

## ARCHIPELL

DAY BY DAY  
PROGRAM

### ITINERARY A

MONDAY-FRIDAY  
5 DAYS – 4 NIGHTS \*

Last night at hotel in Puerto Ayora



#### **MONDAY: San Cristóbal – La Galapaguera**



Our guide will be waiting for you at **San Cristobal Airport** and once the group is completed he/she will accompany you to the Archipell Catamaran which anchors at Baquerizo Moreno harbor. After arrival on board, we will check in and give you general information. You will have lunch.

Afterwards you will start with your first excursion to the **Galapaguera** which is located in the northeast part of San Cristóbal Island. It has been created to conserve the San Cristóbal tortoise species. This center has the goal to lead and guide the tourists in environmental conservation topics. An attractive trail full of native

plants leads to the encounter with giant tortoises in their natural habitat. **(L, D)**

## TUESDAY: South Plazas Island - Santa Fé Island

**South Plazas** has unique *Sesuvium* plants and *Opuntia* cactuses scattered across the landscape which provide some of the most interesting wildlife observations available in Galapagos. Land iguanas are easily seen from the trail, frequently under the shade of cactuses, waiting for a prickly pear to fall.



**Santa Fé** is one of the most entertaining destinations for shore excursions in the Galapagos Islands. It has two trail choices for visitors, one of which takes you to the tallest *Opuntia* cactus in the Galapagos, while the other trail takes you into the highlands where land iguanas can be found. After a long walk, the opportunity to swim in calm waters or snorkel with playful sea lions will be pretty tempting. **(B, L, D)**

## WEDNESDAY: Floreana – Peace Asylum – Loberia



**Peace Asylum** is a visitor site where an artisan water spring is located. This spring attracted pirates, whalers and later settlers to Floreana as it was one of the very few year-round sources of fresh water in the Galapagos. La Cueva de los Piratas (Pirate's Cave) is literally where pirates built temporary shelter and it is also where one of the original settlers landed.

**La Loberia** is a small beach which is home to a colony of sea lions, as well as some marine iguanas. It is possible to get there with a small walk from the town for some recreational snorkeling. If you are lucky, the sea lions will join you! Fortunate snorkelers may spot a ray or a shark. **(B, L, D)**

## THURSDAY: Santa Cruz Island – Highlands – The Charles Darwin Research Station — Tortuga Bay



**The Highlands of Santa Cruz** have incredible zones of vegetation. There you will visit the private farm "Las Primicias". This reserve offers you one of the best possibilities to see the giant turtles of Santa Cruz Island in their natural habitat. You can observe them from a very close distance.

**Charles Darwin Research Station** features an information center, a museum, a library and a tortoise breeding station. In the tortoise breeding station you can encounter tortoises of different subspecies, which get prepared for reintroduction to their natural

habitats. This was the home of the famous Lonesome George turtle. (If your cruise takes only 4 days after this visit you will fly back to mainland Ecuador).

**Tortuga Bay** is considered to be one of the most beautiful beaches in Galapagos. The sunsets here are just stunning. It is also a favorite place for sea turtles (which gave the name to the beach), sea lions, marine iguanas, pelicans, flamingos and lava gulls which are endemic to the Islands. **(B, L, D)**. **Last night at hotel in Puerto Ayora**



**FRIDAY: Santa Cruz Island – Twins – Baltra Airport**



On our last day, we will visit **“Los Gemelos” (The Twins)**, two enormous collapsed lava chambers, inspiring visual reminder of the power of nature. The short, easy hike to each of the twins is teeming with endemic flora and fauna, including the remaining Scalesia Forest draped in liverwort. After this visit you will be transferred to the Baltra airport for your flight back to mainland Ecuador. **(B)**

**Notice: According to the Galapagos National Park, itineraries are subject to change.**

**(B)** = Breakfast  
**(L)** = Lunch  
**(D)** = Dinner

**Happy Return Home!**

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