

CATAMARAN ARCHIPELL I

Offers space and comfort combined with stability making it perfect for an adventure in the Galapagos Islands.



ITINERARY A THURSDAY TO MONDAY 5 DAYS - 4 NIGHTS

DAY	VISIT
THU	AM - Arrival at Seymour Ecological Airport PM - Highlands (Santa Cruz)
FRI	AM - Tintoreras Islet PM - Breeding Center Arnaldo Tupiza & Humadales
SAT	AM - Moreno Point (Isabela) PM - Elizabeth Bay (Isabela)
SUN	AM - Tagus Cove (Isabela) PM - Espinoza Point (Fernandina)
MON	AM - Bachas Beach (Santa Cruz) PM - Transfer out to Seymour Ecological Airport

All Galapagos itineraries are subject to change without prior notice due to National Park regulations, weather conditions, and majeure.



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ITINERARY A / THURSDAY TO MONDAY

5D / 4N - DAY BY DAY PROGRAM

DAY 1 - THURSDAY

AM - ARRIVAL TO SEYMOUR ECOLOGICAL AIRPORT (GPS)

Upon arrival at the Seymour Ecological Airport, travelers pass through an airport inspection point to make sure that no foreign plants or animals are introduced to the islands, and to pay the park entrance fee of \$100 (unless it has been prepaid). A guide will meet you, help you collect your luggage, and escort you on a short bus ride to the harbor.

PM - HIGHLANDS (SANTA CRUZ)

The road to the highlands leaves from Bellavista, a small village located at a 15-minute drive from Puerto Ayora and passes through the agricultural zone, near the National Park boundary, the Miconia Zone, and then goes to the Fern and Sedge zone. With clear weather, this area gives you beautiful scenes of rolling hills and extinct volcanic cones covered with grass and lush greenery all year round. Here you will visit the Twin Craters, which are two pit craters, as well as a local ranch where we can observe the Giant Tortoise specie of Santa Cruz Island in its natural habitat.

DAY 2 - FRIDAY

AM - TINTORERAS ISLET

"Tintoreras" are small islands in front of the Puerto Villamil coast. There are Herons on the lookout on mangrove branches, Galapagos Penguins and sea lions that often pop out on shore. White-tipped reef sharks (in Spanish: Tintoreras) are common in the archipelago and are very commonly found resting in the shallow waters.

PM - BREEDING CENTER ARNALDO TUPIZA & HUMEDALES

Breeding Center Arnaldo Tupiza is the Tortoise Breeding Center of Isabela and is located 1.5 km from Puerto Villamil. You can walk or drive. 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 reproduced in captivity. In total there are 330 between juvenile and adult tortoises. The Breeding Center has beautiful gardens consisting of native plants, such as manchineel (poisonous apple tree), mesquite, prickly pear, holy stick, lime prickly-ash, thorn shrub, Galapagos croton, Glorybower, Sea Island or Creole cotton, radiate-headed plants, yellow cordia, snowberry or milkberry, myrtle, nickerbean or nickernut and Darwin's Daisy. Humedales (The Wetlands) is a 6 Km trails complex, located south of Isabela Island. It has a wide variety of flora and fauna, as well as breathtaking scenery of the bay, the town of Puerto Villamil, volcanoes, islets, and rocks. Isabela wetlands feature both natural and introduced species.

DAY 3 - SATURDAY

AM - MORENO POINT (ISABELA)

Moreno Point is located on the north coast of Isabela Island between the volcanos Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul. The trail runs along a solidified lava flow called "Pahohoe", into a complex of coastal lagoons. Its main attraction are several species of birds, which are found around the lakes and mangroves.

PM - ELIZABETH BAY (ISABELA)

This is a marine visitor site, so the excursion has no landing point. Your zodiac ride starts with a visit to the Marietas islets where the largest and most important penguin colony reside in the Galapagos Islands. The excursion continues into the cove that is surrounded by red mangroves where you can admire their red roots and green leaves. Here, you are able to observe sea turtles, flightless cormorants, spotted eagle rays, golden rays, brown pelicans and sea lions. Frequent visitors have been able to see Galapagos Hawks soaring overhead whilst schools of Pompano and Dorado fish swimming down below.



DAY 4 - SUNDAY

AM - TAGUS COVE (ISABELA)

Tagus Cove, a tour along the cliffs will give the visitors a good chance to see the Galapagos penguin, the flightless cormorant and other sea birds. From the landing dock, it is about a 30-minute hike along the trail up to the top of the cliff from where you can view Darwin Lake, an uplifted lake saltier than the sea. You can also see several volcanoes from this location. Look carefully at the graffiti on the surrounding cliffs of the cove, it has been written by pirates, whalers and buccaneers in past centuries!

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PM - ESPINOZA POINT (FERNANDINA)

Fernandina is the third largest island in the archipelago and has a single visitor site: Punta Espinoza located at the northeastern tip of the island. Here, marine iguanas conglomerate in larger groups than in any other island. They bask around in the sand, swim near the shore and sometimes, block the way at the landing dock. Among the unique species found here, we can find the Flightless Cormorant.

DAY 5 - MONDAY

AM - BACHAS BEACH (SANTA CRUZ)

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, and a favorite nesting site for sea turtles. Behind one of the beaches there is a small blackish water lagoon, where it is occasionally 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 World War II, when USA used Baltra Island as a strategic point to protect the Panama Channel.

PM - TRANSFER OUT TO SEYMOUR ECOLOGICAL AIRPORT (GPS)

Assisted by the naturalist guide and some crewmembers, the dinghy will bring you and your luggage to the Seymour Ecological Airport, where we will take the shuttle back to the airport.