



Signature Sabbatical Itinerary: Intrepid Ecuador & The Galapagos

# Introducing LiNGER

We are an independent travel company, specialising in tailor-made sabbatical travel and holidays throughout the world.

Whether you are a solo traveller on holiday, a family with children on sabbatical, friends seeking an epic break or a couple celebrating a milestone, we would be thrilled to plan your trip.

LiNGER was born out of a passion for travel and a desire to do a little more to help protect our planet. Our philosophy is to engage you in a richly authentic and contrasting travel experience which balances meaningful, active and altruistic experiences.

Our travellers LiNGER longer, travel responsibly, immerse themselves in the culture, absorb, engage and explore.

Call, e-mail or request a call-back from us. We love to talk about travel and inspire you with our knowledge.

[www.LiNGER.co.uk](http://www.LiNGER.co.uk) | [travel@LiNGER.co.uk](mailto:travel@LiNGER.co.uk)

ADVENTURE



AUTHENTIC



RESPONSIBLE



EXCLUSIVE



ETHICAL



# Introducing Ecuador

Compact Ecuador packs a punch, with some of the most diverse landscapes and cultures per square kilometre that South America has to offer. Drive just a couple of hours from lively capital Quito and you can be amongst soaring Andean peaks or shrouded in the mighty Amazon Rainforest, meeting with indigenous communities whose centuries-old traditions remain intact. While the mainland is easy to traverse by road, hop on a 2-hour flight and you can be cruising or island-hopping in the enchanting Galapagos archipelago, home to some of the world's most fearless wildlife and vast numbers of endemic species.

## How to Get to Ecuador

You can travel overland from Peru or Colombia as part of a longer South American itinerary.

If you're arriving by plane, you'll likely fly into Quito's Mariscal Sucre airport, or the international airport in Guayaquil, the jumping-off point for the Galapagos Islands. There are no direct flights to Ecuador from the UK; flights go via the US or Europe and take approx. 15-18 hours. Direct flights from the US take approx. 4-13 hours.

From Quito you can take hopper flights around the country, a popular option as road travel is slow, and on a clear day you'll see volcanoes and rainforests. If you'd prefer to travel overland, go by bus: the *autobús de lujo* (luxury buses) are air conditioned and comfortable.

## When & Weather – Ecuador

Ecuador is on the equator, so its climate is fairly stable throughout the year. Temperature is governed by altitude with the lowland and coastal areas being tropical and humid and the Andean highlands much cooler.

High Season (Dec, Jan, and May-August) is the most popular time to visit but this really is a year round destination. In late spring (April and May) and late autumn (Aug and Sept) temperatures are warm and the humidity is lower.

Temperatures range between 9°C (48°F) and 30°C (86°F).

## Who will Ecuador Appeal To?

The country's breathtaking natural landscapes and superb wildlife are best suited to: Wildlife enthusiasts - Active travellers - Solo travellers - Photographers - Adventure seekers - Beach lovers - Culture vultures - Honeymooners - Families

## Accommodation

We work with colonial-style city hotels, smaller boutique hotels, friendly guesthouses, Amazon lodges and luxurious expedition vessels in the Galapagos.

## Off The Beaten Path

Climb Cotapaxi, one of the world's highest active volcanoes.

Photograph the pretty colonial town of Cuenca, which dates back to 1557.

Visit a clay lick on the Napo River to watch hundreds of colourful parrots lick the rocks to feed on minerals; a stunning natural phenomenon.

Hike through the beautiful, wild Paschocha Reserve, past herds of skittish llamas.

## Wildlife

Spy Andean spectacled bears through the mist in the cloud forest.

The Ecuadorian rainforest is home to a wide variety of monkeys, as well as shy jaguars, 3-toed sloths, kinkajous, tapirs and beautiful ocelots.

Condors soar over Parque Nacional Cotopaxi at first light every morning, showcasing their vast 3m-wing span.

But if you're coming to Ecuador for wildlife, it's really about the Galapagos Islands.

## Ecuador Experiences you shouldn't miss

Horseback riding through the Zuleta Valley.

Bargaining for woollen blankets, bright ponchos and woven tapestries in the markets north of Otavalo.

Bathing in the Banos hot springs.



# Introducing the Galapagos Islands

A remarkable collection of islands off the coast of Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands are defined by their haunting volcanic scenery and fearless wildlife, which seems completely unabashed by visitors. Get up close to giant tortoises, sea lions and blue-footed boobies on land, or snorkel alongside sea turtles, rays, penguins and sharks for an unforgettable experience.

This protected archipelago is 97% National Park, with just four inhabited islands and limited visitor numbers to protect the rich and unique ecosystems that exist here. Whether embarking on a cruise or opting for a land-based stay, it's possible to tick off sightings of most of the wildlife species here, both on land and in the water.

## How to Get to the Galapagos Islands

The Galapagos Islands are reachable by air. You'll fly into Baltra or Isabela.

## When & Weather – Galapagos

The Galapagos Islands are on the equator, so the climate is fairly stable throughout the year, tropical and humid with temperatures falling at night.

From December to May, the water and air temperatures are warmer but there is also a higher chance of rain. From June to November, the Humboldt current brings cold water and colder winds - however it also brings more plankton, attracting fish and birds. Both seasons have their unique benefits.

For travellers that suffer from seasickness, we recommend travelling from December to May to avoid the choppiest waters. Even a land-based stay will likely involve some boat trips.

For families, many cruise ships operate specialist family departures through July and August - child-friendly activities are available and there will be more kids or teens on board to socialise with.

Those keen to increase the chances of spotting specific wildlife species should plan ahead and travel according to nesting seasons - itineraries within the islands

are rigid to manage visitor numbers at each site so advance planning is required.

Land temperatures range between 9°C (48°F) and 30°C (86°F).

For divers, water temperatures range from 21°C (70°F) to 30°C (86°F) between December and May. From June to November they drop to between 16°C (60°F) and 24°C (75°F). You will definitely need a good wetsuit!

## Who will the Galapagos Islands Appeal To?

The diverse volcanic landscapes and abundant wildlife are best suited to: Wildlife enthusiasts - Divers - Active travellers - Solo travellers - Photographers - Adventure seekers - Honeymooners - Families

## Accommodation

There are a handful of small lodges and luxurious tented camps and hotels as well as a good choice of small and mid-sized expedition cruising vessels.

## Off The Beaten Path

Scuba dive with whale sharks, hammerheads and manta rays in the waters around Darwin and Wolf islands in the Galapagos.

## Wildlife

On land, you'll walk past prowling iguanas, scuttling Sally Lightfoot crabs and nesting frigate birds.

You can dive with turtles, and boat past colonies of noisy sea lions and endemic Galapagos penguins. Most famous of all are the blue-footed boobies and giant tortoises.

## Galapagos Experiences you shouldn't miss

A visit to the Charles Darwin Research Center to learn about conservation efforts on the islands.

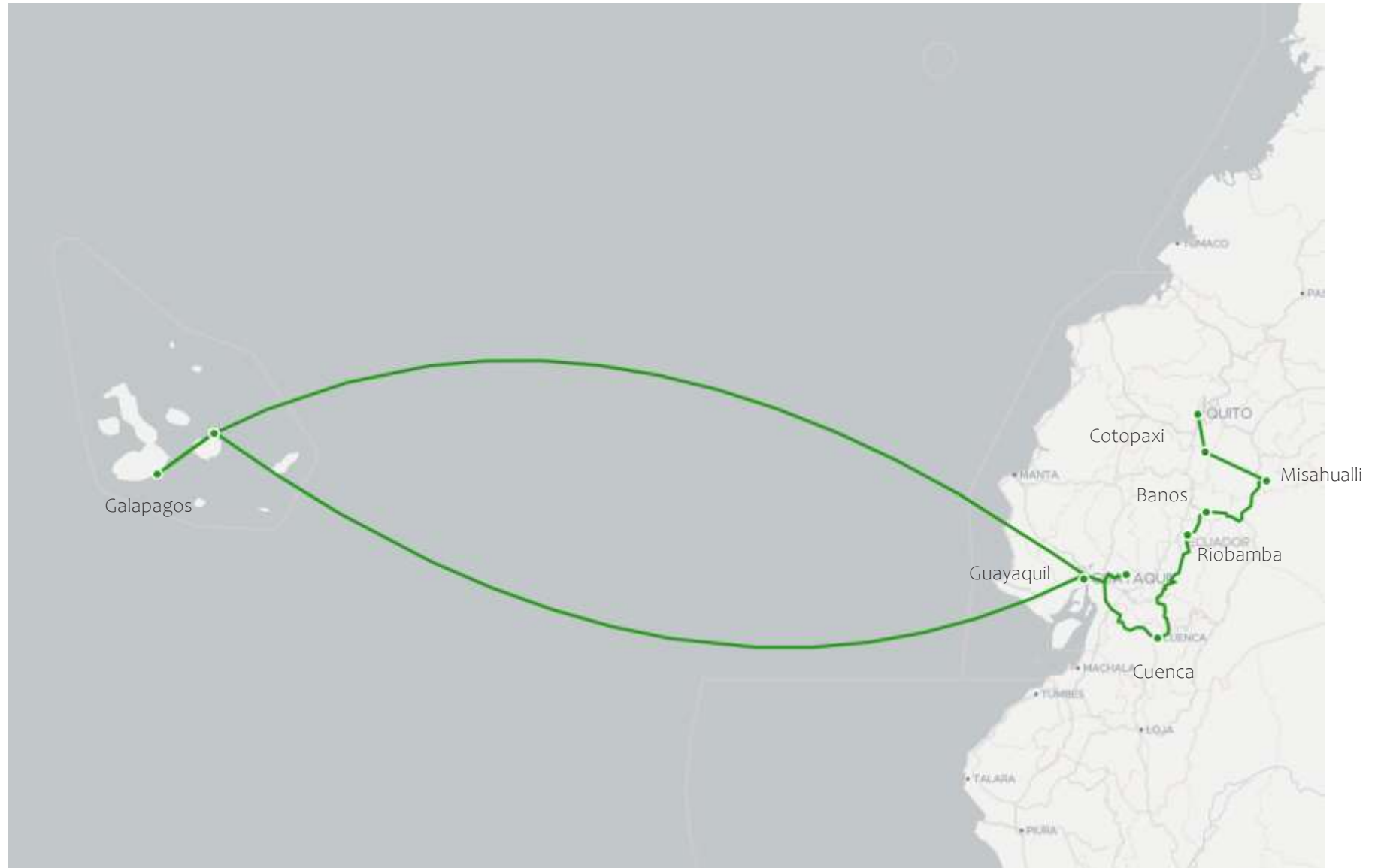
Snorkelling alongside turtles, penguins and white-tipped sharks at Tintoreras.



Life Experiences & Encounters in Ecuador & the Galapagos



# Ecuador & The Galapagos Islands - Journey Map



# Flight Details

Day	Airline & Flight Number	Departure City	Departure Time	Arrival City	Arrival Time	Class	Baggage Allowance	Journey Time
1		TBC		QUITO		TBC		
21		GUAYAQUIL		BALTRA		ECONOMY		2 HR
27		BALTRA		GUAYAQUIL		ECONOMY		2 HR
29		GUAYAQUIL				TBC		

# Your trip in a nutshell

## Day 1

Fly Overnight to Ecuador

## Day 2

Arrive in Quito & transfer to your hotel in the historic centre. Day at leisure to relax  
*Hotel La Casona de la Ronda*

## Day 3

Explore Quito's historic centre and visit the most important landmarks. Afternoon chocolate workshop. *Hotel La Casona de la Ronda*

## Day 4

Take the 'El Teleferico' cable car to admire panoramic views over the city  
*Hotel La Casona de la Ronda*

## Day 5

Hike up Pasochoa Volcano, descending to Chilcabamba Mountain Lodge, where you'll stay for 4 nights. *Chilcabamba Mountain Lodge*

## Day 6

Gentle hike around the Pita River loop through Andean forests  
*Chilcabamba Mountain Lodge*

## Day 7

Hike around Quilotoa volcanic crater & visit the artist community of Tigua  
*Chilcabamba Mountain Lodge*

## Day 8

Wrap up warm and hike to the snow line of Cotopaxi Volcano  
*Chilcabamba Mountain Lodge*

## Day 9

Road transfer to Misahualli in the Amazon Rainforest. Check in for 3 nights  
*Hamadryade Lodge*

## Day 10

Amazon nature walk with Kichwa community visit  
*Hamadryade Lodge*

## Day 11

White water rafting adventure through the rainforest  
*Hamadryade Lodge*

## Day 12

Scenic drive to Baños, stopping at Pailon del Diablo waterfall  
*Samari Spa Hotel*

## Day 13

Day at leisure to enjoy the best of Baños' adventure activities  
*Samari Spa Hotel*

## Day 14

Travel to Riobamba via Chimborazo Fauna Reserve to observe Andean camelids  
*Hotel Hacienda Abraspungo*

## Day 15

Horseback riding to Los Cubillines mountains  
*Hotel Hacienda Abraspungo*

## Day 16

Drive to the charming city of Cuenca, stopping at Ingapirca Inca ruins  
*Hotel Santa Lucia*

## Day 17

Visit the towns of Gualaceo & Chordeleg. Meet local artisans in their workshops & learn about their crafts  
*Hotel Santa Lucia*

## Day 18

Explore Cuenca's historic centre on foot  
*Hotel Santa Lucia*

## Day 19

Scenic drive to the tropical lowlands of Bucay, stopping to enjoy Cajas National Park  
*Hacienda La Danesa*

## Day 20

Activities at the Hacienda, from chocolate making to cycling or river-tubing  
*Hacienda La Danesa*



# Your trip in a nutshell

## Day 21

Drive to Guayaquil & fly to the Galapagos Islands. Transfer by boat & road to your lodge in the highlands of Santa Cruz *Galapagos Magic Lodge*

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## Day 22

Explore the highlands of Santa Cruz, visit a population of giant tortoises & observe birdlife outside nearby lava tunnels *Galapagos Magic Lodge*

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## Day 23

Help at a reforestation project. Afternoon downhill mountain biking adventure *Galapagos Magic Lodge*

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## Day 24

Travel to Isabela Island by speedboat. Day at leisure to enjoy the beaches *Isamar Hotel*

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## Day 25

Snorkel with white tipped sharks at Tintoreras & visit the Wall of Tears. Look out for wildlife on the wetlands trail. *Isamar Hotel*

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## Day 26

Day of snorkelling at some of the best spots off Isabela. Swim with sea lions, rays, colourful fish, turtles & sharks. *Isamar Hotel*

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## Day 27

Fly to Guayaquil & day at leisure to enjoy the grounds at your beautiful hotel. *Hotel del Parque*

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## Day 28

Day at leisure in Guayaquil to enjoy the hotel's extensive facilities. *Hotel del Parque*

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## Day 29

Depart Ecuador. Transfer to the airport in time for your international flight home

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## Travelling Responsibly

At LiNGER we firmly believe that in travel we can do more to help protect our planet.

We take our responsibilities to the environment, local communities, customers, suppliers, partners and employees very seriously and our intention is to constantly review our policies and strive to make improvements where we can.

We offer the opportunity to Give Back by partaking in a meaningful activity in an area that matters to you or where you may have a skillset.

This could be as simple as a beach clean in Sri Lanka to help protect our oceans or caring for orphaned sloths in a wildlife sanctuary in Costa Rica.

LiNGER longer on a sabbatical and devote time to teaching in a village school in Nicaragua or help with a conservation project researching plant species in the Amazon. LiNGER and Enrich Life through Travel.

Our Responsible Travel Policy can be viewed on our website:

<https://linger.co.uk/responsible-travel/>



# The Nitty Gritty

## Included

- Accommodation on a double/twin basis
- Daily breakfast
- Other meals as described
- Local English speaking private guides
- Private and shared transfers with air-conditioned vehicles
- Entrance fees for included activities
- Private and small group excursions
- Domestic flights

## Excluded

- International flights
- Visas
- Tips / Gratuities
- Items of a personal nature - minibar, laundry, etc
- Any activity listed as optional
- Early check-in & late check-out at all hotels
- Meals and drinks where not mentioned in the itinerary
- Travel Insurance

## Quotation

- From GBP £9,495.00 per person, based on two travelling together

## Booking Terms & Conditions:

[www.linger.co.uk/terms-and-conditions/](http://www.linger.co.uk/terms-and-conditions/)

## Start Planning

Our experienced team will guide you through a number of ideas based on how you would like to experience Ecuador and the Galapagos.

No matter how long you have to travel, we'll guide you through the planning process to ensure a trip is carefully pieced together to suit your interests, pace of travel and budget.

## Contact

Email: [Travel@linger.co.uk](mailto:Travel@linger.co.uk)

Telephone: +44 (0) 207 039 9240

# Financial Protection

## ATOL Protected Holidays

Many of the flights and flight-inclusive holidays are financially protected by the ATOL scheme. But ATOL protection does not apply to all holiday and travel services. Please ask us to confirm what protection may apply to your booking. If you do not receive an ATOL Certificate then the booking will not be ATOL protected. If you do receive an ATOL Certificate but all the parts of your trip are not listed on it, those parts will not be ATOL protected. Please see our booking conditions for information or for more information about financial protection and the ATOL Certificate go to: [www.atol.org.uk/ATOLcertificate](http://www.atol.org.uk/ATOLcertificate)



## Travel Regulation Insolvency Protection

LiNGER Travel Ltd is a company committed to customer satisfaction and consumer financial protection. We are therefore pleased to announce that, at no extra cost to you, and in accordance with “The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018” all passengers booking with LiNGER Travel Ltd are fully insured for the initial deposit, and subsequently the balance of monies paid as detailed in your booking confirmation form. The policy will also include repatriation if required, arising from the cancellation or curtailment of your travel arrangements due to the insolvency of Linger Travel Ltd. This protection has been arranged by means of a Trust Account held with Protected Trust Services.

Full details regarding Financial Protection can be viewed at: <https://linger.co.uk/financial-protection/>

Full details regarding the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 can be viewed at: <https://linger.co.uk/package-travel-regulations/>



## Privacy Policy

LiNGER respects your privacy and is committed to protecting your personal data. This privacy notice will inform you as to how we look after your personal data when you visit our website (regardless of where you visit it from) or when you otherwise provide personal data to us via other means (such as over the telephone) and tell you about your privacy rights and how the law protects you.

Full details regarding our Privacy Policy can be viewed at: <https://linger.co.uk/privacy-policy/>





“Unrivalled, intimate knowledge of destinations way beyond the obvious, with a genuine focus on sustainability”.

*Anna Guyer*



Contact

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**LINGER**  
ENRICHING LIFE THROUGH TRAVEL