

M/C Endemic Itinerary B 8 days / 7 nights cruise Sunday – Sunday

(**B:** breakfast/ **L:** lunch/ **D:** dinner)

SUNDAY

BALTRA AIRPORT – SANTA CRUZ ISLAND: Las Bachas Beach

Upon arrival, reception and assistance at the airport, transfer from Baltra Airport to the M/C Endemic.

In the afternoon, visit to Las Bachas, which is a beautiful white-sand beach, located on the northern coast of Santa Cruz Island. There you can go for a stroll or do some easy snorkeling in the gentle surf. Sea turtles lay their eggs at the edge of the vegetation. You can also look for a rusted pontoon, a relic of the Second World War. In fact, "bachas" is a poor pronunciation of "barges," two of which were wrecked offshore at that time: the locals mispronounced the name and it stuck.

(-, L, D)

MONDAY

SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND: Witch Hill – Kicker Rock – Lobos Island

In the morning, the first spot to be visited is Witch Hill, a tuff cone hill located south west from San Cristobal. This name comes from the Spanish name of the bird known in English as Vermilion Flycatcher.

A zodiac ride will take passengers into amazing rock formations along the island shore. A white sand beach and crystal-clear waters are part of this enchanted location. Fantastic opportunity for snorkeling.

The next attraction to see is Kicker Rock, an impressive geological formation due to erosion. This is a nesting place of sea birds. Additionally, curious sea lions, and marine life can be found, such as fish, turtles, sharks, rays, representing the main attraction for snorkeling. This is a nice spot to take pictures.

In the afternoon, you will be taken to Lobos Island, where a small population of blue-footed boobies, frigates, marine iguanas, and great frigate birds nesting can be observed. Snorkeling with sea lions in this calm bay is also part of the excursion.

(B, L, D)

TUESDAY

ESPAÑOLA ISLAND: Osborn & Gardner islets – Gardner Bay – Suarez Point

Española Island will be explored today. You will have the chance to observe endemic wildlife such as the Hood-Mockingbird. This is the southernmost island in the Galapagos archipelago, and home to several wildlife species, including masked and blue-footed boobies. Spectacular views from the top of a cliff.

In the morning, after breakfast, the first attractions to be seen are the Osborn and Gardner islets that are amazing for underwater discovery. Snorkeling is a highlight on this visitor point.

Later, visit to Gardner Bay that provides an excellent beach for swimming. Around the small islets nearby, snorkelers will find lots of fish and sometimes turtles and sharks. The bay is also frequented by colonies of sea lions which like to swim with you.

After lunch, Point Suarez will be visited, which represents one of the most outstanding wildlife areas of the archipelago, with a long list of species found along its cliffs and sand or pebble beach.

(B, L, D)

WEDNESDAY

SANTA FE – SOUTH PLAZAS ISLANDS

In the morning, after breakfast, Santa Fe island will be visited, which 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 seen. After a long walk, the opportunity to swim in calm waters or snorkel with playful sea lions will be pretty tempting.

In the afternoon, island South Plazas is the next island to be discovered. It 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.

(B, L, D)

THURSDAY

SANTA CRUZ ISLAND: Charles Darwin Station – BARTHOLOMEW ISLAND

In the morning, visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station, which has 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 are prepared for reintroduction to their natural habitats. The most popular inhabitant of this Station is probably the Lonesome George turtle, that already died in 2012.

After lunch, you will discover Bartholomew Island. Once here, you will ascend to admire the spectacular panorama of the Sullivan Bay and the famous Pinnacle Rock. The beaches at the foot of the Pinnacle Rock are excellent for snorkeling from which you can discover the marvelous underwater world, and with a little luck, you'll get to snorkel with penguins.

(B, L, D)

FRIDAY

FLOREANA ISLAND: Cormorant Point – Devil's Crown - Post Office Bay – Baroness' Lookout

In the morning, after breakfast, the first spot to be visited is Cormorant Point. You will land on a green olivine sand beach. Following a 100 meters long path you will soon reach a lagoon with flamingos.

Later, the next visit will take place to Devil's Crown that is an underwater volcanic crater, almost covered completely by Galapagos waters. Just a small portion of the rock formation can be seen from above and it looks like a crown. The underwater world is very rich in coral reefs,

abundant marine species. Birds are also part of this visitor point due to its location in open waters.

In the afternoon you will visit the Post Office Bay, which keeps the legendary post barrel that whalers historically used to post their mail in.

Then, you will go to the Baroness' Lookout (Mirador de la Baronesa). This viewpoint is located on the north of Floreana Island. The way up and trail is very easy, steps are placed in this area for security. Your naturalist guide will tell the murder and mystery legend of the Baroness.

(B, L, D)

SATURDAY

SANTIAGO ISLAND: Chinese Hat- NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND

In the morning, after breakfast you will visit Chinese Hat, which is a small islet off the south coast of Santiago, with a maximum elevation of 160 feet (52 meters). Though within easy reach of Santa Cruz, Chinese Hat is typically only visited by those aboard a Galapagos Cruise.

In the afternoon, North Seymour island will be discovered. It is located slightly to the north of Baltra. It is a low, flat island, formed by submarine lava formation uplift. Covered with low, bushy vegetation, it contains the largest colony of magnificent frigate birds in the Galapagos. There is also a large population of blue-footed boobies that perform an amusing courtship dance when nesting conditions are right.

(B, L, D)

SUNDAY

MOSQUERA ISLET - BALTRA AIRPORT

In the morning, visit to Mosquera, a small islet found between Baltra & North Seymour Islands. Lava gulls, sea lions, Sally light foot crabs inhabit this sand bank with an extension of over 600 meters. It also hosts the largest populations of sea lions and orca whales that can be seen occasionally depending on the season you visit the islet.

After this last visit, transfer to Baltra airport for your return flight to mainland Ecuador. Assistance and farewell at the airport.

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End of cruise

*The operator reserves the right to change the itinerary without previous notice due to weather, National Park regulations or notifications and unforeseeable circumstances.