



Do you love diving and
marine life?

Welcome to Chasqui Trek's

2027 Galápagos Scuba Tour

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Get ready to experience one of the most remarkable diving destinations on Earth. The Galapagos archipelago encompasses a highly protected marine reserve spanning 51,351 mi² (133,000 km²) — an aquatic paradise that remains pristine, virtually unaffected by human impact and pollution.

The Galapagos Islands are regarded as one of the world's premier diving locations due to their unique position at the convergence of major ocean currents, attracting both tropical and temperate species. The expansive marine reserve ensures the waters remain clean and full of life.



The area is famous for encounters with large marine animals such as schooling hammerhead sharks, whale sharks, and manta rays, along with endemic species including marine iguanas, sea lions, and Galapagos penguins.

Galapagos is one of the most exceptional dive destinations in the world. Chasqui Treks' *Galapagos Scuba Tour* offers the perfect balance of value, limited travel time, professionalism, experience, and unforgettable diving experiences.

We pride ourselves on attention to detail, fun, education, and safety. Throughout your journey in the Galapagos, you will be personally guided by



Chasqui Treks founder Peter Shear, who brings over twenty years of experience leading groups in Ecuador and the Galápagos.

Itinerary



SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

Day 1 – Arrival, Saturday, March 13, 2027

Arrive at your hotel in Puerto Ayora. Welcome lunch and orientation.

Day 2 – North Seymour and Mosquera (2 immersions)

Diving at **these classic sites** provides a perfect introduction to the archipelago's rich marine biodiversity.

- *North Seymour*: Known for white-tip reef sharks, sea turtles, rays, and large schools of fish. The underwater landscape includes rocky reefs and sandy bottoms.



- *Mosquera*: Offers a higher likelihood of seeing large pelagic species such as hammerhead sharks and is home to a large sea lion colony.

Day 3 – Gordon Rocks (2 immersions)

The world-famous **Gordon Rocks** site is renowned for abundant marine life and frequent sightings of schooling hammerhead sharks, Galápagos sharks, white-tip reef sharks, sea turtles, manta rays, and barracuda. This is a challenging and thrilling dive that requires strong buoyancy control, and focus, — a true test of diving skill.



Lunch in Puerto Ayora is followed by an afternoon boat transfer to **Isabela Island**.

ISABELA ISLAND

Day 4 – Isla Tortuga (2 immersions)

Isla Tortuga, formed by a massive volcanic eruption, is an underwater haven featuring coral-covered slopes and cleaning stations frequented by marine



turtles. Common sightings include sea lions, hammerhead sharks, and giant manta rays.

Day 5– Cuatro Hermanos (2 immersions)

The first dive is a wall dive descending up to 25 meters, where currents have shaped rock formations and fostered coral, anemone, and urchin growth. The second dive is a drift dive starting at a cave and leading to a sandy bottom at about 18 meters.



SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

Day 6 – Travel to San Cristobal Island

6 00 AM boat transfer to Puerto Ayora (2-3 hours). After breakfast in Puerto Ayora we will have about 5 hours of free time. Possible activities are relaxing at Darwin Center beach, walking to the world famous Tortuga Bay Beach (45 minutes each way) or just shopping and relaxing in town. 3 PM boat transfer to San Cristobal Island. (2-3 hours). Check into hotel, dinner.



Day 7- Whale Rock and Tijeretas Wall (2 immersions)

We dive **Whale Rock**, known for dramatic rock structures and marine life such as Galapagos sharks and turtles. Continue to **Tijeretas Wall**, a stunning site with vertical walls, colorful coral gardens, and frequent manta ray encounters.



Day 8 – Saturday, March 20, 2027: León Dormido (2 immersions)

Conclude your diving adventure at **León Dormido or Kicker Rock**, one of the Galapagos' most iconic dive sites. Its vast volcanic walls host hammerhead sharks, manta rays, sea turtles, and an incredible variety of reef fish. Hotel included on Day 8. End of tour.

NOTE: You must plan for the required 18 hour preflight surface interval before flying, with time to spare.

HOW LONG SHOULD YOU WAIT? SUGGESTED MINIMUM SURFACE INTERVALS



Single day
no-deco dive

12+
hours



Multi-day or repetitive
no-deco dives

18+
hours



Mandatory
deco dive

24+
hours

Longer surface intervals further reduce DCS risk

These guidelines apply to divers who have no symptoms of decompression sickness (DCS) and will be flying at cabin altitudes of 2,000-8,000 ft (610 to 2,438 meters)



Dive Site Data: Day to Day



North Seymour and Mosquera

Visibility: 10–30 m

Temperature: Jan–Jul 23–25°C

Depth: 12–18 m

Dive time: 45 min

Wildlife: Hammerhead, Galápagos, and white-tip sharks; rays; sea turtles; sea lions; reef fish; barracuda.

Birdlife: Blue-footed and Nazca boobies, pelicans, frigatebirds.



Gordon Rocks

Visibility: 10–30 m

Temperature: Jan–Jul 20–24°C

Depth: 15–25 m

Dive time: 45 min

Wildlife: Hammerhead and Galápagos sharks, sea turtles, sea lions, rays, moray eels, and large schools of fish.

Birdlife: Blue-footed boobies, gulls, pelicans, frigatebirds.

Isla Tortuga

Visibility: 10–30 m

Temperature: Jan–Jul 23–25°C

Depth: 15–20 m

Dive time: 45 min

Wildlife: Hammerhead, black-tip, and white-tip sharks; sea turtles; manta rays; starfish; sea urchins; reef fish.

Birdlife: Blue-footed and Nazca boobies, pelicans, frigatebirds, marine iguanas, tropical birds.

Cuatro Hermanos

Visibility: 10–30 m

Temperature: Jan–Jul 23–25°C

Depth: 15–20 m

Dive time: 45 min

Wildlife: Hammerhead, white-tip, and black-tip sharks; sea turtles; manta rays; Galapagos fur seals; reef fish.

Birdlife: Blue-footed and Nazca boobies, pelicans, frigatebirds, marine iguanas, tropical birds.



Whale Rock and Tijeretas Wall

Visibility: 10–25 m

Temperature: Jan–Jul 23–25°C

Depth: 10–18 m

Dive time: 45 min

Wildlife: Galápagos and reef sharks, manta rays, sea turtles, dolphins, rays, sea lions, reef fish.

Birdlife: Blue-footed boobies, pelicans, frigatebirds.

León Dormido (Kicker Rock)

Visibility: 10–30 m

Temperature: Jan–Jul 23–25°C

Depth: 18–22 m

Dive time: 45 min

Wildlife: Hammerhead, Galápagos, and white/black-tip sharks; manta rays; sea turtles; dolphins; reef fish.

Birdlife: Blue-footed and Nazca boobies, pelicans, frigatebirds.

FAQs

How much diving experience do I need to participate in the Chasqui Treks Galapagos Scuba Tour?

- Advanced Open Water certification (PADI or equivalent).
- A minimum of 20 logged dives.
- A dive within the last six months before the tour to ensure safety and diver comfort.

The Galapagos Islands are known for strong currents, cool water, and challenging wall dives. While the marine life is unparalleled, divers should be



prepared for physically demanding conditions and maintain strong swimming skills.

Should I bring my own gear?

If you have your own equipment, absolutely.

Personal gear often provides the best fit and comfort, helping you feel more confident in strong currents and variable temperatures. Divers who bring their full gear receive a **\$200 discount** off the package price.



If you do not have your own gear, no worries. High-quality equipment is available on the islands and is included in the tour price.

What gear do I need to bring or rent?

Standard dive gear such as a regulator, BCD, and mask is required.

For the cooler waters, you'll also need a **7mm wetsuit with hood**. areas or during the cooler season. A semi-dry option is a good choice. **5mm** is suitable for divers who are less sensitive to cold, but it's best to have a thicker option for the colder spots or to layer with additional gear.

A dive computer, reef hook, and surface marker buoy are also essential for safety and navigation in strong currents.

How is the weather and water conditions in April?

In **April**, the Galápagos is warm and lush. Land temperatures typically range from **73–88°F (23–31°C)**, with humid conditions, brief tropical showers, and plenty of sunshine in between.



The **ocean is warm**, averaging **77–82°F (25–28°C)**. Seas are generally calm, and **underwater visibility is excellent**, often reaching **up to 30 meters (100 feet)**. April is an excellent month for snorkeling and diving, as well as for observing abundant wildlife both on land and in the water.

Galápagos in April: At a glance

- **Warm & Wet Season** – green, vibrant landscapes
 - **Air temperature:** 23–31°C / 73–88°F
 - **Sea temperature:** 25–28°C / 77–82°F
 - **Average monthly rainfall:** 4–7 cm / 1.5–2.8 in
 - **Short rain showers** followed by long sunny intervals
 - **Underwater visibility:** 10–30 m
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What is my accommodation like?

This is a **land-based scuba tour**: you sleep in clean, comfortable, and functional hotels on Santa Cruz, Isabela, and San Cristobal Islands. Accommodations are conveniently located near restaurants, shops, and scenic natural areas. Rooms are shared double occupancy or matrimonial, with single-room supplements available upon request.





How's the food?

Breakfast is provided daily at the hotel, typically including coffee, juice, eggs, bread, and fruit. Snacks are served on board between dives, and lunch — often consisting of soup, rice, beans, salad, and fresh fish — follows each dive session. Dinners are not included, allowing participants to enjoy excellent and diverse local restaurants according to their culinary needs.



Are there other activities besides diving?

Most afternoons allow free time for nature walks, beach visits, sea lion and iguana watching, and even a visit to a giant tortoise breeding center.

Where do we meet up?

The tour begins with lunch on **Saturday, March 14, 2026**, in **Puerto Ayora (Santa Cruz Island)**, and ends with breakfast on **Sunday, March 22, 2026** in **San Cristobal (San Cristobal Island)**. Flights to the mainland are available from both towns, so you can fly into Santa Cruz and fly out from San Cristobal. Participants arrange their own transportation to and from





Puerto Ayora. **Chasqui Treks** will gladly assist with travel planning and logistics.

Price per person: \$3790

Single room supplement: \$480

What is included?

- Lodging
 - All breakfasts, lunches, and onboard snacks
 - All diving equipment and gear
 - 12 immersions
 - Certified diving guides
 - All boat, land, and inter-island air transportation
 - Full-time Chasqui Treks tour leader
 - Offset of in-country carbon footprint through native species reforestation on the mainland.
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What is not included

- Dinners
 - Alcoholic beverages
 - Galápagos National Park entry fee
 - Transport between Baltra Airport (GPS) and Puerto Ayora
 - Transport between Puerto Ayora and Baltra Airport (GPS)
 - International air transport to and from Baltra Airport (GPS)
 - Valid travel health insurance covering diving and emergency care (required)
 - Tips
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Note: The tour starts in Puerto Ayora on April 18, 2026 and ends in San Cristobal on April 25, 2026.



The Chasqui Treks Story

by Peter Shear

Passion. Adventure. Solidarity. Honesty. These are the cornerstones on which Chasqui Treks are built. They are what make us the best boutique, customizable, specialty tour operator in Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands.

I have been working, living, farming, guiding, teaching, and raising my children in Ecuador since 2000 and the unbelievable beauty and diversity of my adopted country never ceases to amaze me.



Ecuador has seen a huge increase in tourism since 2000. But, like with any business, there are winners and losers. Too often, local communities, people, and ecosystems are the losers in the tourism game, with tour operators reaping profits while locals fight for the scraps of what should be sustainable, inclusive economic growth.

Chasqui Treks is different.

We work actively to foment true community tourism, helping locals take ownership of tourism programs. We can talk about ecotourism all day, but until the people who actually live in the pristine natural areas that attract tourists see concrete benefits, true ecological conservation will never happen.

Chasqui Treks donates 10% of all post-tax profit to CASA Interamericana, a small foundation working with communities in Ecuador to develop sustainable living alternatives and economic development projects: the establishment of a Spanish School and Community Tourism program, basic infrastructure for rural areas like bridges and constructed wetland sewage treatment systems, environmental and art education in schools, the promotion of sustainable agriculture techniques, subsidies for school transportation, and much more.



We train and hire local, native guides, drivers, cooks, lecturers, naturalists, and ecologists (and pay them the highest wages, by far, in the world of tourism in Ecuador).

We also recognize that there is an ecological cost to bringing tourists to Ecuador. That is why every single Chasqui Treks program and trip is carbon offset through the reforestation of native tree species. We work directly with Canopy Co, a local reforestation program. Chasqui Treks is the only tour operator in Ecuador that can claim to be 100% carbon neutral.

Chasqui Treks offers the best adventure and service itineraries in Ecuador, at a fair price, with a true commitment to conservation, cultural respect, and economic ethics.

Many clients have asked me how we offer better adventure tourism programs for a lower price. The answer is simple: *Profit is not our main motivation. We love what we do, the people we work with, and the incredibly biodiverse part of the planet known as Ecuador and the Galápagos Islands!*

Peter Shear, Owner/Founder



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P Shear".





Payment Policy:

To hold your place- 50% refundable until January 25, 2027.

100% non-refundable due by March 1, 2027

To reserve your spot on this once-in-a-lifetime scuba adventure, contact Peter directly or make your payment by clicking here:

<https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/TSZZHA3VHAVPU>

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