GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - CENTRAL & EASTERN GALAPAGOS ISLANDS (B) | MONSERRAT



TRIP CODE	
ECVNM5B	
DEPARTURE	
Selected Thursdays	
DURATION	
5 Days	
LOCATIONS	
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America	

INTRODUCTION

Embark on a 5-day cruise through the GalÃ¡pagos Islands. The journey unfolds with a visit to the Santa Cruz Highlands, where giant tortoises roam freely, and the Charles Darwin Research Station sheds light on conservation efforts. Cruise to the crimson shores of Rabida Island, with vibrant marine life and unique landscapes. Explore the lunar-like Bartolome Island and the diverse South Plazas Island, home to distinct flora and fauna. Continue your adventure to Santa Fe Island, Punta Pitt, and Cerro Brujo on San Cristobal Island, where endemic species and dramatic landscapes create an immersive experience. Conclude your expedition with a visit to Lobos Island, a sanctuary for sea lions, before bidding farewell to the GalÃ¡pagos Islands.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive Galapagos Island



In the morning, upon your arrival at Baltra Airport from your mainland flight, you will be greeted by your local guide who will assist you for the rest of your voyage. Later in the afternoon, you'll have the opportunity to explore the highlands of Santa Cruz and witness the magnificent Galápagos giant tortoise in its natural habitat. Delve into the area's captivating landscape and discover its remarkable underground lava tunnels – some extending over 1km (.6 mi) in length! While wandering along these volcanic tubes, keep a lookout for the (mostly) nocturnal barn owls that occasionally inhabit this area.

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DAY 2: Chinese Hat & Sullivan Bay

This morning, explore the stunning landscape of Chinese Hat and its spectacular beach. Snorkel directly from the white coral-sand shore to encounter playful sea lions and large schools of tropical fish. Be sure to watch for marine iguanas and penguins as well! In the afternoon, take a walk through Sullivan Bay, an extraordinary journey into the volcanic origins of the Archipelago. This hike leads you across a perfectly preserved Pahoehoe lava flow, offering the chance to observe the intricate textures of this unique volcanic formation. While the landscape may initially seem barren and lifeless, a closer look reveals resilient pioneer plants, scurrying lava lizards, and small birds. Along the shore, penguins, pelicans, and oystercatchers bring vibrancy to the stark environment. After the excursion, enjoy snorkeling from the beach, where you may encounter sea turtles, sea lions, reef sharks, and Galapagos rays.



DAY 3: North Seymour & Santa Fe

The morning starts with a visit to North Seymour Island, a spectacular showcase of the Galapagos Islands' diverse wildlife. This fairly flat island is home to a thriving population of blue-footed boobies and frigate birds. The trail will walk you through a forest of low, bushy vegetation, where you'll have the opportunity to witness the fascinating courtship dance of the blue-footed boobies. The island's coastline also let you observe sea lions and marine iguanas basking in the sun. The large frigate bird colonies are a sight, especially when the males expand their bright red throat pouches to attract mates. In the afternoon, you will visit Santa Fe island, known for its picturesque bay and turquoise waters. The island hosts a large amount of land iguanas unique to Santa Fe. Watching for these magnificent creatures as you walk through the giant prickly pear cactus forest will make a unique experience. The island's calm and clear waters are ideal for spotting the marine life, including sea turtles, rays, and colorful schools of fish. Santa Fe also offers a chance to see the Galapagos hawk and various endemic finches.



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DAY 4: Punta Pitt & Cerro Brujo

Begin the day with a morning adventure at Punta Pitt. Set foot on this remote volcanic landscape, where rugged cliffs meet the crashing waves of the Pacific Ocean. Encounter an array of seabirds, including the iconic blue-footed boobies, red-footed boobies, and frigatebirds, as they soar overhead or nest along the rocky shores. Hike along winding trails, taking in panoramic views of the surrounding seascape and the island's unique geological formations. In the afternoon, continue your journey to Cerro Brujo, a pristine beach located on San Cristobal Island. Sink your toes into the soft white sands and feel the gentle ocean breeze against your skin as you explore this enchanting coastal paradise. Keep an eye out for playful sea lions lounging along the shoreline or surfing the waves.



DAY 5: Tijereta Hill & Departure

Embark on your final adventure in the Galápagos Islands with a visit to Tijeretas Hill. Situated on San Cristobal Island, it offers visitors a spectacular panoramic view and the opportunity to enjoy the rich marine life that surrounds the area. The name “Tijeretas” refers to the frigate birds that inhabit the region, also known as earwigs. It is one of the only places where you can watch the two species of frigate birds nesting in the same colony. Following your visit, you will be transferred to the airport for your onward travel.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board a Ship

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Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** Cabin accommodation. Fuel Surcharge. All meals on board All activities and excursions as depicted in the itineraries in company of a bilingual naturalist guide. Snorkelling equipment. Kayak Wetsuits Stand up Paddle Board Group transfers to/from the Yacht (please note if you arrive on different flights to the rest of group surcharges may apply for transfers). **EXCLUSIONS** Air ticket to and from Galapagos Gratuities to guides and crew Personals expenses Alcoholic and non alcoholic beverages. Travel insurance International Airfare Visas if applicable Wifi onboard Anything not mentioned on the itinerary Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee* (US$200 from Aug 2024, price subject to change) Galapagos Control Transit $20* (price subject to change)
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information. There may be a limited number of cabins available onboard for sole occupancy.

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Notes	All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. Please note water 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 Snorkelling equipment is available in average sizes onboard complimentary. Wetsuits are available at different sizes complimentary, on a first comes first served basis Kayaks and stand up paddle boards are available complimentary to use Cooking and cocktail lessons are complimentary Passengers can open a tab for their bar and boutique consumption. Tabs must be settled the last night of the cruise in Us dollars and in cash. * 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.

SUSTAINABILITY

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