

ITINERARY 4D

From Thursday to Sunday

DAY 1: THURSDAY

In the morning: Airport

Arriving at the airport, the visitors have first to pay the entrance fee of US\$ 100 for the National Park. Leaving the arrival hall, the National Park Guide is waiting for you and accompanies the whole group to the harbor of Baltra, where your "Yacht Angelito" is anchored. The cruise can begin!

In the afternoon: Highlands

The drive up to the highlands takes approximately a half hour. In this short time one can observe the transition between the different vegetation zones, from the Arid zone to the Transition zone, and up to the Scalesia zone (and agricultural area), where the problems of introduced animals and plants are quite noticeable. On the highest point of the road, the National Park starts again. Rancho Primicias: we visit a farm in the highlands of Santa Cruz to look out for the Galapagos Tortoises in liberty. During their migration routes, they spend part of the year in these highlands and are easy to observe

DAY 2: FRIDAY

In the morning: Playa Gardner

Wet landing on a beautiful, long, white beach made of coral sand. For this visit, you don't need shoes. A perfect place to observe the finches and mockingbirds in the saltbush vegetation, you can also enjoy the beach close to the Galapagos sea lions. You can swim and snorkel from the beach.

In the afternoon: Suarez Point

Loop trail with a smooth, dry landing on a jetty. The walk on stony, rocky ground is long and quite challenging. The visitors can find even on the very beginning of the trail the colorful Española marine iguana and Galapagos sea lions. Everywhere the curious Española mockingbird approaches the visitors. The path leads through the nesting colonies of blue-footed boobies, Nazca boobies and waved albatross. The big Española lava lizards are to find everywhere. A resting spot close to a cliff gives the opportunity to watch all the different marine birds flying along the coast. An albatross during his "take off" from the cliff is a fantastic event to witness. There is another stop by the blowhole where the seawater is pushed through a fissure in the cliff into the air, depending on the waves and tide level till 80 feet high.

Galapagos Natural Life S.A

Director de la operadora turística

Joaquín Pinto E8-64 y Av. 6 de diciembre "La Mariscal"

Quito-Ecuador-South América

Telf.: (593) (2) 2564-945 / 2520-575 / 0984579397

www.galapagoslastminute.net

DAY 3: SATURDAY

In the morning: Santa Fe

The wet landing is on a beach with a big sea lion colony. The short trail leads from the sea lion colony on the beach through dry vegetation of the Arid Zone to a wonderful forested cliff with high prickly pear cactus and then back to a second beach. Only the very attentive visitors can detect up there the endemic land iguana of Santa Fe because it's perfect camouflage in the same colors of the vegetation and their territories are quite significant.

In the afternoon: South Plaza

Easy loop trail with a dry landing on a jetty. It's a small uplifted island with a cliff 25 meters high on the southern side of the island. The whole flat, rocky northern coast has a big colony of Galapagos sea lions and on the East point is a bachelor sea lion colony. Very attractive are the beautiful prickly pear cactus trees and of course the big colony of land iguanas. Depending on the season, the sesuvium ground vegetation changes its colour from intense green in the rainy season to orange and purple in the dry season.

DAY 4: SUNDAY

In the morning: Black Turtle Cove / Airport

With the dinghy, we go into the big protected mangrove cove. In the far away small corners, we turn off the motor of the dinghy rowing then noiselessly to observe the marine turtles.

There are a lot of them in the cove during mating and nesting season (December to February), but even out of season there are always some turtles staying back in the mangrove cove to rest. Spotted eagle rays, golden rays, white-tipped reef sharks and young Galapagos sharks can often be spotted.

At the end of the cruise, the passengers leave the Angelito again in the harbor of Baltra, and your guide takes care of everything until you fly back to the continent

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