

Ecuador and The Galapagos Islands

Naturetrek Tour Report

10th – 29th February 2020



Nazca Booby



Magnificent Frigatebird



Compiled by Jane Collins, Siobhan Dawson and Dawn Thomas
Photos courtesy of Colin Brown, Mike Jones, Alex Lewicka and David Rowe



Naturetrek Mingledown Barn Wolf's Lane Chawton Alton Hampshire GU34 3HJ UK

T: +44 (0)1962 733051

E: info@naturetrek.co.uk

W: www.naturetrek.co.uk

Day 1

Monday 10th February

Up early for flight to Amsterdam. 1.5 hrs on the tarmac due to storm Ciara, just caught flight to Quito which was held for us. Long flight but uneventful. We were met at Quito airport by Raoul and also our fellow travellers (15 in all) and were taken to our Hotel Mercure Almada.

Day 2

Tuesday 11th February

Quito

Met at 09.00 and had city tour of 'old' Quito which was very interesting. The old style colonial buildings and the gargoyles on the cathedral, all Galapagos fauna, were the highlight. Inside, the stained-glass windows were beautiful. Also stunning was La Iglesias de la Compania de Jesus, the Gold Church, with a baroque interior. Went up the hill to the statue of the virgin standing on a dragon, overlooking Quito. The view is amazing, with the old Inca capital city and the new town beyond, surrounded by several active snow-capped volcanoes, including Cotopaxi.

Some of the group went back to the hotel, while the rest of us walked to the Botanic Gardens. We stopped at a cafe for lunch by the garden entrance.

For dinner, some of the group headed for a recommended Ecuadorean restaurant, Mama Clorinda, where a couple of the group tried the 'Cuy' Guinea Pig. It turned out to be rather disappointingly fatty with little meat – an acquired taste.

Day 3

Wednesday 12th February

Quito/Baltra/Santa Cruz

Another very early start and long day. We left for the airport at 04.30hrs for our flight to Baltra Island, Galápagos, where we were met by our guide, Cristian. A short ferry across to Santa Cruz Island, then a bus ride to see the Giant Saddleback Tortoises in the wild. We also walked through a lava tunnel. Had lunch at Enchanted Lodge amongst lovely gardens where a Galapagos Flycatcher came into the lodge and sat on the lampshade.

Onto the Darwin Centre where all the conservation initiatives began. This is the major breeding centre for the Santa Cruz sub-species of Giant Tortoise including the famous and now deceased Lonesome George from Pinta Island, which we saw preserved in a temperature-controlled building. Outside were baby tortoises of different ages from several islands and some mixed adults, as well as the newly rediscovered Floriana adults they thought were extinct.

Walked back into town, where several of the group had drinks in a bar overlooking the harbour. Took zodiacs out to the Cachalote Explorer (Sperm Whale in Spanish). We were greeted by the crew, shown to our cabins to unpack, followed by a good dinner and a much-needed sleep for all.

Day 4

Thursday 13th February

Las Plazas/Santa Fe

This morning we were anchored just off Las Plazas islands. Breakfast was at 7am, then onto Plazas island, which is overrun with Land Iguanas. We watched an Iguana getting the spines off an Opuntia fruit before eating it. Back to the boat for lunch, then, the boat moved to our next bay where we snorkelled off Santa Fe Island. The sealife was very impressive, very colourful and plentiful. It is another world under the waves!

Another nice walk in the afternoon where we spotted Eagle Rays mating and many turtles in the water. The wildlife was amazing, and we were all finding it hard to take it all in.

Welcome drinks and introductions with our friendly and helpful crew were then had before dinner!

Day 5

Friday 14th February

San Cristobal

Day 2 on board – this really was paradise! Blue skies, azure seas and a generally laid-back feeling. Very hot, but cool inside the boat.

We started the day with a zodiac cruise along the sea cliffs, with Blue-footed Boobies and a Wandering Tattler. We did a short walk to a brackish pond behind the beach looking for bird life, then on to a further beach, keeping away from the Sea Lion colony, with the defensive alpha male. Some went snorkelling, whilst others walked along the beach admiring the turtle tracks up into the dunes. Boobies were plunging into the water to feed. We returned to the ship for lunch.

In the afternoon, we took a bus to the Tortoise Rescue Centre. The programme has been a success, and the centre is due to close as they have now a viable population on the Island! The tortoises are released at 5 years old. We then moved onto the El Junto Lagoon, which was covered in mist. We had a steep climb up, but the view from the top was not great as there was thick cloud. However, it cleared sporadically, giving views of Magnificent Frigatebirds swooping down to drink. Back to the ship, via one of the town bars. Sea Lions everywhere in the harbour with one even playing with a stick!

Day 6

Saturday 15th February

Espaniola

An early morning snorkel with Sea Lions before we headed off to the beach at Gardner Bay. Crystal clear, beautiful white sand beach with turquoise water. During lunch, we motored to Suarez Point from where we started a long, very rocky walk around the point to see yet more Sea Lions, an Albatross nesting site (empty at this time of year), Nazca Boobies nesting, with their white, fluffy young and a wonderful sighting of a pair of Galapagos Hawks that landed right next to us. We had very close views of all the wildlife. The cliffs were just alive with nesting birds, all whilst Red-billed Tropicbirds flew offshore. After a delicious dinner and run through the list for the day, Cristian called us outside to see four Galapagos Sharks hunting at the back of the boat! We watched them chasing Flying Fish, leaping out of the water. Swallow-tailed Gulls were hunting for fish in the dark. We could hear the clicking noise the gulls make as sonar!

Day 7

Sunday 16th February

Floriana

We were up very early to catch the turtles leaving the beach after laying their eggs. We arrived just in time to see a turtle entering the water. The nesting beach was full of tracks and huge holes – very interesting. We then spotted some beautiful American Flamingos in a brackish pool. Back to the ship for breakfast then we headed off to The Devil's Crown for snorkelling. The fish were everywhere including Trigger and Angel Fish, White-tipped Reef Sharks snoozing on the sandy sea bottom, turtles, rays, Box Fish and so many more!

A Sea Lion had hauled itself up onto the diving deck of the Cachalote and stayed until dusk, to everyone's amusement.

We visited the Post Office Bay in the afternoon and took the 5 UK cards to deliver or post back home. A kayaking trip in the afternoon at Baroness Lookout was undertaken where we saw many Stingrays, turtles, mangrove swamps, Sea Lions amongst other treats. One Sea Lion tugged the rope on Don's kayak! Shark watching again after dinner, with three Galapagos Sharks and "our" sea lion chasing the Flying Fish. One Flying Fish landed on the diving deck and had to be rescued!

Day 8

Monday 17th February

Santa Cruz/Santiago

Early walk up to Dragon Hill on Santa Cruz. The walk was interesting, and we got a lovely view from the top. We saw Marine and Land Iguanas, several birds and even a 1-week-old baby Land Iguana.

Back on board we were quickly underway en route for Sullivan Bay, Santiago island and snorkelling. Visibility was not so good but we still saw several White-tipped Reef Sharks, various Parrot Fish, Trigger Fish, shoals of Surgeon Fish, multitudes of Sea Urchins, Sea Cucumbers etc. etc.

A walk across a 200-year-old lava flow at Sullivan Bay in the afternoon. It is the most amazing sight as the lava is black, barren and crusty almost as though it has only just cooled. We were all amazed at the artistic shapes made by the cooling lava. Again, it was very hot. We saw some signs of vegetation of Carpetweed and Lava Cactus, as they are the first colonisers. We returned to the ship for drinks and a special meal as tonight we cross the Equator to Genovesa Island. Dave caught and photographed two moths from the lounge, amid much hilarity. They were then released while we watched a shark hunting. Saw Manta Rays jumping out of the sea.

Day 9

Tuesday 18th February

Genovesa

Anchored in the caldera, Darwin Bay. Walked around the beach with an amazing array of birds. Great Frigatebirds displaying their inflated pouches and calling to the females right next to the path. We watched a female choosing her mate. Red-footed Boobies with young in the trees, Lava Gulls, Swallow-tailed Gulls nesting on the beach. Soft-spined cacti that the mockingbirds can pollinate since there are few insects.

Up Prince Phillip's Steps in the afternoon, to the top of the island to look for the Short-eared Owls. Don spotted one in a gully near the path on the way back, then Cristian found two more further away. Lots of Nazca Boobies with young, and more Great Frigatebirds displaying. Fur Seals on the rocks at the bottom of the steps.

The usual shark watching after dinner.

Day 10

Wednesday 19th February

Santa Cruz

Back to Santa Cruz, for fresh supplies and fuel. We started with a Zodiac trip around Black Turtle Cove mangrove swamps at 0600hrs. The mangroves are teeming with turtles, baby sharks and shoals of small fish.

After breakfast went onto Santa Cruz to walk in the highlands at Twin Craters. The vegetation is thick though sadly, apparently not with endemic species. Very lush foliage and lots of birds. Ann spotted a small orchid. Onto a viewpoint overlooking the national park and the coast.

Lunch was next at a local estancia by a lake with ducks and large numbers of Sulphur Butterflies crowding onto two small patches in the shallows. Next was an interesting talk about Galapagos Conservation efforts, particularly for the Giant Tortoises by Anne.

Another walk followed to see yet more tortoises and then finally back to the ship. It was a very long day. More shark-watching after dinner. This time several pelicans joined in, some sitting on the boat and the Zodiacs.

Day 11

Thursday 20th February

Chinese Hat/Rabida

We started the day with a hike on a small island called Chinese Hat. Older lava flow than Santiago, with lots of Lava Cacti. American Oystercatchers, Marine Iguanas, very young Sea Lion on the beach with its mother. A Galapagos Shark swam along the beach with its fin out of the water.

On return we had about 10 minutes to change for our first snorkel of the day. Snorkelling with penguins, lots of fish, reef shark and rays. Very clear water.

Lunch was delicious and we were off to Rabida Island for a second snorkelling adventure.

After snorkelling we were off again to land on the red sand beach (iron oxide minerals from the lava). Saw a Marine Iguana finishing off its nest. Two flamingos on the lagoon. Lots of old Opuntias since there have never been iguanas or tortoises on this island. The vegetation is interesting as it varies from island to island. We then climbed up to a viewing point looking for birds on the way. The view from the top was lovely with the red sand and blue sea.

Day 12

Friday 21st February

Isabela – Puerto Villamil

We were taken by bus to the base of the Sierra Negra and climbed up in the drizzle. We finally had a rare sighting of a Darwin's Flycatcher (an endemic species now split from Vermilion Flycatcher). At the top, the caldera was full of mist. Back to the boat for lunch, then a trip to the Giant Tortoise Breeding Station at Villamil. The tortoises were rescued from the erupting volcano. In a darkened enclosure indoors we could see hatchlings, which stay underground for 30 days before digging their way up to the surface.

We moved on to a wetland habitat that has been created to combat the water pollution from the population which over the years had been increasing. Lots of birds. We eventually strolled slowly back to the port, with Sea Lions lying on benches in the town, and Marine Iguanas all over the place - the largest we'd seen. Past the beautiful town beach watching the sunset as we returned for our dinner.

Day 13

Saturday 22nd February

Isabela – Moreno Point/Elizabeth Bay

Dolphins and a large raft of Galapagos Shearwaters before breakfast. Then out for a Zodiac ride looking at Marine Iguanas, Flightless Cormorants, Brown Pelicans, Galapagos Penguins, turtles. Then some of us landed on the very rocky lava shore and walked across this vast, barren lava interspersed with lush, green, brackish pools containing fish, turtles, White-tipped Reef Sharks, Moorhens with young. Snorkelling with huge turtles, Sea Lions playing around us, penguins and Flightless Cormorants. The water was colder here.

After lunch, we set sail for Elizabeth Bay. It was raining for our Zodiac ride into the mangrove swamp. Got very wet but good fun. Lots of turtles. On return to the ship trusty Ivan had hot chocolate waiting for us and delicious sweet bread buns in honey.

That evening looking over the side of the ship we didn't see the usual sharks but millions of fluorescent squid appearing to dance in the water. Then you look up and see millions of stars in the night sky. Magical.

Day 14

Sunday 23rd February

Isabela – Urbina Bay/Tagus Cove

A long walk in the morning over the lava field/beach area. Back through a jungly trail, with lots of tortoises and Land Iguanas. Lots of iguana burrows along the path. A very hot morning. Snorkelling before lunch, but poor visibility.

Lunch was served while we were underway, and we anchored in Tagus Cove. High sided and deep with amazingly calm water. Kayaking in the afternoon followed by a walk up steep steps on Isabela to see Darwin's lake (a crater). It is a salt lake but although cut off from the sea, it retains its salt due to evaporation. Sadly, just as we reached a marvellous view point the heavens opened. As soon as we reached the top we turned around and got back to the boat in double quick time.

We were underway again heading for Fernandina and saw a huge school of Manta Rays. The Captain turned the boat around so we could get a better look. They were everywhere and appeared to be feeding on jellyfish.

Day 15

Monday 24th February

Fernandina – Espinosa Point/Vicente Roca Point

Early landing at Puerto Espinosa. Had to clamber through a carpet of Marine Iguanas to get onshore. Hundreds of them, lying all over each other to keep warm at night. Very close views of three hawks sharing an iguana. The adults ate before the young one. Interesting landscape, lots of Lava Cacti, lovely early morning sunrise.

After breakfast we were off for our daily snorkel this time to see iguanas feeding under the sea, more turtles, many fish that we haven't seen before, Green Sea Urchins and penguins. A tiny sea horse swam past the Zodiac. We saw the most enormous Sunfish which are easily as big as most sharks. Mike spotted them and the captain again very obligingly turned the ship around for a better look.

So we arrived at Vicente Roca Point, next to Ecuador Volcano, just in time for lunch. Interesting inlet like a fjord. Baby Hammerhead Sharks from the boat.

Zodiac cruise in the afternoon to the entrance to the cove to see Fur Seals. Then along the coast in surprisingly heavy seas to see the lava formations and iguanas, noddies and boobies on the cliffs. Also into a sea cave. Very rough, and not enjoyed by all!

Invited onto the Bridge for a cocktail with the Captain for the crossing of the Equator, with a countdown like New Year's Eve. Watching the instruments on the bridge was really interesting as they gradually turned to zero degrees as we moved from the Southern Hemisphere to the North.

Day 16

Tuesday 25th February

Santiago/Bartolomé

A few of us climbed up to the top of the 'hill' onto Egas Point on Santiago for an early walk. A Fur Seal colony kept our attention for quite some time as they all look so cute.

9am saw us snorkelling just off the same area with very good visibility. There were almost more fish than sea. Parrot Fish, shoals of Yellow-tailed Mullet, King Angel Fish, Wrasse, a shoal of juvenile Barracuda, White-tipped Reef Sharks, and thousands and thousands of tiny fry of all shapes and sizes.

Bottle-nosed Dolphins accompanied us on our sailing to Bartolomé, cruising along effortlessly at the bow of the boat at great speed.

A few of us hiked to the top of the hill on Bartolomé, extremely hot but what a view from the top. Well worth the effort. The others took a Zodiac ride along the coast.

At dinner we had a 'Goodbye' toast and speeches with the Captain and Crew. Siobhan rose to the challenge and did an excellent job. We then enjoyed a last dinner on board together.

Day 17

Wednesday 26th February

North Seymour/Baltra/Quito

Early walk on North Seymour before breakfast. Frigatebirds displaying, Blue-footed Boobies courtship dancing. Young boobies and frigatebirds in the nest. Land Iguanas and Sea Lions in the path. Back to the boat for breakfast, then off to the airport for the flight to Quito. We were staying at the Hotel de Puenbo near the airport – lots of exotic plants and birds in the gardens. Hummingbirds from the bedroom window.

Day 18

Thursday 27th February

Otavalo Market, Quito; Antisana

We had a two-hour bus ride to Otavalo stopping at small flower market on the way. Otavalo is very interesting as Stephen explained much of the political history and showed us something of the real town with an area taken over by some very talented Graffiti artists. The clothing market proved lethal and bargaining not easy. We were

then taken to a 300-year-old Hacienda for lunch. The building is fantastic with a wonderful Murano Glass Chandelier in the hallway, and we were serenaded by a local Andean band.

It was pouring with rain as we set off in the bus with Manuel, but fortunately stopped as we were driving along the motorway towards Antisana. The landscape soon changed as we started climbing, looking like Scotland, but reaching 4000m. The first stop was to see Condors roosting on the opposite side of the valley. Several stops at strategic points at the side of the road. A pair of Aplomado Hawks sat on a hillock very close to the road – beautiful birds! Then onto a lake for water birds. Lunch at a very nice wooden lodge, with a fire blazing (colder at this altitude). Hummingbird feeders outside, offering a distraction throughout our meal.

Back at our hotel the Group have a last supper to say ‘goodbye’ – a sad moment, but what a fantastic and memorable two weeks...

Receive our e-newsletter

Join the Naturetrek e-mailing list and be the first to hear about new tours, additional departures and new dates, tour reports and special offers. Visit www.naturetrek.co.uk to sign up.

Social Media

We're social! Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and be the first to hear about the launch of new tours, offers and exciting sightings and photos from our recently returned holidays.



www.facebook.com/naturetrekwildlifeholidays



www.twitter.com/naturetrektours



www.instagram.com/naturetrek_wildlife_holidays

Species Lists

Galapagos Birds

	E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced	
	Common name	Scientific name
1	Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>
2	White-cheeked Pintail - E	<i>Anas bahamensis galapagensis</i>
3	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>
4	Dark-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>
5	Galapagos Dove - E	<i>Zenaida galapagoensis</i>
6	Paint-billed Crake	<i>Neocrex erythrops</i>
7	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>
8	American Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i>
9	American Oystercatcher - E	<i>Haematopus palliatus galapagensis</i>
10	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>
11	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>
12	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
13	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
14	Baird's Sandpiper	<i>Calidris bairdii</i>
15	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>
16	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>
17	Wandering Tattler	<i>Tringa incana</i>
18	Brown Noddy - E	<i>Anous stolidus galapagensis</i>
19	Swallow-tailed Gull	<i>Creagrus furcatus</i>
20	Lava Gull - E	<i>Leucophaeus fuliginosus</i>
21	Laughing Gull	<i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>
22	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
23	Red-billed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon aethereus</i>
24	Galapagos Penguin - E	<i>Spheniscus mendiculus</i>
25	Band-rumped Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanodroma castro</i>
26	Galapagos Shearwater - E	<i>Puffinus subalaris</i>
27	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>
28	Great Frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>
29	Blue-footed Booby	<i>Sula nebouxii</i>
30	Nazca Booby	<i>Sula granti</i>
31	Red-footed Booby	<i>Sula sula</i>
32	Flightless Cormorant - E	<i>Phalacrocorax harrisi</i>
33	Yellow-crowned Night Heron - E	<i>Nyctanassa violacea pauper</i>
34	Lava Heron - E	<i>Butorides sundevalli</i>
35	Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
36	Great Blue Heron - E	<i>Ardea herodias cognata</i>
37	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
38	Brown Pelican - E	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis urinator</i>
39	Galapagos Hawk - E	<i>Buteo galapagoensis</i>
40	Short-eared Owl - E	<i>Asio flammeus galapagoensis</i>
41	Darwin's (Vermillion) Flycatcher - E	<i>Pyrocephalus nanus</i>
42	Galapagos Flycatcher - E	<i>Myiarchus magnirostris</i>
43	Galapagos Martin - E	<i>Progne modesta</i>
44	Galapagos Mockingbird - E	<i>Mimus parvulus</i>
45	Española Mockingbird - E	<i>Mimus macdonaldi</i>
46	San Cristobal Mockingbird - E	<i>Mimus melanotis</i>
47	Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophagia petechia</i>

	E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced	
	Common name	Scientific name
48	Large Ground Finch - E	<i>Geospiza magnirostris</i>
49	Medium Ground Finch - E	<i>Geospiza fortis</i>
50	Small Ground Finch - E	<i>Geospiza fuliginosa</i>
51	Common Cactus Finch - E	<i>Geospiza scandens</i>
52	Vegetarian Finch - E	<i>Platyspiza crassirostris</i>
53	Large Tree Finch - E	<i>Camarhynchus psittacula</i>
54	Medium Tree Finch - E	<i>Camarhynchus pauper</i>
55	Small Tree Finch - E	<i>Camarhynchus parvulus</i>
56	Woodpecker Finch - E	<i>Camarhynchus pallidus</i>
57	Green Warbler-Finch - E	<i>Certhidea olivacea</i>

Ecuador Birds

	Common name	Scientific name
1	Andean Teal	<i>Anas andium</i>
2	Andean Duck	<i>Oxyura ferruginea</i>
3	Sparkling Violetear	<i>Colibri coruscans</i>
4	Shining Sunbeam	<i>Aglaeactis cupripennis</i>
5	Ecuadorian Hillstar	<i>Oreotrochilus chimborazo</i>
6	Giant Hummingbird	<i>Patagona gigas</i>
7	Black-tailed Trainbearer	<i>Lesbia victoriae</i>
8	Tyrian Metaltail	<i>Metallura tyrianthina</i>
9	Black-winged Ground Dove	<i>Metriopelia melanoptera</i>
10	Eared Dove	<i>Zenaida auriculata</i>
11	Andean Coot	<i>Fulica ardesiaca</i>
12	Silvery Grebe	<i>Podiceps occipitalis</i>
13	Andean Lapwing	<i>Vanellus resplendens</i>
14	Andean Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus serranus</i>
15	Andean Ibis	<i>Theristicus branickii</i>
16	Black Vulture	<i>Coragyps atratus</i>
17	Andean Condor	<i>Vultur gryphus</i>
18	Variable Hawk	<i>Geranoaetus polyosoma</i>
19	Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle	<i>Geranoaetus melanoleucus</i>
20	Carunculated Caracara	<i>Phalacrocorax carunculatus</i>
21	American Kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>
22	Aplomado Falcon	<i>Falco femoralis</i>
23	Chestnut-winged Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes albidiventris</i>
24	Stout-billed Cinclodes	<i>Cinclodes excelsior</i>
25	Andean Tit-Spinetail	<i>Leptasthenura andicola</i>
26	Paramo Ground Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola alpinus</i>
27	Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>
28	Great Thrush	<i>Turdus fuscater</i>
29	Paramo Pipit	<i>Anthus bogotensis</i>
30	Hooded Siskin	<i>Spinus magellanicus</i>
31	Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>
32	Cinereous Conebill	<i>Conirostrum cinereum</i>
33	Black Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa humeralis</i>
34	Plumbeous Sierra Finch	<i>Phrygilus unicolor</i>
35	Plain-colored Seedeater	<i>Catamenia inornata</i>
36	Vermillion flycatcher	<i>Pyrocephalus rubinus</i>

Fish

	Common name	Scientific name
1	King Angelfish	<i>Holocanchus passer</i>
2	Barberfish	<i>Heniochus nigrostris</i>
3	Yellow-tailed Surgeonfish	<i>Prionurus laticlavus</i>
4	Goldrim Surgeonfish	<i>Acanthurus nigricans</i>
5	Moorish Idol	<i>Zanclus cornutus</i>
6	Yellow-finned Tuna	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>
7	Black Skipjack	<i>Euthynnus lineatus</i>
8	Pelican Barracuda	<i>Sphyaena idiaestes</i>
9	Dusky Chub	<i>Girella freminvillei</i>
10	Striped Mullet	<i>Mugil cephalus</i>
11	Galapagos (Yellow-tailed) Mullet	<i>Mugil galapagensis</i>
12	Yellowtail Grunt	<i>Anisotremus interruptus</i>
13	Peruvian Grunt	<i>Anisotremus scapularis</i>
14	Black-striped Salema	<i>Xenocys jessiae</i>
15	Blue-striped (Blue-and-Gold) Snapper	<i>Lutjanus viridis</i>
16	Giant Damselfish	<i>Microspathodon dorsalis</i>
17	Bumphead Damselfish	<i>Microspathodon bairdii</i>
18	Yellow-tailed Damsel	<i>Stegastes arcifrons</i>
19	Panamic Sergeant Major	<i>Abudefduf troschelii</i>
20	Bacalao (trout grouper)	<i>Mycteroperca olfax</i>
21	Flag Cabrilla	<i>Epinephelus labriformis</i>
22	Creole fish	<i>Paranthias colonus</i>
23	Bumphead Parrotfish	<i>Scarus perrico</i>
24	Bluechin Parrotfish	<i>Scarus ghobban</i>
25	Bicolor Parrotfish	<i>Scarus rubroviolaceus</i>
26	Azure Parrotfish	<i>Scarus compressus</i>
27	Cortez Rainbow Wrasse	<i>Thalassoma lucasanum</i>
28	Chameleon Wrasse	<i>Halichoeres dispilus</i>
29	Spinster Wrasse	<i>Halichoeres nicholsi</i>
30	Harlequin wrasse	<i>Bodianus eclancheri</i>
31	Streamer (Mexican) Hogfish	<i>Bodianus diplotaenia</i>
32	Blacktip Cardinalfish	<i>Apogon atradorsatus</i>
33	Red-spotted Barnacle Blenny	<i>Hypsoblennius brevipinnis</i>
34	Large Banded Blenny	<i>Ophioblennius steindachneri</i>
35	Sabertooth Blenny	<i>Plagiotremus azaleus</i>
36	Bravo Clinid (Checkspot Labrisomid)	<i>Labrisomus dendriticus</i>
37	Blue-banded Goby	<i>Lythrypnus gilberti</i>
38	Hieroglyphic Hawkfish	<i>Cirrhitus rivulatus</i>
39	Bullseye (Concentric) Puffer	<i>Sphoeroides annulatus</i>
40	Galapagos Puffer	<i>Sphoeroides angusticeps</i>
41	Guineafowl Puffer	<i>Arothron meleagris</i>
42	Spotted Porcupinefish	<i>Diodon hystrix</i>
43	Yellow-bellied Triggerfish	<i>Sufflamen verres</i>
44	Black Triggerfish (Black Durgon)	<i>Melichthys niger</i>
45	Yellow-tailed Goatfish	<i>Mulloidichthys dentatus</i>
46	Trumpetfish	<i>Aulostomus chinensis</i>
47	Oceanic sunfish	<i>Mola mola</i>
48	Tiger Snake Eel	<i>Myrichthys tigrinus</i>
49	Galapagos Shark	<i>Carcharhinus galapagensis</i>
50	White-tipped Reef Shark	<i>Triaenodon obesus</i>

	Common name	Scientific name
51	Black-tipped Reef Shark	<i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i>
52	Scalloped Hummerhead	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>
53	Marbled (Black-blotched) Ray	<i>Taeniura meyeri</i>
54	Diamond (Whiptail) Stingray	<i>Dasyatis brevis</i>
55	Golden Cowray	<i>Rhinoptera steindachneri</i>
56	Eagle Ray	<i>Aetobatus narinari</i>
57	Manta Ray	<i>Taenioconger klausewitzii</i>
58	Galapagos Blue Porcupine Fish	
59	Mobula Ray	

Plants

	Scientific name	Common name
Coastal, Arid & Transitional lowland zones		
(NB some species also occur in humid upland zones)		
1	Galapagos Acacia	<i>Acacia rorudiana</i>
2	Spiny-headed chaff flower	<i>Alternanthera echinocephala</i>
3	Galapagos three-awn grass	<i>Aristida subspicata</i>
4	Black Mangrove	<i>Avicenna germinans</i>
5	Lava cactus	<i>Brachycereus nesioticus</i>
6	Palo Santo (holy pole)	<i>Bursera graveolens</i>
7	Palo Santo	<i>Bursera malcophilla</i>
8	Galapagos Shore Petunia	<i>Cacabus miersi</i>
9	Bitterbush	<i>Castela galapaeia</i>
10	Spurred Chamaesyce	<i>Chamaesyce viminea</i>
11	Chamaesyce	<i>Chamaesyce sp</i>
12	Wartclub	<i>Commicarpus tuberosus</i>
13	Button Mangrove	<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>
14	Muyuyo (Yellow Cordia)	<i>Cordia lutea</i>
15	Galapagos Croton	<i>Croton scouleri</i>
16	Saltbush	<i>Cryptocarpus pyriformis</i>
17	Galapagos (Anderson's) Sedge	<i>Cyperus anderssonii</i>
18	Galápagos cotton	<i>Gossypium barbadense</i>
19	Heliotrope (scorpionweed)	<i>Heliotropium angiospermum</i>
20	Manzanillo (poison apple)	<i>Hippomane mancinella</i>
21	Beach morning glory	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae.</i>
22	Candelabra cactus	<i>Jasminocereus thouarsii</i>
23	White Mangrove	<i>Laguncularia racemosa</i>
24	Wing-fruited lecocarpus	<i>Lecocarpus pinnatifidus</i>
25	Galápagos tomato	<i>Lycopersicon cheesmanii</i>
26	Leather leaf	<i>Maytenus octogona</i>
27	Mollugo	<i>Mollugo flavescens subsp. Gracillina</i>
28	Prickly pear cactus	<i>Opuntia echios</i>
29	Prickly pear cactus	<i>Opuntia insularis</i>
30	Prickly pear cactus	<i>Opuntia megasperma</i>
31	Palo verde	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>
32	Running Pop	<i>Passiflora foetida</i>
33	Matazarno	<i>Piscidia carthagenensis</i>

	Scientific name	Common name
Coastal, Arid & Transitional lowland zones		
(NB some species also occur in humid upland zones)		
34	Galapagos purslane	<i>Portulca howellii</i>
35	Mesquite	<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>
36	Red Mangrove	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>
37	Radiate-headed Scalesia	<i>Scalesia affinis</i>
38	Heller's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia helleri</i>
39	Thorn Shrub	<i>Scutia spicata var. pauciflora</i>
40	Galapagos carpetweed	<i>Sesuvium edmonstonei</i>
41	Common carpetweed	<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i>
42	Beach dropseed	<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>
43	Grey Mat Plant	<i>Tiquilia galapagoa</i>
44	Grey Mat Plant	<i>Tiquilia nesiotica</i>
45	Smooth-stemmed Tournefortia	<i>Tournefortia psilostacya</i>
46	Punctureweed (Caltrop)	<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>
47	Pearl Berry	<i>Vallesia glabra</i>
48	Velvet shrub	<i>Waltheria ovata</i>
49	Maidenhair Fern	<i>Adiantum sp.</i>
50	Galápagos Tree fern	<i>Cyathea weatherbyana</i>
51	Alternate-leaved aster	<i>Darwiniothamnus alternifolius</i>
52	Thin-leaved Darwin's Shrub	<i>Darwiniothamnus tenuifolius</i>
53	Miconia	<i>Miconia robinsoniana</i>
54	Colinvaux's passion flower	<i>Passiflora colinvauxii</i>
55	White wild coffee	<i>Psychotria rufipes</i>
56	Soapberry	<i>Sapindus saponaria</i>
57	Galapagos Bromeliad	<i>Tillandsia insularis</i>
58	Scalesia "Daisy Tree"	<i>Scalesia pedunculata</i>
59	Cat's Claw	<i>Zanthoxylum fagara</i>

Reptiles and Mammals

	Common name	Scientific name
REPTILES		
1	Giant tortoise:	<i>Geochelone elephantopus</i>
2	Santa Cruz sub-sp	<i>G. e. porteri</i>
3	San Cristobal "	<i>G. e. chatamensis</i>
4	Alcedo "	<i>G. e. vandenburghi</i>
5	Sierra Negra "	<i>G. e. guntheri</i>
6	Cerro Azul "	<i>G. e. vicina</i>
8	Green Sea Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas agassissi</i>
14	Lava lizard (S. Cristobal)	<i>Microlophus bivittatus</i>
15	Lava lizard (Floreana)	<i>Microlophus grayi</i>
16	Lava lizard (Espanola)	<i>Microlophus delanonis</i>
17	Lava lizard (W & central)	<i>Microlophus albemarlensis</i>
18	Galapagos Land Iguana	<i>Conolophus subcristatus</i>
19	Santa Fe Land Iguana	<i>Conolophus pallidus</i>
20	Marine iguana:	<i>Amblyrhynchus cristatus</i>
21	Fernandina sub-sp	<i>A. c. cristatus</i>
22	Santa Cruz "	<i>A. c. hassi</i>
23	Isabela "	<i>A. c. albemarlensis</i>
24	Santiago/S Cristobal	<i>A. c. mertensis</i>

	Common name	Scientific name
25	Espanola "	<i>A. c. venustissimus</i>
26	Genovesa "	<i>A. c. nanus</i>
28	Central Galapagos Racer Snake	
29	Santa Cruz East Giant Tortoise	<i>G. donfaustoi</i>
MAMMALS		
1	Galapagos Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus wollebacki</i>
2	Galapagos Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus galapagoensis</i>
3	Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>
9	Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>