



GALAPAGOS

COME DIVE THE GALAPAGOS GROUP OF ISLANDS!

Perhaps our first association with the word "Galapagos" is the name "Darwin."

When Charles Darwin set off from England in 1831 for a five-year voyage, Darwin, had little ambitions for groundbreaking scientific research. A rather unmotivated and failing medical scholar, Darwin accompanied Captain Robert Fitzroy as a travel companion and naturalist on the HMS Beagle.

During his visit to the Galapagos islands, Darwin noted that the unique creatures were similar from island to island, but perfectly adapted to their environments which led him to ponder the origin of the islands' inhabitants. This had a resounding impact on the formation of his Theory of Natural Selection.

Years later in 1859, Darwin finally consolidated all of his observations into his famous book On "The Origin of Species", drastically and controversially altering the scientific view on the biological origins of life.



TRIP COSTS:

\$8440.00us

(2020) Ex San Cristobal, Galapagos

(prices for 2021 might change)

Incl:

- All diving, accom onboard,
- 10 days diving,
- airport transfers,
- Nitrox for O/C divers

excl:

- Flights into and out of Galapagos
- CCR Levy - \$1500us all inclusive,
- Park fees (\$100)
- Chamber fees (\$35)

2020 DATES:

06-16 Sept CCR ONLY
16-26 Sept 50/50 CCR & O/C

2021 DATES:

04-14 Sept CCR ONLY
15-25 Sept 50/50 CCR & O/C

The Vessel



MV Galapagos Sky is a 33m long, steel hull expedition vessel which accommodates 16 guests in 8 cabins.

There are 4 Master Cabins and 4 Delux Cabins. Every room as Robes, Ensuite bathrooms Eco-friendly toiletries and an Evening turndown service. Food: Ecuadorian and International Cuisine. Breakfast buffet, eggs made to order, Lunch buffet, Dinner fine plated, Snacks after dives, Vegetarian preferences accommodated Gluten free preferences accommodated to best of ability. Beer and wine provided with dinner. Sodas, coffee, tea available 24 hours. Morning beverage service available in cabin.

Dive Deck

With two distinctive groups of divers, CCR and Open Circuit we will be staggering the groups into the water to allow for less congested dive sites. On the 6-16 Sept 2020 this will be a CCR only

trip and the 16-26 Sept 2020 will be a 50/50 CCR and O/C trip.

FREE Nitrox, Nautilus Lifeline provided for use during cruise Surface markers provided for use during cruise. Hot showers, Hot towels, Hot chocolate. Camera table.

There is a Limited number of 100 cubic ft/ 15 litre aluminium tanks available for rent.

Dive Conditions

All dives are done off "pangas" which are 5m inflatable boats. 8 guests per panga with a dive guide. Divers gear up on the dive deck then board the pangas with assistance from the crew. Back roll negative entry. After dive, gear removed in water, handed to crew and board panga with ladder. Water temp is 24 degrees in the North (Darwin and Wolf) and drops to 14 degrees C in the south. So drysuits are strongly recommended (or 7mm wetsuits).

The diving conditions are also very challenging with strong currents, surge and waves which make entry and exiting off the tenders difficult at times. You must be comfortable in the water with a minimum of advanced Open Water cert with 50 dives (and Nitrox cert).

All dives will be NDL dives and there is no need to go deeper than 30m (most of the action is in the 30m and shallower areas).

MV GALAPAGOS SKY

DIVE VESSEL



THE DIVING



On these unique 10 day excursions round the archipelago we have chosen to extend our trips from 7-10 days in order to get the most out of the Galapagos. Spending 5 days round World Renown Darwin and Wolf Islands is a privilege not many get to experience. Here we will be engulfed with some of the most prolific pelagic life on the planet. Schooling Hammerheads (and I am talking about literally thousands of these majestic animals in the water), Galapagos Shark, Jacks, Dolphins, Whales, Seals, Whale shark (the size of small buses) and turtles. The list goes on. You certainly be in SHOCK and AWE of this place.

One of the best things you will soon learn about the Galapagos is the extreme diversity of the place. Because of the rich, deep (cold) water currents hitting different parts of the islands, the ecosystems vary tremendously. There is a 10 degree water temperature change between Darwin Island and Isabela Island to the south. Sightings of giant Mola Mola (sunfish) coming into the shallows in the mornings to get cleaned. Marine Iguana's feeding in 1-3 meters of water. You will also witness the worlds northern most penguin. Giant Manta Rays, Eagle Rays and Cowhead Rays quietly cruise above your head. (No wonder this place blew Darwin's mind!)

This destination will fulfil every big animal dream you have. Not to mention seeing things endemic to this area- Like Red Lipped Batfish for example.



About Lust4Rust & Shock&Awe Big Animal Diving

Pete Mesley is the driving force behind Lust4Rust and Shock&Awe Big Animal Diving.

"I started specialising in rebreather and technical diving trips about 18 years ago, shortly after I went on a diving holiday with my breather and couldn't get any assistance or support from the dive operator. On top of that, dive times were limited to 30-50min and the person that I was paired up with had done 10 dives in 4 years. This was not the way I had wanted to spend my diving holiday! So I did something about it - and started Lust4Rust and Aquatic Adventures .

So ever since then I have been focusing on producing quality dive trips globally, focusing on taking experienced divers to some of the best dive locations on the planet! We have a massive inventory of support equipment in many locations (Truk Lagoon, Bikini Atoll etc etc), Rebreather tanks, deco tanks, boosters, Helium, Sorb, Manifolded twins, sidemount etc. All to reduce the hassles of transporting them to your L4R and S&A diving destination.

Safety is of the utmost importance so on all our specialised trips to remove locations without EMS support we take a diving physician and a comprehensive medic kit, for everyones piece of mind.

Experience in the Diving Industry

Pete's passion for diving started in the cold English waters over 25 years ago. This is where his "Lust for Rust" was created and from then onwards he has dedicated himself to researching, finding, diving, photographing and leading expeditions to wreck diving meccas! With over 3000 + hours in-water experience spanning over 15 different countries, Pete has made diving a full time occupation.

Originally from Zimbabwe Pete married a Kiwi girl and moved to NZ in 1994. As well as being a PADI Course Director, Pete is a PADI Tech CCR Diving Instructor Trainer. Pete is one of the Southern Hemisphere's most experienced Technical divers and Instructors.

An accomplished photographer, Pete has an appetite for finding new places, new wrecks and documenting them for others to enjoy.

Pete has also been the first to find and dive WWI & II wrecks in NZ waters.

2013 Oztek Technical Diving Conference in Sydney Australia for "Exceptional Contributions to the Growth and Development of Technical Diving"

Member of the coveted explorers club.



Port Kembla, WWI wreck found in 2006



Oztek award 2013 presented by friend and frequent doctor on L4R trips Simon Mitchell



Nat Geo Britannic Expedition 2009



Leigh Bishop, a Truk Lagoon L4R Veteran!