ECUADOR - NORTHERN GALAPAGOS CRUISE 5 DAY ITINERARY B | SEA STAR



TRIP CODE
ECRGS5DB
DEPARTURE
Selected Sundays
DURATION
5 Days
LOCATIONS
Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, South America

INTRODUCTION

This 5-day Galapagos cruise offers a mix of guided hikes, panga rides, and snorkeling opportunities across several islands. Guests explore mangrove-lined coves teeming with marine biodiversity like tropical fish, reef sharks, rays, sea turtles, sea lions and marine iguanas. On the islands, you will hike coastal trails and climb volcanic summits to scenic views along with chances to enjoy close-up wildlife sightings like Charles Darwin's many species of finches, land iguanas, lava lizards, flamingos, and forested highlands with Scalesia trees, giant Galapagos Tortoises and geological tours of Santiago's lava fields. Birdwatching highlights include the famous Blue-footed Booby, Red-footed and Nazca boobies as well as Figatebirds, storm petrels and short-eared owls. **Each day offers varied terrain and wildlife, making this itinerary ideal for travellers seeking both adventure and ecological discovery.**

Want to explore more of these magnificent Galapagos Islands? You can combine this cruise itinerary onboard the **Galapagos Sea Star** with either the **Southern Galapagos Cruise 6 Day Itinerary** or the **Western Galapagos Cruise 6 Day Itinerary** to the start or end of this current itinerary.*
(* *Subject to scheduling & availability. Please Contact Us for full information*)

ITINERARY

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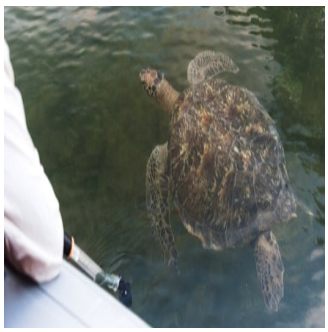
DAY 1: Arrival Baltra Airport & Santa Cruz Island

You will arrive at Baltra Island in the morning. After passing through immigration and baggage claim, you will be met by a Sea Star staff member and transferred to the yacht. You will be shown to your cabin where you will have some time to settle in before lunch and a welcome briefing. In the afternoon you will visit Dragon Hill. Situated on Santa Cruz Island, Dragon Hill is one of the newest visitor sites accessible to tourists in the Galapagos Islands. One of the lengthier Galapagos walking trails will lead visitors along a beach and up a trail to the lagoon lookout where bright flamingos, pintail ducks, and land iguanas can be spotted.



DAY 2: Santa Cruz & Santiago Islands

In the morning you will visit Black Turtle Cove in the northern part of Santa Cruz. This inlet is surrounded by mangroves and is only accessible by dinghy. The shallow cove is a haven for young marine life. Black-tip and white-tip reef sharks, sea turtles, and a variety of rays are often spotted here. In the afternoon you will visit Chinese Hat Islet. This small islet is located near the southeast coast of Santiago Island. Its name comes from the distinct shape of the islet's summit. Chinese Islet is a great location to view many geological formations such as lava tunnels and lava flows. Some of the lava flows were formed underwater and subsequently raised above sea level. The presence of coral heads on the lava flow indicates this phenomenon.



DAY 3: Genovesa Island

In the morning you will visit El Barranco, also known as Prince Phillip's Steps, is a steep, rocky path that leads up a high cliff rock face. A marvellous view can be appreciated from here. This site is also home to Palo Santo vegetation as well as red-footed boobies, short-eared owls, Galapagos storm petrels, and Galapagos doves. In the afternoon you will visit the white-sand coral beach of Darwin Bay which includes a half mile trail (0,75km) that winds through mangroves filled with land birds. Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, and swallow-tailed gulls, which can easily be spotted here. Further down the path we'll find tidal pools where sea lions swim playfully. At the end is a spectacular view of a cliff.



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DAY 4: Bartholomew & Santiago Islands

In the morning you will head to Bartholomew Island where the famous Pinnacle Rock is found. Bartholomew consists of an extinct volcano with a variety of red, orange, black and even green volcanic formations. We will take a trail of stairs to the summit of the volcano (about 30 or 40 minutes) where you will enjoy one of the best views of the islands! A beautiful beach surrounded by the only vegetation is perfect for snorkelling where you may even see and swim with Galapagos penguins. In the afternoon you will visit Sullivan Bay located on the southeast part of Santiago. This place is interesting for its geology because the area is covered by lava flows. This place has elevations in the form of small volcanoes formed by the lava flows.



DAY 5: Santa Cruz Island & Baltra Airport Departure

In the morning you will visit the highlands of Santa Cruz Island. Accessible by bus from Puerto Ayora, the highlands of Santa Cruz are a deep green which contrast beautifully with the dry, lower part of the islands. The predominant vegetation in the highlands are Scalesia trees which create a lush green forest. The lava tunnels, over half a mile long, are underground and walking through them is a unique, surreal experience. At this place you'll have lunch. After this final visit, you will be transferred to the Baltra airport in time for your flight back to the mainland. Please note: Itineraries are generally stable but may change due to weather, wildlife, safety, park regulations, guest abilities, or operational needs. Not all listed activities on each visitor point may be completed. Your guide and captain will always aim to choose the best possible itinerary.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship

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Inclusions	**INCLUSIONS** Accommodation in your chosen cabin onboard the Galapagos Sea Star All meals and excursions while onboard the ship Group transfers in the islands English Speaking National Park Guide Use of snorkelling equipment/wetsuit Use of underwater camera Free Airport Assistance* Hotel night in Quito or Guayaquil (the day before the cruise)* A free transfer to Galapagos Flights* *Applies only when purchasing roundtrip Galapagos/mainland airfare from the cruise operator **EXCLUSIONS** Roundtrip airfare to/from Galapagos Alcoholic drinks Galapagos National Park Entrance fee (US$200 per person from Aug 2024 - Subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD$20 per person - Subject to change) Travel/Medical insurance Gratuities Personal Expenses
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. * 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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