

Galapagos Central Wonders Cruise

8 Days – 7 Nights

			Hiking	Snorkel	Panga Ride	Paddle Board	Kayak
SATURDAY	AM	Santa Cruz Island : Baltra - airport (arrival)					
	PM	Santa Cruz Island : Bachas Beach	*	*			
SUNDAY	AM	Bartolome Island : Bartolome	*	*	*		
	PM	Santiago Island : Sullivan Bay	*	*	*	*	
MONDAY	AM	South Plazas Island : South Plaza	*				
	PM	Santa Fe Island : Santa Fe	*	*	*	*	*
TUESDAY	AM	San Cristobal Island : Witch Hill	*	*	*		
	PM	San Cristobal Island : Pitt Point	*	*			
WEDNESDAY	AM	San Cristobal Island : Highlands	*		*	*	*
	PM	San Cristobal Island : Lobos Island	*	*	*		
THURSDAY	AM	Española Island : Suarez Point	*				
	PM	Española Island : Gardner Bay	*	*	*	*	
FRIDAY	AM	Floreana Island : Post Office Bay	*	*			
	PM	Floreana Island : Cormorant Point	*	*	*	*	*
SATURDAY	AM	Santa Cruz Island : Charles Darwin Station	*				
	PM	Santa Cruz Island : Baltra - airport (return)					

DAY 1

AM: ARRIVAL AT BALTRA AIRPORT

Welcome to Galapagos! Upon arrival at Baltra Airport, your naturalist guide will greet you and assist with the transfer to Itabaca Channel. This initial journey offers your first connection with the archipelago as you take a short ferry ride to Santa Cruz Island. Along the way, observe Baltra's arid landscape and learn about its history as a former U.S. WWII airbase. This is just the beginning of the many fascinating stories awaiting you on your adventure.

Trail:

Level:	1
Activities:	-

PM: BACHAS

End your Galapagos adventure at Bachas Beach, a key sea turtle nesting site from November to May. At low tide, remnants of WWII barges emerge from the white sand. Explore its saltwater lagoons, home to flamingos, herons, and aquatic birds. After this final stop, transfer to the airport for your flight back to the mainland, concluding an unforgettable journey.

Stunning Views, Blue footed boobies, White-cheeked pintails, American flamingoes, Sandpipers, Lava gulls

Food:	-/L/D
Trail:	1,6 km / 1 mi
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING, SNORKEL

DAY 2

AM: BARTOLOME

Bartolome is one of the most iconic islands in Galapagos, renowned for its dramatic volcanic landscape and the famous Pinnacle Rock. Nestled beside a peach-colored sand beach, this island is one of the few places where you can spot penguins without traveling to remote Isabela and Fernandina. The hike to the summit offers breathtaking views of a lunar-like terrain dotted with volcanic cones, with stunning panoramas of Sullivan Bay and Pinnacle Rock. From the top, the vast beauty of the archipelago unfolds before you, creating a truly unforgettable experience.

Highlights: Volcanic landscapes, Pinnacle rock, Herons, Bluefooted boobies, Galapagos penguins

Trail:	1,5 km / 0,9 mi
Level:	2

Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE
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PM: SULLIVAN BAY

Walking through Sullivan Bay is a fascinating journey into the volcanic origins of the Galapagos Islands. The trail crosses a vast Pahoehoe lava flow, showcasing unique textures that reveal the story of past eruptions. While the terrain may seem desolate at first, a closer look unveils pioneer plants, scurrying lava lizards, and small birds adapted to this extreme environment. Along the shore, the stark landscape is brightened by the presence of penguins, pelicans, and oystercatchers, adding a vibrant contrast to the stunning volcanic scenery.

Highlights: Lava tubes, Galapagos penguins, Oystercatchers, Galapagos hawks

Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	2,2 km / 1,4 mi
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	3
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD

DAY 3

AM: SOUTH PLAZAS ISLAND

Of the two twin islands, only South Plazas is open to visitors, while North Plazas remains a scientific research site. Despite its small size, South Plazas is teeming with wildlife. Upon landing, you find land iguanas lounging beneath Opuntia cacti, waiting for fallen fruit. A large sea lion colony dominates the shore, where playful pups explore tide pools while massive bulls defend their territory. The trail leads to a dramatic cliffside, offering breathtaking ocean views where frigatebirds, blue-footed boobies, red-billed tropicbirds, and swallow-tailed gulls soar. A blanket of reddish succulents covering the island adds to its striking beauty.

Highlights: Stunning Views, Boobies, Galapagos sea lions, Galapagos shearwaters, Galapagos land iguanas, Tropicbirds, Pelicans

Trail:	1,4 km / 0,8 mi
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Level:	2
Activities:	HIKING

PM: SANTA FE ISLAND

Santa Fe Island, nestled in one of the most stunning bays in the Galapagos, boasts towering prickly-pear cacti and ancient lava formations. Its white-sand beach and turquoise waters are home to a large sea lion colony basking under the sun. As you follow the trail, look for the endemic Santa Fe land iguana and, if lucky, a Galapagos hawk perched atop a cactus scanning for prey. Along the way, Darwin's finches, Galapagos doves, mockingbirds, and lava lizards are commonly seen, making this hike a true wildlife experience.

Highlights: Stunning Views, Galapagos sea lions, Galapagos hawks, Galapagos doves, Santa Fe land iguanas, Reef sharks

Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	0,8 km / 0,5 mi
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	2
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD,KAYAK

DAY 4

AM: WITCH HILL

Witch Hill, on the northern coast of San Cristóbal, is one of the most stunning beaches in the Galapagos. Its powdery white sand and turquoise waters create a perfect setting for strolling and relaxing, while a large sea lion colony lounges on the shore. The nearby lagoon attracts diverse birdlife, including pelicans and blue-footed boobies. This site holds historical significance as one of Charles Darwin's first stops in the Galapagos. Dive into the crystal-clear waters for a snorkeling experience filled with tropical fish, rays, and sea turtles.

Highlights: Snorkeling opportunities, White sand beach, Blue-footed boobies, Galapagos sea lions, Pelicans

Trail:	0.5 km / 0.3 mi
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Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE

PM: PITT POINT

Located on the northeastern tip of San Cristóbal, Punta Pitt is a must-visit for nature and adventure enthusiasts. Its rugged trails lead to breathtaking viewpoints, where you can observe frigatebirds and the three iconic booby species—blue-footed, red-footed, and Nazca—a rare sight in the Galapagos. The volcanic landscape, with dramatic rock formations and lush vegetation, creates a thriving habitat for diverse wildlife. This experience blends a challenging hike with the chance to witness the archipelago’s incredible biodiversity at its finest.

Highlights: _Stunning Views, Snorkeling opportunities, Magnificent and great frigatebirds

Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	1.5 km / 0.9 mi
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	3
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL

DAY 5

AM: HIGHLANDS

Your day begins with a journey to the highlands of San Cristobal Island, offering a different perspective of the Galapagosand#039; unique ecosystem. This lush and verdant area contrasts sharply with the coastalzones. The highlands are home to a variety of bird species, giant tortoises in their natural habitat, anda rich array of plant life, including endemic trees and ferns. Youand#039;ll have the opportunity to walk alongpaths that meander through this lush landscape, offering a chance to observe the giant tortoises upclose and personal. The highlands also provide panoramic views of the island, showcasing its diversetopography

Trail:	Variable
Level:	1

Activities:	HIKING,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD,KAYAK
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PM: LOBOS ISLAND

Venture to Lobos Island, a tranquil islet secluded from San Cristobal by a slim channel. This nature's cradle, amidst a serene bay, is the playground for sea lion pups frolicking in tidal pools. The island might be modest but bursts with life, particularly with "lobos marinos" or sea lions. As you step ashore, welcoming committees of sea lions would greet you, only to be outraged by the male frigatebirds inland, presenting their inflamed red balloons amidst the verdant foliage. Stay vigilant for the blue-footed boobies nesting on the trails, ready to treat you to a display of their whimsical courtship dance.

Stunning Views, Galapagos sea lions, Magnificent and great frigatebirds, San Cristobal Lava Lizards

Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	0,6 km / 0,4 mi
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	3
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE

DAY 6

AM: SUAREZ POINT

Embark on an adventure to Suarez Point, one of the Galapagos' greatest natural wonders. This rocky trail is a haven for wildlife lovers, featuring an incredible array of species. Upon arrival, sea lions and marine iguanas welcome you as the first hosts of this nature spectacle. As you explore further, witness a vibrant mosaic of seabird colonies, from blue-footed and Nazca boobies to graceful frigatebirds and tropicbirds. The highlight of this journey is meeting the waved albatross, the island's largest bird, impressing visitors with its powerful flight and intricate courtship display (present from April to January).

Highlights: Stunning Views, Herons, Galapagos mockingbirds, Galapagos hawks, Darwin finches, Marine iguanas, Waved Albatross, Lava lizards

Trail:	1,7 km / 1,1 mi
Level:	3
Activities:	HIKING

PM: GARDNER BAY

Embrace the morning at Gardner Bay, a pristine piece of paradise in the Galapagos archipelago. Sugar-white coral sands merge with crystal-clear turquoise waters, creating a tropical oasis. Watch as the beach becomes a theatre, starring sun-basking sea lions in a playful performance. This idyllic setting invites you to stroll along the coast, immersing yourself in an enlightening experience as you delve into the biology of the endemic fauna - from the melodious Española mockingbird and the unique marine iguanas to the regal Galapagos hawks.

Highlights: Coral sand beach, Galapagos mockingbirds, Galapagos hawks, Darwin finches, Marine iguanas

Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	0,8 km / 0,5 mi
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD

DAY 7

AM: POST OFFICE BAY

Step into the past at Post Office Bay on Floreana, where sailors established a barrel-based mail system in the 1700s, still in use today. Beyond its historic charm, the bay was a key stop for whalers seeking freshwater and tortoises. This site also boasts a scenic beach, and incredible wildlife, including sea lions, green sea turtles, reef sharks, and, if luck is on your side, the elusive Galapagos penguin.

Highlights: Galapagos penguins, Marine iguanas, Sea turtles, Finches, Shorebirds

Trail:	0,7 km / 0,4 mi
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Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL

PM: CORMORANT POINT

Located in northern Floreana, Punta Cormorant is a paradise for nature lovers. Its coastal lagoon hosts flamingos, white-cheeked pintails, and black-necked stilts, while its white sand beach is a crucial nesting site for green sea turtles. In recent years, blue-footed boobies have started nesting along the trail. This is also a great site for spotting endemic plants. For snorkeling, Devil's Crown—a heavily eroded volcanic formation—offers an unparalleled experience, attracting reef sharks, rays, sea turtles, and massive schools of tropical fish.

Highlights: Galapagos sea lions, Blue footed boobies, Galapagos shearwaters, American flamingoes, Sea turtles, Tropicbirds, Frigatebirds

Food:	B/L/D
Trail:	1,6 km / 1 mi
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD,KAYAK

DAY 8

AM: CHARLES DARWIN STATION

Explore the Charles Darwin Research Station, a center dedicated to wildlife conservation and research. Witness breeding programs helping restore giant tortoise populations, learn about projects tackling invasive species, and see conservationists working to protect the fragile Galapagos ecosystem.

Galapagos giant tortoise and land iguanas breeding program, Galapagos mockingbirds, Darwin finches, Galapagos flycatchers

Trail:	2 km / 1,2 mi
Level:	1
Activities:	HIKING

PM: BALTRA AIRPORT

Your Galapagos adventure comes to an end. Today, you will be transferred to Baltra Airport, where your National Park naturalist guide will assist you with final details before your flight back to mainland Ecuador. As you bid farewell to this paradise, take with you the unforgettable memories of one of the world's most extraordinary destinations.

Food:	B/-/-
Trail:	
Lodging:	M/Y Galaxy Orion
Level:	1
Activities:	-

GLOSSARY

Feeding	Breakfast	B
	Lunch	L
	Dinner	D
Difficulty of the hike	Level 1	Easy
	Level 2	Moderate
	Level 3	Difficult