



LUXURY TAILOR MADE TRAVEL

Tailor Made Ecuador: Galápagos Cruise

8 days from \$7,395

Private Journey

Travel with your private party on this Luxury Tailor Made Journey, departing when you choose and with expert local guides leading the way; you can even customize the itinerary to your interests.

Venture to a pristine universe all its own on a cruise to the otherworldly Galápagos Islands, exploring spectacular volcanic terrain and encountering wildlife not found anywhere else on the planet, followed by a visit to Quito for a taste of ancient Andean life.

A&K Advantages

Cruise the Galápagos Islands for four nights aboard 'La Pinta,' an adventure yacht that blends stability, spaciousness and style

Choose from island activities that include kayaking, snorkeling, light trekking or simply relaxing on shore

Experience the unique and unafraid endemic species of the islands alongside a naturalist guide, getting up close with gorgeous blue and red-footed boobies, marine iguanas, and rare penguins

Step back in time in the capital city of Quito, walking its cobblestone streets, taking in its colonial buildings and discovering its art treasures

Witness giant tortoises up close and in their natural highland habitat

Itinerary

Luxury Tailor Made Journeys depart on the dates that work for you and feature expert local guides throughout your journey. The itinerary below can be customized to your interests.

DAY 1 ARRIVE GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR

Upon arrival in Guayaquil, you are met by an A&K representative and transferred to your hotel. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure.

Hotel del Parque

DAY 2 GALÁPAGOS | SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your flight to Baltra Island in the Galápagos. You are met by your naturalist guide and begin your exploration through the Galápagos' northern islands. Transfer to the Itabaca Channel, taking a small ferry across the channel to the north shore of Santa Cruz Island. Journey to the highlands, where you learn about Santa Cruz's unique ecosystems and biodiversity. After lunch, visit the highlands and one of the best places on the islands to observe giant tortoises in their natural habitat. The tortoises, which can live up to 200 years of age, are easy to spot as they lumber around eating grass and wallowing in the small pools that are common here. Just steps from where the tortoises roam, find fascinating underground lava tunnels to explore with your naturalist guide.

'La Pinta' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3 GALÁPAGOS | EDEN & SOMBRERO CHINO ISLETS

After breakfast, a *panga* (small open boat) takes you to Eden Islet, located off the coast of Santa Cruz, where you can observe blue-footed boobies diving into the water, reef sharks and frigates. There's a chance to snorkel and, if weather conditions permit, to ride in the glass-bottom boat. The volcanic setting of this area is quite stunning due to its variety of volcanic debris, including cinder cones, tuff cones and semi-eroded lava flows. Return to the ship for lunch and time to relax. This afternoon, journey to the tiny island of Sombrero Chino, which gets its name from its appearance reminiscent of a Chinese hat. The island's cove offers excellent swimming and snorkeling opportunities amid white-tipped reef sharks and Galápagos penguins. Enjoy dinner back on board.

'La Pinta' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4 GALÁPAGOS | BARTOLOMÉ & SANTIAGO ISLANDS

Set sail for Bartolomé Island. Best known for its landmark Pinnacle Rock, a towering obelisk that rises from the ocean's edge, Bartolomé is home to the Galápagos penguin as well as sea lions, rays and sea turtles. Embark on a dry landing on this picturesque island lined with a pink and white sand beach. Follow your naturalist guide, who points out the wildlife, describes the remarkable volcanic terrain — including massive lava tubes — and leads you to Bartolomé's summit. Opt for some snorkeling or relax on the beach. Return to the ship for lunch before boarding the *pangas* to land at Sullivan Bay on the east coast of Santiago. Swim or snorkel along its white coral sand beach or explore a lava field that flowed here less than 100 years ago. This is the perfect place to see and feel the volcanic origins of Galápagos while observing its wildlife. Return to your ship with time to unwind before dinner.

'La Pinta' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5 GALÁPAGOS | GENOVESA ISLAND

Today, explore the most northeastern and rarely visited of the Galápagos Islands, Genovesa, home to vast colonies of birds. After breakfast, ride a *panga* to Darwin Bay, a beautiful natural harbor wrapped in a white-sand beach. Take an optional walk over sharp lava and uneven terrain for dramatic views or return to the beach to enjoy swimming and snorkeling. The more adventurous can snorkel along the cliffs or paddle out in sea kayaks. Return to your ship for lunch. This afternoon, take a *panga* ride along the dramatic cliffs of Genovesa to El Barranco. Also known as Prince Phillip's Steps, this is a steep path (90 feet) with stairs carved into rock. Choose to disembark and climb these stairs to a Palo Santo forest full of birds, including Nazca boobies, Galápagos doves, mockingbirds and storm petrels. With some luck, you may even spot a short-eared lava owl.

'La Pinta' | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6 QUITO | FROM THE SEA TO THE ANDES

This morning, disembark your ship and depart for the airport. Fly to the capital city of Quito, where you are met by an A&K representative and transferred to your hotel.

Casa Gangotena | Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7 QUITO | CAPITAL OF COLONIAL TREASURES

Enjoy a morning at leisure with time to experience Quito's special atmosphere as you wish. In the afternoon, join your A&K guide for a walking tour of colonial Quito with its endless art treasures and flowering balconies. Marvel at San Francisco Church and its museum of religious art as well as La Compañía and the seven tons of gold gilding its glittering walls. Visit the bustling Independence Plaza, flanked by the Presidential Palace and the Cathedral of Quito. Later, head to the Panecillo Hill to admire wonderful views of the city and surrounding Andean peaks.

Casa Gangotena | Meals: Breakfast

DAY 8 DEPART QUITO

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and board your international flight home or continue on to your next journey.

This journey entails some active elements. Galápagos itineraries are subject to change due to weather, park regulations, logistics or operational reasons.



Enhance Your Journey

Elevate your experience with a host of options available for an additional cost.

CRUISE PRIVATELY

Voyage through the Galápagos on a private yacht exclusively chartered for you and your travelling companions.

STAY IN THE CLOUD FOREST ON AN EXTENSION

Extend your time in Ecuador in the Mashpi Biodiversity Reserve with a two-night stay at the Mashpi Lodge, discovering the surrounding flora and fauna through guided activities.

SET FOOT ON THE EQUATOR AND VISIT THE ETHNOGRAPHIC MUSEUM

Pay a guided visit to the La Mitad del Mundo Equatorial Line Monument, situated where Charles-Marie de la Condamine established the geodetic position of the equator in the 18th century. Although a new site has since been established 260 yards away, this was nonetheless a major achievement. Afterward, discover exhibits at the Ethnographic Museum, which features costumes and daily objects from various, indigenous Ecuadorian groups.

Dates & Prices

Jan–Dec; Priced from \$7,395

Internal Air from \$670

Guayaquil/Baltra/Quito

Prices are per person, double occupancy for the itinerary as published for 2020 travel, and subject to availability.

Pricing reflects A&K's recommended months of travel of this itinerary. Supplements may apply over holiday periods, festivals and special events. International air not included.

Prices are per person based on double occupancy. Internal and international air not included. See complete terms and conditions [here](#).