

Galapagos Natural Life

First Class - Yachts Galapagos

ODYSSEY YACHT



ITINERARY DAY BY DAY

Itinerary 'B' 5 days / 4 Nights

DAY 1 - SUNDAY

Arrival at Baltra Airport & Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz)

After the arriving obligations, you will be brought from landing dock to the yacht.

In the afternoon the cruise starts at Dragon Hill, which offers you two key-species very liked to be seen during each Galapagos visit, though not too common distributed throughout the islands: *Galapagos land iguanas* and *American flamingos*. A short walk crosses the coastal vegetation zone, as well as the somewhat higher arid zone with vulnerable tropical dry forest. Moreover, this is a very photogenic spot as well, with breath-taking panoramas over the bay and towards an intriguing steep volcanic spout of red lava that overlooks the area.

DAY 2- MONDAY

Rabida & Chinese Hat

At Rabida you will find a striking red beach blocked by spectacular brick-reddish cliffs. Perfekt times to take some photos are short after sunrise and short before sunset. Outside the mating season this remarkable red beach is occupied by a large bachelor colony of *Galapagos sea lions* that will welcome you. Outstanding attraction is the major breeding colony of *brown pelicans*, one of the best places in Galapagos to approach them.

Chinese Hat is a 52 m / 170 ft high volcanic cone, forming another islet right out off the coast of Santiago. Approaching from the north you certainly will agree with its name. Because the primordial fire has been extinguished recently, you can learn more about volcanism, lava bombs and lava tunnels. On the beach there are also curious pillow-type lavas with coral heads on top! These spheres have a submarine history and were uplifted above sea level.

DAY 3 - TUESDAY

Darwin Bay & Prince Philip's Steps (Genovesa)

This quiet site is Galapagos in miniature! The small-scaled area will surprise you again and again, walking along a coral sand beach, crossing barren lava formations and creeks, passing tidal pools, shrubs and further ahead following the top of some cliffs. Moreover an impressive wide range of animals, such as whimbrels, Galapagos sea lions, herons, frigatebirds, red-footed boobies or Darwin's finches, is waiting for you.

Genovesa has a royal touch and you will be able to admire one of Galapagos' favourite birding spots with large breeding colonies of *Nazca* and *red-footed boobies*. But before landing you will make an inflatable dinghy-ride along the eastern arm of the caldera. On approach, the massive 25 m / 80 ft high walls become overwhelming, and will give you a better impression of the dimensions of this crater.

DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY

Bartolome & Sullivan Bay

Nothing is too much promised when the National Park authorities praise Bartolome as 'flagship site of the Galapagos Islands'. Although tiny and lifeless at first sight, this young islet offers you some of the best panoramas and wildest landscapes in the entire archipelago. Surprisingly these warm equatorial waters with coral reefs are even one of the best places in the archipelago to encounter endangered *Galapagos penguins*!

In the afternoon you will get to one of the most incomparable visitor's sites; the miraculous bas-reliefs of Sullivan Bay with its crust of the lava flow are unique to Galapagos and Hawaii. You are at one of the best spots to take some photos of landscapes or close ups.

DAY 5 - THURSDAY

Highlands (Santa Cruz) & Transfer to Baltra Airport

Because wild *Galapagos giant tortoises* don't stop at official National Park boundaries, dozens of them also roam and even mate on the adjacent woodlands in the populated agricultural zone of Santa Cruz. Thanks to the semi-open pastures and scalesia-woodlands, and their concentration around muddy pools, these

farmlands are the best place for a quick visit. Armed with a rain poncho and (provided) rubber boots you will get good chances to approach wild *Galapagos giant tortoises* just within a few meters.

Assisted by the guide and some crew-members the inflatable dinghy will bring you and your luggage to Baltra, where we take the airport shuttle. Your guide will accompany you to the check-in counters in the departure hall.

Rate includes:

- All meals (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.
- Ecogal Tax: USD 10.00 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.

info@galapagoslastminute.net

galapagos_natural_life@hotmail.com

Quito - Ecuador - South America