

# **WILDLIFE TRAVEL**

## **Galapagos 2010**



## Galapagos & Ecuador, 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Trip Report

#	DATE	LOCATIONS & NOTES
1	12 <sup>th</sup> April	Arrival. o/n Guayaquil.
2	13 <sup>th</sup> April	Guayaquil to Salinas, stopping at Anconcito (fishing village) and the salt lakes at Ecuasal. On the way back, stopped in dry scrub near Comunidad El Azucar.
3	14 <sup>th</sup> April	Guayaquil to Baltra. Bachas Beach on Sta Cruz
4	15 <sup>th</sup> April	Plaza Sur Santa Fe
5	16 <sup>th</sup> April	Espanola: Punta Suarez & Bahia Gardener
6	17 <sup>th</sup> April	Floreana: Post Office Bay, Devil's Crown & Punta Cormoran
7	18 <sup>th</sup> April	Santa Cruz: Charles Darwin Research Centre, Puerto Ayora & Los Gemelos
8	19 <sup>th</sup> April	Genovesa: Prince Philip's Steps & Darwin Bay
9	20 <sup>th</sup> April	Puerto Egas, Santiago Bartholome
10	21 <sup>st</sup> April	North Seymour Santa Cruz: Puerto Ayora
11	22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Santa Cruz highlands: Cerro Mesa & Media Luna
12	23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Santa Cruz lowlands: Tortuga Bay & Puerto Ayora
13	24 <sup>th</sup> April	Puerto Ayora to Baltra Guayaquil
14	25 <sup>th</sup> April	Guayaquil. Flights home (arriving 26 <sup>th</sup> April)

### DIARY

#### 13<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Guayaquil and Sta Elena Peninsula.

A long day, and a hot one, but hopefully a good one: our first stop was at the small fishing village of Anconcito, where the boats were just bringing in their day's catch, being met on the beach by tens if not hundreds of Magnificent Frigatebirds soaring and swooping overhead, stealing fish from their baskets, as well as several Brown Pelicans and one or two Blue-footed Boobies.

From here we visited the Ecuasal salt plans, near the aptly named Salinas, where large numbers of waders and water birds were gathered. Amongst the masses of Least Sandpipers we picked out a handful of Semipalmated Sandpipers and one longer-beaked Western Sandpiper. Hundreds of Wilson's Phalaropes span on the water, including good numbers of brightly coloured females in breeding plumage. A group of terns included numerous large, carrot-beaked Royal Terns, Gull-billed Terns with their rounded cap and short dagger-like beak, a handful of Sandwich Terns (although these should actually now be known as Cabot's Terns, having been split from the European species) and a single South American Tern, sat on its own out on a post.

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 in some dry scrub, a characteristic habitat of the Tumbesian region of southern Ecuador and northern Peru, where we found several Tumbesian specialities: chief amongst these was a pair

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of handsome White-tailed Jays, which sat on the top of the bushes preening and calling to each other, allowing us all to get good views through the 'scope.

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

Pale-browed Tinamou <i>Crypturella transfasciatus</i>	Heard calling near El Azucar.
Brown Pelican <i>Pelecanus occidentalis</i>	Around the fishing boats, Anconcito
Peruvian Pelican <i>Pelecanus thagus</i>	Ecuasal
Blue-footed Booby <i>Sula nebouxii</i>	One or two around the fishing boats, Anconcito
Magnificent Frigatebird <i>Fregata magnificens</i>	Many at Anconcito, ones and twos elsewhere
Striated Heron <i>Butorides striatus</i>	One at Ecuasal
Snowy Egret <i>Egretta thula</i>	Ecuasal
Cattle Egret <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	Seen from the road, near Guayaquil
Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	Ecuasal
Yellow-crowned Night Heron <i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Seen from the road, just before Ecuasal
Chilean Flamingo <i>Phoenicopterus chilensis</i>	4, Ecuasal
White-cheeked Pintail <i>Anas bahamensis</i>	Ecuasal
Turkey Vulture <i>Cathartes aura</i>	Common. Long tail
Black Vulture <i>Cathartes atratus</i>	Common. Short tail, pale near the wing tips
White-tailed Kite <i>Elanus leucurus</i>	2 seen near El Azucar, one hovering over grassland
Pearl Kite <i>Gampsonyx swainsonii</i>	1 seen on a tree from the road, near El Azucar
Harris Hawk <i>Parabuteo unicinctus</i>	1 juvenile near El Azucar
Northern Crested Caracara <i>Caracara cheriway</i>	1 adult soaring with a Turkey Vulture, near Guayaquil
American Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus palliatus</i>	Ecuasal
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
Killdeer <i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	One on a puddle by the roadside, before Anconcito
Whimbrel <i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	One the beach, near Ecuasal
Western Willet <i>Catoptrophorus inornatus</i>	2+ Ecuasal
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	Ecuasal
Least Sandpiper <i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Very common, Ecuasal. Tiny, straight beak.
Semipalmated Sandpiper <i>Calidris pusilla</i>	5+, Ecuasal. Short straight beak
Western Sandpiper <i>Calidris maura</i>	1, Ecuasal. Longer, curved beak
Stilt Sandpiper <i>Calidris himantopus</i>	5+, Ecuasal. Tall, long curved beak
Wilson's Phalarope <i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	Several hundred, Ecuasal. Female brighter than male.
Ruddy Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Ecuasal
Spotted Sandpiper <i>Actitis macularia</i>	Ecuasal
Lesser Yellowlegs <i>Tringa flavipes</i>	Ecuasal
Grey Gull <i>Larus modestus</i>	Ecuasal and the nearby beach
Grey-hooded Gull <i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	Common at Ecuasal, including nesting birds and chicks
Laughing Gull <i>Leucophaeus atricilla</i>	5+, Ecuasal
Gull-billed Tern <i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Common at Ecuasal
Sandwich Tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	A handful on the rafts, Ecuasal
Royal Tern <i>Sterna maxima</i>	Ecuasal
South American Tern <i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	1 at Ecuasal, like a long-billed Arctic Tern
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 coelstis</i>	Tiny green parrot, flying near El Azucar
Groove-billed Ani <i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	El Azucar
Necklaced Spinetail <i>Synallaxis stictothorax</i>	Calling loudly near El Azucar (heard only)
Pacific Hornero <i>Furnarius cinnamomeus</i>	El Azucar, with large mud oven nests on branches.
Elegant Crescent-chest <i>Melanopareia elegans</i>	Calling near El Azucar (heard only)

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Baird's Flycatcher <i>Myiodynastes bairdii</i>	Large flycatcher on roadside near El Azucar
Tropical Kingbird <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Common roadside bird. Also near El Azucar
Grey-breasted Martin <i>Progne chalybea</i>	Common around Guayaquil and elsewhere
Fasciated Wren <i>Campylorhynchus fasciatus</i>	One seen by the roadside, El Azucar
Long-tailed Mockingbird <i>Mimus longicaudatus</i>	Common roadside bird, also near El Azucar
Tropical Gnatcatcher <i>Polioptila plumbea</i>	El Azucar
Blue-grey Tanager <i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Seen a couple of times from the road
Southern Yellow Grosbeak <i>Pheucticus chrysogaster</i>	El Azucar
Saffron Finch <i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	El Azucar
Crimson Finch <i>Rhodospingus cruentus</i>	El Azucar
House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	In a town on the way (where we stopped for water!)
Yellow-rumped Cacique <i>Cacicus cela</i>	El Azucar, black and yellow
Yellow-tailed Oriole <i>Icterus mesomelas</i>	El Azucar, yellow and black
White-edged Oriole <i>Icterus graceannae</i>	El Azucar, orangier yellow, with very black tail
Peruvian Meadowlark <i>Sturnella bellicosa</i>	El Azucar, red and black bird on the wire
Scrub Blackbird <i>Dives warszewiczi</i>	El Azucar
White-tailed Jay <i>Cyanocorax mystacalis</i>	2 showing very well near El Azucar
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i>	One near El Azucar, as well as many other butterflies during the day
Stick-insect-like Grasshopper	El Azucar

### 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Guayaquil to Baltra, and Las Bachas

Our morning flight took us out over the Pacific and to the Galapagos, with good views 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, and a quick bus journey across the island to the Athabaca Channel, we finally boarded our boat, the Daphne.

As we settled in to our new home, we travelled over to the north western side of Santa Cruz, and the beach as Las Bachas, where Magnificent Frigatebirds, Lava Gulls and Great Blue Herons waited for the as-yet-unhatched baby turtles to appear. In the bushes we found Yellow Warblers, Galapagos Flycatchers, Galapagos Mockingbirds and our first Darwin's Finches, the Medium Ground Finch. A Caribbean Flamingo gave us a fly past, with a second bird feeding quietly on the brackish pool further along behind the beach. The same pool was home to a Striated Heron, a Black-necked Stilt and several Marine Iguanas swimming slowly across the water.

Back on the beach, and our first chance for snorkelling, before returning to the boat and our welcome cocktail, a very good Caipirinha... more of those to come!

### 15<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Plaza Sur and Santa Fe

We woke up between the island of North and South Plaza, with Galapagos Shearwaters busy all around us and sealions playing around the rocks.

After breakfast, we made our way over to the lovely island of South Plaza (Plaza Sur). After the recent rains, the island was carpeted in glaucous green *Sesuvium edmonstonei* and red-stemmed *Portulaca howelli*. Land Iguanas sat in the shade of the large *Opuntia* cacti. Near the shore, a bizarre tiger-striped iguana was one of the very rare hybrids between Land Iguana and Marine Iguana that can only be found in this area. We also found a juvenile Land Iguana, something that Fausto got very excited about and which is apparently a rarer sight even than the hybrid!

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.

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Over at the cliff on the far side we were treated to the sights and sounds of the seabirds: Swallow-tailed Gulls, Galapagos Shearwaters, Red-billed Tropicbirds and our first Nazca Booby.

After lunch, we travelled down to 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.

Snorkelling from the pangas we enjoyed some great fish, as well as swimming with sealions, three Pacific Green Turtles, and the highlight for some, two Galapagos Sharks! Returning to the boat, we dried off and then headed on the pangas back over to the beach, pausing on the way to watch a group of 6+ Spotted Eagle Rays and a couple of White-tipped Reef Sharks, while a turtle surfaced nearby.

Landing on the beach, we spent some time with the local sea lions, one of whom had had a close encounter of his own, with a shark. Our walk round the trail unfortunately coincided with some heavy rain, so wasn't the most productive of visits. However, we did get to see the very colourful Large Painted Locust, a single male Galapagos Blue butterfly and a Galapagos Hawk Moth feeding on nectar from the *Opuntia* flowers, with a large caterpillar nearby. Alas we couldn't track down either the Santa Fe Land Iguana or the Santa Fe Rice Rat, opting instead for a quick return to the boat to dry off.

### 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010: 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 wonderful sites in the whole archipelago, and thanks to a (very) early start, we managed to have it to ourselves for most of our visit. We were greeted by a welcoming committee of sealions, Hood Mockingbirds, a Galapagos Hawk sat on the top of the lighthouse and by the brightly coloured Espanola sub-species of Marine Iguanas.

The recent rains have obviously benefited the land fauna and flora: all the plants were green, with Galapagos Doves, Hood Mockingbird and Darwin's finches everywhere. The latter included three species: the now-familiar Small Ground Finch, the bull-necked, massive-beaked Large Cactus Finch and the small, fine-beaked Lowland Warbler Finch (the Warbler Finch has very recently been recognised as being made up of two very similar species).

The real highlight of the island came as we made our way out of the scrub and into the open... the nesting territory of the Waved Albatross. Several pairs had already returned to the colony, with other birds flying over us along the cliffs, and hundreds more out to sea.

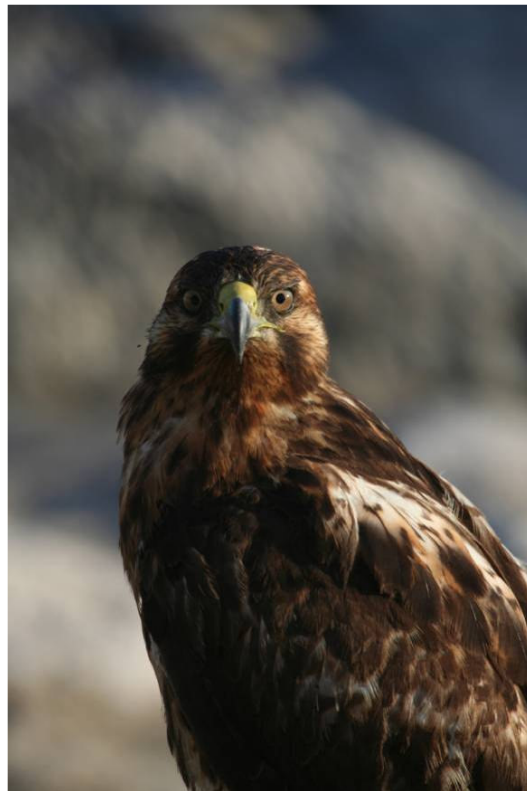
After communing with Albatrosses and the Pacific for a while, we moved along the cliffs to watch the impressive blow-hole, and to see the colony of Nazca Boobies.

After lunch, and some snorkelling, we made another landing, at Gardner Bay. Our arrival here coincided with the exciting, if a little sad, sight of several turtle hatchlings making their way down to the sea. Normally this takes place at night, and you can tell why: the baby turtles were quickly picked off by the circling frigatebirds, and even the mockingbirds joined in for a quick snack. At least one made it to the ocean, after a quick spell in the captain's pocket...

After a relaxing wander along the powder-soft sands of the Bay, we enjoyed a close up visitation by a juvenile Galapagos Hawk, which eye-balled Jonathan for a while before moving to a more distant perch.

And back to the boat...

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Clockwise from top left: Hybrid Iguana, South Plaza; Waved Albatrosses, Espanola; juvenile Galapagos Hawk, Espanola; Hood Mockingbird, Espanola.

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### 17<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Floreana

Another overnight journey took us west to the island of Floreana.

Our first outing was to Post Office Bay, where we were greeted by a pair of the diminutive Galapagos Penguins swimming in the bay.

After a quick vulcanology lesson, we moved back to the 'post office' and sorted through the various postcards in the barrel under the watchful eye of a family of Galapagos Flycatchers. The island was bursting into life, with plants in flower everywhere: Darwin's Cotton, Jerusalem Thorn, Purple *Evolvulus* and Stickyleaf, all being visited by the Galapagos Blue butterfly and the big black Galapagos Carpenter Bee. A Dark-billed Cuckoo flew through the back of the group.

We walked up the trail behind the 'post office' to visit a short lava tunnel: Floreana Lava Lizard and Galapagos Flycatcher seemed to be with us all the time today!

Back to the panga and a paddle back to the boat (the outboard broke down!), 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 shoals of pelagic fish alongside the 'usual' rocky reef fish. A couple of turtles swam beneath us while Galapagos Shearwaters flew noisily over our heads.

After lunch, and a quick post-prandial nap, we visited Punta Cormoran. The brackish lagoon here is home to a breeding colony of Caribbean Flamingos, with 30 or more out on the water, and a couple of juveniles showing extremely close. Not quite so showy were the Grey Plover or Franklin's Gulls...

Plants on the arid hillside included the Hairy *Scalesia*, endemic to Floreana. Behind the beach we saw Galapagos Clubleaf, a shrub with small, very succulent leaves and tiny white flowers, as well as the two species of Chaff-flower (*Alternanthera*). A very pretty deep purple pea was probably *Phaseolus atropurpureus*.

Back on the boat for the journey northwards to Santa Cruz, and one of the highlights of the trip: a pod of around 30 Bottle-nosed Dolphins which came in to ride the bow of the boat, performing amazing acrobatic jumps and turns as they travelled along with us.

### 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Santa Cruz

A day spent on 'the mainland', the main island. In the morning we walked through the 'big city' of Puerto Ayora to the Charles Darwin Research Station, to visit Lonesome George and learn about the tortoise breeding programme taking place here. The station is also a good place to find Darwin's Finches, and we did very well, with Small, Medium and Large Ground Finches and Cactus Finch all feeding virtually side by side. More of a surprise was the big female Vegetarian Finch that came in to pick grit off the path nearby.

After lunch back on board, we again returned to port and headed up into the highlands, passing through the arid zone and then the agricultural areas, before arriving in the *Scalesia* forest around the twin sink holes of 'Los Gemelos'. A whole new range of endemic plants were found up here, 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 Large and Medium Ground Finch, 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).

Alas, we couldn't track down the Vermillion Flycatcher... maybe next time we're back in the highlands...

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### 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Genovesa

After a long night's sailing northwards, we woke at first light to find ourselves anchored within the sunken caldera of a massive volcano: Genovesa.

Our first excursion was up the very steep Prince Philip's Steps to the Barranco, a flat plateau covered in Palo Santo, Croton and Saltbush and home to a huge colony of seabirds: Nazca Boobies on the ground, with Great Frigatebirds and the beautiful Red-footed Boobies in the bushes. A real surprise was the Waved Albatross that flew overhead. Galapagos Mockingbirds and Galapagos Doves hopped over the ground, and a single Lowland Warbler Finch sang from the top of one of the bushes.

Tearing ourselves away from the Red-footed Boobies, we found a broad area of broken lava, with Lava Morning Glory, Galapagos Beach Petunia and Lava Cactus growing amongst the cracks, and a cloud of Wedge-rumped Storm Petrels flying back and forth, occasionally scurrying over the rocks and into their nest holes. Keeping a watchful eye of the petrels, and occasionally snacking on one he had already caught, was a Galapagos Short-eared Owl, sat in the shade of his cave.

Back at the Pangas, and we went along the cliffs, with Red-billed Tropicbirds and Swallow-tailed Gulls flying overhead, to get some close up views of the Galapagos Fur Seals, with their dense fur, big eyes and shorter snouts. After a quick change on the boat, some of us headed back over to the cliffs for some snorkelling, where the views of the Fur Seals got even more up close and personal.

After lunch, we had a wet landing on the white coral sand of Darwin Bay. More Great Frigatebirds and the two species of boobies were nesting here, as well as plenty of Swallow-tailed Gulls. Several Yellow-crowned Night Herons were also to be found, stalking small crabs, quite oblivious to our presence. Walking through the scrub, we got to see the Genovesa Opuntia up close, its short bushy growth form and lack of spines evidence of the lack of large herbivores: neither Land Iguana nor Giant Tortoise have ever lived on Genovesa.

Two male Large Cactus Finches (of the Genovesa sub-species *propinqua*, which seems almost certain to be split as a separate species sooner or later) and a massive beaked male Large Ground Finch were singing in the scrub, but alas no Sharp-beaked Ground Finch. Maybe tomorrow...

During the first, daylight section of the sail south to Santiago, good numbers of all of today's seabirds were seen, as well as plenty of Galapagos Shearwaters, a couple of Waved Albatrosses and at least one Maderian Storm Petrel, a larger, longer-winged bird with a narrow white rump.

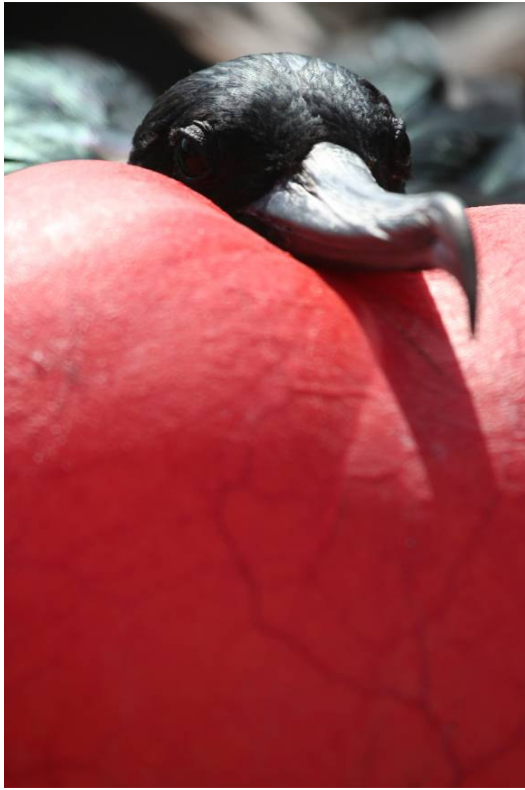
### 20<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Santiago and Bartholome

The highlights of our morning walk to the little-visited salt mine crater included a trio of Galapagos Hawks (the big females are unusual in having more than one mate); a Steindachner's Snake mid-breakfast, with half a lava lizard sticking out of its jaws; a couple of White-cheeked Pintails and a Moorhen on the lagoon; the delicate *Passiflora tridactylites* being visited by large numbers of Galapagos Silver Fritillaries. 'Lowlights' included the abundance of Stickyleaf and one or two over-friendly fire ants...

After the long hot walk, we cooled off with some swimming and (excellent) snorkelling off the beach at Puerto Egas.

In the afternoon, after travelling around the island, we visited Bartholome. First to the beach, where we snorkelled with both White-tipped Reef Shark and Black-tipped Shark, as well as another turtle, before visiting the local population of Galapagos Penguins by panga. Then we made the pilgrimage to the top of the island, and 'the most photographed view in the Galapagos'. Where, of course, we had our photos taken...

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Clockwise from top left: Great Frigatebird, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Galapagos Dove and Red-footed Booby, all Genovesa.

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### 21<sup>st</sup> April 2010: North Seymour and Puerto Ayora

Our earliest start yet (after a night out under the stars for some) saw us on the island even before breakfast! Male Great Frigatebirds 'ululated' whilst the nearby male Magnificent Frigatebirds 'drummed', and Blue-footed Boobies did their foot-waving display. Land Iguanas lazed under the Dwarf Incense Trees, while Fausto caught a young Galapagos Snake, making this the first Wildlife Travel trip to see all three species of snake on the islands.

And so it was back to the boat for packing... and time to leave. The wildlife hadn't quite done with us though, as first we sailed through a massive raft of hundreds of Galapagos Shearwaters, and then we were treated to the spectacle of a Blue-footed Booby feeding frenzy just as we were arriving at the dock. A free afternoon saw us all swaying our way through the streets of Puerto Ayora before a pleasant dinner in El Jardinero, overlooking the ocean.

### 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010: Highlands of Santa Cruz

Today we spent in the highlands of the island, first in the east of the island, where we visited the private 'reserve' at Cerro Mesa, and then in the Miconia zone at Media Luna.

At Cerro Mesa highlights included a pair of Woodpecker Finches and an interesting side-by-side comparison with single female Small and Large Tree Finches in the same *Scalesia* tree; several families of the beautiful White-cheeked Pintails on the small pond, which was also alive with dragonflies; the very impressive (if sadly rather moribund) Giant Longhorn Beetle; an equally impressive view out over the islands; some good ground flora. Best of the lot, of course, was the Galapagos Giant Tortoise of the small eastern population, with its characteristic flared shell, apparently a different animal to the *porteri* (sub)species in the western part of the island.

After some refreshing lemongrass tea, and a lovely local lunch in Bella Vista, we moved on to Media Luna. 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 good variety of ferns, including the lovely Galapagos Tree Fern; a singing male Highland Warbler Finch, flashing his peachy-orange throat; a tiny praying mantis and a delicate little orange damselfly; and a brilliant fly-by Galapagos Short-eared Owl.

Dinner was at the wonderfully atmospheric Narwhal restaurant, where we were joined by a big Galapagos Hawk Moth and a large green bushcricket (as well as by Freda from the Charles Darwin Research Station, of course!).

### 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010: Tortuga Bay and Puerto Ayora

The trail to Tortuga Bay gives us the opportunity to explore the arid zone without struggling over broken lava, and reasonably shade. Alongside some very impressive cactuses, we found some interesting arid zone plants: Galapagos Heartseed vines were draped over the *Opuntia*; Galapagos Cordia was in flower and fruit all along the path; both species of *Tournefortia* could be compared side by side. The area was also a very good one for those damnable finches: Small, Medium and Large Ground Finches, Cactus Finch, Small Tree Finch and a family group of Vegetarian Finch were all on show, allowing us to finally, perhaps, get to grips with the ground finches (and to realise that a significant number of them just can't be identified!). A couple of Dark-billed Cuckoos also did their best to slip through unseen, lingering silently beneath the canopy. Best thing (for some), however, was the massive Galapagos Centipede clambering around on the wall: a scary beast indeed!

The back of the beach was good for some maritime plants we've not seen elsewhere: Inkberry, Saltwort and Beach Dropseed, as well as all four species of mangroves around the 'quiet' beach. Some of the biggest Marine Iguanas of the trip were on the shore here, while a handful of turtles and White-tipped Reef Sharks were around the mangroves. Less welcome were the horseflies...

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### 24<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Galapagos to Guayaquil

A day of travelling.

After settling in to the hotel in Guayaquil, a quick walk to a local park did reveal a few of the common Guayaquil birds:

Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	One on the river
Pacific Parrotlet <i>Forpus coelestis</i>	A small group flew past
Amazilia Hummingbird <i>Amazilia amazilia</i>	A couple seen
Tropical Kingbird <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Several seen
Snowy-throated Kingbird <i>Tyrannus albogularis</i>	One in the park near the university
Blue-and-White Swallow <i>Notiochelidon murina</i>	Drinking from the pool in the park
Ecuadorean Thrush <i>Turdus maculirostris</i>	The 'bare-eyed' thrush in the park
Blue-grey Tanager <i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Common
Shiny Cowbird <i>Molothrus bonariensis</i>	Common
Great-tailed Grackle <i>Quiscalus mexicanus</i>	A couple by the river

### 25<sup>th</sup> April 2010: Guayaquil

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

Neotropic Cormorant <i>Phalacrocorax brasilianus</i>	One on the river
Magnificent Frigatebird <i>Fregatta magnificens</i>	One circling over the river
Great Egret <i>Ardea alba</i>	One or two flying along the river
Snowy Egret <i>Egretta thula</i>	One feeding on the shore below the museum.
Striated Heron <i>Butorides striatus</i>	A couple by the river
Yellow-crowned Night Heron <i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Several juveniles around the Malecon
Black Vulture <i>Coragyps atratus</i>	One flew past from the top of the hill
Ecuadorian Ground Dove <i>Columbina buckleyi</i>	Two in the 'pirate ship' park, top of the hill
Croaking Ground Dove <i>Columbina cruziana</i>	Several around the top of the hill
Pacific Parrotlet <i>Forpus coelestis</i>	A group flew past the top of the hill
Groove-billed Ani <i>Crotophaga sulcirostris</i>	One in the iguana park
Amazilia Hummingbird <i>Amazilia amazilia</i>	Several along the Malecon
Pacific Hornero <i>Furnarius cinnamomeus</i>	Several, including one at its mud oven nest
Southern Beardless Tyrannulet <i>Camptostoma obsoletum</i>	At least 3 in 'the tree' at the top of the hill
Social Flycatcher <i>Myiozetetes similis</i>	One in the Malecon
Tropical Kingbird <i>Tyrannus melancholicus</i>	Common
Gray-breasted Martin <i>Progne chalybea</i>	The big common 'swallow'
Southern Rough-winged Swallow <i>Stelgidopteryx ruficollis</i>	A couple around the top of the hill
Southern House Wren <i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	One in the tree at the top of the hill
Orange-crowned Euphonia <i>Euphonia saturata</i>	A male in the tree at the top of the hill
Blue-grey Tanager <i>Thraupis episcopus</i>	Common
Lemon-rumped Tanager <i>Ramphocelus icteronotus</i>	A female in the tree at the top of the hill
Saffron Finch <i>Sicalis flaveola</i>	One in the 'pirate ship' park, top of the hill
Variable Seedeater <i>Sporophila corvina</i>	Several around the top of the hill
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 wooded parks, especially in the Plaza Bolivar!

# Galapagos & Ecuador, 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Trip Report

E = Endemic species, e = endemic sub-species, N = Native (plants), I = Introduced (plants)

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME															
			12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>	
<b>BIRDS</b>																	
<b>Family Spheniscidae (Penguins)</b>																	
E	Galapagos Penguin	<i>Spheniscus mendiculus</i>						X			X						
<b>Family Diomedidae (Albatrosses)</b>																	
	Waved Albatross	<i>Phoebastria irrorata</i>					X			X							
<b>Family Procellariidae (Shearwaters &amp; Petrels)</b>																	
E	Galapagos Shearwater	<i>Puffinus subalaris</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	
<b>Family Hydrobatidae (Storm Petrels)</b>																	
e	Elliot's Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanites gracilis galapagoensis</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
	Madeiran Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanodroma castro</i>								X	X						
e	Wedge-rumped Storm-petrel	<i>Oceanodroma tethys tethys</i>								X							
<b>Family Phaethontidae (Tropicbirds)</b>																	
	Red-billed Tropicbird	<i>Phaethon aethereus</i>				X	X	X		X							
<b>Family Fregatidae (Frigatebirds)</b>																	
e	Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens magnificens</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	Great Frigatebird	<i>Fregata minor</i>								X		X					
<b>Family Sulidae (Boobies &amp; Gannets)</b>																	
e	Blue-footed Booby	<i>Sula nebouxii excisa</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
	Nazca Booby	<i>Sula granti</i>				X	X	X		X	X	X					
	Red-footed Booby	<i>Sula sula</i>								X							
<b>Family Pelecanidae (Pelicans)</b>																	
e	Brown Pelican	<i>Pelecanus occidentalis urinator</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
<b>Family Anatidae (Ducks, Geese &amp; Swans)</b>																	
e	White-cheeked Pintail	<i>Anas bahamensis galapagoensis</i>							X		X		X				
<b>Family Ardeidae (Herons &amp; Egrets)</b>																	
e	Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias cognata</i>			X			X	X		X	X				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	
e	Yellow-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nyctanassa violacea pauper</i>					X	X		X							
<b>Family Phoenicopteridae (Flamingos)</b>																	
e	Caribbean Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopeterus ruber glyphorhynchus</i>			X			X									
<b>Family Accipitridae (Hawks &amp; Eagles)</b>																	
E	Galapagos Hawk	<i>Buteo galapagoensis</i>				X	X				X						
<b>Family Rallidae (Rails, Gallinules &amp; Coots)</b>																	
E	Galapagos Rail	<i>Laterallus spilonotus</i>													X		
	Common Gallinule (Moorhen)	<i>Gallinula chloropus cachinnans</i>									X		X				
<b>Family Scolopacidae (Sandpipers)</b>																	
	Wandering Tattler	<i>Heteroscelus incanus</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
	Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>					X								X		
	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>				X	X								X		
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>						X									
	Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>						X									
<b>Family Haematopodidae (Oystercatchers)</b>																	
e	American Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus palliatus galapagoensis</i>					X				X						
<b>Family Recurvirostridae (Avocets &amp; Stilts)</b>																	
	Black-necked Stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>			X												
<b>Family Charadriidae (Plovers &amp; Lapwings)</b>																	
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>						X									

## Galapagos & Ecuador, 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Trip Report

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	12 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	14 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	17 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	25 <sup>th</sup>
	<b>Family Laridae (Gulls &amp; Terns)</b>															
	Laughing Gull	<i>Larus atricilla</i>			X											
E	Lava Gull	<i>Larus fuliginosus</i>			X				X	X	X	X		X	X	
	Franklin's Gull	<i>Larus pipixcan</i>						X								
E	Swallow-tailed Gull	<i>Creagrus furcatus</i>				X	X	X		X	X	X				
e	Common Noddy	<i>Anous stolidus galapagensis</i>			X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	
	<b>Family Columbidae (Pigeons &amp; Doves)</b>															
E	Galapagos Dove	<i>Zenaida galapagoensis</i>			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<b>Family Cuculidae (Cuckoos)</b>															
	Dark-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus melacoryphus</i>						X						X		
	Smooth-billed Ani	<i>Crotophaga ani</i>						X	X		X	X	X			
	<b>Family Strigidae (Owls)</b>															
E	Galapagos Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio (flammeus) galapagoensis</i>								X			X			
	<b>Family Tyrannidae (Tyrant Flycatchers)</b>															
E	Galapagos Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus magnirostris</i>			X			X	X		X	X	X	X		
	<b>Family Mimidae (Mockingbirds)</b>															
E	Galapagos Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus parvulus</i>			X	X			X	X	X	X		X	X	
E	Hood Mockingbird	<i>Nesomimus macdonaldi</i>					X									
	<b>Family Parulidae (New World Warblers)</b>															
e	Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia aureola</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	<b>Family Geospizidae (Darwin's Finches)</b>															
E	Large Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza magnirostris</i>							X	X			X	X		
E	Medium Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza fortis</i>			X			X	X		X		X	X	X	
E	Small Ground Finch	<i>Geospiza fuliginosa</i>				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	Genovesa Large Cactus Finch	<i>Geospiza c. propinqua</i>							X							
E	Vegetarian Finch	<i>Camarhynchus crassirostris</i>							X					X		
E	Large Tree Finch	<i>Camarhynchus psittacula</i>											X			
E	Small Tree Finch	<i>Camarhynchus parvulus</i>							X				X	X		
E	Woodpecker Finch	<i>Camarhynchus pallidus</i>							X				X			
E	Highland Warbler Finch	<i>Certhidia olivacea</i>							X				X			
E	Lowland Warbler Finch	<i>Certhidia cinerascens</i>					X			X						

56 species, including almost all of Darwin's famous finches: we only missed Mangrove Finch (which only lives on Isabella), Medium Tree Finch (only found in the highlands of Floreana) and Sharp-beaked Finch (which occurs on both Genovesa and Santiago...)

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

(We also saw Small Tree Finch, Highland Warbler Finch and Woodpecker Finch)



Small Ground Finch



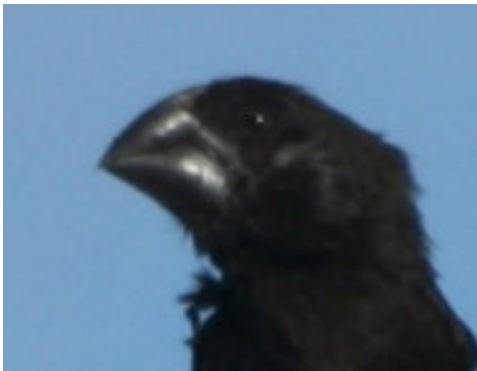
Cactus Finch



Medium Ground Finch



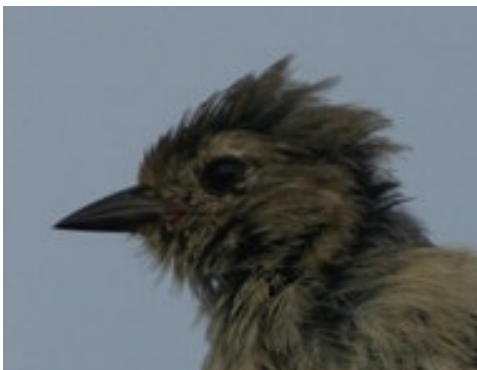
Genovesa Large Cactus Finch



Large Ground Finch



Espanola Large Cactus Finch



Lowland Warbler Finch



Vegetarian Finch

## Galapagos & Ecuador, 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Trip Report

<b>REPTILES</b>												
<b>Family Testudinidae (Tortoises)</b>												
E	Galapagos Giant Tortoise	<i>Geochelone elephantopus</i>									X	
<b>Family Cheloniidae (Tortoises)</b>												
E	Black (Pacific Green) Turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas agassizi</i>			X	X	X			X		X
<b>Family Geckonidae (Geckos)</b>												
I		<i>Lepidodactylus lugubris</i>										The gecko at Angermeyer Point, 23rd
<b>Family Iguanidae (Iguanas &amp; Lava Lizards)</b>												
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		
E	(Genovesa)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. nanus</i>							X			
E	(Espanola)	<i>Amblyrhynchus c. venustissimus</i>					X					
E	Land Iguana	<i>Conolophus subcristatus</i>				X					X	
E	Hybrid LandXMarine Iguana					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				
<b>Family Colubridae (Snakes)</b>												
E	Espanola Snake	<i>Philodryas biserialis hoodensis</i>					X					
E	Galapagos Snake	<i>Alsophis d. dorsalis</i>									X	
E	Steindachner's Snake	<i>Alsophis slevini steindachneri</i>								X		
<b>MAMMALS</b>												
<b>Family Otariidae (Sealions)</b>												
E	Galapagos Sea Lion	<i>Zalophus wollebaeki</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
E	Galapagos Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus galapagoensis</i>							X			
<b>Family Delphinidae (Dolphins)</b>												
	Bottle-nosed Dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>						X			X	

<b>MISCELLANEOUS: TERRESTRIAL. Various other creatures seen during the trip</b>		
Galapagos Sulphur	<i>Phoebis sennae</i>	The big yellow butterfly
Galapagos Blue	<i>Leptodes parrhasioides</i>	The small blue butterfly
Galapagos Long-tailed Skipper	<i>Urbanus galapagensis</i>	The small dark butterfly with long tails
Galapagos Silver Fritillary	<i>Agraulis vanillae galapagensis</i>	The orange butterfly on Santiago
The Queen	<i>Danaus gilippus</i>	Large, Monarch-like butterfly, Cerro Mesa
Galapagos Hawkmoth	<i>Mandura rustica</i>	Adult feeding on Opuntia flowers, Sta Fe. Caterpillars seen on Sta Fe & Espanola. Adult flying around the Narwhal
Large Painted Locust	<i>Schistocerca melanocera</i>	The big colourful grasshopper
Small Painted Locust	<i>Schistocerca literosa</i>	The smaller, browner grasshopper on Santiago
Galapagos Carpenter Bee	<i>Xylocopa darwini</i>	The big shiny blue/black bee
Galapagos Horsefly	<i>Tabanus vittiger</i>	Biting at Las Bachas
Spotless Ladybird	<i>Cylonea sanguinea</i>	Floreana
Giant Longhorn Beetle	<i>Stenodontes molarius</i>	The massive beetle at Cerro Mesa
Galapagos Field Cricket	<i>Gryllus abditus</i>	Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
Galapagos Giant Centipede	<i>Scolopendra galapagensis</i>	One on the wall on the path to Tortuga Bay
Terrestrial Hermit Crab	<i>Coenobita compressus</i>	One on Floreana

## Galapagos & Ecuador, 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Trip Report

MISCELLANEOUS: MARINE		
Sally Lightfoot Crab	<i>Grapsus grapsus</i>	Black when young, bright orange when mature
Fiddler Crab	<i>Uca helleri</i>	The tiny fiddler crab on Genovesa
Ghost Crab	<i>Ocypode gaudichaudii</i>	The crab living in holes on sandy beaches
Diamond Sting Ray	<i>Dasyatis brevis</i>	Seen snorkelling, Espanola, 16 <sup>th</sup> . Seen from the beach, Floreana, 17 <sup>th</sup> .
Spotted Eagle Ray	<i>Aetobatus narinari</i>	c. 10, Sta Fe, 15 <sup>th</sup>
Manta Ray	<i>Manta hamiltoni</i>	Occasionally jumping out of the sea
Tiger Snake Eel	<i>Myrichthys tigrinus</i>	Spotted 'snake', Sta Fe (and dead on the beach, Santiago)
Galapagos Shark	<i>Carcharhinus galapagensis</i>	2 in the fish shoal, Sta Fe
Black-tipped Shark	<i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i>	5 juveniles, Bartholome
White-tipped Reef Shark	<i>Triaenodon obesus</i>	1 from the panga, Sta Fe. 5 around Bartholome.
Scalloped Hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	1 near Devil's Crown, 17 <sup>th</sup>
Concentric Puffer Fish	<i>Sphoeroides annulatus</i>	Always around the boat.
Guineafowl Puffer Fish	<i>Arothron meleagris</i>	Yellow phase, Espanola, 16 <sup>th</sup>
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
Barberfish	<i>Johnrandallia nigrirostris</i>	Puerto Egas beach, Santiago
Moorish Idol	<i>Zanclus cornutus</i>	Espanola, 16 <sup>th</sup>
Longfin Halfbeak	<i>Hemiramphus saltator</i>	Swimming just below the surface, Gardner Bay
Yellowtail Grunt	<i>Anisotremus interruptus</i>	A dense shoal sheltering behind a rock, Gardner Bay
Black-striped Salema	<i>Xenocys jessiae</i>	The black-striped silver fish, Gardner Bay
Panamic Sergeant Major	<i>Abudefduf troschelii</i>	Bluish fish with tiger stripes, Sta Fe
Indo-Pacific Bonito	<i>Sarda orientalis</i>	Tuna with black stripes on back, Bartholome
Galapagos Mullet	<i>Mugil galapagensis</i>	Bartholome
Galapagos Ringtail Damselfish	<i>Stegastes beebei</i>	The small dark fish with pale lipstick: tiny multicoloured juveniles
Pacific Creolefish	<i>Paranthias colonus</i>	The pinky-grey fish with three sparkling 'diamante' spots down the side, Santiago
Blue-chin Parrotfish	<i>Scarus ghobban</i>	Common, blue & pink, large fish
Mexican Hogfish	<i>Bodianus diplotaenia</i>	The large lump-headed fish, Santiago
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>	eg Bartholome
Finescale Triggerfish	<i>Balistes polylepis</i>	Large plain triggerfish, Bartholome
Flying Fish		Seen 'flying' over the sea



Razor Surgeonfish



Black-striped Salema

## Galapagos & Ecuador, 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Trip Report

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	Notes
<b>FERNS (the following are just some of the 10+ ferns we saw... thanks to Bettye for the IDs)</b>			
	Water Fern	<i>Azolla sp.</i>	Lagoons, highlands, Sta Cruz
E	Galapagos Tree Fern	<i>Cyathea weatherbyana</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
	Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
	Hand Fern	<i>Doryopteris pedata var. palmate</i>	Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
	Coral Fern	<i>Dicranopteris flexuosa</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
		<i>Polypodium aureum var. areolatum</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
		<i>Polypodium tridens</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
	Hart's-tongue Fern	<i>Polypodium phyllitidis</i>	Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
<b>CLUBMOSES</b>			
		<i>Huperzia galapagensis</i>	The 'antler' club moss, Media Luna, Sta Cruz
		<i>Lycopodium cernuum</i>	The 'christmas tree' club moss, Media Luna, Sta Cruz
<b>VASCULAR PLANTS</b>			
<b>Family Acanthaceae</b>			
N	Blechum	<i>Blechum pyramidatum</i>	Highlands of Santa Cruz
E	Galapagos Justicia	<i>Justicia galapagana</i>	Highlands of Santa Cruz: maroon flower
<b>Family Aizoaceae</b>			
E	Galapagos Carpetweed	<i>Sesuvium edmonstonei</i>	The green plant all over Plaza Sur, white flowers
N	Common Carpetweed	<i>Sesuvium portulacastrum</i>	Punta Cormoran, pink flowers
N	Trianthema	<i>Trianthema portulacastrum</i>	Red stems and small white flowers. Sta Fe
<b>Family Amaranthaceae</b>			
N	Spiny-headed Chaff-flower	<i>Alternanthera echinocephala</i>	Punta Suarez; Punta Cormoran
E	Thread-leaved Chaff-flower	<i>Alternanthera filifolia</i>	Punta Cormoran
I	Spiny Amaranth	<i>Amaranthus spinosus</i>	The spiny seeded plant, Santiago
<b>Family Apocynaceae</b>			
I	Madagascar Periwinkle	<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	A common roadside plant in Puerto Ayora: big pink flowers
<b>Family Asteraceae</b>			
E	Tree Scalesia	<i>Scalesia pedunculata</i>	Around Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
E	Stewart's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia stewartii</i>	Bartholome
E	Long-haired Scalesia	<i>Scalesia villosa</i>	Punta Cormoran
E	Heller's Scalesia	<i>Scalesia helleri</i>	On the track to Tortuga Bay
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
I	Sow Thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
N	Ageratum	<i>Ageratum conyzoides</i>	Highlands of Santa Cruz: purple veined leaves
I	Poreleaf	<i>Porophyllum ruderale</i>	Santiago: the strange Asteraceae on the long walk
I	False Elephant's Foot	<i>Pseudelephantopus spiralis</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz: vervain-like flower spikes
I	Adenostemma	<i>Adenostemma platyphyllum</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz: shaggy white flower heads
N	False Daisy	<i>Eclipta alba</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz: dense rounded white flower heads
<b>Family Avicenniaceae</b>			
N	Black Mangrove	<i>Avicennia germinans</i>	eg Tortuga Bay: long leaves, pointed end, sturdy tree
<b>Family Bataceae</b>			
N	Saltwort	<i>Batis maritime</i>	Behind the beach, Tortuga Bay
<b>Family Boraginaceae</b>			
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, Tortuga Bay
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

## Galapagos & Ecuador, 12<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010, Trip Report

	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	Notes
<b>Family Bromeliaceae</b>			
E	Galapagos Tillandsia	<i>Tillandsia insularis</i>	Los Gemelos
<b>Family Burseraceae</b>			
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
<b>Family Cactaceae</b>			
E	Lava Cactus	<i>Brachycereus nesioticus</i>	Genovesa & 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 helleri</i>	Genovesa: no spines, just hairs!
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>	Espanola: in the arid zone behind Gardner Bay
<b>Family Caesalpiniaceae</b>			
I	Butterfly Flower	<i>Bauhinia monandra</i>	Pink flowers, Puerto Ayora: Camel's Foot
I	Dwarf Poinciana	<i>Caesalpinia pulcherrima</i>	Orange flowers, Puerto Ayora
I	Flamboyant	<i>Delonix regia</i>	Red flowers, Puerto Ayora
N	Jerusalem Thorn	<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>	Around the 'post office', Floreana
N	Coffee Senna	<i>Senna occidentalis</i>	The tall 'pea' we were pushing through, Santiago
<b>Family Capparidaceae</b>			
I	Cleome	<i>Cleome viscosa</i>	Roadside weed, Puerto Ayora
<b>Family Caricaceae</b>			
I	Papaya	<i>Carica papaya</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Celastraceae</b>			
N	Maytenus	<i>Maytenus octogona</i>	eg. behind the beach, Bachas
<b>Family Chenopodiaceae</b>			
N	Atriplex	<i>Atriplex peruviana</i>	Punta Suarez: the grey plant the albatrosses nest amongst
<b>Family Clusiaceae</b>			
N	St John's Wort	<i>Hypericum uliginosum</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Combretaceae</b>			
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
I	Tropical Almond	<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	Enormous leaves, Puerto Ayora
<b>Family Commelinaceae</b>			
I	Wandering Jew	<i>Tradescantia zebrina</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
N	Dayflower	<i>Commelina diffusa</i>	Highlands of Sta Cruz
<b>Family Convolvulaceae</b>			
N	Purple Evolvulus	<i>Evolvulus convolvuloides</i>	Post Office Bay
N	White Evolvulus	<i>Evolvulus simplex</i>	Post Office Bay
N	Beach Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea pes-caprae</i>	Broad round leaves, on the beach at Gardner Bay
N	Pink Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea triloba</i>	The small pinky-purple morning glory at Punta Suarez
E	Lava Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea habeliana</i>	Punta Suarez
E	Arrow-leaved Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea linearifolia</i>	Genovesa
I	Blue Morning Glory	<i>Ipomoea nil</i>	Santiago
N	Hairy Merremia	<i>Merremia aegyptica</i>	White morning glory with hairy, palmate leaves: Pta Suarez
<b>Family Cucurbitaceae</b>			
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
<b>Family Cyperaceae (amongst many others)</b>			
E	Andersson's Sedge	<i>Cyperus anderssonii</i>	Sta Cruz, Santiago

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	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	Notes
<b>Family Euphorbiaceae</b>			
E	Chamaesyce	<i>Chamaesyce amplexicaulis</i>	Bartholome
E	Spurred Chamaesyce	<i>Chamaesyce viminea</i>	Behind the beach, Bachas
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
N	Phyllanthus	<i>Phyllanthus caroliniensis</i>	Los Gemelos, Sta Cruz
I	Castor Bean	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Puerto Ayora
<b>Family Fabaceae</b>			
I	Flame Tree	<i>Erythrina velutina</i>	The living fenceposts, agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
N	Dwarf Rattlebox	<i>Crotalaria pumila</i>	Post Office Bay
N	Tick Trefoil	<i>Desmodium incanum</i>	The pink 'spiked' pea, with sticky seeds
N		<i>Phaseolus atropurpureus</i>	The deep purple pea, Punta Cormoran
N	Piscidia	<i>Piscidia carthagenensis</i>	'iron wood' tree, track to Tortuga Bay
N	Rhynchosia minima	<i>Rhynchosia minima</i>	eg Post Office Bay: small flowered, climbing plant
N	Hoary Pea	<i>Tephrosia decumbens</i>	Pink pea, behind the beach, Bachas
N	Wild Cowpea	<i>Vigna luteola</i>	Large pale yellow pea, Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Goodeniaceae</b>			
N	Inkberry	<i>Scaevola plumieri</i>	Behind the beach, Tortuga Bay
<b>Family Lauraceae</b>			
I	Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Loasaceae</b>			
N	Sticky-leaf	<i>Mentzelia aspera</i>	Very common in the arid zone.
<b>Family Malvaceae</b>			
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 Santiago; Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Melastomataceae</b>			
E	Galapagos Miconia	<i>Miconia robinsoniana</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Meliaceae</b>			
I	Spanish Cedar	<i>Cedrela odorata</i>	Agricultural areas of Sta Cruz
<b>Family Molluginaceae</b>			
E	Mollugo	<i>Mollugo flavescens</i> subsp. <i>gracillima</i>	Behind the beach, Bachas; Post Office Bay
<b>Family Myrtaceae</b>			
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
<b>Family Nolanaceae</b>			
E	Galapagos Clubleaf	<i>Nolana galapagensis</i>	Punta Cormoran: shrub w/ succulent leaves behind the beach
<b>Family Nyctaginaceae</b>			
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.
<b>Family Onagraceae</b>			
N	False Loosestrife	<i>Ludwigia leptocarpa</i>	Cerro Mesa and Media Luna, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Orchidaceae</b>			
E	Buttonhole Orchid	<i>Epidendrum spicatum</i>	Epiphyte, highlands of Sta Cruz

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	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	Notes
<b>Family Oxalidaceae</b>			
I	Creeping Wood Sorrel	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	Yellow flowers: Sta Cruz
N	Dombey's Wood Sorrel	<i>Oxalis dombeyi</i>	Orange flowers: Santiago, near the Salt Mine
I	Pink Wood Sorrel	<i>Oxalis corymbosa</i>	Pink flowers: agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Passifloraceae</b>			
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
N		<i>Passiflora tridactylites</i>	The small passiflora with narrow leaves, Santiago
<b>Family Piperaceae</b>			
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
<b>Family Plantaginaceae</b>			
I	Common Plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>	Sta Cruz
<b>Family Plumbaginaceae</b>			
N	White Leadwort	<i>Plumbago scandens</i>	Punta Cormoran: deep red stems and leaves
<b>Family Poaceae (amongst many others)</b>			
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
<b>Family Polygonaceae</b>			
N	Knotweed	<i>Polygonum opelousanum</i>	The plant invading the lagoons, highlands of Sta Cruz
<b>Family Portulacaceae</b>			
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
<b>Family Rhamnaceae</b>			
E	Thorn Shrub	<i>Scutia spicata</i>	Common, spiny bush
<b>Family Rhizophoraceae</b>			
N	Red Mangrove	<i>Rhizophora mangle</i>	Puerto Ayora: large rubbery leaves
<b>Family Rosaceae</b>			
I	Hill Raspberry	<i>Rubus niveus</i>	Invasive weed, highlands of Sta Cruz
<b>Family Rubiaceae</b>			
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
I	Buttonweed	<i>Diodia radula</i>	Highlands, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Rutaceae</b>			
N	Cat's Claw	<i>Zanthoxylum fagara</i>	Around Los Gemelos and in highlands of Sta Cruz
<b>Family Simaroubaceae</b>			
E	Castela	<i>Castela galapageia</i>	South Plaza; Espanola
<b>Family Solanaceae</b>			
I	Bush Violet	<i>Browallia americana</i>	Highlands of Sta Cruz
I	Angel's Trumpet	<i>Brugmansia candida</i>	Agricultural areas, Sta Cruz
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>	Behind the beach, Bachas. Punta Suarez.
N	Ground Cherry	<i>Physalis angulata</i>	eg Santa Fe, Floreana
E	Galapagos Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon cheesmanii</i>	On the way to the Charles Darwin Research Station
I	Garden Tomato	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i>	Roadsides, Puerto Ayora
<b>Family Sterculiaceae</b>			
N	Waltheria	<i>Waltheria ovata</i>	Punta Cormoran: glaucous leaves and yellow flowers
<b>Family Urticaceae</b>			
E	Galapagos Pilea	<i>Pilea baurii</i>	Nettle-like plant, highlands of Sta Cruz

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	ENGLISH NAME	LATIN NAME	Notes
<b>Family Verbenaceae</b>			
E	Galapagos Lantana	<i>Lantana peduncularis</i>	Small white lantana, Punta Suarez, Punta Cormoran
I	Multicoloured Lantana	<i>Lantana camara</i>	Puerto Ayora
N	Purple Lippia	<i>Lippia strigulosa</i>	Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
I	Priva	<i>Priva lappulacea</i>	Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
N	Glorybower	<i>Clerodendrum molle</i>	Santiago, Santa Cruz
I	False Vervain	<i>Stachytarpheta cayennensis</i>	Media Luna, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Viscaceae</b>			
E	Galapagos Mistletoe	<i>Phoradendron henslowii</i>	Cerro Mesa, Sta Cruz
<b>Family Zygophyllaceae</b>			
N	Puncture Weed	<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>	Yellow flowers, top of the beach



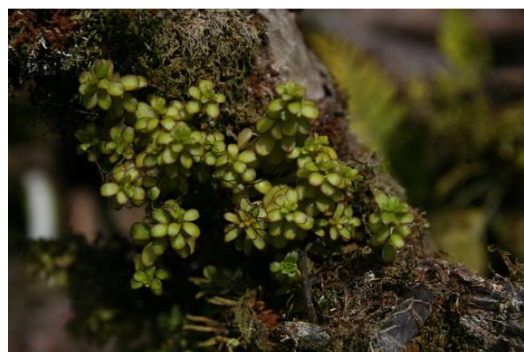
*Passiflora tridactylites*



*Passiflora foetida*



*Ipomea habeliana*



*Peperomia galapagensis*



*Trianthema portulacastrum*



*Scaevola plumieri*