



GALAPAGOS SKY
exceptional underwater adventures

Cruise Information Guide



November 2024

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Diving & Conditions in Galápagos

Please note that diving in the Galápagos is advanced due to strong currents, varying visibility and cold water. Temperatures range from low 60's to upper 70's in different areas of the itinerary and seasons. Depths can be 20-30 meters or 65-100 feet. Divers must be comfortable in these conditions, as well as have very good buoyancy and be able to do negative (sometimes rapid) back-roll entries/descents from small boats. **Recommended requirements include 50-100 open water dives, experience in currents, ability to remove gear in water and ability to get into small boats in choppy seas. Nitrox certification prior to the cruise is highly recommended. Recent dive experience required. PADI and DAN both recommend a refresher course for divers who have been out of the water for 6 months or longer.**

All diving from Galápagos Sky is NON-DECOMPRESSION diving, no exceptions.

Diver to Dive Guide Ratio

8:1 With a full boat of 16 guests, divers will be placed in two groups of 8.

Each group of 8 divers will have 1 Galapagos National Park certified Dive Guide.

Private Dive Guide Services

For divers who wish to have a Private Dive Guide, an extra guide can be made available for \$2,280 USD per week. Private Dive Guide services must be made well in advance and are contingent to Dive Guide availability. The fee is added to the reservation invoice and payment is made in advance. Divers with a Private Dive Guide dive with the group and are not given a separate drop for safety reasons.

Certification Cards

Certification cards must be shown to Dive Guides when checking in at the beginning of the cruise. Highest level of training and Enriched Air Nitrox card please. E-cards are accepted on board. If a diver has recently completed their Enriched Air Nitrox certification, temporary cards are accepted on board.

Dive Computers

Divers must use a dive computer or be able to show dive planning with a dive table to the Dive Guide to keep track of their non-decompression time. Rental dive computers are very limited so it is **strongly** suggested that each diver bring their own dive computer with a back-up dive computer, ideally with the same algorithm. If your dive computer is violated you will not be allowed to dive until the computer has cleared. If a computer is broken/out of battery/screen goes blank/flooded, if the diver that does not have a back-up computer, the diver must not dive for a minimum 12-hour surface interval for a single no-decompression dive or a minimum 24-hour interval for multiple dives or multiple days of diving before resuming dives with a "fresh" computer.

Minimum Age

As most of the dive itinerary does not offer dives under 40ft/12m, divers must be at least 15 years old with proper training and experience.

Solo Diving/Side Mount/Rebreather/Doubles

At this time, Solo Diving, Side Mount diving, diving with Doubles or Rebreathers is not permitted. Stage or pony bottles are not available for rent.

Night Diving

Night dives are optional and conducted weather and conditions permitting on Day 3 at Wolf. Divers must be experienced at night diving, carry a primary and a backup light/torch **(as recommended by all Certification Agencies)** and also have a tank light. Underwater lights/torches are not available for rent or loan.

How We Dive Off Galápagos Sky

Entry

All diving is done from a panga (also known as an *inflatable, rib or tender*). Fins and cameras will be placed in the panga by the crew before each dive. Divers will gear up on the dive deck of Galápagos Sky. Divers will walk to the gangway and with assistance from the crew then lower themselves into the panga. Once seated in the panga, divers will be handed their fins to don. At the dive site, the Dive Guide will ask for a final self and buddy check, then give the signal to Dive. All divers must simultaneously do a bankroll entry. Cameras will be handed to divers by the panga driver. At certain dive sites, divers will be asked to do a negative entry (no air in BCD) to ensure a quicker decent in stronger currents.

The Dive

Dive Briefings will be given on board prior to every dive.

Divers are expected to follow and stay with the Dive Guide, follow signals and instructions. Divers who must end their dive prior to the planned dive time, must be able to do a proper ascent with their dive buddy, complete a safety stop and signal the panga driver once safely buoyant at the surface. Divers who surface with the Dive Guide will be under the Dive Guide's DSMB. Divers who surface prior to or away from the Dive Guide should deploy a DSMB before surfacing if the diver has that skill. Or the DSMB should be inflated once safely buoyant at the surface. Dives are typically 50 minutes each. Most dives are between 60ft/18m and 100ft/30m.

Exiting The Water

Once the panga approaches a diver and the panga driver gives the OK, divers must hand up cameras, remove and hand up weight belts. Divers must remove their inflated BCD in the water, present the tank-side to the panga driver who will lift the gear on board. Divers will then remove and hand up fins then climb the ladder back onto the panga.

Nitrox/Enriched Air vs. Air

Nitrox/Enriched Air Certification by a recognized certification/training agency is required to dive with Nitrox on board Galápagos Sky. Without proof of Nitrox certification, divers will be provided with air fills. Without Nitrox certification, all dives cannot be completed on Days 3, 4 & 5 at Wolf & Darwin due to recreational Non-Decompression Limits. **Nitrox classes are not offered on board.** Our membrane system generally produces 32%. Certified Nitrox divers must analyze and log Nitrox mixes and MODs prior to each dive. Nitrox Analyzers are provided on board.

✔ Nitrox Certification Cards must be presented to Dive Guides at check-in on board.

✔ **Divers without Nitrox Certification will be required to hire a Private Dive Guide.**

Snorkeling

All activities in Galápagos are regulated by the Galápagos National Park. Our permit does not allow for snorkeling at most of our dive sites. Many of our dive sites are in areas where surface conditions are unsafe for snorkeling. There is no discount for non-divers.

Weights & Weights Belts

Weights and weight belts are available and included in your cruise rate. Most lead weight pieces on board are 2, 3 and 4 pounds. Small 1 pound or trim weights are not available. Soft weights are not available.

Tanks and Valves

Standard tanks are Aluminum 80 Cubic Foot/12 Liter tanks with an INT/yoke valve. Each tank has a removable insert to make the tank DIN first stage compatible. A limited number of Aluminum 100 Cubic Foot/15 Liter (DIN/INT compatible) tanks are available for an additional weekly rental fee of \$60 USD that is paid directly on board. Steel tanks are not available. Please note on the Application the desire to rent 100 cu ft/15 ltr tanks when making rental requests prior to the cruise.

Reef Hooks

Galápagos Sky does not provide reef hooks to divers. If a diver is experienced and comfortable with reef hook use, they may bring their own along with a small cutting tool to cut themselves free if needed. Divers who are not highly experienced with reef hook use should not attempt learning in Galapagos due to strong currents. All divers must bring their own gloves to hold on to rocks in current.

Diver Safety Equipment

The following pieces of surface safety devices are required for each diver entering the water:

- 1) Safety Sausage/SMB/Surface Marker
- 2) Dive Alert or similar audible surface signaling device
- 3) Nautilus Lifeline electronic surface tracking device.

If you have your own Nautilus Lifeline, the **MMSI number is 735057585**.

These items are available for loan to divers while on board.

Rental Gear

It is **highly recommended** that divers bring their own gear. Advanced diving conditions that are common in Galápagos truly call for divers to be in their own, known and proper fitting gear. If a diver must rent gear, please understand that sizes, selection and quantities are extremely limited. Guests should note items to be rented and specific size(s) on the Application. All fees for rental gear are paid directly on Galápagos Sky on the last day of the cruise. USD Cash and Visa/MasterCard are accepted on board for payment.

Not available for rent or purchase:

Cameras, Gloves, Hoods, Dry Suits, Thermal Vests, Torches/Underwater Lights, Knives, Steel Tanks, Reef Hooks, Stage/Pony Bottles

Full Gear Rental Package \$250 per week	Ala Carte Rental Items Cost per Week
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BCD• Regulator/Gauge Set• 7mm Wetsuit• Mask• Snorkel• Fins• Booties (Computer not included)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• BCD \$80• Computer (wrist style) \$75• Regulator/Gauge \$80• 7mm Wetsuit \$45• Mask/Snorkel \$25• Fins/Booties – \$25 per charter• 100 cu ft/15 ltr tank upgrade \$60

Rental wetsuits are all standard, full-length 7mm. We carry very limited quantities of SCUBAPRO/ Auqualung Mens and Ladies X-Small, Small, Medium, Large and X-Large and Men's XXL only.

 **Divers must bring their own gloves, hood/hooded vest, layering garments for added thermal protection.**

Rental BCDs are not weight integrated. Weight belts must be used with rental BCDs. Examples of the rental BCDs **SCUBAPRO Pilot** and **Drift** style of BCDs.

Fins are open-heel, adjustable fins are **SCUBAPRO Seawing Novas** or **SCUBAPRO TwinJet Max**. Size Small through XL only.

Rental regulator set-ups come with: First stage (yoke), Primary second stage regulator, Secondary second stage regulator (octopus or an alternate air source), Low pressure inflator hose (standard connector), submersible pressure gauge (SPG) and depth gauge (analog)

Water Temperatures

Water temperatures fluctuate through the year. Water temperatures are typically warmer in the northern islands at Wolf and Darwin and cooler in the western, southern and central islands of Galápagos. Thermoclines are common. **Divers should be prepared for the water temps listed for all water temps: Western, Southern & Central AND Wolf & Darwin.**

December - May: The water is warmer, clearer 65-80°F, 18-27°C

June - November: The water is cooler, 60-77°F, 15-25°C.

	Central		Western		Wolf & Darwin			
	Average °F	Average °C	Average °F	Average °C	High °F	High °C	Low °F	Low °C
January	73	22.98	65	18.08	77	25.25	77	25.15
February	74	23.37	66	19.13	80	26.51	79	26.15
March	76	24.55	68	19.92	79	25.98	76	24.44
April	75	23.87	68	19.94	80	26.53	77	25.18
May	74	23.24	67	19.42	78	25.49	77	24.88
June	74	23.25	66	18.86	77	24.91	76	24.19
July	72	22.17	66	18.61	76	24.63	74	23.58
August	70	20.94	63	16.97	76	24.67	75	23.68
September	70	21.36	61	16.25	77	24.85	76	24.34
October	70	21.19	64	17.81	77	24.94	76	24.39
November	71	21.54	65	18.60	77	24.78	74	23.46
December	73	22.52	64	18.03	78	25.41	76	24.17
Average	73	22.58	65	18.47	78	25.33	76	24.47

Wetsuit Recommendations

The general recommendation if a diver is bringing one suit, a 7mm with hood/hooded vest and layering garments. As water temperatures vary in different areas of Galápagos, **we highly recommend divers bring their own hooded vest and layering garments for added thermal protection.** Dry Suits are commonly used in Galápagos with lighter under garments in the warmer water and heavier under garments in the colder water.

Divers must bring and wear gloves (1-2 mm) to protect their hands.

Celcius	Fahrenheit	Exposure Suit
23.89-26.67	75-80	5 mm
21.11-23.33	70-74	7-8 mm with 3-5 mm hooded vest and layering pieces
12.78-20.56	55-69	7 mm wetsuit to 8/7 mm semi-dry or Drysuit with 5mm hood/hood vest and layering pieces

Payment Terms & Conditions

Included in Cruise Rate

Cabin accommodation, all meals, snacks, all beverages including an open bar policy (beer, wine, spirits and liquors), one 80 cu ft/12 liter tank, weights, weight belt, up to 4 dives per day on 5.5 days for 7-night cruises, 3 land excursions, service of Dive Guides, transfers in the Islands between airport and dock (on cruise departure dates only), all other Galápagos Sky services and amenities.

Not Included in Cruise Rate

- Trip Interruption or Cancellation Insurance
- Dive Accident Insurance (DAN or DiveAssure)
- International Airfare to Ecuador (Quito UIO or Guayaquil GYE)
- Hotel stay in Ecuador (Quito UIO or Guayaquil GYE)
- Domestic Airfare to the Galapagos Islands (Quito UIO or Guayaquil GYE to San Cristobal SCY)
- Galapagos National Park entrance fee \$200 USD
- Transit card (TCT) \$20 USD
- Hyperbaric chamber fee \$35 USD- must be collected in advance
- **Nitrox** (Enriched Air) \$200 USD
- **Rental gear**
- Gratuities to guides and crew.
- Fuel Surcharge \$150 USD

Hyperbaric Chamber Fee

The Hyperbaric Facility is located in the town of Puerto Ayora on the island of Santa Cruz. The larger dive operators in Galapagos collect a mandatory \$35 fee from each guest to keep the facility operating, staffed and with updated equipment. Treatment at the facility is not covered by the \$35 fee. Divers must have dive accident insurance. Galapagos Sky collects this fee in advance of each cruise. The fee cannot be paid on board.

Gratuities for Guides & Crew

It is common practice to tip in Ecuador and to tip dive boat crew. We recommend 10% of the charter or cruise rate as tip/gratuity. An envelope will be provided at the end of the cruise. Envelopes are placed in a locked box in the lounge area. Tips are divided and distributed equally amongst the Captain/Dive Guides and crew. Cash USD is preferred. Though larger bills \$50-\$100 are not accepted at shops and restaurants in town, they are still accepted as one form of payment for gratuities and for onboard accounts. Gratuity can also be placed on a Visa/MasterCard credit card. Please note that 2-4% is deducted from gratuities placed on credit cards for processing fees.

We believe our crew members provide world class service and we hope you agree!!

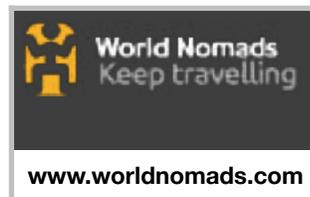
Credit Card Payments Made On Board

Rental gear fees, boutique purchases, etc are paid the last day of the cruise. We accept cash (US Dollars small and large denominations), MasterCard or VISA credit cards only. Personal bank checks and American Express are not accepted on board.

Insurances

✔ Dive Accident Insurance

Each diver is required to have Dive Accident insurance. Divers must note the company and policy number on the Application. The Hyperbaric Chamber donation fee **does not** cover any medical



expenses if needed.

✔ Travel Interruption/Cancelation Insurance

DivEncounters, Inc. & Galápagos Sky **will NOT** provide refund or cruise credit in the event you miss your cruise or circumstances beyond our control (such as weather) which may require us not to fulfill our full cruise itinerary. We strongly recommend that all passengers traveling on Galápagos Sky invest in COMPREHENSIVE medical, trip cancellation and trip interruption insurance that includes a Cancel for Any Reason Coverage Add-On at the time of your reservation. Many Travel Insurance policies must be purchased within 10 days of making deposit on a reservation. This investment will protect you and your financial commitment in the event of unforeseen travel delays/ airline cancellations, personal or family illness or injury which may not allow for you to make your scheduled cruise.

In the event of any departure cancellation and/or interruption or postponement of any cruise due to reasons including, force majeure, Acts of God, war, civil disturbances, terrorist acts, insurgent acts, extremist acts, government interference, labor disputes and strikes, and when no substitute Vessel can be arranged for, the Company will issue a credit for the unused portion of the cruise to be utilized by the Passenger on a future cruise departure, subject to availability. Galapagos Sky reserves the right at its sole option and discretion and that of the Captain of the vessel without liability for damages or refund of any kind to deviate from the vessel's advertised or regularly scheduled itinerary. Itineraries are subject to change at any time for any reason including mechanical failure and without prior notice. Ecoventura will not be held responsible for any refunds whatsoever for changes to the printed or scheduled itinerary.

Travel in Ecuador & Galápagos

Entry Requirements

Passport/Visa

A valid passport, with at least **six months and one day** remaining before expiration, is required to enter Ecuador. It is the passenger's responsibility to check with local immigration offices or the Ecuadorian Consulate prior to traveling to determine if a visa is necessary.

Immunizations

At the time of publication, no inoculations were required for visitors to Ecuador and Galápagos (excluding jungle areas). Please check with your local health office at least two weeks prior to your departure. Effective October 20, 2022, visitors to Ecuador and the Galapagos are no longer required to present a certification of vaccination for COVID-19 or a negative Antigen or RT-PCR test result.

Time Zone

Ecuador is in the Eastern Time zone (GMT-5 in the mainland). Daylight savings time is not observed in Ecuador. Galápagos is one hour behind mainland Ecuador. On board, we observe mainland Ecuador time.

Local Currency

US Dollar USD - The country of Ecuador uses the US Dollar. Starting June 1, 2021 large denominations of USD currency including \$50 and \$100 bills are not accepted for payment at shops and restaurants in the Galapagos, including the airports. For incidental purchases, we recommend guests bring \$1, \$5 and \$10 bills as change is not always readily available. If credit cards are accepted in shops and restaurants, there is usually a surcharge. Large bills are accepted on board Galapagos Sky.

Language Spoken

English and Spanish are spoken aboard Galápagos Sky by Dive Guides and Captains. All guests must speak English or Spanish for safety reasons.

Shipping and Storage of Luggage

We have been unable to find a reliable service for shipping items in or out of Galapagos or mainland Ecuador, for that reason, we are unable to make a recommendation for shipping services. Best to keep luggage with you during your travels.

Ecoventura Cruises/Back-to-Back Travel for the Best of Land & Sea

Galapagos Sky departures are every Sunday to Sunday from San Cristobal; which matches perfectly for a back to back cruise with our sister yachts for land excursions and snorkeling to complete your Galapagos experience www.ecoventura.com. Transfers between yachts is handled for you. Galapagos Sky offers a 5% discount for back to back travel with the ORIGIN, THEORY or EVOLVE.



Getting to Ecuador (UIO or GYE)

All guests or their travel agents, must make their own international air travel arrangements into either

Quito, Ecuador

Guayaquil, Ecuador

Mariscal Sucre International - Airport Code **UIO**

Jose Joaquin De Olmedo - Airport Code **GYE**

✓ Arrive in either UIO or GYE by Friday or Saturday morning before scheduled departure date, Sunday. Please be in mainland Ecuador for at least a full 24 hours prior to the flight to Galapagos. Allow for contingency plans if flights are delayed, canceled or if baggage is delayed.

✗ Do not arrive into UIO or GYE Saturday evening, night or on flights arriving Sunday morning. Please allow for contingency plans if flights are canceled/delayed. Do not plan to take the last flight of the day on Saturday into Ecuador which will not give you options if that flight is canceled.

Divers should be rested, alert and adjusted to time-zone changes at the time of boarding Galapagos Sky.

Hotels in Quito (UIO)

Hotel	Location	Transfer	Rates *	Arrangements **
Wyndham Airport Quito	Closest to Airport	Provided by Hotel Shuttle every 30 minutes	SGL: \$130 DBL: \$135 TRP: \$160	Reservations Office or Guest/Travel Agent
Patio Andaluz	In the Historic Center	Taxi	SGL: \$170-\$195 DBL: \$185-\$210	Reservations Office or Guest/Travel Agent
Illa Hotel	San Marcos neighborhood	Taxi	\$445-\$545	Reservations Office or Guest/Travel Agent
Casa Gangotena	Historic area	Taxi	\$583-\$740	Reservations Office or Guest/Travel Agent
* Rates are subject to change ** Arrangements can be made by the Galápagos Sky Reservations Office or by the Guest/Travel Agent directly				

Hotels in Guayaquil (GYE)

Hotel	Location	Transfer	Rates *	Arrangements **
Oro Verde	Near Airport	Provided by Hotel	SGL: \$140-\$200 DBL: \$150-\$240	Reservations Office or Guest/Travel Agent
Hotel del Parque	Near Airport	Taxi or Private Transfer	SGL: \$370-\$545 DBL: \$385-\$425 TRP: \$450	Reservations Office or Guest/Travel Agent
* Rates are subject to change ** Arrangements can be made by the Galápagos Sky Reservations Office or by the Guest/Travel Agent directly				

✓ It is required that hotel accommodation information for the night prior to departure in case we must contact you be noted on each guest's Application.

Getting to Galápagos

There are two airports in the Galápagos Islands:

San Cristóbal

or

Baltra

San Cristóbal Airport - Airport Code SCY

Seymour Airport - Airport Code GPS

Galápagos Sky departs from Tiburon Martillo Muelle Ecoturístico /Ecotouristic Dock Hammerhead Shark on **San Cristóbal** making **SCY** the airport to fly into.

 **All guests must be on board Galápagos Sky and checked in by 12:00 pm noon Galapagos Time on departure day.**

Prearranged, Group Booked Flight With Airport Assistance

As a very convenient service, through our Reservation's Office, guests may prearrange flights to/from Galápagos through our pre-booked seats with Avianca Airlines Flight 1630 and Flight 1631 from/to Quito UIO or Guayaquil GYE to San Cristobal SCY. Passengers who purchase their tickets through Galápagos Sky for the Avianca Flight 1630 on their cruise departure day, will receive assistance with the check in procedure and the option to pre-pay the TCT transit card and Park entrance fee. A representative from our sister company, Ecoventura, have your Boarding Pass and TCT card ready. They will tag your luggage with your name and cabin number and accompany our passengers on this flight.

On the day of departure, please be at the airport in Quito or Guayaquil one and a half hours (90 minutes) prior to departure for check-in. Specific Travel Day Instructions will be sent along with guests' voucher and pre-departure information.

Upon arrival in Galápagos, passengers form a line to process passenger Passports and Park entrance fees. Please inform the Park representative that you are traveling with Ecoventura/ Galápagos Sky if you have prepaid the Park fee. They will have a list of prepaid passengers and hand you your receipt. You will then claim your luggage. With your luggage, exit the airport. Our Guides will be waiting for you outside the doors with a Galapagos Sky sign. They will take you and your luggage a short 5-7 minute drive to the dock area where all will be loaded into pangas for transport to Galapagos Sky.

Baggage Allowance with Avianca

1 checked bag 23kg/50pd max and 1 carry-on bag 10kg/22pd max + personal article (laptop case, backpack, purse). To pre-pay an additional checked bag, the cost is \$25 USD per 23kg/50pd bag. Additional bag rates at the check-in counter fluctuate. Please see [Avianca's website](#) for details.



Travel Delays

If a travel delay should arise prior to your departure to Ecuador, please contact our USA office at (305) 262-3483 or info@galapagosky.com.

For our passengers traveling on Saturday to Quito or Guayaquil who are experiencing travel delays, cancelled flights or difficulties that will impact their Saturday arrivals and Sunday departures, please contact us via cell phone or via WhatsApp at these numbers or via e-mail at

Travel Emergency E-mail
help@ecoventura.com

Travel Emergency Cell Phone/WhatsApp or help@ecoventura.com			
	From US number	From UK number	From Ecuador number
Elena Cordova	+593-98-502-5615	00-593-98-502-5615	098-502-5615
Maria Fernanda Benites	+593 96-977-2721	00-593-96-977-2721	096-977-2721

Ecoventura Airport Representative Contact Information UIO and GYE

Quito UIO Airport Representative Sundays Only Sebastian Bravo - Ecoventura - Cell or WhatsApp		
From US number	From UK number	From Ecuador number
+593-98-502-5818	00-593-98-502-5818	098-502-5818

Guayaquil GYE Airport Representative Sundays Only Jorge Lombeida - Ecoventura - Cell or Whatsapp		
From US number	From UK number	From Ecuador number
+593-99-102-7100	00-593-99-102-7100	099-102-7100

Independent & Earlier Arrival to Galápagos

If you arrive to Galápagos (SCY or GPS) **prior to the cruise departure date (Sunday)**, please make your way to the dock area Tiburon Martillo Muelle Ecoturístico /Ecoturístico Dock Hammerhead Shark on San Cristóbal Island on departure day (Sunday).

You will pay the migration control transit card TCT \$20 (cash only USD) in Quito UIO or Guayaquil GYE airports and the Galápagos National Park entrance fee \$200 (cash only USD in \$10 or \$20 bills) upon arrival in San Cristóbal (SCY).

✔ All guests must be on board Galápagos Sky and checked in by 12:00 pm noon Galapagos Time on departure day.

To arrange meeting time at the Tiburon Martillo Muelle Ecoturístico /Ecoturístico Dock Hammerhead Shark please call our Captain to coordinate.

The cellular phone number to reach our Captain via Whatsapp or call is: **0990167139**



Galápagos National Park Fee and TCT Tax

Galapagos National Park entrance fee (national park tax) is \$200 USD (cash only USD in \$10 or \$20 bills only) per person. The fee is divided up among various entities including the GNPS, Marine Reserve, agriculture, municipalities, INEFAN and INGALA. The fee for nationals of one of the Andean Community of Nations or Mercosur is \$100 USD (cash only USD in \$10 or \$20 bills) per person. Rates are subject to change at any time until day of departure.

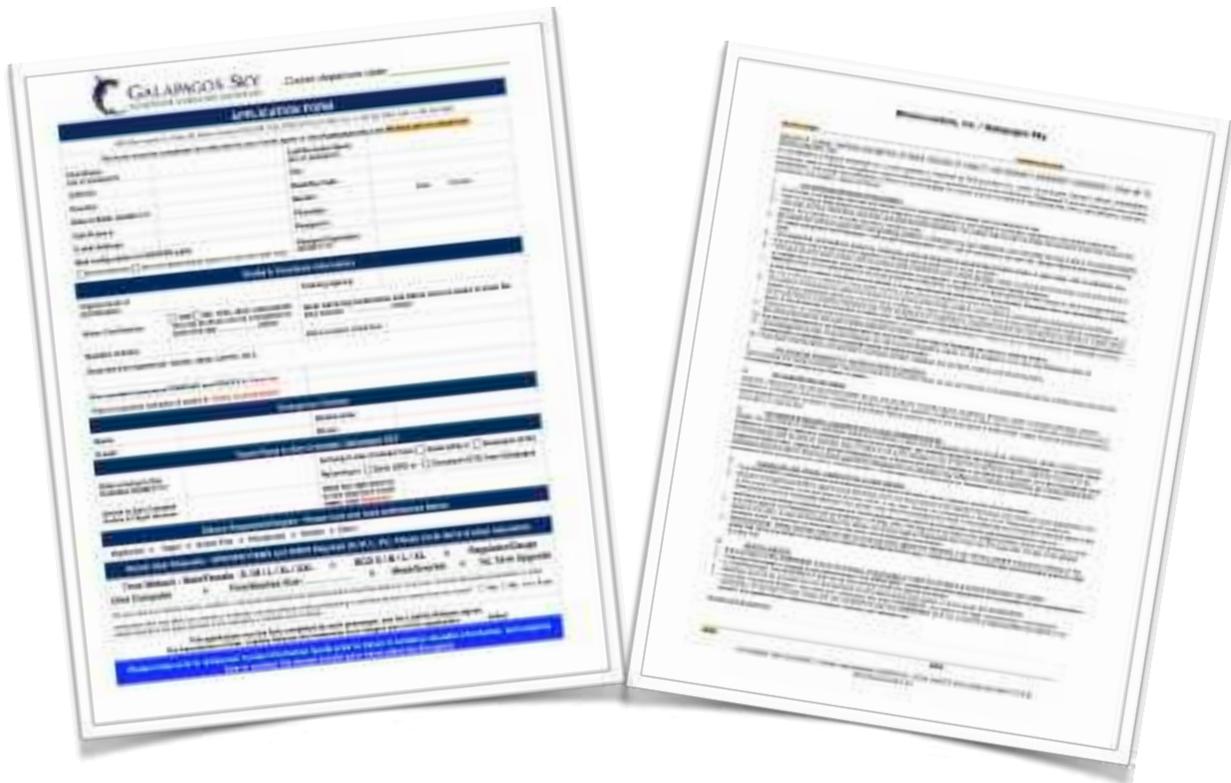
TCT card or Tarjeta de Control de Transito is required by all visitors to Galápagos for \$20 USD (cash only) This card allows INGALA, the institution that controls migration to the islands to better regulate the flow of all arrivals and departures to and from the Galápagos islands.

Rates are subject to change at any time until day of departure.

Application Information and Waiver

All guests of Galápagos Sky must complete our Application and sign/date our Waiver form prior to boarding. All information must be received by our Reservation's Office **60 days prior to departure**.

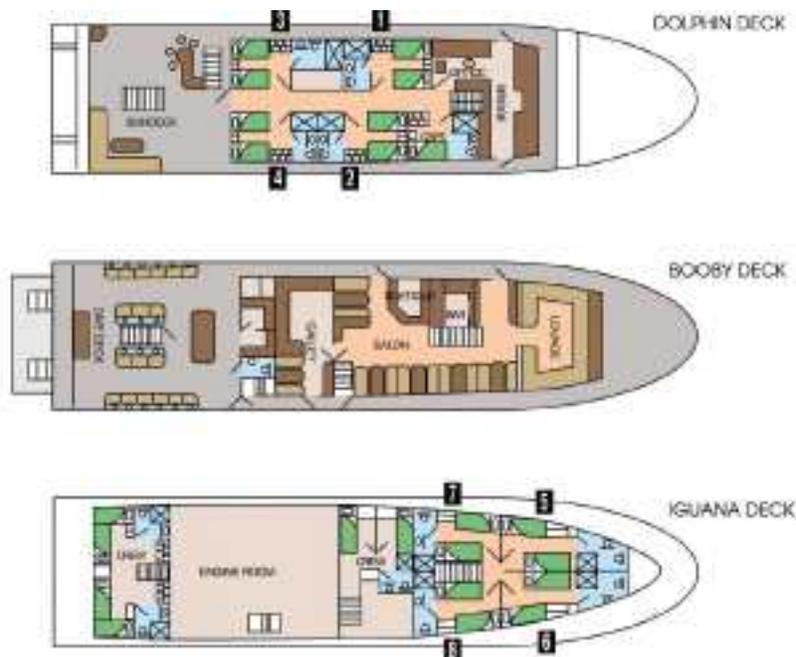
Dietary restrictions, rental gear needs, emergency contact information, passport information, how you arriving into San Cristóbal and hotel information for the night prior to departure are some of the questions on our Application. You will receive this form from our Reservation's Office or from your Travel Agent or Trip Leader. Return completed information to your Travel Agent / Trip Leader or if booked directly to info@galapagosky.com or fax to (305) 203-0296.



The Yacht, Galápagos Sky

The Vessel

Built in 2001	8 Cabins (4 Master, 4 Deluxe) with ensuite bathrooms
Steel Hulled Vessel	Maximum 16 Guests
L.O.A: 100 ft	11 Crew
Beam: 24 feet	Sun Deck
Maximum Speed 12 Knots	Lounge
Fuel Capacity: 7,500 gallons	2 Flat Screen TVs with Apple TV
Water Capacity: 3,500 gallons	Video & Book Library
Desalinator Production: 4,500 gallons per day	Plug Type B Electric Outlets (United States)
Compressors: two high / two low pressure	Camera Table
Voltage: 110 and 220 volts	Charging Station on Dive Deck
Navigational Aids: VHF and HI-SUB radios, GMDSS, color radar, echo sounder, Furuno GPS	Booth Style Dining
Safety Aides: EPIRB (emergency position indicator radio beacon)	Nitrox Membrane System



Communication

Wifi On Board NEW

Galápagos Sky provides **free Wifi** on board for our guests. Guests can message, make Whatsapp calls and receive/send e-mails.

Please download the Whatsapp App before boarding.

Cellular Phone Connection

Cell Phones with International plans will work on San Cristóbal and Santa Cruz.

Cell phones with Wi-Fi plans will work on San Cristóbal and on Santa Cruz.

Please check with your cell phone carrier to ensure an International Wi-Fi plan. Guests may also bring their own personal or rented Satellite Phone with or without a wifi plan which will work from the upstairs sundeck outside.

Dining/Food

All meals and snacks while aboard Galápagos Sky are included in your cruise rate. Gourmet style menus using locally sourced ingredients from providers who act sustainably are creatively prepared by our culinary school trained chefs. Depending on the dive schedule, either a full breakfast will be served first thing in the morning, or light continental breakfast followed by a dive then a full breakfast will be served. Breakfast and lunch are buffet style. Dinner is served from an a la carte four-course menu. Your dinner order will be taken in the morning. Snacks are provided through the day. Chips, crackers and cookies are available on the bar. Ecuadorian and International cuisine is served.

Special Requests

Vegetarian, Vegan, Gluten Free, No Seafood, Kosher, Dairy Free, etc dietary preferences can be accommodated, please note when completing your Application.

Please note that Kosher requests must be received 60 days prior to departure.

Sustainable Foods

25 percent of our food comes from the Galapagos and almost 52 percent is organic. We mainly source fruits and vegetables from San Cristobal and meats and dairy from Santa Cruz Island.

Dress/Attire

All meals are casual, comfortable attire. Shoes may be worn on board. Please note that the temperature in the dining room and main salon is kept cool.

Beverages/Open Bar

Bar, Liquor, Water, Juices, Soda

Wine, beer, liquor, spirits, coffee, tea, water, juice, sodas are included in your cruise rate.

Galápagos Sky does have a full bar. Premium wines and liquors available for purchase. Your first drink of the day marks your last dive of the day. Your bar tab for premium wines and liquors will be kept and payment is made on the final day of the cruise. Filtered water is available to fill reusable water bottles, we encourage guests to bring their favorite reusable bottle.

Coffee, Espresso, Americano, Cappuccino, Teas

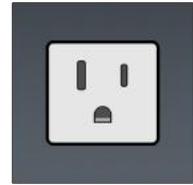
Espresso, Americano and cappuccino coffees are available and included. We use ground Ecuadorian coffee that is brewed and available in the dining area throughout the day. If a guest requests on their Application or in advance, we can have almond milk, soy milk, coconut milk or Coffee Mate available.

We have iced tea (lemon and peach), hot fruit and herbal teas on the yacht (Black, Green, Chamomile, Mint, Red Berries, Prince of Wales, Earl Grey, English breakfast)

All these services are available throughout the day.

Electricity

110/AC 60 cycle Type B (same as in North and Central America) with some 220 outlets on the dive deck. The main lounge area and all cabins have Type B outlets.



Laundry Services

Because we operate in the Galapagos Marine Reserve, we do not offer laundry services on board. Laundry services are available in town in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno and Puerto Ayora.

Dive Deck

Galápagos Sky's dive deck was designed with diver's needs in mind. Camera table, charging station for camera batteries, hot showers, bathroom, separate rinse bins for wetsuits and separate rinse bins for cameras. Each dive station has individual bin storage under the seat. Dive deck towels are labeled with numbers to coordinate with the diver's seat location. Towels are heated.

Our crew is very experienced and helpful with gear donning, mask rinsing, hanging wetsuits, etc.

Cabin Types and Amenities

4 DELUXE CABINS	4 MASTER CABINS	
Two Twin Beds	One King Bed or Two Twin Beds	
		
Deluxe Cabin - Two Twin Beds	Master Cabin - One King Bed	Master Cabin - Two Twin Beds
Two Twin Beds 77 inches / 196 cm long and 32 inches / 81 cm wide	One King Bed is 77 inches / 196 cm long and 78 inches / 198 cm wide	Two Twin Beds 77 inches / 196 cm long and 38 inches / 97 cm wide
Deluxe Cabin Size 9.2 sq m / 99 sq ft bath included.	Master Cabin Size 10 sq m / 108 sq ft bath included.	
Lower Deck Double Occupancy with Private Bathroom. Porthole Window	Upper Deck Double Occupancy with Private Bathroom. Picture Window	
Cabins 5, 6, 7 & 8	Cabins 1, 2, 3 & 4	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All cabins have private ensuite bathrooms which are supplied with all linens, robes and towels. • All cabins have a safe available in the closet. • Hairdryer, environmentally friendly soap, shampoo & conditioner provided. • 110/AC 60 cycle Type B (North and Central America) • Evening turndown service is provided. 		



OUR COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Ever since Charles Darwin first stepped foot in the Galapagos Islands back in 1835, this archipelago has been famous for its bewildering array of wildlife – a biodiverse paradise unlike anywhere else on Earth. There is a reason, after all, that the Galapagos Islands was the first ever entry in UNESCO’s esteemed list of World Heritage Sites. And whilst we are incredibly privileged to operate here in one of the planet’s most untouched ecosystems, we also recognize that, as a result, it is our responsibility to do all we can to protect the creatures we share these islands with, above and below the waves

The Eco in Ecoventura

Sustainability has been at the heart of what we do since our inception, with efforts to minimize our environmental impact at the core of our operations.

We are proud at Ecoventura that we started greening the operation decades ago and continue to initiate and support efforts to preserving the Galapagos. We were the first recipient of SmartVoyager, an ecological certification, in 2000 when we voluntarily introduced strict conservation standards that were later incorporated into local regulations.

Our flagship yacht, the Eric, became the first hybrid energy tour boat in Galapagos with the installation of 40 solar panels and two wind turbines. In 2006, Ecoventura became the first carbon neutral operation in Galapagos through carbon offsets through Native Energy and reduced their footprint by 10%.

In fact, when we started upgrading our fleet in 2016, our bespoke luxury expedition yachts were designed with this in mind. Wave piercing keels, an underwater bulb and a cutting-edge bow design and stabilization systems reduce drag as the vessels move through the water. With a steel hull and composite material superstructure, the vessels are also lighter than their traditional counterparts.

These design features allow for more efficient – not to mention smoother and more comfortable – sailing; fuel use, and therefore carbon emissions, are reduced by more than 30 percent, whilst nitrogen oxide emissions are 90% lower as catalytic converter systems can be operated 24 hours a day.

Reducing Carbon Emissions

As the yachts can travel more efficiently, and 30 percent faster, guests are able to visit islands that would otherwise be out of reach. What’s more, faster speed means less motoring as our yachts arrive at their destinations quicker, six hours less on each of our two itineraries. In fact, this means six hours less cruising and six hours less fuel combustion.

Design features on board also have sustainability in mind. Each yacht is fitted with a unique water treatment system and ecological dual-flush toilets that prevent untreated water from being disposed into the ocean, whilst to further protect the marine environment we only use biodegradable cleaning detergents, exterior lights that do not attract insects, cooling elements free of R-12 gases, and lead-free paint that avoid damage to delicate reefs.

Looking ahead, we have signed an agreement with Photon to refit our zodiac launches with electric motors, to further reduce our fuel use, carbon emissions and noise pollution on every voyage.





Sourcing ingredients locally from responsible providers

In our kitchens, our chefs work tirelessly to provide a fine dining experience commensurate with a member of Relais & Chateaux, and always with one eye on the environmental and social impact of the menus.

Ecoventura sources over 50% of ingredients locally from small artisan businesses based in the Islands; for example, eggs, bread and other staples are purchased from smallholders on the islands. Fruits and vegetables are sourced from San Cristobal and meats and dairy from Santa Cruz, of which 50% is organic. Fish is, of course, a big part of the menu, with our chefs taking great care to ensure their dishes are sustainable; "brujo" (scorpion fish) is served instead of salmon, and spiny lobster and Canchalagua (a shellfish) are both sustainable local fish sourced from local fishermen who ply their trade around the islands.

We recently introduced wine produced at Dos Hemisferios Bodega in Ecuador as our house label, to ensure our beverages are also as locally sourced as possible.

Promoting longer stays and lower volume tourism in Galapagos

The Galapagos National Park encompasses the entire Galapagos archipelago, of which only about 3% is populated; the remainder is left for the remarkable creatures who call it home. The park is tightly controlled to ensure tourists and residents alike do not disturb or degrade the landscape, and we have designed our itineraries with this priority in mind.

We offer two itineraries on our three luxury expedition yachts Origin Theory and Evolve: Itinerary A, otherwise known as "Beaches and Bays", and Itinerary B, or "Volcanic Wonders". Both are one-week itineraries and explore different parts of the region; guests who really want to immerse themselves can of course opt to do both itineraries back to back. Galapagos Sky offers the one week scuba itinerary that includes diving at the famed Wolf & Darwin.

Unlike some of our peers, we do not offer shorter three, four or five night cruises, as these encourage greater footfall in the islands, with more flights and a higher turnover of visitors, which leads to more carbon emissions and more pressure on this delicate ecosystem.

In short, we are keen to promote higher quality, longer stays in the islands, with lower volume tourism in the Galapagos.

Reducing plastic waste and pollution

For many years we have done away with single-use plastic bottles and straws, offering guests, since 2017, refillable bottles to cut down on one-use plastic and paper straws for those that want them. Our yachts are fitted with filtered water refill stations so there is no need for one-use bottles of water at any time when sailing with us. In our bathrooms, shampoo, soap and body wash are provided in larger, refillable bottles, avoiding the one-use throwaways that seem to be such a favorite for hotels around the world.

We were one step ahead of the regulations; by 2018, the Governing Council of Galapagos had restricted the use of certain plastics in Galapagos, including plastic straws, non-returnable plastic bottles and single-use plastic bags. Ever conscious of the damage plastics can cause, and aware of our wider responsibilities towards the Islands, we started this initiative well before it became mandatory, blazing a trail for our peers to follow.

Recycling facility to reduce landfill in the Galapagos

As we continue our sustainability journey and look for new ways to reduce our environmental impact, we recently opened two new state-of-the-art machines to facilitate recycling in the archipelago.

This new initiative, in partnership with the airline Avianca, will save approximately 9,000 kg of waste per year being landfilled in the Galapagos Islands, as it allows rubbish to be processed ready for transport to recycling centers on the Ecuador mainland – we are hugely proud to say that as a result of the scheme, no waste produced on any of our yachts will be landfilled in the islands.

What's more, by collaborating with Avianca, who already run flights between the Galapagos and the mainland on a regular basis, the scheme avoids any additional carbon emissions as the waste is transported on pre-existing, scheduled flights.

We continue to search for new and innovative opportunities to put the ECO in Ecoventura. We are continually assessing our operations and looking at ways to further protect and preserve the profusion of rare flora and fauna that have flourished, unspoiled, in this natural paradise since long before the islands were first discovered.



SUPPORTING WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN GALAPAGOS

Ecoventura has supported several conservation organizations in the Galapagos, all of whom play a vital role in helping to protect the wildlife against a host of threats.

Through our partnership with the World Wildlife Fund, we created the Galapagos Marine Biodiversity Fund that raised over \$400,000 to support the local community and funded scholarships for Galapagueño students from 2006-2016. Through Ecology Project International and Island Conservation, we participated in community outreach and mentoring programs, and supported vital conservation efforts across the islands and seas that surround them.

Charles Darwin Foundation Galápagos Biodiversity & Education for Sustainability Fund

One of the organizations Ecoventura is particularly committed to helping is the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF), a non-profit group dedicated to conducting scientific research in the Galapagos. Formed in 1959, the CDF has played a pivotal role protecting the Islands' natural resources and the sharing of scientific results for the conservation of this living laboratory.

Ecoventura established the Galápagos Biodiversity & Education for Sustainability Fund (GBESF) in a groundbreaking partnership with the CDF and the Galápagos National Park Service in 2017. This collective effort focuses on protecting the rare, often endemic, wildlife and flora and preserving our unparalleled ecosystem for future generations.

Since joining forces with the CDF, Ecoventura/Galapagos Sky has contributed to their vital efforts by raising over \$450,000 for the GBESF. In 2022 alone we raised \$179,000, which was allocated to a variety of important projects; 35% has been ringfenced for educational projects, 35% will go towards research and monitoring, 20% will be spent on patrolling, eradication of invasive species and prevention of illegal trade initiatives, and 10% set aside for management and administrative purposes.

Ecoventura supports non-profit organizations that directly benefit the Galapagos Islands, such as the Galapagos Conservation Trust to fund research and tracking of whale sharks migration to better understand "swimway" patterns between Galapagos and the Cocos Island. The expansion of the Galapagos Marine Reserve in 2022 was designed to protect migratory species.

Supporting the local community in Galapagos

Almost every member of our team is an Ecuadorian national, and approximately 65% calls the Galapagos home, so our desire to support the local community comes from the heart; many of our team have children at local schools, and have close family and friends who work on the islands.

Pack for a Purpose

With that in mind, we have worked closely for many years with Pack for a Purpose. The brainchild of founder Rebecca Rothney, who realized on a trip to Africa that her unused baggage allowance could be put to good use, this charity is a wonderfully inspiring organization that encourages travellers to bring up to 5 lbs (2.27 kilos) of supplies to their destination and donate them to local schools and community projects. Ecoventura delivers the contributions – stationary, calculators, art equipment, paper, and notepads – directly to the beneficiaries; the Alejandro Alvear

School and a non-profit organization "Corazones Unidos" located in San Cristobal to benefit kids with disabilities and special needs.

Education for Sustainable Communities (ECOS)

ECOS is a local Galapagos foundation which was spun out of Ecology Project International (EPI) to continue the vital educational programs they began in 2006. With a focus on sustainable development and education, ECOS aims to promote wider conservation efforts and support the conservation work undertaken by the Galapagos National Park. By promoting sustainable, responsible, and active community involvement through inclusive experiential education, youth mobilization and educational research, the organization plays a crucial role in ensuring local community support and training up and inspiring the next generation of conservationists.

Ecoventura supports ECOS by donating funds that allows our guests to participate in conservation-focused excursions accompanied by local students, including a highland field excursion where guests participate in an ongoing project by collecting seed samples distributed by tortoises, or a walking excursion to learn about local traditions and community conservation efforts.



Packing List

Personal Items	Clothing
<input type="checkbox"/> Passport - Must be valid for 6 months after travel date	<input type="checkbox"/> Shirts (short and/or long sleeved)
<input type="checkbox"/> Visa if required	<input type="checkbox"/> Shorts
<input type="checkbox"/> Dive Certification Card(s) highest training level and Nitrox Certification Card	<input type="checkbox"/> Long pants, lightweight, quick drying
<input type="checkbox"/> Dive accident insurance card	<input type="checkbox"/> Swim Suits
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash (USD) Credit Card (Visa or MasterCard only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pajamas
<input type="checkbox"/> Medications/Prescriptions	<input type="checkbox"/> Jacket/Sweatshirt for cool evening breezes and cooler temps in dining room
<input type="checkbox"/> Reusable Water Bottle	<input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable walking shoes (hiking boots/shoes are <u>not</u> required for land excursions)
<input type="checkbox"/> Soft Sided Luggage (preferred)	<input type="checkbox"/> Hat
<input type="checkbox"/> Power Adapters if needed	<input type="checkbox"/> Sunglasses
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robes provided in cabins.
Scuba Gear	Personal Care
<input type="checkbox"/> BCD	<input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush/toothpaste
<input type="checkbox"/> Regulator (Yoke or DIN 1st Stage, Primary and Secondary 2nd Stages)	<input type="checkbox"/> Feminine products
<input type="checkbox"/> Gauges - Pressure and Depth	<input type="checkbox"/> Deodorant
<input type="checkbox"/> Dive Computer (required)	<input type="checkbox"/> Shaving kit
<input type="checkbox"/> Back Up Dive Computer (highly recommended)	<input type="checkbox"/> Reef-Safe sunscreen (sunscreen containing oxybenzone, octinoxate, or chemicals harmful to marine ecosystems is prohibited)
<input type="checkbox"/> Wetsuit or Drysuit	<input type="checkbox"/> Seasick medications or methods
<input type="checkbox"/> Hooded Vest - Hood - Thermal Layering Garments (highly recommended, not available in rental)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hairdryer, towels, linens provided in cabins.
<input type="checkbox"/> Gloves 1-2 mm (required, not available in rental)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmentally friendly soap, shampoo & hair conditioner provided.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mask	Optional items suggested by past guests: - Rust proof clips/carabiners to secure bathings suits on dive deck - Waterproof bag
<input type="checkbox"/> Snorkel	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fins / Booties	
<input type="checkbox"/> Log Book	
<input type="checkbox"/> DSMB - Surface Marker (available for loan on board) Reel if a diver is skilled with using a reel.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dive Lights/Torches/Tank Marker (for optional night dive) (not available in rental)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Save a Dive kit	

Please consider the environment with all items brought into the Galapagos Marine Reserve.

Galápagos National Park and Marine Reserve

Galápagos National Park (Parque Nacional Galápagos) was established in 1959 and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

You will be visiting and diving in the Galápagos National Park and diving in the Galápagos Marine Reserve which is the second largest Marine Reserve in the world and has the highest abundance of sharks on earth. We encourage our guests to educate themselves about the Park and Marine Reserve prior to visiting the islands.

Protecting the land and marine environments in Galápagos is crucial to its future.

Drone Use Prohibited

The use of drones is strictly prohibited in the Galapagos Islands without a permit from the Galapagos National Park. Please note that if a guest brings a drone on board Galapagos Sky without a proper permit, they will not be allowed to use it. We are unable to assist with obtaining drone permits.

Rules of the Galapagos National Park

- 1 Visitors to any protected areas within the Galapagos National Park must be accompanied by a naturalist guide authorized by the GNPD.
- 2 Travel only with tour operators and/or boats authorized to work in the protected areas of Galapagos.
- 3 Remain on marked trails at visitor sites and respect signs at all times for the protection of wildlife, and for your safety.
- 4 Maintain a distance of at least six feet (two meters) from wildlife to avoid disturbing them, even if they approach you.
- 5 Never feed wildlife, as this can cause health problems.
- 6 Flash photography is not permitted when taking photos of wildlife. Professional photography and videos recorded for commercial purposes must be authorized by the GNPD.
- 7 Camping is only allowed in a few authorized areas in the Islands. Request authorization to camp at the Galapagos National Park's offices at least 48 hours in advance.
- 8 It is your responsibility not to introduce food, animals, or plants into the Archipelago. Cooperate fully with all environmental inspection and quarantine officials during your visit.
- 9 Do not take or buy any products or souvenirs made from banned substances, including black coral, shells, lava rock, animal parts, or any native wood or vegetation prior to leaving Galapagos. This is illegal and must be reported.
- 10 Practice "leave-no-trace" principals in order to maintain the beauty of the environment.
- 11 Pack out all trash and dispose of or recycle it in the populated areas or on your tour boat.
- 12 Smoking and/or campfires are strictly prohibited within the Galapagos National Park, as fires poses a serious risk to the flora and fauna of Galapagos.
- 13 Fishing is only permitted on recreational tour boats authorized by the GNPD.
- 14 Motorized aquatic sports, mini-sub, and aerial tourism activities are not permitted in the Galapagos National Park or Marine Reserve.
- 15 Visiting hours to areas of the Galapagos National Park are as established in the Management Plan, from 6:00 to 18:00, with diving activities ending at 17:00, excluding permitted night diving.
- 16 The use of sound players such as radios, cellphones, speakers is only allowed through headphones.
- 17 The use of sunscreen containing the chemicals oxybenzone, octinoxate, and others harmful to marine ecosystems is regulated and restricted to sustain and protect the coral reefs.



*From all of us at Divencounters, Inc,
Galápagos Sky, the Captains and crew wish you an
amazing adventure in Galapagos, exciting diving
and we look forward to having you on board!!!*

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