

**Ecuador** - Northern Islands Cruise | Natural Paradise

Trip Code  
ECTSNP4  
Departure



## Introduction

This wonderful introduction to the Galapagos archipelago sees you cruising between the islands of Santa Cruz, Genovesa and Santiago, where you will be greeted by spectacular volcanic scenery and an incredible array of wildlife. Encounter the majestic giant Galapagos tortoises in the highlands of Santa Cruz, see tidal pools filled with sea lions, snorkel with turtles and rays and learn the history of Bachas Beach and Buccaneer Cove, as you look out for frigatebirds, blue-footed boobies, Galapagos hawks and Darwin's finches.

## Itinerary

## Ecuador - Northern Islands Cruise | Natural Paradise

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ECTSNP4

Departure

Depart: Saturdays

Duration

4 Days Morning flight from Quito or Guayaquil to

Baños, Galapagos Islands. You will arrive at

Baños Island in the morning. After passing

through immigration and baggage claim,

you will be met by a Natural Paradise staff

member and transferred to the yacht. You

will be shown to your cabin where you will

have some time to settle in before lunch and

a welcome briefing. In the afternoon you

will head to the highlands. Accessible by

bus from Puerto Ayora, the highlands of

Santa Cruz are a deep green which contrast

beautifully with the dry, lower part of the

islands. The predominant vegetation in the

highlands are Scalesia trees which create a

lush green forest. The lava tunnels, over

half a mile long, are underground and

walking through them is a unique, surreal

experience. Then, you will visit Fausto

Llerena Breeding Center in Puerto Ayora,

Santa Cruz Island, where giant tortoises are

bred in captivity; this is home to tortoises

ranging from 3-inches (new hatchlings) to 4-

feet long when adults. Subspecies of the

giant tortoises interact with one another,

and many of the older tortoises are

accustomed to humans stretching out their

heads for a photo opportunity. The babies

are kept until they are about four years-old

and are strong enough to survive on their

own.



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Select Saturdays Island

Duration

4 Days In the morning, you will visit El Barranco

Location also known as Prince Phillip's

Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, South America

Stops. It is a steep, rocky path that leads up

a high cliff rock face. A marvelous view can

be appreciated from here. This site is also

home to Palo Santo vegetation as well as

red-footed boobies, short-eared owls,

Galápagos storm petrels, and Galapagos

doves. In the afternoon, you will visit the

white-sand coral beach of Darwin Bay which

includes a half mile trail (0,75km) that

winds through mangroves filled with land

birds. Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies,

and swallow-tailed gulls, which can easily

be spotted here. Further down the path

we'll find tidal pools where sea lions swim

playfully. At the end is a spectacular view of

a Cliff.



### DAY 3: Santiago Island

The morning visit is to Espumilla Beach

where marine iguanas lounge and the Sally

Lightfoot crabs attract the hunting herons

performing the dance of predator and prey

right before your eyes. Snorkeling is highly

recommended as you could come face to

face with an octopus, moray eel, shark and a

variety of other species of tropical fish. In

the afternoon, you will go to Egas Port, also

known as James Bay, on Santiago Island

which is home to the curious Galapagos

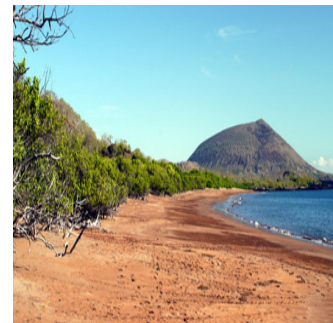
hawks and quick-footed Galapagos lava

lizards. The trail leads to the coastline with

gorgeous tide pools and grottos full of

fauna. Here the Galapagos furseals bathe in

the sun. This is also a great snorkeling site.



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Day of: Saturdays

Duration

4 Days

Locations

Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, South America

which is a beach for swimming. One of the

few remnants of the U.S. World War II

presence in the Galapagos, a floating pier,

can be seen here. You may see flamingos,

Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs, black-

necked stilts, and whimbrels. Sea turtles

also nest on the beach. After this final visit,

you will be transferred to the Baltra airport

in time for your flight back to the mainland.



### Inclusions & Details

Accommodation

Cabin on board ship

## INCLUSIONS

Accommodation in chosen cabin onboard the ship

All meals onboard the ship

Transfers in the islands

Bilingual National Park Guide

All excursions

Use of snorkelling equipment/wetsuit

Use of underwater camera

Free Airport Assistance\*

Hotel night in Quito or Guayaquil (the day before the cruise)\*

2 Free transfers to Galapagos Flights\*

Inclusions

\*Applies only when purchasing roundtrip Galapagos/mainland airfare from this cruise operator & not combinable with other discounts or offers.

## EXCLUSIONS

Roundtrip airfare to/from Galapagos Islands

Alcoholic drinks

Galapagos National Park Entrance fee (US\$200 per person from Aug 2024 - Subject to change)

Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD\$20 per person - Subject to change)

Travel/Medical insurance

Gratuities

Personal Expenses

Any other expenses not listed

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

Single Surcharge

A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.

All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Notes

\* Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions and government regulations.

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Select Saturdays

Price Dependent upon Seasonality, fuel surcharges, currency fluctuations and availability at time of booking.

Duration

4 Days

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using

Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, South America

less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless

organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose

to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To

view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays

within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint.

Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.

Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are

paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport

on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the

environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

Royal Galapagos supports a number of sustainability initiatives within the Galapagos. Royal and its associated vessels

like the Natural paradise support the Galapagos Conservation Trust, which of sustainability and conservation within

the Galapagos. While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are

encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate

souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and

endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will

be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless

organisation, click [HERE](#)