

SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA



INTRODUCTION

Discover the eastern Galapagos Islands aboard the luxurious La Pinta yacht. Setting sail from Baltra Island, the ship heads east along the volcanic shores of North Seymour and Santa Cruz Islands towards the Plaza Islands. Explore the islands of South Plaza, Santa Fe and San Cristóbal before cruising to wildlife rich Punta Suarez on Española Island with its rugged coastline, home to hundreds of marine iguanas, sea lions, marine birds and the albatross at certain times of year. Swim and snorkel at Gardner Bay and end your voyage of discovery with a visit to the world-famous Charles Darwin Research Station on Santa Cruz Island, the most populous in the archipelago.

Please note that the below itinerary is a guide and that itineraries vary depending on departure date. Your sales consultant will provide you with more details on the different itinerary options available and applicable departure dates.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Thursday, Baltra & South Plaza Island

Baltra Airport & South Plaza Island Our adventure begins with a morning flight to Baltra Island and immediate transfer to the dock to board Yacht La Pinta. There's a welcome introductory briefing, boat drill, cabin assignment and then lunch. We weigh anchor and start sailing for our first afternoon outing. South Plaza Island The turquoise waters of the channel here contrast brilliantly with the white sand and black lava of the shoreline, while a carpet of scarlet sesuvium succulents serves as groundcover for a grove of luminescent green prickly-pear cactus beyond, populated by yellow-grey land iguanas. Along the coastline one finds sea lion colonies, while sea birds play with the thermals that form along the cliffs of this small but spectacular island



TRIP CODE

GCTSPL4

DEPARTURE

Thursdays

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

DAY 2: Friday, Santa Fe & San Cristobal

Santa Fe Island We take the dinghy over to this idyllic sandy-white beach populated by colonies of sea lions. Galapagos hawks are often easily observed, perched atop salt bushes. The Santa Fe land iguana, unique to just this island, may be spotted during the walk. Following the walk, we can snorkel and swim along a natural wave barrier or ride the glass-bottom boat. Cerro Colorado Tortoise Habitat After lunch, we disembark at Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the island's capital, and drive 40 minutes to the island's southern shore. At Cerro Colorado, we visit the breeding centre for highly endangered giant tortoises in the midst of a fantastic deciduous forest, home to dozens of bird species, including the San Cristobal mockingbird, and the San Cristobal lava lizard, both island endemics.



DAY 3: Saturday, Punta Pitt / Cerro Brujo

Punta Pitt We land at the eastern tip of San Cristobal Island this morning. The trail that ascends from the beach provides spectacular views of the shoreline; we can observe frigates, plus a colony of bachelor sea lions. After the walk, if conditions are favourable, there is a chance to swim from the beach and snorkel. Cerro Brujo In the afternoon following lunch on board, a dinghy ride along the shores of tuff-stone layers takes us to Cerro Brujo's expansive, white coral beach, great for walking, with rewarding bird-watching featuring seabirds and shore birds. Also, look out for Galapagos sea lions. These are the same shores that Charles Darwin walked upon, back in September 1835.



DAY 4: Sunday, Punta Suárez/Gardner Bay

Punta Suarez Our morning outing at Punta Suárez provides an exciting walk on lava/boulder terrain to visit its unique sea bird colonies, including the waved albatrosses (April - January), boobies, swallow-tail gulls, and the famous "blowhole" lava formation. Also, look for red-green-black marine iguanas. Many regard this site as the best in the Galapagos. Back on board for lunch. Gardner Bay In the afternoon, we set down at this beautiful, white coral beach for a short walk to observe the sea lions, mockingbirds, finches, or enjoy the beach. There is great snorkelling in this area, or else there's time to kayak or ride the glass-bottom boat.



TRIP CODE

GCTSPL4

DEPARTURE

Thursdays

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

DAY 5: Monday, Charles Darwin Research Station / Baltra

Charles Darwin Research Station (Santa Cruz Island)/ Baltra Airport Disembarking in the morning, we visit the Charles Darwin Research Station and the captive rearing programme for the giant tortoises. Here we witness the efforts and results of Galapagos fieldwork and study done in the name of science. We transfer via bus across Santa Cruz Island and a short ferry ride to Baltra. 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 construction site for an airport.



TRIP CODE

GCTSPL4

DEPARTURE

Thursdays

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Cabin

Inclusions

Private airport transfers
Accommodation with all meals on board
Sightseeing with local English-speaking naturalist guide
Snorkelling gear & wetsuit
Internet*
*Internet consists of 2 on board computer stations and library and wi-fi in social areas. However, due to the Galapagos remote location, connections are intermittent and low-bandwidth

Exclusions

Flights
Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)
Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD\$20 per person subject to change)
Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee (USD\$100 per person subject to change)
Travel insurance
Beverages
Gratuities for tour guides/crew
Any items not mentioned as included

Difficulty Rating

1 - Easy

Single Surcharge

Available upon request, contact us for more details.

Notes

All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

Price Dependent upon Availability and season.

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore remain culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

TRIP CODE

GCTSPL4

DEPARTURE

Thursdays

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands -
Ecuador

