

## ITINERARY 2025 GALÁPAGOS

### Wild Galápagos Escape

Led by Dave Van Wylen '80, Professor Emeritus of Biology, St. Olaf, and Principal, Office of Possibilities, Hope College, and Pat Van Wylen '80, P '10, '11, '16, Retired Visiting Scholar Coordinator, St. Olaf  
February 22–March 1, 2025

**This itinerary is subject to change.**

Travel demands flexibility. We will strive to balance adaptability with remaining on schedule. Please trust that, when it is not possible to follow the plan laid out below, your program leaders will work to find substitutions that retain the quality of this Study Travel program. Various details may be added or changed due to information obtained while making reservations, or perhaps on site, especially because of the weather. BLD indicate included group meals.

**Saturday, February 22      Fly from USA to Guayaquil, Ecuador**

Book your own international flights and upon arrival in Guayaquil transfer to the Hotel del Parque. Most flights arrive in the late evening.

**Sunday, February 23      Fly from Guayaquil to Galápagos Islands, Embark Ship**

We'll take a charter flight from Guayaquil to Baltra, in the center of Galápagos, a little world unto itself in the Tropical Pacific. (This flight will be booked by Lindblad Expeditions, but is not included in the cabin fees.) We'll be welcomed by our naturalist staff and start exploring the islands. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Monday, February 24 – Thursday, February 27      In the Galápagos Islands**

Listed below is a sample of islands we may visit during our expedition. Our expeditions begin and end at Baltra and include visits to Isla Santa Cruz and a careful selection of diverse islands. No two days are alike. Each of our itineraries offers an optimal balance of wildlife, landscapes, and experiences. All ship itineraries are subject to Galápagos National Park regulations.

North Seymour: Look for nesting frigatebirds, plus land and marine iguanas, and enjoy a beautiful coastal walk.

Santa Cruz: Head to the lush, green highlands to look for giant tortoises roaming in the wild.

Isabela: Toast crossing the Equator at Volcán Ecuador, northernmost of Isabela's six great shield volcanoes. Keep an eye open for whales and dolphins as we ply these nutrient-rich waters, once the haunt of whalers and pirates.

Fernandina: One of the most active oceanic volcanoes in the world, Fernandina is the youngest and most pristine island in Galápagos—and home to the strange flightless cormorant and the largest marine iguanas.

San Cristóbal: Search for red-footed boobies and the endemic mockingbird and lava lizard—found only on this easternmost island.

Española: Located in the extreme southeast of the archipelago, this island is home to swallow-tailed gulls, Española mockingbirds, Nazca boobies, and seasonally, the world's only population of waved albatrosses at Punta Suárez.

Floreana: Follow a trail past a rose pink-tinted lagoon frequented by flamingos. Snorkel among sea lions and abundant fish, or cruise along Champion Islet by Zodiac. Visit the famous wooden barrel at Post Office Bay, and learn about its unusual postal system.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Friday, February 28                      Disembark Ship, Fly to Guayaquil**

Return by air to Guayaquil, where we transfer to the Hotel del Parque for overnight. Meals Included: Breakfast

**Saturday, March 1                      Arrive Home, or Fly from Guayaquil to Lima for Upper Amazon**

Breakfast is included today. Depart on individually-booked flights for home (Galapagos only).