

The Southeastern Islands

Itinerary A

Galapagos tour , 8 days (7 nights)
from Baltra to Baltra

1 Day: Wednesday

At noon your flight from Quito or Guayaquil to Baltra Island lands . After lunch on board, the ship leaves to the Southwest Your first excursion takes you to Dragon Hill, Cerro Dragon. Here are living in the last land iguanas of Santa Cruz Island. Dinner and overnight on board.

2 Day: Thursday

At dawn you reach the Plaza Island. It is thanks to the powerful Opuntia cacti and bright orange-red Sesuvium shrubs a surprisingly colorful island where the land iguanas dominate the field. A small sea lion colony lives at the cliffs on the south coast. The avifauna offers besides the brown pelican, tropic birds, swallow-tailed gulls, frigate birds, blue-footed and Nazca boobies.

Spend the afternoon on the island of Santa Fe. This is one of the most picturesque anchorages of the archipelago, where you can swim with sea lions and sea turtles. Dinner and overnight on board.

3 Day: Friday

Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the administrative center of the archipelago of San Cristóbal visit the newly built visitor center. It shows an excellent exhibition about the nature and settlement history of the Galapagos.

In the afternoon you reach Isla Lobos. This islets near Playa Ochoa of San Cristobal is home to blue-footed boobies and frigate birds that nest between the salt bushes. Also, sea lions can be found again. It is also a good place for Saguaro cacti. Dinner and overnight on board.

4 Day: Saturday

At dawn you reach the northeastern tip of San Cristobal, Punta Pitt. The path leads through colonies of frigate birds, swallow-tailed gulls, Nazca-, Red- and Blue-footed Boobies. Punta Pitt is the only place in the Galápagos where the three booby species are found together.

In the afternoon a walk from the beach up to the high country, brings you to "Natural Galapaguera". For this distance it takes about three and a 3½ hours (there and back). In the absence of shade trees, it can be quite hot in the warmer seasons. But you will be rewarded with the fact that you can meet the famous Galapagos giant tortoises in their natural environment on this route. The huge animals are up to 200 years old and weigh up to 300 kg.

Dinner and overnight on board.

5 Day: Sunday

In the morning you arrive at Cerro Brujo on the west coast of the island of San Cristobal. In this fascinating crater there are boobies, gulls and some pelicans. In the sheltered bay young sea turtles and stingrays live - a beautiful place for swimming and snorkeling.

After lunch, drive along the coast to the fragmented tuff Leon Dormido (Kicker Rock), which serves as a nesting seabirds many. Look out for blue-footed boobies, pelicans and frigate birds. Dinner and overnight on board.

6 Day: Monday

The flat, southern Española Island (Hood) belongs entirely to birds. Here, large colonies of nesting blue-footed and masked boobies. 10,000 albatrosses join this island from April until December. Also, tropical birds, various gulls and land- and marine iguanas.

In the morning visit Punta Suarez, where you get to after a 4 kilometer walk to the south coast to a hole in the rock, from which up to 35 meter high fountains shoot . Here, sea lions are surfing the waves, and you come to the large marine iguanas, the males are colored red. It is also the habitat of oystercatchers, blue-footed and Nazca boobies, tropic birds and swallow-tailed gulls . Besides lava lizards live here also three types of Darwin's finches . Among the large cactus finch otherwise only found on Genovesa.

In the afternoon you are in Gardner Bay. The 2 kilometer long white sand beach is one of the most beautiful bays. Sea lions lazing in the sun. Española Mockingbirds welcome the visitors, often to keep close to Galapagos hawks. In addition to the marine iguanas sit down at the end of the beach and the bright red crabs walking over the rocks. Isla Isla Gardner Osborn and offer wonderful snorkeling sites . Dinner and overnight on board.

7 Day: Tuesday

Floreana (Charles): 1832 first inhabited island of Floreana annals record a wild mix of colonists. In the thirties it excited as the scene of a hollywood mature drama dropouts worldwide attention, several deaths and the disappearance of some, lend a puzzle even today .

The lagoon at Punta Cormorant, with its shimmering olive green beach, home of flamingos and other wading birds. After a short walk over cooled volcanic slag you reach a beach with coral sand, fine as flour. From December to March pacific green turtles that nest here. This beach is also great to see stingrays. In this arid zone many endemic plants grow. Floreana acts as a well-known landmark , the wooden barrel in Post Office Bay, which was used already at the time of the whalers as a mailbox. At Punta Cormorant and Post Office at the Bahia you can take snorkeling trips. Dinner and overnight on board.

8 Day : Wednesday

Although Santa Cruz was colonized in 1926 as the last island, it is now home to about half of the Galapagos residents and is the central location for the center of the archipelago. There resides the Charles Darwin Research Station, annually up to a hundred scientists from around the world are working on. Even in nature conservation and environmental education plays a major role. Therefore, a visit to the Information Cnter and the outdoor area with its turtles and iguana enclosures has almost a must for every Galápagos stay. Around midday you will fly from the island of Baltra back to the continent, to Guayaquil or Quito.