

# Galapagos Island Hopping (5D/4N)

## DAY 1: Santa Cruz Island



- Arrival at Galapagos Island, Baltra Airport.
- Transfer from Baltra Airport to Santa Cruz Island
- Visit the **Highlands**
- Lunch
- Briefing for next day activities

### Places to Visit:

- **Highlands:** Visit to the El Chato 1, El Chato 2 or Primicias Farm, in any of these you can see the Giant Galapagos Tortoises and the typical vegetation of Galapagos.

**Ready to explore the beauty of the Galapagos highlands?** Join us on a tour of a lifetime to El Chato or Primicias Farm where you'll witness the majestic Giant Galapagos Tortoises roaming free in their natural habitat. Immerse yourself in the diverse flora and fauna of this amazing archipelago as our expert guides take you on an adventure you'll never forget. With breathtaking views and unforgettable experiences, our Highland tour is perfect for nature lovers and adventure seekers alike.

**Are you ready to witness the majestic beauty of the Galapagos?** You'll get up close and personal with these gentle giants as they roam freely in their natural habitat. And that's not all – explore the stunning lava tunnels, formed by ancient volcanic activity. Our knowledgeable guides will ensure you make unforgettable memories while learning about the history and ecology of this unique destination.

### Details:

- **Animals to see:** Giant turtles, sea lions.
- **Activities:** Trekking
- **What do you bring:** Sunscreen, Repellent, Light clothing, Binoculars, Camera, and water.

- **Include:** Professional bilingual guide, Transport, Lunch, and Hotel Accommodation.
- **Not Included:** Lobito Buss \$5, Dinner, Tips and Additional Expenses.

**Notes:**

- We can't guarantee that you will see all the animals, since they are in wildlife.
- **This day is not included Guide, just driver.**

**DAY 2: Isabela Island**



- Breakfast
- Pick up from your Hotel in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island at 06:00 am.
- Boarding Time at 06:30 am.
- Sailing time from Santa Cruz to Isabela Island. (2 hours)
- Arrival at Villamil Port in Isabela Island at approximately 09:00 am.
- At 11:00 am. Sailing time from Villamil Port to Tunnels. (1 hour)
- Visit Tunnels
- 2 times for snorkeling. (45 minutes for each one)
- Lunch
- Return to Isabela at 16:00 pm
- Arrival at Isabela at 17:00 pm approximately.
- Briefing for next-day activities.

**Places to Visit:**

- **Tunnels:** This is one of the most spectacular snorkeling sites in Isabela, the water is shallow, calm, and very clear, a marine sanctuary. A series of lava flows have produced unique geological formations, a series of arches and tunnels, below and above the water, where a large number of endemic Galapagos species live. The entrance to the site is not deep and the waves can be very strong, for this reason, access to this place is not always very feasible. The best time to visit Los Tuneless is between January and May.

## Details:

- **Animals to see:** Blue-footed boobies, rays, starfish, penguins, sea horses, sharks, sea turtles, reef fish.
- **Activities:** Snorkeling
- **What do you bring:** Sunscreen, Repellent, Binoculars, a Camera, and swimsuit.
- **Include:** Breakfast, a Professional bilingual guide, Transport, Lunch, Snacks, Water, Hotel Accommodation, and Snorkeling Equipment.
- **Not Included:** Isabela's Fee of \$10, Dinner, Tips, and Additional Expenses.

## Notes:

- We can't guarantee that you will see all the animals, since they are in wildlife.
- This night you will stay on Isabela Island.

## DAY 3: Isabela Island



- Breakfast
- Pick up from your Hotel in Villamil Port, Isabela Island.
- Visit the Wetlands
- Visit the Flamingos Lake
- Visit the Tortoise Breeding Center
- Lunch
- Snorkeling in Tintoreras (45 minutes)
- Return to Santa Cruz at 15:00 pm
- Arrival to Santa Cruz at 17:00 pm approximately.
- Transfer to your Hotel
- Briefing for next day activities

## Places to Visit:

- **Wetlands:** The Wetlands of Isabela Island are located just outside of Puerto Villamil. The Wetlands consist of lagoons, swamps, and mangroves and are home to a variety of unique bird species such as common stilts, whimbrels, white-cheeked pintails, and gallinules. The Wetlands can be visited on foot via a path that winds through the swamps.
- **Flamingo Lake:** To the west of Puerto Villamil there are various salt and brackish lagoons which house an impressive variety of coastal and sea birds. Here, visitors can also find the largest concentration of flamingos in Galapagos.
- **Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center:** The Tortoise Breeding Center (also known as the Interpretation Center) is located nearby Puerto Villamil. A boardwalk connects the town to the Center, stretching across the wetlands and Prickly Pear Cacti shrub. Five sub-species of the Giant Tortoise exist on the island, yet their populations are threatened by introduced animals such as goats and cats. At the Tortoise Breeding Center, eggs are nursed in a hatchery and the giant tortoise adults are observed in supervised corrals. The Center aims to increase the population and secure the survival of these species.
- **Tintoreras:** The Tintoreras Islets, located a short distance from Puerto Villamil, is home to a great variety of wildlife. Its turquoise, crystalline waters are inhabited by white-tipped reef sharks, Galapagos penguins, marine turtles and sea lions. One of its beaches, surrounded by mangroves is one of the few sites where marine iguanas can reproduce successfully.

## Details:

- **Animals to see:** Giant tortoises, flamingos, terrestrial iguanas, white fin sharks, sea lions, reef fish.
- **Activities:** Trekking and Snorkeling
- **What do you bring:** Sunscreen, Repellent, Light clothing, Binoculars, a Camera, swimsuit.
- **Include:** Breakfast, Professional bilingual guide, Transport, Lunch, Snacks, Water, Hotel Accommodation, and Snorkeling Equipment.
- **Not Included:** Dinner, Tips, and Additional Expenses.

## Notes:

- We can't guarantee that you will see all the animals, since they are in wildlife.

## DAY 4: Bartolome Island



- Pick up from your Hotel in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island.
- Departure Time at from 06:00 am. to 07:00 am.
- Transfer from Ayora Port to Itabaca Channel. (45 minutes)
- Sailing time from Itabaca Channel to Bartolome Island. (2 hours)
- Arrival at Bartolome Island at 08:45 am. approximately.
- 2 hours of hiking on Bartolome island
- Lunch
- Snorkeling in Sullivan Bay
- Return to Santa Cruz at 14:15 pm
- Arrival to Santa Cruz at 17:00 pm approximately.
- Transfer to your Hotel
- Briefing for next-day activities

### Places to Visit:

- **Bartolome Island:** Named in honor of Sir Bartholomew Sullivan of the British Navy. It has an area of 1.2 km<sup>2</sup> and a maximum altitude of 114 meters. This island offers some of the most beautiful landscapes of the archipelago. The island is composed of an extinct volcano and a variety of red, orange, green and bright black volcanic formations. The lava cactus of the Galapagos colonize the new lava fields. On this island is the famous Pinnacle, which is one of the most representative places of the archipelago. Here you can dive and snorkel with penguins, sea lions, white tip reef sharks and other tropical fish. Seasonally, Bartolomé is the mating and nesting site of the green turtle. The bay is also an excellent place to go swimming. The twin bays are separated by a narrow isthmus.
- **Sullivan Bay:** This unique landscape is composed of a pair of eroded scoria lava cones which were engulfed by a recent (in geological terms) pahoehoe lava flow and which is considered one of the finest in the world.

### Details:

- **Animals to see:** Sea lions, reef fish, sea turtles, penguins.
- **Activities:** Hiking and Snorkeling
- **What do you bring:** Sunscreen, Repellent, Light clothing, Binoculars, a Camera, swimsuit.

- **Include:** Breakfast, Professional bilingual guide, Transport, Lunch, Snacks, Water, Hotel Accommodation, and Snorkeling Equipment.
- **Not Included:** Dinner, Tips, and Additional Expenses.

**Notes:**

- We can't guarantee that you will see all the animals, since they are in wildlife.

**DAY 5: St. Cruz Island & Flight back to Quito**



- Breakfast
- Pick up from your Hotel in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island.
- Transfer to Twin Craters in Santa Cruz.
- Visit to Twin Craters
- Transfer from Santa Cruz to Baltra Airport
- Return Flight.

**Places to Visit:**

- **Twin Craters:** The Twin Craters are, in fact, not craters. These impressive holes were formed by magma (lava) domes which hardened on the outside but continued to flow on the inside, leaving huge but empty chambers that collapsed with the passing of time, creating this breathtaking scenery that resembles two pit crates. The Twins are located in the highlands of Santa Cruz Island and are surrounded by lush and green forests, dominated by the endemic Scalesia plants. It is possible to walk along the rim of the craters to better appreciate the magnitude of the holes as well as the local flora and fauna. This site is also one of the most likely places to observe the endemic short-ear owl of the Galapagos.

**Details:**

- **Activities:** Trekking
- **What do you bring:** Sunscreen, Repellent, Light clothing, Binoculars, Camera.
- **Include:** Breakfast, Transport.
- **Not Included:** Lobito Buss \$5, Guide, Dinner, Lunch, Tips and Additional Expenses.

**Notes:** **This day is not included Guide, just driver.**