

# Galapagos Safari Camp Family Safari

in their own words

Our family safari is diverse in activities and engaging educational experiences for both parents and children. We work with knowledgeable guides to lead your safari, many of whom have their own families and understand the need for flexibility, patience, and downtime.

This program is operated as a private safari and there is plenty of flexibility on most of the excursions.

Slightly more adventurous families, or families with older children, might prefer to stay in our tented accommodation, while those who prefer more private and cohesive lodging can opt for our three-bedroom family suite.



During school holidays after the day's activities, your children can enjoy our Kid's Club for a series of creative activities.

# **Itinerary In Brief:**

- Day 1 Land of the giant tortoise
- Day 2 Activity Day
- Day 3 Explore a neighboring island
- Day 4 Fishing adventure
- Day 5 Charles Darwin Research Station & bay tour
- Day 6 Sunrise walk and departure

# **Descriptive Sample Itinerary:**

# DAY 1 - Land of the giant tortoise

Your family's naturalist guide meets you at Baltra Airport. You will cross the narrow Itabaca Channel to Santa Cruz Island, and then drive up to Galapagos Safari Camp.

While you settle in, your guide will capture your children's imagination with an overview of the animal species they are soon to encounter.

After lunch, you may explore our 135 acre farm, pick local tropical fruit, harvest cacao seasonally, and spot local birds. Before sundown, visit the lava tunnels and search for giant tortoises roaming the National Tortoise Reserve adjacent to GSC.







# Galapagos Safari Camp Family Safari - 6-days 5-nights

#### DAY 2 - Activity day

After breakfast, visit a neighboring organic coffee plantation to learn about responsible small-scale farming in the Galapagos, and the children have a chance to pick coffee beans if season allows.

Then drive to the enormous Cerro Mesa crater for a short walk in the wetlands that is home to a wonderful variety of birds and the occasional bathing tortoise.

After lunch at a local restaurant, jump on bikes for a downhill ride to Garrapatero Beach, where the contrast of mangroves, black lava, white sand, and turquoise water, along with its birdlife and flamingo lagoon, is magnificent.



Explore the bay in sea kayaks, accompanied by marine iguanas, blue-footed boobies, and countless shorebirds. In the evening, back at GSC, parents can relax while the children take a private art class with a local artist.

#### DAY 3 - Explore an uninhabited island

Spend the day spotting wildlife and snorkeling on one of the uninhabited islands easily accessed by a day-yacht from Santa Cruz Island.

The exact island location depends on travel dates, but options include North Seymour, South Plazas, Santa Fe, and Bartolomé, all of which are rich in wildlife and offer wonderful snorkeling opportunities.

Please note this is a shared boat excursion unless requested otherwise. Destination will depend on your dates.

#### **DAY 4 - Fishing Adventure**

An excursion with local fishermen is a favorite among children visiting us.

This excursion is both a wildlife experience and a cultural exchange opportunity. We are involved in a program with the National Park Service that aims to engage local fisherman in tourism activities as an alternative means of income, with the added benefit of protecting local fisheries from depletion. The fishermen have very safe and modern speedboats, which we charter privately for the day.

With your guide acting as translator, the fishermen share





anecdotes from a lifetime at sea, and the children learn local fishing tricks. After fishing, you'll land on a deserted beach and may snorkel in a spot known only to locals. If you prefer to limit fishing and enhance the snorkeling or beach experience, your guide is there to adapt the day to your preferences.



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# DAY 5 - Charles Darwin Research Station and bay tour

Visit the famous Charles Darwin Research Station to learn about its preservation efforts and scientific research. The children will have an up-close experience with the tortoises that are the islands' namesake. Parents can enjoy free time to wander around Puerto Ayora, while your guide takes the children to a local playground or on a tour of the local fish market on the waterfront.

After lunch, take a speedboat to Tortuga Bay, a white sandy beach with basking marine iguanas, and shallow turquoise waters teeming with white-tip reef sharks and fish. Or you can join a snorkeling boat that will take you to frolic with sea lions.

# Day 6 - Sunrise walk and departure

Enjoy the serenity that Galapagos Safari Camp has to offer.

Relax, walk, or enjoy the sunrise from our observatory before departure to your next destination.

(Here's where you'll wish you had extended your journey!) .





#### Included:

- Accommodation
- All meals: our chef has a substantial repertoire of kid-friendly meals, and plenty of healthy snacks are prepared for each day's outings
- Airport VIP services
- Transfers & ground transportation
- Boat excursion with snorkeling on a shared basis (additional option to take a private guide or to charter the boat for a fully private experience)
- Wetsuits and snorkeling equipment
- English-speaking naturalist guide
- Chartered fishing experience
- Activities and visits detailed in the itinerary

#### Not Included:

- Flights (all flights from mainland Ecuador to the Galapagos Islands can be arranged upon request)
- Galapagos National Park entrance fee (US \$100 per adult/\$50 per child under 12)
- Tourist transit card (US \$20 per person)
- Beverages
- Laundry service
- Insurance (prior to your journey please ensure your travel insurance is valid in your country of origin)
- Gratuities