

Galapagos Islands - Central & Eastern Islands | Hermes

Trip Code
ECVNH8CD
Departure



Introduction

Experience the stunning beauty of the Galapagos Islands on the Hermes Galapagos Cruise, spanning seven days and six nights. Your adventure begins with an early flight to San Cristóbal Island, where you'll take in breath-taking views from Tijeretas Hill and learn about the unique history of the islands at the Interpretation Centre. From there, you'll explore Española Island, known for its pristine beaches and vibrant bird colonies, including the famous waved albatross. Enjoy both snorkelling and wildlife watching at Gardner Bay and Punta Suárez, where playful sea lions and diverse marine life abound.

As you continue your journey, visit Floreana Island, where you'll discover its unique beaches and the intriguing history of Post Office Bay. After exploring the Charles Darwin Research Station on Santa Cruz and observing giant tortoises, venture to Dragon Hill to see land iguanas and flamingos. The trip also includes a visit to the enchanting Genovesa Island, a paradise for bird enthusiasts with its large colonies of red-footed boobies. Finally, you'll enjoy a peaceful morning at Black Turtle Cove, paddling through mangroves while keeping an eye out for manta rays and sea turtles. This itinerary promises a deep connection with nature and unforgettable encounters with the remarkable wildlife that make the Galapagos so special.

Itinerary

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Departure

Selected Mondays

Duration

7 Days

Locations
Galapagos Islands - Ecuador, South America

Upon arrival into San Cristóbal Island you will be met at the airport and transferred to the ship for the embarkation. In the afternoon, visit Tijeretas, a great viewpoint and our first wildlife encounter. Learn about the origins of the Galapagos at the Interpretation Center. Interpretation Center Visit (PM) Learn about the history of the Galápagos Islands from the very beginning of their volcanic origins through to today's conservation efforts. Tour the Human History exhibit to learn about the islands' discovery and colonization, and discover the natural history and variety of flora and fauna that make the Galápagos so fascinating. Tijeretas Hill (PM) This hill bears its name thanks to the frigate birds as "Tijeretas" is how people locally call them. Here we will enjoy from a great view of beautiful landscapes at the foot of a frigate bird nesting colony.



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Selected Mondays
Depart 20 Gardner Bay & Suarez Point

Duration

7 Days

Enjoy the day on Española Island, one of the

best in the archipelago. Visit the white

Galapagos Islands - Ecuador - South America

Sandy beach of Gardner Bay, and the bird

colonies of Punta Suárez. Arriving at

Gardner Bay's in the morning, spend the

day exploring on shore and snorkelling at

Gardner Island in the bay. After lunch, sail

to the western side of the islands to Punta

Suárez, known for its amazing bird colonies

and home to the waved albatross (April and

December). Gardner Bay Visit (AM) Visit

Gardner Bay's magnificent white sandy

beach, home to sea lions and sea birds. Be

sure to explore the beautiful turquoise

water and its incredible sea life. Spot young

sea lions and large schools of surprisingly

big tropical fish, including yellow-tailed

surgeonfish, king angelfish, and bump-head

parrot fish. Snorkeling (Gardner Bay) (AM)

Head to Tortuga Rock and Gardner Bay for

a spectacular snorkelling experience. Spot

playful young sea lions and large schools of

tropical fish, including yellow-tailed

surgeonfish, king angelfish, and bump-head

parrot fish. Look for white-tipped reef

sharks napping on the bottom. Punta Suárez

Visit (PM) Visit Punta Suárez, one of most

rich wildlife landing sites in the Galápagos.

Be greeted by surfing young sea lions on

arrival. Head to the trail to find many

species of nesting sea birds, and, if lucky,

see the waved albatross. Follow the path up

to a cliff for great views over the ocean, and

watch sea birds gliding in the wind.



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Land at Punta Cormorant on Floreana.

Guided walks to observe the bird and
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America
wildlife and learn about the natural history.

Snorkelling excursion at Champion Islet.

Visit Post Office Bay. Punta Cormorant Visit

(AM) Visit Punta Cormorant, the only

landing site on Floreana Island, and

discover two amazingly different beaches:

one with green sand, coloured by olivine

crystals, and another with white sand

particles known as 'Flour Beach'. Spend the

afternoon observing flamingos and other

shore birds feeding in the lagoon. Spot

penguins and marine iguanas at the water's

edge, and explore the lava tubes with the

Galápagos CEO. Snorkelling (Champion

Islet) (AM) Jump on in and get up close and

personal with the playful sea lion colony

that reside in the waters off this tiny island.

Keep an eye out for sea turtles, rays and

colourful fish swimming by. There can be

currents in this area, this activity should be

done by strong swimmers only. Post Office

Bay Visit (PM) Visit Post Office Bay and

learn about its unique history. In the late

18th century, English whaling vessels

placed a barrel here to be used as a post

office. Today, the box is used mainly by

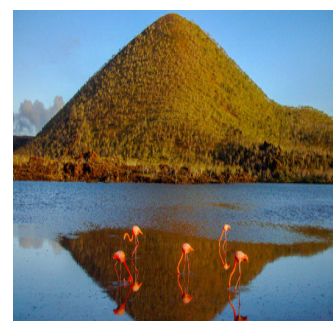
tourists, who may drop off and pick up

unstamped letters to be carried to far

destinations. Continue the tradition - leave

a letter and take one to deliver (be sure it

makes it to the correct location)



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Trip Code

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Departure

Selected Mondays
Depart Charles Darwin Station & Santa

Cruz Highlands

Duration

7 Days
Location
Depart in Puerto Ayora and visit the

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

Charles Darwin Research Station to see the

giant Galápagos tortoises. In the afternoon

enjoy the highlands, visit a tortoise ranch

and see some of the amazing volcanic

formations on Santa Cruz. Charles Darwin

Research Station Visit (AM) Visit Fausto

Llerena Breeding Center a great place to

observe many species of tortoises and land

iguanas in captivity. Brought back from the

brink of extinction, see the famous

Galápagos tortoise up close - a corral

houses adult tortoises, and a nursery cares

for the young until around age three when

their shells have hardened. This area also

houses the Charles Darwin Research

Station, a scientific organization initiated in

1964, which works to preserve the

Galápagos' ecosystem through the

conservation efforts of scientists,

researchers, and volunteers. While the

offices themselves are not open to visitors,

the research station provides a study

location for international scientists and

environmental education for the local

community. Santa Cruz Highlands

Excursion (PM) Visit the highlands of Santa

Cruz and see the Galápagos giant tortoise in

its natural surroundings. Explore the area

and its incredible underground lava tunnels

- some are more than 1km (.6 mi) long!

Wander along the volcanic tubes and keep

an eye out for the (mainly) nocturnal barn

owls that sometimes roost here.



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Departure

Saturday 10th May & Chinese Hat

Duration

7 Days

Locations

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America

Guianas and a saltwater lagoon frequented

by flamingos and other species of birds. In

the afternoon, the boat arrives at a small

uniquely shaped island off the southern tip

of Santiago called Chinese Hat. Here it is

often possible to see Galapagos penguins,

and the marine life is fantastic for

snorkelling. There is also a large sea lion

colony as well as many marine iguanas that

can be seen while walking amongst the

volcanic scenery. Trek to see good views of

the island's volcano. Dragon Hill (AM) Visit

Cerro Dragón (Dragon Hill) for some prime

birdwatching. Take a short walk from the

beach to a hypersaline (saltier than the

ocean) lagoon frequented by pink flamingos,

common stilts, pintail ducks, and other

species of birds. Pass through a Scaevola

tree forest; endemic to the area, there are

only 400 specimens of Scaevola trees left in

the world. Chinese Hat Visit (PM) Explore

Chinese Hat's beautiful landscape and

spectacular white-coral sand beach followed

by snorkeling with sea lions and penguins

and swimming opportunities in the cove.



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Departure

Selected Mondays
Darwin, El Barranco & Darwin Bay

Duration

7 Days

Today we will be visiting the beautiful and
Location
Genovesa Island. This northern
Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America
island, famous for its red-footed colony, is a

paradise for bird lovers. It is estimated that
about 200,00 Red-footed boobies live on this
island. Prince Phillips's Steps (AM) El

Barranco or Prince Phillips's Steps as
otherwise known, was named after a visit by
the British Monarch in 1964. El Barranco's

steep 81-foot stairway leads up to a high
cliff-face that opens out onto the plateau
surrounding Darwin Bay. Here an amazing

view can be appreciated. Once at the top of
the stairway we will meet Nazca boobies,
red-footed boobies, mockingbirds, and

finches along the way of a palo santo trail. It
will also be possible to see wedge-rumped
storm petrels swarm and short-eared owls.

Darwin Bay (PM) Darwin bay was formed by
the collapse of the flooded caldera of Tower
Island, another name used for Genovesa.

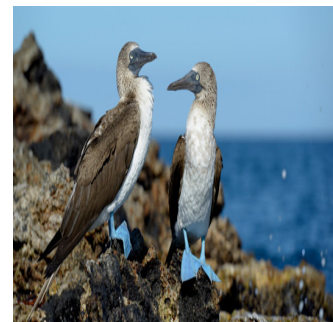
After landing at a small sand and coral
beach, it easy to realize why this island is a
bird lover paradise. Among the bird species

found here, the most common are swallow-
tailed and lava gulls, mockingbirds, yellow-
crowned night herons, lava herons,

Galapagos doves and yellow warblers. We
will continue on a short and flat trail to
encounter red-footed booby and great

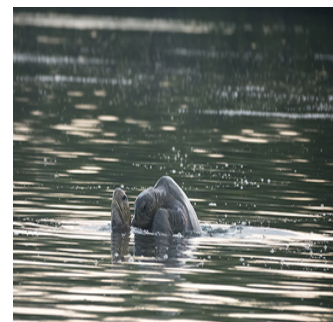
frigatebird nests. We will visit a tidal lagoon
where sea lions swim playfully ending our
path on a cliff with magnificent views of this

remote part of the Galapagos.



DAY 7: Black Turtle Cove & Departure

This morning take a panga ride and look for
marine life in Black Turtle Cove before
disembarking at Baltra and be transferred
to the airport.



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Departure

Selected Mondays

Duration

Inclusions & Details

7 Days
Accommodation

Locations

Galapagos Islands, Ecuador, South America



Suite on board a Yacht

INCLUSIONS

Accommodation in selected cabin

- Fuel Surcharge
- All activities and excursions as depicted in the itineraries in company of an English speaking naturalist guide
- Snorkelling equipment
- Kayak
- Wetsuits
- Stand up Paddle Board
- Internet
- All meals on board
- Purified water, tea, coffee
- Non - alcoholic beverages
- Selected menu premium wines, beer, and cocktails
- Laundry service
- Mini bar consumption
- Butler service

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

- Air ticket to and from Galapagos
- Gratuities to guides and crew
- Personals expenses
- Alcoholic drinks not included in menu selection
- Travel insurance
- International Airfare
- Visa if applicable
- Anything not mentioned on the itinerary
- Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee* (US\$200 from Aug 2024, price subject to change)
- Galapagos Control Transit \$20* (price subject to change)

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.

Please note water activities are subject to weather conditions.

Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated)

Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time

Snorkelling equipment is available in average sizes onboard complimentary.

Notes

Wetsuits are available at different sizes complimentary, on a first comes first serves basis

Kayaks and stand-up paddle boards are complimentary

Unpacking service is complimentary

24/7 butler service is complementary

Massages are available for an additional charge and must be booked onboard

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

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

Sustainability