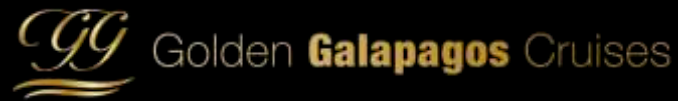


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Nature Reloaded in the Galapagos

The awe-inspiring Galapagos Islands are home to so many incredible natural wonders that you can't believe that a trip to the archipelago can get even better – but it can! While the islands are home to hundreds of fearless species of wildlife, giving visitors up-close encounters with some of the most and most fascinating species on the planet, the fact that very few people visited the Galapagos in the last nine months of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic means that the wildlife on the islands and their surrounding waters are even more active than ever! On our recent cruise that began just before Christmas, our guests have witnessed incredible shows of nature that are probably uncommon, even in the Galapagos.



● **Bursting with Life Beneath the Waves**

The Galapagos Islands are well-known for providing visitors with the opportunity to swim with different species of sharks and rays. However, this experience is usually reserved for special spots rather than for swimmers and snorkelers around the archipelago. Since the islands have re-opened for tourism, however, our guides have been able to identify large schools of hammerhead sharks and giant manta rays swimming near the surface, and have taken our guests out for memorable snorkeling trips! The abnormally large numbers of species beneath the waves has meant that our guests have snorkeled with sizeable groups of golden rays, marine turtles, and even reef sharks. To mention the characteristically playful sea lions found throughout the archipelago.



In addition to finding larger groups of wildlife, species were also spotted in places where they aren't seen, leading to several unexpected, thrilling encounters. Multiple guests commented on the fact that they had never seen so much marine life on any previous snorkeling and diving trips to other locations around the world, making their trip with Golden Galapagos Cruises their best ever!

● **Bursting with Life on Land**

Our guides and guests haven't only witnessed more wildlife underwater – there are significant numbers of birds and reptiles on the islands, too. On our guided walks across the Galapagos' worldly landscapes, guests and visitors have noticed significantly more nests than usual. Amazing up-close encounters with different bird species at different stages of life – baby chicks, and nesting parents, none of which are bothered by our presence. This makes our visits more incredible, providing guests with one-of-a-kind photo opportunities and unique insights into the life cycles of some of the Galapagos' endemic species.



● **Enhanced Biosafety Standards**

In the weeks and months prior to resuming our Galapagos cruises, we worked tirelessly to implement and test enhanced biosafety measures for our guests from the moment they arrive until the moment they leave. The enthusiasm and excitement of our team to provide our guests with a safe, less, relaxing and fully enjoyable experience in the archipelago aboard our luxury catamaran is evident from the very beginning, and our guests have not only loved their time with us, they have also appreciated the new measures taken to ensure they are entirely safe.



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our enhanced biosafety measures include additional safety protocols in common areas, multiple hand sanitizer stations located throughout our vessels, and regular testing for our crew members. We also provide our guests with two new respiratory masks for their comfort and ease of mind.

● Galapagos Transformed

Visiting the Galapagos today is different than ever before – safer than ever, more fascinating and, simply put, there's more wildlife on land and under the waves than ever before. When you've visited the Galapagos in the past, now is an incredibly unique time to come!




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