

Galapagos Natural Life

Luxury Class - Catamarans Galapagos

OCEAN SPRAY CATAMARAN



Itinerary 5A

5 Days – 4 Nights

TUESDAY:

Bartholomew Island

Home of the famous Pinnacle Rock, Bartholomew consists of an extinct volcano with a variety of red, orange, black and even green volcanic formations. A trail of stairs leads to the summit of the volcano, boasting one of the best views of the islands. The beach is perfect for snorkeling and possible sightings of the Galapagos Penguin.

Highlights:

Pinnacle rock, panoramic view,
moonlike landscape, penguins,
pioneer plants, lava cactus;
snorkeling: penguins, reef
sharks, rays, and great colorful
fish.

Activities: Dinghy ride, snorkeling & hiking
(1.2 mi/ 2km)

**Type of
Landing:** Dry and wet landings

Difficulty: Moderate/difficult. Walk up to the
top of volcano 114 meters, 375
wooden steps

WEDNESDAY:

Darwin Bay

This white-sand coral beach heads a half mile trail (.75km) that winds through mangroves filled with land birds. Nazca Boobies, Red-footed Boobies, and Swallow-tailed Gulls can be spotted here. Further down the path are tidal pools where sea lions swim playfully. At the end is a spectacular view off a cliff.

Highlights: Nazca Boobies, Red- footed
Boobies, Swallow-tailed Gulls,
mangroves, coral pebbles beach,
snorkeling: rays, colorful reef fish
and hammerhead sharks

Activities: Hiking (0.9 mi/1.5 km),
snorkeling, kayaking & dinghy
ride

**Type of
Landing:** Wet landing.

Difficulty: Easy/moderate

El Barranco

Also known as Prince Phillip's Steps, El Barranco's steep, rocky paths leads up to a high cliff-face. A marvelous view can be appreciated from here. This site is also home to Palo Santo vegetation as well as Red-footed Boobies, Short-eared Lava Owls, Galapagos Swallows, and Galapagos Doves.

Highlights: Red-footed Boobies, Short-eared
Lava Owls, storm-petrels,
Galapagos Doves

Activities: Hiking (0.9 mi/2 km)

Type of Landing: Dry, difficult landing

Difficulty: Moderate

THURSDAY:

Espumilla Beach

Espumilla Beach is a popular place for marine iguanas and Sally Lightfoot Crabs. The crabs attract the hunting herons, performing the dance of predator and prey. With an abundance of marine life including octopi, moray eel, and shark, snorkeling is highly recommended.

Snorkeling

Highlights:

Activities: Snorkeling and swimming

Type of Landing: Wet landing

Difficulty: Easy

Egas Port

Also known as James Bay, Egas Port is home to the curious Galapagos Hawks and Quick-footed Galapagos Lava Lizards. The trail leads to a coastline with gorgeous tide pools and grottos full of fauna. Here the Galapagos Fur Sea Lions bathe in the sun. This is also a great snorkeling site.

Highlights:

Fur sea lions, Galapagos Sea Lions, tidal pools and "grottos", Galapagos Hawk, oyster catchers, marine iguanas, finches; snorkeling: reef sharks, turtles, rays, nice underwater formations.

Activities: Snorkeling, hiking (1.25 mi/2 km)

Type of Landing: Wet landing

Difficulty: Easy /moderate

FRIDAY:

North Seymour Island

Galapagos Sea Lions, Blue-footed Boobies and Magnificent Frigatebirds are abundant on North Seymour Island. The island was formed by a series of submarine lavas containing layers of sediment that were uplifted by tectonic activity. The island is characterized by its arid vegetation zone.

Highlights: Land & marine iguanas,
frigatebirds, Blue-footed
Boobies, sea lions; snorkeling:
Rays, reef shark, fish, garden
eels.

Activities: Snorkeling, dinghy ride & hiking
(1.5 mi/2.5 km)

**Type of
Landing:** Dry landing

Difficulty: Moderate/difficult

Santa Cruz Highlands

Reached by bus from Puerto Ayora, the highlands of Santa Cruz are a deep green, contrasting beautifully with much of the dry, lower islands. The dominant vegetation in the highlands is the Scalesia trees, creating the lush green color. The lava tubes, over half a mile long, are underground and walking through them is a unique, surreal experience.

Highlights: Lava tunnels, wild turtles,
tortoises breeding center.

Activities: Hike (1.5 mi/ 2 ½ km)

**Type of
Landing:** Dry landing

Difficulty: Moderate (Long)

SATURDAY:

Mosquera Islet

Located between the islands of Baltra and North Seymour, this reef of rocks and coral (the result of an uprising) is only 160 meters across at its narrowest width. This island has one of the largest populations of sea lions and is home to many shorebirds. There have been occasional reports at this site of Orcas feeding on sea lions.

Highlights: Orcas, Sea lions, shore birds

Activities: Dinghy ride

Type of Landing: None

Difficulty: Easy

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