

**Durgan**  
Travel Service  
www.durgantravel.com

**Valid  
Passport  
Required!**

Passport **MUST** be valid 3  
months from your **RETURN** date!



\*All rates are per person, twin occupancy, and **INCLUDE** all air taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges (this portion subject to change). Rates are for a lower cabin and for payment by cash/check. Subject to air confirmation.

**Durgan Travel Service** *presents...*

**10 Days/9 Nights**

# **GALAPAGOS CRUISE**

**FEATURING WEST, CENTRAL, AND EAST ISLANDS ABOARD THE MONSERRAT WITH QUITO STAY!**

**Dates available upon request**

**\$TBA\*** with 20 passengers maximum

**\$TBA\*** with 18 – 19 passengers

**\$TBA\*** with 16 – 17 passengers

*It's virtually impossible to witness the wonders of the Galapagos first-hand and not return home a devoted conservationist! Board the comfy Monserrat and embark on a cruising adventure through the archipelago's western, central, and eastern islands. Snorkel with sea lions, discover the unusual endemic marine life in secluded bays, and hike Sierra Negra, the largest basaltic caldera in the region. With a pair of Level II naturalist guides at the ready to answer your questions, you'll head home with a new perspective on nature and your planet.*

*The Monserrat offers coziness with a personal touch. With plenty of room to move about and the best passenger-to-guide ratio, the Monserrat is value incarnate. Comfortable cabins and common areas, roomy outdoor spaces, and a naturalist guide for every 10 travelers make for a top-notch blend of comfort and service!*

## **OUR GALAPAGOS ISLAND CRUISE ITINERARY:**

**DAY 1 – BOSTON~INTERMEDIATE CITY~QUITO:** Depart from Boston Logan's International Airport for our flight to Quito, Ecuador (via intermediate city). Upon arrival, we will meet our full-time tour guide, who will help us the transfer to the hotel. Dinner is on our own. Overnight at our hotel.

**DAY 2 – BALTRA~SANTA CRUZ ISLAND:** After breakfast at our hotel, we will take an early flight to Baltra, where we'll meet our guide and transfer to the Monserrat. Dinner and overnight on board. (B, D)

**DAY 3 – ISABELA ISLAND:** After breakfast, we will take a morning hike on the Sierra Negra volcano, which has the largest basaltic caldera in the Galapagos. Then we'll visit Las Tintorerias, the Wall of Tears, and the tortoise breeding center in Puerto Villamil before returning to the ship for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 4 – CHINESE HAT~RABIDA:** After breakfast, we'll visit Chinese Hat for snorkeling and to observe the birds and sea lions. Then we'll take an afternoon excursion to Rabida to see a lagoon and sea lion colony. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. (B, D?)

**DAY 5 – SANTIAGO ISLAND:** After breakfast, we'll take an excursion to Puerto Egas to see the salt crater as well as a dark-sand beach and tidal pools. Then we'll continue to Playa Espumilla, one of the most idyllic beaches in the Galapagos Islands, with thick mangroves along with flamingo and sea turtle nesting sites. Then we'll head to Buccaneer Cover to witness the towering cliff wall rock formations. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 6 – NORTH SEYMOUR~SANTA CRUZ:** After breakfast, we'll visit North Seymour for guided walks to observe birds and wildlife, like vast sea lion colonies. We'll spend the afternoon exploring the Santa Cruze highlands. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 7 – SOUTH PLAZA ISLAND~SANTA FE:** After breakfast, we'll land at South Plaza in the morning for wildlife-spotting opportunities and a walk through the cactus forest. In the afternoon, we'll take a guided walk on Santa Fe to observe the wildlife and plentiful marine iguanas. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 8 – PUNTA PITT~ISLA LOBOS:** After breakfast, we'll land at Punta Pitt on San Cristobal Island to observe the marine iguanas and birds along the beach. We'll continue to Isla Lobos in the afternoon, where we'll be welcomed by frolicking sea lions. Return to the ship for dinner and overnight. (B, L, D)

**DAY 9 – SAN CRISTOBAL~QUITO:** After breakfast, we'll explore the capital of the Galapagos, the port town of Puerto Baquerizo. We'll visit the San Cristobal Interpretation Center and take a walk through Cerro Tijeretas, looking for wildlife and go for one last snorkeling adventure. Then we'll disembark and take a flight to Quito where we'll check into our hotel. Dinner is on our own. (B, L)

**DAY 10 – QUITO~INTERMEDIATE CITY~BOSTON:** After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will transfer to the airport for our return flight to Boston (via intermediate city). (B)

***We would charter the entire ship for a group of 20 travelers!***

**OUR GALAPAGOS CRUISE TOUR INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:**

- Round-trip regularly scheduled flights from Boston to Quito, Ecuador (via intermediate city) and return.
- All air taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges (this portion subject to change). Does not include \$10 Transit Control Card at the Quito Airport or the \$100 (cash) Galapagos park entry fee.
- 2 nights' accommodations in Quito and 7 nights aboard the Monserrat.
- Breakfast daily (B), 7 lunches (L), and 7 dinners (D).
- English-speaking guides, as per the itinerary.
- Snorkelling equipment and visit to a wildlife interpretation center.
- Comprehensive sightseeing package as described in the itinerary, including flights to and from the Galapagos Islands.
- All room and meal taxes and gratuities to bellmen.
- Complimentary Durgan Travel Service flight bag and complete packet of documentation.

**A \$500 DEPOSIT IS DUE UPON RECEIPT OF FLYER. THE BALANCE IS DUE 120 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.**

**TRAVEL PROTECTION INSURANCE:** All persons traveling with Durgan Travel Service are offered **Travel Protection Insurance** through **Trip Mate**, and are required to accept or decline said offer on their reservation form. Please call **Trip Mate** if you have questions about your insurance or your eligibility. The plan covers trip cancellation or pre- or post-trip interruption, and tour operator/cruise line/airline bankruptcy up to the cost of the trip and travel delay up to \$750 (*max. \$150 per day*). Emergency evacuation is covered up to \$50,000. Accident or Sickness Medical Expense is covered up to \$25,000. Lost or stolen baggage/personal effects are covered up to \$2500. Baggage delay (24-hours or more) up to \$250 reimbursement, and death or dismemberment benefit \$25,000 max.. This plan is underwritten by: The United States Fire Insurance Company. **This policy is administered by:** Trip Mate, Inc. (In CA, dba Trip Mate Insurance Agency), 9225 Ward Parkway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO 64114, 1-800-888-7292.

**We encourage the purchase of the travel protection plan.** You can protect your travel investment at a very affordable group rate – take peace of mind with you when you travel. Cover your vacation investment, your belongings, and most importantly, you. The Durgan Travel Service Travel Protection Plan is your ticket to worry-free travel. Before you purchase travel insurance, we recommend that you carefully review the plan information. Please Note: Plan benefits, limits, and provisions may vary by state jurisdiction. To review full plan details online, go to: [www.tripmate.com/wpTPG02](http://www.tripmate.com/wpTPG02). **This plan is underwritten by:** United States Fire Insurance Company, Eatontown, NJ. Benefits are administered by: Trip Mate, Inc.\*, 9225 Ward Parkway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO, 64114, 1-800-888-7292 (\*in CA, dba Trip Mate Insurance Agency).

**TRIP DEVIATIONS:** Any request for tour deviation will be subject to availability at the time of booking. The *maximum* extension permitted is 10 - 14 days, depending on the airline. A deviation form, along with the surcharge fee of \$150, *should* be submitted at the time of initial payment, but will be accepted up to 120-days prior to departure. After processing, the request, any additional deviation expenses (car rental, train, hotel, etc.) must be paid, in full, to the Retail Department of Durgan Travel Service at the time of reservation. Download form from [www.durgantravel.com](http://www.durgantravel.com) or contact Durgan Travel at Toll Free 1-800-234-9959 to request a deviation form.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Durgan Travel Service and their agents, in accepting bookings for this tour, clearly stipulate that they are not liable for faults or defaults of other companies and persons that may be used in the carrying-out of the tour services, also for accidents, baggage losses, delays, or cancellations, strikes, political unrest, riots, and acts of God and war, and changes in schedules. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable, for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operator. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw the tour due to insufficient participation or for any reason whatsoever; also to decline to accept or to retain any person as members of the tour. The airlines and bus lines concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not onboard. The pass contract in use by the airlines or bus companies concerned constitutes the sole contract between the company and purchase of this tour and/or passengers. The issuance and acceptance of receipt tickets and/or tour membership coupons, along with making the initial deposit, shall be deemed to be consent to and acceptance of the foregoing terms and conditions. Durgan Travel Service is not responsible for any disruption or cancellation of services due to erroneous identification information provided to Durgan Travel Service by clients.

**DURGAN TRAVEL SERVICE/Galapagos Cruise/February 11 – 20, 2015**

LOWER DECK	UPPER DECK	NUMBER OF PASSENGERS
\$TBA (credit card) / \$TBA (cash/check)	\$TBA (credit card) / \$TBA (cash/check)	20
\$TBA (credit card) / \$TBA (cash/check)	\$TBA (credit card) / \$TBA (cash/check)	18 - 19
\$TBA (credit card) / \$TBA (cash/check)	\$TBA (credit card) / \$TBA (cash/check)	16 - 17



## DETAILED ITINERARY

**DAY 1 QUITO:** Arrive in Quito. There are no planned activities, so check into our hotel and enjoy the city.

Located 9348 feet above sea level, the Ecuadorian capital of Quito enjoys a wonderful spring-like climate, despite the fact that it is only 14 miles south of the Equator. Nestled in a valley flanked by mountains, on a clear day you can see several snow-capped volcanoes, including nearby Pichincha. Add to its beautiful location a rich history and well-preserved colonial district, and you begin to understand Quito's appeal to thousands of tourists every year.

In 1978 UNESCO declared Quito a World Heritage site, and any new development in Quito's old town is now strictly controlled. Life in Quito tends to be peaceful, though the drivers are fond of using their car horns! There are approximately 2,000,000 inhabitants in the metropolitan area, but the pace is relaxed and the residents hospitable.

There are several excellent museums in the city. The Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana has an interesting display of traditional musical instruments and Ecuadorian traditional dress, a large art collection, and a small natural history museum. For archeology the best museum to visit is the Museo del Banco Central with its well-displayed pottery, gold ornaments, a mummy, and many other objects of interest. The small, rounded hill dominating the old town is El Panecillo or "the Little Bread Loaf," a major Quito landmark. From here there are marvelous panoramic views of the entire city and surrounding volcanoes. You can easily take a trolley (streetcar) or a cab between the Old Town and New Town.

**DAY 2 BALTRA~SANTA CRUZ:** Flights from Quito to Baltra depart between 6:40 a.m. and 9:40 a.m., depending on the day of the week. These will arrive into the Galapagos between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. You will generally arrive onto the boat in time for lunch on Day 2 before your afternoon activity.

Please Note: The National Park charges a visitor fee of \$100 USD, payable on arrival, which funds park maintenance and supervision in the Galapagos, as well as ecological study, conservation and infrastructure development in Ecuador's other National Parks. Entry fees and the funds they generate for the National Park System are among measures taken by the Ecuadorian government to protect its natural heritage.

The Galapagos Islands are located about 620 miles off the Pacific Coast of South America. The archipelago is comprised of 13 major islands and scores of islets that served as a living laboratory for Charles Darwin, the renowned evolution theorist.

Long before Darwin arrived in the Galapagos, seafarers knew these isolated islands as home to some of the strangest and most wonderful wildlife imaginable, including birds that could swim but no longer fly, aquatic iguanas, dragon-like lizards left over from prehistoric times, and the giant Galapagos tortoises, for which the islands were named.

Covering nearly 3100 square miles, the Galapagos Islands are now a National Park. The Galapagos National Park controls the preservation of this environment, assisted by the Charles Darwin Research Station. Inaugurated in 1964 and based on Santa Cruz Island, the Charles Darwin Research Station is the one place where visitors can easily see the famous Galapagos tortoises, which may live up to two hundred years(!). This is also the training center for naturalist guides who accompany all visitors landing at more than 40 approved sites on the islands.

**DAY 3 ISABELA:** In the morning, hike the Sierra Negra Volcano which has the largest basaltic caldera in the Galapagos. Along the hike, see smoking fumaroles and the "sulphur volcano," where you see large amounts of sulphur deposited around the fumaroles. The volcano last erupted in October 2005, making it the most recent eruption of the Galapagos.

In the afternoon, visit Las Tintoreras, a small island. The bay in front is known to be home to a colony of white tip sharks. You'll have the opportunity to see the Wall of Tears, which pays homage to prisoners forced to build the wall of huge blocks of lava between 1946 and 1959 when a penal colony was on the island. Check out the tortoise breeding center to see some of the famous giant tortoises of the Galapagos.

**DAY 4 CHINESE HAT~ RÁBIDA:** In the morning, the boat arrives at a small island off the southern tip of Santiago called Chinese Hat, for its unique shape. Here it is often possible to see Galapagos penguins, and the marine life is fantastic for snorkelling. There is also a large sea lion colony here as well as many marine iguanas that can be seen on our guided walk among the volcanic scenery, with good views to the cone of the island's volcano.

In the afternoon, we will make our way to Rabida Island, where we land on a red sand beach. From here a short trail leads to a salt water lagoon. Another trail goes past the lagoon to the interior, where the revered palo santo trees grow. When burned, the branches of this tree give off a pleasing aroma and ward off mosquitoes. Back on the beach, prehistoric-looking pelicans nest among low-lying bushes. This is the best area for close viewing of these nesting birds, and it's a rare treat to watch parent pelicans return with gullets full of fish for their squawking youngsters.

**DAY 5 ISLA SANTIAGO:** During a morning excursion to Puerto Egas, we will see a salt crater as well as a dark sand beach and tidal pools, with the friendly fur seals. Continue to Playa Espumilla, one of the most idyllic beaches in the islands, with thick mangroves along with sea turtle nesting sites. Head to Buccaneer Cove to witness the towering cliff rock formations.

Santiago Island has seen its share of human activity, from whalers to pirates, over the years, and despite the introduction of goats to the island many years ago, the wildlife of Santiago has flourished, providing outstanding viewing opportunities. The island boasts marine iguanas, sea lions, fur seals, and sea turtles, among others, which provide great wildlife viewing both on land and in the water.

**DAY 6 NORTH SEYMOUR~SANTA CRUZ:** Set sail in the morning for North Seymour, just north of Baltra, home to sea lions, marine iguanas, swallow-tailed gulls, magnificent frigate birds, and blue-footed boobies. Seymour Island is probably the most exciting island photographically. Bird life abounds, and close to the trail, you will find many nesting pairs and young chicks. Seymour is also home to the Galapagos's largest colony of magnificent frigate birds. Further along the trail, we can observe a colony of sea lions.

We'll spend the afternoon in Puerta Ayora, Santa Cruz.

**DAY 7 SOUTH PLAZA~SANTA FÉ:** We visit South Plaza Island. One of the smallest islands in the Galapagos, South Plaza has one of the largest populations of iguanas. A large colony of noisy sea lions, numbering about 1,000 bulls, cows and pups, has its prime habitat on these smooth rocks. Walk along a path through a cactus forest and view a combination of dry and coastal vegetation. The small cactus forest is populated by land iguanas, which can be seen sunning themselves or feeding on opuntia (prickly pear) pads and fruits. Swallow-tailed gulls, which nest on the rugged southern cliffs, are usually seen, along with tropical birds. During the rainy season, you can see the red sesuvium turn bright green, and the leafless evening-blooming portulaca bursts into large yellow flowers, which are loved by the iguanas.

In the afternoon, we explore Santa Fé, a fairly small and dry island. Also called Barrington, Santa Fé Island is well-known as a great place for watching (and swimming with) sea lions. Santa Fe was formed from an uplift (rather than a volcano), giving the island a relatively flat surface rather than the typical conical shape of the other islands. Here you'll see the Galapagos hawk, iguanas, Galapagos snake, rice rats, a variety of finch, and the Galapagos mockingbird.

Hiking towards the cliffs along the island's northern shore, you can view the forest of giant prickly pear cactus. Once back at the beach, there is normally plenty of free time to snorkel back in the lagoon. Playful sea lions pups and florescent fish make for fascinating company.

**DAY 8 PUNTA PITT~LOBOS ISLAND:** We land this morning at Punta Pitt, on the eastern tip of San Cristobal where we will see a group of eroded volcanic cones. Here we will be able to observe a mixture of different types of lava flows as well as colorful vegetation. It is possible to see three species of boobies as well as frigate birds, all nesting in the same area. Continue to Lobos Island in the afternoon, where you will be welcomed by frolicking sea lions.

**DAY 9 SAN CRISTOBAL~QUITO:** We'll reach San Cristóbal in the morning. San Cristóbal is the easternmost island of Galapagos and one of the oldest. Its principal town is Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the capital of the Galapagos. We'll disembark and then visit the interpretation center before transferring to the airport for our flight to Quito. Transfer to our group hotel upon arrival, and enjoy one last night on the town.

**DAY 10 – QUITO~INTERMEDIATE CITY~MIAMI:** After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will transfer to the airport for our return flight to Miami (via intermediate city). Transfer to Valencia Reserve. (B)

**DURGAN TRAVEL SERVICE**  
125 MAIN STREET  
STONEHAM, MA 02180  
(800) 234-9959  
(781) 438-6772 (Fax)  
retailsales@durgantravel.com