

DIVE FOR *LIFE*.

Galapagos Conservation Dive Cruises by



NEW OPENING SEP 2, 2027

Our aim is to show you the great diversity of species of the Galapagos archipelago and to teach you how to take care of them on each dive.

We invite you to experience our marine fauna in a holistic way: native, migratory and endemic species form a unique ecosystem in this remote location on the equator, in the middle of the wild Pacific Ocean.

WE OFFER YOU...

8 days/ 7 nights Galapagos liveboard diving in a personal atmosphere (max. 16 guests) with unforgettable encounters and an abundance of wildlife sightings during the best season in the Galapagos archipelago and at the best dive sites (11 days with extension add on).

Specialized guidance above and below the waterline. The most dedicated dive guides of the Galapagos National Park and PADI professionals with decades of diving experience will accompany you on this trip of a lifetime.

The opportunity to develop as an environmentally conscious diver and to improve your diving skills accordingly. This includes the PADI Whale Shark Awareness certification + an additional surprise certification.

Access to citizen science. Support science with your sightings and make a difference. Learn how to take photos/ videos correctly and where to send them so they gain scientific significance.

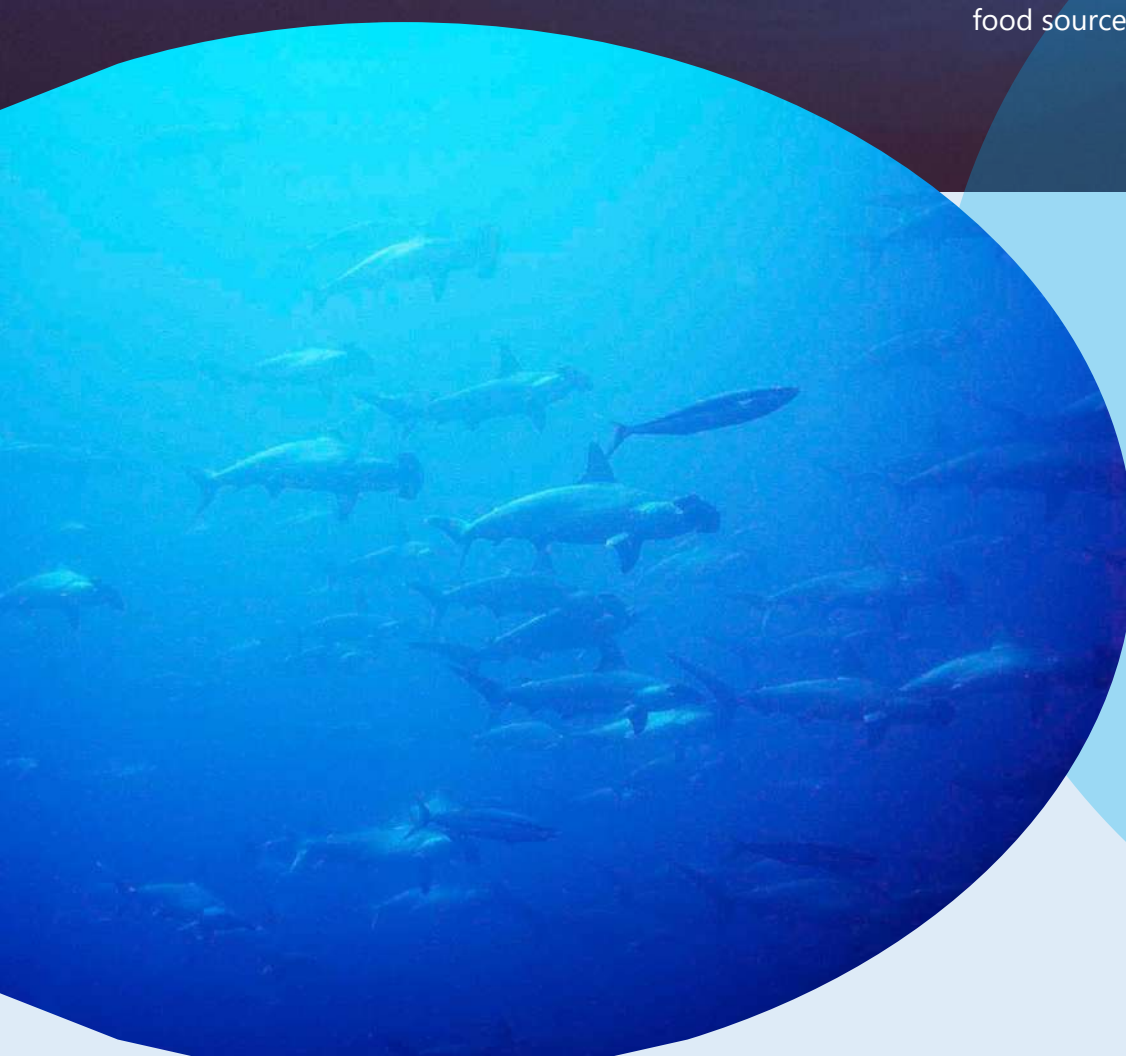
To get to know the endemic marine species in particular like the Galápagos bullhead shark, Mola Alexandrini, the flightless cormorant and many more.



SHARKS, OUR GREAT STARS



The Galapagos and especially the dive sites at Darwin and Wolf are, with 17.5 tons of biomass/hectare, the sharkiest place on earth. You can expect huge schools of scalloped hammerhead sharks as well as the whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*). This the whale shark is globally distributed and found in tropical and temperate waters, typically living solitary and in the open ocean. However, at most dive sites, it also forms seasonal foraging groups, primarily composed of immature males. **The Galapagos Islands are the only place on earth where whale shark groups consist almost entirely (99%) of pregnant females, ranging in size from 13 to 18 meters in length.** They visit the archipelago from June to November at the iconic Darwin's Arch (pillars), following the Humboldt Current, which brings abundant nutrients (plankton) to the islands, the main food source for this species.



ENDEMIC VARIETY, OUR SMALLER STARS

The Galápagos are an extraordinary diving destination due to the wide variety of endemic species such as the famous Marine iguanas, Galápagos penguins, and Giant tortoises.

Endemic means that a species has only been found in the Galapagos so far. More than 20% of marine life in the archipelago is endemic.

Have you ever heard of the Galapagos bullhead shark?

Do you know what a *Mola alexandrini* looks like?

A Galápagos searobin?

A Galápagos Garden Eel?

BE CURIOUS! UNIQUENESS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH SIZE!



"The term "wild diving" could well apply to underwater exploration here, (...) because the rich waters are alive with breathtaking creatures. Large charismatic animals – eagle rays, dolphin, turtles, sea lions and hammerheads are sighted so frequently (...) but the real treasure under the waves is the bountiful variety of life, most noticeably the fishes."

– Paul Humann, Reef Fish Identification Galapagos, 1993.

WHO ELSE WILL BE AROUND?

THE LIST OF POSSIBLE WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS IS ENDLESS...

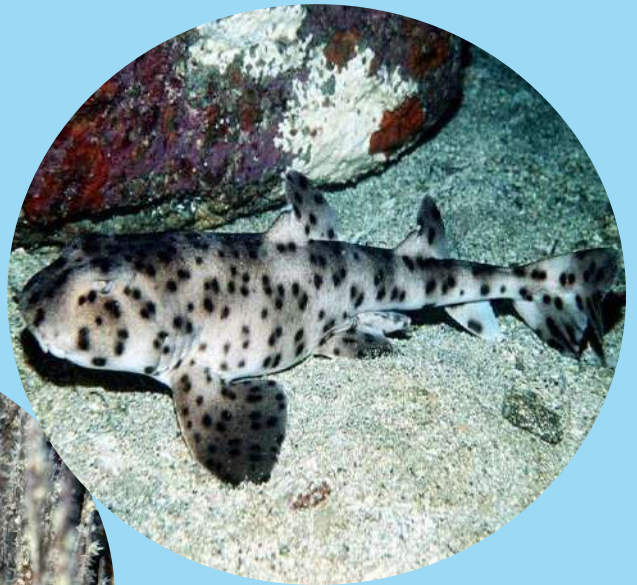
Fish: Large numbers of scalloped hammerhead sharks, Galapagos sharks, silky sharks, the endemic Galapagos bullhead shark, whale sharks, eagle rays, marble rays, sting rays, golden rays, mobula rays, mola alexandrini, angelfish, barracuda, bigeye trevalle, almaco jack, bluefin trevally, black jack, yellowfin tuna, wahoo, endemic dusky chub, Galapagos grunt, blue and gold snapper, grouper, flounders, stone scorpionfish, triggerfish, porcupine fish, trumpet fish, cornetfish, guineafowl puffer fish, goat fish, garden eels, tiger snake eel, fine spotted moray, jewel moray...

Reptiles: Green sea turtle (the only one that nest in the Galapagos) hawksbill turtle and the unique Marine iguana

Mammals: Bottlenose dolphin, Galapagos fur seals, Galapagos sea lions, occasionally humpback whales, orcas, blue whale, pilot whale...

Invertebrates: corals, jellyfish, crabs, lobsters, octopuses, sea cucumbers, starfish, nudibranchs, shrimps, crabs...

Seabirds: Blue-footed boobies, Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, pelicans, gulls...



CRUISE ITINERARY, 8 DAYS/ 7 NIGHTS, SEP 2 – 9, 2027

Thursday	AM: Arrival to San Cristobal Island PM: Check dive at Isla Lobos
Friday	AM: Punta Carrion PM: North Seymour
Saturday	Wolf
Sunday	Darwin
Monday	AM: Wolf PM: Darwin
Tuesday	AM: Cabo Douglas PM: Punta Vincente Roca
Wednesday	AM: Cousin Rocks PM: Santa Cruz Highlands
Thursday	Arrival to San Cristobal Island.



DAY 1 – THURSDAY, SEP 2, 2027

AM: Arrival at **San Cristobal Island** (SCY). We will pick you up from the airport and transfer you to the dock "Tiburón Martillo" where you embark at 1 pm (local time) on the yacht.

PM: After getting settled in, we will have lunch and briefings followed by a check dive at **Isla Lobos**. Expect playful sea lions, stingrays, moray eels, green sea turtles, and a wide variety of reef fish. We sail to Santa Cruz overnight.

DAY 2 – FRIDAY, SEP 3, 2027

AM: Punta Carrion Punta Carrion is located in the northeast of Santa Cruz Island. Here we can familiarize ourselves with the deep diving conditions for the following days and at the same time observe a wide variety of reef fish, rays, turtles, sometimes sunfish, whitetip reef sharks, and small Galapagos sharks, which find shelter in the nearby mangrove areas during their early life stages.





PM: **Seymour** is an island known for having great dives. Sightings include Mobulas, white tip reef sharks, Galapagos sharks, sometimes hammerheads, and many fish species.

DAY 3 – SATURDAY, SEP 4, 2027

Wolf Island is part of a volcanic caldera that rises above the sea surface. The winds and ocean currents surrounding this island have made it an ideal habitat for pelagic species, not only underwater but also above the island. Diving begins early to get in all 4 dives in a day. A night dive takes place in the sheltered bay. There you can observe green sea turtles, reef fish, mollusks, and crustaceans such as lobsters, shrimp, sea cucumbers, and squid, which are very active at night.

Wolf is one of the reasons Galapagos is on most divers' bucket lists. Scientists have designated Wolf and Darwin (together as they are so close together) as the scariest place on earth because they have the largest biomass of sharks on the planet, 17.5 tons of sharks per hectare (2.47 acres). Only divers visit Wolf. There is no chumming in Galapagos. This is where sharks come naturally for cleaning and socializing behavior. There are no land visits. Wolf is located 115 miles north of the central islands. Sightings include huge schools of hammerhead sharks, Galapagos sharks, whale sharks (in season), silky sharks, eagle rays, sea lions, fur seals, turtles, jacks, trumpetfish, butterflyfish, morish idols, moray eels, and dolphins. Some sites at Wolf are covered in coral and all of the tropical fish species that live on coral reefs. Dive sites include Shark Bay and The Landslide, the 2 main sites for shark watching. On the island itself, there are hundreds of thousands of seabirds including all 3 types of boobies in Galapagos – red-footed, blue-footed, and Nazca.

DAY 4 – SUNDAY, SEP 5, 2027

Darwin's Arch is an icon, the symbol of diving the Galapagos. It collapsed in 2021 and today it is known as the **Darwin Pillars**. This place is located 229 km / 142 miles north of the central islands. In addition to Wolf, this is where we find massive schools of hammerheads. Huge, pregnant whale sharks pass through Darwin Island each year for reasons unknown. Darwin is the warmest dive site in Galapagos due to the tropical Panama current. You spend a lot of the dive stationary, on a platform that drops into the blue where



hammerheads swim against the current. It's like being on the side of a hammerhead highway watching traffic pass. You leave the platform to swim out into the blue when a whale shark is spotted. That sometimes means swimming through the hammerheads, a truly magnificent experience you will carry with you forever.



DAY 5 – MONDAY, SEP 6, 2027

AM: We have 2 more dives at **Darwin** in the morning.

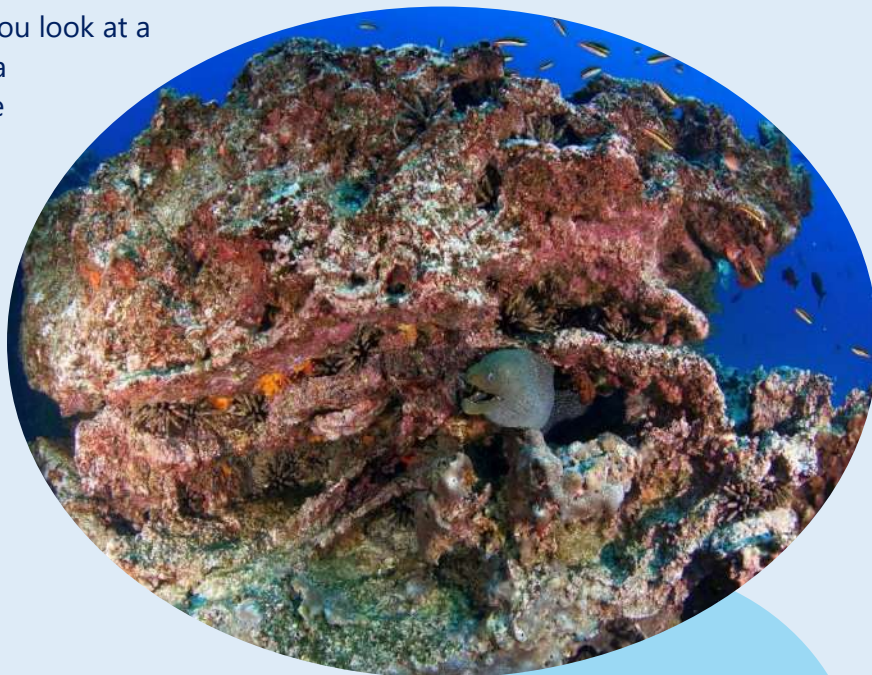
PM: We have 1-2 more dives at **Wolf** in the afternoon. At night we navigate to Fernandina Island.

DAY 6 – TUESDAY, SEP 7, 2027

AM: **Cabo Douglas (Fernandina Island)**. The westernmost island in Galapagos, Fernandina is an active volcano. It has erupted twice in the last decade. It is the 'hot spot' in Galapagos. This is the only site on liveaboard itineraries where you can see diving Marine Iguanas feeding underwater. You

also see Penguins feeding on tiny silver Sardines using schools of black-striped Salemas as cover. Turtles are especially abundant at Cabo Douglas, which is probably why this is a likely location to site Orcas. Special creatures such as batfish, searobin, and torpedo rays can also be found here.

PM: **Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island)**. If you look at a map, Isabela Island looks uncannily similar to a seahorse. Punta Vicente Roca is located on the northwestern side of Isabela just below the 'mouth' of the seahorse. Isabela has 5 active volcanoes. Punta Vicente Roca is a Mola alexandrini cleaning station, that has large turtle populations, the endemic Galapagos bullhead shark, penguins, sea horses, sea lions, and many species of fish not found elsewhere in the Galapagos. It is not uncommon to find yourself diving with an endemic flightless cormorant.



DAY 7 – WEDNESDAY, SEP 8, 2027

AM: **Cousins Rock**. Cousins is a small rock, the remains of an eroded crater sticking up out of the sea. On the eastern side, the rock cascades down in a series of recessed ledges strewn with black coral, which is bright green under the water. Taking cover in the coral, you

may find seahorses, frogfish, octopus, turtles, and the elusive longnose hawkfish. It's not unusual to spot mantas, eagle rays, Mobulas, and schools of barracudas. Sea lions and fur seals are also at Cousins. 1-2 dives depending on the mood of the divers.

PM: We disembark head for a reserve in the **Santa Cruz Highlands** to see the iconic Galapagos Tortoise in its natural habitat. After the Highlands, we descend into the largest town in Galapagos, Puerto Ayora. You may opt to visit the Charles Darwin Research Center in the Galapagos National Park or wander about town. Our farewell dinner will be at a restaurant in Puerto Ayora. We then return to Calipso and sail to **San Cristobal** overnight.



DAY 8 – THURSDAY, SEP 9, 2027

AM: You will disembark after breakfast.

>> Itineraries are unlikely to change significantly but are subject to change. Weather, wildlife breeding, safety concerns, instructions from the Galapagos National Park, specific abilities and interests of passengers as well as operational matters may cause your guide or captain to change the time or nature of visits. Your guide and captain will always endeavor to select the best itinerary within these limits.

WHY DIVING WITH US?

On your journey, two **dive instructors with over a decade of experience** as guides in the Galapagos Marine Reserve will accompany you. They are not only excellent guides, but also make **valuable contributions to various local conservation projects** focused on the dynamics of marine species. Become part of this important work by joining us on your Galapagos diving trip.

With us, you will experience **safe dives** and learn about **citizen science methods that focus on species conservation through photo-identification**, especially for migratory species such as sharks, rays, and sea turtles.



Another special feature of our cruises is **the "Whale Shark Awareness Diver" certification**. To earn this special certification, the guides will give presentations on the biology and distribution of whale sharks, as well as the latest advances in their conservation. This includes the analysis of photo-identification and satellite tagging data from this unique population, where 99% of whale shark sightings appear to involve pregnant females.

OUR GUIDES



My name is **Paulo Tobar**, PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer & Emergency First Response Instructor Trainer. I began my professional diving career in 2004 as a Dive Master at Scuba Iguana, where my passion for the ocean and its species was born. I studied Biological and Environmental Sciences, and that is where my love for protecting marine species that are so threatened from a social perspective grew, inspiring other divers to contribute through citizen science and collecting data through photo identification focused directly on sea turtles and collecting data for local marine species conservation projects on each dive trip.



My name is **Hector Sebastian Barrera**. I started diving when I was 12 years old and fell in love with the ocean. Diving helps me to appreciate and admire God's creation, which is the most important thing. I am a dive guide for the Galapagos National Park, a PADI instructor and I help with the conservation of the islands. My wish is that our dive guests return home happy with a wonderful underwater experience.



OUR VESSEL – THE CALIPSO

Designed by Divers for Divers -

Beautifully constructed. Modern and Amenity rich. Comfortable and efficient.



Build	1991, Rebuilt 2018-2019
Length	35.4 m / 117 ft
Beam	8 m / 26 ft
Engines	2 Cummins NTA855-M, 400 hp, 1800 rpm
Generators	2 Cummins 6B-CP, 99 kw, 60 hz
Compressor	Bauer Verticus model VAC20-E3, 5000 PSI
Cruising Speed	11 knots
Electricity	110 & 220 V
Fresh Water	5,000 gallons / 20,000 litres
Fuel Capacity	7,200 gallons / 29,000 litres
Hull	Naval Steel
Superstructure	Naval Steel, aluminum and fiberglass
Capacity	11 crew members & 16 passengers



Calipso has 6 double cabins on the upper deck and 2 double cabins on the main deck. All double cabins are convertible to one bed, and have panoramic windows for views.

Cabins range from 11 m²/ 120 sq. ft. to 13 m² / 140 sq. ft. Amenities include: Ensuite bath with hot water showers, individual climate control, Apple TV, hair dryers, safety deposit box and USB plugs. Each cabin has 2 life jackets and a sprinkler system for safety.

The ship has various **social areas, a jacuzzi and a spacious dive deck.** Each stainless steel diver station has storage underneath. We have a deep stainless camera rinse tank and a dry charging area with shelves to accommodate your batteries. Most are 110 v, however, we do have some 220 v outlets. The large stainless camera table has 3 levels. The dive deck also has a bathroom, a towel warming station and 4 hot showers.



REQUIREMENTS

Advanced diving certification from a recognized diving association (PADI, NAUI, SSI, BASC...)
Minimum of 100 dives of experience (logged or other proof).

PRICE

USD 7495 per person shared double cabin (with the same gender)
Single supplement 80% (for discounted rates 100%)

RATES INCLUDE

- Accommodation onboard for length of cruise (Upper and main deck cabins)
- All meals, snacks and beverages (alcohol extra)
- Bilingual National Park certified dive guide.
- Weights, weight belts and air tanks (12L)
- Nitrox fills
- We provide DA1 Dive Alerts, basic SMBs and Nautilus Lifeline at no charge.
- WIFI
- Airport transfers in SAN CRISTOBAL when arrival/departure
- Payment fees

RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

- International and Galapagos Airfare
- National Park Entrance fee (\$200), TCT visitor card (\$20)
- Dive Equipment
- Personal expenses and gratuities.
- Diving Insurance and personal insurance. We recommend each guest purchase the following insurance that covers cancellation, trip interruption, accidents, medical while in Ecuador, baggage loss and, if applicable, equipment (dive & photography) insurance.
- All charges onboard are subject to the local 15% sales tax (VAT).
- Onboard credit card charges are subject to both VAT and an admin fee of 5%

AVAILABLE EXTRAS ON THE CRUISE

- Full kit rental is \$275. Rental includes BC, Regulator, Wetsuit, Fins & Booties, Mask.
- Computer rental is \$85.
- PADI Nitrox Course is \$250
- Private dive guide is \$1840
- Diver will be responsible for replacement costs if equipment is damaged:
- \$50 for dive alert
- \$40 for SMB
- \$250 for Nautilus Lifeline.
- \$75 for ditched weight belt



CRUISE EXTENSION ADD ON

Diving in the Galapagos Archipelago means diving in **challenging conditions**, especially during the cold season from June to December. Cold, current-rich waters and choppy surfaces are part of the experience, and the most challenging conditions you will encounter on the cruise to Darwin and Wolf.

Because we care about providing our participants with an excellent experience and their skill development as divers, **we offer an ideal warm-up program for our diving cruise.**

All cruise participants are welcome to add this program to their trip. It will be worthwhile for everyone, not least because of the wonderful diving sites on the day trips, which cannot be included in the cruise itinerary, but the program it is highly recommended for those at the lower end of the minimum experience range.

The extension program includes PADI certifications in the specialties of Drift Diving and Buoyancy Control. Just sign up!



ITINERARY

Day 1, AUG 30, 2027: Arrival to Baltra Airport (GPS), pick-up, and transfer to the hotel in Puerto Ayora.

- Briefing and preparation of the dive gear
- Welcome dinner at a nice restaurant

Day 2, AUG 31, 2027: DAILY DIVING TOUR, sites pending (2 dives) + PADI Peak Buoyancy Control Certification

Buoyancy Control Specialty: This specialty allows divers to improve their buoyancy skills, which in turn leads to better air consumption and greater comfort, especially in challenging conditions. It also helps divers to master their body position in the water. This specialty is best completed before starting the dive trip, as it's important to practice the techniques in a calm environment before moving on to more challenging conditions.

Day 3, SEP 1, 2027: DAILY DIVING TOUR, sites pending, (2 dives) + PADI Drift Diver Certification

Drift Diver Specialty: In the Galapagos Islands, all dives take place in currents, whether they are weak or strong. This specialty course helps divers understand the advantages and disadvantages of diving in these conditions.

Day 4, SEP 2, 2027: Pick up from the hotel and transfer to the main dock > Ferry boat to San Cristobal Island to start the CRUISE

PRICE EXTENSION

USD 1595 per person in a shared room (2 beds, same gender)

INCLUDED

- 2 diving tours (4 dives) per diver, all tours including transportation, 2 x 12l air tanks, air or Nitrox fills, weights, a bilingual dive guide (max. 6 divers/ guide, max. 12 divers on the boat, Spanish/English, minimum certif. level PADI instructor), hot lunch, snacks, beverages, and towel service.
- PADI PEAK BUOYANCY Control Certification
- PADI DRIFT DIVER Certification
- Transfers (Airport > Hotel, Hotel > Dock)
- Nice comfort accommodation with breakfast in 2-bed rooms with bathroom
- Dinner on arrival day
- Ferry ticket (Santa Cruz <> San Cristobal)
- Taxes
- Credit card fees



NOT INCLUDED

- Dive Equipment
- National Park entrance (USD 200 pp for foreigners)
- Transition Control Card (USD 20pp)
- Galapagos Airfare
- Dinner on day 2 and 3 (many nice restaurants in town available)
- Tips
- Photos/ Videos
- Personal expenses
- Dive insurance

AVAILABLE EXTRAS

- Full kit rental is \$40. Rental includes BCD, Regulator, Wetsuit, Fins & Booties, Mask.
- Computer rental is \$30
- Private dive guide is \$460

CONTACTS

SCUBA IGUANA

ADDRESS:

Av. Charles Darwin #1041 (next to the entrance of the Charles Darwin Foundation)
Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island.

BUSINESS HOURS:

Monday to Friday: 09H00-12H00 and 15H00 to 18H00
Saturday and Sunday: 15h00-18h00

RESERVATIONS:

+ 593 99 081 1583 (call and Whatsapp; Spanish, English, German)
+ 593 99 702 4031 (call and Whatsapp; Spanish, English)
+ 593 5 252 6497 (call only; Spanish, English)
Email: info@scubaiguana.com, lisa@scubaiguana.com

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

BOOKING AND PAYMENT

Request for bookings are accepted by e-mail, request form on the website, and WhatsApp.

As soon you want to make a reservation, we need the completed booking form and waiving form.

We require a deposit of USD 2000 at the moment of confirmation (non-refundable), then another USD 2000, 365 days before, and the final balance 120 days before the beginning of services. Services confirmed with less of 120 days prior the start of the trip, must be paid in total.

We confirm a booking after an invoice has been sent and the deposit, or full payment in the case of last-minute bookings, has been received.

We receive payments by credit card or wire transfer on our Wetravel payment account.

We are committed to protecting the privacy of our clients. All personal information provided to us will remain confidential; we will not sell, rent, trade or share it with any third party outside the contracted services.

NOTE: It's mandatory to have a travel insurance prior to departure.

CANCELLATION AND PENALTY

For all cancellations received up to 365 days prior to departure, the deposit of USD 2000 will be retained as a penalty.

For cancellations received up to 120 days prior to departure, a penalty of USD 4000 will be retained.

For cancellations within 120 days of departure, the entire trip price is forfeited as a cancellation fee.

When you buy a last minute deal, the payment has to be the full amount upfront and without option of refund.

Cancellations are only valid if received in writing via email.

SCUBA IGUANA recommends contracting insurance for cancellations not included in our politics.

