



Isla De La Plata, Ecuador Diving, Whale Watching

July 6th, 2026 to July 13th, 2026

What would you do if I said that you could go diving with the world's largest aggregation of oceanic manta rays, whale sharks and sea turtles, plus see vibrant coral reefs teeming with hundreds of fish and even witness humpback whales leaping from water... all in one place?



Photo by Andre Fedak
Isla de la Plata, which translates to "Island of Silver," lies an hour away from the coast by boat. It is a part of Machalilla National Park, which also extends along Ecuador's southern mainland coast. I visited there in 2025 at the suggestion of a friend, a local dive guide and marine biologist, who shared news about the presence of oceanic manta

And if I told you that this magical place is in Ecuador, I can bet that you'd think I was talking about the Galapagos Islands. But today, I'm talking about a different place, one that is often overlooked: Isla de la Plata, off the coast of Manabi.. With so much to see,



It seemed odd not to have heard about Isla de la Plata before, but after my arrival, I learned of the ongoing manta research and that the news had yet to reach the diving community. In a 2022 study, scientists revealed the largest population of manta rays (*Mobula birostris*) in the world is found off the Ecuadorian coast. Over a 14-year period, the experts identified over 28,000 individuals.



On our last visit to the Puerto Lopez area, The Brass Anchor Group arrived from the Galapagos and its incredible diving. To our delight, we discovered that the marine encounters here were every bit as spectacular as those in the Galapagos—Humpback Whales Breaching, giant manta rays, lively sea turtles, and vibrant underwater life welcomed us. It's truly an amazing destination for unforgettable large-animal marine experiences. Join us Isla de la Plata change your perspective on Ecuador's underwater

Trip at a Glance:

Dates: July 6th to July 13th, 2026

Cost: \$1950.00 Dble Occ

, Includes: diving and tanks and weights

5 days of diving (3 tanks per day)

Full-day tour to Isla de la Plata (hiking + whale watching)

Local transportation and airport transfers(e.g., hotel–pier transfers)

7 nights accommodations included

Not included

Airfare

Crew gratuities

Meals that are not lunch on the boat or Continental breakfast at hotel.

Dive gear

\$500 Due for Initial Deposit

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