



GALÁPAGOS WESTERN ISLANDS ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ENDEAVOUR II + PERU'S LAND OF THE INCA

16 DAYS | YEAR-ROUND FRIDAY DEPARTURES GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR / LIMA, PERU

In one grand expedition, experience all the wildness of Galápagos and the sublime archaeological wonder of Machu Picchu. Experience the wildlife of Galápagos, legendary for its uniqueness and lack of fear. See its endemic species and explore the undersea. Then discover the culture and history of Peru and the iconic ruins of Machu Picchu. Throughout you'll explore with a top team of naturalists and historians who add layers of insight and interest to everything you do.



DAY 1: Guayaquil or Quito, Ecuador

Upon arrival in Guayaquil, transfer to the Hotel Oro Verde Guayaquil, a convenient locally owned hotel, for an overnight stay. Most international flights arrive in the late evening. You may instead opt to fly into Quito, Ecuador's historic capital city in the highlands, take a pre-voyage extension to Mashpi Reserve in the tropical andes, or arrive a day early in Guayaquil to rest and relax, and take an optional full-day excursion from Guayaquil to Hacienda La Danesa.

DAY 2: Guayaquil / Baltra, Galápagos / Embark / Playa Bachas, Santa Cruz

Morning: Welcome to Galápagos! After breakfast, transfer to the airport for the 1 ½-hour flight to Baltra in the center of the islands, a little world unto itself in the Tropical Pacific. Take a short bus ride to the dock with our naturalists and embark the ship waiting at anchor. (B, L, D)

Afternoon: Land on a beautiful beach of fine white sand, where naturalists introduce us to the islands on a walk to shallow lagoon behind the beach frequented by shorebirds. Take your first dip in the Pacific and try out snorkel equipment for the week.

DAY 3: North Seymour / Rabida

Morning: On this wildlife-rich island, follow trails past coastal groups of Galápagos sea lions and marine iguanas inland through a silvery forest of Palo Santo to colonies of magnificent and great frigatebirds, blue-footed boobies, and other seabirds. See land iguanas clambering over rocks in search of cacti and other flowers. Look for swallow-tailed gulls, noddy terns, red-billed tropic birds and Galápagos fur seals on the rocky walls of this small island (like neighboring Baltra), created by geologic up lift not by lava flows. An excellent introduction to the archipelago.

Afternoon: Land on a red sand beach on this volcanically varied island, where we explore inland. We may see flamingos feeding in a brackish lagoon and clownish brown pelicans entertain from their nests. Plunge in for your first snorkel or explore by kayak or paddleboard. (B, L, D)

DAY 4: Punta Espinosa, Fernandina / Punta Vicente Roca, Isabela

Morning: Hike over impressive lava past tide pools where marine iguanas gather in piles, young sea lions play and the strange flightless cormorant nests in the remote western archipelago. One of the most active oceanic islands in the world, 5000-foot Fernandina is the youngest and most pristine island in Galápagos.

Afternoon: Cross the Equator at Volcán Ecuador, northernmost of Isabela's six great shield volcanoes. Snorkel and Zodiac along the wildly eroded coast, where we might see green turtles, fur seals and even penguins. Keep an eye out for whales and dolphins—the waters here in the west are rich. Join fellow travelers on deck to celebrate crossing the Equator. (B, L, D)

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DAY 5: Urbina Bay & Tagus Cove, Isabela

Morning: Hike through the dry forest along the uplifted coastline at Urbina Bay, where you search for land iguanas and where giant tortoises sometimes are sighted feeding on cactus. Return to swim from the inviting black sand beach.

Afternoon: Land in the footsteps of Darwin and Melville at historic Tagus Cove, once the haunt of whalers and pirates. Kayak, paddleboard and snorkel in the cove, where marine life is rich and a Zodiac cruise along the shore is rewarding. Join naturalists for a hike inland along the crater rim around Darwin's Lake to a viewpoint. (B, L, D)

DAY 6: Playa Espumilla / Buccaneer's Cove & Puerto Egas, Santiago

Morning: Explore a dense coastal forest, home to Galápagos hawks and other land birds, or stroll along the wide beach early this morning. After breakfast, swim, snorkel, kayak and paddleboard along the spectacular coast of Buccaneers Cove, a secluded atelier where pirates once careened their ships.

Afternoon: After lunch, explore tide pools and look for fur seals sheltered in quiet grottos of black basalt at Puerto Egas, where you see evidence of an old salt mine and other human history. Swim and snorkel from the beach, which is frequented by sea lions and marine iguanas. (B, L, D)

DAY 7: Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz

Morning: Call at Puerto Ayora, the largest town and headquarters of both the Galápagos National Park and Charles Darwin Research Station. Tour the giant tortoise breeding corrals, a pioneering effort, and then head to the lush, green highlands to see giant tortoises roaming in the wild. Here you also have lunch at a local ranch and those who wish can visit the Tomás de Berlanga school supported by the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic Fund. Most evenings scientists or a representative from the Charles Darwin Station joins us aboard. (B, L, D)

DAY 8: Punta Pitt, Cerro Brujo & Kicker Rock, San Cristobal

Morning: Land on a small, sparkling beach at Punta Pitt for a hike up to a plateau where masked-, blue- and red-footed boobies all nest and look for endemic San Cristóbal mockingbirds, lava lizards and other wildlife. Return to the small beach to swim, snorkel, kayak and paddleboard.

Afternoon: Relax at the celebrated expanse of powdery white sand at Cerro Brujo, one of the most beautiful beaches in Galápagos, and tour the rock formations by Zodiac, paddleboard or kayak. Join fellow guests on the observation deck for a farewell cocktail as the captain circumnavigates Kicker Rock at sunset. (B, L, D)

DAY 9: Baquerizo Moreno, San Cristobal / Disembark / Guayaquil, Ecuador

Depart Galápagos this morning and fly to Lima, Peru, via Guayaquil. Check into Belmond Miraflores Park, set on a wide promenade overlooking the Pacific. (B, L)

DAY 10: Lima

Explore World Heritage-designated colonial Lima this morning, where we stroll the Plaza Mayor and delight in a private welcome lunch with a special musical presentation at Casa Aliaga, one of the oldest houses in Lima. Then visit the extraordinary Larco Museum dedicated to pre-Columbian art. Return to our hotel with dinner on your own to sample local fare. (B, L)

DAY 11: Lima / Cusco / Sacred Valley

Board a short scenic flight to Cusco this morning, and continue to Moray—a visually stunning Inca site with dramatic agricultural terraces in the heart of the fabled and fertile Urubamba Valley. After lunch and an opportunity to experience a local market, check into our hotel. In 2024, our hotel is Sol y Luna, A Relais & Chateaux property, where we stay in individual casitas set in verdant greens. (B, L, D)

DAY 12: Sacred Valley

Spend the day exploring the archaeological sites and culture of the Sacred Valley in the company of National Geographic expert Peter Frost (or a colleague), who has lived and worked in Peru for decades. He or a colleague joins us for a talk at our hotel and a visit to the massive Inca stone fortress of Ollantaytambo, set above a thriving Inca community. Lunch is at a working, family-owned hacienda, where we are treated to a show of Peruvian Paso horses, and National Geographic grantee Nilda Callañaupa, founder of El Centro de Textiles Tradicionales de Cusco, demonstrates Inca weaving traditions. (B, L, D)



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DAY 13: Sacred Valley / Machu Picchu

Marvel at the dramatic scenery and life along the river en route this morning by train to Machu Picchu, the Inca royal retreat famously introduced to the world by Hiram Bingham in the April 1913 issue of *National Geographic* magazine. Check-in at the historic 31-room Belmond Sanctuary Lodge, adjacent to the World Heritage site, with the leisure to explore over two days in the company of our hand-picked tour director and local guides. Lunch and dinner at the hotel. (B, L, D)

DAY 14: Machu Picchu / Cusco

Awaken this morning at Machu Picchu, where our local and veteran guides share their intimate understanding of this site, focusing on the history and far-reaching cultural influence. After lunch, return by train and bus to Cusco—the center of the Inca universe and a burgeoning cultural capital. Check-in at the Belmond Hotel Monasterio on Plaza Nazarenas in the heart of Cusco for two nights. Occupying a monastery founded in 1592, our hotel—like much of colonial Cusco—is built atop Inca stones. (B, L, D)

DAY 15: Cusco

Explore the magnificently ornate 17th-century cathedral, sacred Inca Temple of the Sun, and other treasures of Cusco. Visit nearby Sacsayhuamán, where a series of imposing terrace walls, the most impressive yet, command views over the city. Relax, shop, or visit one of Cusco's many churches and museums this afternoon. Dinner is on your own tonight. (B, L)

DAY 16: Cusco / Lima

After breakfast and a final morning at leisure, say goodbye to the Land of the Inca and fly from Cusco back to Lima, connecting to flights home. Depending on your flight schedule, optional rooms at the Wyndham Costa del Sol Lima Airport Hotel are available, or join our Upper Amazon Expedition aboard *Delfin II*.

Itinerary

In the Galápagos, no single site can be visited by the same ship more than once over a two-week period. The idea was developed in 2011, and Lindblad was the first voluntary adopter of this innovative new proposal by the Galápagos National Park, which has as its purpose to spread people out to allow for a more intimate experience. We have created an optimal balance during each week in terms of terrain and wildlife. If you wish to see all the sites, you could join for two weeks, but be assured there is no better week to experience Galápagos—just nuances for one week to the other. Itineraries are determined by the National Park and subject to change.

Visit <https://www.expeditions.com/expeditions/galapagos-aboard-national-geographic-endeavour-perus-land-of-the-incas> for more information about the voyage.

Visit [expeditions.com/endeavourii](https://www.expeditions.com/endeavourii) for more information about the ship.



For more information call us at 1.800.397.3348 or call your Travel Advisor