



ECUADOR CLOUD FOREST AND GALAPAGOS

TRIP DETAILS

DATES:	NOV 3-12, 2018 (10 DAYS 9 NIGHTS)
AMAZONIA STAFF:	BIOLOGIST ANDY BICERRA
ACCOMODATIONS: MEALS:	AS BELOW
GROUP SIZE:	15 TRAVELER LIMIT
DIFFICULTY:	EASY

Nov 3

Arrival to Quito

- Arrive Quito. Airport meet and greet and transfer in.
- Airport Hotel Wyndham

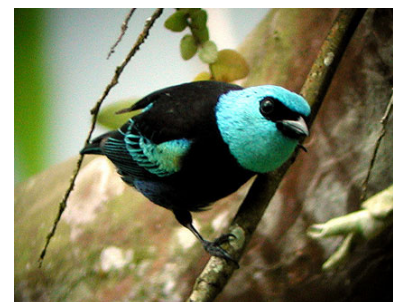
Nov 4

QUITO-ALAMBI CLOUD FOREST

- Early pick up towards the highlands of Pichincha Volcano. Birding towards the Yanacocha reserve. At this reserve very good birding is expected with several target birds such as Black Backed Grosbeak, Sword-Billed Hummingbird, Black-breasted Puffleg, Tyrian Metaltail, Andean Condor.
 - After Yanacocha The Old Nono-Mindo Road is taken birding as we go with the incredible landscapes and changes of habitats, target birds at the road will include Grass-Green Tanager, Toucan Barbet, Orange Breasted Fruit Eater, Beautiful Jay, Plate-Billed Mountain Toucan, Ocellated Tapaculo, Giant Antpitta. Visiting Tony's hummingbird garden for an amazing dance of **200 plus hummingbirds** and later stopping at the Alambi ridge.
 - Late afternoon arrival to the award winning Septimo Paraiso Lodge dinner and overnight.
- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation in Septimo Paraiso Lodge.



PURPLE-BIBBED WHITETIP



BLUE-NECKED TANANGER



Nov 5

ALAMBI CLOUD FOREST

- Early breakfast, full day trip towards the area of Los Bancos (1050 meters above sea level) birding the road to Milpe and other options. Visit to the trails of the **Mindo Cloud Forest** Foundation and Silanche Reserve in the lowlands Box Lunch on location and late afternoon return to Septimo Paraiso.
- The target birds here are just amazing with species such as Chestnut-Mandibled Toucan, Moss-Backed Tanager, Chestnut-Throated Antwren, Choco Vireo, Crested Owl.
- Late afternoon arrival to award winning Septimo Paraiso Lodge.
- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation in Septimo Paraiso Lodge.



NATIVE PLANTS

Nov 6

ALAMBI CLOUD FOREST - QUITO

- Very early wake up to be led to a **cock of the rock** lek Paz Reserve, some hiking in the dark is expected Breakfast at location.
- Return for lunch at Lodge. Afternoon enjoy the birds at this impressive location (1580 m. above sea level), Birding in the gardens of the Hosteria (hummingbird and fruit feeders) and trail birding. Transfer to Quito, evening in the Wyndham Airport Hotel.
- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation at Airport Wyndham Hotel.

Nov 7

QUITO– BALTRA: PRIMICIAS RANCH

- Transfer to Quito Airport for flight to Baltra Island Galapagos National Park.
- At the Baltra Airport our staff will transfer to the hotel, located on Santa Cruz.
- After lunch we will visit the “Primicias” Ranch, a privately owned ranch of over 150 acres, adjacent to the territories of the Galapagos National Park. **Tortoises** migrate from the park to this property in certain seasons. They go there looking for shade, water or suitable places to incubate their eggs. When visiting this farm we stop to see a natural lava tunnel nearly 300 meters long, you can go through a soft lighting installed by the owners.
- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation in Red Booby Hotel



Nov 8

NORTH SEYMOUR

- At 7:00 a.m. a bus for transfer to Itabaca Canal to board the yacht that will take us to North Seymour Island, which is a great place for hiking.
 - There is a circular path about 2 miles long that crosses the interior of the island and takes us to explore the rocky coast path. This trail will take you through some of the largest seabird colonies in the Galapagos Islands.
 - Here you will have the opportunity to observe nesting sites of **Blue-Footed Boobies** bright and colorful **Magnificent Frigates**, which are one of the biggest attractions of Galapagos. After lunch, we will snorkel with green sea turtles and the famous Galapagos sharks, you'll also appreciate the mischievous sea lions playing and surfing in the sea. Visit Bachas where we can enjoy the wonderful sun and Galapagos Sea. Finally we will be back at 5pm for transfer to your hotel.
- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation in Red Booby Hotel

Nov 9

BARTOLOME ISLAND – SULLIVAN BAY

- At 6:00 a.m. a bus to pick us up for transfer to Itabaca Canal to board the yacht that will take our tour of this island with turquoise waters and beautiful white sand beaches. We will take on board breakfast and after 2 hours of sailing arrive at Bartholomew. Upon arrival we have to climb a staircase and from the top you will see a spectacular landscape of two beautiful bays and fascinating formations of lava and volcanic cones. Here is the famous **Darwin's Pinnacle**. This is a huge black lava formation that has eroded over time and is the most representative image of the Galapagos archipelago. Near Pinnacle Rock you can also see two beautiful beaches in the form of a crescent. After we snorkel with sea turtles, sharks, white tip reef, tropical fish, sea lions and many other unique marine species. Also, this is the perfect area to observe the **Galapagos Penguins**.
 - After lunch, we visit Sullivan Bay, here you can see some amazing lava formations, the product of a volcanic eruption in 1903. This is an excellent example of typical forms and colors that contrast with lavas from older types.
- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation in Red Booby Hotel



DARWIN'S PINNACLE



GALAPAGOS SEA LIONS



Nov 10

PLAZAS ISLAND – CARRION POINT

- At 7:00 a.m. a bus for transfer to Itabaca Canal to board the yacht that will take us to Plazas Islands. After 2 hours of navigation we land to see one of the largest colonies of sea lions. Then just a few meters behind the dock landing a group of land iguanas can be observed. Then the trail goes to the other side of the island, which is very small and rectangular, walking along a ravine, where you can watch land iguanas, some marine iguanas and birds in the ravine as well as: boobies, blue footed and masked boobies, swallow-tailed gulls nesting, puffins and tropical birds. Besides frigates and pelicans often you fly over the ravines.

- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation in Red Booby Hotel



GALAPAGOS TORTOISE



MAGNIFICENT FRIGATE-BIRD

Nov 11

SANTA FE ISLAND – HIDDEN BEACH

- After breakfast you will board a yacht for an hour sail to Santa Fe Island. From its huge precipices you can observe a forest of giant endemic cactus and colonies of sea birds, including pelicans, boobies and gulls in a calm turquoise bay, inhabited by a large number of sea lions. This is an ideal place to snorkel, swim with stingrays and tropical fish, also occasionally observing sea turtles. Lunch on board. Then we will visit Hidden Beach and have a relaxing time before to return to the hotel.

- ✓ B/L/D and accommodation in Red Booby Hotel

Nov 12

TWIN CRATERS – AIRPORT

- After breakfast, take a bus to the airport, on the way you will make a final stop to visit the Twin Craters, geological subsidence in the middle of a forest of escalecias (native vegetation) located in the highest part of the island.
- ✓ Breakfast

END OF TRIP



PRICING INFORMATION

Cost \$3150 per person double occupancy

Single in room add \$600

Galapagos ONLY without Ecuador Cloud Forest cost will be \$2490 per person double occupancy

Single in room add \$400

MORE INFORMATION

INCLUDES:

- ✓ Room and Board
- ✓ Local Naturalist Guides (English speaking)
- ✓ Transfers

DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Air flights
- Entrance fee to Galapagos National Park
- Ingalá Transit Control Card
- Extra drinks and meals

NOTES: Itinerary subject to changes only if beyond our control

Reservation made with deposit of \$500 per person

payment can be made by credit card through **PayPal** (click on the “buy now” button).

Cancellation Policy: Receive 50% of cost of trip back up to 120 days before departure. We strongly recommend the purchase of travel insurance. See mvp.travelguard.com