

CATAMARAN ARCHIPELL II

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



ITINERARY A MONDAY - THURSDAY 4 DAYS - 3 NIGHTS

DAY	VISIT
MON	AM - Arrival at San Cristobal Airport (SCY) PM - Lobos Islet
TUE	AM: South Plaza PM: Santa Fe
WED	AM: Chinese Hat PM: Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz)
THU	AM: Charles Darwin Research Station 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.



CATAMARAN ARCHIPEL II

ITINERARY A - MONDAY TO THURSDAY

4D / 3N - DAY BY DAY PROGRAM

DAY 1: MONDAY

AM - SAN CRISTÓBAL

Upon arrival at the San Cristóbal Airport, travellers 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 harbour.

PM - LOBOS ISLET:

You will start with your first excursion to Lobos Islet, the beach harbours a colony of Galapagos sea lions. You can also see two other emblematic species breed here: male blue-footed boobies and great frigate birds who try to impress the females (and tourists) with clumsy dances, heaving their striking blue feet or blowing up their balloon-sized scarlet pouches. During the breeding season, the fluffy and hungry chicks cry for food, and when their wings get strong enough, they will learn to fly.

DAY 2: TUESDAY

AM - SOUTH PLAZA

Has unique Sesuvium plants and Opuntia cactuses scattered across the landscape which provide some of the most interesting wildlife observations available in Galapagos. Land iguanas are easily seen from the trail, frequently under the shade of cactuses, waiting for a prickly pear to fall. Throughout the island there are several hybrid iguanas, a result of crossing a marine iguana with a land iguana. They are unique and can be recognised at first glance by their black/grey color, with a land iguana's crest, but face and tail of the marine iguana. The big population of iguanas is due to the presence of tuna, their favourite food. Swallow tailed gulls nesting in the rugged cliffs are seen along with other seabirds as: audubon shearwaters, red-billed tropicbirds, frigate birds and brown pelicans.

PM - SANTA FE

Located in the southeastern part of the Galapagos, this island was formed from an uplift instead than from a volcanic origin; this is why it is mostly flat. There are some theories that assure that this could be the oldest island in the Archipelago. Santa Fe is the home of a number of endemic species like the Galapagos Hawk, Galapagos snake, Galapagos mockingbird, rice rats and one of the two species of land Iguanas of the islands. After disembarkation in the beautiful and clear waters, you will be in contact with one of the many sea lion colonies. Along the trail, many saltbushes can be seen, as well giant Prickly pear cactus. There are great possibilities of snorkeling with playful sea lions and tropical fishes.



DAY 3: WEDNESDAY

AM - CHINESE HAT

Chinese Hat is a 52m/170ft high volcanic cone, forming another islet right out of the rocky coast of Santiago, where a small colony of Galapagos penguins have settled. Approaching Chinese Hat from the north, you will understand the meaning of the name. This is an excellent place to learn more about volcanoes, lava bombs and lava tunnels.

You will arrive exactly on time to witness how this barren islet is colonized by pioneer species that have begun to sprout! Beautiful beaches of white coral sand and holes in the eroding lava fields are filled up with lava sand, which enables rooting. Galapagos sea lions and countless marine iguanas contribute to fertilization, and altogether, create many favorable options for newcomers, such as saltbush and the sesuvium carpet.

PM - DRAGON HILL (SANTA CRUZ)

The visitor site at Dragon Hill has been open for visits since 1993. This site is located in northwestern Santa Cruz Island and consists of a trail that leads to a hyper-saline lagoon behind the beach, frequently visited by flamingos, pintail ducks and other species of birds. This site has been re-populated with land iguanas from Seymour, Isabela and Santa Cruz island. There is a short walk to the Hill, which offers a beautiful view of the bay.

DAY 4: THURSDAY

AM - CHARLES DARWIN RESEARCH STATION

Although the great majority of Galapagos visitors come here to observe and appreciate natural wonders, it is also interesting to learn how the protection and conservation of the islands are done. The main attractions are the National Park information center, the Van Staelen Exhibition Hall, the Breeding and Rearing Center for young tortoises, and adult Galapagos tortoises in captivity.

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.