

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

AGGRESSOR
ADVENTURES 

Galapagos Aggressor III

(Also known as Jesus del Gran Poder)

Aggressor Adventures Reservation Office

Monday-Friday: 8 am – 5 pm EDT Saturday/Saturday: 9 am – 5 pm EDT

Office (USA): 800-348-2628 +1-706-993-2531

galapagos@aggressor.com www.aggressor.com

Emergency & Delay in Travel: (after hours) +1-706-664-0111

Local Guayaquil Office

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 am to 5:15 pm Office: 011-593-4371-1680 ext. 532

Cell: 011-593-99841-8853

Updated 09/28/2024

IMPORTANT: The Travel Health Form is completed on the plane prior to arriving in Ecuador. The Galapagos Aggressor III is also known as *L/P Jesus del Gran Poder* on the approved vessels by the Ecuadorian Government.

AIRLINE TRAVEL: Domestic airline ticketing from Guayaquil or Quito to Baltra can be done by the Aggressor Detours Airline Dept., online or through your travel agent. Aggressor Detours information: travel@aggressor.com +1-706-434-8158.

TRAVEL TO ECUADOR AND GALAPAGOS

Your travel arrangements should include a one-night stay (prior to the yacht's departure) in Guayaquil, Ecuador. If you are extending your stay and planning to visit Quito, we recommend visiting at the end of your Aggressor trip. Please be aware that if you are traveling through Quito, your plans might change due to the activity of the volcanoes surrounding that city. In addition, the new Quito International Airport is located over one hour from downtown Quito. When you arrive in Galapagos early, you are 1 ½ hours away from the nearest hotels. There are no hotels at the airport. You must transfer across the Island to Puerto Ayora. That is where all the hotels are located. Then the next day you would need to take the 1 ½ hour trek back across the island to board the yacht. This is why it is recommended to arrive at Airport (GPS) Seymour in Baltra the day the charter departs.

Ecuador to Galapagos Domestic Flight: On the morning flight departure from Guayaquil or Quito on the day of departure to the Galapagos Aggressor III, be sure to be at the airport at least 2 hours before departure. We highly recommend checking-in online prior to arriving at the airport. Prior to check-in at the Quito or Guayaquil Airport, each traveler is required to pay \$20 (CASH)

for the Galapagos Visitors Card. This will be paid at the “Consejo de Gobierno de Galapagos” counter.

Arrival to Baltra – Park Fee: Once you arrive at the Baltra Airport, you will be asked to pay the \$200 USD National Park fee in cash. Please keep your Park Fee receipt. An Aggressor Guide will be there to welcome you, between 12 pm – 1 pm to assist you with your luggage and transfer you to the yacht.

If you plan to make your own way to the Galapagos Aggressor III, it is necessary to call the Galapagos Aggressor III office in Guayaquil (numbers on first page) to advise them of your plans. In case of flight problems please call either of these numbers to inform the staff. If you are already on Santa Cruz Island, the meeting point to pick you up is the Dock at the Itabaca Chanel, on the Baltra Island Side. Please do not proceed to the Airport and stay at the dock and the Galapagos Aggressor III tender will pick you up at 12:00 pm.

REVIEW OF FEES & TAXES (per person)

The following taxes and fees are charged during your trip to Galapagos prior to boarding and at the end of your week:

- \$200 Galapagos Park Entry fee (**cash only - USD**) **paid upon arrival to Baltra**)*Fee increased August 1, 2024
- \$20 Galapagos Visitors Card (**cash only – USD paid at the airport**)

Onboard fees and charges may be paid in cash, or MC/Visa credit card. Government fees are subject to change without notice. Fees, taxes, and fuel surcharge (when applicable) are not included in the charter rate. All purchases (card or cash) are charged with the 15% Value Added Tax, excluding gratuities.

****Many countries that accept USD cash require the bills to be in exceptionally good condition. Any that have excessive wrinkles, tears, wear marks and are old-style bills are not normally accepted. ****

CONTACT INFORMATION

In an emergency, family and friends may try to contact you at the above numbers listed on the first page.

GALAPAGOS AGGRESSOR III INCLUDES:

All staterooms are air conditioned and fitted with private toilets, showers, sinks, and hair dryers (by request). Staterooms have under bed storage and closets with safety boxes. Linens are changed mid-week and fresh towels are placed in each stateroom as needed. Breakfast (cooked to order), lunch and an elegant chef prepared meal at dinner with tableside service are served in addition to fresh mid-morning and mid-afternoon snacks. Beverages (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) are complimentary while onboard. Filled tanks, weights and weight belts are included.

PASSPORTS & DOCUMENTATION

Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months beyond your period of stay, have adequate funds to support yourself, and a return airline ticket to travel to Ecuador then Galapagos. It is the travelers’ responsibility to ensure they have the proper documentation to travel into each country on their itinerary and for re-entry and return to their country. Please check with the appropriate consulate to ensure you have the proper documentation. Always check your passport and visa requirements. US citizens may go to the US Department of State website at **www.travel.state.gov** for more information. The website also has information for consulates by country to assist with requirements. There are specific requirements for children leaving the US, and many countries have adopted them for child protection. Since regulations vary by country, contact your consulate or embassy of your country for the requirement. ***The Reservation Office and Staff cannot assume***

responsibility for passengers not having correct documentation.

GUEST INFORMATION SYSTEM (GIS)

The Reservations Office and the Galapagos Aggressor III require each guest to complete a Cruise Application and Waiver prior to departure and boarding the yachts. The GIS (Guest Information System) allows guests to interactively complete all required paperwork that includes the application/waiver, special requests, and travel information. If you have not received a link to access the GIS, please contact an Aggressor Adventures agent. Passengers who fail to complete the GIS or an application/waiver prior to boarding will be denied boarding. Many Aggressor destinations require passenger information for itinerary approval.

The Galapagos staff requires arrival and departure hotel/lodging information in addition to Baltra (GPS) arrival/departure flight information, for each traveling guest. Please include the name and location of your hotel stay in Ecuador (Quito or Guayaquil) prior to arriving at the Baltra (GPS) airport.

If you are leaving the Island on the disembark date, please indicate "N/A" under 'Hotel' in the Travel section of the GIS form. Travel information is required to clear you for boarding, and it is necessary for the staff to reach any guests regarding any last-minute changes, travel delays, or if someone should leave personal belongings onboard at the end of the charter week.

ITINERARY

The Galapagos Aggressor III starts and ends in Baltra every Thursday. The Galapagos Aggressor III itinerary complies with the Galapagos National Park regulations which require companies with permits to follow an exact itinerary. A maximum of four dives will be offered daily; two in the morning and two in the afternoon. In addition, two land excursions per week will be offered. The Galapagos Aggressor III does not offer night diving. Aggressor Detours travel agency offers extended land tour packages, visit www.aggressor.com or email travel@aggressor.com.

New diving areas have been added to the itinerary: Bartolome Punta, Cousins Rock, Cabo Douglas Roca Blanca, and Cowley. The Galapagos itinerary is controlled by the National Park who grants approval for normal itineraries.

The below sample Itinerary is based on tides, currents, winds, and weather conditions. For more details on the map and itinerary, please visit www.aggressor.com.

Thursday: Baltra Airport Afternoon Greeting by Staff, Bus Transfer to the Itabaca Channel (Canal) and Boarding. Welcome, and Orientation Dive at Northeast Coast of Santa Cruz Island.

Friday: Morning dives at Punta Carrion Santa Cruz Island, afternoon hike at Bartolome and tender ride at Pinnacle Rock.

Saturday: June to Dec: Dives at Darwin; Jan to May Dives at Roca Blanca, Cowley, Cabo Marshall Isabela Island

Sunday: June to Dec: Dives at Darwin and Wolf; Jan to May Dives at Wolf

Monday: Jan – May Dives at Darwin and Wolf and June to Dec Dives at Wolf

Tuesday: Dives at Cabo Douglas - Fernandina, and Punta Vicente Roca - Isabela.

Wednesday: 1 Morning Dive at Cousins Rock.

Wednesday afternoon the Galapagos Aggressor III will arrive at Itabaca Channel. After lunch guests will disembark and go ashore for a private bus tour to see the beautiful Highlands of Santa Cruz Island. This will include a scenic view over Santa Cruz and a Tortoise Reserve to

see giant tortoises. After the Highlands tour, guests will visit the town of Puerto Ayora for shopping and dining. Later at night the private bus will transfer guests back to the Itabaca Channel for embarking.

Thursday: Guests will have a full breakfast then check out and depart for the Baltra Airport. Be sure to remember the suggested 24-hour no-fly rule when planning your departure. Guests staying at the Galapagos Islands after the cruise will be brought to the dock Itabaca Santa Cruz.

CURRENCY & LANGUAGE

The U.S. dollar is Ecuador's standard currency. There is a sales tax of 15% on all purchases in Ecuador. Spanish is the official language of Ecuador.

For travel throughout the Galapagos Islands, the Galapagos Aggressor III must submit the necessary paperwork which is extremely important. This includes a name as it appears on the passport, nationality, passport number, date of birth, airline arrival/departure details. Failure to submit this information could cause being denied boarding.

C-CARDS

Remember to bring your c-card or proof of certification. The divemaster requires proof of certification before the first dive.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend each guest purchase CFAR (cancel for any reason) insurance and Liveboard Rider. To learn more about these policies, visit www.aggressor.com and go to 'Insurance'. Health insurance is preferable but not mandatory in Ecuador or Galapagos.

HEALTH

The Galapagos Aggressor III has a first aid kit onboard, including oxygen and an AED. You may want to bring motion sickness medication if you feel you might need it. We suggest you bring over the counter motion sickness medication or consult your doctor about prescription brands, such as the trans-dermal patch or Scopace tablets. Currents and winds may cause moderate movement of the yacht at times. We recommend a complete physical before your trip. Both Guayaquil and the Galapagos are at sea level, while Quito is 7,500 above sea level. If you are affected by altitude, we suggest not overdoing it with excess physical activities, food, or drink.

Aggressor yachts and staff are unable to accept any medication brought onboard for safekeeping including those that require refrigeration. Should a guest have a medication requiring temperature control, they will need to travel with a travel cooling case or small storage cooler with several blue ice packets. The staff will be happy to store and recharge the blue ice but are unable to accept possession or responsibility for the proper care and storage of medication. This should be kept in the stateroom. **Smoking is not allowed inside the yacht or on the dive deck.** Smoking is only permitted on the rear of the sun deck.

INTERNET/EMAIL

Email is available onboard through the satellite system. There is a computer for guests to use (located in the wheelhouse) while onboard and no charge for incoming and outgoing email. Private calls may be made from the yacht by satellite phone, the charge is \$7 USD per minute.

Guests may purchase SeaFi access through the onboard OnAdventure network that will allow IP-based communications via apps such as SMS messaging, WhatsApp, and email. Guests can use their own personal mobile device to communicate. Please install the WhatsApp Service App prior to traveling and boarding. Roaming and cellphone service is extremely limited on the Galapagos Island.

FOOD

Aggressor yachts, river cruises, signature lodges and floating resorts operate in remote locations which limits the availability of certain foods and edibles, which can be unavailable in grocery stores and markets. While our culinary teams strive to accommodate individual requests, it is important to recognize that they cannot guarantee it despite their best efforts. Guests with dietary restrictions and food allergies should be aware that the same meal is prepared for all guests, making cross contamination a possibility. Based on this, travelers should plan accordingly and bring pre-packaged goods if needed. The availability of fresh produce may vary weekly, and they may have a limited selection depending on the destination and availability. The concept of "organic" is infrequent, and items like "gluten-free" products are seldom found in these remote locations.

The menu aboard is varied and plentiful, with a variety of American feasts, barbecues, and local cuisine. If you have any special dietary requirements, please add this to your reservation through the GIS and speak to the yacht chef once onboard so he/she can adequately prepare to meet your needs. You will wake up to fresh fruits, hot entrees, cereals, and juices. Lunches feature hot soups, homemade breads, salads, and sandwiches and/or entrees. Dinners are chef prepared and served each evening and include salads, vegetables, seafood, beef, or chicken with a fresh homemade dessert. Certain special dietary and beverage requests may not be available due to the elimination of single use plastic and the remote nature of the location in the Galapagos Islands. We highly recommend you bring these items with you.

BEVERAGES

The Aggressor's selection includes fruit juices, soft drinks, iced water, iced tea, coffee, and a limited selection of local beer and wine, which are complimentary. Due to the high duty charge on liquor, we suggest you bring your favorite brand. Drinking and diving do not mix. Once you consume alcohol, you become a sunbather until the next day. Diet coke is not available in Galapagos due to the elimination of single use plastic.

CLOTHING

Clothing should be lightweight, comfortable sportswear and swimsuits and sunscreen are necessary. A windbreaker or sweatshirt and sweatpants are ideal for evenings. The dress is always casual and informal. Additional items you may want to bring are sunglasses, insect repellent, a hat and walking shoes for your time on shore. Guests are offered bathrobes during their stay on board.

The Galapagos Islands have many different climates, which change with the seasons. The cooler months are June through November, when the air temperatures range from 65°F (evening) to 85°F (day). During the warmer months from December through June, the temperature ranges from 75°F (evening) to 100°F (day). If you need additional clothing items, see our onboard boutique.

GREEN THE FLEET

Contribute to our Green The Fleet sustainability initiatives. Here are a few reminders:

- Avoid traveling with single-use plastics.
- Remove packaging from any new purchases before traveling.
- Travel with a refillable water bottle for hydration.
- Use rechargeable batteries.
- Use an environmentally safe (i.e.: "Reef Safe") sunscreen free from oxybenzone and octinoxate.
- Conserve and responsibly use fresh water when at your adventure destination.
- Be environmentally conscious in everything you do

ENTERTAINMENT

Whether it is your anniversary, birthday, honeymoon, wedding, or you are celebrating a 100th dive, please let us know so the crew can celebrate your occasion. Kindly advise the US office prior to traveling so the staff is notified in advance.

There is a variety of nightly entertainment, including diving, fish identification presentations, movies, games and more. If you have a favorite movie, power point presentation or a video to share, we encourage you to bring it along. The staff especially loves new releases of movies, recent magazines, and books. A small library of books for exchange and fish identification books for reference is maintained onboard. Guests may also enjoy watching movies in the lounge or in your stateroom.

DIVING

The staff of the Galapagos Aggressor III, with their unique combination of talents, offers the ultimate in service. While onboard, you may pick a buddy of your choice. There is always one Dive Guide leading a Group of 8 Divers (maximum). There is ample storage space for your diving equipment in your personal locker. The Galapagos Aggressor III provides 80 cubic feet tanks, weight belts, and weights. All tanks have K-valves (American type), no DIN (European) valves. DIN Adapters are available on board on request. Nitrox is available for an additional fee, see our website for details.

We suggest you pack the following: mask, fins, snorkel, regulator with visible pressure gauge, depth gauge, dive computer, buoyancy compensator, batteries, and dive gloves. Strongly recommended: Spare mask, safety sausage, whistle, Dive Alert, mirror and/or other safety devices. Dive computers are mandatory for each guest. Each piece of gear should be marked with waterproof paint or tape. Please see our "Adventure Log" on our website for current diving conditions.

The waters of the Galapagos Islands are a unique mixture of warm and cold water, ranging between 65°F and 85°F, with thermoclines about 65°F. We recommend you bring a 5mm-7mm wet suit with hood and gloves or a dry suit with light underwear all year round. We recommend you take precautions against motion sickness if you feel you will need it. See the "Adventure Log" on the Galapagos page, www.aggresor.com, for current diving conditions. The diving in Galapagos is varied and can have some current and surge. The best diving around the Galapagos Islands is made possible with a tender. Only the initial checkout dive is directly from the main yacht itself. Tender diving is easy for you as the staff supports divers from the dive deck and onboard the tender. Once your dive is completed, you hand your weight belt to the tender driver, take off your BCD and climb in.

DIVING SUPERVISION

We understand that diving is not just an activity; it's a passion for exploring our underwater world. That's why we empower you and your buddy to take charge of your diving experience. While in the water, you and your buddy are in charge. Every dive begins with a comprehensive briefing from our experienced staff, providing you with the necessary information. As certified divers, you and your buddy are responsible for planning and conducting your dives while respecting the limits of your experience and those set by the briefing and your certification agency.

In the Galapagos Islands, all dives are conducted from tenders. A staff member will accompany each tender group and be in the water to offer assistance and ensure the group stays together. However, we do not directly supervise divers; each buddy team still manages their dive. If a buddy team needs to surface early, the entire group is not required to abort the dive and follow. The buddy team should follow the briefing and their training procedures for surfacing from a dive and signal the tender driver that everything is OK once on the surface. Once the dive time expires (per the briefing), the staff member will organize the remaining buddy teams to surface together for pickup by the tender.

CONSERVATION LAWS

The Galapagos Islands are a National Park and a Marine Reserve. The park laws do not permit spear fishing, fish feeding, collecting, DPV units, reef hooks, or drones, to help conserve the ecosystems in the Archipelago (air, land, and sea).

RENTAL DIVE EQUIPMENT

A full line of Aqua Lung rental gear is available aboard including regulators, BCs and dive computers. You may rent a 7mm wetsuit with hood for \$70 per week. If any of your dive equipment fails while onboard, the staff will loan you equipment free of charge, compliments of Aqua Lung. Note: 3XL is the largest 7mm suit size available. Guests who require more custom sizes (4XL, XXS, or XS, or short / long versions) should bring their own wetsuit with them. Tanks with K valves will work with most standard regulators. A limited number of DIN valve adapters are available. If you require a DIN valve, we highly recommend you bring your own adapter.

CERTIFICATION & SPECIALTY COURSES

Further your education while onboard an Aggressor yacht! The Nitrox Course is offered onboard. Course fees are payable once onboard and the instructor confirms the course. The training agency utilized to provide your course will vary based on your instructor's affiliations. Other specialty courses may be available onboard and will be presented to you after your arrival as part of your initial briefings.

PHOTO/VIDEO

The yacht offers support for digital photographers, including an Apple iMac for downloading photos. We have 2 dive guides available to coach guests with their underwater photography. The yacht has a charging station and a large camera table available for your camera and video equipment.

The Dive Guides will capture your diving adventure onboard to share with family and friends which includes all guests and staff for \$65 US. Please bring your personal USB, an external drive or we can airdrop or copy to your personal computer.

BOUTIQUE & CREDIT CARDS

There is a mini boutique onboard with assorted t-shirts and miscellaneous items. The Galapagos Aggressor III accepts cash, Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. Sorry, personal checks, travelers checks or Discover cards are not accepted. You may also purchase boutique items online at www.aggressor.com

GRATUITIES

Staff gratuities are not included in the charter. We believe gratuities should be voluntary and based upon the quality of service the crew has provided. When settling your account on Tuesday, the Captain will have an envelope for gratuities that will be divided equally among the staff. Cash, or credit cards may be used for gratuities.

THURSDAY CHECKOUT

After a full breakfast, checkout time is 8:00 a.m. Thursday morning. The staff will transport you and your luggage to the local Galapagos airport and assist you with the check-in.

ADVENTURE LOGS

Each week we post the Adventure log of the previous charter. Please feel free to visit www.aggressor.com and go to the Adventure log to find out water temperature, visibility, and sightings or Facebook.