

Galapagos Natural Life

First Class - Galapagos Yachts

Anahi - CATAMARAN



ITINERARY DAY BY DAY

Itinerary A2 5 days / 4 nights

This 5 days cruise will take you to beautiful places of Galapagos: Bachas beach will give you a very good introduction to the Galapagos Island and its flora and fauna. Genovesa Island is a great place to observe the red footed boobies. Plazas and Santa Fe islands are home of the well-known land iguanas, while on San Cristobal Island you will visit the beautiful landscape of Punta Pitt, snorkel at Kicker Rock and visit the highlands of San Cristobal Island to meet with the Giant Galapagos Turtles Breeding Center.

DAY 1 - FRIDAY

Arrival on Baltra Island. Playa Bachas.

Your arrival 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 signboard 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) from where our zodiacs will be ready to take you 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 our zodiacs will be taken to the beach known as Playa Bachas where you will have a wet disembark. These two small beaches are found to the West of Turtle Cove. Their sand is made of decomposed coral, which makes it white and soft, making it a favourite nesting site for sea turtles. Behind one of the beaches there is a small brackish water lagoon, where occasionally is possible to observe flamingos and other coastal birds, such as black-necked stilts and whimbrels. The other beach is longer, but it has two old barges that were abandoned during the Second World War, when the USA used Baltra Island as a strategically point to protect the Panama Channel. (The metal is rusty and sharp, so it is not a good place for swimming). Here we also will have our first encounter with sea lions which are resting on the beach and also we can find some marine iguanas and several marine birds. Time to enjoy the beach and for snorkeling with playful sea lions. Transport back to the boat and at 7 p.m. you will have the official welcome drink followed by a delicious dinner. After dinner your guide will give you a briefing about the next day activities.

Lunch, Dinner.

DAY 2 - SATURDAY

Genovesa Island.

At 6 am. we will be arriving at Genovesa Island. This is the northeastern most Island in the Galapagos Archipelago and it is also known as Tower Island with just 14 sq. km in size, but in despite of this, Genovesa offers an amazing opportunity to enjoy Galapagos at the most. Its maximum elevation is 64 m (210 ft). The horse-shoe shaped island has a volcanic caldera whose wall has collapsed, forming the beautiful Great Darwin Bay, surrounded by high cliffs. Lake Arcturus, filled with salt water, lies in the center, and sediment within this Crater Lake is less than 6,000 years old. Although no historical eruptions are known from Genovesa, there are very young lava flows on the flanks of the volcano. Genovesa is also known as Bird Island, because of the large and varied bird colonies which nest here. There is an abundance of frigate birds and it is among the best place in the archipelago to see Red-footed Boobies, Nazca Boobies, Swallow-tailed Gulls, storm petrels, tropicbirds, Darwin's finches, Galápagos Mockingbirds, the endemic Galapagos Dove and the short-eared owls. It has 2 visitor sites: The first visitor site is the Darwin Bay Beach, a very beautiful and attractive site due to the great abundance of sea birds that nest on the salt bush plants that dominate the area. We will visit this place in the morning and the in the afternoon we go to the second visitor point which known as the Prince Philip's Steps. This visit requires a 25 meters of cliff ascend to reach a platform which is an excellent site for observing various species of birds. On Genovesa we will also have opportunity for panga ride, snorkeling, kayaking and walking.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

DAY 3 - SUNDAY

Plazas and Santa Fe Islands.

As usually our arrival will be at about 6 am. to Plazas Islands. After breakfast we start our first visit in the morning. Plazas are two small islets that were uplifted a short distance from the East Coast of Santa Cruz. The unusual vegetation and location of the island create an interesting landscape in which the fauna and flora of Galápagos are enhanced. Moreover, despite its small size, some of the most interesting and outstanding species of the archipelago occur here. It is possible to guarantee the observation of land iguanas that often are in the shade of a cactus. Nesting on the rugged southern cliffs, are usually swallow tailed gulls, which seen along with various other sea birds. The protected rocky seashore is a prime habitat for a large colony of noisy sea lions. The main attraction of Plazas is the land iguanas, the sea lions and the swallow tailed gulls. Also we can see yellow tailed mullets, Audubon's shearwaters, red-billed tropicbirds, frigate birds, and brown pelicans gliding past the cliff. Return to the yacht for lunch and a well-deserved rest. In the afternoon we start our second visit to Santa Fe (Barrington) Island. The small bay on Barrington's northeast coast is an extremely picturesque anchorage. There are two different trails at this site one leads to a scenic viewpoint on top of a cliff where it is possible to find land iguanas, endemic to the

island. The other trail is near the beach and is a short circular trail where it is possible to see land iguanas, but early in the morning or in the afternoon when the sun is low. A particular attraction is the unusually tall forest of prickly cactus. Here we will also have the possibilities to do kayaking, snorkeling, panga ride and walks to observe and enjoy the nature. Back to the yacht for dinner and enjoy a good drink and rest.

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

DAY 4 - MONDAY

San Cristobal Island: Punta Pitt, Kicker Rock and Lobos Island.

In the morning we will arrive to San Cristobal (Chatham) Island. This is the easternmost island in the Galápagos archipelago, and one of the oldest geologically. The name "San Cristobal" comes from the patron saint of seafarers, St. Christopher. English speakers increasingly use that name in preference to the traditional English name of Chatham Island, derived from William Pitt, 1st Earl of Chatham. The Island has an area of 558 km² (215 miles²) and its highest point rises to 730 m (2400 ft). The capital of the archipelago, Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, is a small town lying at the south-western tip of the island. San Cristobal hosts frigate birds, Galapagos sea lions, Galápagos tortoises, blue and red footed boobies, tropical birds, marine iguanas, dolphins, swallow-tailed seagulls.

In the morning we visit Punta Pitt, considered as one of the most beautiful and impressive sites of Galapagos. The erosion of the high cliffs and the almost constant foggy morning gives to Punta Pitt an Erie atmosphere. Being the northeastern most point in Galapagos, it has become one of the most favorite nesting sites for sea birds. Here we can observe the three different species of boobies and great frigate birds nesting in the same area. We return to the yacht for lunch and in the afternoon we navigate towards the giant and impressive out crop rock locally known as "Leon Dormido" (sleeping Lion). On the cliffs we can see lots of blue-footed boobies, masked boobies, pelicans and other several marine birds. During our snorkeling activity we can observe sharks, marine turtles, sea rays, and several species of colorful fishes. Later on we go for a walk on Isla Lobos (Lobos Island), a small islet, separated from the main Island by a narrow stretch of calm water. Upon its rocky shores blue-footed boobies nest and sea lions rest. The atmosphere is one of tranquility and primitive beauty. This is typical Galapagos environment. Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

DAY 5 - TUESDAY

San Cristobal Island: Junco Lagoon, Cerro Colorado Galapaguera, Transfer to the Airport

In the morning our guide will take you up on the highlands of San Cristobal Island. Our tour starts from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno and our first visit will be to the Laguna El Junco (El Junco Lagoon). Rainwater and condensation have collected for hundreds of years in the caldera of an extinct volcano, creating this haven for frigate birds. The lake supplies water both for the people of the island and for many of the boats. Hiking around the lake offers views of practically the entire island including San Joaquin Hill the island's highest point.

Our next stop will be at Cerro Colorado Turtles Breeding Center. Here we can learn about the hard work developed by scientists in order to preserve the species of the Giant Galapagos Turtles. There is a nice walk on a trail which permits you to be in close contact with the turtles of the different sizes, from the tiny ones to the giant oldest ones.

Transfer to the airport for your flight back to Quito or Guayaquil.

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