

# WILDLIFE TRAVEL

## **GALAPAGOS & ECUADOR**

14<sup>th</sup> January to 1<sup>st</sup> February 2009



**WILDLIFE  
TRAVEL** 

All our profits are donated to The Wildlife Trusts

#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Arrival
2	15 <sup>th</sup> Jan	San Jorge de Quito. Cala Cali. Pahuma Orchid Reserve. Alambi (hummingbird feeders). San Jorge de Milpe
3	16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	San Jorge de Milpe. Road to Mindo. Sacha Tamia. Mariposas de Mindo.
4	17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Milpe to Cotopaxi
5	18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Cotopaxi
6	19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Cotopaxi to Quito
7	20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Quito to Baltra, via Guayaquil. Caleta Tortuga Negra, Santa Cruz.
8	21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Rabida. Puerto Egas, Santiago
9	22 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Bartholome. Sullivan Bay, Santiago
10	23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	South Plaza. Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz.
11	24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	San Cristobal: Puerto Baquerizo Moreno & Frigatebird Hill. Kicker Rock (Leon Dormido) & Cerro Brujo beach
12	25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Espanola: Bahia Gardner & Punta Suarez
13	26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Floreana: Post Office Bay, Devil's Crown & Punta Cormoran.
14	27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Santa Cruz: Bachas Beach and Charles Darwin Research Station
15	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Santa Cruz: highlands: Media Luna, Las Premicias, Los Gemelos
16	29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Santa Cruz: Finch Bay, Puerto Ayora, Angermeyer Point.
17	30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Santa Cruz. Baltra. Return to Guayaquil
18	31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Cerro Blanco & Guayaquil. Flight to UK
19	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Arrive UK

Notes:

## **TRAVELLERS**

### **WILDLIFE TRAVEL LEADER**

Philip Precey: Cambridge

### **GUIDES**

Mainland Ecuador – Vinicio Ortiz (Neblina Forest)

Galapagos Islands – Jhover Alvarez (San Jose)

Sta Cruz – Isabel Moncada

## **TRIP REPORT**

**14<sup>th</sup> January 2009. London to Quito.** A long day's travelling took us, eventually, from the thick fog of Heathrow to the snow of Madrid and finally to the torrential rain of Quito. It's just a shame that Pam and Gerald's bags didn't choose to join us... After filling out the necessary forms, we finally got out of the airport and up to the Hosteria San Jorge de Quito, on the flanks of Pichincha above the city. Dinner and bed.

**15<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Quito to Milpe.** After breakfast, we met up with our guide for the next week, Vinicio Ortiz from Neblina Forest, and saw our first hummingbirds on the feeders around the lodge: noisy Sparkling Violetears were everywhere, with one each of Great Sapphirewing, Shining Sunbeam, Tyrian Metaltail and Black-tailed Trainbearer, with its fantastic long tail. Black Flowerpiercers, with their funny hooked beak, were also feeding on the sugar water. A pair of Southern Yellow Grosbeaks were feeding on the bird table, together with our first Eared Dove, and we had our first introduction to Rufous-collared Sparrows and Great Thrush, two birds we would become very familiar with over the week.

On leaving the hotel, first port of call was the nearby mall, where one or two essential items were bought to replace those in the missing bags. We soon left the city and headed northwards. A quick stop at Cala Cali to take the obligatory 'straddling the equator' photos. Then on to the orchid reserve at Pahuma. Here, our guide showed us the various exotic orchids to be found in the area, from the tiny *Pleurothallis* to the large, scented *Sobralia*, together with a variety of *Oncidium*, *Epidendrum* and the monkey-faced *Dracula*. Along the streamside, we passed a carpet of *Selaginella* club moss.

For lunch, we stopped at Alambi, where we ate our packed lunches whilst watching the birds in the garden. Twelve species of hummingbird were busy fighting over the feeders, including noisy Rufous-tailed Hummingbirds and the Booted Raquet-tail, with his amazing raquets. The bananas on the bird table attracted a steady stream of fruit-eaters, including five tanagers, Ecuadorian Thrush and Buff-throated Saltator.

We finally arrived at our lodge in the cloudforest, San Jorge de Milpe, situated overlooking a fantastic forest-filled valley. Unfortunately, a nationwide power cut meant we spent the evening by candle light.

**16<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Milpe & Mindo.** Pepe and Vinny led us on an early morning bird walk through the noisy cloud forest. As the sun rose, we finally started to catch sight of some of the singing and calling birds. Three species of toucan were probably the stars of the show: Pale-mandibled Aracari, with their black back, yellow belly and red rump; Crimson-rumped Toucanet, the small, emerald green toucans; and a pair of Choco Toucan, with their massive black and yellow bills. A male Collared Trogon sat out in the open, showing off his red belly in the sunlight. A tiny but noisy Southern Nightingale Wren came in to investigate Vinny's i-pod. A good mixed flock passed through the trees, including Blackburnian Warbler, Red-eyed Vireo, Slate-throated Whitestart and Cinnamon Becard. A small flock of Maroon-tailed Parakeets flew past and stopped briefly in a nearby tree to feed on fruit.



After breakfast, we travelled slowly along the road, birdwatching on the way. The same three species of toucan all showed well, as well as a pair of the brightly coloured and bizarrely named Plate-billed Mountain Toucan. A male Swallow Tanager showed off at the top of some trees. Not nearly as showy was the male Olive-crowned Yellowthroat that skulked in a bush next to the road. Swallows included Blue-and-white Swallow, Southern Rough-winged Swallow and the uncommon White-thighed Swallow. Also overhead were Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture and a wonderful Swallow-tailed Kite.

We stopped to eat our packed lunches on the veranda at Sacha Tamia lodge where, despite the rain, the hummingbird feeders were amazingly busy: wonderfully named birds such as Empress Brilliant, Violet-tailed Sylph, Brown Inca and Purple-bibbed Whitetip were coming and going, along with the star of the show, the gorgeous Velvet-purple Coronet. A single White-tailed Hillstar was a surprise, not normally found this high up.

After lunch we went down into Mindo, and walked along the river towards the Mariposas de Mindo butterfly farm. Lemon-rumped, Blue-necked, Fawn-breasted and Blue-grey Tanagers all showed well in roadside bushes, a pair of Masked Water Tyrants hopped about in a marshy field, and Tropical Kingbirds seemed to be hunting from every wire. An interesting visit to the butterfly farm followed, before we returned to the lodge where electricity had returned! Alas, only briefly... another night by candlelight. Still, the power was on long enough to attract some fantastic moths to the lights around the lodge.

**17<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Milpe to Cotopaxi.** A travelling day. After a rainy breakfast, we bade farewell to Milpe and headed south again. At the abandoned race track near Cala Cali, we got a taster of the dry scrub of the area, enjoying good views of Tufted Tit-tyrant, Ash-breasted Sierra-finch and Common Ground Dove as well as the interesting local vegetation, including an orange mistletoe and surprisingly familiar looking Verbascums and Salvias.

Next stop was the museum at Inti Nan, on the equator itself, where as well as observing the Coriolis effect and balancing eggs on nails (did anyone try this at home yet??), we also saw a pair of Band-tailed Seedeaters and ate our lunch.

The rest of the afternoon was spent travelling back to Quito and then south along the Pan-American Highway, the 'Avenue of the Volcanoes' to our home for the next two nights, the wonderful Hacienda de San Agustin de Callo.

**18<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Cotopaxi National Park.** Our day in the high Andes started before breakfast, with an early morning bird walk that gave us great views of some local specialities, including Black-backed Grosbeak, Chiguanco Thrush, Brown-bellied Swallow, Peruvian Meadowlark, Andean Siskin and a pair of Yellow-billed Pintail flying around the marshy ground behind the Hacienda.

Leaving the hotel behind, we stopped at a small quarry nearby to see the layers of mud and rock left by the volcanic activity over the centuries, and also checked out a family of Burrowing Owls nearby. Once we moved up into the national park itself and to the shores of Limpio Pungo lagoon, the Andean elements really began to be clear: Andean Lapwing, Andean Gull, Andean Coot, Andean Teal, Andean Ruddy Duck... the only one that failed to materialise was Andean Condor! We had to make do with a pair of Carunculated Caracara and a Variable Hawk instead.

From the reedbeds at the back of Limpio Pungo, Vinny's ipod playback summonsed up a singing Grass Wren, but we couldn't persuade the Ecuadorian Rails to come out and say 'hello'. One bird that did, eventually, show itself after being heard singing loudly from the paramo scrub around us was the Tawny Antpitta, part of a family of birds that are notoriously difficult to see, so it was excellent to see a male sat up on a bare branch singing away.

The plants of the paramo included Indian Paintbrushes *Castilleja*, the almost protea-like *Chuquiraga jussieui* and a variety of gentians: the small cushion-forming *Gentiana*, the larger pale blue *Gentianella* and the bizarre yellow *Halenia weddelliana*.



**19<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Cotopaxi to Quito.** After choosing which one of the 12 egg options and the wonderful variety of local cheeses we'd have for breakfast, we had to say 'goodbye' to the Inca walls of San Agustin and head back to the Pan-American Highway and north again, to Quito.

Our city tour took in the San Diego Convent, with its religious art of the Quiteno school showing a last supper of guineapig and corn, and the gold-encrusted La Compania de Jesus, as well as lunch in the Café Tinguez, tucked away in the catacombs beneath the San Francisco monastery.

We returned to San Jorge de Quito in the late afternoon, to relax and repack ready for our trip tomorrow.

**20<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Quito to The Galapagos.** An early start and two short flights took us from chilly Quito to the equatorial heat of the Galapagos Islands. We met up with our guide Jhover Alvarez (Galapagos Guide Grade III, no less) at Baltra airport, and then a short bus ride took us to the port and our boat, and home for the next week, the San Jose.

After settling into our rooms and meeting the rest of the party on the boat over lunch (Bryan from Seattle and Daniella from Quito), we were off for our first 'panga' ride, around the mangroves of Caleta Tortuga Negra. A very peaceful introduction to the Galapagos, with wonderful views of the Pacific Green Turtles in the cove, some small Black-tipped Reef Sharks and a couple of elegant Spotted Eagle Rays gliding through the shallows.

**21<sup>st</sup> January 2009. Rabida & Santiago.** We woke up to find ourselves just off from the red island of Rabida. After breakfast, we took a panga ride around the cliffs, where we had brilliant views of Blue-footed Boobies, Brown Pelicans and Common Noddies resting and fishing, as well as the single-island endemic Prickly Pear Cactus *Opuntia galapageia* var. *profusa*. On the beach itself, a couple of Galapagos Mockingbirds followed us around the 'flamingo lagoon' and a Galapagos Flycatcher was feeding in the bushes. We also visited the pelican nesting site, although all the pelicans seemed to be elsewhere. So it was time for us to have our first dip in the Pacific, trying out our snorkels, masks and flippers for size for the first time.

Travelling from Rabida round to Puerto Egas on Santiago, we passed by large numbers of Galapagos Shearwaters, flying up in front of the boat, whilst both Elliot's and Wedge-rumped Storm Petrels were feeding in our wake, and a gang of about ten Magnificent Frigatebirds floated above us, almost in touching distance. One or two Galapagos Petrels also passed by, recognisable by their longer, more angled wings and 'towering' flight.

After a lazy afternoon, we disembarked at Puerto Egas, where we were greeted by our first Galapagos Penguin, an immature bird sat on a rock on the beach which allowed us all to take his photo. Equally photogenic were the local *mertensis* race of Marine Iguana and Galapagos Lava Lizard, many of which were seen during our walk.

On pools in the lava, waders included a pair of American Oystercatchers with their chick, a handful of Turnstones and single Semipalmated Plover and Whimbrel. Lava Herons were hunting crabs and chasing lizards. After admiring the impressive flushing power of 'Darwin's Toilet', we moved on to the 'Grottoes', where a handful of Galapagos Fur Seals were hauled out on their ledges, dozing the day away.

Finally we walked back to the beach, through the dry scrub, made up mostly of Palo Santo, Spiny Bush and *Cordea leucophlyctis*, as well as some impressive *Opuntia galapageia* var. *galapageia* cactuses and a gang of Smooth-billed Ani, as well as occasional Small and Medium Ground Finches and Galapagos Mockingbirds. A final snorkel from the beach, and then back on to the boat.

As we travelled round Santiago, with sun setting over Isabela in the west, a number of Galapagos Petrels came flying over, heading out to sea to feed, while a pair of Swallow-tailed Gulls followed the lights of the boat briefly, as dusk fell on our first full day in the archipelago.





**22<sup>nd</sup> January 2009. Bartholome & Sullivan Bay, Santiago.** We woke to find ourselves between the islands of Bartholome and Santiago. The climb up the wooden steps to the 114m summit of Bartholome took us past the 'pioneer plants', the grey *Tiquilia nesiotica* and the green *Chamaesyce amplexicaulis*. Here and there were ancient clumps of the endemic lava cactus *Brachycereus nesioticus* while further up the slopes were a few 'trees' of the rare *Scalesia stewartii*, only found here and on nearby Santiago. The only animal life consisted of a handful of Galapagos Lava Lizards and one or two Galapagos Painted Locusts (lizard food!). A single Galapagos Hawk soared overhead.

After taking in the classic Galapagos view, looking out across the archipelago, and our fill of volcanic formations, we headed back to the boat and then to the small beach. A short walk took us across the isthmus to the 'other side', through scrub made up of Red Mangrove, Saltbush and Prickly Bush and home to a handful of Small Ground Finches. We saw the recent turtle nests on the other beach, and one or two Ghost Crabs, but alas no sharks or rays.

Back to the first beach, and some good snorkelling was had, including a brief swim-past by the local Galapagos Penguin, who also posed sat up on the rocks.

After lunch, we were soon out again, and on the 'recent' lava field at Sullivan Bay. Created by the most recent eruption, at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, we learned the difference between Pahoehoe and Aha lavas and admired the strange volcanic landscape. Here and there, the very first pioneering plants of *Mollugo flavescens* subsp. *gracillima* could be found, growing in the cracks.

We then set sail for Santa Cruz, heading south and then east towards Puerto Ayora. Highlights along the way included: a small pod of Bottle-nosed Dolphins that appeared briefly by the boat; at least two Bryde's Whales blowing out in the distance before diving down after fish; several large groups of Red-necked Phalaropes flying over the sea and even landing, briefly, in front of the boat; a single immature Red-footed Booby that joined the Magnificent Frigatebirds above the boat for a short while; at least two Red-billed Tropicbirds in front of the boat, including one that dived right in front of us to catch fish.

**23<sup>rd</sup> January 2009. South Plaza & Santa Cruz.** We woke up in Academy Bay, Puerto Ayora on the south coast of Santa Cruz. After an early breakfast, we transferred to a smaller boat, the Sea Finch, to join a day trip to the island of South Plaza.

On arrival, we were greeted by the large colony of Galapagos Sealions around the landing site, with the rocks all shiny and white through years of accumulated sealion 'guano' and polishing by their greasy bodies. This low-lying island was covered in bright red clumps of *Sesuvium edmonstonei*, amongst which were occasional *Opuntia echiops* var. *echiops*, the favourite food plant of one of the stars of the island, the large population of Land Iguanas who held territories around the base of each cactus plant. Also enjoying the cactuses were our first Cactus Finches, feeding on the pollen and nectar produced by the large yellow flowers. A few Small Ground Finches were also flitting about the cactuses.

Over at the cliff on the south side, we had brilliant views of Galapagos Shearwaters, Swallow-tailed Gulls and Red-billed Tropicbirds at their nesting sites. A handful of Nazca Boobies were sat amongst the more common, smaller Blue-footed Boobies, while the usual Brown Pelicans and Magnificent Frigatebirds soared overhead. Just off shore, we could also see a few large schools of Yellow-tailed Mullet feeding just beneath the waves.

After lunch back on the boat, we swam or snorkelled from the boat, before transferring to a bus which took us back to Puerto Ayora, right across the island passing through the arid zone, the 'cloud forest' and the agricultural areas. But more of that later...

On the beach in Puerto Ayora, after a quick wander round time, a handful of Turnstone were picking over the rocks, alongside single Semipalmated Plover and Whimbrel. Finally, as evening fell, groups of Cattle Egrets could be seen coming down from the highlands to roost nearby.





**24<sup>th</sup> January 2009. San Cristobal.** We woke, after a bumpy night of travelling, to find ourselves in the harbour at Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the capital of the Galapagos Islands. Sharing the harbour were a few immature Laughing Gulls, as well as the now familiar Blue-footed Boobies, Brown Pelicans and Galapagos Sea Lions.

Our first destination was the nearby Galapagos Interpretation Centre where, as well as the human and natural history of the islands, we also familiarised ourselves with the endemic San Cristobal Lava Lizards seemingly sat on every rock. Afterwards, we walked through the arid zone vegetation to Frigatebird Hill, overlooking the beach where Charles Darwin first made landfall on the Galapagos, on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1835. On the way, we passed a number of interesting plants, including Blue Evolvulus, Wartclub, Jerusalem Thorn and the gaudy Darwin's Cotton, and two endemic butterflies, the tiny Galapagos Blue and the larger, yellow Galapagos Sulphur.

The promised frigatebirds of Frigatebird Hill were rather few and far between, but did include at least two female Great Frigatebirds, our first of the trip, while seven Nazca Boobies flew past out at sea. Back on the path, a mixed group of Medium and Small Ground Finches hopped about, while back at the Interpretation Centre we caught up with two noisy Chatham Mockingbirds, as well as a couple of Small Tree Finches feeding quietly in the same tree.

After lunch, the boat sailed round Kicker Rock (Leon Dormido), allowing us to get good views of the Nazca Boobies nesting on the cliff tops and the Galapagos Shearwaters flying in and out of their nest holes. From here, we went on to Cerro Brujo beach, a lovely sandy beach, albeit with rather strong surf. Here a Lava Gull was hanging around the small sealion colony, while a Yellow Warbler and a Chatham Mockingbird were also seen at the back of the beach, along with some small trees of Gordillo's Scalesia.

Back on the boat, and we travelled back to the port, passing by a couple of Galapagos Petrels and a single Swallow-tailed Gull on the way.

**25<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Espanola: Bahia Gardner & Punta Suarez.** We woke up off the long white sweep of Bahia Gardner, the longest beach in the Galapagos, a beach that we actually had to ourselves, albeit briefly, when we landed. What Espanola lacks in dramatic volcanic surroundings, it more than makes up for in peaceful views and approachable wildlife. Here, we met our first Hood Mockingbirds and Espanola Lava Lizards, both the biggest and boldest of their respective groups on the islands. The large-billed finches here were also new to us, Large Cactus Finches, with massive bills giving them a very front-heavy appearance. The beach itself was littered with loafing sealions, including one or two that chose to play with us in the surf.

After getting back on board, we 'navigated' around to the other end of the island for our afternoon excursion. On the way, we picked up a pod of about 20 Bottle-nosed Dolphins in the distance in front of us. Gradually the boat got closer, thanks to some nifty manoeuvring by the Captain and the dolphins soon came in to ride the bow wave right beneath us, putting on a wonderful show before peeling off and going on their way. The rest of the journey round to Punta Suarez was a little more sedate, and we anchored off the point to sit out the hottest part of the day.

At our allotted 15.30 timeslot, we got into the panga and headed over to the landing at Punta Suarez, one of the highlights of any trip to the Galapagos. Here we were greeted by friendly sealions and colourful marine iguanas aplenty. Large, sandy orange Espanola Lava Lizards sat on the tops of rocks, nodding their heads and chasing each other around. Shuffling around the Saltbush scrub were pairs of the pretty, chestnut Galapagos Doves, along with Small Ground Finches and Large Cactus Finches. An adult Galapagos Hawk sat in a small Saltbush right next to the path, allowing us all to take close-up photos while he preened and surveyed his kingdom.

Along the clifftops, pairs of Nazca Boobies were on territory, shading their chicks from the sun, while a pair of Blue-footed Boobies with two chicks sat on their nest site in the middle of the path. A pair of Red-billed Tropicbirds shuffled out from their rocky nest crevice on surprisingly short legs, looking very clumsy before

launching off the cliff and becoming elegant white birds in flight. Down on the pebbly eroded beach, a pair of American Oystercatchers gave their alarm calls as we got too close to their chick. Swallow-tailed Gulls called from the cliffs and soared over the ocean. Further out, large numbers of Galapagos Shearwaters skidded back and forth over the waves. Finally, whilst waiting for the blow hole to 'erupt', the star of the show appeared, a wonderful Waved Albatross who put on quite a show of soaring over the otherwise-abandoned albatross nesting grounds, before finally swooping effortlessly over our heads and back out over the cliff.

The day ended with the boat powering towards Floreana in a heavy swell, ghostly Swallow-tailed Gulls appearing out of the dark as they followed our lights.

**26<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Floreana: Post Office Bay & Punta Cormoran.** The morning saw us posting our postcards home in a wooden barrel on a post, just ten metres back from an otherwise pretty unremarkable beach on an apparently deserted Pacific island. Well, it's worked for 300 years, so there's not reason to think it won't work for us! A pair of Sanderling on the beach, a pair of confiding Galapagos Flycatchers by the 'post office' and single Great Blue and Lava Herons on the rocks were noteworthy, as were the large numbers of Stingrays in the murky shallow waters...

After finally getting everyone back on board, we moved position, heading round to Punta Cormoran and the impressive sunken cone of the Devil's Crown. Over lunch, a young sealion decided our panga would make a comfortable place for a bit of a snooze, while an immature Franklin's Gull and a handful of Laughing Gulls passed by.

After lunch, the snorkelers went off to explore the Devil's Crown, returning with tales of swimming with sharks and turtles, as well as some impressively strong currents. After drying off, it was then time for us all to explore Punta Cormoran. The highlight must have been the small colony of Caribbean Flamingos on the lagoon, the adults a shocking pink and the juvenile birds a rather murky grey colour. Also on the lagoon, White-cheeked Pintails swam, a pair of Black-necked Stilts flew about noisily and other waders included Turnstone, Whimbrel, Semipalmated Plover and a couple of tiny Least Sandpipers. A rocky island was covered in immature Laughing and Franklin's Gulls.

Away from the lagoon, walking over to the beach we found Floreana Lava Lizard, Floreana Daisy and Long-haired Scalesia, all three endemic to the island. The back of the sandy beach was full of turtle nests, over which a frigatebird was patrolling, checking for an easy snack.

And so back to the boat, with the sun setting on our last night on board.

**27<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Santa Cruz: Bachas Beach and Charles Darwin Research Station.** For our last excursion from the boat, we visited Bachas Beach on Santa Cruz. No flamingos were present on the 'flamingo lagoon', but a couple of White-cheeked Pintails were swimming about, and a normally-shy Dark-billed Cuckoo landed in the top of a tree, allowing us all to get good views.

And so we bade farewell to the San Jose and her entertaining crew at Baltra after a brilliant week aboard. Meeting up with our new guide, Isabel, at Baltra airport, we caught the bus down to the Ithabaca Channel and the ferry across to Santa Cruz...

As the afternoon began to cool off a bit, we visited the Charles Darwin Research Station where we learned about the vital conservation work being carried out across the islands, including captive breeding of many of the islands' tortoises. We visited Lonesome George and enjoyed some close-up views of all three ground finches squabbling over crumbs around the 'café'.



## **28<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Santa Cruz highlands: Media Luna, Las Premisias Ranch and Los Gemelos .**

A full day in the highlands gave us plenty of time to explore first the Miconia Zone (at Media Luna), then the Zanthoxylum (Brown) Zone (in the forested areas of Las Premisias) and finally the Scalesia Zone (around Los Gemelos).

The walk up from the agricultural areas through the dense Miconia at Media Luna was rich in flowers. Endemics included the purple *Justicia galapagana*, the yellow daisy-like *Jaegeria gracilis* while other native species included Yellow Star-grass *Hypoxis decumbens*, *Ageratum Ageratum conyzoides*, *Blechum pyramidatum*, *Hypericum uliginosum*, *Ludwigia leptocarpa* and the delicate blue Dayflower *Commelina diffusa*.

Our walk from Las Premisias ranch into the tortoise reserve of El Chato gave us all wonderful close-up views of the dome-shaped Giant Tortoises, amongst the largest on the islands. Beneath a canopy of Spanish Cedar, Guava, Avocado and Balsa (all introduced trees), the forest was full of Cats Claw *Zanthoxylum fagara*, over which scrambled at least three species of passion flower: the endemic *Passiflora colinvauxii* with its 'cat's face', boomerang leaves; the native *Passiflora foetida* more commonly seen scrambling over the roadsides around Bellavista; and the introduced *Passiflora edulis* with its showy flowers and large fruits. Growing epiphytically on the branches were a variety of ferns, mosses and lichens, as well as *Peperomia galapagensis*. The 'lake' at the end of the walk turned out to have all but dried up, with tortoises feeding out on what was once open water, followed by Cattle Egrets and Smooth-billed Anis. A couple of Common Gallinules (Moorhen to you and me) could be heard from the wetter areas, before the rain caught up with us and sent us back to the café area for lunch.

After a short visit to a nearby lava tube, we moved on to our last excursion of the day, the twin 'craters' of Los Gemelos. Not too deterred by the rain, we explored the Scalesia forest. Small and Medium Ground Finches were joined by Small Tree Finch and Warbler Finch, but the highlight was perhaps the pair of Woodpecker Finches first selecting suitable twigs and then using their 'tools' to dig wood-boring grubs out of from the mossy bark. Very cool!

Dinner was back up in the highlands at the wonderful Narwhal, where we watched the sun set over the island with a rum cocktail in hand...

**29<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Santa Cruz.** A lazy day after the highland exertions of yesterday. We took a water taxi across to Angermeyer Point and walked past the (unfortunately dry) lagoons first to Finch Bay and the salt pans of Las Salinas and then out to the swimming hole at Las Grietas.

Back at Finch Bay Hotel, a pair of White-cheeked Pintails were enjoying the pool alongside the hotel residents, while a Cactus Finch joined us at our table.

A free afternoon ended with another water taxi ride back out to Angermeyer Point for dinner overlooking the lights of the bay one last time...

**30<sup>th</sup> January 2009. Santa Cruz to Baltra and Guayaquil.** An early start took us across the island and back to the Ithabaca Channel, where a 'flight' of Golden Rays saw us onto the ferry. The bus then took us back to Baltra Airport, where almost the last thing we saw before getting onto the plane was a Land Iguana sat under a cactus just outside the terminal building.

Our flight took us to Guayaquil, where the rest of us said goodbye to Peter and Suzanne as they flew on to Quito and the Amazon rainforest.

Guayaquil was hot, sticky and bustling.





After settling in to the Hotel Unipark, we braved the heat and went across to the square opposite to enjoy the bizarre spectacle of hundreds of Green Iguanas being fed crisps by the locals or just loafing about in the treetops. A couple of Guayaquil Squirrels also joined in while the trees were also home to some very noisy Pacific Parrotlets. Less showy were the Ecuadorian Ground Doves, Pacific Horneros and Rufous-necked Wood-Rail that were also in the park.

Along the Malecon waterfront, Great-tailed Grackle and Scrub Blackbird were singing, Grey-breasted Martins flew overhead and large numbers of Yellow-crowned Night Herons were flying back and forth from their nesting colony in the trees to the river banks to feed on crabs.

**31<sup>st</sup> January 2009. Cerro Blanco and Guayaquil.** A painfully early start saw us arrive at Cerro Blanco protected forest at dawn. Unfortunately, we weren't the only ones to get up early, and we were plagued by mosquitoes. Despite the annoying distraction, we had a good walk up the creek and back again, with a number of Tumbesian dry forest specialities seen including Gray-and-gold Warbler, Superciliated Wren, One-coloured Becard and Grey-cheeked Parakeet. Several large groups of Neotropic Cormorants were flying overhead and we had good perched views of Gray Hawk, Bat Falcon and Laughing Falcon.

Eventually, however, we had to admit defeat and returned to Guayaquil in time for breakfast: Mosquitoes 1, Wildlife Travel 0.

One final amble along the Malecon took us further down into the gardens and beyond to the Anthropology Museum, a bargain for 50 cents entry fee! In the gardens, Amazilia Hummingbirds buzzed around the flowering shrubs, a Neotropic Cormorant shared the small pond with a Striated Heron and a pair of Ecuadorian Ground Doves, and amongst the Tropical Kingbirds flycatching from the tree tops, we found a single Snowy-throated Kingbird, something of a local speciality.

And so, with thunder clouds emptying over the city, we finally drove through the torrential rain back to the airport.





## ECUADOR BIRD CHECKLIST

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<b>Family Apodidae (Swifts)</b>																					
183	White-collared Swift	<i>Streptoprocne zonaris</i>			X	X															
<b>Family Trochilidae (Hummingbirds)</b>																					
191	White-whiskered Hermit	<i>Phaethornis yaruqui</i>		X	X	X															
197	White-necked Jacobin	<i>Florisuga mellivora</i>		X	X																
198	Brown Violetear	<i>Colibri delphinae</i>		X	X																
199	Green Violetear	<i>Colibri thalassinus</i>			X																
200	Sparkling Violetear	<i>Colibri coruscans</i>		X		X	X	X	X												
203	Western Emerald	<i>Chlorostilbon melanorhynchus</i>		X																	
204	Green-crowned Woodnymph	<i>Thalurania fannyi</i>		X	X	X															
206	Rufous-tailed Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia tzacatl</i>		X	X																
207	Amazilia Hummingbird	<i>Amazilia amazilia</i>																			X
208	Andean Emerald	<i>Amazilia franciae</i>		X	X																
211	Purple-bibbed Whitetip	<i>Urosticte benjamini</i>			X																
212	Empress Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa imperatrix</i>			X																
213	Green-crowned Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa jacula</i>		X	X	X															
214	Fawn-breasted Brilliant	<i>Heliodoxa rubinoides</i>		X	X																
216	White-tailed Hillstar	<i>Urochroa bougueri</i>		X	X																
218	Shining Sunbeam	<i>Aglaeactis cupripennis</i>		X				X													
220	Great Sapphirewing	<i>Pterophanes cyanopterus</i>		X																	
221	Brown Inca	<i>Coeligena wilsoni</i>			X																
225	Buff-tailed Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua flavescens</i>			X																
226	Velvet-purple Coronet	<i>Boissonneaua jardini</i>			X																
230	Booted Racket-tail	<i>Ocreatus underwoodii</i>		X	X																
231	Black-tailed Trainbearer	<i>Lesbia victoriae</i>		X			X	X													
232	Green-tailed Trainbearer	<i>Lesbia nuna</i>				X															
234	Tyrian Metaltail	<i>Metallura tyrianthina</i>		X																	
237	Violet-tailed Sylph	<i>Aglaiocercus coelestis</i>			X																
240	Purple-throated Woodstar	<i>Calliphlox mitchellii</i>		X	X																
242	White-bellied Woodstar	<i>Chaetocercus mulsant</i>		X																	
<b>Family Trogonidae (Trogons &amp; Quetzals)</b>																					
248	Collared Trogon	<i>Trogon collaris</i>			X																
<b>Family Ramphastidae (Toucans)</b>																					
261	Crimson-rumped Toucanet	<i>Aulacorhynchus haematopygus</i>			X																
262	Pale-mandibled Aracari	<i>Pteroglossus erythropygius</i>			X																
263	Plate-billed Mountain Toucan	<i>Andigena laminirostris</i>			X																
264	Choco Toucan	<i>Ramphastos brevis</i>			X																
<b>Family Picidae (Woodpeckers)</b>																					
274	Scarlet-backed Woodpecker	<i>Veniliornis callonotus</i>			X																
<b>Family Furnariidae (Ovenbirds)</b>																					
279	Pacific Hornero	<i>Furnarius cinnamomeus</i>		X	X															X	X
295	Buff-fronted Foliage-gleaner	<i>Philydor rufus</i>			X																
<b>Family Dendrocolaptidae (Woodcreepers)</b>																					
307	Wedge-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Glyphorhynchus spirurus</i>			X																
309	Strong-billed Woodcreeper	<i>Xiphocolaptes promeropirhynchus</i>			X																
<b>Family Formicariidae (Antthrushes &amp; Antpittas)</b>																					
337	Tawny Antpitta	<i>Grallaria quitensis</i>					X														
343	Ocellated Tapaculo	<i>Acropternis orthonyx</i>																			
<b>Family Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)</b>																					
348	Golden-faced Tyrannulet	<i>Zimmerius chrysops</i>			X																
349	Southern Beardless Tyrannulet	<i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>																			X
354	White-crested Elaenia	<i>Elaenia albiceps</i>					X														
359	Tufted Tit-Tyrant	<i>Anairetes parulus</i>				X															

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386	Black Phoebe	<i>Sayornis nigricans</i>			X																	
388	Brown-backed Chat-Tyrant	<i>Ochthoeca fumicolor</i>					X															
401	Masked Water-Tyrant	<i>Fluvicola nengeta</i>			X																	
404	Dusky-capped Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus tuberculifer</i>																			X	
410	Streaked Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes maculatus</i>																			X	
412	Golden-crowned Flycatcher	<i>Myiodynastes chrysocephalus</i>			X																	
414	Tropical Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>			X	X														X	X	
415	Snowy-throated Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus niveigularis</i>																			X	
418	Cinnamon Becard	<i>Pachyramphus cinnamomeus</i>			X																	
420	Black-and-white Becard	<i>Pachyramphus albogriseus</i>																			X	
421	One-coloured Becard	<i>Platypsaris homochrous</i>																			X	
<b>Family Vireonidae (Vireos)</b>																						
441	Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>			X																X	
<b>Family Turdidae (Thrushes)</b>																						
449	Great Thrush	<i>Turdus fuscater</i>		X		X	X	X	X													
450	Chiguanco Thrush					X																
452	Pale-vented Thrush	<i>Turdus obsoletus</i>			X																	
453	Ecuadorian Thrush	<i>Turdus maculirostris</i>		X	X																X	
<b>Family Hirundinidae (Swallows &amp; Martins)</b>																						
461	Gray-breasted Martin	<i>Progne chalybea</i>																	X	X		
463	Brown-bellied Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon murina</i>					X	X														
464	Blue-and-white Swallow	<i>Notiochelidon cyanoleuca</i>		X	X		X	X														
465	Southern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>		X	X																	
466	White-thighed Swallow				X																	
<b>Family Troglodytidae (Wrens)</b>																						
467	Fasciated Wren	<i>Campylorhynchus fasciatus</i>																			X	
470	Grass Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis</i>					X															
471	Superciliated Wren	<i>Thryothorus superciliaris</i>																			X	
472	House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>			X																	
473	Mountain Wren	<i>Troglodytes solstitialis</i>			X																	
474	Song Wren				X																	
475	Southern Nightingale Wren				X																	
479	Gray-breasted Wood-Wren	<i>Henicorhina leucophrys</i>			X																	
<b>Family Polioptilidae (Gnatcatchers &amp; Gnatwrens)</b>																						
481	Tropical Gnatcatcher	<i>Polioptila plumbea</i>																			X	
<b>Family Parulidae (New World Warblers)</b>																						
483	Tropical Parula	<i>Parula pitiayumi</i>			X																	
485	Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>			X																	
486	Olive-crowned Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis semiflava</i>			X																	
489	Slate-throated Whitestart	<i>Myioborus miniatus</i>			X																	
495	Gray-and-gold Warbler	<i>Basileuterus fraseri</i>																			X	
<b>Family Thraupidae (Tanagers)</b>																						
500	Cinereous Conebill	<i>Conirostrum cinereum</i>					X															
506	Black Flowerpiercer	<i>Diglossa humeralis</i>		X			X															
510	Fawn-breasted Tanager	<i>Pipraeidea melanonota</i>			X																	
513	Thick-billed Euphonia	<i>Euphonia laniirostris</i>		X	X																X	
520	Golden Tanager	<i>Tangara arthus</i>		X	X																	
521	Silver-throated Tanager	<i>Tangara icterocephala</i>		X																		
526	Beryl-spangled Tanager	<i>Tangara nigroviridis</i>			X																	
529	Blue-necked Tanager	<i>Tangara cyanicollis</i>			X																	
540	Swallow Tanager	<i>Tersina viridis</i>			X																	
541	Blue-gray Tanager	<i>Thraupis episcopus</i>		X	X															X	X	

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544	Blue-and-yellow Tanager	<i>Thraupis bonariensis</i>					X														
545	Lemon-rumped Tanager	<i>Ramphocelus icteronotus</i>		X	X																
550	White-lined Tanager	<i>Tachyphonus rufus</i>		X																	
553	Yellow-throated Bush-Tanager	<i>Chlorospingus flavigularis</i>			X																
<b>Family Cardinalidae (Cardinals, Saltators &amp; Grosbeaks)</b>																					
556	Buff-throated Saltator	<i>Saltator maximus</i>		X																	
557	Black-winged Saltator	<i>Saltator atripennis</i>			X																
558	Streaked Saltator	<i>Saltator striatipectus</i>																		X	
560	Southern Yellow Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus chrysogaster</i>		X		X															
561	Black-backed Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus aureoventris</i>					X														
<b>Family Emberizidae (Emberizine Finches)</b>																					
579	Variable Seedeater	<i>Sporophila corvina</i>		X	X																X
581	Yellow-bellied Seedeater	<i>Sporophila nigricollis</i>		X	X																
586	Band-tailed Seedeater	<i>Catamenia analis</i>					X														
587	Plumbeous Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus unicolor</i>					X														
588	Ash-breasted Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus plebejus</i>				X															
589	Band-tailed Sierra-Finch	<i>Phrygilus alaudinus</i>					X														
593	Tricoloured Brush-Finch	<i>Atlapetes tricolor</i>			X																
595	Chestnut-capped Brush-Finch	<i>Buarremon brunneinucha</i>			X																
601	Rufous-collared Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia capensis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X												
<b>Family Icteridae (American Orioles &amp; Blackbirds)</b>																					
602	Yellow-rumped Cacique	<i>Cacicus cela</i>																			X
608	Scrub Blackbird	<i>Dives warszewiczi</i>																		X	X
609	Great-tailed Grackle	<i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>																		X	X
612	Peruvian Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella bellicosa</i>					X	X													
<b>Family Fringillidae (Cardueline Finches)</b>																					
613	Lesser Goldfinch				X																
614	Andean Siskin						X														

## GALAPAGOS CHECKLIST

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<b>BIRDS</b>																					
<b>Family Spheniscidae (Penguins)</b>																					
6	Galapagos Penguin	<i>Spheniscus mendiculus</i>								X	X										
<b>Family Diomedidae (Albatrosses)</b>																					
7	Waved Albatross	<i>Phoebastria irrorata</i>												X							
<b>Family Procellariidae (Shearwaters &amp; Petrels)</b>																					
8	Galapagos Petrel	<i>Pterodroma phaeopygia</i>								X			X								
9	Galapagos Shearwater	<i>Puffinus subalaris</i>								X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
<b>Family Hydrobatidae (Storm Petrels)</b>																					
10	Elliot's Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanites gracilis galapagoensis</i>							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
11	Madeiran Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanodroma castro</i>																			
12	Wedge-rumped Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanodroma tethys</i>							X	X		X	X	X							
<b>Family Phaethontidae (Tropicbirds)</b>																					
13	Red-billed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon aethereus</i>								X	X		X	X							
<b>Family Fregatidae (Frigatebirds)</b>																					
14	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
15	Great Frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>										X									
<b>Family Sulidae (Boobies &amp; Gannets)</b>																					
16	Blue-footed Booby	<i>Sula nebouxii</i>							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
17	Nazca Booby	<i>Sula granti</i>								X	X	X	X	X							
18	Red-footed Booby	<i>Sula sula</i>								X											
<b>Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)</b>																					
22	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese &amp; Swans)</b>																					
27	White-cheeked Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis</i>										X			X	X	X	X			
<b>Family Ardeidae (Hérons &amp; Egrets)</b>																					
33	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>							X					X				X	X		
36	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>										X			X	X	X				
37	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>							X												
38	Lava Heron	<i>Butorides sundevalli</i>							X	X	X			X	X				X		
39	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>								X											
<b>Family Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)</b>																					
40	Caribbean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopus ruber</i>												X							
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks &amp; Eagles)</b>																					
68	Galapagos Hawk	<i>Buteo galapagoensis</i>								X	X		X								
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules &amp; Coots)</b>																					
89	Common Gallinule (Moorhen)	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>															X				
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>																					
98	Wandering Tattler	<i>Heteroscelus incanus</i>								X	X	X									
100	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>							X	X	X			X	X	X					
101	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>								X	X	X		X							
102	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>												X							
105	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>												X							
109	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>									X										
<b>Family Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)</b>																					
110	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus</i>								X	X		X		X						
<b>Family Recurvirostridae (Avocets &amp; Stilts)</b>																					
111	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>												X							
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers &amp; Lapwings)</b>																					
114	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>								X	X		X								
<b>Family Laridae (Gulls &amp; Terns)</b>																					
120	Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>										X	X	X							
121	Lava Gull	<i>Larus fuliginosus</i>							X			X		X		X	X	X			

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122	Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>													X							
123	Swallow-tailed Gull	<i>Creagrus furcatus</i>								X		X	X	X	X							
126	Common Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus</i>							X	X	X	X			X	X			X			
<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons &amp; Doves)</b>																						
133	Galapagos Dove	<i>Zenaida galapagoensis</i>								X				X			X					
<b>Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)</b>																						
157	Dark-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>														X	X					
161	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>								X		X				X	X	X				
<b>Family Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)</b>																						
403	Galapagos Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus magnirostris</i>								X			X		X	X	X					
<b>Family Mimidae (Mockingbirds)</b>																						
455	Galapagos Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus parvulus</i>								X	X					X	X	X				
456	Chatham Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus melanotis</i>											X									
458	Hood Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus macdonaldi</i>												X								
<b>Family Parulidae (New World Warblers)</b>																						
484	Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica aestiva</i>							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
<b>Family Geospizidae (Darwin's Finches)</b>																						
562	Large Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza magnirostris</i>														X						
563	Medium Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza fortis</i>								X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X			
564	Small Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza fuliginosa</i>								X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
566	Cactus Finch	<i>Geospiza scandens</i>										X										
567	Large Cactus Finch	<i>Geospiza conirostris</i>												X								
571	Small Tree Finch	<i>Camarhynchus parvulus</i>											X					X				
572	Woodpecker Finch	<i>Camarhynchus pallidus</i>																X				
574	Warbler Finch	<i>Certhidia olivacea</i>																X				

### REPTILES

#### Family Testudinidae (Tortoises)

Galapagos Giant Tortoise	<i>Geochelone elephantopus</i>																	X				
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#### Family Cheloniidae (Tortoises)

Black (Pacific Green) Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas agassizi</i>								X	X	X	X		X	X	X						
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#### Family Iguanidae (Iguanas & Lava Lizards)

Marine Iguana (Santa Cruz)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. hassi</i>											X				X						
(Santiago & San Cristobal)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. mertensi</i>									X	X		X									
(Espanola)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. venustissimus</i>													X								
Land Iguana	<i>Conolophus subcristatus</i>											X									X	
Galapagos Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus albemarlensis</i>									X	X	X				X		X	X			
Espanola Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus delanonis</i>													X								
Floreana Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus grayi</i>														X							
San Cristobal Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus bivattatus</i>												X									

### MAMMALS

#### Family Otariidae (Sealions)

Galapagos Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus wollebaeki</i>								X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Galapagos Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus galapagoensis</i>									X												

#### Family Baleopteridae (Rorqual Whales)

Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>										X											
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#### Family Delphinidae (Dolphins)

Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>										X			X								
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# GALAPAGOS CHECKLIST

## PLANTS

E = Endemic, N = Native, I = Introduced

English Name	Scientific Name	Where
N Ageratum	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
N Spiny-headed Chaff-flower	<i>Alternanthera echinocephala</i>	Common arid zone plant
E Thread-leaved Chaff-flower	<i>Alternanthera filifolia</i>	Common arid zone plant, eg San Cristobal, Santa Cruz
N Atriplex	<i>Atriplex peruviana</i>	Punta Suarez, Espanola
N Black Mangrove	<i>Avicennia germinans</i>	Punta Cormoran, Floreana
N Saltwort	<i>Batis maritima</i>	Punta Cormoran, Floreana
I Butterfly Flower	<i>Bauhinia monandra</i>	eg Puerto Baquerizo Moreno
N Blechum	<i>Blechum pyramidatum</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
E Lava Cactus	<i>Brachycereus nesioticus</i>	Bartholome
I Bush Violet	<i>Browallia Americana</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
N Palo Santo (Incense Tree)	<i>Bursera graveolens</i>	Rabida, Puerto Egas
I Papaya	<i>Carica papaya</i>	agricultural zone, Santa Cruz
E Castela	<i>Castela galapageia</i>	Punta Cormoran, Floreana
I Spanish Cedar	<i>Cedrela odorata</i>	Las Premisias, Santa Cruz
E Chamaesyce	<i>Chamaesyce amplexicaulis</i>	Bartholome
N Milkberry	<i>Chiococca alba</i>	highlands, Santa Cruz
N Feather Fingergrass	<i>Chloris virgata</i>	Puerto Baquerizo Moreno
I Quinine Tree	<i>Cinchona succirubra</i>	Highlands of Santa Cruz
N Glorybower	<i>Clerodendrum molle</i>	Santa Cruz
I Garden Croton	<i>Codiaeum variegatum</i>	eg Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, Puerto Ayora
N Dayflower	<i>Commelina diffusa</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
N Wartclub	<i>Commicarpus tuberosus</i>	Frigatebird Hill, San Cristobal
N Button Mangrove	<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	Road to CDRS, Puerto Ayora
E Cordia	<i>Cordia leucophylctis</i>	eg Puerto Egas
N Yellow Cordia	<i>Cordia lutea</i>	eg Santa Cruz
E Galapagos Croton	<i>Croton scouleri</i>	Angermeyer Point, Santa Cruz
N Saltbush	<i>Cryptocarpus pyriformis</i>	Very common halophyte
I Flamboyant	<i>Delonix regia</i>	eg roadside between Puerto Ayora & Bellavista, Sta Cruz
N Drymaria	<i>Drymaria cordata</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
E Buttonhole Orchid	<i>Epidendrum spicatum</i>	Los Gemelos, Santa Cruz
I Flame Tree	<i>Erythrina velutina</i>	eg roadside between Puerto Ayora & Bellavista, Sta Cruz
I Mexican Fire Plant	<i>Euphorbia cyathophora</i>	Puerto Baquerizo Moreno
N Purple Evolvulus	<i>Evolvulus convolvuloides</i>	Frigatebird Hill, San Cristobal
E Galapagos Shore Petunia	<i>Exedeconus miersii</i>	Puerto Egas
E Darwin's Cotton	<i>Gossypium darwinii</i>	Frigatebird Hill, San Cristobal
N Grabowskia	<i>Grabowskia boerhaaviaefolia</i>	Punta Suarez, Espanola
N Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium angiospermum</i>	Frigatebird Hill, San Cristobal
N Seaside Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	Cerro Brujo beach, San Cristobal
N Indian Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium indicum</i>	highlands, Santa Cruz
N Poison Apple	<i>Hippomane mancinella</i>	eg the beach at Puerto Egas; roadside in Puerto Ayora
N St John's Wort	<i>Hypericum uliginosum</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
N Yellow Star-grass	<i>Hypoxis decumbens</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
N Beach Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i>	Puerto Egas
E Galapagos Jaegeria	<i>Jaegeria gracilis</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
E Candelabra Cactus	<i>Jasminocereus thoursii</i>	eg Santa Cruz, San Cristobal
E Galapagos Justicia	<i>Justicia galapagana</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
N White Mangrove	<i>Laguncularia racemosa</i>	eg Caleta Tortuga Negra; road to CDRS, Puerto Ayora
E Wing-fruited Lecocarpus (Floreana Daisy)	<i>Lecocarpus pinnatifidus</i>	Punta Cormoran, Floreana
N False Loosestrife	<i>Ludwigia leptocarpa</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
E Galapagos Lycium	<i>Lycium minimum</i>	Punta Suarez, Espanola
E Galapagos Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon cheesmanii</i>	Bartholome
N Maytenus	<i>Maytenus octogona</i>	Common halophyte
E Galapagos Miconia	<i>Miconia robinsoniana</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz

## GALAPAGOS CHECKLIST

E	Mollugo	<i>Mollugo flavescens subsp. gracillima</i>	Sullivan Bay
I	Bitter Melon	<i>Mormordica charantia</i>	Puerto Baquerizo Moreno
I	Balsa	<i>Ochroma pyramidale</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia echios var. echios</i>	South Plaza, Baltra
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia echios var. gigantea</i>	eg CDRS
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia galapageia var. galapageia</i>	Santiago
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia galapageia var. profusa</i>	Rabida
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia megasperma var. orientalis</i>	Espanola
N	Jerusalem Thorn	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	eg Santa Cruz
E	Colinvaux's Passion-flower	<i>Passiflora colinvauxii</i>	Las Premisias, Santa Cruz
I	Passion Fruit	<i>Passiflora edulis</i>	Las Premisias, Santa Cruz
N	Running Pop	<i>Passiflora foetida</i>	Puerto Ayora & Bella Vista, Santa Cruz
I	Elephant Grass	<i>Pennisetum purpureum</i>	agricultural zone, Santa Cruz
E	Galapagos Peperomia	<i>Peperomia galapagensis</i>	Las Premisias, Santa Cruz
I	Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	agricultural zone, Santa Cruz
E	Galapagos Mistletoe	<i>Phoradendron henslowii</i>	Las Premisias, Santa Cruz
N	Piscidia	<i>Piscidia carthagenensis</i>	roadsides, arid zone of Santa Cruz
I	Guava	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	agricultural zone, Santa Cruz
E	Galapagos Coffee	<i>Psychotria rufipes</i>	Los Gemelos, Santa Cruz
N	Red Mangrove	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>	eg Caleta Tortuga Negra; road to CDRS, Puerto Ayora
I	Castor Bean	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	eg roadsides around Puerto Ayora
I	Hill Raspberry	<i>Rubus niveus</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
E	Gordillo's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia gordilloi</i>	Cerro Brujo beach, San Cristobal
E	Tree Scalesia	<i>Scalesia pedunculata</i>	The cloudforest around Los Gemelos, Santa Cruz
E	Stewart's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia stewartii</i>	Bartholome
E	Long-haired Scalesia	<i>Scalesia villosa</i>	Punta Cormoran, Floreana
E	Thorn Shrub	<i>Scutia spicata</i>	Very common halophyte
E	Galapagos Carpetweed	<i>Sesuvium edmonstonei</i>	South Plaza
I	Sida	<i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	highlands, Santa Cruz
N	Beach Dropseed	<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>	Gardner Bay, Espanola
I	False Vervain	<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>	Media Luna, Santa Cruz
E	Galapagos Tillandsia	<i>Tillandsia insularis</i>	Los Gemelos, Santa Cruz
E	Grey Matplant	<i>Tiquilia galapagoa</i>	South Plaza
E	Grey Matplant	<i>Tiquilia nesiotica</i>	Bartholome
E	Rufous-haired Tournefortia	<i>Tournefortia rufo-sericea</i>	Las Premisias, Santa Cruz
N	Puncture Weed	<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>	Common at the back of sandy beaches
N	Waltheria	<i>Waltheria ovata</i>	Frigatebird Hill, San Cristobal
N	Cat's Claw	<i>Zanthoxylum fagara</i>	Las Premisias, Santa Cruz