

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - BONITA | 5 DAY NORTHERN ROUTE



INTRODUCTION

Explore the northern islands of the Galapagos on this 5 day itinerary through the incredible archipelago. From lush highlands, to swampy mangroves and coastal beaches, no island on the Galapagos is the same. On board the superior and 16 capacity Bonita, you will find an intimate cruising experience as you encounter unique wildlife, enjoy unbeatable snorkeling experiences and hikes through unique landscapes each different from the last.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival in Galapagos and South Plazas

In the morning you will take a flight from either Quito or Guayaquil to the Galapagos. Upon arrival in the Galapagos you will be met by our representative at the airport who will transfer you to your vessel where you will have a welcome drink and introduction to your crew. After your arrival and lunch on board, you will visit Plazas, two small islands, created by an uplifting of the land. The land iguanas are smaller here; they nest during the warm season. The hike goes along an extraordinary cliff where sea birds nest. There are approximately 1000 sea lions located on the south side of the Plazas.



TRIP CODE

ECGS5DN

DEPARTURE

Departs select
Wednesdays

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

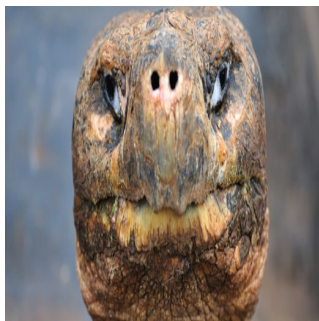
Galapagos: South Plazas,
Genovesa, Santiago and
North Seymour Islands



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DAY 2: Black Turtle Cove and Santa Cruz Highlands

Your first visit of the day will be to Black Turtle Cove which is situated in the northern region of Santa Cruz. This bay is surrounded by mangroves and is only accessible by dinghy . The shallow cove is a safe refuge for marine life. Black-tip reef sharks, marine turtles, and a variety of rays are often spotted here. You will then return to the vessel to have lunch. In the afternoon you will make your way to the Santa Cruz Highlands. Here we have a trekking and we will find the giant tortoises in their natural habitat, this is a natural spectacle. For this visit, we recommend good walking shoes, long pants, a raincoat, a hat, and sunblock.



DAY 3: Darwin Bay and Barranco

In the morning you will arrive at Darwin Bay, located on Genovesa Island. Genovesa Island is a small island in the north of the Galapagos. Our unloading in Darwin Bay will be wet. Near the beach is a mangrove swamp where we will find a colony of frigates, marine iguanas, red-footed boobies and mask boobies, the great terrestrial finch, seagulls, herons, and cactus finch. Following the land visit, you may enjoy a relaxing swim in the bay. In the afternoon you will make a landing at Barranco. Also known as Prince Phillip's stairs. Here, we will go for a walk on the Barranco path. On our journey we will observe tropical birds, petrels, common frigate, red-foot boobies, mask boobies, doves, and finches.



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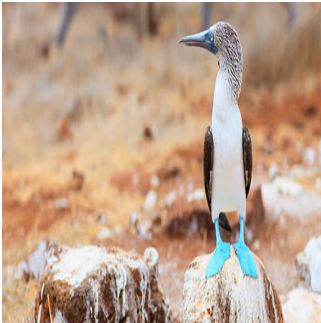
DAY 4: Sullivan Bay and Bartolome Island


In the morning you will arrive at Sullivan Bay. Virtually uneroded lava flows cover an extensive area of this island. Lava pahoehoe (basaltic lava that has a smooth, billowy, undulating or ropy surface), hornitos, and mollugo (a lava colonizer) can be observed while on the island. Snacks and refreshing beverages await you on board the ship. In the afternoon you will arrive on Bartolome Island. We will follow a path to the top (114m) where we can see pioneering plants such as tiquilia, chamaesyce, and scalesia. The island has been formed by cones, lava pipes where lava once flowed. Following the wet landing at the beach, we will follow a path through mangrove swamps and sand dune vegetation, to the south beach. At the north beach, guests can enjoy swimming and snorkelling. From the top of Bartolome, we will be able to see the islands of Santiago, Rabida, and Isabela. You will have the opportunity to see endemic Galapagos penguins at Pinnacle Rock.



DAY 5: North Seymour Island and Departure

In the morning you will arrive at Seymour Island. Seymour was formed by the lifting of volcanic marine lava. Marine fossils dating back to the Pleistocene period were found on this island. In 1932, Captain Alan Hancock and his crew took 72 malnourished land iguanas from Baltra Island to North Seymour Island so that the iguanas could live in better conditions. In 1934, colonists verified that the iguanas were in good condition. The vegetation of North Seymour is bushy and is host to nesting Real Frigates of the Galapagos. After this activity you will be transferred to the airport where you will board your departure flight from the Galapagos.




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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
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Inclusions	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. Exclusions 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
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.
Notes	Please note park entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.
Price Dependent upon	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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