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for
The Galapagos Islands
1959-1988
by
G.T. Corley Smith

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*H.R.H. The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh,
Patron of the Charles Darwin Foundation
and
President of the World Wide Fund for Nature.*

When the Duke of Edinburgh paid the first of his three visits to the Galapagos Islands in 1964, he was immediately impressed by their extraordinary natural riches but at the same time deeply concerned about the dangers that threatened their unique ecosystems. He wrote in "Wildlife Crisis" (1970):

"Perhaps the most fascinating expedition of all was a four-day visit to the Galapagos Islands, forever associated with Darwin's great work, the Mecca of naturalists and a veritable paradise for bird - and animal - photographers. It is here above all that the whole problem of conservation becomes most obvious".