



# Galápagos Islands Cruise, Peru, and Machu Picchu

April 20 - May 2, 2026

\$13,695/double • \$17,449/single (airfare included)

## Where Ancient Empires Meet Living Evolution

From the mist-wreathed Andes to the otherworldly islands of the Pacific, this extraordinary journey traces two of South America's greatest treasures — the lost citadel of Machu Picchu and the wild sanctuaries of the Galápagos.

In Peru, follow in the footsteps of the Incas through valleys, colorful markets, and mountaintop temples. Then in Ecuador, stand astride the equator before setting sail aboard the intimate Yacht Isabela II, where Darwin's living laboratory unfolds before your eyes — giant tortoises lumbering through misty highlands, blue-footed boobies dancing on sunlit cliffs, and sea lions napping on black lava shores. This is a journey through myth, nature, and wonder, a blend of cultural discovery and natural spectacle, crafted for those who seek the extraordinary.

## TOUR INCLUDES

- Local home pick-up service and luggage handling
- All meals, attractions, guides, and activities
- Fully escorted by Globe Treks tour manager
- Four-night Galápagos Island Cruise aboard the *Yacht Isabela II* with guided shore landings, snorkeling, and Zodiac excursions
- Lima, Cusco, Peru, Sacred Valley and Quito
- Visit Machu Picchu on the Vistadome Observatory Train
- Pisac Markets, Maras Salt pans, and Moray Terraces
- Experience Peruvian Paso horses on a working ranch
- Lima City Tour - historic plazas and colonial treasures
- Learn Andean textile traditions in the Sacred Valley
- Discover Quito's colonial quarter and the Equator Line at Mitad del Mundo
- Marvel at Basilica del Voto Nacional and the gilded Church of La Compañía

*prices & itineraries subject to change*

Reserve your spot! (828) 692-1399 • [globetreks.com](http://globetreks.com)

Office Location: 1605 Asheville Highway, Hendersonville, NC 28791

# Galápagos Islands Cruise, Peru and Machu Picchu: **Day by Day**

## **Day 1: Monday, April 20 – Departure for Lima**

A Globe Treks representative greets you at your door and escorts you to the airport for your flight to Lima, Peru, the “City of Kings.” Upon arrival, you’ll be met and transferred to your elegant hotel in the seaside district of Miraflores. Rest and prepare for your adventure ahead.

## **Day 2: Tuesday, April 21 – Colonial & Modern Lima**

Begin your exploration of Lima with a guided city tour of its historic heart, where Spanish architecture and Inca stonework intertwine. Visit Plaza Mayor, the Cathedral, and the San Francisco Monastery, famed for its intricate cloisters and catacombs. Continue through modern neighborhoods like San Isidro and Miraflores, with stops at El Olivar Park and Parque del Amor overlooking the Pacific. Conclude with a visit to the Larco Herrera Museum, where gold, ceramics, and textiles illuminate 3,000 years of Peruvian culture. Dinner tonight introduces Peru’s world-acclaimed cuisine.

## **Day 3: Wednesday, April 22 – Flight to Cusco & the Sacred Valley**

Fly to Cusco, the ancient Incan capital nestled high in the Andes, then descend into the lush Sacred Valley. Visit an Andean textile center, where local women spin and dye alpaca wool using techniques passed down for centuries. Meet the llamas, alpacas, and vicuñas that sustain this tradition. Stroll through the colorful Pisac Market, alive with artisans and farmers trading crafts and produce. After lunch at Hacienda Huayocari, a restored colonial estate with panoramic views of the valley, check into your hotel for a restful evening amid the mountains.

## **Day 4: Thursday, April 23 – The Citadel of Machu Picchu**

Board the Vistadome Observatory Train for a scenic journey along the Urubamba River. Watch as the landscape shifts from high alpine peaks to emerald jungle canyons. Arrive in Aguas Calientes and ascend by coach to the legendary Machu Picchu, the “Lost City of the Incas.” A guided tour brings the ancient terraces, temples, and plazas to life — from the Temple of the Three Windows to the Sacred Sun Dial. After a gourmet lunch at Sumaq Machu Picchu, return by train to the Sacred Valley for a night of quiet reflection on this unforgettable day.

## **Day 5: Friday, April 24 – Chinchero, Maras & Moray**

This morning, explore the Andean village of Chinchero, with its colonial church and colorful weaving traditions. Continue to the dazzling Maras Saltpans, where thousands of terraced pools gleam in the sun, and to Moray’s circular terraces, an ancient Incan agricultural laboratory. Enjoy lunch at Rancho Wayra, where graceful Peruvian Paso horses perform to the rhythm of La Marinera. Return to your Cusco hotel for an evening at leisure amid the red-tiled rooftops and mountain air.

## **Day 6: Saturday, April 25 – Flight to Quito**

Fly north to Quito, Ecuador, a city straddling the equator and brimming with colonial splendor. Your guided exploration begins at the Mitad del Mundo Monument, where you can stand with one foot in each hemisphere. Visit the Basilica del Voto Nacional, climb its gothic towers for panoramic views, and marvel at the gold-leaf interior of the Church of La Compañía, one of the most beautiful in Latin America. Enjoy lunch at Casa Gangotena, a historic mansion turned boutique hotel on Plaza San Francisco. This evening, unwind at your centrally located Quito hotel.

## **Day 7: Sunday, April 26 – Quito’s Colonial Treasures**

Continue exploring Quito’s historic core, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where cobblestone streets lead past monasteries, arcades, and lively plazas. Visit Independence Square, see the Presidential Palace, and stop at Casa del Higo, a hidden courtyard known for its legendary fig tree and traditional sweets. Dinner tonight celebrates Ecuadorian flavors and Andean hospitality.

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## **Day 8: Monday, April 27 – To the Galápagos & Boarding the Yacht Isabela II**

A morning flight takes you to Baltra Island, gateway to the Galápagos. After a short ferry to Santa Cruz Island, ascend through lush highlands to observe giant tortoises in their natural habitat and walk through lava tunnels formed by ancient eruptions. Following lunch, travel to Puerto Ayora to board the elegant *Yacht Isabela II*, your home for four nights. Enjoy a welcome dinner as your ship sets sail into the sunset, the islands glowing in evening light.

### ***Life Aboard the Yacht Isabela II***

Sleek, intimate, and purpose-built for exploration, the Yacht Isabela II carries just 40 guests in comfort and style. Her teak decks, panoramic lounge, and open-air observation platform provide front-row views of the islands' ever-changing drama — from volcanic peaks to turquoise coves alive with sea turtles and rays.

Cabins feature ocean-view windows and modern amenities, while the dining room serves Ecuadorian and international cuisine crafted from fresh local ingredients. Each day brings guided Zodiac landings, snorkeling in crystal waters, and close encounters with Galápagos wildlife. Evenings are tranquil, filled with conversation, fine wine, and the hum of the Pacific. On Isabela II, adventure and elegance sail side by side.

## **Day 9: Tuesday, April 28 – Santiago Island & Chinese Hat**

This morning's wet landing on Santiago Island reveals black-sand beaches and lava grottoes alive with marine iguanas, fur seals, and blue herons. In the afternoon, explore Chinese Hat Islet, where volcanic cones rise from the sea. Snorkel with colorful fish and perhaps spot white-tipped reef sharks or playful Galápagos penguins in the cove.

## **Day 10: Wednesday, April 29 – Genovesa Island**

Arrive at Genovesa Island, a remote haven for seabirds. A panga ride along the cliffs precedes the climb up Prince Philip's Steps, leading to a plateau alive with Nazca boobies, frigatebirds, and storm petrels. After lunch, visit Darwin Bay, where red-footed boobies and gulls nest among mangroves and lava rocks. Snorkel or kayak along the bay, surrounded by curious sea lions and tropical fish.

## **Day 11: Thursday, April 30 – Santa Fe & South Plaza Islands**

Make a dry landing on Santa Fe Island, home to sea lion colonies and the endemic Santa Fe land iguana. Hike through cactus forests with panoramic ocean views, then snorkel in clear waters or take a glass-bottom boat excursion. After lunch, continue to South Plaza Island, where red succulents, golden iguanas, and bright blue skies create a painter's palette of color. Watch frigatebirds soar overhead and sea lions lounge along the rocky shore.

## **Day 12: Friday, May 1 – Baltra / Return to Quito**

After breakfast aboard the Isabela II, disembark on Baltra Island and transfer to the airport for your return flight to Quito. Connect with your international flight back to western North Carolina, filled with memories of ancient empires, timeless wildlife, and the enduring spirit of South America.



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