**The Galapagos’ Southeast Wonders**

**5 Days – 4 nights**



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|  | | | **Hiking** | **Snorkel** | **Panga Ride** | **Paddle Board** | **Kayak** |
| TUESDAY | AM | **San Cristobal Island :** San Cristobal- Airport (arrival) |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | PM | **San Cristobal Island :** Lobos Island | \* |  |  |  |  |
| WEDNESDAY | AM | **Española Island :** Gardner Bay / Islote Gardner / Osborn Islote | \* | \* | \* |  |  |
|  | PM | **Española Island :** Suarez Point | \* |  |  |  |  |
| THURSDAY | AM | **Floreana Island :** Post Office Bay | \* | \* |  |  |  |
|  | PM | **Floreana Island :** Cormorant Point / Devil's Crown | \* | \* | \* |  |  |
| FRIDAY | AM | **Santa Fe Island :** Santa Fe | \* | \* | \* | \* | \* |
|  | PM | **South Plazas Island :** South Plaza | \* |  | \* | \* | \* |
| SATURDAY | AM | **Santa Cruz Island :** Charles Darwin Station | \* |  |  |  |  |
|  | PM | **Santa Cruz Island :** Baltra - airport (return) |  |  |  |  |  |

DAY 1

AM: EMBARKATION TO THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - SAN CRISTOBAL AIRPORT

Embark on an unforgettable journey to the Galapagos Islands, where nature thrives in its purest form. Your adventure begins at San Cristobal’s modest yet bustling airport, where a seasoned naturalist guide will greet you. This guardian of the ecosystem will introduce you to a world of breathtaking landscapes and unparalleled biodiversity. Feel the excitement as you step into this living sanctuary, a UNESCO World Heritage site, marking the beginning of an extraordinary exploration.



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| **Trail:** |  |
| **Level**: | 1 |
| **Activities:** | - |

PM: ENCOUNTERING WILDLIFE AT LOBOS ISLAND

Venture to Lobos Island, a tranquil islet secluded from San Cristobal by a slim channel. This nature's cradle, amidst a serene bay, is the playground for sea lion pups frolicking in tidal pools. The island might be modest in size, but it bursts with life, particularly with “lobos marinos” or sea lions. As you step ashore, welcoming committees of sea lions would greet you, only to be outraged by the male frigatebirds inland, presenting their inflamed red balloons amidst the verdant foliage. Stay vigilant for the blue-footed boobies nesting on the trails, ready to treat you to a display of their whimsical courtship dance

Snorkel Experience: Dive into an underwater ballet at this renowned snorkeling spot, sheltered by the calm waves. Playful sea lions would eagerly display their acrobatic prowess. In contrast, sea turtles and rays find solace resting on the sandy seabed, giving you a glimpse into the harmonious marine life that thrives beneath the surface.

Stunning Views, Galapagos sea lions, Magnificent and great frigatebirds, San Cristobal Lava Lizards



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| **Food**: | -/L/D |
| **Trail:** | 0,6 km / 0,4 mi |
| **Lodging**: | M/C Galaxy Sirius |
| **Level**: | 3 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING |

DAY 2

AM: A TROPICAL PARADISE - GARDNER BAY

Embrace the morning at Gardner Bay, a pristine piece of paradise in the Galapagos archipelago. Sugar-white coral sands merge with crystal-clear turquoise waters, creating a tropical oasis. Watch as the beach becomes a theatre, starring sun-basking sea lions in a playful performance. This idyllic setting invites you to stroll along the coast, immersing yourself in an enlightening experience as you delve into the biology of the endemic fauna - from the melodious Española mockingbird and the unique marine iguanas to the regal Galapagos hawks.

Snorkel Experience: Submerge beneath the azure waves to witness a spectacular performance choreographed by marine life. Swim alongside playful sea lions, graceful reef sharks, and gliding rays. Discover an array of fish, including vivid Angelfish, charismatic Parrotfish, dynamic Damselfish, and the ever-busy Surgeonfish coloring the underwater landscape.

**Highlights:**  Herons, Galapagos mockingbirds, Galapagos hawks, Darwin finches, Marine iguanas, Waved Albatross, Lava lizards



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| **Trail:** | 0,8 km / 0,5 mi |
| **Level**: | 1 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE |

PM: A WALK-THROUGH NATURE’S GALLERY - SUAREZ POINT

Embark on an adventure to Suarez Point, one of the Galapagos’ greatest natural wonders. This rocky trail is a haven for wildlife lovers, featuring an incredible array of species. Upon arrival, sea lions and marine iguanas welcome you as the first hosts of this nature spectacle. As you explore further, witness a vibrant mosaic of seabird colonies, from blue-footed and Nazca boobies to graceful frigatebirds and tropicbirds. The highlight of this journey is meeting the waved albatross, the island’s largest bird, impressing visitors with its powerful flight and intricate courtship display (present from April to January).

**Highlights:** Stunning Views, Herons, Galapagos mockingbirds, Galapagos hawks, Darwin finches, Marine iguanas, Waved Albatross, Lava lizards



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| **Food**: | B/L/D |
| **Trail:** | 1,7 km / 1,1 mi |
| **Lodging**: | M/C Galaxy Sirius |
| **Level**: | 3 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING |

DAY 3

AM: MAIL FROM THE PAST - POST OFFICE BAY

Step into the past at Post Office Bay on Floreana, where sailors established a barrel-based mail system in the 1700s, still in use today. Beyond its historic charm, the bay was a key stop for whalers seeking freshwater and tortoises. This site also boasts a scenic beach, and incredible wildlife, including sea lions, green sea turtles, reef sharks, and, if luck is on your side, the elusive Galapagos penguin.

Snorkel Experience: Dive straight from the beach and explore a mesmerizing underwater world filled with sea turtles, rays, and schools of tropical fish. If lucky, catch a glimpse of a Galapagos penguin darting through the waves.

**Highlights:**  Galapagos penguins, Marine iguanas, Sea turtles, Finches, Shorebirds



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| **Trail:** | 0,7 km / 0,4 mi |
| **Level**: | 1 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING,SNORKEL |

PM: THE WONDER OF NATURE - CORMORANT POINT / DEVIL’S CROWN

Head north to Punta Cormorant, a natural sanctuary featuring a coastal lagoon teeming with American flamingos, white-cheeked pintails, and black-necked stilts. This area is known for its white sand beach, a crucial nesting site for green sea turtles, and the recent arrival of blue-footed boobies nesting near the trail. The island’s unique flora adds to the charm of this remarkable landscape. Then, embark on an unforgettable snorkeling adventure at Devil’s Crown, an eroded volcanic crater whose currents attract a thriving marine ecosystem, including reef sharks, rays, sea turtles, and a dazzling variety of tropical fish.

Snorkel Experience: Explore Devil’s Crown, an eroded volcanic crater hiding one of the best reefs in the Galapagos. Swim with reef sharks, turtles, rays, and schools of fish like snappers, angelfish, and parrotfish.

**Highlights:** Sea turtle nesting site, Galapagos shearwaters, Tropicbirds, Frigatebirds, Finches, Shorebirds



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| --- | --- |
| **Food**: | B/L/D |
| **Trail:** | 1,6 km / 1 mi |
| **Lodging**: | M/C Galaxy Sirius |
| **Level**: | 1 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE |

DAY 4

AM: THE CONTRASTING BEAUTY OF SANTA FE

Lead in the day with the stark beauty of Santa Fe, where the towering figures of giant Prickly-pear cacti strikingly contrast the rugged landscape of lava rocks. Tucked within one of the Galapagos' most breathtaking bays, Santa Fe's turquoise waters, and white-sand beaches form an inviting residence for a sizable colony of sea lions you'll find lounging about. As you venture inland, remember to look down to spot the endemic Santa Fe land iguanas, but also glance upward to catch sight of the Galapagos hawks perched atop cacti, keeping a keen eye out for prey. You'll likely encounter Darwin finches, Galapagos doves, mockingbirds, and lively lava lizards along the trail.

Snorkel Experience: After your exploratory hike, the sheltered bay offers you a choice: paddle through serene waters on a kayak or plunge beneath the surface to snorkel with playful sea lion pups and reef sharks. Also, keep an eye out for graceful sea turtles, gliding rays, and the swirling colors of tropical fish, including large schools of Surgeonfish and Parrotfish.

**Highlights:**  Stunning Views, Galapagos sea lions, Galapagos hawks, Galapagos doves, Santa Fe land iguanas, Reef sharks



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| **Trail:** | 0,8 km / 0,5 mi |
| **Level**: | 1 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING,SNORKEL,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD,KAYAK |

PM: WILD WONDERLAND - SOUTH PLAZAS

Your afternoon destination is South Plazas, one of a twin pair of islands where the northern sibling is reserved exclusively for scientific research. Though petite in size, this islet brims with a fantastic array of wildlife. Upon landing, Galapagos land iguanas will welcome you from beneath prickly-pear cacti, eagerly awaiting their fruit. Sea lions populate the island in large numbers, allowing you to observe their fascinating social dynamics, from playful pups splashing in tide pools to formidable males protecting their territories. Your trail eventually leads you to a cliff, a vantage point to observe a myriad of seabirds, including frigatebirds, red-billed tropicbirds, boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, and pelicans. A verdant carpet of reddish succulent vegetation dotted with scattered cacti blankets the island, giving South Plazas a genuinely unique personality.

**Highlights:** Stunning Views, Boobies, Galapagos sea lions, Galapagos shearwaters, Galapagos land iguanas, Tropicbirds, Pelicans



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| **Food**: | B/L/D |
| **Trail:** | 1,4 km / 0,8 mi |
| **Lodging**: | M/C Galaxy Sirius |
| **Level**: | 2 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING,PANGA RIDE,PADDLE BOARD,KAYAK |

DAY 5

AM: THE CRADLE OF CONSERVATION - CHARLES DARWIN STATION

Explore the Charles Darwin Research Station, a center dedicated to wildlife conservation and research. Witness breeding programs helping restore giant tortoise populations, learn about projects tackling invasive species, and see conservationists working to protect the fragile Galapagos ecosystem.

Galapagos giant tortoise and land iguanas breeding program, Galapagos mockingbirds, Darwin finches, Galapagos flycatchers



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| **Trail:** | 2 km / 1,2 mi |
| **Level**: | 1 |
| **Activities:** | HIKING |

PM: BALTRA (AIRPORT)

Your Galapagos adventure comes to an end. Today, you will be transferred to Baltra Airport, where your National Park naturalist guide will assist you with final details before your flight back to mainland Ecuador. As you bid farewell to this paradise, take with you the unforgettable memories of one of the world’s most extraordinary destinations.



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| **Food**: | B/L/D |
| **Trail:** |  |
| **Lodging**: | M/C Galaxy Sirius |
| **Level**: | 1 |
| **Activities:** | - |

GLOSSARY

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| **Feeding** | | **Breakfast** | B |
| **Lunch** | L |
| **Dinner** | D |
| **Difficulty of the hike** | | **Level 1** | Easy |
| **Level 2** | Moderate |
| **Level 3** | Difficult |