



# Itinerary B+C

From Sunday to Tuesday  
10 days - 9 nights





# Day 1



## AM: Flight to Galapagos

Upon arrival at Baltra Airport, visitors must go through an inspection in order to verify that no foreign plants or animals are being introduced to the islands. An entrance fee of \$100 (unless it has been prepaid) must be paid to the Galapagos National Park in order to conserve the islands. A representative of our M/Y Galápagos Se Star Journey, will meet you right outside an, help collect your luggage, and escort your bus ride to Puerto Ayora Village.

## PM: Dragon hill, Santa Cruz Island

The visitor site at Dragon Hill has been opened 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, frequented by flamingos, pintail ducks and other species of birds. This site has been re populated with land iguanas from Seymour, Isabela and Santa Cruz islands. There is a short walk to the Hill, which offers a beautiful view of the bay.





# Day 2



## AM: Black Turtle Cove

This little cove is located at the northern side of Santa Cruz island, this is a red mangrove lagoon very calm and quiet which made an ideal place as nursery for many sharks and rays. Its crystal waters permits to observe large groups of white-tip reef, black tipped reef and hammerheads sharks, schools of golden rays and spotted eagle rays. There are no landing sites so the visit is done by panga or kayak. Sea turtles are frequently seen and sometimes they are seen mating in the mangrove-lined waters. Pelicans and Herons are also seen in this area.

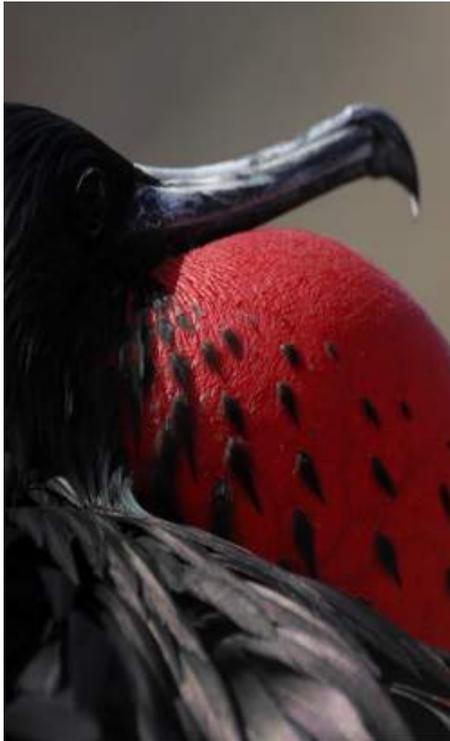
## PM: Chinese hat

This is a small islet (1 sq km) located just off the southeastern tip of Santiago Island. It is a recent volcanic cone, shaped like a Chinese hat when seen from north side. On the west lava formations it can be seen, formed under the sea and raised upward, this is why coral heads are found on the lava. This is an excellent visit for interpretation of geological features such as lava tubes and lava flows. The landscape is covered by sea lions colonies, marine iguanas and Galapagos penguins.





# Day 3



## AM: El Barranco, Genovesa Island

El Barranco is located in the southern part of Darwin Bay and it is also known as Prince Philip's Steps, passengers will climb to a plateau that is part of the stretch of land that surrounds Darwin Bay on its eastern side. There is a big population of Masked boobies and Red-Footed boobies in the tree; Storm petrels and Short-eared Owls have found in Genovesa lava flows the ideal place for nesting.

## PM: Darwin Bay, Genovesa Island

This bay has origin when the crater of this island collapsed below sea level.

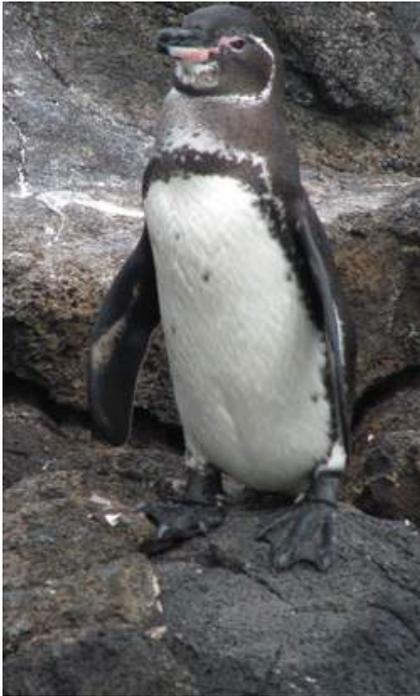
The wet landing is on a beautiful white coral sandy beach. This is a favorite island for birdwatchers: red footed-booby, masked boobies, wandering tattlers, lava gulls, whimbrels Yellow-crowned, black-crowned and lava herons, with and yellow warblers can be seen in the area.

Continuing on the trail, visitors climb gradually to the edge of the cliff seeing Red-Foots nesting in the Mangrove trees below. Bird watching includes sightings of Sharp-Beaked Finches, Large Cactus and Ground Finches, Galapagos Doves and Swallow-Tailed Gulls. Reaching the end the trail at the cliff's edge offers an incredible view of the island and the many birds living there.





# Day 4



## AM: Bartolome Island

Bartolome Island is situated across Sullivan Bay. It has an altitude of 114 meters, from where we can observe one of the most beautiful sceneries of the Galapagos Islands such as: Volcanic cones, lunar-like craters, lava fields, and the famous Toba formed pinnacle eroded by the sea. There is very little vegetation on this island.

It has two breathtaking beaches where marine turtles exist and at the base of the pinnacle, as well as a very small colony of Galapagos penguins

## PM: The Sullivan Bay, Santiago Island

Santiago, also called James, or San Salvador Island, is located in the west central part of the Galapagos archipelago. It is the fourth largest island in the archipelago (following Isabela, Fernandina and Santa Cruz). Along with some of the large western volcanoes of Isabela and Fernandina, Santiago is also volcanically active, with many young flows and cones to be seen, particularly along the south, west, and east coasts. These may even be seen from the summit of Darwin Volcano and from space. A number of historic eruptions have been reported over the last 2 centuries. Santiago actually consists of two coalesced volcanoes: a typical shield volcano on the northwest end and a low, linear fissure volcano on the southeast end.





# Day 5



## AM: Santa Cruz Highlands

The trail to the highlands leaves from Bellavista 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 (unpredictable) this area affords beautiful scenes of rolling hills and extinct volcanic cones covered with grass and lush greenery all year round.

## PM: Charles Darwin Station

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





# Day 6



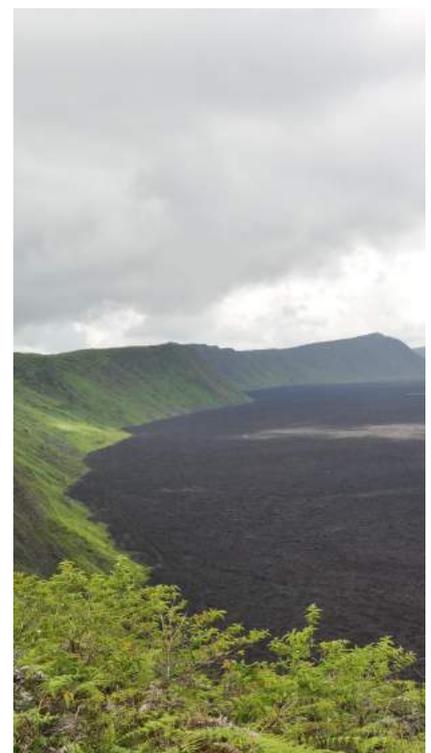
## AM: White Tipped Reef Shark Canal

A delightful place called Tintoreras is reached by a nice zodiac ride. These are small islands in front of Puerto Villamil coast.

There is Heron lava on the lookout on mangrove branch, and Galapagos Penguins and sea lions often pop out on shore. White-tipped reef sharks are fairly common in the archipelago. Their name in Spanish is Tintorera, thus the name of this site as they are always found here resting in the shallow waters.

## PM: Sierra Negra Volcano

Isabela Island is the largest and one of the youngest islands in the Galapagos archipelago. We land in Puerto Villamil, which has the second smallest population in Galapagos with approximately 3000 hab. We head up to the highlands from Puerto Villamil to Sierra Negra slope, and later we will hike on uneven terrain until we arrive to the Sierra Negra volcano rim. Sierra Negra is the second widest crater in the world. From this viewpoint, you have fantastic sights to the 6 x 5 -mile-wide crater, the rest of the volcanoes, and Perry Isthmus, a 12 Km wide lava field. From here we hike to Chico Volcano to watch the striking lava formations, examples of the geological occurrences that have created the Galapagos Islands.





# Day 7



## AM: Punta Moreno, Isabela Island

Punta Moreno is located on the north coast of Isabela Island between the Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul volcano. The trail runs along a lava flow Pahohoe (solidified lava in the form of corrugated or an accordion) into a complex of coastal lagoons, where several unique species of birds can be found.

## PM: Elizabeth Bay, Isabela Island

This is a marine visitor site, the excursion is carried out in a zodiac, therefore there is no landing point. Your zodiac ride starts off with a visit to the Marielas islets where the largest and most important penguin colony in the Galapagos is found. The excursion continues into the cove that is surrounded by red mangroves. Their red roots and green leaves are definitely an attraction. It is here that you are able to observe sea turtles, flightless cormorants, spotted eagle rays, golden rays, brown pelicans and sea lions. Visitors have been able to see Galapagos Hawks soaring overhead whilst schools of Pompano and Dorado fish swim below





# Day 8



## AM: Punta Espinoza, Fernandina Island

Fernandina is the third largest island in the archipelago and has a single visitor site: Punta Espinoza which is located on the northeastern tip of the island. Just across Tagus Cove, a visitor site is found. Marine iguanas here conglomerate in larger groups in comparison to any other island. They bask around in the sand, swim near the shore and may even block the way at the landing dock, a beautiful show for everyone. Among the unique species found here, we find the Flightless Cormorant. A bird that due to the lack of predators, had to adjust its way of survival and adapt its skills to find food in the ocean.

Its wings, tail and feet progressively have adapted for swimming. By looking at this species one can truly witness Darwin's theory of natural selection. Remember to stay within 2m of the cormorants and penguins

## PM: Tagus Cove, Isabela Island

Tagus Cove, consists on a tour along the cliffs. A zodiac will give the visitors a good chance to see the Galapagos penguin, the flightless cormorant among other seabirds. From the landing dock, we hike 30 minutes up to the top of the cliff from where you can see the Darwin Lake, an uplifted ultra-saline lake which is saltier than the ocean itself. You can also see several volcanoes from this location. Look carefully at the graffiti on the surrounding cliffs of the cove as they were written by pirates, whalers and buccaneers in past centuries.





# Day 9



## AM: Espumilla Beach, Santiago Island

Espumilla beach is located on the northern coast of Santiago Island in James Bay. During the last presence of El Niño phenomenon, one of the two lagoons in this site, underwent a process of sedimentation, thus causing the disappearance of a representative colony of flamingos. The main attractions are the Palo Santo forest and the marvelous. In addition, the beach is an important site for nesting marine turtles.

## AM: Puerto Egas, Santiago Island

It's black beach is located on the west side of the island and is the main attraction of the island. Their volcanic tuff deposits have favored the formation of this special black sand beach.

This site is called Puerto Egas, because there was an attempt from Hector Egas' company, to start the exploitation of salt, which failed because the price of salt in the continent was very cheap, and did not justify its exploitation in Galapagos. The project was abandoned and they left their infrastructure.





# Day 10



## AM: Isla Lobos, San Cristobal

This little island is reached in approximately 1 hour by panga, starting at Port Baquerizo Moreno, the capital of the Island. The trail will lead across a dry vegetation zone, substrate of volcanic rocks and sandy areas. There is a small population of blue-footed boobies and frigate birds, which nest in this site. At the beach you will see a large colony of sea lions and you may see shorebirds.

After your visit to Isla Lobos, transfer to the airport in San Cristobal and Flight