

Luxury Class - Yachts Galapagos

LA PINTA YACHT

East-North Itinerary

9 Days – 8 Nights



THURSDAY:

Baltra Airport

Our adventure begins when we arrive to the Island of Baltra, transfer to the pier of Baltra, to board the yacht La Pinta. Introductory talk, zafarrancho and lunch. We climbed the anchor and started sailing to our first exit that afternoon.

(Plaza Sur Island)

The turquoise waters contrast with the brilliant white sand and the black lava of the coast. A little further up is a carpet of the succulent scarlet sesuvium in the opuntia cactus base, a luminous green, under whose shadow the gray-yellow terrestrial iguanas wait patiently to feed of the fallen fruits. Many colonies of sea lions are found on the coastline, while the birds -fragatas, forked-tailed gulls, and other shorebirds- plan on the air currents that form on the cliffs of this small but amazing island.

FRIDAY:

Santa Fe Island

At the edge of a panga we head for this idyllic white sandy beach and populated by colonies of sea lions. We can see Galapagos hawks perched on the bushes. During the walk, we can observe one of the great native land iguanas of Santa Fe. After the walk, we can do surface diving or swim along a natural barrier.

Galapaguera Colorado Hill (San Cristóbal Island)

After lunch, we disembark again in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, we go 40 minutes by land towards the part on the island. In the Colorado Hill, we visited the breeding center of giant tortoises in danger of extinction located in the middle of a fantastic forest, home to several species of birds and lava lizard endemic to San Cristóbal.

SATURDAY:

Punta Pitt (San Cristóbal Island)

In the afternoon we disembark at the eastern tip of the island. The path ascending from the beach provides spectacular views of the coast. We can observe frigates plus a colony of singles sea lions. After the hike, if the conditions are favorable, we can swim on the beach or perform surface diving.

Brujo Hill (San Cristóbal Island)

A ride in panga along the shore of layers of volcanic stone takes us to a large coral white beach known as Brujo Hill, excellent for walking and bird watching, especially marine and coastal. We also observed Galapagos sea lions. These are the same coasts for which Charles Darwin walked in September of 1835.

SUNDAY:

Punta Suárez (Española Island)

Our morning visit to Punta Suárez offers an exciting hike on lava and rock terrain to visit seabird colonies, including albatrosses (between April and January), piqueros, forked gulls and the

famous "blower". We also find marine iguanas that have a greenish-red and black color. Many consider this place as the best of the Islands. Back on board for lunch.

Gardner Bay (Española Island)

In the afternoon, we arrive at this beautiful white coral beach for a short walk to observe sea lions, cucuvas (snakes), finches and enjoy the beach. The snorkeling in this area is excellent, you can also do kayak or stroll in the boat with glass bottom.

MONDAY:

Charles Darwin Research Station

In the morning we disembark on Santa Cruz Island for a visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station and the captive breeding program for giant tortoises. Here we will witness the efforts and results of all the field work done in the name of science

Highlands (Santa Cruz Island)

After lunch, we continue by bus to reach a reserve that is one of the best places in the archipelago to see giant tortoises in their natural habitat. The tortoises are easy to spot, lumbering around, eating grass and leaves and wallowing in the small pools. There are several lava tunnels in the reserve, too. A short bus ride takes us down to Puerto Ayora to board Yacht La Pinta.

TUESDAY:

Eden Islet (Santa Cruz Island)

After breakfast, a panga ride takes us to Eden Islet, located off the coast of Santa Cruz, where we can observe blue footed boobies diving into the water, 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 due to its variety of volcanic debris, including cinder cones, tuff cones, and semi-eroded lava flows.

Sombrero Chino Islet

The tiny island of Sombrero Chino gets its name from its appearance, reminiscent of a Chinese hat. This islet, formed only fairly recently, makes a beautiful visit as one explores the wildlife along its 400-metre long trail, which begins at a crescent-shaped white sandy beach. The cove offers excellent swimming and snorkeling opportunities amid white-tipped reef sharks and Galapagos penguins.

WEDNESDAY:

Bartolomé Island

This morning, a Galapagos icon awaits: Bartolomé Island. A great way to start the day, with a steep climb up a wooden staircase: the view from the top is worth the effort! Following the walk, we take to the dinghies for a ride around colossal Pinnacle Rock, followed by time to enjoy the beach and some snorkelling. We can also ride in the glass-bottom boat for great views of the underwater world.

Sullivan Bay (Santiago Island)

After lunch, we board the pangas to land at Sullivan Bay on the east coast of Santiago, a white coral sand beach great for swimming and snorkelling, and with a trail over a lava field that flowed here less than 100 years ago. This is the perfect place to see and feel the volcanic origin of Galapagos while observing its wildlife.

THURSDAY:

Darwin Bay

In the morning, we begin our exploration of this island with an easy stroll to observe marine and land birds. There is an optional walk over sharp lava and uneven terrain for dramatic views, or else we can return to the beach to enjoy swimming and snorkelling at this beautiful natural harbour. The more adventurous can snorkel along the cliffs or paddle sea kayaks.

El Barranco (Genovesa Island)

The afternoon begins with a very interesting ride in panga along the cliffs before disembarking to climb up a steep stairway. 1.60 km to the other side of this small island to observe large colonies of Nazca piqueros, frigates and petrels.

FRIDAY:

Baltra Island

Our journey ends at Baltra Island, where we transfer to the airport to take the flight back to the mainland. Baltra's flat substrate (due to its uplifted origin) is the reason why the island was chosen back in the 1940s as the location to building an airport.

