

SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA



INTRODUCTION

VALUE ADD: BOOK BY 31 AUGUST 2019 FOR TRAVEL IN SEPTEMBER 2019 AND RECEIVE FREE 2 NIGHT STAY AT CASA GANGOTENA* IN QUITO. A LUXURY RELAIS & CHATEAUX PROPERTY.

Yacht La Pinta has a reputation as one of the most luxurious expedition boats in the Galapagos Islands. The 63-metre yacht accommodates up to 48 guests. After days of wildlife exploration, La Pinta provides a haven of relaxation and tranquility with tastefully appointed accommodations and all the facilities for a stylish yet informal ambiance. The boat comes equipped with two bars (one inside and one outside), library, gym and Jacuzzi.

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

TRIP CODE

GCTSPL5

DEPARTURE

Select Mondays

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

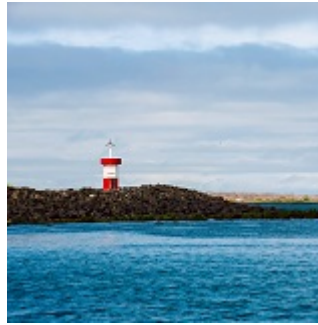
Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



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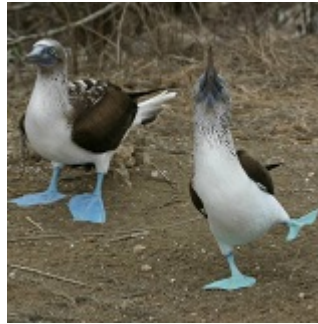
DAY 1: Monday, Embark at Isla Santa Cruz

Baltra Airport Following our morning arrival at Baltra Airport, we transfer to the Itabaca Channel, taking a small ferry across the Channel to the north shore of Santa Cruz Island. We board our bus to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island, where we'll learn about the unique montane ecosystems and biodiversity. Lunch is served at a local restaurant. Note: please dress with comfortable shoes and clothes, bring a small backpack with any medicine you might be taken, sunblock, insect repellent and anything you need during the excursion as you will go onboard Yacht La Pinta and the end of the day. Highlands (Santa Cruz Island) After lunch, we travel by bus to El Chato Reserve, 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.



DAY 2: Tuesday, Eden Islet & Sombrero Chino

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 condition permits, ride in the glass-bottom boat. Chinese Hat Islet The tiny island of Sombrero Chino gets its name from its appearance: a Chinese hat. This islet, only formed 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 with white-tipped reef sharks and Galápagos penguins.



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DAY 3: Wednesday, Bartolomé Island & Sullivan Bay

Bartolomé Island This morning, a Galápagos 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 Galápagos while observing its wildlife.



DAY 4: Thursday, Darwin Bay & Prince Philip's Steps

Darwin Bay (Genovesa Island) 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. Prince Philip's Steps (Genovesa Island) The afternoon starts with a very interesting panga ride along the cliffs before we disembark for a steep climb up some stairs. Once at the top of the stairs, the land is flat, allowing for a captivating walk of about a mile to the other side of this small island, observing large colonies of Nazca boobies, frigate birds and storm petrels and the elusive short eared owl.



DAY 5: 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.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin
Inclusions	<p>Private airport transfers Internal flights as mentioned in itinerary Accommodation with all meals on board Sightseeing with local English-speaking naturalist guide</p> <p>Exclusions International 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</p>
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.
Price Dependent upon	Availability and season.

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SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.

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5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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