

The Galapagos Islands

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THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Thirteen Islands and numerous rock outcroppings

Lies at the equator in the eastern Pacific Ocean
about 600 miles west of Ecuador

History

- Was known for centuries as some sort of “Hell Hole.”
- Charles Darwin arrived in 1855, saw the animal and plant diversity and started his work on the “Origin of the Species” which he published in 1859.

Best time to Go

- The best time to go is January -February as the temperature is usually in the 70s and 80s. I went in August. The temperature was in the 70s and 80s.



We took bug and mosquito repellent

- There were none.

Lodgings

I stayed on a 100+ passenger ship which went from island to island. It provided meals, lodging and other needs and wants.

One of the Galapagos islands is used for the housing and other needs that employees might have. There is lodging for guests as well.

Approaching the Islands

We went to each island in a small rubber boat which was powered by an outboard motor.

We had two hikes a day. Both were with guides. We were given ample time to photograph what we wished. Most people had cameras.









The first three days

The first three mornings, our guide took us to an inlet that had a beautiful area of very clear water. We were issued wet suites, masks, and other equipment so that we could snorkel and see some of the magnificent marine life around the islands.



Photographic Equipment to take

I took the following:

Nikon Camera

28-200mm Nikon lens

16-35mm Nikon lens

Flash

I did not think of taking an underwater camera. This can be very important. I should have done so.

Non Photographic things to take

Bug Repellent – I used Picaridin Insect Repellent

Insect repellent for your clothes – I used Sawyers Insect Repellent

Sunscreen Spf 50 I used Sawyers Stay Put Sunscreen Lotion

Best Price –Try Amazon

Remember-- A little goes a long way

Clothing

Light weight, neutral colored clothing that does not cling.

Hat that shields the sun

Sun Glasses

Walking stick

Shoes that have a good grip on rough ground and are not harmed if they are wet.

Things not to Take

I did not take the following:

Long focal length lens
Tripod

The terrain can be rough and hilly. The ground can be uneven. Rocks and sharp pieces of lava can be exposed.

Finally

Be prepared for Rain.

Also, remember you are at the Equator. The sun is always above you. You can get sunburn or very hot without realizing your condition.

















