

# 21<sup>st</sup> International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology (ISV21)

Galápagos Islands, Ecuador – 10<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> April, 2024

*Preliminary information*



**All prices mentioned below are in USD, the currency of Ecuador/ Galapagos.**

## Pre-Symposium field trips (10<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> April, 2024)

### Notes:

Those wishing to participate in the full range of field trip opportunities should plan on arriving on or before 9 April. Arrivals after that date will miss some of the pre-ISV trips.

All pre-symposium trips will be day trips to caves on Santa Cruz Island.

All the trips will be for one of the following purposes:

- Exploration/ Surveying
- Photographic documentation
- Science

Participants will be responsible for their own accommodation bookings. The conference hotel will be *Hotel Flamingo*. Two additional hotels will be available across the street, Hostal Gardner and Hotel Espana. We are negotiating rates for each hotel.

- a. Hotel Flamingo (<https://www.hotelflamingo.com.ec/>)
- b. Hostal Gardner ([hostalgardnergps@gmail.com](mailto:hostalgardnergps@gmail.com))
- c. Espana (Hotel España – Galápagos – Ecuador ([hotelespanagalapagos.com](http://hotelespanagalapagos.com)))

All food and beverages during the days before the official beginning of the ISV will be at your own expense.

ALL persons landing in Galapagos are required to pay a US\$100 National Park fee for entry to the islands.

There are two airports in Galapagos. Please make arrangements for arrival at Baltra airport (code GPS). Transfers from the airport to Puerto Ayora include:

- Bus from airport to channel ferry - free
- Ferry to Santa Cruz island - US\$1-\$2
- Taxi from dock to Puerto Ayora - US\$40 (4-person max.)

Please contact Aaron Addison ([aaddison67@gmail.com](mailto:aaddison67@gmail.com)) with any questions.

## Pre-Symposium field trip schedule at a glance:

Wednesday, 10 April	Day trip (each day, trips will depart from the Flamingo Hotel at 8am and return no later than 6pm).
Thursday, 11 April	Day trip.
Friday, 12 April	Day trip.
Saturday, 13 April	Day trip.
Sunday, 14 April	Free day on your own.

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## ISV21 Symposium (15<sup>th</sup>- 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2024)

### Notes:

The symposium will be held in Puerto Ayora on Santa Cruz Island. Puerto Ayora is the largest town in the islands.

Registration for this event will be limited to 100 persons maximum.

You should plan to arrive at Puerto Ayora on 14<sup>th</sup> April or earlier.

Meals on your own should be budgeted at approximately US\$20, though more frugal meals are available with some exploring of town.

Hotel rates will be negotiated, but attendees are responsible for making their own bookings. Estimated rates including breakfast are US\$40-100 a night, depending on occupancy and amenities.

The conference venue is approximately 200m from the hotels mentioned above.

Non-caving partner activities can be arranged and paid with the Flamingo Hotel. There are numerous local hikes, snorkelling opportunities, the Charles Darwin Research Station and nature excursions to allow everyone to enjoy the wonders of the Galapagos archipelago!

The registration fee is currently estimated at around US\$350. Post-COVID prices remain elevated in the islands, but it is possible the final fee may be a little lower.

The fee does not include:

Accommodation;

Any meals not specifically included below;

\$100 obligatory Galapagos National Park entry fee (as noted above); and

\$US20 Ingala, or transit control fee (must be paid before arriving in the Galapagos).

## ISV21 Schedule at a glance

Monday, 15 April	Sessions all day, lunch provided. Evening social reception and dinner.
Tuesday, 16 April	Sessions until 3pm, lunch provided. Meeting of Commission on Volcanic Caves, 3-4:30pm Dinner on your own.
Wednesday, 17 April	Field trips: Floreana Island and return - Caves of Post Office Bay* (Limit of 20 persons max). Additional boat charter fee (Approx US\$50 for round trip). Santa Cruz Island caves* - multiple caves offered, many newly discovered in just past few years**.  Bag lunches provided, dinner on your own.
Thursday, 18 April	Field trips: Isabela Island departure: Caves of Isabela* (Limit of 20 persons max). Additional boat charter fee (Approx \$60 for round trip) Santa Cruz Island caves* - multiple caves offered many newly discovered in just past few years**.  Bag lunches provided, dinner on your own.
Friday, 19 April	Field trips: Isabela Island caves* (afternoon return to Santa Cruz). Santa Cruz Island caves - multiple caves offered, many newly discovered in just past few years**. Bag lunches provided. Evening: closing dinner for ISV21.
Saturday, 20 April	Departures on your own, (transportation can be arranged to airport).

\*Short descriptions of the field trip caves will be made available at a later date.

\*\*Including the longest known volcanic cave system in South America.