

Galapagos Natural Life

First Class - Galapagos Yachts

Anahi - CATAMARAN



ITINERARY DAY BY DAY

Itinerary A1 4 days / 3 nights

This short cruise will give you a very introduction to the Galapagos Island and its flora and fauna. During our cruise we will visit San Cristobal Island where we find Puerto Baquerizo Moreno de Capital of the Galapagos Province. Visit Española Island, one of the most famous and interesting islands due to it varied fauna. Then our next inhabited Island will be Floreana where the first colonists of Galapagos arrived. Finally, we will also touch Puerto Ayora the biggest town of the Archipel and where we will visit the well-known C. Darwin Station and the F. Llerena Interpretation Center.

DAY 1 - TUESDAY

San Cristobal Island: Interpretation Center, Cerro Tijeretas & Punta Carola.

Flying from Quito or Guayaquil, your arrival at the Puerto Baquerizo city airport (on San Cristobal Island) will occur about midday (local time) and after clearing documents you will get to the lobby of the exit area where our guide will be waiting for you with a sign table with the name of our Yacht Anahi. Bags are taken care by one of our crew members who will transport them directly to the yacht. Board one of the airlines local buses and you will be transported (5 minutes) to the place known as "El Muelle" (pier) of Puerto Baquerizo, from where our zodiacs will be ready to take to the Yacht Anahi. Our Captain and crew will

welcome you with a drink and then you will be allocated in your cabins. Lunch follows and then our guide will give a short explanation about the afternoon activities. At about 2 p.m. you will disembark and from here we start our walking tour to visit the Interpretation Center of San Cristobal. Located in the outskirts of the small city of Pto. Baquerizo Moreno, the capital of the Galapagos Province, it gives a very good introduction to the Galapagos Islands, it's marine and land life, and flora. Then we walk up to the place known as Frigate Bird Hill.

A short hike starting from the interpretation Center will take us to the base of the hill and from here in about 30 minutes, we hike to the top of the hill. Once there, visitors are treated to a spectacular view of the white beaches and the Sea Lion (Kicker Rock) rocky outcrop emerging from the Pacific Ocean on one side, and the roofs of the houses of Puerto Baquerizo on the other. The hill is often visited by Frigate birds, giving it its name. Both magnificent frigate birds and great frigate birds can be seen. From the hill we descend towards the beach known as Punta Carola, a place where we find a large colony of sea lions. A great spectacle!

Return to the yacht for dinner and in the evening (if desired) you can go to the town for a walk and perhaps have a drink on one of the local bars. Lunch, Dinner.

DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY

Wednesday: Española Island: Punta Suarez & Gardner Bay.

In the morning we will be arriving to Española Island. The English sailors named it Hood Island after Viscount Samuel Hood. It is located in the extreme southeast of the archipelago and is considered, along with Santa Fe, one of the oldest, at approximately four million years. While Española Island is one of the oldest of the Galapagos Islands, this island is dying, slowly becoming a rocky, barren land with little or no vegetation. But this does give large bays, with sand and soft shingle which attracts a healthy number of Galapagos Sea Lions Two spots are especially popular with visitors: In the morning and after breakfast we will be visiting Punta Suárez, of great interest because of its varied bird-life. This island has its own species of animals, such as the Española Mockingbird, which has a longer and more curved beak than the one on the central islands; the Española lava lizard; the Marine Iguana of the subspecies *venustissimus*, which has red markings on its back; among others. Here there are also Swallow-tailed Gulls and other tropical birds. One of the most interesting attractions is Waved Albatrosses (from March to January almost the entire world population breeds on the island) and the mating dances of Blue-footed Boobies. There are hundreds of masked boobies, colony of sea lions, huge colonies of marine iguanas, and different species of birds. Return to the yacht for lunch, rest and afterwards start our afternoon visit to Bahía Gardner, which has a lovely beach, excellent for swimming and snorkeling. Here we also find a huge colony of playful sea lions. Perhaps we can observe Galapagos hawks, Darwin finches, mocking birds, sea turtles and eventually snakes. After enjoying the beach we return to the yacht for dinner and rest. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

DAY 3 - THURSDAY

Floreana Island: Punta Cormorant, Devils Crown & Post Office Bay/ Asilo de la Paz.

Floreana Island was named after Juan José Flores, the first president of Ecuador, during whose administration the government of Ecuador took possession of the archipelago. It was previously called Charles Island (after King Charles II of England), and Santa Maria after one of the caravels of Columbus.

The island has an area of 173 square kms (67sq mi) and it was formed by volcanic eruption. The island's highest point is Cerro Pajas at 640m (2,100ft). Our visit points: In the morning we go to Punta Cormorant, a site which probably offers one of the largest and the best flamingo lagoon in the Galapagos. It is situated between two tuff cones that give the area a special atmosphere. There are various species of shorebirds to be seen besides flamingos, the most frequent are stilts, white-

checked pintail ducks and other migratory birds. This is a unique zone due to the high percentage of endemism in the plant life. Is also very interesting the two distinct beaches: the "green beach (due to high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand) and the "Flour sand beach" made up of coral. We can also do

snorkel at the beach. Return to the yacht and we can start our snorkel at the place known as Corona del Diablo (Devil's Crown). This is a submerged eroded volcanic crater. The interior of the crater forms an ideal coral reef habitat and that is why it is one of the most fascinating marine sites in the Galapagos. Here you can observe coral reefs, sea lions, reef fish, hammerhead sharks, and several other species of fish. Back to the yacht for lunch.

In the afternoon visit to the famous Post Office Bay. Historically, this site is the location of a wooden barrel that was placed in the 18th century by the crew of a whaling ship. It has been used since this time by mariners and tourists as a post office. The idea is to carry letters or postcards to their destination by hand. Apart from being the Post Office Barrel, this site was the landing area for some of the first colonists. Later on we will visit the place known as "Asilo de La Paz" (Haven of Peace) located in the interior of the island, at the top, a place where the Wittmer settled when they arrived in Galapagos. Back to the yacht and then we will navigate towards the port of Puerto Ayora, a small city known as the biggest town in Galapagos. During the navigation perhaps is possible to spot herds of dolphins, sea rays and marine turtles. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

DAY 4 - FRIDAY

Santa Cruz Island: F. Llerena Interpretation Center & Giant Galapagos Turtles.

In the morning we say good bay to our crew and with the company of your guide you will be transferred to the airport on Baltra Island. On the way we have 2 visit points: a walk in the Galapagos National Park turtles breeding center and Interpretation Center "Fausto Llerena", combined with a visit to a private farm where we find a nice green lush area on the highlands of Santa Cruz. Our guide will take you for a nice walk among the beautiful threes of the forest, including ferns and sedges, miconias, etc. And then you will amaze with the giant Galapagos tortoises roam freely in the farm natural habitat. The Tortoises are very shy, and will typically withdraw into their carapaces as soon as they see you coming close. It is very important not to bother, touch or feed these beautiful animals. The area also contain several species of birds including the famous finches of Darwin, the so called and rare "Pájaro Brujo" a beautiful red colored bird, etc. At El Manzanillo farm we also found a simple but nice infrastructure where you can rest and buy drinks, a beer or a try the delicious local juices. Transport to El Canal de Itabaca (Itabaca Channel) which we cross it with a local ferry and from the other side a bus will take us to the Airport of Baltra Island. Our guide will help you with the airline check in and will say a final goodbye to our estimated passengers. Be ready for a prompt return to Galapagos! Breakfast.

Rate includes:

- All meals (breakfast - lunch - dinner) water with meals.
- Accommodation in double cabins.
- Transfers from the airport to the yacht and vice versa in Galapagos.
- Excursions in the islands with English Speaking Naturalist Guide.
- **Air ticket.**

Rate does not include:

- Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee: USD 100.00 per person.
- Migratory Control Card: USD 20.00 per person.
- Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages.
- Snorkelling equipment for rent on board.
- Tips.

Note:

- Rates per person in U.S. Dollars.
- Single occupancy supplement 80% or 100%.
- The route of the ship and the itinerary are subject to change and can vary depending on the regulations and policies of the Galapagos National Park, weather, seasonal changes, safety, etc.
- Please Ask us if you have a penalty If you don't issue the flights with the Yacht.

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Quito - Ecuador - South America