

Galapagos Natural Life

Tourist Superior Class - Galapagos Yachts

Nemo III - CATAMARAN



ITINERARY DAY BY DAY

Itinerary 5B 5 days / 4 nights

DAY 1 - SUNDAY

Baltra / Seymour

Arrival to the airport in **BALTRA**, reception by the cruise guide and transfer to the yacht. Navigation to **SEYMOUR**, (North of Baltra) The visitor trail on North Seymour is approximately (2 km) in length crossing the in land of the island and exploring the rocky coast. Along the way the trail passes colonies of blue-footed boobies and magnificent frigate birds. The magnificent frigate bird, a large black bird with a long wingspan, and a hooked beak, are extremely fast and has excellent vision. Frigate birds are known for the large red pouch on their necks. Boobies and Frigates share an interesting relationship. Sharing the same nesting area on North Seymour Blue- Footed Boobies nest on the ground making their nests from the twigs of the Palo Santos Trees, while the Magnificent Frigate bird nests just above them in the saltbushes.

DAY 2 - MONDAY

San Cristobal – Lobos Island – Kicker Rock – Brujo Hill

LOBOS ISLAND, as its name suggests is famous for its population of sea lions and fur sea lions. You will also encounter a nesting ground for the great frigate bird and a small number of blue footed boobies

BREEDING CENTER; here it is explained, in a simple manner, the natural phenomena that created the Galapagos Islands. They explain the series of natural processes, such as volcanic eruption and marine current locations that have lead to the amazing islands that you are now visiting.

KICKER ROCK also known as León Dormido these rocks is located of the coast of San Cristobal. It is the remains of a lava cone eroded by the sea, the two vertical rocks rising 500 feet from the ocean form a small channel that is navigable by small boats. This natural monument has become a favorite sight for cruises due to the many tropicbirds, frigates and boobies that fill the surrounding air.

Beneath the sea the nearly crystal waters offer a brilliant show of colorful tropical fish and invertebrates. Due to the sheer vertical pitch of the rock face, landings are not possible however many cruises do spend 45 minutes to an hour allowing you to enjoy the full experience.

One of the first sites visited by Charles Darwin, **BRUJO HILL** is a beautiful white sand beach where brown pelicans, blue-footed boobies, sea lions, and marine iguanas are all found. An onshore version of nearby Kicker Rocks, Brujo Hill is a very striking, eroded tuff cone.

DAY 3 - TUESDAY

Española - Gardner Bay - Punta Suarez

Visit to **GARDNER BAY**, this bay is a 45-minutes boat ride from Punta Suarez. It has a white sand beach and there is a small colony of sea lions. The possibilities for swimming or scuba diving are excellent here. Visitors find migrant, resident, and endemic wildlife including brightly colored marine Iguanas, Española lava Lizards, hood mockingbirds, swallow tailed gulls, blue footed and masked boobies, Galapagos hawks, a selection of finch, and the waved albatross.

Arrival to Española Island, in the morning **PUNTA SUAREZ**, found on the western tip of Española, which offers great wildlife such as sea lions, sea birds and the largest marine iguanas of Galapagos. This is one of the best sites in the Galapagos. The amount of wildlife is overwhelming. Along the beach there are many sea lions, larges and colorful lava lizards and marine iguanas. As you follow the trail to the cliff's edge masked boobies can be found nesting among the rock formations. After a short walk down to a beach and back up the other side blue-footed boobies are seen nesting just off the trail.

At night, dinner and navigation to Floreana

DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY

Floreana Cormorant Point – Champion – Post Office Bay

Arrival to **FLOREANA** Island, in the morning visit to Post Office bay, In 1793 British whalers established the Post Office Barrel to send letters to and from England. This tradition has continued over the years, and even today visitors may drop off and pick up letters, without stamps, to be carried to far destinations.

In the morning, visit to **CORMORANT POINT**, offers two contrasting beaches. Arriving on shore you will encounter a green sand beach (the green sand is caused by the olivine crystals derived silicates or magnesium and iron) from here you will follow the trail leading to a lagoon where pink flamingoes and other shore birds can be seen in the distance making their home. Looking into the mud of the lagoon there appears to be 'cracks' in the mud. These cracks are not caused from dryness but are actually the footpaths of flamingos. This is also a good spot for seeing large-billed flycatchers, small-ground finches, medium-round finches or cactus finches. The walk continues to another beach on the other side made of fine white sand particles known as "Flour Beach". In the waters ghost crabs and rays can be seen swimming. Time permitting you may even go for a swim.

CHAMPION SNORKEL PANGA RIDE

POST OFFICE BAY

This is one of the few visitor sites, which are visited for its human history. Whaling Captain James Colnett established the wooden post barrel in the early 1793. At the time whaling was a big industry, ships were typically gone for 2 years at a time. The Galapagos Islands were a frequent stop for these ships. Outbound ships would drop off letters after rounding the cape and the ships returning home would mail them.

Over the years thousands of ships have stopped to send and receive mail at Post Office Bay. Many have posted a sign of driftwood or other materials memorializing their visit. This is the only area in the Galapagos where graffiti is still acceptable.

Arriving at Post Office Bay you will land on a brown sand beach, passing the sea lions lying in the sun. At the post barrel the guide will pull a hand full of letters for the group. Continuing the tradition, the letters are brought home with the traveler and then mailed to the addressee. Visitors also have the opportunity to send letters of their own.

There is also the remains of a Norwegian Fishing Village a commercial fishing operation established in 1926 and abandoned a couple of years later. The group of Norwegians arrived with dreams of riches started a fishing and can operation on \$900 each. The tough Galapagos life and a few misfortunes had them abandon their dreams.

In the night, dinner and navigation to Santa Cruz.

DAY 5 - THURSDAY

Santa Cruz - High Lands -Finca Primicias – Charles Darwin Station

The **HIGHLANDS** of Santa Cruz have incredible zones of vegetation. There you will visit the private finca "**LAS PRIMICIAS**". This reserve offers you one of the best possibilities to see the huge turtles of Santa Cruz Island in their natural habitat. You can observe them from very close.

The main visit in Puerto Ayora is to the **CHARLES DARWIN SCIENTIFIC STATION** an excellent way to begin learning about the islands and their origin and formation is to visit the Station. You can also see how the Galapagos turtles are raised and meet George, the famous solitary turtle. The Scientific Station has its own beach that receives many visitors on weekends.

Breakfast transfer to Baltra airport end of the services.

Rate includes:

- All meals, Buffet (breakfast - lunch - dinner) water with meals.
- Accommodation in double cabins.
- Transfers from the airport to the yacht and vice versa in Galapagos.
- Excursions in the islands with English Speaking Naturalist Guide.
- **Air ticket.**

Rate does not include:

- Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee: USD 100.00 per person.
- Migratory Control Card: USD 20.00 per person.

- Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages.
- Snorkelling equipment for rent on board.
- Tips.

Note:

- Rates per person in U.S. Dollars.
- Single occupancy supplement 80% or 100%.
- The route of the ship and the itinerary are subject to change and can vary depending on the regulations and policies of the Galapagos National Park, weather, seasonal changes, safety, etc.

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Quito - Ecuador - South America