

ICONIC ECUADOR



Highlights

QUITO and SURROUNDINGS : The Historic Centre of the city of Quito, is considered one of the most iconic urban settings in the country's capital. A jewel designated by UNESCO/UN as a World Cultural Heritage Site.

HOTEL CASA GANGOTENA : the award-winning Casa Gangotena Boutique Hotel located on iconic San Francisco Plaza in Quito, the first-ever World Heritage Site.

WORKSHOPS AND MARKETS : an exploration of the life, beliefs, gastronomy and ancient traditions of Quito.

CASA DEL ALABADO MUSEUM : some of the most emblematic pieces of pre-Columbian art and the social developments of pre-Hispanic Ecuador.

MASHPI RESERVE : a 1,200-hectare (3,000-acre) conservation property located within the Metropolitan District of Quito, forms a part of the Ecuadorian Choco rainforest, known as one of the world's greatest biodiversity hotspots.

EXPERIENCE THE ESSENCE OF LIFE ITSELF - Mashpi Lodge is the place to encounter 500 species of birds, trees and frogs found nowhere else in the world, complete with crashing waterfalls and incredible flora. **A COCOON OF LUXURY IN THE CLOUDS, WHERE CONTEMPORARY DESIGN MOVES IN HARMONY WITH NATURE.**

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS : A journey of discovery to some of the most beautiful islands in the Galapagos aboard La Pinta to ensure your Galapagos experience is truly deeply moving and memorable. **Yacht La Pinta** boasts among the largest cabins of any Galapagos vessel. Thanks to its floor-to-ceiling windows -located in all cabins- you'll get mesmerizing views of the Enchanted Isles from the comfort of your own private space.

ITINERARY

Day 1

Arrival transfer in Quito

Welcome to Quito and Ecuador!. At the airport you will be greeted by a member of our organization, we will escort you all the way to your hotel, giving you a short briefing about Quito and the country in general with valuable information you need to know. Enjoy scenic colonial and artistic Quito, visit museums, monasteries and the golden altars of its many churches. Stand with a foot on each hemisphere on the Middle of the World memorial. The capital of Ecuador has a setting that few cities in the world can match. During the 13th century it was the prosperous center of the Kingdom of Quitus. It later became the northern capital of the Inca Empire. In the 16th and 17th centuries, Colonial architects built formidable temples, monasteries and mansions, creating an urban jewel designated by UNESCO/UN as a World Cultural Heritage Site. Quito's artistic creativity awaits the visitor in cosmopolitan galleries and boutiques filled with contemporary paintings, sculptures and exquisite traditional crafts.

HOTEL CASA GANGOTENA

You will be staying at the award-winning Casa Gangotena Boutique Hotel located on iconic San Francisco Plaza in Quito, the first-ever World Heritage Site. Your accommodation includes a buffet breakfast and special daily activities.

Accommodation: Luxury Rooms (with taxes included)

Day 2 - Quito and Surroundings Cultural City Tour

EXPECTED SERVICE DURATION: 9 hrs. (12 components) The following description is intended as a detail of the attractions, meals and operations included in your one-day service. DO NOT consider it as an itinerary. Meals and accommodation detailed in this description are subject to availability, and may be modified because of this issue but without any changes in the established rate of the service.

WORKSHOPS AND MARKETS

QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: THE SAN ROQUE COMMUNITY TOUR

This educational and touristic community project was awarded first place as part of the 2010 Cultural Cooperation for Development Project by Casa America Catalunya for its efforts to rescue the area's intangible heritage. The project is an exploration of the life, beliefs, gastronomy and ancient traditions of Quito, the first city to be named a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. The tour offers a journey through the stores and markets of the Historic Centre that allows guests to meet medicinal healers, walk down Old Town streets, and become acquainted with the artisanal skills and daily lives of San Roque's inhabitants as they uphold ancestral traditions. **EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 30 minutes.**

CHURCHES AND MUSEUMS

QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: CASA DEL ALABADO MUSEUM

Casa del Alabado is a delightful boutique museum that is situated right on the edge of the iconic San Francisco Plaza. Not only does it offer a privileged look at some of the most emblematic pieces of pre-Columbian art and the social developments of pre-Hispanic Ecuador, it also puts an emphasis on the aesthetics of the object rather than focusing on the chronological order of Ecuadorian archaeology. All of this is organized inside one of the oldest houses in the Historic Centre, perfectly renovated to help complement the journey through the museum. Getting acquainted with its history is a great way of connecting with the divinization of the human species. **EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 50 minutes.**

HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHITECTURE

QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: INDEPENDENCE SQUARE (MAIN SQUARE)

Located in the Historic Centre, Independence Square – also known as the Main Square – was the starting point for the planning and development of the city. It consists of four structures that serve as the corners of Quito society: the Presidential Palace (Carondelet), the Archbishop's Palace, the Cathedral of Quito, and the Municipal Palace. Standing tall at the centre of the square, the monument built in honour of the country's independence inspires the square's name. It was constructed out of marble and bronze in 1906. This is one of the few places in Quito that allows you to wholly experience the wide diversity of people that inhabit this beautiful city.

EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 20 minutes.

CHURCHES AND MUSEUMS

QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: LA COMPAÑIA DE JESUS CHURCH

A lustre of gold hits visitors well before they've even crossed the doorstep of the La Compañía Church, known also as South America's Temple of Solomon. It's the crown jewel of Quito's historic centre and one of the most important manifestations of baroque architecture in the world. Begun in 1605, its construction took 160 years to complete, as a result of which it also incorporates other architectural styles. The church is the product of a European vision combined with the in-situ work of talented Ecuadorian labourers, who incorporated their own view of art and spirituality. It is a masterpiece and a key tourist attraction in Quito. The facade alone hypnotizes all who see it! EXPECTED VISIT

DURATION: 35 minutes.

HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHITECTURE

QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: SAN FRANCISCO PLAZA San Francisco Plaza, located in the Historic Centre of the city of Quito, is considered one of the most iconic urban settings in the country's capital. It is believed to have been built on top of the indigenous market known as the Tianguiz. During colonial times, its central well supplied water to the surrounding neighbours for centuries. It is one of the largest religious centres of the Americas, dominated by the imposing facade of the San Francisco Church and Convent with its grandiose steps that connect the plaza to the atrium and hide a labyrinth of secret corridors that are worth exploring.

EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 20 minutes.

CHURCHES AND MUSEUMS

QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: SAN FRANCISCO CHURCH AND CONVENT

Recognized as one of the largest architectural structures within a historic centre in the Americas, the San Francisco Church and Convent earned the nickname of "El Escorial" of the New World. Despite the changing stylistic trends throughout its 150 years of construction, its talented architects and engineers managed to create a harmonious combination that gave way to a continental gem of architecture. The edifice serves as a repository of more than 3,500 pieces of colonial art, most notable of which are those from the famous Quiteño School of Art. The Legend of Cantuña, which tells the story of a cunning indigenous worker that managed to deceive the Devil, originated here too.

EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 40 minutes.

Chocolateria Chez Tiff EXPERIENTIAL

QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: CHEZ TIFF CHOCOLATE TASTING (INCLUDES TRUFFLE)

This family business was born from the dream of an Ecuadorian-Swiss couple. The small factory, located on García Moreno Street next to Sagrario Church, allows guests to experience the chocolate-making process and become familiar with the high-end machinery employed, all while basking in the delicious aroma of chocolate made from the finest Ecuadorian cacao. Add to that the fact that it is located in an area filled with art, culture, and tradition, and you have a fantastic setting to learn about the preparation of this delicacy and its history. Finally, guests will get to sample and buy these delicious treats that are made using premium Ecuadorian ingredients.

EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 35 minutes.

La Ronda Street

HISTORY, CULTURE AND ARCHITECTURE

EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 25 minutes.

CAFE PLAZA GRANDE-Lunch

The Plaza Grande Hotel has two restaurants. Café Plaza Grande, a historical and traditional place, serves Ecuadorian food. All ingredients are carefully selected in order that local and international visitors could have a great and genuine experience. It's definitely the best place in Quito to taste Ecuadorian cuisine.

SCENIC**QUITO AND SURROUNDINGS: THE PANECILLO (SCENIC LOOKOUT)**

In pre-Incan times, this hill was the site of a Sun Temple known as Shungo loma or Yavirak, which means "hill of the heart". During their conquest, the Spanish named it Panecillo ("little bread") due to its resemblance to a small loaf of bread. It is located in the centre of Quito's Colonial District and rises to a height of 3,035 m (9,950 ft) above sea level, offering sweeping views of the city. Visitors to this scenic viewpoint will find the Virgin of Quito statue which was built in 1976 by the Spanish artist Agustín de la Herrán Matorral. It is 45 m (147 ft) tall and was constructed using around 7,000 pieces of aluminium.

EXPECTED VISIT DURATION: 25 minutes.

Overnight at hotel Casa Gangotena.

Day 3 – MASHPI RESERVE

The adventure begins in Ecuador's heritage capital, Quito, at our 8:30 a.m. pick-up time for guests staying in Quito's main hotels (time will be confirmed by our Operations Department). Mashpi Reserve, a 1,200-hectare (3,000-acre) conservation property located within the Metropolitan District of Quito, forms a part of the Ecuadorian Choco rainforest, known as one of the world's greatest biodiversity hotspots. The sudden shift in altitude from 2,800 masl to 1,000 masl (9,200 to 3,300 feet above sea level) will allow us to discover the spectacular natural diversity of the Andean landscape as we travel through the dry valley of Pomasqui towards the cordillera's western flank, into lush, misty cloud forest, and enter the magical world of Mashpi.

After lunch and a briefing, we will be comfortably settled in our room where we will be able to rest before starting with our afternoon activities. During the briefing we will be introduced to the cloud forest and its conservation, the activities from which we can choose during our stay, and helpful tips about what to wear and what to bring to the excursions.

After a short rest, we will gather together at the lobby in order to head out on our first adventure exploring one of the trails of the Reserve, chosen by the guides depending on daily conditions. This walk will serve as an introduction to the ecological succession processes and the importance of forest conservation for the Chocó region. All of our trails offer great scenic beauty and each includes a unique attraction, such as a forest of "iron palm" (*Iriartea deltoidea*), special birdwatching opportunities, or other unexpected surprises.



For all our guests interested in knowing more about the cloud forest's ecology, every evening we give a series of different lectures like the "Secret Wildlife of Mashpi, the trap camera project", or the "Chocó, a biological hotspot", which talk about the formation and diversity of the Chocó, and our scientific research projects. The lectures will be given by one of our naturalists or our resident biologist at 7:30 p.m.

DAY 4 – MASHPI RESERVE

The forest always rewards the "early birds", as the dawn light lures a variety of fascinating species in their search for food. A good place to find birds is actually right at the hotel's terrace, with a cup of fresh coffee, tea or hot chocolate in hand, from where we can enjoy not only the beauty of the forest but also the many species that come to feed on insects and fruits at nearby trees. Our guides will help us spot what's around, offering a peek inside their telescope for a close-and-personal view of the incredible bird richness Mashpi possesses. This activity begins at 6:30 a.m. and lasts about an hour. Then, enjoy breakfast at our hotel restaurant.

Our guests have the opportunity to live between 6 and 8 rainforest experiences on our most popular 2N/3D stay, as well as time to enjoy our new wellness offerings. Your guides will recommend the best daily programme for you and your group depending on your interests, your level of physical fitness and daily weather and trail conditions. Choose from our many trails and activities, including the following:

Trails

As you enter the realm of the rainforests, you will become aware of life at every step: mushrooms and "fox fire" fungi below, tree trunks festooned with orchids, lichens and mosses, giant ferns reaching up to the light above, coiling vines, swirling mists and clouds of moisture. And then, from nowhere, comes the sound of rushing water, a waterfall amid this glistening, green world, where you can wade through rivers, walk along their banks, revive your senses...

Two of the Lodge's main trails are the Howler Monkey and Magnolia (named after an oak) trails. Both link up with the Tower #5 of the Dragonfly canopy gondola system. Along the trails, guests will learn more from both their Naturalist Guide and Local Guide about the myriad plants, insects and animals that inhabit this biodiverse universe. The guides will enthusiastically share their knowledge of their characteristics, behavior, and uses.

Due to Mashpi's mountainous topography, trails are rarely flat. The Howler Monkey (mainly primary forest) and Magnolia (mainly secondary), although short – 2 km and 700 m, respectively – are steep. The trails' steepness is an advantage since the hillsides enable more light to penetrate the forest, thereby increasing the diversity of plants and animals that one can observe at each stratum. Both trails have been specially adapted to make walking easier, using embedded recycled plastic crates to create steps and firm paths.

The way back uphill on both these trails can be aboard the Dragonfly, reached by wading through the shallow river in rubber boots, and walking the connecting trail to the Cotinga Tower.

A popular trail after completing the Sky Bike activity (see below) takes us to San Vicente waterfall, a 45-minutes-to-an-hour steep hike that demands good physical condition. You can also hike the Oxibelis trail that takes us to a small waterfall before heading back to the lodge. The combination of activities (Sky Bike, observation tower and hike) can take between 2 to 4 hours, depending on the trail chosen.

The Copal Waterfall trail offers a beautiful 2-hour-long hike featuring a landscape of moss-covered trees, bromeliads and orchids at every corner. The trail ends at a spectacular waterfall over 50 m high.

A refreshing natural juice and fresh towels will be waiting for us when we return the lodge, along with a varied and delicious lunch at the hotel restaurant. And the afternoon is yet again free for other activities. Consult your guide about the trail options and forest adventures that are best for you.

Refreshing waterfalls

Water is key to life in Mashpi, and there's nothing like a refreshing dip at the end of a walk. Several rivers cross the Mashpi Reserve close to the hotel, many forming beautiful small waterfalls, cascades and pools. The water temperature is between 18 and 20°C (64 and 68 °F).

Life Centre

Close to the lodge, the Life Centre is conceived as a place for learning and discovery, but also as a space for guests to disconnect, contemplate the views, sit in comfortable chairs, read a book, and enjoy a fresh cane juice.

The best way to reach the Life Centre is actually through the forest, so we take what we've come to call the "Howler Monkey's trail". This path crosses primary forest dominated by many ancient trees, being the "copal" (*Dacryodes cupularis*) the most emblematic of them. We occasionally get to listen to rare birds, such as the Rufous-fronted Wood-quail (*Odontophorus erythrops*) or the Rufous-crowned Antpitta (*Pittasoma rufopileatum*). Our guides are keen on noticing every sound that comes from the forest deep, hoping to reveal colourful birds or elusive howler monkeys, while our naturalist guide explains the habitat's ecology; both share with us their extensive knowledge on forest plants and their medicinal uses.

Once at the Centre, guests will learn more about the butterflies that inhabit the region, being shown the process of these creatures from eggs to pupae to chrysalis to winged wonder. Some 200 species of butterfly have been identified to date in the Reserve, with nearly a dozen observable at the Centre. Other points of learning dozens of species of orchids, bromeliads and passion flowers all around the structure. We will also discover various species of host plants that butterflies use to lay their eggs on, such as passion flowers, birds of paradise, milk weeds and other species found in the garden.

Close to the Centre, we have established an area for growing medicinal plants (ideal for a reviving herbal infusion) and beyond, many varieties of bushes and fruit trees, including banana and plantain, manioc, cacao, tobacco, coffee, bread fruit, and heart of palm. These attract all sorts of wildlife, from birds to rodents to mammals – making for easier observation from the comfort of the Centre’s expansive wooden deck. Most of the interpretation at the Centre will be imparted by local guides or people involved with the project from local communities. Guests will find ingredients from these gardens in the dishes prepared back at the lodge.

Observation Tower

There are few easier or better ways to appreciate the beauty of the Mashpi Reserve’s forest and hills than climbing the Observation Tower. Here, guests are able to enjoy an exciting bird’s-eye view and the dramatic panoramas that surround the lodge from the observation tower. This is a metallic structure, with a staircase that climbs to about eight-stories high (26 m or 85 ft), ideal for wildlife observation, particularly at dawn or dusk. Species that can be spotted here include toucans, woodpeckers, barbets, tanagers and parrots as well as raptors. The tower lies a 10-minute walk from the lodge.

Looming above the treetops, Mashpi’s observation tower allows our guests to enjoy the protected forest in all its glory. At 30 m (100 ft) above the ground, this is an ideal site for nature lovers, allowing us not only to appreciate the forest’s complex structure, but also the incredible species richness that thrives throughout the canopy (70% of the forest’s biodiversity is found here). We climb 162 steps to reach the top.

Dragonfly

Of course, if we really want to see the amazing canopy life, we need to get a birds’ eye view. Luckily, this is now possible, thanks to the Dragonfly canopy ride. Glide through the tree tops at a relaxed pace and view the dense forest, interrupted by cascading waterfalls, from an air-born perspective. In 40 minutes, the Dragonfly takes us on a route covering 2 km (1.25 mi) and gives us the opportunity to appreciate the true immensity of the Reserve, contrasting delightfully with the discoveries of minute life forms that we achieve on walks through the dense forest below. Enjoy the Dragonfly on its own or combine it with other hikes and activities to make the most of your journey.

Sky Bike

Located close to the hotel, the Sky Bike provides another original and exciting way to explore the forest canopy up close. Designed for two people to use at once, one person pedals the bike along a cable stretched between two points in the forest, around 200 m (655 feet) apart, crossing a gorge above a river flowing between rocks and trees below. Silent, easy-to-use and fun, it’s an activity for children over 8 years-old accompanied by an adult, providing guests with another chance to observe the natural world close to the lodge and even spot its denizens. To enjoy the ride, one must be at least 1 m tall (3.2 ft) (children must be accompanied by an adult). The bike ride takes no more than 20 minutes.

Hummingbird Viewpoint

The forests of Mashpi boast 32 hummingbird species identified to date, inhabiting different specific altitudes, with around 19 species alone observable by guests. In order to make it easier to see these amazing creatures, a shelter with seating provides the ideal setting, with feeders for the birds strung from its roof. The site is located at a natural viewpoint, which, on clear days, provides breathtaking views of the Reserve’s forested hills.

Night walks

The Mashpi forest is transformed at night, with far more activity visible than during the day. Optional night walks will head out from the hotel after dinner to discover its nocturnal creatures and their behaviour. The species range from moths as big as your hand to miniature glass and tree frogs, croaking toads, birds, owls, rodents and mammals, and even fox fire, an Avatar-like luminous fungus. It’s a magical world, often astounding at the micro level, and seldom explored, ready to be discovered in expert company.

Wellness Centre

The peaceful

surroundings of the Reserve call out for a spiritual moment in which we unite body, mind and spirit. Keep up your practice at the yoga deck or just lie back and enjoy a massage, time in the outdoor hot tub (see which birds you can spot while you soak), or any of our spa treatments.

Night briefings

Each evening, at 7:30 p.m., our Naturalist Guides or resident biologist share the wonders of the Mashpi with our guests. Learn about ongoing research projects, conservation initiatives, natural history of the region and much, much more.

DAY 5 – MASHPI RESERVE

Once again, our day begins early at 6:30 a.m. in the hotel lobby and takes advantage of the fact that many bird species come to the hotel to feed. After a cup of coffee, we walk down the road seeking out mixed-species feeding flocks: these usually feature different insectivorous bird species that move together while foraging. In a single flock, we may see over 20 different species, making these more-or-less common encounters an undeniable treat for bird aficionados. The activity takes one hour; we return to the lodge for breakfast.

There is time for a short hike today or one of our other activities. Check with your guide for the best option.

We return to the hotel for check out at 11:00 a.m. Our transfer leaves Mashpi Lodge at 11:30 a.m. We will be given a complimentary box lunch to enjoy during our drive back to Quito for Overnight at Hotel Casa Gangotena.

Notes

We would like to remind our guests that on their arrival day to Mashpi Lodge they will need to wait until after lunch and a briefing for their room assignment since check-out times are fixed. We invite you to observe the magnificent view of the Reserve from the comfortable public areas of the hotel while you wait.

Day 6 – Galapagos

Departure transfer for flight to the Galapagos Islands. Assistance at the airport.

Day 6-10 Galapagos**Description**

We're delighted to have you on board for this journey of discovery to some of the most beautiful islands in the Galapagos. Our itinerary together begins on Santa Cruz Island, the most populous of the archipelago, where we meet giant tortoises in the wild and then venture to the shores of Eden Islet. From there, we hop over to the lovely crescent bay of Chinese Hat. On Wednesday, one of the iconic sites of the archipelago awaits: Bartolome Island, with its wooden walkway up to a panoramic viewpoint, golden sandy beach and great snorkelling opportunities. Close-by, Sullivan Bay gives us a great introduction to the volcanic origins of the islands. We end with an exciting visit to the sunken caldera of Genovesa, far up in the northeast of the archipelago, a privileged place to visit amid thousands of marine birds. The entire crew aboard La Pinta will do our utmost to ensure your Galapagos experience is truly deeply moving and memorable.

Day 6 – Monday**Baltra Airport**

Following our morning arrival at Baltra Airport, we transfer to the Itabaca Channel, taking a small ferry across the channel to the north shore of Santa Cruz Island. We board our bus to the highlands, where we'll learn about Santa Cruz's unique ecosystems and biodiversity. Lunch is served at a local restaurant.

Highlands

After lunch, we continue by bus to reach a reserve that is one of the best places in the archipelago to see giant tortoises in their natural habitat. The tortoises are easy to spot, lumbering around, eating grass and leaves and wallowing in the small pools. There are several lava tunnels in the reserve, too. A short bus ride takes us down to Puerto Ayora to board **Yacht La Pinta**.

Day 7 – Tuesday

Eden Islet

After breakfast, a panga ride takes us to Eden Islet, located off the coast of Santa Cruz, where we 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.

Chinese Hat Islet

The tiny island of the Chinese Hat Islet gets its name from its appearance, reminiscent of a Chinese hat. This islet, formed only fairly recently, makes a beautiful visit as one explores the wildlife along its 400-metre long trail, which begins at a crescent-shaped white sandy beach. The cove offers excellent swimming and snorkelling opportunities amid white-tipped reef sharks and Galapagos penguins.

Day 8 – Wednesday

Bartolome Island

This morning, a Galapagos icon awaits: Bartolome Island. A great way to start the day, with a steep climb up a wooden staircase: the view from the top is worth the effort! Following the walk, we take to the dinghies for a ride around colossal Pinnacle Rock, followed by time to enjoy the beach and some snorkelling. We can also ride in the glass-bottom boat for great views of the underwater world.

Sullivan Bay

After lunch, we board the pangas to land at Sullivan Bay on the east coast of Santiago, a white coral sand beach great for swimming and snorkelling, and with a trail over a lava field that flowed here less than 130 years ago. This is the perfect place to see and feel the volcanic origin of Galapagos while observing its wildlife.

Day 9 – Thursday

Darwin Bay

Last night we sailed north and crossed the Equator-Latitude 0°0'00". This morning, we begin exploring this island with an easy stroll to observe marine and land birds. There is an optional walk over sharp lava and uneven terrain for dramatic views, or else we can return to the beach to enjoy swimming and snorkelling at this beautiful natural harbour. The more adventurous can snorkel along the cliffs or paddle sea kayaks. Our anchorage location provides great views of the collapsed caldera of this once active volcano.

Prince Philip's Steps The afternoon starts with a very interesting panga ride along the cliffs before we disembark for a short but steep climb up a wooden staircase. Once at the top, the land is flat, allowing for a captivating walk of about a mile to the other side of this small island, observing large colonies of Nazca boobies, frigate birds and storm petrels and the elusive short eared owl.

Day 10 – Friday

Baltra Island

Our journey ends at Baltra Island, where we transfer to the airport to take the flight back to the mainland. Baltra's flat substrate (due to its uplifted origin) is the reason why the island was chosen back in the 1940s as the location to building an airport. Connect with your international flight departing in the late evening.

**Notes**

Please remember that the exact route and programme may vary according to weather and ocean conditions and the wildlife we encounter. It's also subject to change without previous notice due mainly to readjustment of the National Park policies and regulations. On the last day there is no assistance in Quito's or Guayaquil's airports for your international flight.

- Dry landing: guests step from the dinghy onto rocks or a dock.
- Wet landing: as the dinghy edges onto a sandy beach, guests step into around 8 inches (20 cm) of water and wade ashore.

--END OF SERVICES--

RECOMMENDATIONS

- On Day 1 of your cruise, note: please dress with comfortable shoes and clothes, a light raincoat – this area is often wet and muddy – bring a small backpack with any medicine you might be taking, sunblock, insect repellent and anything you need during the excursion as you will only board Yacht La Pinta at the end of the day.



- Your luggage will be sent directly to the ship after we finish our airport procedure. You will find it later, right in your cabin.

PACKING LIST

- Small backpack (1)
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Sneakers with rubber soles
- Sandals
- Beach footwear for easy walks
- Shorts (2-3)
- Long pants (2)
- T-shirts (5)
- Long and short-sleeved shirts (2-3)
- Windbreaker (1)
- Bathing suit (2)
- Hat or cap (1)
- Toilette kit (biodegradable shampoo please)
- Sun block – if possible, bring reef safe sunscreen lotion
- Sunglasses with holding strap
- Binoculars
- Camera, underwater camera with plenty of media storage (you will take about 64 Gb of pictures and 128 Gb of video)
- Personal medicine
- Book/Notebook/e-reader/tablet/smart phone
- Connecting cables 4 chargers (USB chargers are easier to handle)

RATE

From 7,056.00 USD (2 passengers)

NOTES: Available discount rates for more than 2 pax

Air Ticket to Galapagos is not included. Available upon request.

MASHPI LODGE INCLUSIONS

PROGRAM INCLUDED:

- All meals and soft drinks
- Specialized lectures
- Lodging
- Shared Guided visits (English/Spanish) within the Reserve
- Shared transfers (In/Out) from main hotels in Quito (Casa Gangotena, Hilton Colon, Jw Marriot, Swissotel)
- Waterproof ponchos and rubber boots

NOT INCLUDED:

- Bar
- Dragonfly, \$48,80 per person per stay for all activities that incorporate this service; \$24,40 per children under the age of 12.
- Gifts and additional items
- Gratuities
- Private Guide, Net Rate \$163 usd per group/per day (maximum 6 pax)
- SPA Services

YACHT LA PINTA INCLUSIONS

Accommodations, all meals, soft drinks*, island sightseeing, naturalist guides and lecture services in English/Spanish only, wet suit rental, snorkeling gear, internet*, luggage handling, medical care on board (but not the cost of medication), taxes and transfers in the islands.

Shared transfers from main hotels in Quito (Casa Gangotena, Hilton Colon, Mercure, Sheraton, Marriott, Dann Carlton; for Casa Gangotena, a further feeder service is provided to/from Hilton Colón, this service does not have additional cost.) and in Guayaquil (Hilton Colon, Oro Verde, Sheraton, Wyndham) to airport for flights to / from Galapagos are included in these rates. To coordinate these transfers we must have guest's hotel contact.

* Please note: soft drinks are considered juices and carbonated drinks, not "virgin" cocktails; internet connections onboard consist of 2 computer stations in the library and Wi-Fi in the yacht's social areas; due to the Galapagos' remote location, internet connections are intermittent and low-bandwidth.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Air transportation to / from Galapagos and airport taxes (subject to change without previous notice)
- Galapagos National Park entrance fee (US\$ 100 subject to change without previous notice)*
- Migration Control Card (US\$ 20 subject to change without previous notice)**
- Fuel surcharges
- Alcoholic beverages**, gratuities, gifts, laundry or valet services and additional items.

* At your request, we can include the Galapagos National Park entrance fee of US\$100 and migration control card fee of US\$20 (subject to change). However, please note that, due to administrative and operational reasons, these fees can only be included when guests travel on the operation departure date. This service does not apply for guests who travel before a departure date (even if the departure is with us). This service is not available for last minute sales.

** Please note, we charge guests who wish to bring bottles of wine and/or spirits aboard our vessels a corkage fee of \$27+taxes.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Items of personal nature such as phone calls, fax, meals not mentioned, camera fees at the monuments (if applicable), bottled drinks, bottled water during meals, tips etc.
- Departure taxes, customs and immigration fees, excess baggage at airport, not mentioned transport services, expenses of a personal nature such as laundry, telephone calls, room service, wine, liquor and meals unless otherwise specified.
- Travel insurance. Available upon request.
- visa and visa fees.
- Private Guide services
- International airfares and taxes.
- Anything not mentioned in above inclusions.

PAYMENT POLICIES

Yacht La Pinta, Santa Cruz II, Yacht Isabela II and Finc h Bay Galapagos Hotel a 15% non refundable deposit is needed for us To confirm any reservation. Full Payment is needed 60 days prior to the date our services are due to begin. For departures during peak season a non-refundable deposit of 25% is needed to confirm and the total payment 150 days prior to the date our services are due to begin.



CANCELLATION TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- Notification at least 61 days prior to the start of the intended arrival, will reimburse 15% of the deposit.
- Notification between 60 to 0 days prior to arrival date, full payment (100%) of the total reservation will be charged.

Cancellation Terms and Conditions may vary depending on your travel arrival dates.

For departure dates during peak season:

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- If cancellation is received between the date of booking until 121 days prior the date our services are due to begin, we will charge 25% as a cancellation fee.
- If cancellation is received between 120 and 0 days prior the date our services are due to begin, we will charge 100% cancellation fee.

Land Services

- On all cancellations for land services received between 15 days and 4 days prior the date our services are due to begin, we will charge 50% of the total service. In the case of cancellations received between 3 and 0 days prior to the date our services are due to begin, we will charge 100% of the total service, in addition to any cancellation fee generated directly by the supplier (airline, hotels or other).

Special Cancellation Policies

- In the case of a cancellation, deposits made as part of a booking are non-refundable and not transferable to another departure.
- In the case of a cancellation due to medical reasons, we require a medical certificate. With this, we will provide a credit note of a value of 50% of the booking for the guest. This credit note is valid for another departure for one year from the cancellation date. This credit note will not be issued for departures during Peak Season.
- In the case of cancellation due to death, we require a certificate. With this, we will provide a credit note of a value of 50% of the booking for a future departure by a friend or family member. This credit note is valid for another departure for one year from the cancellation date. This credit note will not be issued for departures during Peak Season.
- In case of non-payment of the balance by the due date, allExpeditions will treat the booking as cancelled by the Client.
- A no show Passenger "no show" or trip interruption before it ends (Early departure) will come in 100% of the fees (no refund). 100% cancellation will be charged.

If cancellations result in an increased per person tour cost, allExpeditions reserves the right to apply such increase to the applicable cancellation charges. All applicable charges as outlined herein will be deducted from payments previously remitted. Balance of any payments will be refunded to you within approximately one month after notice of cancellation is received.



INSURANCE AND VISA

- Baggage, personal effects, trip cancellation, health and accident insurance, and visas/special permits are the passengers own responsibility.
- allExpeditions strongly recommends clients to purchase full insurance, contact us for more information.

RATES

- All prices are quoted are subject to change if the date of travel is changed. A final rate is given at the time of confirmation of the booking.

PAYMENT METHODS:

- * Domestic Direct Deposit/ Bank Transfer/ Zelle payments : no charge
- * International Bank Transfer - \$ 45.00 charge (most common) or any transfer costs should be assumed by the Client.
- * Credit Card 3% charge

REF: MTEC-001