

ISABELA II YACHT



ITINERARY SOUTHEASTERN From Friday – Thursday

5 Days – 4 Nights

Day 1 - BALTRA / SANTA CRUZ

Friday: Baltra Airport / Las Bachas

Baltra Airport

We land at Baltra Island by plane in the morning and transfer to the nearby dock to board the Santa Cruz II, where we receive a welcome introductory briefing, boat drill, and lunch.

Las Bachas

This beautiful visitor site is located on the north shore of Santa Cruz Island, a glorious white beach with a couple of brackish lagoons only a few steps away from the sea. These lagoons are the feeding grounds of various wading birds, from stilts to flamingos. You may enjoy swimming at this beach, too. Back on the ship, we will settle in with a welcome cocktail, a briefing on the next day's expedition plan, and a delicious dinner.

Day 2 – SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

Saturday: Punta Pitt / Cerro Colorado

Punta Pitt

The trail that ascends from the beach provides spectacular views of the shoreline and is the only site in the Galapagos where the 3 species of boobies can be found together, as well as the 2 frigatebird species, plus a colony of bachelor sea lions. If conditions are favorable, there is a chance to swim, kayak or snorkel from the beach or take an inflatable dinghy ride.

Cerro Colorado

We disembark at Puerto Baquerizo Moreno and drive 40 minutes to the island's southern shore. At Cerro Colorado, we visit the breeding center for highly endangered giant tortoises in the midst of a fantastic deciduous forest, home to dozens of bird species, including the San Cristobal mockingbird, as well as the endemic San Cristobal lava lizard.

Day 3 – Española Island

Sunday: Gardner Bay / Suarez Point

Gardner Bay

In the morning, we'll set foot on this beautiful, white coral beach and go on a short walk to observe the sea lions, mockingbirds, finches, or enjoy the beach. There is excellent snorkeling in this area. Kayaking, an inflatable dinghy-ride, or a ride on the glass-bottom boat are also offered.

Suarez Point

Lunch on board, our afternoon outing at Punta Suarez takes us on an exciting trail across lava/boulder terrain. Along the way, we can enjoy unique sea bird colonies, including the beautiful waved albatrosses, boobies, swallow-tail gulls, and the famous "blowhole". This island is also renowned for its colorful and sizable marine iguanas. All in all, a wonderful visit.

Day 4 – FLOREANA ISLAND

Monday: Cormorant Point and Post Office Bay

Cormorant Point

We disembark in the morning at the curiously green-tinged, olivine-crystal beach that makes for an easy walk to a brackish water lagoon where bird species like American flamingos can be observed. Crossing over to the other side of the island, we come to a white-sand beach where sea turtles come out at night to nest. At Champion Islet, guests can choose between snorkeling, a panga ride, or a ride in our glass-bottom boat.

Post Office Bay and Baronesa Cove

After lunch, we land at Post Office Bay to visit the historic barrel that has served as an informal post office in the archipelago for over two centuries. Snorkeling off the beach will be offered afterward.

Day 5 – ISABELA ISLAND AND FERNANDINA ISLAND

Tuesday: Punta Moreno and Punta Mangle

Moreno Point

In the morning, following a meander through the mangroves in search of sea turtles, we disembark amid a landscape dominated by the giant volcanoes of southern Isabela Island, some still active. The rugged trail loops inland from the coast, giving us plenty of opportunity to enjoy unique lava formations, pioneer lava cactus, and exotic scalesia trees, as well as plenty of wildlife: Galapagos penguins, flightless cormorants, brown pelicans, herons, sea lions, marine iguanas, and dozens of Sally Lightfoot crabs. The inland lagoons are home to Bahama-pintail ducks, common stilts, Galapagos flamingos, and even Galapagos hawks and mockingbirds. Following our walk, we can take to our glass-bottom boats or deep-water snorkel.

Punta Mangle

In the afternoon, we'll explore Fernandina's coastline aboard our pangas (inflatable dinghies). The archipelago's youngest ecosystem is home to small Galapagos penguins and green-eyed flightless cormorants that rest on the shore's black rocks. Beneath the waves, rays and sea turtles might glide by. The nutrient-rich waters of the Bolivar Channel, which separates Fernandina and Isabela islands, attract dolphins and whales. With luck, we'll be able to spot them. Depending on sea conditions, we end our visit with a glass-bottom boat ride or deep-water snorkel.

Day 6 – EDEN ISLET AND NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND

Wednesday: Eden Islet and North Seymour Island

Eden Islet

A panga ride takes us to Eden Islet, located off the coast of Santa Cruz, where we can observe blue-footed boobies, reef sharks, and frigates. There's a chance to snorkel and, if weather conditions permit, to ride in the glass-bottom boat. The volcanic setting of this area is quite stunning.

North Seymour Island

In the afternoon, we disembark for a walk along the coast and the interior of this beautiful flat island. We'll be able to see numerous nesting frigatebirds as well as land iguanas and sea lion colonies along the coastline. We can explore the coast by dinghy, too, seeking out fur seals, and enjoying a fun, deep-water snorkel. Evening briefing, welcome cocktail, and dinner.

Day 7 – BALTRA ISLAND

Thursday: Baltra Airport

Baltra Airport

Our journey ends at Baltra Island where we transfer to the airport to take the flight back to the mainland.