

# THE ISLANDS SECRETS

## 5-Day Land Based Galapagos Tour



**VISIT 3 DIFFERENT  
ISLANDS**

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**5 DAYS IN THE  
GALAPAGOS AT  
HOTELS ON SANTA  
CRUZ ISLAND**

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**EXPERIENCE LOCAL  
LIFE IN THE TOWNS  
OF GALAPAGOS**



## DAY 1 (-/L/-)\*

# BALTRA ISLAND: ARRIVAL IN GALAPAGOS

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Arrival at the airport, pick up and transfer to the selected Hotel on Santa Cruz, lunch.



Charles Darwin Station

### PM: Charles Darwin Research Station

On our visit to the Station, we will learn about the natural history of the Galapagos Islands and the importance of conservation efforts to protect its ecosystem. At the Tortoise Center, there are plenty of photo opportunities, we can observe the whole variety of tortoises, including hatchlings, juveniles, and full-grown individuals. Return to the hotel. Overnight.



# DAYS 2 & 3

(B/L/-)



Full day navigable tour to another island. After Breakfast, we will embark on an incredible adventure. These day tours visit an uninhabited island and include a nice trekking/excursion through it and the opportunity to do snorkeling. A delicious lunch is provided onboard. Return to Puerto Ayora at the end of the day.

**Day tour destinations (subject to availability):**



## SANTA FE ISLAND

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**NAVIGATION TIME: 1 HOUR, 45 MINUTES**

Santa Fe is home to a small picturesque bay and anchorage on the island's northeast coast. The bay has two visitor trails, one leading to a scenic viewpoint atop a cliff, and the other spanning from a small beach to a tall prickly pear cactus forest. Snorkeling is a must and we will see many different fish species and have the opportunity to swim with sea lions. Return to Puerto Ayora in the afternoon. Overnight.



## BARTHOLOMEW ISLAND

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**NAVIGATION TIME: 1 HOUR, 45 MINUTES**

Early in the morning, transfer to Baltra to start our navigable tour to Bartholomew. One of the Islands' principal attractions is the Pinnacle Rock. To see it properly we will make an easy hike for around an hour. In this excursion, we will learn from the volcanic landscape of the island and see different species such as lava lizards or cacti, once we reach the top will have a magnificent view of the Pinnacle rock in contrast with the volcanic landscape blended with the turquoise waters of the surrounding beaches. After the excursion, we will proceed to do snorkeling on one of the coral beaches. Return to Puerto Ayora in the afternoon. Overnight.



## NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND

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### NAVIGATION TIME: 1 HOUR

North Seymour, is a small island located northbound from Baltra. The main animal species of this island are Land Iguanas, the Magnificent Frigate bird with their incredible scarlet regular pouch, blue-footed boobies, and their particular courtship dance, and sea lions surfing across the waves. After lunch, we will do snorkeling in Bachas beach, where you will be able to discover tons of different fish and marine species, and also swim with playful sea lions. Return to Puerto Ayora in the afternoon. Overnight



## SOUTH PLAZA ISLAND

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### NAVIGATION TIME: 1 HOUR, 20 MINUTES

South Plazas is situated on the east coast of Santa Cruz Island, it's formed from uplifted marine lava and is one of the smallest islands on the archipelago. This Island despite its size has a lot of concentration of wildlife.

We will disembark on a small dock frequently occupied by sea lions. After this, we will continue through a small forest of prickly pear cacti with their yellow flowers where lots of land iguanas are waiting for their fruits and flowers to fall off to the ground. We continue our hike to the cliff to view swallow-tailed gulls, tropic birds, frigate birds, and pelicans. After this walk, we go back to the boat for lunch and sail to Punta Carrion for a great snorkeling session with sea turtles, white tip reef sharks, sea lions, and lots of fish. Return to Puerto Ayora in the afternoon. Overnight.

## DAY 4 (B/L/-)

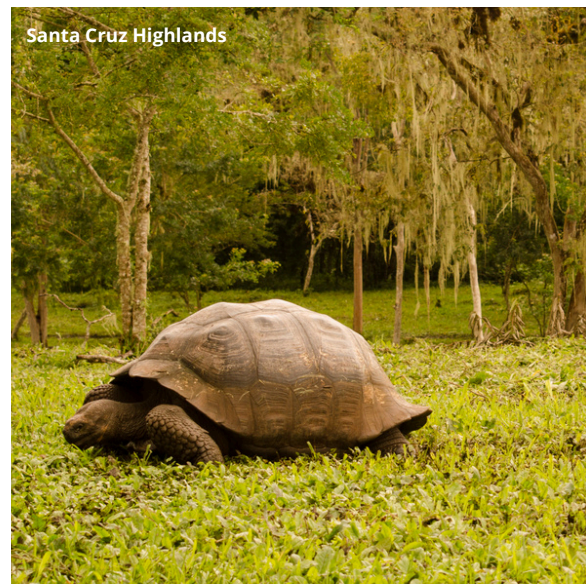


# SANTA CRUZ ISLAND: HIGHLANDS, LAVA TUNNELS, TRAPICHE & GARRAPATERO

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**AM:** After breakfast, we will take a bus ride to the green highlands of Santa Cruz Island. Upon arrival at the Tortoise Ranch, we will have the opportunity to explore and see many of the famous Galapagos Tortoises in the wild!

Next, we will visit the lava tunnels that were formed as the outer skin of molten lava solidified, and the liquid magma inside continued flowing, leaving behind a series of empty tubes. Visitors can walk through these underground channels!



**PM:** After lunch we will visit The Ecological Trapiche Farm where we will find several cultivated products such as sugar cane, cocoa, and other short-cycle crops, you may also see endemic bird species such as Darwin's finches, and we can participate in agricultural activities such as extracting cane juice by applying a rustic and traditional method called "Trapiche".

Then we will head to the northern side of Santa Cruz where we will visit El Garrapatero, a sandy beach surrounded by mangroves. We'll then walk to a freshwater lake behind the beach that is home to flamingos, herons, stilts, and other shorebirds. The beautiful turquoise waters provide a good opportunity for swimming.

Transfer back to the hotel in Puerto Ayora. Overnight.



## DAY 5 (B/-/-)

### PUERTO AYORA TO BALTRA

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Breakfast, and transfer to Baltra Airport. End of Services.

#### Notes:

- **B:** Breakfast; **BB:** Box breakfast; **L:** Lunch; **BL:** Box lunch **D:** Dinner
- Flight back to the continent should leave after 12 pm (noon), otherwise a box breakfast will be provided.
- The order of visits on this itinerary may change subject to availability, unforeseen circumstances, safety and national park regulations .

#### INCLUDED

- Accommodation in a double room
- Meals as described in itinerary (B=Breakfast, L= Lunch, BL= Box Lunch, BB= Box Breakfast)
- Detailed excursions
- Naturalist English-speaking guide and transportation
- Transfer to/from Baltra's airport
- Entrance fees: Highlands, Lava Tunnels, Garrapatero Beach
- Snorkeling equipment (only in navigable tours: mask & tube)

#### NOT INCLUDED

- Air tickets to/from Mainland / Galapagos
- Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee: \$200 (Subject to change) per person
- Migratory Control Card: \$20.00 per person
- Wetsuit
- Dinner, Soft and alcoholic drinks
- Personal expenses and tips