

South America - Galapagos 8 Day Cruise B | Natural Paradise

Trip Code
ECRGNP8B
Departure



Introduction

Embark on an 8-day cruise through the stunning Galapagos Islands, exploring Santa Cruz, Isabela, Fernandina, Chinese Hat, Mosquera, Floreana, Espanola, and San Cristobal. Experience diverse landscapes, from lava fields to coral beaches, and encounter incredible wildlife, including sea lions, flamingos, and the waved albatross. Highlights include snorkelling at Vicente Roca Point, home to seahorses and marine turtles.

Sail aboard **Natural Paradise**, a modern, luxury catamaran designed for small-group experiences. With spacious cabins, sundecks, and expert guides, it offers comfort and adventure. A [4-day cruise option](#) is also available.

Itinerary

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Departure

Selected Tuesdays

Duration

8 Days
Morning flight from Quito or Guayaquil to Baños, Galapagos Islands. You will arrive at Baños, Galapagos Islands 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 North Seymour you may see Galapagos sea lions, blue-footed boobies, and magnificent frigate birds which are abundant on this island. North Seymour was formed by a series of submarine lava flows containing layers of sediment that were uplifted by tectonic activity. The island is characterized by its arid vegetation zone.



DAY 2: Isabela & Fernandina Islands

The morning visit is to Vicente Roca Point. Comprised of two separate coves, this site is a large bay with spectacular sea life. Keep an eye out for seahorses, sea turtles, and the strange yet fascinating Mola mola (or sun fish). In the afternoon, crossing the Bolivar Channel that divides Isabela and Fernandina Islands, you will land at Espinosa Point, and after walking past a colony of marine iguanas and a group of sea lions, you will reach the island's highlight: the flightless cormorant nesting site. This area also provides a great opportunity to see the Galapagos hawk.



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Location

Ecuador & Galapagos Islands

Found on the west coast between Tagus Cove and Elizabeth Bay. This area experienced a major uplift in 1954 causing the land to rise over 16 feet. The coast expanded half a mile out leaving marine life stranded on the new shore. This area is also a great place for snorkeling. In the afternoon you will visit Moreno Point located southwest of Elizabeth Bay. Here a dry landing onto what was once owing lava is possible. The lava has left craters in its wake which formed cristal tide pools. By looking into the pools, you can peer into another world as the marine life drifts by your window. In the brackish pools of this area, you may see pink flamingos, white-cheeked pintails, and common gallinules. If you look carefully into the pools, you may see white-tip reef sharks and some sea turtles.



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Saturday, Tuesday and

Duration

8 Days

The morning will consist of a visit to the

Sierra Negra Volcano which is the largest
Basaltic Caldera in the Galapagos with a
diameter of 6.2 miles (10 km). The site
offers impressive views and the opportunity
to observe up to seven species of finches
and a rich display of vegetation. The north
side of the caldera provides evidence of its
most recent volcanic activity in 2005. In the
afternoon you will visit The Wall of Tears (El
Muro de las Lágrimas) which is 65 feet (25
meters) high and an important piece of the
island history. A penal colony existed on
Isabela from 1945-1959, and the prisoners
were forced to build the wall, stone by
stone, while in isolation from the rest of the
world, and thousands died during the
construction. Many claim to feel the heavy
energy of this historical site, and locals
claim to hear cries in the wind. Afterwards
you will head to the Wetlands of Isabela
Island which are located just outside of
Puerto Villamil. The Wetlands consist of
lagoons, swamps, and mangroves and are
home to a variety of unique bird species
such as common stilts, whimbrels, white-
cheeked pintails, and gallinules. The
Wetlands can be visited on foot via a path
through the swamps. Next you will visit
Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center of Isabela.
It is located about one mile (1.5 km) from
Puerto Villamil. In this breeding center,
populations from South Isabela Sierra
Negra Volcano, Cerro Azul, Cazuela, Cinco
Cerros, Roca Union, San Pedro, Tables and
Cerro Paloma have been bred in captivity.
In total there are 330 juvenile and adult
tortoises.



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Day 3 Chinese Hat & Borrero Bay

Duration

8 Days
In the morning, you will visit Chinese Hat

Location This small islet is located near the
Equador & Galapagos Islands
Southeast coast of Santa Cruz Island. Its name

comes from the distinct shape of the islet's
summit. This small islet is a great location
to view many geological formations such as
lava tubes and lava flows. Some of the lava
flows were formed underwater and
subsequently raised above sea level. The
presence of coral heads on the lava flow
indicates this phenomenon. In the northern
area of Santa Cruz Island, Bahía Borrero is
a beautiful white coralline beach used as a
nesting site by Green Sea turtles. This
extinct volcano, due to its altitude, shows all
the different zones of vegetation, changing
from the littoral to the arid, and then with
more moisture into the humid zone, to end
in the dry pampa zone.



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Post Office

Ecuador & Galapagos Islands

In the morning, you will visit the famous Post Office Bay. You will land on a beach and head to a spot where 19th century whalers placed a wooden barrel used as an unofficial mail box. The custom continues to this day with Galapagos visitors. So, don't forget your postcards, and don't be surprised if the post card arrives to its destination before you even get home!

Cormorant Point hosts a large flamingo lagoon where other birds such as common stilts and whitecheeked pintails can also be seen. The beaches on this island are distinct: The Green Beach is named so due to its green color, which comes from a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand, and the Four Sand Beach is composed of white coral. Afterwards, you will visit Champion Islet, named after the whaler Andrew Champion, which is a small island located just offshore Floreana Island in the southern part of the Archipelago, considered as one of the most beautiful places on Galapagos for all snorkeling and diving fans and an excellent opportunity for dolphin watching.



DAY 7: Española Island

In the morning, you will visit Suarez Point. On the trail you will have the chance to spot blue-footed boobies, albatrosses, and Nazca boobies. This island is the breeding site of nearly all of the world's 12,000 pairs of waved albatrosses. You will also visit a beautiful site on the ocean front where there is a cliff that the large albatrosses use as a launching pad! You will have the chance to see the famous blowhole that spurts sea water into the air. The landscape is great for photography. The afternoon excursion takes you to the spectacular Gardner Bay. After landing, you can walk across a lovely white-sand beach amongst a busy sea lion colony or dive into the water to swim with sea lion pups. You may also see curious mockingbirds on the beach.

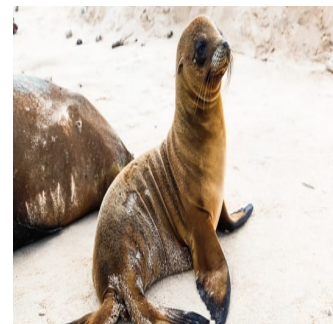


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8 Days
San Cristobal Island
Locations

Ecuador & Galapagos Islands
In the morning you will take an excursion to Lobos Island which means "Sea Lion Island." This appropriately named island is ripe with noisy, playful, jolly sea lions who will welcome you to their home with open, well, fins. This island also offers great snorkeling opportunities as well as the chance to see blue-footed and Nazca boobies. After this final visit, you will be transferred to the San Cristobal airport in time for your flight back to the mainland.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation

Cabin On Board Ship

INCLUSIONS

All meals and excursions
Transfers in the islands
Bilingual National Park Guide
Use of underwater camera
2 free hotel nights (Quito or Guayaquil) for 8-day cruises*
2 free transfers for Galapagos flights and airport assistance for 8-day cruises*
***Applies when purchasing roundtrip Galapagos airfare from operator. Not combinable.**

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

Airfare to/from Galapagos
Alcoholic drinks
Galapagos National Park fee (USD\$200 per person, subject to change)
Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD\$20 per person, subject to change)
Travel/medical insurance
Gratuities
Personal Expenses

Difficulty Rating

2 (Light Adventure)

Single Surcharge

A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

Prices are based on per person, twin share.

Notes

Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.
All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Price Dependent upon Currency fluctuation, seasonality, and availability at time of booking.

Sustainability