

PRESS RELEASE

GALAPAGOS CONSERVATION TRUST ANNOUNCES 2020 CRUISE

Galapagos Conservation Trust's 2020 cruise is giving eco-conscious travellers the opportunity to explore Galapagos while supporting conservation projects taking place on the Islands.

Galapagos Conservation Trust (GCT) has launched a bespoke cruise to raise money towards funding its conservation work. The 2020 cruise offers holiday-makers the perfect way to see Galapagos with an exclusive programme of project visits, not ordinarily available to visitors.

The cruise, with a group size of 15, gives travellers the chance to see some of these projects up close and meet with passionate scientists, all while knowing that the cost of their cruise is going towards the charity's vital work.

GCT is the only UK charity focussed solely on the conservation of the Galapagos Archipelago, one of the most ecologically important places in the world. The charity supports a variety of science, conservation and educational programmes across Galapagos and its 2020 cruise will help to fund its work.

During the cruise, passengers will learn about a number of ongoing conservation programmes, including a site visit to a world leading restoration project on Floreana island. Scientists working to restore the island will be on hand to talk about their current work to reintroduce locally extinct species such as the Floreana mockingbird. Cruise-goers will also have the opportunity to meet with shark scientist, Dr Alex Hearn, to learn about shark conservation efforts in Galapagos, as well as a spokesperson for the Galapagos Tortoise Movement Ecology Programme, which undertakes conservation outreach work on the Islands. Additional conservation activities will be announced on the lead up to the cruise.

The GCT cruise is in partnership with Wild Tracks Expeditions and will take place on board *Beluga*, a 'Superior First Class' motor yacht owned by Enchanted Expeditions, a respected Galapagos company.

Guests can either choose a ten day cruise between 17–26 June 2020 for £5,695 per person sharing a cabin or do a full 17 day cruise between 10-26 June 2020 for £10,490 per person sharing a cabin. Both choices will be accompanied by GCT staff.

During the cruise, the group will visit many islands, including Floreana, North Seymour, Isabela, Fernandina, Santa Cruz, Genovesa, Española and San Cristobal.

To see the full itinerary and to get more information, please visit:

galapagosconservation.org.uk/gct-cruise

NOTES TO EDITORS:

- Galapagos Conservation Trust (GCT) is the only UK charity focussed solely on the conservation of the Galapagos Archipelago, one of the most ecologically important places in the world. With over 20 years of experience, we partner with Ecuadorian authorities, NGOs, local communities and leading researchers to support impactful Science & Conservation programmes and deliver community outreach across the Archipelago through our Education & Sustainability programme. As a charity we rely on the generosity of donors in the UK and abroad to raise money to support our work so that we can preserve Galapagos for generations to come. To find out more, visit: galapagosconservation.org.uk
- Galapagos Day 2019 will take place on Wednesday 30 October at the Royal Geographical Society in London. The evening event, which this year will focus on threats to endangered birds and reptiles, will be hosted by renowned wildlife expert and award-winning writer Mark Carwardine. This year's event is kindly sponsored by Quasar Expeditions and Bespoke Hotels. Tickets are £20 or £15 for students, to buy your ticket for the event, please visit, galapagosconservation.org.uk/galapagos-day-2019. Doors open at 6pm with lectures starting at 7pm.

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