

Galápagos Islands - What not to bring

To protect the natural biosphere of the Galápagos Islands, there is an extensive list of products that are either restricted or prohibited. These are mostly seeds, nuts and fruits but also include other plant and animal derived products which, if brought to the islands, could potentially have a negative impact by introducing diseases or invasive flora and fauna into the environment.

There are several controls in place to ensure that potentially harmful items are not deliberately or inadvertently transported to the islands. These include luggage checks prior to boarding flights to the Galápagos from Quito and Guayaquil, disinfection of the aeroplane prior to the flight arriving in Galápagos, and additional luggage checks upon disembarkation in San Cristóbal or Baltra.

Prohibited plant products include, but not limited to:

- Apricots
- Anona (Sugar Apple / Sweetsop)
- Coffee beans
- Caimito (Star Apple)
- Sugar cane
- Cherries
- Chamico (Thorn Apple)
- Cherimoya (Custard Apple)
- Raspberries
- Passion fruit
- Pomegranate
- Currants
- Guava
- Banana leaves
- Fresh vegetable leaves
- Lucuma fruit
- Blackberries
- Oranges
- Yam
- Fresh medicinal plant leaves, roots or seeds
- Taro
- Wheat
- Prickly pears
- Unshelled / raw nuts*

***NOTE:** Nuts are restricted to only the edible part (i.e. unshelled). Additionally, they must be industrially processed with sanitary registration and production and expiration dates.

Prohibited animal derived products include:

- Animal feed
- Raw Meat
- Cow's liver
- Fresh milk
- Fermented milk
- Pasteurised milk
- Fresh cheeses (e.g. buffalo mozzarella)

A full list of permitted, restricted and prohibited items can be found here (in Spanish only): <u>https://bioseguridadgalapagos.gob.ec/lista-de-productos/</u>

PLEASE NOTE: Even items that are permitted are subject to specific conditions for them to be allowed into the islands and are not always readily available. This, along with the ban on plastics in the Galapagos Islands, determines which food and drinks we are able to offer on Galapagos Master at any time.

