



LAND TOURS GALAPAGOS

TOUR EDEN



Type: LAND BASED TOUR EDEN for 5D/4N

Based Island: SANTA CRUZ

Itinerary: Santa Cruz + Boat Tour (Central Island) + Snorkel Tour

PRE TOUR: SEPTEMBER 13-17, 2019

POST TOUR: SEPTEMBER 22-26, 2019

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION (based on preference) + PRIVATE Transfers IN/OUT Airport + + ITINERARY VISITS.

Standard Hostel	Tourist Hotel	Superior Hotel (ocean view):
USD 552	USD 702	USD 1.163

**Rates based on Double Rooms. Ask for rates on single accommodation*





DAY 1

FLIGHT TO BALTRA AIRPORT (GPS) – PRIVATE TRANSFER IN

HIGHLIGHTS: Tortoise exhibit corrals, Van Straelen

VISIT INCLUDES: Naturalist guide, transportation

ACTIVITIES: Walking, animal observation, informative talks

PM: CHARLES DARWIN STATION

Upon arrival to Baltra Island, private Transfer IN to town of Puerto Ayora (Santa Cruz Island), about 40 minutes' drive. Check IN at hotel. Time to unpack and free lunch.

PM: Afternoon visit to Charles Darwin Station to learn about the conservation and preservation programs of the islands. Tour through exhibit Tortoise corrals and land iguanas. Overnight at Puerto Ayora.



DAY 2

FULL DAY SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

AM: TORTUGA BAY BEACH: Mar Bravo & Playa Mansa

HIGHLIGHTS: *Giant Tortoises in natural habitat, underground tunnels*

TYPE OF LANDING: *dry /wet*

TOUR INCLUDES: *guided visit, Naturalist Guide, transportation (to the guardhouse)*

NOT INCLUDES: *snorkel gear, drinks, aquatic taxi*

WHAT TO WEAR: *swimsuit, shorts, sunscreen, hat, walking shoes (tennis), sandals, glasses.*

ACTIVITIES: *(walk) + swimming + snorkeling*



TOUR OVERVIEW

Special Indications

The walk starts in the village. You have to calculate that the hike takes about one hour, so take water.

Important notes

*In case you wish to come back to the town by local speedboat you will need to pay in cash at the beach \$10usd p/p

* There is chance to do kayak (For rent at the beach \$10usd p/p)

This bay with its white sand beach owes its name to the black sea turtles that lay their eggs here. It can be reached by panga or walking from Puerto Ayora. There is a control booth where visitors must register with the park ranger present. The estimated time for the walk is 50 minutes in a paved trail surrounded by opuntia cactus. The trail emerges at Playa Brava, beautiful white sand beach with strong waves perfect for surfing. Here is where sea turtles nest. Heading west side of the beach the waters are calm and pools form a low tide, great for snorkeling. Following a trail you can find marine iguanas and offshore you will see sea turtles. Sand dunes and a rocky point divide the beach, creating a protected area and good place for swimming, “the gentle beach” known as Playa Mansa, where turquoise waters are tranquil and perfect to practice snorkel.

Other species seen include white-tipped sharks and marine iguanas, while the salty lagoon behind the mangroves is frequented by flamingos. The site is excellent for birdwatching: mockingbirds, finches, flycatchers, and Smooth-billed Anis.



**PM: VISIT SANTA CRUZ
HIGHLANDS: Giant
Tortoise Reserve + Lava
Tunnels + Twin Craters**

HIGHLIGHTS: *Giant Tortoises in natural habitat, underground tunnels*

TYPE OF LANDING: *Dry*

INCLUDES: *Bilingual guide, entrance fee to the Tortoise Reserve, rubber boots, water poncho, transportation*

DURATION OF THE TOUR: *3 - 3 1/2 hours*

ACTIVITIES: *Walking, bird watching*

DAY 2

FULL DAY SANTA
CRUZ ISLAND



TOUR OVERVIEW

Pick up at Baltra Airport by the guide. Immediate cross ferry to Santa Cruz to start the drive towards the Tortoise Reserve home of the wild giant tortoises, where they free roaming towards the lagoon surrounded by Scalesia forests, and amazing bird life. Continue a short hike through underground natural Lava Tunnel formations to provide unique view of the volcano forces that formed the islands.

Tortoise Reserve

Scattered like boulders in the greenery, Galapagos giant

tortoises (scientific name: *Chelonoidis nigra*, formerly *Geochelone elephantopus*) grow up to 500 pounds (230 kilograms, in contrast to the dry, lower reaches of this and other islands. The predominant vegetation is the scalesia tree. High on the hillside is a tortoise breeding centre where you can see these giant creatures in semi-captivity in their natural environment.

Lava Tunnels

These tunnels were formed when the outer skin of a molten lava flow cooled and solidified, leaving a core of liquid magma that continued to flow – resulting in a series of empty underground tunnels, some of which are more than one kilometre in length. You can walk through these underground tunnels, Barn owls are sometimes seen here.

Twin Craters

These twin craters are located on opposite sides of the road that leads from Puerto Ayora to Baltra. In fact, they are not real volcanic real craters, merely interesting lava formations that were created by the collapse of surface material into underground chambers and fissures. Nevertheless, the view here is breath-taking.

Continue the road to Puerto Ayora, check in hotel.

An underwater photograph showing a diver in the foreground wearing a mask and snorkel, looking towards the camera. In the background, a massive, dense school of small fish, likely sardines, forms a large, curved shape that fills much of the upper half of the frame. The water is clear and blue.

DAY 3

SNORKEL TOUR TO SANTA FE ISLAND

HIGHLIGHTS: *Snorkel with sea lions, lion fish, sea turtles, rays*

Starting at 08:00 AM

Pick up place: *At the Dock*

Includes: *Box lunch aboard, naturalist bilingual guide, boat transportation, snacks, water, snorkel equipment*

Duration of the tour : *6-7 hours*

Activities: *Walk + snorkel+ sport fishing + beach activities*

Sailing from Puerto Ayora pier to Santa Fe Island (Barrington), approx. 45 minutes. First stop for snorkeling activity on the back of the island. Continued navigation to the small bay on the north coast of Santa Fe offers one of the archipelago's most picturesque harbors, an excellent place to swim and snorkel, in the incredible bay with transparent turquoise water protected by a natural rock barrier, where visitors can observe a large colony of sea lions, rays, fish, crabs, night herons, sea iguanas, cucuves, sea turtles, land pigeons and hawks flying overhead. Lunch on board.

Leaving the bay, optional sport fishing activity.

Subsequent, navigation to Playa Escondida - Isla Santa Cruz, where passengers can swim and enjoy its attractive beach. Return to Puerto Ayora.



TOUR OVERVIEW



GENERAL INFORMATION

Full day tours to Central Uninhabited Islands (cruise itinerary) subject to availability. DEPARTURE from Santa Cruz Island by land to Itabaca Channel to board the fast motor yachts. Tours duration between 9-10 hours. All tours include box lunch aboard, Naturalist bilingual guide, boat transportation, snacks, water, snorkel equipment (mask, tube & fins) & towels.

DAY 4

BOAT TOUR TO CENTRAL ISLANDS:
Bartolome / Seymour / Santa Fe / Plazas



TOUR OVERVIEW

BARTOLOME ISLAND & SULLIVAN BAY

HIGHLIGHTS: Beautiful landscapes as you climb up Summit Trail. Possibility to swim with zigzagging penguins chasing small schools of fish and sea lions off a golden-sand beach at the foot of Pinnacle Rock. **ANIMALS:** Galapagos Penguins, Reef Sharks, Herons, Hawks, Rays, Finches. **PLANTS:** Pioneer plants, Tiquilia, Chamaesyce, Scalesia Stewartii, mangroves, dune vegetation.

ACTIVITIES: Moderate hike + trail walking + snorkeling + wildlife spotting

DISEMBARKING: 1): Dry, to trek up Summit Trail. Landing 2): Wet, to visit Bartolome Beach

PLAZAS ISLAND & PUNTA CARRION

HIGHLIGHTS: Endemic fauna + land and hybrid Galapagos Iguanas + big colony of sea lions, countless birds soaring by the cliffs.

ACTIVITIES: trail walking + snorkeling + wildlife spotting

DISEMBARKING: Dry landing.

SEYMOUR ISLAND & BACHAS BEACH

HIGHLIGHTS: Land & marine iguanas, frigate birds, blue footed boobies, sea lions.

***Great snorkeling:** Rays, reef sharks, garden eels.

ACTIVITIES: walking, snorkeling**

DISEMBARKING: Dry in the pier

SANTA FE ISLAND

HIGHLIGHTS: Large number of sea lions on the beach, Galapagos land iguanas

ACTIVITIES: trail walking + snorkeling + wildlife spotting

DISEMBARKING: Wet landing



DAY 5

TRANSFER OUT BALTRA AIRPORT

**Pick up at the hotel
and private Transfer
Out to Baltra Airport.**

RATES INCLUDE

- 4 nights' accommodation in Santa Cruz Island on hotels of preference based on SGL or DBL rooms, equipped with private bathroom, hot water, TV Cable – air conditioner. Daily American breakfast.
- Reception at Baltra airport and private Transfer IN to Hotels in Puerto Ayora (includes ferry and fees between Apt-Itabaca Channel).
- Shared visits and excursions with a maximum of 16 passengers per guide according to itinerary.
- Bilingual guides licensed by the Galapagos National Park.
- BOAT TOURS (subject to availability)
- Water (not bottled) during meals.
- Hotel taxes
- Snorkeling equipment (ONLY IN THE PLACES ASSIGNED TO DO THIS ACTIVITY).





RATES NOT INCLUDE

- AIRFARE to/from Galapagos
- Entrance Fee to Galapagos National Park (PAYABLE AT AIRPORT OF GALAPAGOS) Foreign \$100usd p/p
- Ingala Transit card: \$20 per person (PAYABLE AT DEPARTURE AIRPORT)
- MEALS not included (lunch & dinner)
- Not includes SNORKEL EQUIPMENT/KAYAK for Tortuga Bay Beach (Playa Mansa)
- Not included wetsuit for water activities
- Anything not specified in the package

IMPORTANT NOTES

- The order of the itinerary may change for operational reasons.
- We have a hotel infrastructure, land and waterway transportation for a safe trip, not improvised.
- Itinerary subject to changes due to: weather problems, any operational problems or situations that endanger the passenger or conservation of the Islands.
- Travel insurance not included in the tour



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