


# GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - ALYA | 6 DAY EASTERN



TRIP CODE
ECGSA6E
DEPARTURE
Departs Select Saturdays
DURATION
6 Days
LOCATIONS
Not Available


## INTRODUCTION

Explore the eastern Galapagos islands on this 6 day itinerary. On board the luxury Alya catamaran you will experience some of the most incredible sights of the Galapagos. On Santa Fe you will find shores home to up to 1000 sea lions, at Suarez Point you may witness the mating dance of the unique blue-footed boobies. Each island of the Galapagos offers an entirely unique experience from the last. This is a truly remarkable place.

### The Alya Experience

The Alya is designed to get the most out of your experience. Launched in 2017, this superior first-class motor catamaran offers comfort and luxury. This is the wonderful vessel to cruise the Galapagos. The ship offers 9 comfortable cabins, all tastefully decorated and featuring private facilities. The catamaran sails with a crew of 8 plus a bilingual, certified naturalist guide ensuring you get the most out of your time onboard the Alya and in the Galapagos. You have the opportunity to explore the Galapagos archipelago with activities such as hiking, snorkelling and kayaking. The cruise can provide you with a comfortable retreat after adventure-packed days of exploration. While sailing the pristine waters you can relax onboard and enjoy the panoramic views from the comfort of the ship.

The Alya also offers a [6 day cruise](#) and a [5 day cruise](#).

## ITINERARY

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### DAY 1: Arrival and North Seymour


Arrive in the Galapagos via a flight from Quito/Guayaquil. At Baltra airport, our representative will warmly welcome you and escort you to the Alya Catamaran. Take a moment to relax and enjoy a refreshing welcome drink as our friendly crew introduces themselves. Afterward, embark on an exciting visit to North Seymour Island. This captivating island showcases the uplifting of volcanic marine lava and holds an intriguing history. Learn about Captain Alan Hancock's mission to relocate malnourished land iguanas from Baltra Island to North Seymour, resulting in the preservation of this unique species. As we explore, marvel at the lush vegetation and witness the fascinating nesting habits of the Real Frigates of the Galapagos.



### DAY 2: South Plaza and Santa Fe

Kickstart your day with a visit to South Plazas, a pair of enchanting small islands formed by natural uplift. Discover the unique charm of the smaller land iguanas that nest during the warm season. As we hike along the extraordinary cliff, observe the mesmerizing sea birds that call this place home. On the southern side of the Plazas, delight in the company of approximately 1000 playful sea lions (Zalophus Wollebaeki). In the afternoon, venture to Santa Fe, a central island with captivating turquoise waters protected by natural rock barriers. Witness colonies of seals basking in the sun while majestic hawks soar above. This island is also home to one of the two species of land iguanas found in the Galapagos. Immerse yourself in the beauty of this unique ecosystem, where crabs, nocturnal herons, marine iguanas, cucuves, and land doves gracefully coexist. Don't miss the opportunity to swim and snorkel in the bay, encountering marine tortoises, rays, sea lions, and a dazzling array of tropical fish.



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### DAY 3: Interpretation Centre and Lobos Islands


Start your day with a visit to the Interpretation Centre, a modern architectural marvel located in the main port of San Cristobal. Delve into the natural wonders of the Galapagos as you learn about the islands' volcanic formation, species evolution, human settlement history, and complex management systems. In the afternoon, arrive at Lobos Islands. Take a leisurely stroll, swim, and snorkel amidst the playful company of seals, frigates, marine iguanas, lava lizards, and the small endemic Galapagos snake.



### DAY 4: Gardner Bay and Suarez Point

Marvel at the fascinating sea lion population as you arrive at Gardner Bay. These charismatic creatures are a highlight of the Galapagos, capturing the attention of visitors with their curiosity and playfulness. Relax on the beach and witness these remarkable animals basking in the sun. During a snorkeling session, share the waters with sea lions, sea turtles, a diverse range of tropical fish, and marine iguanas. In the afternoon, head to Suarez Point, an awe-inspiring location renowned for its vibrant blue-footed boobies. Be captivated by their unique "greeting" ritual and witness their enchanting mating dance. Marvel at the albatrosses, majestic birds weighing up to four kilograms, as they nest on Espanola Island. Keep an eye out for other remarkable wildlife, including marine iguanas, zayapas, masked boobies, finches, Espanola cucuves, and unique seagulls. Traverse the lava rock terrain and explore lava tubes while embracing the stunning landscapes this island has to offer. Please note that albatrosses are not visible between January and March during their non-breeding season. Encounter vibrant red mangroves in this captivating environment.

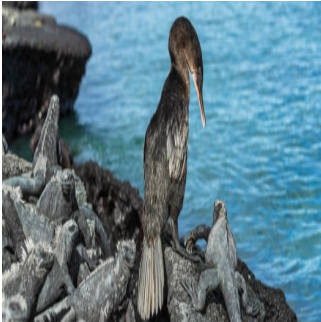


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## DAY 5: Cormorant Point and Cerro Alieri

Arrive at Cormorant Point, located on the western side of Floreana Island, renowned for its striking dark green beach adorned with abundant olivine crystals. Delight in the presence of marine invertebrates, sea lions, sea iguanas, frigates, and pelicans as you explore this captivating location. Next, embark on an unforgettable panga ride around Devil's Crown, a satellite islet of Floreana Island. Marvel at the distinctive group of rocks that form a crown-like shape due to constant erosion. Experience unparalleled snorkeling opportunities in the shallow waters surrounding the crown, boasting excellent visibility and a multitude of diverse fish and captivating marine creatures. Return to the vessel for a well-deserved lunch. In the afternoon, journey to Cerro Alieri, a haven of shrubs and vegetation unique to the Galapagos Islands. Discover the critically endangered plant species that thrive in this botanical paradise.



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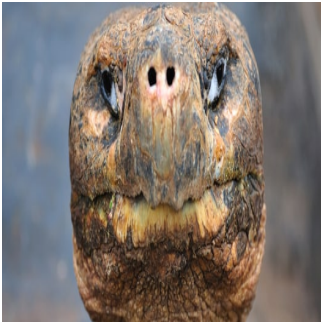
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## DAY 6: Santa Cruz Highlands and Departure

Embark on an extraordinary expedition to the highlands of Santa Cruz, where you'll have the rare opportunity to witness giant tortoises wandering freely in their natural habitat. This captivating spectacle is a true marvel of nature and a highlight for any visitor to the Galapagos. Conclude your unforgettable journey as we transfer you to the airport for your departure flight from the Galapagos. Take with you cherished memories of this extraordinary adventure in the enchanted archipelago.




## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Standard
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<b>Inclusions</b>	Cabin accommodation on board vessel All meals whilst on board Guiding and lectures by experienced naturalist guides Transfers in the islands Use of snorkelling gear (mask, tubes and fins) Kayaks Drinks including water, coffee and tea. <b>Exclusions</b> Roundtrip airfare to/from the Galapagos Galapagos National Park entrance fee (US\$100pp subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (US\$20pp subject to change) Travel Insurance Personal expenses Gratuities for staff and crew
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	2 (light adventure)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	Available upon request, contact us for more details
<b>Notes</b>	Please note park entrance fees may be subject to change without prior notice.
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	Departure date, seasonality and availability.

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## 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.

Alya cruise contributes to a number of sustainability initiatives in line with Galapagos park policy and their own unique contribution philosophy. Plastic is eliminated



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throughout the Galapagos, naturalist guides provide in depth education and respect for ecosystems when undertaking tours, and suppliers are chose from locally-owned organisations and operators to ensure economic sustainability within the region. While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining 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](#)

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