

Itinerary B

The Western and Central Islands Galapagos tour , 8 days (7 nights) from Baltra to Baltra

1 Day: Wednesday

Your flight arrives at noon from Quito or Guayaquil to Baltra. After a short drive you will cross the channel Itabaca and reach the north of the island of Santa Cruz. Then on to the highlands to the flanks of the 864 meterhigh volcano Cerro Crocker. On clear days you can enjoy a wonderful view of the surrounding islands. You will learn about the typical Galápagos vegetation for example, tree ferns, and visit the famous giant tortoises in El Chato. Dinner and overnight on board.

2 Day: Thursday

In the early morning you reach the fishing village of Puerto Villamil, Isabela Island in the south. With an area of 4588 km², it takes more than half the land area of the archipelago. Nevertheless, it is comparatively rarely visited. In the early morning you see on the barrier island Tintoreras (white-tip-sharks) and sea lions. Then continue to the " Muro de las Lágrimas ," the Wall of Tears - a moving , man-made monument. This eight meters high and two hundred feet long stone wall was built in the 1940s by convicts of the penal colony settled here from basalt boulders. Our hike then leads through a wetland of brackish lagoons where flamingos are often seen. In the sanctuary for giant tortoises, you can look at some of them up close. Or, days with good weather conditions, exists is the possibility for a hike to the crater of Sierra Negra. Dinner and overnight on board.

3 Day: Friday

Punta Moreno Isabela is a rugged young bay of lava with small lagoons where flamingos often stay. Other water birds live here, including bahamian ducks. In the early afternoon you reach the island of Fernandina, the youngest and largest of the archipelago. On the south coast is Punta Mangle, one of the best snorkeling sites of all Galapagos. Here one is especially true for penguins. Dinner and overnight on board.

4 Day: Saturday

In the morning visit Punta Espinoza in the north of Fernandina. A fascinating lava scenery with cacti and individual mangrove vegetation. Besides penguins, flightless cormorants and sea lions and the largest marine iguanas of the Galapagos are among its attractions.

In the afternoon visit Tagus Cove on the west coast of Isabela. At the feet of Darwin volcano here was a popular anchorage for pirates and whalers. Some have written their names on the rock walls ship. In the nearly 2 kilometer walk you will reach a small cave, whose inscriptions dating from about 1800. Charles Darwin also visited Tagus Cove on his voyage on the Beagle. In the deep blue bay breed. penguins, flightless cormorants, nodditerns, shearwaters and blue-footed boobies. A steep path through dry forests and cactus leads to a salty, green crater lake of Laguna Darwin. During the short hike you will discover once again the beauty of this island. It also offers the opportunity for a snorkel trip to the also unique underwater world. Dinner and overnight on board.

5 Day: Sunday

Also on Santiago island there are still traces of the pirates time. The richly structured volcanic island offers long walks always new vistas. Puerto Egas was won until the sixties salt. Some abandoned buildings of that era are still standing. Behind it begins a natural wonderland. In the rock pool marine iguanas sunning themselves along with the glowing red crabs on the rocks. Three species of Galapagos herons here to live pigeons and oystercatchers. Moreover, this is one of the best places to see migrating shorebirds. At the end of the path you expect Galapagos fur seals and sea lions. And a swim before leaving Puerto Egas .

In the afternoon you are at Sombrero Chino off the coast of Santiago. Topped by a perfectly formed crater, this island resembles the silhouette of "Chinese hut". Only specialized plants can hold between the fragile lava. Sea lions inhabit the white, coral beach fringed by salt bushes. Dinner and overnight on board.

6 Day: Monday

A board the dinghy you explore the brackish lagoon Caleta Tortuga Negra with its many sea turtles and schools of all gold rays and sharks. On the island of North Seymour, the largest colony of frigate birds living together with swallow-tailed gulls and pelicans. Seymour Norte is also home to a group of large, old iguanas that were brought here many years ago from the nearby island of Baltra. Bursera malacophylla, a small endemic palo santo tree, is found only here and on three small neighboring islands. In the afternoon you will witness a special spectacle: Sea lions surf on the big, oncoming waves from the west. Dinner and overnight on board.

7 Day: Tuesday

The small barrier island east Bartolome is one of their distinctive because pinnacle of the most photographed places in the archipelago. This young Island keeps a whole series of dramatic volcanic formations, a moon-like landscape with small tuff cones and lava tubes. The various rocks have served the pilots of the U.S. Air Force as targets for target practice during the Second World War. The two beaches are separated by Bartolomé a narrow mangrove belt. While swimming and snorkeling beach on the northern one often sees penguins. Live on the south coast reef sharks and rays, and from January to March nesting green turtles here. The Sullivan Bay at the east of Santiago Island is known for its distinctive forms of lava. In the evening you can once again swim in the sea or snorkel with the sea lions. Dinner and overnight on board.

8 Day: Wednesday

The final visit takes you to Bachas beach, at the north coast of Santa Cruz Island. It is one of the most important nesting beaches for sea turtles. Behind the dunes, in the small lagoon to flamingos, stilts and bahama ducks can be observed. The wide beach is ideal for swimming and snorkeling. At midday return flight to the continent, to Guayaquil or Quito.

changes in the itinerary are possible.