

Flying Tortoise Marathon And Running Events,  
Guayaquil/Santa Cruz Package July 30 to Aug. 8,  
2010 Ten people maximum per group.



Fri. July 30: Arrive from US on flights scheduled by travelers. Sheraton Hotel shuttle receives guests. We like the Sheraton in Guayaquil because it is close to the airport and very reliable with its shuttle services and help.

Despite any propaganda you may read or hear, there really isn't much reason to be anywhere else in Guayaquil except ready to leave.



Sat. July 31: Flight to San Cristobal Galapagos where you'll be met by running event coordinators. Typical arrival time 1PM. Lunch, orientation, first snorkel expedition to swim with sea lions, turtles, rays etc. Sunset and dinner.



### Galapagos Notes:

You'll be running the following day of your arrival and the event coordinators will be sure you get set up at your hotel, with snorkel equipment, understand where the beaches are, restaurant where you will be eating etc. San Cristobal is an easy town to get around. You can walk from one end to the other in five minutes. The day after the running events is a "lite" day where you'll be touring the far side of the island, giant tortoises, farms etc. Your bilingual Galapagos National Park guide will be available dawn to dusk for whatever you may need for the remainder of the time you're in the Galapagos. He/she has a thorough knowledge of the geology, biology, history, current status

and gossip of the Galapagos, as well as the experience of living here and knows when and where to be in order to make the most of your time, whether it's iguana watching, sunset viewing, snorkeling or hammock location.

Guests stay in the finest hotels available here on San Cristobal and Isabela, however this tour is focused more toward adventure and exploration rather than shopping and fine dining. Breakfasts are had at the hotel. All other meals are provided by the premier restaurants here, Miramar its award winning chef Santiago Teran or The Albemarle on Isabela.



Should anyone wish to, Salsa dancing is available some late nights at the local's club where you'll be the only gringos in the place and the locals will likely be buying drinks and showing you some steps.

It is entirely possible to snorkel every dawn and sunset with the sea life. Your guide has years of experience snorkeling with everyone from deep water free divers to complete novices. Most of them are certified Dive Masters. Their goal is to be sure you enjoy all the riches of the Galapagos to the fullest and quite a few of those riches are to be found underwater.



Sun. Aug. 1: Race day. Van takes you to race site. Below are a series of pictures of the course. Dirt roads and trails, minor undulations, no "major" hills. The vast majority of the course is shaded.

The marathon will start at 8:00 AM, the half marathon at 9:00 AM and the 10K at 10:00 AM.



Post race late PM Barbeque and post race debriefing and medal presentations.



Mon. Aug. 2: "Lite" day with your Galapagos National Park guide. You won't have to move any faster than a tortoise. All day tour of the far side of the island: Commune with the Giant Tortoises in their reserve, visit the local farms where much of the food provided is grown, bananas, bamboo, papaya, guavas etc. People are often surprised at how entertaining this visit actually is. Visit Puerto Chino (pristine isolated beach) and El Junco, the highest elevation on the island and volcano crater now filled with water.

We have been pioneering a program with local farmers to purchase produce from them. The town has grown accustomed to purchasing its produce from the continent where the large corporate farms can afford to grow, ship the produce and sell for a price that has made farming here a non profitable enterprise. We know generally months in advance how many people are coming and can go to the farmers and tell them on this date we are going to need X number of tomatoes, lettuce, etc. Many of these crops they can plant and grow knowing they will have a secure market for them.





The family who runs the farm you will be visiting provides lunch and samples of their home grown and roasted Galapagos coffee. It is a very peaceful place.

This night at dinner there will be a guest speaker from the Charles Darwin Foundation who will give a brief presentation.



Tues. Aug. 3: All day chartered boat trip to tip of the island and islets. Snorkeling with sharks, rays, turtles and sea lions. Visit nesting grounds of Frigate Birds, Pelicans, Boobies, Tropical birds, etc. Roam gorgeous, deserted, pristine beaches that could make travel posters cry.



Typical hectic morning, Galapagos, Ecuador.



Note sea turtle just beyond reach.





Wed. Aug. 4: Early morning travel to Isabela Island with your Galapagos National Park guide. This involves a short inter island plane flight. The flight is very scenic and an opportunity few tourists receive to view the Galapagos Islands from the air.

The plane lands in Puerto Villamil, Isabela where you will check into either Casa de Marita (check page on our web site) or Hotel Albemarle ([hotelalbemarle.com](http://hotelalbemarle.com)), the two nicest hotels on Isabela and tour the small town (Pop. 1,000). It is possible to snorkel with penguins there right in front of the hotel. There is a long beach to walk where flamingos can often be seen.



Thur. Aug. 5: Your hotel fronts a long sand beach. Depending on the group's mood/energy level and the weather, there's a hike to a volcano, Sierra Negra, the tortoise breeding station, a private tortoise farm, Campo Duro, flamingos, penguins, choose among these things. We will have booked a three hour boat trip in either the AM or PM to Shark Island where sharks can be seen "sleeping" from above and where there is a wonderful snorkel site a short distance away.





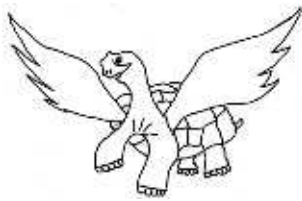
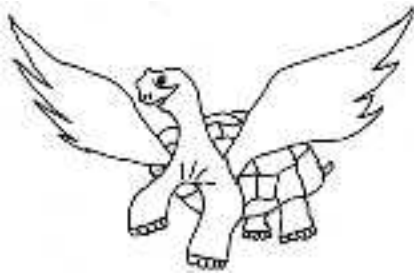
Fri. Aug. 6: You'll take the inter island plane again which will land you on the small island of Baltra where you'll take a fairy crossing to the Island of Santa Cruz. Puerto Ayora is located on the far (south) side of the island. While crossing the island you'll stop and tour the sites in the highlands of Santa Cruz, Los Gemelos and Lava Tube/Tunnels. You will be staying at a B&B in Puerto Ayora, Lodge Chevere (Cool Lodge).



Sat. Aug. 7: Airport transfer across island and ferry crossing to arrive at Baltra airport and connecting return flight to Guayaquil, received by Sheraton Shuttle Service



Sun. Aug. 8: Return International Flight. Sheraton shuttle insures that all arrive in the international terminal with your luggage, photos, smiles on your faces and hopefully a place in your hearts for Ecuador and the Galapagos.



Included In Flying Tortoise Marathon And Running Events, Guayaquil/Santa Cruz Package July 30 to Aug. 8, 2010. Ten people maximum per group.

- All airport transfers in Guayaquil and the Galapagos
- All ground transportation to tours and boat trips in the Galapagos
- All breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and non-alcoholic beverages, some snacks in the Galapagos excepting meals on Santa Cruz to allow for flexibility and in Guayaquil. Breakfasts are included at hotels.
- Two nights double occupancy Sheraton Hotel, Guayaquil 7/30 and 8/7
- Round trip air between Guayaquil and Galapagos. Guayaquil-San Cristobal 7/31 and Baltra-Guayaquil 8/7
- Bilingual Galapagos National Park guide 8/2 thru 8/7
- Four nights (double occupancy) Cabanas Pimampiro, Casa Blanca or Casa de Nelly San Cristobal 7/31 thru 8/3
- An all day privately chartered boat tour to islets and far side of island (see details on itinerary) 8/3
- All day tour of the far side of the island (tortoises/ see itinerary) 8/2
- Inter island flights San Cristobal-Isabela 8/4 and Isabela-Baltra 8/6
- Two nights (double occupancy) Hotel Albemarle ([hotelalbemarle.com](http://hotelalbemarle.com)) or Casa de Marita, Isabela 8/4 and 8/5
- All day tour of Isabela including: Sierra Negra (active volcano), penguins, tortoise breeding ground and flamingos. 8/5
- One night double occupancy Lodge Chevere, Puerto Ayora Santa Cruz 8/6
- Tour of Santa Cruz highlands 8/6
- Unlimited snorkeling, exploring, surfing, animal watching, swimming with the help of your guide

-Snorkeling equipment for duration of Galapagos leg of tour

Not included: Food while in Guayaquil (though breakfasts are included with hotels), Race registration (\$60, \$50 or \$40) International airfare, airport taxes (Quito \$42, Isabela \$15), Galapagos National Park entrance and transit/entrance card fee (\$110), alcoholic beverages and tips.

Per person cost \$2,965 (6 to 10 people per group)  
Single Supplement \$610