



Galapagos Island Hopping: 8 Day With Diving

with Kajol Lavan Travel



Puerto Ayora, Ecuador

Trip Overview



Your host

Kajol Lavan Travel 

 Available all year round

 Group size: 1-8

 Puerto Ayora, Ecuador



About this trip

The Galapagos Islands are a living museum of evolution, home to fearless wildlife and vibrant marine ecosystems. This program offers a more economic, land-based way to explore the archipelago—now with the added thrill of **scuba diving**.

Dive into crystal-clear waters alongside sea turtles, playful sea lions, rays, reef sharks, and schools of tropical fish. On land, enjoy hiking through volcanic landscapes, birdwatching rare species, and walking among giant Galapagos tortoises in their natural habitat.

Whether you're swimming, snorkeling, or diving, this journey brings you face-to-face with the wild heart of the Galapagos—above and below the waves.

Ages 2-80, max of 16 per group

Trip Overview

Duration: 8 days

Start time: According to your flight to Galapagos, we recommend you to land not later than 1pm

Mobile ticket

Live guide: English, Spanish

Departure and return

Start:

- Galápagos Ecologic Airport, Aeropuerto Seymour de Baltra, Isla Baltra Baltra, (AIRPORT CODE GPS) Seymour, Ecuador
- The guide will wait with a sign with Lead traveler's name.

End:

- Airport Isla San Cristobal, (AIRPORT CODE: SCY), Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, Ecuador
- Not wheelchair accessible
- Not recommended for travelers with back problems
- Not recommended for pregnant travelers
- No heart problems or other serious medical conditions
- Most travelers can participate
- This experience requires good weather. If it's canceled due to poor weather, you'll be offered a different date or a full refund
- This tour/activity will usually have a maximum of 16 travelers

Accommodation:

Hotel Galapagos Dreams in Santa Cruz Island

Hotel Gran Tintorera in Isabela Island

Hotel Algarrobos in San Cristobal Island

Or Similar!

Trip Overview

Our Terms and Conditions:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/149i8IzfQdZrmjAsjpDYkeDHDbDhREmNBKDpaoq_m6yQ/edit?usp=drive_link

What's included

✓ Breakfasts	not included on the first Day
✓ Lunches	not included on days 6 and 8
✓ Bilingual Certified	Guide (English/Spanish)
✓ Snorkeling equipment	when on snorkeling activity
✓ Accommodation	
✓ Entry Reserva El Chato	
✓ Diving Equipment on Days	
✗ Isabela Island Entrance	fee(10\$ per person)
✗ Dinners	
✗ Flights to/from	Galapagos
✗ Ingala Tax	(20\$ per person)
✗ Galapagos Entrance Fee	(200\$ per person)
✗ Entry Las Tintoreras	
✗ Anything else not	mentioned as included

Packages & Add-Ons

Available packages

8 Day Galapagos Island Hopping	\$1,869
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With Hotel Upgrade	\$4,530
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Hotels will be upgraded to these Hotels

Hotel Acacia in Santa cruz Island

Hotel Albemarle in Isabela Island

Hotel opuntia in San Cristobal Island

Itinerary

Day 1 Transfer In From Baltra Airport + Highlands

After pick up from Baltra Airport we will visit **Reserva El Chato**

From the Village of Santa Rosa you can hike down through the Guayabillo forest to the Tortoise Reserve, though it is easier to view them on one of the farms where they share the fields with cattle, watch out for the only "TORTOISE CROSSING" signs in the world ! There are also many mosses, ferns and other epiphytes on the trees, watch out for the small and large tree Finches, from Los Gemelos the road descends in a straight line to Itabaca Channel which separates Santa Cruz from Baltra, almost immediately it turns into the transitional zone and then, in marked contrast to the south side, there is a very long dry-zone. From the Village of Santa Rosa you can hike down through the Guayabillo forest to the Tortoise Reserve, though it is easier to view them on one of the farms where they share the fields with cattle, watch out for the only "TORTOISE CROSSING" signs in the world !



Day 2 Ferry To Isabela Island + Las Tintoreras

After Approximately 3 Hours Ferry we will visit **Las Tintoreras** where we can do some snorkeling and watch the different species of fishes, corals and resting sea turtles. Then we'll continue with the boat along the coast watching species like: blue-footed boobies, penguins, pelicans and frigate birds. Reaching the Isle of TINTORERAS, we'll get to know the blue shark, marine iguanas and sea lions.



Itinerary

Day 3 Los Tuneles + Ferry Back to Santa Cruz Island

Los Tuneles, Canals in the lava rocks with bridges and caves. Cactus grow on the rocks and many big turtles, rays and fish can be seen swimming in the canals and pools filled with sea-water. includes snorkeling at a similar nearby site where sea-horses and sharks can be seen. Los Tuneles, Isabela-Galapagos had heard a lot about Los Tuneles, but the one thing that made me want to go there was this: "It's like snorkeling in an aquarium." It takes about an hour to get to Los Tuneles from Puerto Villamil, but what a glorious hour it is! There is an oceanic path of sorts that is primarily shallow water near the shore. So on the way, we got to see giant manta on the surface, so many sea turtles I was afraid we might run over one, and of course, those vistas on the land.



Day 4 Diving North Seymour Island

North Seymour: Eagle Rays, Manta Rays, Hammerheads, White-Tipped Reef Sharks, Galapagos Shark, Stingrays, Marbled Rays, Tiger Snake Eels, Moray Eels, Garden Eels, Sea Stars, Sea Turtles, Jacks, Blue and Gold Snappers, Flag Cabrilla, Creole fish, King Angelfish, Barracuda, Hieroglyphic Hawk fish, Frogfish, Yellowtail Surgeonfish, Spot fin Burrfish, Scorpionfish, Cardinalfish, Nudibranch and more. Lunch will be onboard during surface interval.

North Seymour has two dive sites: The ocean side and the channel side. On the ocean side, You dive on a rocky slope and end up in the shallower area close to the island. Jacks, manta rays, eagle rays, marble rays, stingrays and even hammerhead sharks and marlins



Itinerary

have been seen here. There are also lots of reef fishes like Yellowtail grunts and blue striped snappers (rayado) and salemas in schools. Since there are a lot of fish here, you can often observe birds like boobies diving into the water from above and swimming down to catch them and of course there are also sea lions here.

The channel side can be an excellent dive site. The area is not very deep (about 20m) but sometimes there is quite a lot of current. You start from the eastern corner and following the major currents, you dive relatively fast over the rock plateau. Galapagos sharks cruise around and there are fish everywhere. There is a large sandy area at 15m with a large colony of endemic garden eels.

Mosquera: Sea Lions, Eagle Rays, Hammerheads, White-Tipped Reef Shark, Garden Eels, Snake Eels, Jack, Mackerel, Three banded Butterflyfish, Sea Turtles, Yellowtail Surgeonfish, Yellow and Blue Striped Snappers, King Angelfish, Parrotfish, Yellowtail Grunt, Peruvian Grunt, Cardinalfish, Galapagos Grunt, Sea Stars and more.

Mosquera is a sand islet which lies north to south in a shallow area between Baltra and Seymour. There's a cleaning station at about 15 m where snappers are in abundance and hammerheads may gather. The large colony of garden eels often have a large field of cushion stars beyond. The surface interval is in a shallow sandy bottom where you may snorkel with large colonies of sea lions.

North Seymour - Mosquera is a nightmare for underwater photographers because of how great it is for everything, from tiny nudibranchs to Mantas (especially between December and April). Add to that all the rays (spotted eagle rays, marble rays, golden eagle rays, stingrays), the "piles" of sleeping white tipped reef sharks, sea lions, sea turtles and hammerhead sharks. Several thick schools of grunts and snappers are always present.

Itinerary

Currents: prevalently from south. It goes from moderate to very strong. **Water temp:** Dec – April: 74 – 78 / May – Nov: 68 – 72 degrees Fahrenheit **Thermoclines:** at 45 ft and sometimes also at 75 ft. You will feel the thermoclines at these two sites and you will see them before you even feel them! It's as though a crystal clear river is visible just ahead...that's the thermocline

Day 5 Diving Gordon Rocks(requieres 20 immersions of Experience and 2 Stars)

This is considered to be one of the best diving sites in the central region of the Galapagos Archipelago and may form part of your liveaboard itinerary. It is in fact the remains of a crater measuring about 100 metres in diameter and is located to the north of the Plaza islands. This is another site where the conditions will remind you why the Galapagos is not a beginner diver destination. Surge and current can be strong here and it is often referred to locally as 'the washing machine'. Yet the marine life seems to love the conditions, as evidenced by the sheer number of creatures. Hammerhead sharks, often seen in impressive sized schools, normally steal the headlines here. However there is a supporting cast including eagle rays, Galapagos sharks, manta rays, turtles and an exceptional amount of fish. A nearby sea lion colony ensures that, in the right areas you may spot a few of these large but agile creatures on your dive. There is also the chance to spot the endemic fur seals which present yet more evidence that diving in the Galapagos Islands is a unique experience and Gordon's Rock is an interesting dive spot within it.

Gordon's Rock Reef Basics: Drift dive, wall dive, submerged pinnacles



Itinerary

Depth: 6 - 40m

Visibility: 6 - 18m

Currents: Strong in shallows

Surface conditions: Can be rough with strong surge in the shallows

Water temperature: Dec-Apr 23-25°C, May-Nov 20-22°C

Experience level: Advanced

Number of dive sites: 3

Diving season: All year round

Distance: 80 km west northwest of San Cristobal (5½ hours)

Access: Liveaboard or day tour.

Day 6 Ferry to San Cristobal Island + Free Time in San Cristobal Island

Recommended sites to visit:

-Las Loberias Beach

-Visit the Treehouse, as part of a trip to a gorgeous beach, Giant Tortoises and a Crater Lake

-Watch the Sunset at Punta Carola -Visit the Interpretation Centre

-Walk up Frigate Bird / Cerro Tijeratas Hill for a spectacular view

-Hang out with Sea Lions Saving the best for last! Without doubt, our highlight on San Cristobal were the sea lions. These guys are literally everywhere, in far greater quantities than on any of the other islands, lying on benches, in the road, on boats... yep, generally everywhere you can imagine. They are very used to humans (although you aren't supposed to get within 2 metres of any animal in the Galapagos), so



Itinerary

are easy to take photos of. They are also endearingly, unbelievably cute. We visited in December, which happened to coincide with sea lion babies being everywhere. And if there's anything cuter than a baby sea lion wobbling across the sand, I don't know what it is. So yes, sea lions. You can't miss them.

Day 7 Diving Kicker Rocks

Kicker rock is one of the most spectacular landmarks in the Galapagos Islands.

two volcanic rocks tower 140 meters tall, making tour boats look quite insignificant.

when viewed from the south, the formation looks like a sleeping sea lion, hence the Spanish name

"Leon Dormido" (Spanish for sleeping lion), while from another side it looks more like a boot, hence the English name "Kicker Rock".

Apart from its scenic beauty, this location is also an excellent snorkel/dive site.

Small craft can navigate through the narrow channel between the two rocks. The channel goes down 19 meters

to the sea bed and it attracts an incredible array of sharks and brightly-colored tropical fish, including the Spotted Eagle Ray, Hammerhead Sharks and Galapagos sharks.

This is probably the best place to see the Galapagos shark. The currents around the rocks and in the channel are quite mild, making it safe for intermediate level divers and snorkelers.

Above sea level, the Kicker Rock formation is a nesting site for hundreds of frigate birds and blue footed boobies.

From Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, it takes about an hour by boat to get to the rocks, so this is a perfect day trip excursion from San

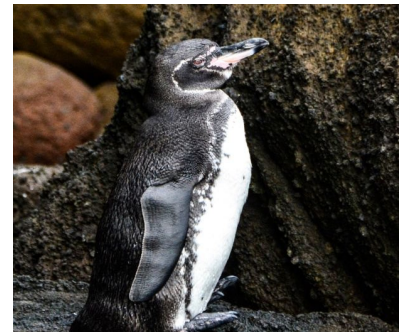


Itinerary

Cristobal.

Day 8 Transfer Out to San Cristóbal Airport

Transfer Out to San Cristóbal Airport



Your organizer



Kajol Lavan Travel

★★★★★ 3 reviews

Kajol Lavan Travel is an Ecuadorian/Israeli Tour Operator, we specialize in Galapagos, jungle tours, personalized private tours and outdoor adventures like whitewater rafting, kayaking, canyoning, rock climbing, paragliding, zip lining, biking, trekking, mountain climbing, and horse back riding.

Oriente y 12 de
Noviembre, Baños de
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