

SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA



INTRODUCTION

Explore some of the most beautiful islands in the Galapagos and discover the true origins of the archipelago, as you cruise around the Galapagos aboard La Pinta. From Fernandina Island, regarded as one of the most pristine island environments in the world to the intriguing red beach of R  bida and the land iguanas of Cerro Drag  n - every day introduces you to new landscapes, terrains and wildlife. Encounter the giant Galapagos tortoises in their natural environment and discover the wonders of the marine world as you snorkel at Champion Islet, one of the best sites in the archipelago.

The La Pinta Experience

Equipt with one of the largest cabins offered, La Pinta Ship is an idyllic option for family travels or those who enjoy spacious accommodation. Floor to ceiling windows in cabins offer almost permanent visual contact with the island landscapes while comfortably inside the ship. Make use of on-board facilities like the jacuzzi or gym before relaxing in the lounge, library, sky bar or observation deck. Join evening meetings with a guide about the forthcoming days activities and excursions. Off board guided activities will enable you to explore the Galapagos' unique nature. Kayaks, snorkeling gear, wetsuits or glass bottom boat can be found on board for your convenience and full enjoyment whilst discovering Galapagos' wildlife. During your cruise, delightful traditional Ecuadorian dishes wait for you to be served either on the Main Deck or Outside Sky Bar while Observation Lounge & Bar will be available for evening drinks and relaxation.

La Pinta also offers a [5 day cruise](#).

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE

GCTSPL8

DEPARTURE

Fridays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

DAY 1: Friday, Baltra Island/North Seymour Island

Baltra Island Our adventure begins with a morning flight to Baltra Island and immediate transfer to the dock to board Yacht La Pinta. There's an introductory welcome briefing, boat drill, cabin assignment followed by lunch. **North Seymour Island** Following an afternoon disembarkation, we enjoy a walk along the coast and the interior of this beautiful flat island, observing numerous bird colonies as well as sea lions and land iguanas. There are opportunities for coastal exploration by dinghy. Evening briefing, welcome cocktail and dinner.



DAY 2: Saturday, Punta Vicente Roca & Punta Espinoza

Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island) Since there is no landing site at this location, the coastal exploration is by panga, while the naturalist guide explains the dramatic geology of the area, with remains of lava flows and tuff stone layers. There is abundant wildlife and, depending on the conditions of the ocean, we'll be able to snorkel along the cliffs, hopefully in the company of green sea turtles. **Punta Espinoza (Fernandina Island)** In the afternoon, we visit the youngest and most pristine island of the archipelago, Fernandina, one of many visitors' all-time favourites. Punta Espinoza has an amazing combination of barrenness and abundant wildlife. Highlights include hawks, penguins, flightless cormorants and astounding views of the surrounding volcanic landscapes



DAY 3: Sunday, Urbina Bay & Tagus Cove

Urbina Bay (Isabela Island) After breakfast, we disembark at Urbina Bay, on the western side of Isabela Island, the result of an uplifting of the ocean floor. Here you can see corals, shells, and large and very colourful Galapagos land iguanas, as well as (occasionally) giant tortoises. Navigating the Bolívar Channel, there are good chances of spotting several species of whales. **Tagus Cove (Isabela Island)** On the northwest of Isabela, secluded Tagus Cove provided a favourite anchorage for pirates and whalers over the centuries, and today makes a great visitor site. An uphill hike takes us to the back of Darwin Crater, filled with salt water. We can snorkel or ride kayaks amid the dramatic landscape before going on our hike.



TRIP CODE

GCTSPL8

DEPARTURE

Fridays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

DAY 4: Monday: Rabida Island /Dragon Hill

Rábida Island (Santa Cruz Island) In the morning, we disembark at Rabida Island's red-coloured beach. A stroll along the beach allows us to observe marine iguanas, mockingbirds, yellow warblers and several species of Darwin's finches. This is a great place to snorkel from the beach. For non-snorkelers, we can ride our glass-bottom boat for an exploration of life underneath the waves. Cerro Dragón (Dragon Hill) (Santa Cruz Island) The north shore of Santa Cruz hosts the fascinating landscapes of Dragon Hill (Dragon Hill). Our walk includes circling a brackish water lagoon frequented by lagoon birds, while further inland, the trail offers a beautiful view of the bay and the western islands of the archipelago, as well as the chance to observe land iguanas.



DAY 5: Tuesday, Puerto Ayora & Charles Darwin Research St

Puerto Ayora & Charles Darwin Research Station The morning visit heads to the Charles Darwin Research Station and the giant tortoise pens within an impressive giant prickly-pear cactus forest. These are the Galapagos' headquarters of scientific investigation, conservation and the National Park administration. A delicious lunch is served at the poolside of the Finch Bay Eco Hotel. Highlands of Santa Cruz Island After lunch, we head up to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island by vehicle. This is a great place to look for the emblematic Darwin's Finches and the endemic Scalesia trees. The highlands are also great for exploring the exuberant vegetation where giant tortoises roam in the wild. This will surely be one of the most remembered visits of the whole voyage.



TRIP CODE

GCTSPL8

DEPARTURE

Fridays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

DAY 6: Wednesday, Post Office Bay/Punta Cormorant

Post Office Bay/Punta Cormorant (Floreana Island)
 After breakfast, we land at Post Office Bay to visit the historic barrel that has served as a post office in the archipelago for over two centuries. Panga rides along the maze of channels on Floreana's north shore can also be enjoyed. Views from La Lobería and the Baroness Viewpoint are quite rewarding. There's great kayaking and swimming from the beach as well. Champion Islet & Punta Cormorant (Floreana Island) Before disembarking at Punta Cormorant we can snorkel or ride our glass-bottom boat along the coast of an extinct cone called "Champion Islet". Later in the afternoon, our visit to Punta Cormorant takes in an olivine-crystal beach for an easy walk by a brackish water lagoon where bird species like greater flamingos may be observed. On the other side of the island, we come to a white-sand beach where sea turtles come out at night to nest.



DAY 7: Thursday, Baltra Island

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.



TRIP CODE

GCTSPL8

DEPARTURE

Fridays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

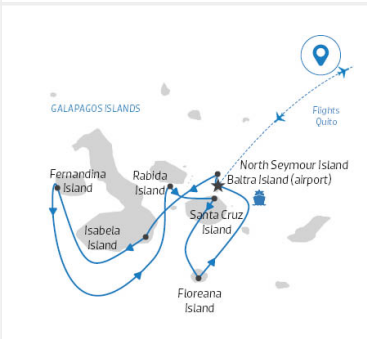
Accommodation

Cabin

SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

Inclusions	Private airport transfers Accommodation with all meals on board Sightseeing with local English-speaking naturalist guide 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	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details
Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, season and availability.

TRIP CODE
GCTSPL8
DEPARTURE
Fridays
DURATION
8 Days
LOCATIONS
Galapagos Islands - Ecuador



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.

La Pinta follows a number of sustainability initiatives in line with Galapagos National Park policy. Fuel and energy consumption are reduced, water recycling and on board desalination as well as a permanent ban on single-use plastics all contribute to preserving

SOUTH AMERICA - LA PINTA

the unique archipelago. 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

GCT SPL8

DEPARTURE

Fridays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador

