

DAY 1 (FRIDAY)

AM: FLIGHT TO GALAPAGOS.

Today, you will fly to the Galapagos Islands. Pay a fee of \$20 USD for the migration control card at the airport before going through security.

After landing in Santa Cruz, go through an inspection point to prevent the introduction of foreign plants and animals. You will also pay the entrance fee to the Galapagos National Park: \$200 for foreign passengers and \$100 for children under 12 as of September 2024.



Your guide will meet you at the airport, help with your luggage, and take you to the bus for the ferry across the Itabaca Channel. You will then visit Ranch Manzanillo or a similar farm in the highlands of Santa Cruz Island. Wear comfortable shoes, light clothing, and bring a waterproof jacket, sunblock, a camera, and repellent. Enjoy a picnic lunch and a short walk before boarding the Motor Catamaran. Your luggage will go directly to the Seaman Journey yacht.

At Santa Cruz, observe wild Galapagos tortoises. Explore lava tubes, sinkholes, and craters in the highlands. After this visit, you will travel to the M/C Seaman Journey.

DAY 2 (SATURDAY)



AM: MORENO POINT, ISABELA ISLAND.

Punta Moreno sits on Isabela Island's west coast, at the entrance of the Bolivar channel. The trail follows a Pahoehoe lava flow into coastal lagoons. Spot various bird species including blue footed boobies and flightless cormorants, near the lakes and mangroves.



PM: FERNANDINA ISLAND, MANGLE POINT.

Mangle Point, off Fernandina's eastern coast, is an excellent snorkeling site. Ride in a panga or zodiac through mangrove groves. You may see sea lions, tortoises, pelicans, rays, and numerous sea birds.

DAY 3 (SUNDAY)

AM: ISABELA ISLAND, URBINA BAY.

Urbina Bay sits at the base of Alcedo Volcano on Isabela's west coast. This area uplifted in 1954, stranding marine life. It offers great snorkeling and features a 3,200-meter trail with sand, pumice, lava, coral, and coastal vegetation. Look for iguana burrows and when snorkeling you may swim alongside penguins and observe red and blue lobsters.

Here, you might see Darwin's finches and land iguanas, which are larger than those on South Plaza Island. Giant Tortoises also roam the area. The vegetation includes chamomile, Rosewood, and Darwin's cotton flowers, which are endemic to the Galapagos.

PM: ISABELA ISLAND, TAGUS COVE.

Tagus Cove, west of Darwin Volcano, was a favorite spot for pirates and whalers, it is possible to observe pirate graffiti. You will see a cave with inscriptions from the 1800s. The area is known for volcanic rocks, including "lapilli," small spherical rocks. The trail is a small challenge and leads to a lookout above Darwin lake and the bay below. The trail allows you to spot finches and mockingbirds.

It is also a very good snorkeling and sea kayaking spot. There is a colony of flightless cormorants.



DAY 4 (MONDAY)



AM: FERNANDINA ISLAND, ESPINOZA POINT.

Espinoza Point is famous for its marine iguana colonies, looking like armies covering entire areas. Also home to unique species like the flightless cormorant, Galapagos penguin, Galapagos hawk, and Galapagos snake. This is one of the most pristine and remote areas of the Galápagos archipelago.

PM: VICENTE ROCA POINT.

Vicente Roca Point, on Isabela's northwestern coast, features high cliffs and lava formations. This bay is rich in marine life. Look for seahorses, sea turtles, and Mola-mola (sunfish). Enjoy panga rides and snorkeling to see penguins, blue-footed boobies, terns, and sea lions.



DAY 5 (TUESDAY)

AM: SANTIAGO ISLAND, ESPUMILLA BEACH

Espumilla Beach lies on Santiago Island's northern coast, within James bay. The site has a very picturesque coastline, that shows erosion and different formations created by action of the sea. Explore the palo santo forest, mangroves and see nesting baby sea turtles in the sand dunes as well as a Flamingo colony in the coastal lagoon. Vegetation varies in short distance from dry to humid, here you can see the damage done by introduced species like feral goats that finally were eradicated. Main wildlife includes sea lions and fur seals, marine turtles, marine iguanas, oystercatchers, herons (great blue heron) and other sea birds. You can also spot land birds like the Galapagos dove, Darwin's finches and hawks.



PM: PUERTO EGAS, SANTIAGO ISLAND

Puerto Egas features a black beach with volcanic tuff deposits, there is vibrant contrast between the dark minerals and the red sally-lightfoot crabs that are sprinkled on the rocks. This site was once used for salt extraction, which ended due to low prices on the continent. The abandoned infrastructure remains. The trail passes a sea lion colony and leads to the playful grotto where fur seals (smaller than the sea lions) swim around and play in the tidal pools.

Snorkel with marine iguanas, playful sea lions and other marine life.



DAY 6 (WEDNESDAY)



AM: RABIDA ISLAND

Rábida Island stands out for its red rocks and sand. The volcanic material here is porous, changing color due to oxidation. A short trail leads to a lagoon where you can see land birds and a colony of flamingos. It is interesting to observe the pelicans diving in for fish. The red beach contrasts with the green vegetation.

Snorkeling is amongst the best as you swim along the coastline, playful sea lions join you. You can spot moray eels, small sharks, starfish and lots of colorful fish.

PM: CHINESE HAT - SOMBRERO CHINO

Chinese Hat is a small islet off Santiago Island's southeastern tip. This recent volcanic cone resembles a Chinese hat. Explore lava formations and observe sea lion colonies, lava lizards, marine iguanas, and Galapagos penguins. This is an island of colorful contrasts, the red vesuvium flowers, the sally lightfoot crabs and the orange beaks of the American oystercatchers contrast beautifully with the pahoe hoe lava fields and lava cacti.

It is also a nice spot for deep water snorkeling, the channel formed between Sombrero Chino and Santiago island creates a protected area with calm turquoise waters, yet deep enough to attract white-tipped reef sharks that sleep in the small caves formed below. You can also observe sting rays, parrot fish, Galapagos penguins, marine turtles and with luck dolphins and the rare visit of a whale-shark.



DAY 7 (THURSDAY)



AM: BLACK TURTLE COVE, SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

Enjoy a dinghy ride to Black Turtle Cove on Santa Cruz's north coast. The boat will explore the mangrove-protected cove with the engines off.

In the calm waters, you may see sea turtles feeding and mating, along with black-tip, white-tip, and Galapagos sharks. Spot groups of spotted rays, golden cow rays, egrets, and herons.

After the visit, you will be transferred to Baltra airport for your flight back to the mainland.