



HOLBROOK
TRAVEL

PHOTOGRAPHY WITH REINIER MUNGUIA ABOARD YOLITA II

GALÁPAGOS

JULY 23 - AUGUST 2, 2010



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TRAVEL

Photos by Reinier Munguia

Charles Darwin set off on a voyage in 1831 that would change not only his own life, but change the world as well. What he saw, on an isolated group of islands out in the Pacific, prompted an intellectual voyage that would span 20 years, and would culminate in the revolutionary theory that living things are shaped by the world around them. Darwin found a place where some birds no longer fly, tortoises weigh 500 pounds, Antarctic penguins live on the equator, and Blue-footed Boobies perform elaborate dances for their mates. Our mission during this 11-day program is to photograph the unique wildlife and serene volcanic landscape of the Galápagos Archipelago. Join expert shooter Reinier Munguia for the adventure of a lifetime! No matter your skill level, you will learn from Reinier's vast experience as a wildlife photographer and teacher, while having the most unforgettable experiences on the trip of a lifetime in Las Islas Encantadas (The Enchanted Islands)!

ABOUT YOUR LEADER:

A nature photographer based in Lakeland, Florida, Reinier is recognized for his enthusiasm and passion for teaching others what he knows. His experience dates back to the early 90's when he taught several courses for the University of Puerto Rico. www.wildstockphotos.com

HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover new photo techniques in the midst of the magical biodiversity of this world famous archipelago
- Walk in Darwin's footsteps and explore the sites that inspired his legendary theory of evolution
- Learn about conservation initiatives and research programs at the Charles Darwin Research Station
- Get up close and personal with Blue-footed Boobies, Galápagos tortoises, and marine iguanas
- Watch the Blue-footed Boobies in their mating dance
- Observe and discuss the effects of development on the islands
- Enjoy hiking on the islands and stargazing aboard M/Y Yolita II
- Snorkel with sea lions and other marine wildlife
- Enjoy this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore and photograph one of the world's most inspiring ecosystems!

Cost is all inclusive in double occupancy and is based on a minimum of 9 participants. Not included is international airfare from your home city, gratuities for drivers/guides and departure tax of \$28. A \$350 per person deposit is necessary to confirm a booking. In order to guarantee reservations, all deposits should be received no later than 150 days prior to departure date (Feb 23, 2010). This deposit is refundable until then excluding a \$100 cancellation fee. Cancellations between 149-96 days before departure will result in loss of full deposit. Final payments are due no later than 95 days prior to departure (April 19, 2010). Cancellations received less than 95 days prior to departure are not refundable. Travel/trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. For more information call 800-243-3174. Holbrook's agency number is 15849.





Black-necked Stilts and Whimbrels. **Overnight aboard Yolita.** (BLD)

July 29

M/Y Yolita II

This morning disembark at Puerto Ayora on the island of Santa Cruz and visit the important Charles Darwin Research Station to learn about the conservation of the islands. After lunch on the boat have the afternoon free to explore Puerto Ayora or take an optional excursion at additional expense, arranged on site. **Overnight aboard Yolita.** (BLD)

July 30

M/Y Yolita II

This morning enjoy an excursion to Rabida Island. Rabida is one of the most volcanically varied islands in the chain. Marine iguanas and sea lions are often observed resting in the shade of the caves nearby. The island also offers perhaps the only opportunity to see pelicans nesting up close. It is additionally home to one of the best lagoons for viewing flamingos. In the afternoon visit Chinese Hat, a small island off the southeast tip of Santiago. The landscape is dominated by volcanic rubble, including sharp outcroppings, cracked lava formations and very fragile lava tubes which break when you step on them (staying on trails is especially important on this island). The island is home to sea lions and sally lightfoot crabs. **Overnight aboard Yolita.** (BLD)

July 31

M/Y Yolita II

This morning visit Bartolome, which is one of the youngest islands in the archipelago. It displays a fantastic landscape of lava formations. You will also visit the Pinnacle Rock, which is one of the best-known landmarks in the archipelago. Near the base of this tall, eroded pinnacle you can see multi-colored fish and penguins. In the afternoon enjoy a visit to Caleta Tortuga Negra, or Black Turtle Cove, in English, where you will likely observe the Galápagos green sea turtles. **Overnight aboard Yolita.** (BLD)

August 1

Guayaquil

This morning visit North Seymour, a low and flat island located slightly to the north of Baltra, which was formed as a result of the uplift of a submarine lava formation. The whole island is covered with low, bushy vegetation. The largest colony of magnificent frigate birds is found here, as well as a large population of bluefooted boobies when nesting conditions are right. Afterwards disembark, cross the channel to Baltra Island and transfer to the airport for your flight to Guayaquil. Lunch provided during your flight. This afternoon take a guided hike along the Malecon and the beautifully restored Santa Ana Hill district. Enjoy farewell dinner at the hotel. **Overnight at Grand Hotel Guayaquil.** (BLD)

August 2

Departure

Transfer to airport for your flight back home.

TRIP COST: \$3465 (Plus international airfare)

CONTACT: Debbie@HolbrookTravel.com



July 23

Guayaquil

Individual arrivals in Guayaquil. **Overnight at Grand Hotel Guayaquil.** No meals are included.

July 24

Puerto Ayora

After breakfast this morning depart for the airport and the flight to the Galápagos. Please note that there is a 44-pound weight limit for checked bags on the internal flights. On arrival in Baltra we are met and transferred to Puerto Ayora, stopping at Los Gemoles, the twin lava "craters." We also visit a highland finca/tortoise reserve to photograph tortoises in the wild. **Overnight at Hotel Silberstein.** (BLD)

July 25

M/Y Yolita II

Morning free for photography around town. Transfer to the dock to board the Yolita in the afternoon. (Subject to approval by Galápagos National Park, if not approved the group will travel overland to Baltra). **Overnight aboard Yolita.** (BLD)

July 26

M/Y Yolita II

This morning enjoy an excursion to South Plazas Island, which has one of the largest populations of land iguanas in the Galápagos and also a large colony of sea lions. In the afternoon visit Santa Fe Island, which has one of the best locations for swimming with sea lions and is also a great place to catch a glimpse of the Galápagos whitetipped shark and sea turtles. **Overnight aboard Yolita.** (BLD)

July 27

M/Y Yolita II

This morning begin your exploration of Española Island with an excursion at Gardner Bay, located on the eastern shore of the island. Here you will have the opportunity to hike along the white sand beach covered with sea lions. You'll notice the curious Galápagos mockingbirds here as well as brown pelicans. The bay is an excellent choice for swimming or snorkeling in the clear turquoise waters. This afternoon visit Punta Suarez, famous for its varied sea birds including large colonies of blue footed boobies, masked boobies, waved albatrosses, and swallow tailed gulls. Marine iguanas are also present. Catch a glimpse of the famous blowhole found here along the jagged cliffs. **Overnight aboard Yolita.** (BLD)

July 28

M/Y Yolita II

Today enjoy an exploration of Floreana Island, famous for the pirates post office, where you can leave mail and pick up any destined for your home town, no postage necessary! Next visit Cormorant Bay where a dense mangrove-belt behind the beach distinguishes the quiet lagoon. Here expect to see flamingos, Bahama Pintail Ducks,