GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - NORTHERN & CENTRAL ISLANDS GALAPAGOS CRUISE (A) | ALYA



TRIP CODE
ECGSA5
DEPARTURE
Select Thursdays
DURATION
5 Days
LOCATIONS
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

INTRODUCTION

Experience the exotic paradise that is the Galapagos on board the MC Alya. On board your luxury catamaran you will cruise through the Western islands of the Galapagos on an incredible journey that combines superior service quality with the immense beauty of the Galapagos. No island is same as the last, with vastly different landscapes and unique species. The Galapagos is enchanting, mysterious and offers its unique share of adventure.

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 an Eastern 6 day cruise

ITINERARY

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DAY 1: Baltra Airport and Black Turtle Cove



Begin your adventure with a morning flight from either Quito or Guayaquil to Baltra Island in the Galapagos. After a delicious lunch, we'll kick off our exploration by visiting Black Turtle Cove, a hidden gem nestled in the northern region of Santa Cruz. This tranquil bay, accessible only by dinghy, is surrounded by stunning mangroves. Keep your eyes peeled for enchanting marine creatures such as black-tip reef sharks, marine turtles, and variety of rays that often grace these waters.

DAY 2: Darwin Bay and Barranco



Embark on a wet landing excursion at Darwin Bay, an island in the Galapagos' northern region. As we step onto the shore, we'll be greeted by a fascinating mangrove swamp, home to a vibrant colony of frigates, marine iguanas, red-footed boobies, and mask boobies. Witness the spectacle of the great terrestrial finch, seagulls, herons, and cactus finch. After our land excursion, take a refreshing swim in the crystal-clear bay waters. In the afternoon, we'll make our way to Barranco, also known as Prince Phillip's stairs. This thrilling adventure takes us along the Barranco path, offering captivating encounters with tropical birds, petrels, common frigates, red-footed boobies, mask boobies, doves, and finches.

DAY 3: 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 seen. In the afternoon you will make your way to 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 also have the unique opportunity to see penguins at Pinnacle rock.

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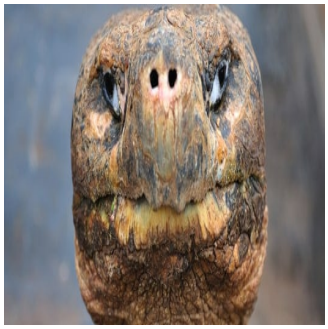
DAY 4: Chinese Hat Island and Mosquera

In the morning you will arrive at Chinese Hat Island. A small islet located near the south-east coast of Santiago. It's shaped like a Chinese hat when seen from afar. It is an island consisting of a cone type "Splatter" (lava ejected as drops which fall close to where they came from, which form an inclined cone) that forms the summit and many lava tubes that go down to the coast. In the afternoon you will make your way to Mosquera. This islet is located between Baltra Island and North Seymour. Here, we find the biggest sea lion colony; it is also possible to observe several species of birds. Enjoy the white sand beach.



DAY 5: Charles Darwin Station and Departure

After breakfast, we will visit Charles Darwin Station which is located in the main port on Santa Cruz Island; we will take a private bus to the entrance of the breeding center where we will see tortoises and land iguanas in captivity. This center is the main breeding site on the islands. Animals that were in danger of extinction on the various islands are maintained in captivity. Thanks to the dedicated work of several institutions, some species are being saved. Here lived Lonesome George, the famous last survivor of the giant tortoise species found on Pinta Island. Afterward, you will be transferred to the airport for your departure flight from the Galapagos.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin On Board A Catamaran Yacht

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Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** Accommodation in double cabin Transfers in the Galapagos and airport assistance All meals during the cruise Water coffee and tea All excursions as per the itinerary* English-Speaking Naturalist guide Snorkelling equipment Kayak & Paddle board equipment **EXCLUSIONS** Return airfares from mainland Ecuador Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee (US$200 per person from Aug 2024 - Subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (US$20 per person - Subject to change) Wet suit rental Alcoholic drinks Personal expenses Gratuities for crew/guides Services not specified
Difficulty Rating	2 (Light Adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. Please note water based activities are subject to weather conditions. Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated). Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. *Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions and government regulations.
Price Dependent upon	Seasonality, fuel surcharges, currency fluctuations and availability at time of booking.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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