

# YACHT TIP TOP IV 10 nights/ 11 days Itinerary

## 10 NIGHTS/11 DAYS CRUISE (Friday - Monday)



THESE ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT A PREVIOUS NOTICE, DUE OPERATIONAL REASONS, WEATHER CONDITIONS OR BY THE AUTHORITIES OF THE GALAPAGOS NATIONAL PARK.

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### Day by Day

#### Friday to Monday

##### Friday, Day 1

Flight from mainland Ecuador (Quito or Guayaquil) to Baltra, with AVIANCA Airlines, arriving at 09H20 a.m. approximately. Your guide conducts you to the bus and after a short 5-kilometer ride to the pier; we board the Yacht without delay. As the crew weighs anchor, we greet you with our first orientation and we offer a light snack. In the afternoon, we make a dry landing for a walk along the coast and the interior of North Seymour Island, a low, flat island that was uplifted from the sea by underground seismic activity. We observe blue footed boobies (they nest from May to November), marine iguanas, pelicans, frigate birds, shore birds, sea lions and endemic Palo Santo. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim, snorkel and/or kayak. We return to the Yacht for a welcome cocktail with the entire crew, and dinner.

##### Saturday, Day 2

After breakfast, we make a wet landing on Darwin Bay to walk and observe frigatebirds, herons, mockingbirds, boobies, shorebirds, turtles, marine iguanas, etc. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim, snorkel or kayak. We come aboard for a delicious lunch. Later in the afternoon, we make a dry landing on Prince Phillips's Steps (Barranco), we walk and observe the interesting lives of the birds here. Dinner on the Yacht, and then our orientation about conservation efforts made to protect the Islands.

##### Sunday, Day 3

After breakfast, we make a wet landing on James Bay (Puerto Egas), to walk and observe sponges, snails, hermit crabs, a variety of shore birds, barnacles and the endemic four-eyed blenny, marine iguanas and sea lions. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim or snorkel. We return to the boat for a delicious lunch. In the afternoon we navigate around Buccaneer Cove (Caleta Bucanero), an area of steep cliffs and dark beaches. The cliffs and pinnacle are used as nesting areas by several species of seabirds. This was a popular place for 17th & 18th century buccaneers to careen their vessels. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim, snorkel or kayak. Dinner and our nightly orientation.

##### Monday, Day 4

After breakfast, we make a panga ride on Punta Vicente Roca to observe plenty of sea lions, marine iguanas, blue-footed and masked boobies, and flightless cormorants. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim and/or snorkel. We come aboard for a delicious lunch. In the afternoon, we make a dry landing on Punta Espinoza to observe and see a large colony of sea lions, marine iguanas and the flightless cormorants and clumps of lava cactus. Return to the Yacht for dinner and our nightly orientation.

##### Tuesday, Day 5

After breakfast, we make a panga ride on Tagus Cove, a protected cove between the shoulders of two volcanic craters which protect it from the open sea; we observe penguins, marine iguanas, sea lions and a variety of birds including flightless cormorant and blue footed boobies. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim, snorkel and/ or kayak. Return to the Yacht for lunch. In the afternoon, we make a panga ride around the islets of Elizabeth Bay to see marine iguanas, penguins, marine turtles, seabirds and shorebirds, herons and blue-footed boobies. Return to the Yacht for dinner and our nightly orientation.

##### Wednesday, Day 6

After breakfast, we make a wet landing on Urbina Bay to take a walk and observe a coral area, land iguanas, flightless cormorants and giant tortoises. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim, snorkel and/ or kayak. Sail to Punta Moreno, again we make a wet landing. We make a walk along shore lagoons located among petrified lava flows where different type of birds can be seeing. On top we have a panoramic view of the famous volcanoes Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul, as well as the highest part of Fernandina Island. Return to the yacht for dinner and our night orientation.

##### Thursday, Day 7,

After breakfast, we make a wet landing on Point Cormorant for a short walk to the Flamingos Lagoon of this island. Then we continue the walk until we reach the beach called "La Picon" to see marine turtles and their spawning grounds. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim and/or snorkel. Later, we make a panga

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ride on Champion Islet, a small island off the Coast of Floreana Island. The principal attraction of Champion Islet is the nearly-extinct Charles (Floreana) Mockingbird. Visitors can also observe bird species such as Swallow-tailed Gulls, Nazca Boobies or Brown Noddies. It is a great place for snorkelling; we will see sea turtles, reef fishes, Galapagos Penguins and white-tipped reef sharks. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim and/or snorkel. Return to the Yacht for lunch. In the afternoon we make a wet landing on Post Office Bay, a historic site that recalls the days of the whalers, who presumably placed a wooden barrel in the 18th century to use it as a post office. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim and/or snorkel. Return to the Yacht for dinner and our nightly orientation.

#### **Friday, Day 8**

After breakfast, we disembark and a bus takes us to the highlands of Santa Cruz Island for a visit to the native forests and twin craters. Return to the Yacht for lunch. In the afternoon we land at the pier for a visit to the Charles Darwin Station and its Interpretive Center. Return to the Port for a walk through the little town to appreciate various handicrafts. We return to the Yacht for a delicious dinner and our nightly orientation.

#### **Saturday, Day 9**

After breakfast, we make an early dry landing on Punta Suarez to walk along lava beds where we will observe unique colonies of marine birds, including Albatross (May - December). Return to the Yacht for lunch. In the afternoon, we make a wet landing in Gardner Bay for a walk on the beach and observe a colony of sea lions, which inhabit the beach in great quantity during the breeding season; this is also an important nesting area for sea turtles. We then make a panga ride around the Osborn Islet and the islets of Gardner. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim and/or snorkel. Return to the Yacht for dinner and our nightly orientation.

#### **Sunday, Day 10**

After breakfast, we make a wet landing on Punta Pitt in 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 viewpoints. 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 2 species of frigates nesting in the same area. We come aboard for a delicious lunch. Later in the afternoon, our experienced Captain sails easily around Kicker Rock (Leon Dormido), a massive tuff-rock that juts abruptly almost 500 feet straight from the ocean. Kicker Rock serves as nesting place for many sea birds. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim and/ or snorkel. Then we make a wet landing on Cerro Brujo to walk on a white sand beach and observe sea lions, brown pelicans, marine iguanas and blue-footed boobies. **Optional:** time for those who would like to swim, snorkel and/ or kayak. We return to the Yacht for dinner and our nightly orientation.

#### **Monday, Day 11**

After breakfast, we make an early wet landing on Mosquera Island, a reef of rocks and coral (the result of an uprising) and a great white sand beach and tide pools. We observe colonies of sea lions, brown pelicans, blue footed boobies and sally light-foot crabs, the contrast between these bright red crabs on top and blue on the bottom and the black lava is stunning. We return to the Yacht for disembarking on the pier at 08:30. Your guide accompanies you on the bus ride directly to the airport.

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No	Day	AM	PM
1	Friday	Baltra	North Seymour (SN/PR/WA)
2	Saturday	Darwin Bay (SN/PR/KY/WA)	Prince Phillip's Steps (SN/KY/WA)
3	Sunday	James Bay (SN/WA)	Buccaneer Cove (SN/PR/KY)
4	Monday	Punta Vicente Roca (Isabela Island) (SN/PR)	Punta Espinosa (Fernadina Island) (SN/WA)
5	Tuesday	Tagus Cove (SN/PR/KY/WA)	Elizabeth Bay (PR)
6	Wednesday	Urbina Bay (SN/WA)	Punta Moreno (SN/PR/WA)
7	Thursday	Punta Cormorant (SN/PR/WA)- Champion (SN/PR)	Baroness Viewpoint (PR/KY/WA) Post O. Bay (WA)
8	Friday	Twin Craters (Santa Cruz Island Highland (WA)	Charles Darwin Station (Santa Cruz Island) (WA)
9	Saturday	Punta Suarez (WA)	Gardner Bay (SN/KY/WA) Osborn Islet (SN) Garden I (PR/SN)
10	Sunday	Pitt Islet (SN/WA)-Punta Pitt (SN/KY/PR/WA)	Kicker Rock (SN)- Cerro Brujo (SK/KY/PR/WA)
11	Monday	Mosquera Island (WA)	Baltra *

\*Landing transfer to Baltra  
 SN: SNORKEL  
 PR: PANGA RIDE  
 KY: KAYAK  
 WA: WALK