



**OCSC™ SAILING**  
Inspire Confidence™



# Galapagos

## The Enchanted Islands

*Celebrating our 3rd anniversary of running this extraordinary adventure!*

*2011 Departure*

**April 25<sup>th</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup>**

*Trip Leader*

**John Racanelli**

OCSC Board Member

**For reservations contact Anthony or Tony (800) 223-2984**



# Galapagos...the Enchanted Islands

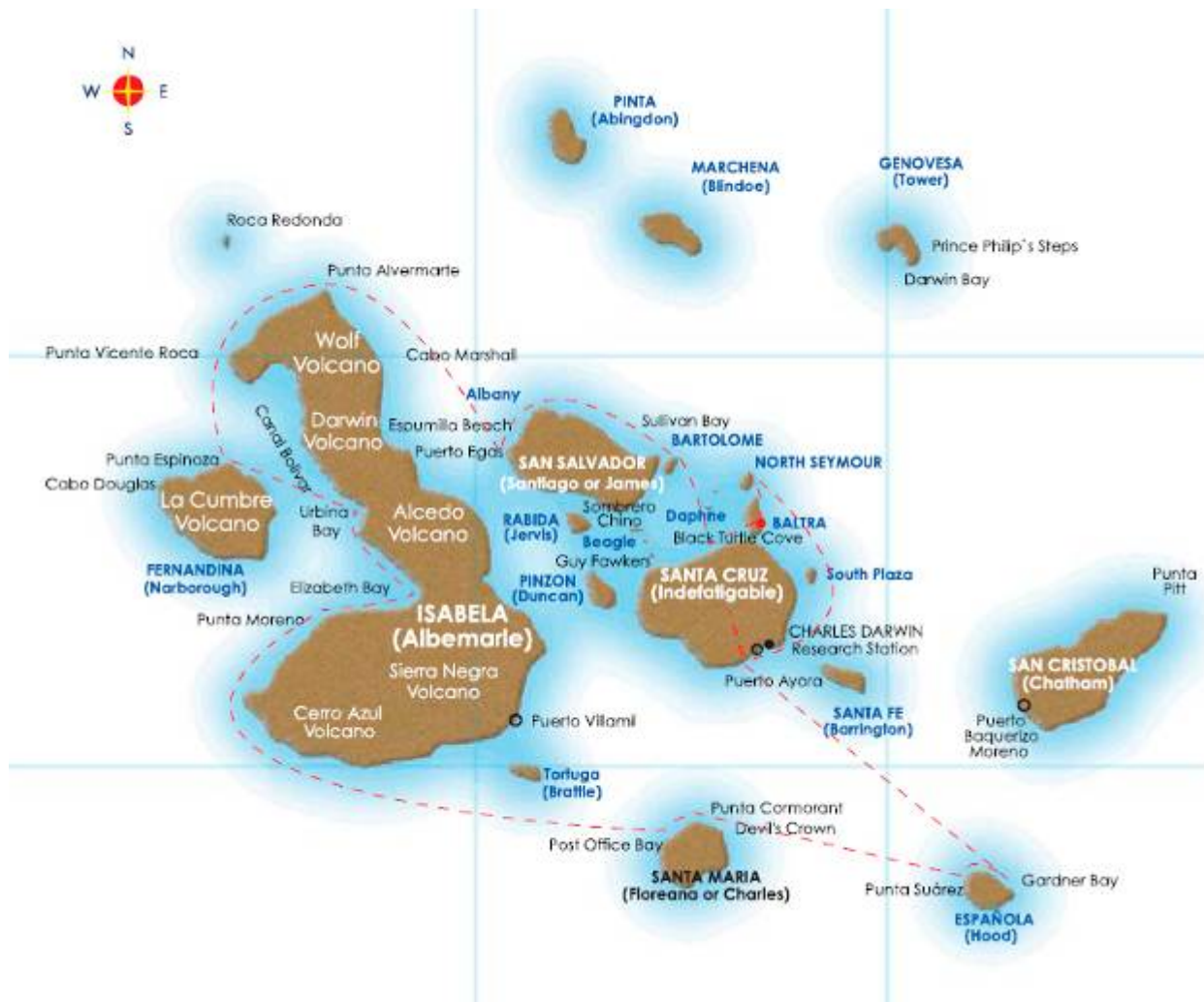
The Galapagos Archipelago, first visited by Charles Darwin 151 years ago aboard the bark BEAGLE is a wildlife paradise still largely intact due to its protection as an Ecuadorian National Park.

Rising out of the Pacific Ocean 600 miles west of the coast of Ecuador, the islands are host to abundant and exceptional wildlife that has no fear of man, and there is no place on earth where one can wander among the crags, the lava flows and the beaches, and not feel like an intruder.

The underwater world is as fascinating as what is above. Snorkeling is superb, with a dazzling array of tropical fish, marina iguanas, penguins (yes, there are penguins in the Galapagos-although not as many as in Antarctica, one must say) and sea lion pups that cavort around you playing underwater tag.

Aboard the deluxe motor sailing yacht Sagitta, we will cruise, and explore much like Darwin did. The pace is unhurried, and island crossings will be made mostly at night, so as to give us maximum daytime to hike, swim, snorkel and even kayak for those interested,

An experienced naturalist will guide us and will help us understand myriad aspects of this unique corner of the work, making lifelong nature enthusiasts and conservationists of us along the way.



## 2011 OCSC Galapagos Adventure Details



11 days in Ecuador exploring Quito and the Galapagos Islands  
 Easy yacht travel, nature walks, swimming, snorkeling, and sea kayaking – all activities are optional.  
 7 nights aboard the S/S Sagitta motorsailer, 3 nights hotels in Quito  
 Maximum elevation is 9,350' in Quito

Day	Dates	Description	Food	Hotel
1	25-Apr	<b>Arrive in Quito</b> Transfer to Casa Aliso Hotel		Casa Aliso
2	26-Apr	<b>Quito Scenic Tour</b> Visit Quito's colonial buildings, the Plaza Grande, & surrounding valleys Welcome dinner for the group	B D	Casa Aliso
3	27-Apr	<b>To the Galápagos Islands</b> <b>AM:</b> Fly from Quito to Baltra Island, via Guayaquil <b>PM:</b> Board the S/S Sagitta and sail to North Seymour Island	BLD	S/S Sagitta
4	28-Apr	<b>AM:</b> Charles Darwin Research Station (Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz) <b>PM:</b> Highlands (Santa Cruz)	BLD	Sagitta
5	29-Apr	<b>AM:</b> Gardner Bay (Hood Island/Espanola Island) <b>PM:</b> Punta Suarez (Hood Island/Espanola Island)	BLD	Sagitta
6	30-Apr	<b>AM:</b> Punta Cormorant (Floreana Island) <b>PM:</b> Post Office Bay (Floreana Island)	BLD	Sagitta
7	1-May	<b>AM:</b> Punta Moreno (Isabella Island) <b>PM:</b> Elizabeth Bay (Isabella Island)	BLD	Sagitta
8	2-May	<b>AM:</b> Urbina Bay (Isabella Island) <b>PM:</b> Punta Espinoza (Ferdinandina Island)	BLD	Sagitta
9	3-May	<b>AM:</b> Puerto Egas (Santiago Island) <b>PM:</b> Bartholomew (Santiago Island)	BLD	Sagitta
10	4-May	<b>AM:</b> Black Turtle Cove (Santa Cruz Island) <b>PM:</b> Return to Baltra Island and board flight to Quito. <b>End cruise and return to Quito</b>	BLD	Casa Aliso
11	5-May	<b>Fly home</b> Transfer to the airport for homeward bound flight	B	

### 2011 OCSC Departures

April 25<sup>th</sup> – May 5<sup>th</sup> ~ Cruise Leader: John Racanelli (OCSC Board Member)

### Land Cost

**Standard: \$ 4,200**

**OCSC Member: \$ 3,990 (5% discount)**

Rates quoted are per person, based on sharing double accommodations.

Single Cabin Supplement: Quoted on request

## Supplemental costs (collected by OCSC)

### Internal Airfare to Galápagos Islands and return (US \$410)

\$410 per person, age 12 and older (OCSC will book and issue these tickets for you)

### Galapagos Entrance Fee (US \$100)

The islands are part of the Ecuadorian National Parks system and the entrance fee of US\$ 100 is required from all visitors entering the Galápagos National Park and/or Galápagos Marine Reserve.

### Galápagos Transit Control Card (US \$10)

A \$10 Galápagos Transit Control Card is required for entry into the park.

### Donation to WildAid (US \$100)

OCSC is committed to supporting the communities we visit. Your participation in this adventure includes a contribution to WildAid. Information on the philosophy of WildAid's "Galapagos Forever" program is included in this packet ([www.wildaid.org](http://www.wildaid.org)).

### Tips (US \$200)

OCSC is committed to supporting the local staff that provide us with good service and attention. Your participation in this adventure includes a gratuity (tip) pool contribution of US \$200 for the guide, naturalist, crew, and local staff in Quito and Galapagos.

## What's Included

- OCSC leadership
- Experienced naturalist guide for the duration of the cruise
- Accommodations for all hotels before and after the sailing experience
- Cruise onboard the S/S Sagitta in double cabins with private facilities
- Meals as noted (Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner)
- Airport transfers (airport-hotel-airport)

## What's Not

- International Airfare (to Quito, Ecuador – approx. US \$800 - \$1,200)
- Internal Airfare to Galápagos Islands and return (US \$410 – subject to change)
- Galápagos National Park fee (\$100 per person - subject to change)
- Galápagos Transit Control Card (US \$10)
- Donation to WildAid "Galapagos Forever" Program (US \$100)
- Tips to guide, naturalist, crew, and local staff in Quito and Galapagos (US \$200)
- Supplementary trip insurance (**we require you to purchase travel insurance of at least \$100,000 for emergency medical benefits which include evacuation**) Please ask.
- Meals not noted on itinerary
- Excess baggage charges
- International airport departure tax in Quito (\$45 per person—subject to change)
- Items of a personal nature (sodas, alcoholic beverages, laundry, etc.)



## Payment Policy

All dates are from departure date.

At time of reservation: \$500

120 days prior to departure: \$1500

90 days prior to departure: Balance of Land/Cruise Cost

## Cancellation Policy

At the time we receive notice that you must cancel your trip, the following fees will apply (all dates are from departure date):

From time of reservation until:

120 or more days prior to departure

\$500

119 - 90 days prior to departure

25% of Land/Cruise Cost

89 - 60 days prior to departure

50% of Land/Cruise Cost

59 days or less prior to departure

100% of Land/Cruise Cost

Deposits and payments are non-refundable, but fully transferable to someone else taking your spot on the trip, less a \$300 processing fee.

## Activity Level

OCSC adventures are designed for flexible, energetic people who like to be active and who have a spirit of adventure and a positive attitude. Life on board a small boat requires physical agility and a flexible and social nature. Anyone who is in good health and leads an active life will enjoy this trip. Daily excursions from the yacht to the islands will be made in Zodiacs or pangas (dinghies). You'll hike from a landing point to specific areas for wildlife observation. Hiking time for most landings will be a couple of hour roundtrip with lots of time to study, photograph, and enjoy the flora and fauna. Some landings are dry but many are "wet", requiring cautious footing on slippery rocks. Crewmembers will be on hand to assist. Swimming, snorkeling, and kayaking are all optional activities that will add to your enjoyment of the trip.

## Air Travel

Airfare to Ecuador is not included in the land cost of our trips. For air reservations, we recommend you contact the airlines directly, either by phone or the Internet. In addition, many travelers elect to use their "frequent flyer" miles when traveling with us. But please check with our staff before purchasing or obtaining your tickets. We need to verify your arrival and departure schedule and ensure we have enough participants to operate the trip.

## Documentation

A valid passport is required to travel to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands (**with at least six months validity before expiration date**). No visa is required for U.S. passport holders & visitors are allowed to stay up to 90 days. Please enquire with your Ecuadorian embassy or consulate if an entry visa is required.

## Snorkeling

There will be many opportunities for snorkeling. Although our vessel provides some snorkeling gear, we recommend you bring your own mask and snorkel to ensure a good fit and for sanitary reasons. Wetsuits (2-3 mm thickness) are definitely recommended for the cool season (April-October) when water temperatures range from 60-68°; some people prefer to wear a "skin" or 1-2 mm wetsuit in the warm season (November-March) when water temperatures range from 68-75°, as cool waters flow through the archipelago throughout the year. **Wetsuits in your size may be available for rental on board. Arrangements must be made ahead of time through OCSC.**

## Seasonal Considerations during April & May

### **Wildlife**

- Arrival of waved albatross to Española with amazing courtship displays
- Frigate birds continue courting at North Seymour
- Flightless cormorant nesting at Fernandina
- End of hatching season of the giant tortoises
- Eggs of green sea turtles begin to hatch
- Eggs of land iguanas begin to hatch
- Galapagos martin could be seen near the Western Islands

### **Weather**

The weather is still warm, but it is changing, and very quickly! Days are sunny, with occasional drizzles, but at night-time the temperature drops. There's very little wind, so the seas are calm. Air temperature is around 27°C (81°F). A water-proof wind-breaker is advisable.

The water remains warm. Average temperature is around 23°C (74°F), depending on the site; it gets colder in the West (Isabella and Fernandina Islands). We recommend you to bring a wet suit if you are planning on going snorkeling. A wet suit or a Farmer John (shortie) is also a good idea to keep the sun away from your back!

## The S/S Sagitta

Our flagship, S/S Sagitta, is a splendid 120 foot, 3-masted motor sailing yacht. Built in Sweden, she carries 16 passengers in ten air-conditioned cabins. All cabins are designed with one double lower berth, one single upper berth and private bathrooms. The most outstanding features of this vessel are her looks, her space, her versatility, safety and stability.

Facilities on board include a library/video lecture-room, an ample upper-deck salon/bar, a shaded “al-fresco” dining area aft, and a spacious upper deck for lounging, birding, watching dolphins off the bowsprit or stargazing. Sagitta boasts five different, isolated public areas!



### **Specifications**

*Length:* L.O.A.: 120 feet / 36.6 m.  
L.O.D.: 105 feet / 32 m.  
*Beam:* 22 feet / 6.9 m.  
*Draft:* 10.3 feet / 3.16 m.  
*Speed:* 8 knots  
*Rig:* Motor Sailing Yacht  
*Electric:* 120 V / 240 V A/C 60 Hz

### **Crew**

Captain, first mate, engineer, two sailors, cook and assistant, and naturalist guide.

### **Safety Equipment**

Two fully-equipped 20 passenger life rafts; Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB); SART; Central Alarm with smoke and fire-detectors; overhead sprinkler system; Life Jackets; Fire extinguishers.

## Reservation Deposit Form

*Celebrating the 3rd of running this extraordinary adventure!*

I would like to reserve a space for:

### 2011 OCSC GALAPAGOS ISLANDS ADVENTURE

<b>Land Price*</b>
<b>Non-Member: \$ 4,200</b>
<b>OCSC Member: \$ 3,990</b>

**APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> – MAY 5<sup>TH</sup>**

Trip Leader: John Racanelli (OCSC Board Member)

OCSC Adventure Rating Level: 2 to 3 \*\*

This trek will involve easy yacht travel, nature walks, optional swimming, snorkeling, and sea kayaking.

All rates per person in U.S. dollars based on twin occupancy, plus air and supplemental costs.

- \* - Includes expert leadership, cruise and hotel accommodations, meals as noted on trip itinerary, and airport transfers.  
- Not included is the international airfare, airfare to Galapagos Islands and return (\$410), Galapagos entrance fee (\$200), Airport departure tax in Quito (\$45), transit control card fee (\$10), tips (\$200), travel medical insurance with a \$50,000 minimum (approx \$50), and a donation to Galapagos Preservation (\$100).

\*\* Scale based from level #1 (no exertion or experience required) to a level #5 (very active multi-sport and participation).

### Applicant Information

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My companion or cabin-mate will be: \_\_\_\_\_

Or

OCSC can assign me a hotel/cabin-mate  Male  Female  No preference

### Deposit & Payment Information

In order to make the reservation, I agree to pay an initial deposit of **US \$500**.

Deposits non-refundable, but fully-transferable to someone else taking your spot on this specific trip.

I will make my trip deposit by:  Check(enclosed) or  Credit Card (number below)

American Express  Visa  Mastercard  Discover

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_  **Auto-Pay with card on the due dates.**

I have read the above statements and agree to all terms and conditions as stated above.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, please call Anthony Sandberg or Tony Samour at 800-223-2984