra Island in the Galápagos. From here, connect with a local flight to Isabela Island, the largest of the islands, and transfer to your beachfront lodge in Puerto Villamil. Take the remainder of the day to swim and snorkel at the beach and explore the village with your guide. Be sure to keep an eye out overhead for blue-footed boobies and along the shoreline for Galápagos sea lions.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Casa de Marita-Puerto Villamil, Isabela Island

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 2.5-hour flight transfers

**ACTIVITY:** Swimming and snorkeling

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## DAY 04

### Hike the Sierra Negra Volcano

Take an awe-inspiring hike up the Sierra Negra Volcano (4,890'), one of the most active volcanoes in the Galápagos. Hike two hours up a gradual incline to the massive crater's edge, walking among fumaroles and petrified lava formations. Along the way, enjoy spectacular views of the ocean and surrounding islands, and watch for endemic Galápagos hawks, martins, and vermilion flycatchers. From there, you can hike back down or extend your hike by continuing along the crater's rim.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Casa de Marita-Puerto Villamil, Isabela Island

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch

**ACTIVITY:** 4–7 hours/10 miles hiking with 400' elevation gain and loss

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## DAY 05

### Explore Isabela Island

Enjoy a full day exploring the sites of Isabela Island. After breakfast, head to Tintoreras islet, accessible only by small boats. The walk on Tintoreras is easy and a great opportunity to observe marine iguanas, sea lions, penguins, boobies, and herons. After the walk, snorkel among tropical fish, sea turtles, reef sharks, and, if you're lucky, even Galápagos penguins. After lunch, you can visit the Giant Tortoise Breeding Center, or simply relax at the hotel and swim from the beach.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Casa de Marita-Puerto Villamil, Isabela Island

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**ACTIVITY:** 1.5 hours/0.7 miles walking plus snorkeling

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## See the Highlands of Santa Cruz

Awake early to swim or take a nature walk before your transfer to Puerto Villamil airport for the short flight to Baltra. From Baltra, transfer to Santa Cruz Island, stopping to visit the lush forests to search for Darwin's giant tortoises in their natural environment. Explore a lava tunnel, and enjoy lunch at a restaurant in the highlands. Later, continue the drive to the town of Puerto Ayora, the largest settlement in Galápagos, then check in to your hotel with time to relax or explore town.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Angermeyer Waterfront Inn-Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

**TRANSPORTATION:** 20-minute flight transfer

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## Explore Santa Cruz Island

Start your day with an easy, 30-minute walk through a dry forest dominated by giant prickly-pear cactus. Arrive at the beautiful, white-sand Tortuga Beach, where you can kayak or swim in the calm waters of the bay. In the afternoon, visit the Charles Darwin Station or one of the nearby beaches. For an additional cost, you can ride horses on a private ranch in the highlands, take a dive trip to a nearby island, or take a boat trip to a nearby island to view wildlife.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Angermeyer Waterfront Inn-Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch

**ACTIVITY:** Forest walk & optional activities

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## Return to Quito

Transfer to the Baltra airport for your return flight to Quito. An MT Sobek representative will greet you at Quito airport and provide assistance to your nearby hotel. Lunch and dinner are on your own today.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Wyndham Quito Airport Hotel

**MEALS:** Breakfast

**TRANSPORTATION:** 45-minute private vehicle transfer & 2-hour flight transfer

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## Depart Quito

Use the complimentary airport shuttle to transfer to the airport in time for your outbound flight, or opt to stay on in Quito to join us for one of our extensions in Ecuador or Peru!

**MEALS:** Breakfast



## Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

### **Swissôtel Quito**

The upscale Swissôtel offers five-star comfort in Quito's Floresta neighborhood, close to great shopping, interesting museums, and the city's architectural gems. Elegant and comfortable rooms feature city or mountain views, flat-screen TVs with premium channels, complimentary Wi-Fi, and more. There are four restaurants onsite offering a variety of international cuisine. Other perks include a fitness center and an indoor pool.

### **Casa de Marita-Puerto Villamil, Isabela Island**

This comfortable beachfront inn on the island of Isabela offers incomparable views and access to one of the most beautiful white sand beaches in the Galápagos Islands. Casa Marita sports the charm and atmosphere of a large country home, with 16 rooms that are individually decorated with fanciful flair. Guests are invited to share the comfortable lounge, library and bar areas.

### **Angermeyer Waterfront Inn**

Located on the Punta Estrada waterfront, this quiet inn is built around Gus Angermeyer's legendary cave. Lava rocks and drift wood form some of the construction materials for this uncommon piece of Galápagos history. The inn features comfortable guest rooms with en suite bathrooms, a guest lounge with full bar service, and, of course, excellent views of the bay.



# Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

## **Wyndham Quito Airport**

The Wyndham Quito Airport is a convenient and comfortable stopover after your journey back from the Galápagos chosen for its location right next to the airport. Both international and Ecuadorian food options are available at the onsite restaurant and for room service. Rooms have large TVs and free WiFi. There is a 24-hour complimentary airport shuttle.

# Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December

# What's Included

## PRICE INCLUDES

- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

## PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Galapagos National Park fee, collected upon arrival (Age 13 and older: \$100 current fee, increasing to \$200 from Aug 1 2024 / Age 12 and younger: \$50 current fee, increasing to \$100 from Aug 1 2024)
- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Wetsuit rentals
- Alcoholic beverages (with exception of one glass of wine with welcome dinner)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses
- Galápagos Transit Control Card
- Internal flights to/from Quito and Galapagos Islands



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