

Galapagos Natural Life

M/C Monique

Itinerary C

3-Night Cruise

Thursday – Sunday

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

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

Thursday

AM: Baltra Airport Arrival

Upon arrival, you will be welcomed and assisted at the airport, then transferred from Baltra Airport to the M/C Monique.

PM: Highlands (Santa Cruz Island)

On the highlands of Santa Cruz, you'll have the opportunity to see the famous giant tortoises in the wild. So renowned are these endemic animals that they gave the archipelago its name. Birdwatching is also one of the activities to do in the Santa Cruz highlands, since this area is home to finches and other Galapagos birds.

Activities: Walking

Difficulty: Moderate

(-, L, D)

Friday

AM: Champion Islet, Cormorant Point and/or Devil's Crown (Floreana Island)

In the morning, explore Champion Islet, a small sanctuary near Floreana Island known for its crystal-clear waters and coral reefs. During a panga ride and snorkeling session, guests may encounter sea turtles, playful sea lions, and vibrant schools of fish. This islet also shelters one of the last populations of the Floreana mockingbird, a remarkable spot for wildlife and marine life preservation.

Cormorant Point features two contrasting beaches: one with olive-green sand due to the high content of olivine crystals, and another with pure white sand (commonly known as 'Flour Beach') derived from pulverized coral.

The saltwater pond is a must-see as it is frequented by one of the archipelago's largest populations of Galapagos flamingos as well as other shorebirds such as stilts, white-cheeked pintails, and large-billed flycatchers.

Afterwards, guests will take a dinghy ride to Devil's Crown, an underwater volcanic crater that is almost completely submerged – in fact, just a small portion of the rock formation can be seen from above, and it looks like a crown. Snorkelers will discover a vast underwater world full of coral reefs and a myriad of marine species. Birds are also part of this visitor point due to its location in open waters.

Activities and Excursions: Walk, snorkeling, dinghy ride, kayaking / paddleboarding

Difficulty: Moderate

PM: Post Office Bay and/or Baroness's Lookout (Floreana Island)

Post Office Bay is a man-made site that offers an insight into a remarkable mailing tradition developed by British whalers in the 18th century that visitors can still take part in today.

The beach here provides good snorkeling and kayaking options, and it is also possible to descend into and walk through a lava tube.

Next, take a dinghy ride to the Baroness's Lookout, a volcanic rock formation named after an Australian baroness, who visited the island in the 1930s and is believed to have mysteriously disappeared.

A short trail leads to a brilliant vantage point with panoramic views of the surrounding mangroves and coastline.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, Snorkeling, dinghy ride, kayaking / paddleboarding.

Difficulty: Easy

(B, L, D)

Saturday

AM: Suarez Point (Española Island)

Suarez Point is packed with wildlife and is best explored by following the circular walking trail. This memorable walk will take you past nesting sites of large colonies of Nazca and blue-footed boobies and mockingbirds.

Unique to Española Island is the beautiful waved albatross, which can be seen majestically launching themselves out across the ocean from the cliffs and the red and green marine iguanas.

A geological highlight is several blow holes, capable of shooting water 25m into the air, that make for a spectacular photo.

Activities and Excursions: Walking

Difficulty: Moderate

PM: Gardner Bay (Española Island)

Spend the afternoon on the soft white sands of Gardner Bay, a pristine beach where sea lions lounge and the ocean invites you in. Whether you choose to swim, snorkel, kayak, or paddleboard, the surrounding turquoise waters offer a perfect opportunity to observe marine life. Just offshore, Gardner and Osborn Islets are home to coral reefs teeming with tropical fish, rays, and playful juvenile sea lions — ideal for a vibrant snorkeling adventure.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, Snorkeling, Dinghy ride, Kayaking/paddleboarding

Difficulty: Moderate

(B, L, D)

Sunday

AM: Interpretation Center (San Cristobal Island)

In the morning, broaden your understanding of the archipelago at the San Cristobal Interpretation Center. This modern facility offers engaging exhibits that trace the Galapagos' geological beginnings, ecological richness, and complex human history over time. Learn about the unique species that call these islands home and the ongoing conservation initiatives working to protect their fragile ecosystems for generations to come.

Activities and Excursions: Walking

Difficulty: Easy

After this last visit, transfer to San Cristobal airport for your return flight to mainland Ecuador.

Assistance and farewell at the airport.

(B,-,-)

*****End of cruise*****

* Itineraries are subject to change without prior notice due to weather conditions, National Park regulations, emergencies on board or any unforeseen circumstances.

info@galapagoslastminute.net

galapagos_natural_life@hotmail.com

Quito - Ecuador - South America