



Description Itinerary Adventure:

DAY 1, THURSDAY: BALTRA – BACHAS PM

Upon arrival at BALTRA Airport, travelers pass through an airport inspection point to make sure that no foreign plants or animals are introduced to the islands, as well as to pay the park entrance fee (100), Our guide will meet with you, will help you pick up your luggage, and accompany you to the port of Seymour in a short bus ride, where we set the cruise aboard the Yacht Darwin where the captain and crew will welcome you.

PM, The visitor site **Las Bachas** is located in northern part of Santa Cruz Island, it consists of two beaches that have a combined length of about 1 km long. The predominant vegetation is of the coastal zone. It represents one of the main nesting sites of sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) on Isla Santa Cruz. It is a good place to see flamingos, as well as migratory and aquatic birds. Allowed tour: Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks: Snorkel.

Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide ; Guided walks: Snorkel.

DAY 2, FRIDAY: Punta Pitt AM – Leon Dormido PM

AM, Punta Pitt is located at the east end of San Cristobal Island. The trail includes an olivine beach approximately 90 meters and a trail that ascends to the top of a volcanic tuff hill passing through several natural viewpoin. The trip is 1, 00 meters with an estimated time of two hours. Punta Pitt is composed of volcanic tuff substrate. High winds present there have led to natural erosion. This is the only site in the Galapagos Islands, where you can watch the three species of boobies and species of frigates nesting in the same area. The reason that there are three species of boobies at Punta Pitt is due to the geographic location; there is enough food so there is no competition between them. The blue footed boobies nests in the interior (rare in the cliffs), red-footed boobies nest on bushes and masked boobies nest in the cliffs. Another added attraction is the presence of sea lion. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks: Snorkel; Panga Ride.

PM, Leon Dormido also known as icker rock, it is a rocky formation or cone eroded volcanic toba. It is a refuge for many sea birds such as blue-footed boobies and during, as well as for the sea lions. The waters around the rock are home to numerous species of fish, sea turtles, stingrays and hammerhead sharks. It reaches a maximum of 11 meters of height.

DAY 3, SATURDAY: ISLA SAN CRISTOBAL: Cerro Brujo AM - Islas Lobos PM)

AM, Cerro Brujo is located on the north coast of San Cristobal Island; the trail at this visitors site can be done in about three hours, including the panga ride. Its main attraction is the powder-like sandy beach, other than species of flora and fauna. It is an eroding tuff cone that at several locations is composed of lava type a - a. It is formed by low-viscosity lava that contains little gas and breaks while it solidifies and is pushed by lava continuing to flow from behind. Cerro Brujo offers an excellent landscape, where you can see Icker Rock (geologic formation), the southern part of Upper San Cristobal and the coast adjacent to Cerro Brujo. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide ; Guided walks: Snorkel; Panga Ride.

PM, Isla Lobos is about an hour by boat from Port Baquerizo Moreno. The length of the trail is 850 meters and the estimated travel time is one hour. There is a small population of blue-footed boobies and common frigate birds nesting on this site. You can observe the two species of sea lions present in the archipelago. During the tour you go through a dry vegetation zone, substrate of volcanic rocks and a sandy area. During the panga tour brown pelicans and several species of shorebirds can be observed; although, snorkeling, it's common to see juvenile sea lions, manta rays and sea turtles. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks: Snorkel; Panga Ride.

DAY 4, SUNDAY: ISLA SANTA CRUZ Charles Darwin Station AM - Chato Highlands PM

AM, CENTRO DE CRIAN A " AUSTO LLERENA" (Charles Darwin Station) The tour starts at the information booth of the GNP, The trail continues to the Van Straelen interpretation Center, then to the breeding center and from there begins an elevated circular path made of wood, where you can see tortoises of Espanola Island, ending in the tortoise exhibit corral. Tortoises of this corral are accustomed to humans; it is an excellent spot for visitors to be photographed with them. Always remind your visitors not to touch them and not to step on the platform where they're food is placed. The path continues to the CDRS facilities and then to the town of Puerto Ayora. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide ; Guided walks.

PM, El Chato, The trail that starts in Santa Rosa is surrounded by tall grass and follows the boundaries of some farms. Depending on the season it can be muddy. The rocks are slippery. Be careful. At 1 km of La Caseta there is a pool of water that is filled with tortoises during the rainy seasons. The road to the reserve is one of the best places to observe land birds. Tree and ground finches, vermilion flycatchers and Cattle Egrets inhabit the area and sometimes Galapagos Rails have been seen. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide ; Guided walks.

DAY5, MONDAY: ISLA ISABELA (Tintoreras AM - Muro de las Lagrimas, Tortoise Breeding Center, Humedales)

AM, The islet Las Tintoreras is located south of Puerto Villamil. It has a small bay of completely calm turquoise waters, where you can appreciate sea lions, sea turtles, marine iguanas, rays, etc. The bay is connected to a crevice of crystal clear water, that's shallow and when the tide is low, the entrance closes. In this crevice, you can see how reef sharks swim along with other small fish and sea lions. Most of the trail is lava AA, except for a white sand beach and a black stone beach. In the first beach there are colonies of sea lions, it's also a nesting site for marine iguanas, during the nesting season. The second beach is entirely surrounded by mangroves, button mangrove (*Conocarpus erecta*) and white mangrove (*Laguncularia racemosa*). Throughout the trail you can see many marine iguanas in the rocks or under the mangroves. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks: Snorkel; Panga Ride.

PM, The visitor site "Wetlands", is a complex of trails that include the following sites: Cerro Orchilla, a lookout which you can access via a staircase; from this site you can see the bay and the town of Puerto Villamil, Sierra Negra Volcano, the Cerro Azul Volcano, islets and rocks. These sites form spectacular scenery. El Estero is a 7m path of lava rocks, 1.5 meters wide. It consists of a picnic site where the people come to do leisure activities. On this site you can see the four species of mangrove found in Galapagos and a small majagual forest. It forms part of the stories and legends of the penal colony era on Isabela. La Poza Escondida is a path of stone and wood, where the main attraction is a mangrove forest and at the end of this path is a pool. Poza Redonda, is a path of 50 meters long, of lava plates leading to a pool formed inside a collapsed lava tube. Tunel del Estero, a path 75m long and with adequate lava plates ending in a staircase inside a lava tunnel. Above the tunnel you can see the intertidal landscape that offers a tapestry of Galapagos Sesuvium between "El Tunel del Estero" and Love Beach. Love Beach, has a rocky sea access, is a site frequently used by the community of Isabela. Los Tunos Viewpoint and Pozas Verde are paths with several lookout points that allow observation of birds and plants. La Playita: Is a path that leads to a small beach that is part of the greater beach in Villamil. **The Tortoise Breeding Center** of Isabela is located 1.5 km from Puerto Villamil. You can walk or drive. In this Breeding Center populations from South Isabela (Sierra Negra Volcano, Cerro Azul): Cazuela, Cinco Cerros, Roca Union, San Pedro, Tables and Cerro Paloma have been reproduced in captivity. In total there are 0 between juvenile and adult tortoises. From the population of Cerro Paloma, there are 0 males and two female Galapagos, which, so far, are the only survivors. Cinco Cerros has a giant tortoise subpopulation quite different. Locally it is known as "aplastada" (flattened by the peculiar shape of its shell). The tortoises are fed three times a week, based on an Otoa (*Anthosoma sagittifolium*) plant diet, and cachimuela (*Potamogeton peltata*). The water they drink is from small artificial ponds that exist within the corrals. The Breeding Center has beautiful gardens consisting of native plants, as manzanillo (*Hippomane mancinella*), mesquite (*Prosopis juliflora*), prickly pear (*Opuntia* spp), palo santo (*Bursera graveolens*), lime prickly-ash (*Anthoxylum agara*), thorn shrub (*Scutia pauciflora*) Galapagos croton (*Croton scouleri*), Glorybower (*Clerodendrum molle*), sea island or creole cotton (*Gossypium barbadense*), Radiate-headed (lechoso) (*Scalesia affinis*), yellow cordia (*Cordia lutea*), snowberry or milkberry (*Chiococca alba*), myrtle (*Maytenus octagon*), nickerbean or nickernut (*Caesalpinia bonduc*) and Darwin's Daisy (*Darwiniothamnus* spp). Allowed: Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks.

DAY 6, TUESDAY: ISLA RABIDA AM – CERRO DRAGON PM

AM, The visitor site is located on the east coast of **Rábida Island**, consists of a red sand beach, a coastal lagoon behind the beach, and a loop trail. The approximate distance of the trail is 1.1 kilometers. The color of the rocks and sand on the beach is due to the very porous volcanic material, which with the help of environmental factors (rain, salt water and sea breeze, has acted as an oxidizing agent. The main attraction of the place is the red sand beach, scenery, aside from the vegetation of the arid zone and the presence of native and endemic species. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks: Snorkel; Panga Ride.

PM, The visitors site at **Dragon Hill** is located in northwestern Santa Cruz Island, and consists of a trail that runs through three different environments at just 1,600 m long. It gets its name because in 1975, was one of the only places in the Santa Cruz Island where there were land iguanas (*Conolophus subcristatus*) in healthy state. In the lagoons at this site, there is shrimp (*Artemia salina*), the same as is the food of flamingos; at certain times of year they are more abundant and therefore the population of these birds is larger. During rainier times the water of the lagoons become too sweet and therefore shellfish populations decline, and shorebirds also become scarce. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks: Snorkel.

DAY 7, WEDNESDAY: CALETA TORTUGA NEGRA AM - SOMBRERO CHINO PM

AM, SOMBRERO CHINO 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 and falls close to where it came from, which forms a cone inclined) that forms the summit and many lava tubes that go down to the coast. On the west you can see pillow-type lava formations, which are an indicator that the flows were formed under the sea and have been raised upward, which is why coral heads are found on the lava. This visit provides an excellent opportunity for the interpretation of geological features such as lava tubes and lava flows. The trail is 700 m (round trip) and the minimum time it takes this trek is half an hour. Permitted Uses: Interpretive Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Guided walks: Snorkel; Panga Ride.

PM, Black Turtle Cove is a mangrove estuary on the north coast of Santa Cruz Island. Tourists can visit the cave through Panga ride, but with the engines off. Many rays, sea turtles, pelicans and others live in the mangroves. Allowed: Group Tour with a Naturalist Guide; Panga Ride.

DAY 8, THURSDAY: DAPHNE AM - BALTRA AIRPORT

AM, Located in **Daphne Island** off the coast north of Santa Cruz Island. Daphne is a volcanic tuff cone, formed by successive explosions produced by the mixture of lava and water. On this island, Dr. Peter Grant has made a long-term study of Darwin's finches, which is why you can see these birds are banded. The palo santo present herein *Bursera malacophylla* is endemic to the Daphne Islands, North Seymour and Baltra. The blue-footed booby nests inside the craters and the masked booby nests on the flanks of the cone and the edge of the craters and the tropical bird that nests in cavities of the cliffs. Our guide will be checked out at the airport of Baltra. We look forward to a future trip back on our Darwin Yacht.

IMPORTANT:

- 1. The order of the sites is always subject to change.**
- 2. The description of each site is subject to change according to National Park regulations, natural events, strong weather or sea conditions, etc.**

