

WILDLIFE TRAVEL

Galapagos 2012



Galapagos & Ecuador, 23rd Jan to 6th Feb 2012, Trip Report

Leaders

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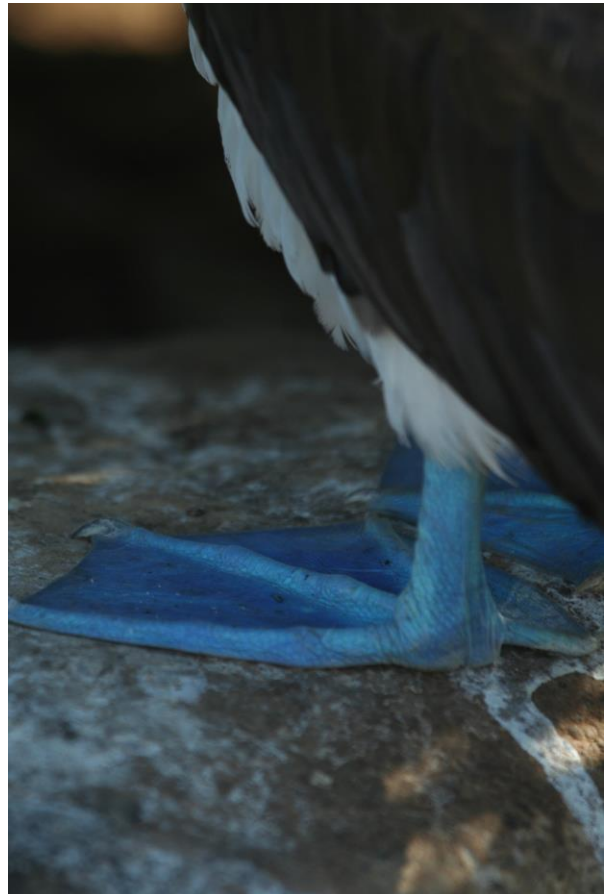
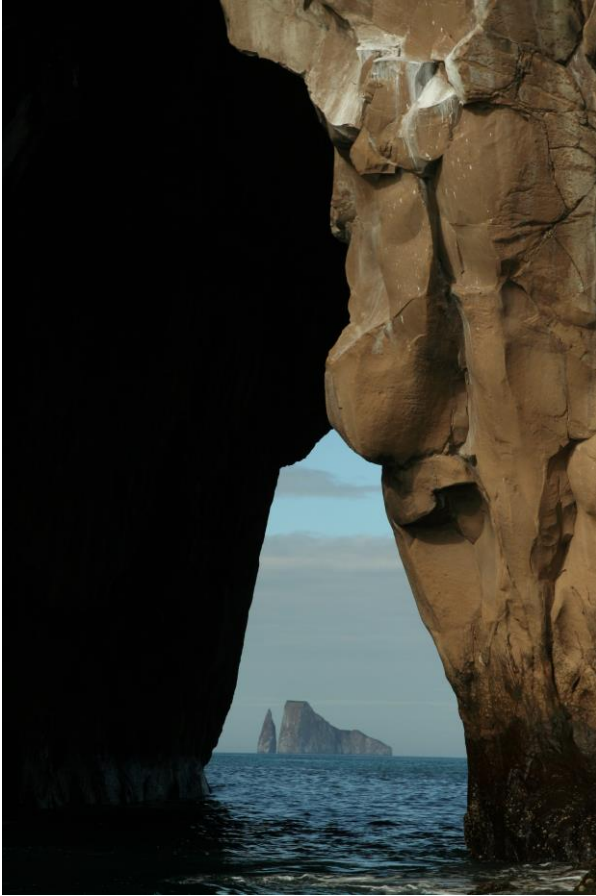
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#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	23 rd Jan	Travel
2	24 th Jan	Guayaquil to Salinas: Ecuasal salt lakes & El Azucar (dry scrub stop)
3	25 th Jan	Guayaquil to Galapagos: Baltra, highlands of Santa Cruz, Puerto Ayora
4	26 th Jan	Floreana: Asilo de la Paz, Puerto Velasco Ibarra, Devil's Crown, Punta Cormorant
5	27 th Jan	Espanola: Punta Suarez, Gardner Islet and Gardner Bay
6	28 th Jan	San Cristobal: Cerro Brujo, Kicker Rock, Cerro Tijeretas, Puerto Baquerizo Moreno
7	29 th Jan	Santa Fe & Plaza Sur
8	30 th Jan	North Seymour & Bartholome
9	31 st Jan	Sullivan Bay, Santiago & Rabida
10	1 st Feb	Caleta Tortuga Negra & transfer to Puerto Ayora
11	2 nd Feb	Santa Cruz highlands: Los Gemelos, Mariposas Ranch lava tunnel, Cerro Crocker
12	3 rd Feb	Charles Darwin Research Station.
13	4 th Feb	Travel from Baltra to Guayaquil
14	5 th Feb	Guayaquil: city tour and departure
15	6 th Feb	Madrid & home

Philip's photos from this trip can be seen at
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/wildlifetravel/sets/72157629178401841/with/6820541205/>



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DIARY

24th January 2012: Guayaquil and Sta Elena Peninsula.

A long day, but hopefully a good one: our first stop was at a roadside petrol station for a comfort break, but we also enjoyed the comings and goings of the birdlife at a fruiting tree: an amazing variety of birds was using this tiny tree, including a superb Blue-crowned Motmot resting and preening on the electricity wire.

Onwards we went, finally arriving at the Ecuasal salt pans, near the aptly named Salinas, where large numbers of waders and water birds were gathered. Most exciting were around 100 Chilean Flamingos, but we also enjoyed the less flamboyant wading birds: hundreds of Wilson's Phalaropes, with smaller numbers of many others. 3 Kelp Gulls dwarfed the Grey-hooded and Laughing Gulls; terns included numerous large, carrot-beaked Royal Terns, a handful of Cabot's Terns (very recently 'just' Sandwich Terns, but now having been split from the European species), 5 Black Terns and a single Common Tern.

Lunch was at a sea front restaurant in Salinas, where fish, of course, was on the menu. On the way back to Guayaquil we stopped near El Azucar in some dry scrub, a characteristic (and, unfortunately, increasingly threatened by agricultural clearance) habitat of the Tumbesian region of southern Ecuador and northern Peru, where we found several Tumbesian specialities: chief amongst these was a handsome White-tailed Jay, which sat on the top of a dead tree, allowing us all to get good views through the 'scope.

A long day ended with a good evening meal, the first of many...

Brown Pelican <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Salinas: offshore & Ecuasal
Blue-footed Booby <i>Sula nebouxii</i>	One or two offshore from Salinas
Magnificent Frigatebird <i>Fregata magnificens</i>	common overhead near the coast
Neotropic Cormorant, <i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	Ecuasal
Striated Heron <i>Butorides striatus</i>	Two at Ecuasal
Snowy Egret <i>Egretta thula</i>	Ecuasal
Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	Ecuasal
Chilean Flamingo <i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	c100, Ecuasal
White-cheeked Pintail <i>Anas bahamensis</i>	Ecuasal
Blue-winged Teal <i>Anas discors</i>	a group of about 6 in the distance at Ecuasal
Turkey Vulture <i>Cathartes aura</i>	Common. Long tail
Black Vulture <i>Cathartes atratus</i>	Common. Short tail, pale near the wing tips
Pearl Kite <i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>	2 pairs on roadside wires, near El Azucar
Harris Hawk <i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	1 wet adult by the road on the way to Salinas
Northern Crested Caracara <i>Caracara cheriway</i>	1 adult by the roadside, near Guayaquil
American Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	On the beach at Salinas
Black-necked Stilt <i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	Ecuasal
Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Ecuasal
Semipalmated Plover <i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>	Ecuasal
Snowy Plover <i>Charadrius nivosus</i>	Ecuasal
Whimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Ecuasal
Western Willet <i>Catoptrophorus inornatus</i>	Ecuasal: the tall, grey wader with black & white wings
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	Ecuasal
Least Sandpiper <i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Very common, Ecuasal. Tiny, straight beak.
Semipalmated Sandpiper <i>Calidris pusilla</i>	Ecuasal. Short straight beak
Wilson's Phalarope <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	Several hundred, Ecuasal
Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ecuasal
Spotted Sandpiper <i>Actitis macularia</i>	Ecuasal
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Ecuasal
Kelp Gull <i>Larus dominicanus</i>	5, Ecuasal: the big 'black backed' gull
Grey-hooded Gull <i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	Common at Ecuasal
Laughing Gull <i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	2 or 3, Ecuasal

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Cabot's Tern <i>Sterna aculeata</i>	Ecuasal
Royal Tern <i>Sterna maxima</i>	Ecuasal
Common Tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>	1 at Ecuasal
Black Tern <i>Chlidonias niger</i>	5+ at Ecuasal
Croaking Ground Dove <i>Columbina cruziana</i>	El Azucar
White-tipped Dove <i>Leptotila verreauxi</i>	Calling near El Azucar (heard only)
Feral Pigeon <i>Columba livia</i>	Guayaquil
Pacific Parrotlet <i>Forpus coelestis</i>	Tiny green parrot, flying near El Azucar
Groove-billed Ani <i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	El Azucar
Blue-crowned Motmot <i>Momotus momota</i>	One on the wires by the petrol station
Pacific Hornero <i>Furnarius cinnamomeus</i>	El Azucar, with large mud oven nests on branches
Collared Antshrike <i>Sakesphorus berardi</i>	A female at El Azucar: Tumbesian Endemic
Common Tody-Flycatcher <i>Todirostrum cinereum</i>	One by the roadside, El Azucar
Tawny-crowned Pygmy Tyrant <i>Euscarthmus meloryphus</i>	Tiny but noisy, El Azucar
Baird's Flycatcher <i>Myiodynastes bairdii</i>	El Azucar: Tumbesian Endemic
Rusty-margined Flycatcher <i>Myiozetetes cayanensis</i>	On wires at the petrol station
Tropical Kingbird <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Common roadside bird
Snowy-throated Kingbird <i>Tyrannus niveigularis</i>	One posing well at El Azucar
Grey-breasted Martin <i>Progne chalybea</i>	Common around Guayaquil and elsewhere
Fasciated Wren <i>Campylorhynchus fasciatus</i>	El Azucar, the builder of the large twig nests
Long-tailed Mockingbird <i>Mimus longicaudatus</i>	Common roadside bird in arid areas, also near El Azucar
Tropical Gnatcatcher <i>Poliophtila plumbea</i>	El Azucar
Red-eyed Vireo <i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	2 in the fruiting tree by the petrol station
Blue-grey Tanager <i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Seen a couple of times from the road
Southern Yellow Grosbeak <i>Pheucticus chrysogaster</i>	1 at the petrol station, 1 at El Azucar
Saffron Finch <i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	2, El Azucar
Crimson-breasted Finch <i>Rhodospingus cruentus</i>	1 male, El Azucar
Variable Seedeater <i>Sporophila corvina</i>	2 in the fruiting tree at the petrol station
Parrot-billed Seedeater <i>Sporophila peruviana</i>	pair at El Azucar
Peruvian Meadowlark <i>Sturnella bellicosa</i>	El Azucar, red and black bird by the roadside
Scrub Blackbird <i>Dives warszewiczi</i>	El Azucar
White-tailed Jay <i>Cyanocorax mystacalis</i>	1 showing very well near El Azucar: Tumbesian Endemic

25th January 2012: Guayaquil to Baltra and Santa Cruz

Our (slightly delayed) morning flight took us out over the Pacific and to the Galapagos, with good views for those on the left of the plane over San Cristobal as we flew in to Baltra. After making our way through the many layers of form filling, passport stamping and baggage reclaiming, we entrusted our bags to the care of the sailors from the *Daphne*, and boarded our bus to take us, via the Athabaca Channel and the arid northern part of Santa Cruz to our lunch stop in the lush and humid highlands.

After lunch, we had a wander around the ranch fields, where surprisingly large numbers of Giant Tortoises were feeding and lazing. It was great to get up close with this iconic Galapagos animal so early in our time on the islands. The other 'must see' creatures from the islands are Darwin's finches, and the fields were swarming with them in mixed flocks of both Small and Medium Ground Finches. Down at the bottom, Fausto's bird whispering not only brought the finches in to investigate him, but also a pair of Galapagos Mockingbirds, one of which posed nicely on the back of a tortoise!

Descending down to Puerto Ayora for a quick post card-purchasing expedition, we finally boarded our boat, the *Daphne* in the early evening, where we settled in to our cabins and figured out the logistics of unpacking into the spaces available...

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26th January 2012: Floreana

Our overnight journey took us south to the island of Floreana.

The morning was spent up in the highlands, via an 'interesting' ride on the hard benches of an open sided truck. The main reason to venture up here is as the only place in the world to see the critically endangered Medium Tree Finch. And we were very lucky in our quest, with at least 6 different birds eventually showing very well: a cool finch if ever there was one... honest! We also explored some of the human history of the island, from the pirate caves to the bizarre tales of early German colonists.

Our next outing was to Post Office Bay, where we were greeted by a group of five lovely Galapagos Penguins swimming in the bay, a nice surprise. After our first wet landing, we moved up behind the beach to the 'post office' and sorted through the various postcards in the barrel under the watchful eye of a pair of Galapagos Flycatchers. Back to the zodiac and then we travelled a little further around the island to Punta Cormoran and the nearby Devil's Crown. Snorkelling for those who braved the currents was fantastic, with some wonderful rocky reef fish and at least 10 White-tipped Reef Sharks. A couple of turtles swam beneath us while Galapagos Shearwaters and Red-billed Tropicbirds flew noisily over our heads.

We waited until late in the day, with the temperatures starting to cool a bit before we visited Punta Cormoran. The brackish lagoon here is usually home to a breeding colony of Caribbean Flamingos, but alas none were present this year: a handful of White-cheeked Pintail, a Lava Heron or two and some nice waders were all we could manage here.

Plants on the arid hillside included the Hairy Scalesia and Floreana Daisy, both endemic to the island. Down on the beach we enjoyed large numbers of Black Turtles, including at least 3 females who were seriously considering the climb up the beach to lay their eggs.

Back on the boat we had our slightly-delayed welcome cocktail and met the crew who would be looking after us for the week.

27th January 2012: Espanola

After quite a bumpy journey overnight, we awoke to find ourselves anchored off the low island of Espanola: the furthest south east in the archipelago, and the oldest of the islands.

Punta Suarez is one of the most popular sites in the whole archipelago, and thanks to a (very) early start, we managed to avoid the crowds for most of our visit. We were greeted by a welcoming committee of sealions, Hood Mockingbirds, Espanola Lava Lizards and the brightly coloured Espanola sub-species of Marine Iguanas.

The recent rains have obviously benefited the land birds, with several Galapagos Doves and Hood Mockingbirds to be seen and Darwin's finches everywhere. The latter included three species: the now-familiar Small Ground Finch, the small, fine-beaked Lowland Warbler Finch (the Warbler Finch has very recently been recognised as being made up of two very similar species) and the bull-necked, massive-beaked (and apparently, rather shy!) Large Cactus Finch. A couple of Galapagos Hawks were sat sentinel around the island.

The real highlight of the island came as we made our way out of the scrub and into the open... a handful of Waved Albatrosses were still present in the nesting colony (luckily they don't read the books that say there are no albatrosses here in January!), with one bird making her maiden flight as we watched, stumbling her way to the cliff edge before launching off across the Pacific, to a round of applause.

After communing with the albatrosses and the Pacific for a while, we made our way back to the boat.

After lunch, and some snorkelling around Gardner Islet in the company of a very friendly young sea lion, we made another landing, at Gardner Bay. Here we enjoyed a relaxing wander along the powder-soft sands of the Bay, and a swim in the shallow waters before heading back to the boat and setting off north to San Cristobal, enjoying a good variety of seabirds along the way, including our first Galapagos Petrels, and a brief visit from a pod of dolphins.

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28th January 2012: San Cristobal

We started our day on San Cristobal with a close encounter with a Bryde's Whale just in front of the boat as we travelled between the port and Cerro Brujo.

After breakfast, we got into the zodiacs and explored the eroded tufa shores of Cerro Brujo, with the zodiacs taking us through a large tunnel in the rock. On the hillside above we could see Gordillo's Scalesia growing on the hillside and the usual boobies and pelicans overhead.

Landing on the white sand beach below Cerro Brujo, we were greeted by a couple of Chatham Mockingbirds and plenty of the lovely San Cristobal Lava Lizards, as well as a handful of the chocolate-brown local subspecies of Marine Iguana. Black-necked Stilts, Least Sandpipers and a handful of White-cheeked Pintails were on the lagoon behind the beach, with Semipalmated Plover, Sanderling, Turnstone and a pair of American Oystercatchers on the beach. Large numbers of Ghost Crabs were scuttling over the sand, while less welcome were the attentions of the Galapagos Horse-flies...

After some great snorkelling from the beach, we returned to the boat and sailed around Kicker Rock, with its nesting colony of Great Frigatebirds, before docking in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno for lunch.

Our afternoon took us to the San Cristobal interpretation centre, a walk up to the top of Frigatebird Hill, looking down over the point where Charles Darwin first made landfall on the islands, and then along into town where we rejoined our boat.

29th January 2012: Santa Fe and Plaza Sur

We woke up in the sheltered bay of the island of Santa Fe, with its own endemic cactus *Opuntia echios* var. *baringtonensis*. Galapagos Doves flew back and forth across the bay, while the ever-present frigatebirds circled overhead and both Spotted Eagle Rays and Cow-nosed Rays drifted past.

Landing on the beach, we spent some time with the local sea lions, while Fausto searched (unsuccessfully) under the bushes for the endemic Santa Fe Rice Rat. The highlight of our walk round the trail was a handful of the large Santa Fe Land Iguanas, including one young immature animal. We walked among the island's endemic Prickly Pears and saw the rare Heller's Scalesia growing on the cliffs. Alas, the arrival of a big swarm of jellyfish meant we had to rethink our plans of snorkelling in the bay.

For lunch, we moored between the islands of North and South Plaza, with Galapagos Shearwaters busy all around us and sealions playing around the rocks.

After a lazy afternoon, we made our way over to the lovely island of South Plaza (Plaza Sur). The island was carpeted in red *Sesuvium edmonstonei* with the succulent-leaved *Portulaca howelli* just coming into leaf. Land Iguanas sat in the shade of the large *Opuntia* cacti, while a couple of large male Marine Iguanas did their best to ingratiate themselves with the female Land Iguanas.

Also around the cacti, we compared the bill shapes of the two finches on the island: Cactus Finch, with its long, roman-nosed beak, and Small Ground Finch, with its small, triangular beak.

Over at the cliff on the far side we were treated to the sights and sounds of the seabirds: Swallow-tailed Gulls, Galapagos Shearwaters and beautiful Red-billed Tropicbirds, as well as the smells of the sealion bachelor colony...

Back at the 'low' side of the island, we saw why it is we don't snorkel off this island, as a big Bull Shark cruised along the shore, looking for a tasty sealion snack.

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30th January 2012: North Seymour and Bartholome

We left the boat being circled by three very large Galapagos Sharks, to visit the seabird colony on North Seymour. On their flimsy nests in the Dwarf Incense Trees both species of frigatebirds were sitting side-by-side: male Great Frigatebirds 'ululated' whilst the nearby male Magnificent Frigatebirds 'drummed', female Great Frigates with their pink eye-lids and Magnificents with blue eye-lids. Land Iguanas lazed at the back of the beach alongside the smaller, darker Marine Iguanas.

Snorkelling along the cliffs we all enjoyed close encounters with a group of tired White-tipped Reef Sharks and a small family of Galapagos Fur Seals were hiding in a cave.

In the afternoon, after travelling around the island, we visited Bartholome. First to the beach, where the highlight was snorkelling with the local population of Galapagos Penguins. Then we made the (slightly damp) pilgrimage to the top of the island and 'the most photographed view in the Galapagos'. Where, of course, we took our photos... From here we also saw a big fish feeding frenzy on one side of the island, and a pod of around 40 Bottle-nosed Dolphins on the other side! A hurried descent took us back to the zodiacs, but unfortunately not fast enough to catch up with the dolphins, which rapidly disappeared into the distance...

31st January 2012: Santiago and Rabida

Our morning excursion took us to the barren lava fields of Sullivan Bay, just opposite Bartholome. Here and there small pioneer patches of Mollugo were growing, while the occasional Galapagos Lava Lizard lived up to its name. A pair of Galapagos Flycatchers put on quite a show, using very nearly everyone as a handy perch!

Highlights of our snorkelling along the shore included a "fly past" from a Galapagos Penguin and a Marine Iguana swimming past.

Travelling from Santiago to Rabida, we passed another pod of Bottle-nosed Dolphins who briefly came in to ride the bow wave before peeling off and leaving us to finish our lunch.

Our final snorkelling of the trip was along the (slightly chilly!) shores of Rabida: a White-tipped Reef Shark, a swim-past turtle, two Marine Iguanas grazing on the algae under the waves and several large stingrays were the highlights.

On the island itself, after a slightly precarious "Indiana Jones" dry landing, we found the endemic Galapagos Tomato growing under Rabida's own Opuntia, had a brief view of a Galapagos Snake slithering across the path, a close view of a young Galapagos Hawk and some great Hermit Crabs under the Black Mangroves.

Our final 'navigation' took us across to the northern end of Santa Cruz for the night...

The premiere of Fausto's new movie, complete with music, was followed by our farewell cocktail and one final dinner on board.

1st February 2012: Caleta Tortuga Negra, Santa Cruz

Our pre-breakfast outing, the last from the boat, took us into the mangrove-fringed lagoon at Caleta Tortuga Negra. A Great Blue Heron stood sentinel at the top of a mangrove, with a Lava Heron sat on its nest further into the lagoon. The finches, mockingbirds and some very noisy Dark-billed Cuckoos were all singing from the trees, a pair of Galapagos Martins (now a very hard to see bird!) flew overhead and several turtles were swimming lazily around the lagoon. Not quite so relaxed was the large female who had at least four suitors... a busy day for some!

And so it was back to the boat for packing... and time to leave. A free afternoon saw us all swaying our way through the streets of Puerto Ayora.

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2nd February 2012: Highlands of Santa Cruz

Today we spent in the highlands of the island, first in the Scalesia forest around the twin 'craters' of Los Gemelos, then to the Mariposas ranch to see their lava tunnel and more tortoises, and finally a damp and foggy visit to the Miconia zone at Cerro Crocker.

A whole new range of endemic plants were found up in the Scalesia forest, including Collinvaux's Passion Flower, with its boomerang-like leaves, the Thin-leaved Darwin Shrub and the endemic bromeliad Galapagos Tillandsia. Amongst the Scalesia forest, another suite of finches could be found: here we caught up with Small Tree Finch, Highland Warbler Finch and the extraordinary Woodpecker Finch: it may not look like much, but it's use of tools to wheedle beetle larvae out of the bark makes it very nearly unique (the New Caledonian Crow is the only other bird known to use tools).

A little further down the road, we stopped at the Mariposas ranch. The local owls weren't roosting in the lava tunnel, but we did see a couple of Common Moorhen and a handful of White-cheeked Pintail on the pond and several more Giant Tortoises including a big male with a satellite tag on his back.

After some refreshing lemongrass tea, and a lovely local lunch in Bella Vista, we moved on to Cerro Crocker. Here, an uphill walk took us up into the Miconia zone, a virtual monoculture of *Miconia robinsonia* over the hillside, a fantastic success story after the near-destruction of this habitat by the invasive Quinine tree. Here we also found a single Galapagos Tree Fern, although it was perhaps hard to appreciate the plants in the rain...

For a couple of us at the back of the group, a calling Galapagos Crake eventually came out into the 'open', creeping about like a little mouse in the bracken.

Dinner was at the wonderfully atmospheric Narwhal restaurant, where we were joined (albeit briefly) by a young Galapagos Barn Owl.

3rd February 2012: Charles Darwin Research Station and Puerto Ayora

In the morning we walked through the 'big city' of Puerto Ayora (via a lesson on Mangrove identification and some entertaining tales of Galapagos-of-yore from Cesar) to the Charles Darwin Research Station, to visit Lonesome George and Diego (the prolific Espanola male from San Diego zoo) and to learn about the tortoise breeding programme taking place here. The station is also a good place to find Darwin's Finches, and we finally caught up with Large Ground Finches, virtually side by side with Small and Medium Ground Finches and several showy Cactus Finch all feeding virtually side by side, as well as several birds that reinforced the fact that a significant number of those damnable finches just can't be identified.

For the more energetic amongst us, the walk out to Tortuga Bay through the arid vegetation revealed a Galapagos Snake and plenty more sparrows.

On our way to dinner out at Angermeyer Point, we passed by a young Yellow-crowned Night Heron near the fish market, with a Lava Heron feeding from the dock by the restaurant, which was also home to large numbers of geckos.

4th February 2012: Galapagos to Guayaquil

A day of travelling.

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5th February 2012: Guayaquil

A day exploring the city, before our flights home...

Neotropic Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	a couple flying along the river
Magnificent Frigatebird <i>Fregatta magnificens</i>	One circling over the hill
Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	One or two flying over
Striated Heron <i>Butorides striatus</i>	One by the pond at lunch
Yellow-crowned Night Heron <i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	A breeding colony by the pond at lunch
Black-crowned Night Heron <i>Nyctocorax nyctocorax</i>	One by the pond at lunch
Turkey Vulture <i>Cathartes aura</i>	One flew past from the top of the hill
Bat Falcon <i>Falco ruficularis</i>	A pair near the church at the bottom of the hill
Ecuadorian Ground Dove <i>Columbina buckleyi</i>	Several pairs around
Croaking Ground Dove <i>Columbina cruziana</i>	One flew past around the top of the hill
Pacific Parrotlet <i>Forpus coelestis</i>	The tiny parrot by the riverfront
Grey-faced Parakeet <i>Brotogeris pyrrhoptera</i>	2 small groups seen, with orange underwings
Groove-billed Ani <i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	Several along the Malecon
Pacific Hornero <i>Furnarius cinnamomeus</i>	Several
Southern Beardless Tyrannulet <i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	One briefly at the top of the hill
Tropical Kingbird <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Common
Gray-breasted Martin <i>Progne chalybea</i>	The big common 'swallow'
Chestnut-collared Swallow <i>Petrochelidon rufogularis</i>	1 nesting colony near the bank 'gallery'
Southern House Wren <i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	A couple singing around the top of the hill
Ecuadorian Thrush <i>Turdus maculirostris</i>	The dull brown thrush in the park
Blue-grey Tanager <i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Common
Saffron Finch <i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	Several seen, the male with an orange forehead
Shiny Cowbird <i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	Common
Great-tailed Grackle <i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	Common
Green Iguana <i>Iguana iguana</i>	A common animal in the Plaza Bolivar!
Guayaquil Squirrel <i>Sciurus stramineus</i>	One rather sad looking individual in Plaza Bolivar

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	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th	29 th	30 th	31 st	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
BIRDS																	
Family Spheniscidae (Penguins)																	
E	Galapagos Penguin	<i>Spheniscus mendiculus</i>				X				X	X						
Family Diomedidae (Albatrosses)																	
	Waved Albatross	<i>Phoebastria irrorata</i>					X										
Family Procellariidae (Shearwaters & Petrels)																	
E	Galapagos Petrel	<i>Pterodroma phaeopygia</i>					X	X									
E	Galapagos Shearwater	<i>Puffinus subalaris</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X					
Family Hydrobatidae (Storm Petrels)																	
e	Elliot's Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanites gracilis galapagoensis</i>					X	X	X	X	X						
	Madeiran Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanodroma castro</i>							X								
e	Wedge-rumped Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanodroma tethys tethys</i>					X	X	X	X							
Family Phaethontidae (Tropicbirds)																	
	Red-billed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon aethereus</i>				X	X	X	X								
Family Fregatidae (Frigatebirds)																	
e	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens magnificens</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
	Great Frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>					X		X								
Family Sulidae (Boobies & Gannets)																	
e	Blue-footed Booby	<i>Sula nebouxii excisa</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		
	Nazca Booby	<i>Sula granti</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X							
Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)																	
e	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis urinator</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese & Swans)																	
e	White-cheeked Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis galapagensis</i>				X		X				X					
Family Ardeidae (Hérons & Egrets)																	
e	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias cognata</i>				X					X						
	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>				X											
	Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>			X	X			X	X			X		X		
	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striatus</i>									X						
E	Lava Heron	<i>Butorides sundevalli</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			
e	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea pauper</i>								X				X			
Family Accipitridae (Hawks & Eagles)																	
E	Galapagos Hawk	<i>Buteo galapagoensis</i>					X		X		X						
Family Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules & Coots)																	
E	Galapagos Crake	<i>Laterallus spilonotus</i>										X					
	Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>										X					
Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)																	
	Wandering Tattler	<i>Heteroscelus incanus</i>				X		X	X	X	X						
	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>			X	X	X			X			X				
	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				X	X	X	X	X		X		X			
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>				X		X		X							
	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>				X		X									
	Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicaria</i>					X										
	Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>				X			X	X							
Family Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)																	
e	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus galapagensis</i>					X	X		X							
Family Recurvirostridae (Avocets & Stilts)																	
	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>				X		X									
Family Charadriidae (Plovers & Lapwings)																	
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>				X											
	Semipalmated Plover	<i>Charadrius semipalmatus</i>				X		X		X		X					

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Family Laridae (Gulls & Terns)																	
	Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>			X		X										
E	Lava Gull	<i>Larus fuliginosus</i>		X			X			X	X		X				
	Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>			X		X		X								
E	Swallow-tailed Gull	<i>Creagrus furcatus</i>			X	X	X	X	X								
e	Common Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus galapagensis</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X			
Family Columbidae (Pigeons & Doves)																	
E	Galapagos Dove	<i>Zenaida galapagoensis</i>			X		X		X	X			X	X			
Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)																	
	Dark-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>			X	H					X						
	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>			X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X			
Family Tytonidae (Barn Owls)																	
e	Galapagos Barn Owl	<i>Tyto (alba) punctatissima</i>										X					
Family Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)																	
E	Galapagos Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus magnirostris</i>			X	X	X		X	X			X				
Family Mimidae (Mockingbirds)																	
E	Galapagos Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus parvulus</i>			X			X		X		X	X	X			
E	Chatham Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus melanotis</i>					X										
E	Hood Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus macdonaldi</i>					X										
Family Hirundinidae (Swallows & Martins)																	
E	Galapagos Martin	<i>Progne modesta</i>									X						
Family Parulidae (New World Warblers)																	
e	Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia aureola</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Family Geospizidae (Darwin's Finches)																	
E	Large Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza magnirostris</i>											X				
E	Medium Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza fortis</i>			X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		
E	Small Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza fuliginosa</i>			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		
E	Cactus Finch	<i>Geospiza scandens</i>					X	X		X			X				
E	Espanola Large Cactus Finch	<i>Geospiza c. conirostris</i>					X										
E	Vegetarian Finch	<i>Camarhynchus crassirostris</i>										X					
E	Medium Tree Finch	<i>Camarhynchus pauper</i>				X											
E	Small Tree Finch	<i>Camarhynchus parvulus</i>				X						X	X				
E	Woodpecker Finch	<i>Camarhynchus pallidus</i>										X					
E	Lowland Warbler Finch	<i>Certhidia cinerascens</i>					X										
E	Highland Warbler Finch	<i>Certhidia olivacea</i>										X					
REPTILES																	
Family Testudinidae (Tortoises)																	
E	Galapagos Giant Tortoise	<i>Geochelone elephantopus</i>			X	X						X					
Family Cheloniidae (Tortoises)																	
E	Black (Pacific Green) Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas agassizi</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X						
Family Geckonidae (Geckos)																	
E	Baur's Leaf-toed Gecko	<i>Phyllodactylus bauri</i>				X											
I		<i>Lepidodactylus lugubris</i>			The gecko on the ceiling, Angermeyer Point												
Family Iguanidae (Iguanas & Lava Lizards)																	
E	Marine Iguana (Santa Cruz)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. hassi</i>			X				X			X		X	X		
E	(Santiago & San Cristobal)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. mertensi</i>					X		X	X							
E	(Floreana & Espanola)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. venustissimus</i>			X	X											
E	Land Iguana	<i>Conolophus subcristatus</i>						X	X								
E	Santa Fe Land Iguana	<i>Conolophus pallidus</i>						X									
E	Galapagos Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus albemarlensis</i>			X			X	X	X			X	X			
E	Espanola Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus delanonis</i>					X										
E	Floreana Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus grayi</i>			X												
E	San Cristobal Lava Lizard	<i>Microlophus bivattatus</i>					X										

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Family Colubridae (Snakes)																	
E	Galapagos Snake	<i>Alsophis d. dorsalis</i>									X						
MAMMALS																	
Family Otariidae (Sealions)																	
E	Galapagos Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus wollebaeki</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		
E	Galapagos Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus galapagoensis</i>								X							
Family Baleopteridae (Rorqual Whales)																	
	Bryde's Whale	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>					X										
Family Delphinidae (Dolphins)																	
	Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>					?			X	X						
Family Muridae (Mice)																	
	House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>										X					

MISCELLANEOUS: TERRESTRIAL. Various other creatures seen during the trip

E	Galapagos Sulphur	<i>Phoebis sennae</i>	The big yellow butterfly														
E	Galapagos Blue	<i>Leptodes parrhasioides</i>	The small blue butterfly														
	Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	Common on Sta Cruz & Floreana														
E	Galapagos Hawkmoth	<i>Mandura rustica</i>	Several at the lunch stop on Sta Cruz, 25 th														
E	Large Painted Locust	<i>Schistocerca melanocera</i>	The big colourful grasshopper														
E	Galapagos Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa darwini</i>	The big shiny blue/black bee														
E	Galapagos Horsefly	<i>Tabanus vittiger</i>	Biting us on the beach at Cerro Brujo														
E	Spotless Ladybird	<i>Cylonedra sanguinea</i>	One on the lava at Sullivan Bay														
N	Terrestrial Hermit Crab	<i>Coenobita compressus</i>	One on Floreana. Under the black mangroves on Rabida														

MISCELLANEOUS: MARINE

	Sally Lightfoot Crab	<i>Grapsus grapsus</i>	Black when young, bright orange when mature														
	Ghost Crab	<i>Ocyropde gaudichaudii</i>	The crab living in holes on sandy beaches														
	Diamond Sting Ray	<i>Dasyatis brevis</i>	Several seen while snorkelling														
	Spotted Eagle Ray	<i>Aetobatus narinari</i>	2 cruised past the boat, Santa Fe														
	Manta Ray	<i>Manta hamiltoni</i>	Occasionally jumping out of the sea														
	Galapagos Shark	<i>Carcharhinus galapagensis</i>	3 around the boat off North Seymour														
	Bull Shark	<i>Carcharhinus leucas</i>	One large animal cruising the shore of South Plaza														
	Black-tipped Reef Shark	<i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i>	2 juveniles in the mangroves, Caleta Tortuga Negra														
	White-tipped Reef Shark	<i>Triaenodon obesus</i>	Several seen while snorkelling														
	Concentric Puffer Fish	<i>Sphoeroides annulatus</i>	Always around the boat.														
	Guineafowl Puffer Fish	<i>Arothron meleagris</i>	Large puffer fish, dark with white spots														
	Stripebelly Puffer Fish	<i>Arothron hispidus</i>	The large, greyish mottled puffer fish														
	Razor Surgeonfish	<i>Prionurus latidavius</i>	The common grey fish, black mask, yellow tail														
	King Angelfish	<i>Holocanthus passer</i>	Common: black/purple with white stripe and orange tail														
	Moorish Idol	<i>Zanclus cornutus</i>	Espanola, 16 th														
	Longfin Halfbeak	<i>Hemiramphus saltator</i>	Swimming just below the surface, the long thin fish														
	Black-striped Salema	<i>Xenocys jessiae</i>	The black-striped silver fish being chased by penguins														
	Galapagos Ringtail Damsel	<i>Stegastes beebei</i>	The small dark fish with pale lipstick: tiny multicoloured juveniles														
	Panamic Sergeant Major	<i>Abudefduf troschelii</i>	Bluish fish with tiger stripe														
	Flag Cabrilla	<i>Epinephelus labriformis</i>	A large, ugly, 'army camouflaged' fish in crevices														
	Blue-chin Parrotfish	<i>Scarus ghobban</i>	The common, large blue & pink or orange & green fish.														
	Mexican Hogfish	<i>Bodianus diplotaenia</i>	The large lump-headed fish with 'streamers'														
	Spinster Wrasse	<i>Halichoeres nicholsi</i>	Several different coloured phases														
	Cortez Rainbow Wrasse	<i>Thalassoma lucasanum</i>	Long and multicoloured														
	Blacktip Cardinalfish	<i>Apogon atradorsatus</i>	The common, red fish hiding in large groups behind rocks														

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	Panamic Fanged Blenny	<i>Ophioblennius steindachneri</i>	Common: blotchy, holds territory on top of rocks
	Giant Hawkfish	<i>Cirrhitus rivulatus</i>	The 'harlequin' fish hiding in the rocks, Santiago
	Orangside Triggerfish	<i>Sufflamen verres</i>	The triggerfish with large pale yellowy side panels
	Finescale Triggerfish	<i>Balistes polylepis</i>	Large plain triggerfish
	Black Durgon	<i>Melichthys niger</i>	The small dark triggerfish with white lines along the fins
	Tiger Snake Eel	<i>Myrichthys tigrinus</i>	Seen by a couple of people in the water, plus a couple of beach corpses. Looks just like a snake.

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FERNS (the following are just some of the 10+ ferns we saw... thanks to Bettye for the IDs)			
E	Galapagos Tree Fern	<i>Cyathea weatherbyana</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz
	Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz
	Hart's-tongue Fern	<i>Polypodium phyllitidis</i>	Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
CLUBMOSES			
		<i>Lycopodium cernuum</i>	The 'christmas tree' club moss, Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
VASCULAR PLANTS			
Family Acanthaceae			
N	Blechum	<i>Blechum pyramidatum</i>	Highlands of Santa Cruz
E	Galapagos Justicia	<i>Justicia galapagana</i>	Highlands of Santa Cruz: maroon flower
Family Aizoaceae			
E	Galapagos Carpetweed	<i>Sesuvium edmonstonei</i>	The red plant all over Plaza Sur, white flowers
N	Common Carpetweed	<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i>	North Seymour, pink flowers
N	Trianthema	<i>Trianthema portulacastrum</i>	Red stems and small white flowers. Sta Fe
Family Amaranthaceae			
N	Spiny-headed Chaff-flower	<i>Alternanthera echinocephala</i>	Punta Suarez; Punta Cormoran
E	Thread-leaved Chaff-flower	<i>Alternanthera filifolia</i>	Punta Cormoran
Family Apocynaceae			
I	Madagascar Periwinkle	<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	A common roadside plant in Puerto Ayora: big pink flowers
Family Asteraceae			
E	Tree Scalesia	<i>Scalesia pedunculata</i>	Around Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
E	Long-haired Scalesia	<i>Scalesia villosa</i>	Punta Cormoran
E	Heller's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia helleri</i>	Santa Fe. Planted around Sta Cruz
E	Gordillo's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia gordilloi</i>	San Cristobal: Cerro Bruo
E	Stewart's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia stewartii</i>	Sullivan Bay & Bartholome
E	Crocker's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia crockeri</i>	Baltra
E	Thin-leaved Darwin's Shrub	<i>Darwiniothamnus tenuifolius</i>	by Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
E	Galapagos Jaegeria	<i>Jaegeria gracilis</i>	Highlands of Sta Cruz: small yellow flowers
N	Ageratum	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Highlands of Santa Cruz: purple veined leaves
I	False Elephant's Foot	<i>Pseudelephantopus spiralis</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz: vervain-like flower spikes
I	Adenostemma	<i>Adenostemma platyphyllum</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz: shaggy white flower heads
N	False Daisy	<i>Eclipta alba</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz: dense rounded white flower heads
Family Avicenniaceae			
N	Black Mangrove	<i>Avicennia germinans</i>	eg Tortuga Bay: long leaves, pointed end, sturdy tree
Family Boraginaceae			
E	Cordia	<i>Cordia leucophylctis</i>	Punta Cormoran
N	Yellow Cordia	<i>Cordia lutea</i>	Yellow flowers, also seen in Ecuador.
N	Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium angiospermum</i>	Arid areas, Sta Cruz
N	Seaside Heliotrope	<i>Heliotropium curassavicum</i>	eg behind the beach, Cerro Brujo
E	Grey Matplant	<i>Tiquilia galapagoa</i>	Bartholome
E	Grey Matplant	<i>Tiquilia nesiotica</i>	Bartholome
E	Rufous-haired Tournefortia	<i>Tournefortia rufo-sericea</i>	Highlands, Sta Cruz
E	White-haired Tournefortia	<i>Tournefortia pubescens</i>	Around Puerto Ayora, Sta Cruz
Family Bromeliaceae			
E	Galapagos Tillandsia	<i>Tillandsia insularis</i>	Floreana and Los Gemelos

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Family Burseraceae			
E	Galapagos Incense Tree	<i>Bursera malacophylla</i>	North Seymour
N	Palo Santo (Incense Tree)	<i>Bursera graveolens</i>	Punta Cormoran, Genovesa, Santiago, Santa Cruz
Family Cactaceae			
E	Lava Cactus	<i>Brachycereus nesioticus</i>	Bartholome
E	Candelabra Cactus	<i>Jasminocereus thouarsii</i>	Arid zone: eg Punta Cormoran, Sta Cruz
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia echios</i> var. <i>echios</i>	Baltra, Plaza Sur and the arid north of Santa Cruz
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia echios</i> var. <i>gigantea</i>	Santa Cruz, around Puerto Ayora: tallest of the Opuntias
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia echios</i> var. <i>barringtonensis</i>	Santa Fe: massive trunks
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia echios</i> var. <i>zacana</i>	North Seymour
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia galapageia</i> var. <i>galapageia</i>	Santiago
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia galapageia</i> var. <i>profusa</i>	Rabida
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia megasperma</i> var. <i>megasperma</i>	Floreana & Devil's Crown
E	Prickly Pear	<i>Opuntia megasperma</i> var. <i>orientalis</i>	San Cristobal & Espanola
Family Caesalpiniaceae			
I	Butterfly Flower	<i>Bauhinia monandra</i>	Pink flowers, eg Puerto Ayora
I	Dwarf Poinciana	<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>	Orange flowers, Puerto Ayora
I	Flamboyant	<i>Delonix regia</i>	Red flowers, eg Puerto Ayora
N	Jerusalem Thorn	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Palo Verde, common in the arid zone
Family Celastraceae			
N	Maytenus	<i>Maytenus octogona</i>	Coastal: eg Puerto Ayora, Rabida
Family Chenopodiaceae			
N	Atriplex	<i>Atriplex peruviana</i>	Punta Suarez: the grey plant the albatrosses nest amongst
Family Clusiaceae			
N	St John's Wort	<i>Hypericum uliginosum</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz
Family Combretaceae			
N	Button Mangrove	<i>Conocarpus erectus</i>	Puerto Ayora: 'ordinary' leaves, rounded 'button' fruits
N	White Mangrove	<i>Laguncularia racemosa</i>	Puerto Ayora: long leaves, rounded end
Family Commelinaceae			
I	Wandering Jew	<i>Tradescantia zebrine</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
N	Dayflower	<i>Commelina diffusa</i>	Highlands of Sta Cruz
Family Convolvulaceae			
N	Beach Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i>	Broad round leaves, on the beach at Gardner Bay
E	Arrow-leaved Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea linearifolia</i>	Rabida
Family Cucurbitaceae			
I	Hedgehog Gourd	<i>Cucumis dipsaceus</i>	Puerto Ayora: round leaves, spiny 'gourd'
I	Bitter Melon	<i>Mormordica charantia</i>	Puerto Ayora: palmate leaves, orange 'gourd' with red seeds
Family Cyperaceae (amongst many others)			
E	Andersson's Sedge	<i>Cyperus anderssonii</i>	Sta Cruz
Family Euphorbiaceae			
E	Chamaesyce	<i>Chamaesyce amplexicaulis</i>	Bartholome
I	Hairy Chamaesyce	<i>Chamaesyce hirta</i>	Post Office Bay
I	Garden Croton	<i>Codiaeum variegatum</i>	Puerto Ayora & Bella Vista
E	Galapagos Croton	<i>Croton scouleri</i>	Common in arid zone. ag Santa Fe & Punta Suarez
N	Poison Apple	<i>Hippomane mancinella</i>	Puerto Ayora
I	Castor Bean	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Puerto Ayora
Family Fabaceae			
I	Flame Tree	<i>Erythrina velutina</i>	The living fenceposts, agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
N	Tick Trefoil	<i>Desmodium incanum</i>	The pink 'spiked' pea, with sticky seeds
N	Piscidia	<i>Piscidia carthagenensis</i>	'iron wood' tree, strange yellow flowers/seed pods
N	Rhynchosia minima	<i>Rhynchosia minima</i>	eg Post Office Bay: small flowered, climbing plant
N	Wild Cowpea	<i>Vigna luteola</i>	Large pale yellow pea, Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
Family Goodeniaceae			
N	Inkberry	<i>Scaevola plumieri</i>	Behind the beach, Cerro Brujo

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Family Lauraceae			
I	Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
Family Malvaceae			
I	Anoda	<i>Anoda acerifolia</i>	Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz: the large white flower
E	Darwin's Cotton	<i>Gossypium darwinii</i>	Post Office Bay
I	Chinese Hibiscus	<i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i>	Agricultural areas and Puerto Ayora, Sta Cruz
I	Chinese Lantern	<i>Hibiscus schizopetalus</i>	Puerto Ayora
I		<i>Sida ciliaris</i>	Post Office Bay
I		<i>Sida rhombifolia</i>	eg Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
Family Melastomataceae			
E	Galapagos Miconia	<i>Miconia robinsoniana</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz
Family Meliaceae			
I	Spanish Cedar	<i>Cedrela odorata</i>	Agricultural areas of Sta Cruz
Family Molluginaceae			
E	Mollugo	<i>Mollugo flavescens subsp. gracillima</i>	Sullivan Bay
Family Myrtaceae			
E	Galapagos Guava	<i>Psidium galapageium</i>	Los Gemelos: iron wood
I	Guava	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	Agricultural areas of Sta Cruz. Very invasive, eg Cerro Mesa
Family Nolanaceae			
E	Galapagos Clubleaf	<i>Nolana galapagensis</i>	Punta Cormoran: shrub w/ succulent leaves behind the beach
Family Nyctaginaceae			
N	Boerhaavia	<i>Boerhaavia caribaea</i>	Larger dark purple flowers: Puerto Ayora
N		<i>Boerhaavia erecta</i>	Small pale flowers: Floreana
I	Bougainvillea	<i>Bougainvillea spectabilis</i>	Puerto Ayora
N	Wartclub	<i>Commicarpus tuberosus</i>	Medium pinky flowers: eg Punta Cormoran
N	Saltbush	<i>Cryptocarpus pyriformis</i>	Very common in the arid zone.
Family Onagraceae			
N	False Loosestrife	<i>Ludwigia leptocarpa</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz
Family Orchidaceae			
E	Buttonhole Orchid	<i>Epidendrum spicatum</i>	Epiphyte, highlands of Sta Cruz eg Los Gemelos
N	Ionopsis	<i>Ionopsis utricularioides</i>	Epiphyte, Mariposa tortoise ranch, Sta Cruz
Family Passifloraceae			
E	Colinvaux's Passion-flower	<i>Passiflora colinvauxii</i>	Highlands of Sta Cruz: cats ear leaf
I	Passion Fruit	<i>Passiflora edulis</i>	Highlands of Sta Cruz: tortoise food!
N	Running Pop	<i>Passiflora foetida</i>	Post Office Bay
Family Piperaceae			
I	Pothomorphe	<i>Pothomorphe peltata</i>	The large round leaves, agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
E	Galapagos Peperomia	<i>Peperomia galapagensis</i>	Epiphyte, highlands of Sta Cruz
Family Plantaginaceae			
I	Common Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>	Sta Cruz
Family Plumbaginaceae			
N	White Leadwort	<i>Plumbago scandens</i>	Punta Cormoran: deep red stems and leaves
Family Poaceae (amongst many others)			
I	Bamboo	<i>Bambusa guadua</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
N	Feather Fingergrass	<i>Chloris virgata</i>	All over Santa Fe & Punta Suarez
N	Beach Dropseed	<i>Sporobolus virginicus</i>	At the back of the beach, Tortuga Bay
I	Elephant Grass	<i>Pennisetum purpureum</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
Family Portulacaceae			
E	Galapagos Purslane	<i>Portulaca howellii</i>	Red stems, yellow flowers, South Plaza.
N	Common Purslane	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i>	Red stems, small yellow flowers, Punta Suarez
Family Rhamnaceae			
E	Thorn Shrub	<i>Scutia spicata</i>	Common, spiny bush
Family Rhizophoraceae			
N	Red Mangrove	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>	Puerto Ayora: large rubbery leaves

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	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	Notes
Family Rosaceae			
I	Hill Raspberry	<i>Rubus niveus</i>	Invasive weed, highlands of Sta Cruz
Family Rubiaceae			
N	Milkberry	<i>Chiococca alba</i>	On the trail to Tortuga Bay, Sta Cruz
I	Quinine Tree	<i>Cinchona succirubra</i>	Invasive weed, highlands of Sta Cruz
I	Coffee	<i>Coffea arabica</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
E	Galapagos Coffee	<i>Psychotria rufipes</i>	Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
I	Buttonweed	<i>Diodia radula</i>	Highlands, Sta Cruz
Family Rutaceae			
N	Cat's Claw	<i>Zanthoxylum fagara</i>	Around Los Gemelos and in highlands of Sta Cruz
Family Simaroubaceae			
E	Castela	<i>Castela galapageia</i>	South Plaza; Espanola
Family Solanaceae			
I	Bush Violet	<i>Browallia americana</i>	Highlands of Sta Cruz
I	Angel's Trumpet	<i>Brugmansia candida</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz & Floreana (near pirate's cave)
E	Galapagos Shore Petunia	<i>Exedeconus miersii</i>	eg Santa Fe, Genovesa
N	Grabowskia	<i>Grabowskia boerhaaviaefolia</i>	Greyish leaves, common
E	Galapagos Lycium	<i>Lycium minimum</i>	Punta Suarez.
N	Ground Cherry	<i>Physalis angulata</i>	eg Santa Fe, Floreana
E	Galapagos Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon cheesmanii</i>	Rabida, roadside near to the Charles Darwin Research Station
I	Garden Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i>	Roadsides, Puerto Ayora
Family Sterculiaceae			
N	Waltheria	<i>Waltheria ovata</i>	Punta Cormoran: glaucous leaves and yellow flowers
Family Urticaceae			
E	Galapagos Pilea	<i>Pilea baurii</i>	Nettle-like plant, highlands of Sta Cruz
Family Verbenaceae			
E	Galapagos Lantana	<i>Lantana peduncularis</i>	Small white lantana, Punta Suarez, Punta Cormoran
I	Multicoloured Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i>	Puerto Ayora
N	Glorybower	<i>Clerodendrum molle</i>	Santiago, Santa Cruz
I	False Vervain	<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>	Cerro Crocker, Sta Cruz
Family Viscaceae			
E	Galapagos Mistletoe	<i>Phoradendron henslowii</i>	on Cat's Claw, Sta Cruz
Family Zygophyllaceae			
N	Puncture Weed	<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>	Yellow flowers, top of the beach

Darwin's Finches: it's all in the bill

During our trip, we found 11 of Darwin's famous finches: we missed Large Tree Finch, while Sharp-beaked Finch, Genovesa Large Cactus Finch and Mangrove Finch all live on islands or in areas we didn't visit during our time in the islands.



Small Ground Finch



Small Tree Finch



Medium Ground Finch



Medium Tree Finch



Large Ground Finch



Vegetarian Finch (photograph from 2010)

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Cactus Finch



Espanola Large Cactus Finch



Lowland Warbler Finch



Highland Warbler Finch



Woodpecker Finch