

## **January**

Warm marine currents arrive.

Land birds start nesting On Espanola, the adult male marine iguanas become brightly colored

The green sea turtle arrives to the beaches of Galapagos to lay their eggs

Land iguanas begin reproductive cycles on Isabela

Water and air temperatures rise and stay warm until June

Ideal time for snorkeling

## **February**

On Floreana flamingos start nesting

White-cheeked pintails start their breeding season

Masked boobies on Espanola are at the end of their nesting season

Marine iguanas nest on Santa Cruz

Highest water temperature reaches 25°C (77°F) and remains until April

Galapagos dove's nesting season reaches its peak

## **March**

Water temperature reaches its max.

Sporadic tropical rains and intense sun. Air temperature can reach up to 30°C (86°F)

Marine iguanas nest in Fernandina March 21, the summer equinox signals the beginning.

The waved albatross arrive to Espanola

## **April**

Massive arrival of waved albatross to Espanola. Their courtship starts.

Hatching season ends for giant tortoises

Green sea turtles' eggs begin to hatch

Land iguanas hatch on Isabela

## **May**

North Seymour's blue-footed boobies begin their courtship

Sea turtles are still hatching on Gardner Bay, Punta Cormorant and Puerto Egas

Palo santo trees begin to shed their foliage

Albatross on Espanola start laying their eggs

Band-rumped storm petrels begin their first nesting period

## **June**

Beginning of the dry season

Giant tortoises migrate from highlands to lowlands for suitable nesting places

Beginning of nesting season of giant tortoises

## **July**

Sea birds are active, especially blue-footed boobies on Espanola Flightless cormorants court and nest on Fernandina.

It's possible to find oyster catchers nesting on Puerto Egas  
Lava lizards initiate mating rituals until November  
Whales are more likely to be observed, especially off the Western coast of Isabela

### **August**

The Galapagos hawks court on Espanola and Santiago  
Masked boobies and swallow-tailed gulls nest on Genovesa  
Temperature of the ocean descends to 18° C (64°F) which obviously varies according to the geographic zones among the islands.  
Migrant shore birds start to arrive, and stay on the islands until March.  
Giant tortoises return to the highlands of Santa Cruz

### **September**

Peak of the dry season  
The air temperature reaches its lowest (19°C - 66°F)  
Penguins demonstrate remarkable activity on Bartolome until December  
Sea lions are very active, specially in the western and central areas of the Archipelago  
Most species of marine birds remain active at their nesting sites

### **October**

Lava herons nest until March  
The Galapagos fur seals begin their mating period  
Boobies raise their chicks on Espanola  
Giant tortoises still lay their eggs

### **November**

Sea lion pups are born  
Sea lions are sexually active on the Eastern part of the Archipelago  
Breeding season of brown noddies  
Band-rumped storm petrels begin their second nesting period

### **December**

Hatching of the giant tortoise's eggs begins and lasts until April  
Green sea turtles display their mating behavior.  
The warm season begins and all of the plants of the dry zone produce leaves.  
Galapagos "turns green". The first young albatross fledge.