Galápagos Escape

Explore Darwin's islands aboard the elegant *National Geographic Islander II* through 2026, and new in 2027, sail aboard the new *National Geographic Gemini*. Witness the iconic wildlife that sparked the theory of evolution by natural selection, snorkel pristine waters teeming with sea lions and sea turtles, and hike black-sand beaches and lush highlands. As with our classic, 10-day expeditions, honed over more than 50 years, each voyage is crafted to offer a diverse perspective of the archipelago with multiple adventures daily on land and undersea.

From
£4,931 / per person
Does not include flights

DATES
Year round

DURATION
7-8 Days

SHIPS
National Geographic Gemini
National Geographic Islander II

STARTS AT
Quito, Ecuador

→

ENDS AT
Quito, Ecuador

Highlights

- Walk among fearless wildlife across diverse island habitats: observe nesting seabirds, photograph sea lions on golden beaches and encounter marine iguanas and giant tortoises
- Snorkel in the protected waters of the Galápagos Marine Reserve, swimming among playful sea lions, sea turtles, penguins and schools of vibrant fish
- Choose from multiple adventures each day, exploring at your own pace: hike volcanic trails, cruise by Zodiac along untamed coastlines, kayak pristine bays and paddleboard in calm waters
- Add a three-night post-expedition extension in Quito, Ecuador

PANAMA
Quito
ECUADOR
Fernandina
Baltra
San Cristóbal
Floreana
Española
mapbox
© Mapbox, © OpenStreetMap

Day by day

■ DAY 1

Quito, Ecuador

Arrive in Quito, Ecuador's capital city in the Andes, where guests are met and transferred to a hotel for an overnight stay.

At 9,350 feet above sea level, Quito's elevation makes early arrival beneficial for acclimatization. Additional nights in Quito may also be reserved to further enhance the journey.

Arrival Time: Anytime.
Arrival City: Quito, Ecuador

◇ DAY 2

Quito / Galápagos Islands / Embark Ship

Fly to Baltra in the center of Galápagos, a little world unto itself in the Tropical Pacific, where you'll be welcomed by your naturalist staff as you begin exploring the islands.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAYS 3-6

Galápagos Islands

Listed below is a sample of islands you may visit during your expedition. Expeditions begin and end at Baltra and include visits to Isla Santa Cruz and a careful selection of diverse islands. No two days are alike. Each itinerary offers an optimal balance of wildlife, landscapes and experiences. All ship itineraries are subject to Galápagos National Park regulations.

North Seymour: Look for nesting frigatebirds, plus land and marine iguanas, and enjoy a beautiful coastal walk.

Santa Cruz: Head to the lush, green highlands to look for giant tortoises roaming in the wild.

Isabela: Toast crossing the Equator at Volcán Ecuador, northernmost of Isabela's six great shield volcanoes. Keep an eye open for whales and dolphins as you explore these nutrient-rich waters, once the haunt of whalers and pirates.

Fernandina: One of the most active oceanic volcanoes in the world, Fernandina is the youngest and most pristine island in Galápagos—and home to the strange flightless cormorant and the largest marine iguanas.

San Cristóbal: Search for red-footed boobies and the endemic mockingbird and lava lizard—found only on this easternmost island.

Española: Located in the extreme southeast of the archipelago, this island is home to swallow-tailed gulls, Española mockingbirds, Nazca boobies and, seasonally, the world's only population of waved albatrosses at Punta Suárez.

Floreana: Follow a trail past a pink-tinted lagoon frequented by flamingos. Snorkel among sea lions and abundant fish, or cruise along Champion Islet by Zodiac. Visit the famous wooden barrel at Post Office Bay and learn about its unusual postal system.

Meals included: lunch, breakfast, dinner

◇ DAY 7

Galápagos Islands / Disembark Ship / Quito

Disembark this morning for a return flight to the mainland. In Quito there are several hotel options . The afternoon and evening are at your leisure. You may be able to take advantage of overnight

flights home. Ask your expedition specialist about joining a culturally rich post-voyage extension to Quito and Otavalo , a celebrated market town.

Meals included: breakfast

DAY 8

Quito

After breakfast, transfer to the airport and board flights home, unless you have arranged for additional nights or an extension.

Departure Time: Anytime on day 8, or after 7:00 p.m. local time on day 7.
Departure City: Quito, Ecuador

8-Day Expedition

Quito, Ecuador → Quito, Ecuador

2026 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Islander II*

31 Oct				
05 Nov	14 Nov	19 Nov	28 Nov	
03 Dec	17 Dec	26 Dec	31 Dec	

2027 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Gemini*

03 Apr	08 Apr	17 Apr	22 Apr	
01 May	06 May	15 May	20 May	29 May
03 Jun	12 Jun	17 Jun	26 Jun	
01 Jul	10 Jul	15 Jul	24 Jul	29 Jul
07 Aug	12 Aug	21 Aug	26 Aug	
04 Sep	09 Sep	18 Sep	23 Sep	
02 Oct	07 Oct	21 Oct	30 Oct	
04 Nov	13 Nov	18 Nov	27 Nov	
02 Dec	11 Dec	16 Dec	25 Dec	30 Dec

Aboard *National Geographic Islander II*

09 Jan	14 Jan	23 Jan	28 Jan	
06 Feb	11 Feb	20 Feb	25 Feb	
06 Mar	11 Mar	20 Mar	25 Mar	

2028 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Gemini*

08 Jan	13 Jan	22 Jan	27 Jan	
05 Feb	10 Feb	19 Feb	24 Feb	
04 Mar	09 Mar	18 Mar	23 Mar	
01 Apr	06 Apr	15 Apr	20 Apr	29 Apr
04 May	13 May	18 May	27 May	
01 Jun	10 Jun	15 Jun	24 Jun	29 Jun
08 Jul	13 Jul	22 Jul	27 Jul	
05 Aug	10 Aug	19 Aug	24 Aug	
02 Sep	07 Sep	16 Sep	21 Sep	30 Sep
28 Oct				
02 Nov	11 Nov	16 Nov	25 Nov	30 Nov
09 Dec	14 Dec	23 Dec	28 Dec	

2029 DEPARTURE DATES

Aboard *National Geographic Gemini*

06 Jan	11 Jan	20 Jan	25 Jan	
03 Feb	08 Feb	17 Feb	22 Feb	
03 Mar	08 Mar	17 Mar	22 Mar	
05 Apr	14 Apr	19 Apr	28 Apr	
03 May	12 May	17 May	26 May	31 May
09 Jun	14 Jun	23 Jun	28 Jun	
07 Jul	12 Jul	21 Jul	26 Jul	
04 Aug	09 Aug	18 Aug	23 Aug	
01 Sep	06 Sep	15 Sep	20 Sep	29 Sep
04 Oct	13 Oct	18 Oct	27 Oct	

Alternative Routes

Visit Expeditions.com for more information.

2026 Departure Dates

27 Oct, 10 Nov, 24 Nov, 08 Dec, 22 Dec

2027 Departure Dates

05 Jan, 19 Jan, 02 Feb, 16 Feb, 02 Mar,
16 Mar, 13 Apr, 27 Apr, 11 May, 25 May,
08 Jun, 22 Jun, 06 Jul, 20 Jul, 03 Aug,
17 Aug, 31 Aug, 14 Sep, 28 Sep, 12 Oct,
26 Oct, 09 Nov, 23 Nov, 07 Dec, 21 Dec

2028 Departure Dates

04 Jan, 18 Jan, 01 Feb, 15 Feb, 29 Feb,
14 Mar, 11 Apr, 25 Apr, 09 May, 23 May,
06 Jun, 20 Jun, 04 Jul, 18 Jul, 01 Aug,
15 Aug, 29 Aug, 12 Sep, 26 Sep, 07 Nov,
21 Nov, 05 Dec, 19 Dec

2029 Departure Dates

02 Jan, 16 Jan, 30 Jan, 13 Feb, 27 Feb,
13 Mar, 27 Mar, 10 Apr, 24 Apr, 08 May,
22 May, 05 Jun, 19 Jun, 03 Jul, 17 Jul, 31 Jul,
14 Aug, 28 Aug, 11 Sep, 25 Sep, 09 Oct,
23 Oct

National Geographic Gemini

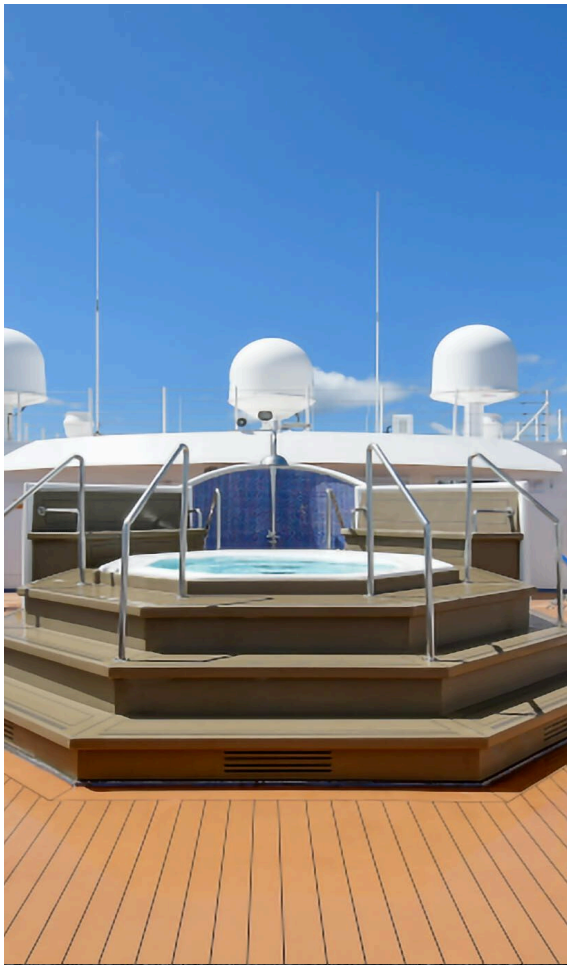
GUESTS	CABINS
48	27

A fully equipped Galápagos expedition ship for 48 guests

The newly christened *National Geographic Gemini* joins the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic Galápagos fleet with a history and heritage of small-ship expedition cruising. Launched in 2001 from the same shipyard as *National Geographic Orion*, *National Geographic Gemini* is a highly maneuverable, shallow-draft expedition ship purpose built to explore remote areas with ease.

Sailing year round with a maximum of 48 guests on weeklong voyages departing Fridays, *National Geographic Gemini* offers guests the choice of larger suites, cabins with balconies, and a mix of doubles, solos and triples.

All cabins are ocean facing and with ample storage, beds that can be configured as a queen or two twins, a sofa, desk, television and a well-stocked mini fridge. Bathrooms are large and feature glass showers. Suite 601 on the Upper Deck (Category 7) is the largest in the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic Galápagos fleet with a separate living room, forward-facing balcony and floor-to-ceiling windows. Cabins on the Bridge Deck (Category 4 & 5S) all have private balconies with seating.



Enjoy the outdoors on the Upper Deck and Bridge Deck, which features a whirlpool hot tub, and windowed fitness center and spa. An outdoor café on the Lounge Deck accommodates all guests in a single open seating, as does the restaurant on the Marina Deck. The open, windowed lounge for presentations and informal gatherings has a large bar and well-stocked library and adjacent reception area.

Carrying a fleet of quick-to-deploy Mark VI Zodiacs, kayaks and stand-up paddleboards, the ship is well-equipped for exploring the islands and marine reserve. It is also stocked with snorkeling gear for all guests, including shortie wetsuits.

National Geographic Gemini provides an authentic sense of place informed by our decades-long relationships with local communities and conservation groups. Contributing to the fully immersive Ecuadorian experience on board is the passionate and knowledgeable Ecuadorian crew. Meals are designed to support the community—comprising locally sourced farm-to-table and ocean-to-table ingredients.

Cabin Categories

Category 1

LOUNGE DECK **#411, 414, 415, 416**

Forward cabins, outside facing with a large window, queen or two twin beds, ample storage, sitting area, desk, mini fridge and television. Bathrooms with a glass shower and amenities. 160 square feet.

Category 2 Solo

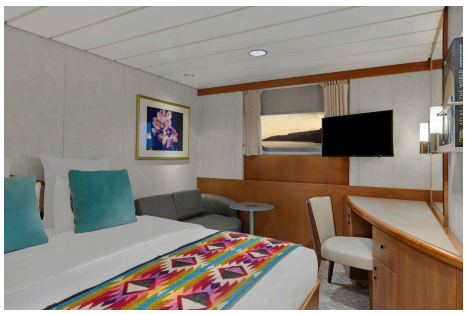
LOUNGE DECK **#401 and 402**

Outside facing with a large window, choice of either a queen or two twin beds, ample storage, sitting area, desk, mini fridge and television. Bathrooms with a glass shower and amenities. Equal in size and amenities to other Category 2 cabins. 160 square feet.

Category 2

LOUNGE DECK **#403-408, 410, 412**

Outside facing with a large window, queen or two twin beds, ample storage, sitting area, desk, mini fridge and television. Bathrooms with a glass shower and amenities. 160 square feet.



Category 4

BRIDGE DECK **#500-508**

Outside facing with floor-to-ceiling glass doors, 50-square-foot balcony with seating, queen or two twin beds, ample storage, sitting area, desk, mini fridge and television. Bathrooms with a glass shower and amenities. 205 square feet. 503/505 and 504/506 connect. 500/503 with convertible sofa bed for triple occupancy.

Cabin Categories

Category 5 Solo

BRIDGE DECK **#509**

Outside facing with floor-to-ceiling glass doors, 50-square-foot balcony with seating, one queen bed, ample storage, sitting area, desk, mini fridge, and television. Bathrooms with a glass shower and amenities. 175 square feet.

Category 5

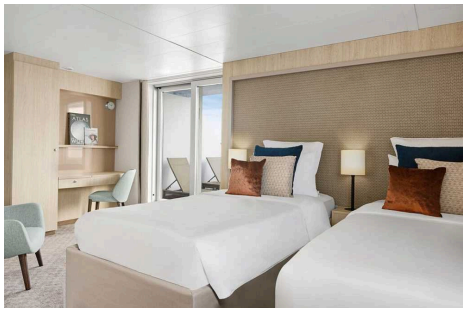
UPPER DECK **#602**

Outside facing with floor-to-ceiling glass doors, 50-square-foot balcony with seating, queen or two twin beds, ample storage, sitting area, desk, mini fridge and television. Bathrooms with a glass shower and amenities. 205 square feet. Connects to 604 as family suite.

Category 6

UPPER DECK **#604**

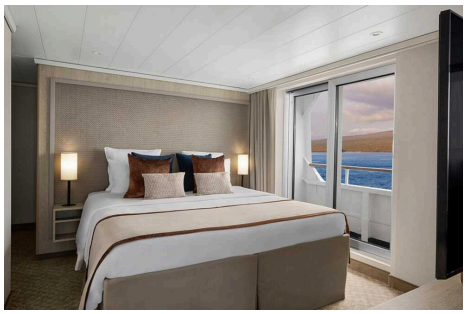
Forward facing with floor-to-ceiling glass doors, 195-square-foot forward-facing balcony with seating, queen or two twin beds, ample storage, sitting area, desk, mini fridge, and television. Bathrooms with a glass shower and amenities. 250 square feet. Connects to 602 as family suite.



Category 7

UPPER DECK **#601**

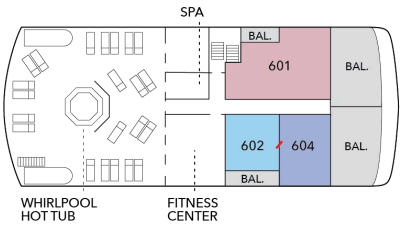
Forward facing with floor-to-ceiling glass doors, separate living room with sofa bed for triple occupancy, and 195-square-foot forward-facing balcony with seating. Bedroom with queen or two twin beds, 50-square-foot side balcony, ample storage, mini fridge, and television. Large bathroom with rain shower. 460 square feet.



Deck Plans

Upper Deck

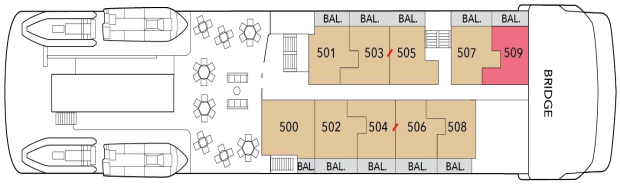
- Category 5
- Category 6
- Category 7



UPPER DECK

Bridge Deck

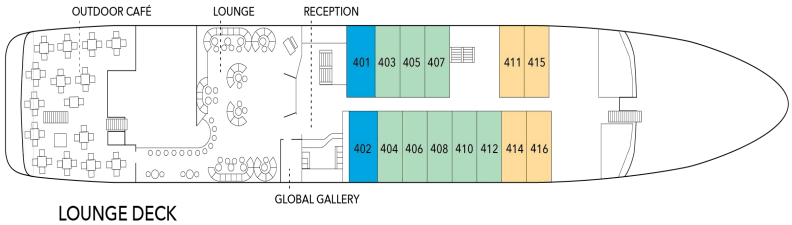
- Category 4
- Category 5 Solo



BRIDGE DECK

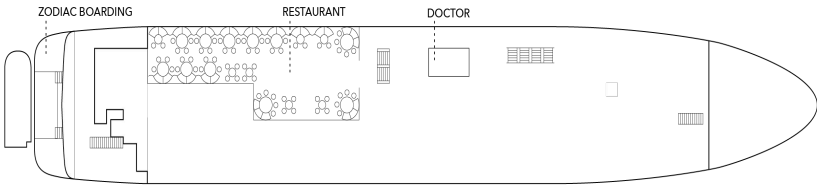
Lounge Deck

- Category 1
- Category 2 Solo
- Category 2



LOUNGE DECK

Marina Deck



MARINA DECK

Ship Amenities

Accommodations with Balconies

National Geographic Gemini offers an array of accommodation types, including 13 cabins with private balconies. Cabins on the Bridge Deck (Category 4 & 5S) have private balconies with seating. Suite 601 on the Upper Deck (Category 7) is the largest in the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic Galápagos fleet with a separate living room, forward-facing balcony, side balcony, and floor-to-ceiling windows. Cabin 604, which connects with Cabin 602 for the ultimate family suite, is forward facing with a large balcony.

Open-Air Decks

The Upper Deck features an outdoor shower, whirlpool hot tub with adjacent shaded seating area and a windowed fitness center and spa perfect for relaxing. The outdoor café on the Lounge Deck can accommodate all guests in a single seating.

In Good Company

Explore Galápagos in the company of veteran Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic expedition staff, a veteran Expedition Leader, Undersea Specialist, Certified Photo Instructor, and licensed naturalists. Staff are certified as Field Educators to offer the National Geographic Explorers-in-Training program for kids and teens.

Note:

All images are for reference only. The final ship design will evolve following a multi-million-dollar renovation.

National Geographic Islander II

GUESTS	CABINS
48	26

A New Ship with Just 26 Spacious Staterooms and Suites Sailing the Galápagos Islands

Sleek and elegant, *National Geographic Islander II* sails year-round in the Galápagos Islands and elevates the guest experience to an entirely new level.

National Geographic Islander II is a gracious expedition vessel that feels like a private yacht. With only 26 staterooms and suites, and accommodating just 48 guests, she sails with a 1:1 guest-to-crew ratio.

Special features include teak decks, indoor-outdoor dining options, an impressive observation deck, and new amenities like a climate-controlled Marina and a dedicated Science Hub.

National Geographic Islander II provides an authentic sense of place, drawing on our decades of partnering with local communities and conservation groups. Contributing to the fully immersive Ecuadorian experience on board are Ecuadorian staff and locally sourced and sustainable farm-to-table and ocean-to-table culinary ingredients, as well as artisan spa elements and handcrafted textiles, art, and décor all regionally created.

The *National Geographic Islander II* celebrates Lindblad's deep connection to the islands, Ecuador, and its people with a deeply immersive and truly unique Ecuadorian cultural experience. The carefully considered food and beverage program highlights the four regions of Ecuador with locally sourced farm-to-table ingredients. Regional ingredients can even be found in spa products. From Ecuadorian shipboard staff to artwork, textiles, and décor created by local artists and artisans and Ecuadorean music heard throughout the ship, guests will experience the beauty and wonder of Ecuador both on and off the ship.

Cabin Categories

Bridge Deck

Category SU

GUEST SUITE **#301, 302, 306, 308, 310, 311, 312, 316**

280 sq. ft. with two panoramic windows, twin/king convertible beds, seating area with sofa, lounge chair, and marble double-sink bathrooms with rain shower. #301, 302, 306, 308, 310-312, 316. #312 & #316 are triple occupancy with sofa made up as third bed. Third person rates are one-half the double occupancy rate. Connecting Suites: #301/303, 302/306

Category SO

SOLO SUITE **#315, 318**

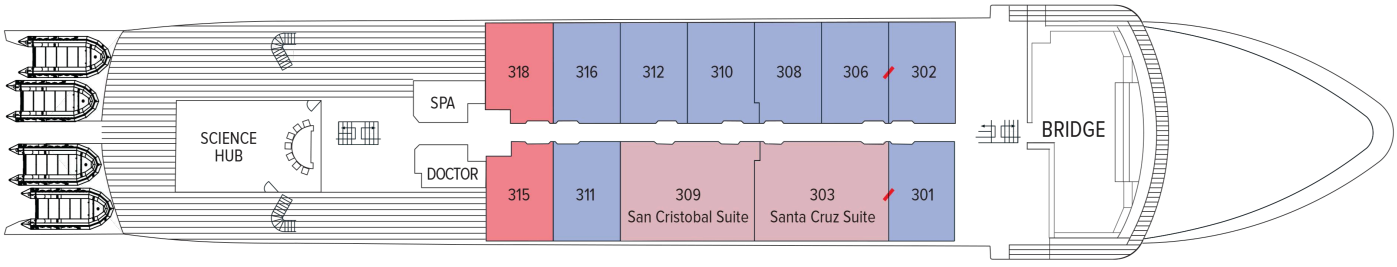
280 sq. ft. with two panoramic windows, twin/king convertible beds, seating area with sofa, lounge chair, and marble double-sink bathrooms with rain shower; dedicated solo but otherwise identical to SU category.

Category IS

ISLANDER SUITE **#303, 309**

515 sq. ft. with two panoramic windows, twin/king convertible beds, separate living areas with sofa, table and chairs, two lounge chairs, larger bathroom with both rain shower and tub. Triple occupancy with sofa made up as third bed. Third person rates are one-half the double occupancy rate. Connecting Suites: #301/303, 302/306

Bridge Deck



Cabin Categories

Main Deck

Category IS

ISLANDER SUITE **#209, 218**

515 sq. ft. with two panoramic windows, twin/king convertible beds, separate living areas with sofa, table and chairs, two lounge chairs, larger bathroom with both rain shower and tub. Triple occupancy with sofa made up as third bed. Third person rates are one-half the double occupancy rate.

Category SU

GUEST SUITE **#203, 205-208, 210-212, 215, 220**

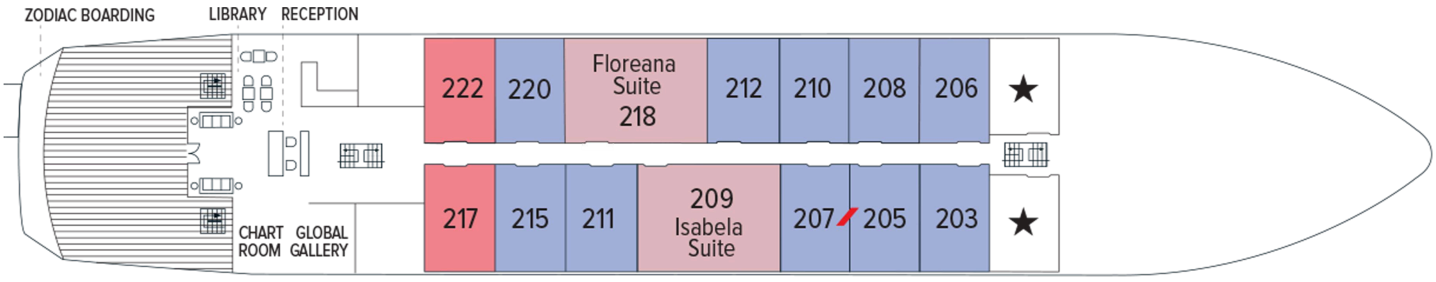
280 sq. ft. with two panoramic windows, twin/king convertible beds, seating area with sofa, lounge chair, and marble double-sink bathrooms with rain shower. Connecting Suites: #205/207.

Category SO

SOLO SUITE **#217, 222**

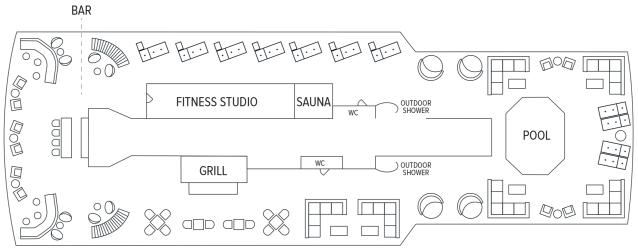
280 sq. ft. with two panoramic windows, twin/king convertible beds, seating area with sofa, lounge chair, and marble double-sink bathrooms with rain shower; dedicated solo but otherwise identical to SU category.

Main Deck

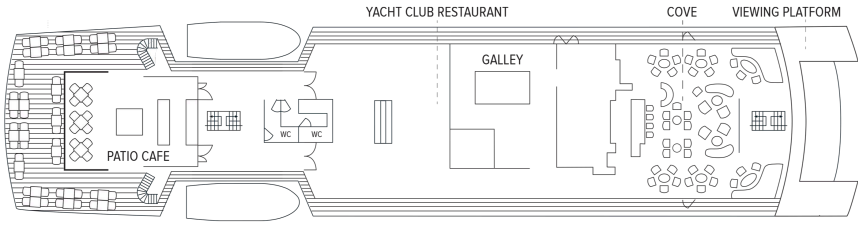


Deck Plans

Observation Deck

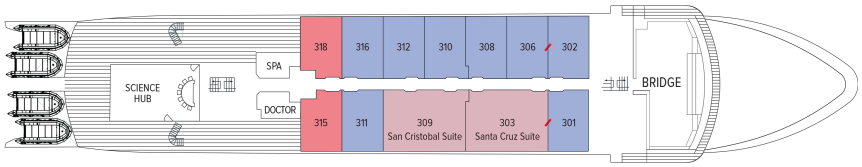


Prominade Deck



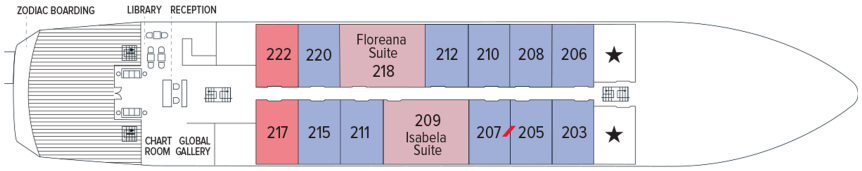
Bridge Deck

- Category SU
- Category SO
- Category IS

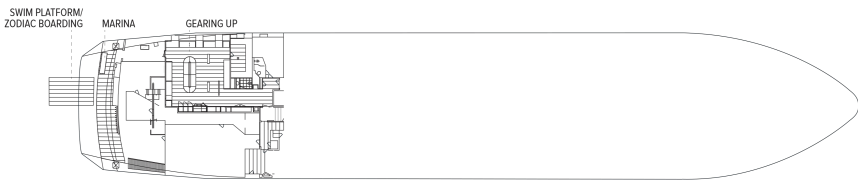


Main Deck

- Category IS
- Category SU
- Category SO



Marina Deck



Ship Amenities

Indoor-Outdoor Dining

Enjoy meals in the expanded al fresco Patio Café, sophisticated Yacht Club Restaurant on the Promenade Deck or Grill on the Observation Deck, where there's also a bar and ample seating to host events. Here, guests gather for wine tastings, chocolate tastings and Bubble-Qs—BBQs made extra celebratory with Champagne. The convenient 24-hour beverage and snack stations in the Bar and Library are other welcome amenities.

Science Hub

Outfitted with scientific equipment, the exciting new Science Hub continues the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic legacy of supporting conservation and research. Equipped for underway oceanography, interactive video presentations and an enhanced photo experience, the Science Hub is also a place for young guests in the National Geographic Explorers-in-Training program to experience hands-on learning.

Public Spaces

The ship's public spaces enhance the connection to the islands. Guests will find an open Bridge, surrounding teak decks, and a forward-viewing area. Two dining areas accommodate all guests in a single seating. The Cove, which has a bar, is the setting for daily Recaps. Other ship features include a Reception area with glass doors that lead to an open teak Viewing Deck, a Plunge Pool, a Chart Room, the Global Gallery, Library, Marina, Swim Platform and Zodiac boarding area.

Expedition Tools

National Geographic Islander II carries a fleet of kayaks and stand-up paddleboards, a glass-bottom boat, an expanded flotilla of versatile Zodiacs, complete snorkel gear for adults and children, video microscope, and Science Hub.
The newly refitted teak-appointed marina is spacious and climate-controlled, designed for guests to comfortably get in and out of expedition gear.

Expanded Expedition Staff

The Expedition Team, led by a veteran Expedition Leader, includes a five Naturalists, Undersea Specialist, Certified Photo Instructor and Certified Field Educators who run our exclusive National Geographic Explorers-in-Training for kids and teens.

Special Offers

SUITE EXCLUSIVES

Spacious living areas and incredible views immerse you in the beauty of your marine surroundings. Our new Suite Exclusives package helps make your voyage all the more memorable. **Learn more**

CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES

Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking.

SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP

Save 5% when traveling as a group of 8 or more people. Valid for new bookings only on select departures, subject to availability, not applicable on extensions, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

COMBINING OFFERS

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

INCLUDED IN PRICE

All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer, wine, cocktails, liquors and spirits aboard the ship (except certain premium brands which are available for purchase); hors d'oeuvres, 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, and filtered water; excursions; arrival/departure transfers are included for hotel arrangements made through National Geographic-Lindblad Expeditions; gratuities in Guayaquil, and Quito to local guides, drivers and tour escort; exploration tools curated to destination, such as Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, snorkeling equipment (including wetsuits, masks, and fins); guidance and company of our leading expedition staff; assistance by the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic Certified Photo Instructor; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; Basic Wi-Fi aboard ship; complimentary reusable water bottle; onboard physician consultations; morning stretch classes and 24-hour access to exercise equipment; 24-hour access to lounge, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE

Airfare* (except flights when indicated as included); pre and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); crew gratuities; private transfers; laundry, spa treatments, scuba diving, and phone services; travel protection plans; and passport, visa, and immigration fees.

*Recommended flight costs include flight(s) that take place during the date range of your trip to transport travelers from one itinerary destination to another. This cost also includes ground transportation, luggage transfer, and airport assistance. If you prefer to arrange your own flights privately, have alternate means of transport, or wish to modify at a later time, please contact an Expedition Specialist.

Additional costs associated with medical services outside onboard physician consultation.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non- refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/

CANCELLATION POLICY

Review our cancellation policy: https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/