

PALACE TOURS

# Grand Majestic Yacht - Route A (Monday - Monday)

7 Nights • Luxury Experience

www.palacetours.com travel@palacetours.com 786-408-0610

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# Overview

*Newly built in 2018, the Grand Majestic liveaboard is one of the fastest yachts offering luxury small-ship cruises in the Galapagos Islands. She is fitted with moderns and stylish living areas, including a large sun deck with jacuzzi and al fresco dining. On the main deck is an open plan living, dining and bar area with panoramic windows. On the lower deck are 6 spacious cabins with double or twin beds and porthole windows. Located on the main deck is one double with panoramic windows and the Master Suite with his and her bathrooms, sofa and panoramic windows. All cabins are fitted with AC and private en-suite bathrooms.*

*Get up close with the amazing nature of the Galapagos Islands on this once in a lifetime cruises. Activities include snorkeling with sea-lion pups and a wide variety of marine-life, hiking to viewpoints with access to stunning scenery, and visits to the breeding centre to see Giant Tortoises.*

**Islands you will visit:**

- San Cristobal
- Floreana
- Española
- Santa Cruz
- Genovesa
- Rabida

DAY BY DAY

# Your Itinerary



DAY 1

## SAN CRISTOBAL

AM: Arrival in San Cristobal Airport and Transfer to the boat

PM: El Junco Lagoon

The Junco Lagoon, located about 700 m above sea level, is one of the few permanent freshwater bodies in the Galapagos. Frigate birds are often seen here washing the salt from their feathers as well as white-cheeked pintails and common gallinules. Its name comes from a type of plant that is common in this area called “junco”.

| | |
|---|---|
| Highlights: | One of the few permanent freshwater lakes, frigates, white-cheeked pintails |
| Possible Activities: | Bird watching |
| Type of Landing: | Dry landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy |

DAY 2

# FLOREANA ISLAND



AM: Post Office Bay

In the 18th century whalers passing through the islands placed a wooden barrel on Floreana Island for use as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | Post office barrel, nice sandy beach |
| Possible Activities: | Short hike (less than 0.6 miles/1 km) & snorkeling |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy |

Baroness Viewing Point

Baroness Viewpoint is a fantastic place to absorb the environment of the Galapagos. Once inhabited by an indulgent baroness and her three lovers, the history of this island is intriguing. The legends about this baroness are associated with a fascinating murder mystery. There are easy trails in this area for exploring the flora and fauna of Floreana.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | Great view, sea turtles, mysterious story about the first inhabitants of the islands |
| Possible Activities: | Short hike (0.6 miles/1 km), Snorkeling, Kayaking and Panga Ride |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy |

PM: Cormorant Point

This site hosts a large flamingo lagoon where other birds such as common stilts and white-cheeked pintails can also be seen. The beaches on this island are distinct: The “Green Beach” named so due to its green color, which comes from a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand, and the “Four Sand Beach” composed of white coral.

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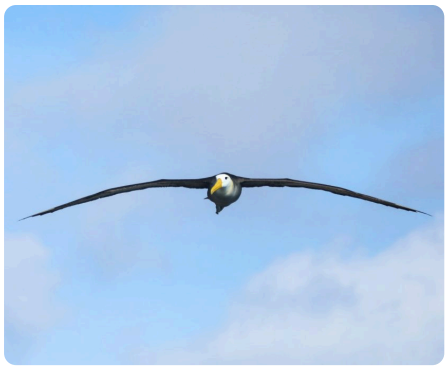
|---|---|
| Highlights: | Flamingos, green-colored beach |
| Possible Activities: | Dinghy ride & hike (1.2 miles /2 km) |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy |

Devil's Crown

One of the best snorkeling sites in the Galapagos, this volcanic crater has

out of the water. The coral reef in the middle is perfect for attracting marine life. Snorkelers enjoy the variety of marine life and exciting currents that rush through the crown creating an exhilarating experience.

| | |
|---|---|
| Highlights: | The best snorkeling site in Galapagos Islands with sharks, rays, rock formations, lots of tropical fish. |
| Possible Activities: | Snorkeling |
| Type of Landing: | No landing |
| Difficulty: | Moderate / difficult |



DAY 3

# ESPAÑOLA ISLAND

AM: Suarez Point

This area is great for spotting blue-footed boobies, albatrosses and Nazca boobies. A beautiful site on the ocean front, the large waved albatrosses use the cliff as a launching pad. The famous attraction is the magnificent blowhole, spurting water high into the air. This site presents wonderful photograph opportunities.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | Hood mockingbirds, Nazca boobies, waved albatrosses, red-billed tropicbirds, lava lizards, Galapagos hawks, blue-footed boobies, blowhole, amazing landscape |
| Possible Activities: | Hike (1.9 miles/3 km) |
| Type of Landing: | Dry landing |
| Difficulty: | Difficult |

PM: Gardner Bay

Gardner Bay, on the eastern side of the island, is the breeding site of nearly all of the world´s 12,000 pairs of waved albatrosses. It has an ample white sandy beach with a myriad of sea lions, perfect for relaxing. Its rocky shores make this site a great place for diving and snorkeling.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | White sandy beach, sea lions, mockingbirds; snorkeling: colorful fish, sea lion nursery |
| Possible Activities: | Snorkeling, dinghy ride, kayaking, short hike of (0.6 miles/1 km) |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy |

DAY 4

# SANTA CRUZ ISLAND



AM: Los Gemelos (Twin Craters)

Los Gemelos, or the Twin Craters, are located opposite each other on both sides of the road leading from Puerto Ayora to Baltra. The name is only figurative; not real craters, these formations were created by the collapse of surface material in underground fissures and chambers. The view is breathtaking.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | Pit craters, *Scalesia* forest |
| Possible Activities: | Short hiking |
| Type of Landing: | Dry landing |
| Difficulty: | Moderate |

PM: Charles Darwin Station / Fausto Llerena Breeding Center

The Charles Darwin Research Station is home to turtles ranging from 3-inches (new hatchlings) to 4-feet long. Subspecies of turtles interact with one another and many of the older turtles are accustomed to humans stretching out their heads for a photo opportunity. The babies are kept until they are about four years old and strong enough to survive on their own.

| | |
|---|---|
| Highlights: | Giant tortoises in captivity |
| Possible Activities: | Walking |
| Type of Landing: | Dry landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy |



DAY 5

# GENOVESA ISLAND

AM: El Barranco

Also known as Prince Phillip's Steps, El Barranco's steep, rocky paths leads up to a high cliff-face. A marvelous view can be appreciated from here. This site is also home to palo santo vegetation as well as red-footed boobies, short-eared lava owls, Galapagos swallows, and Galapagos doves.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | Red-footed boobies, short-eared lava owls, storm-petrels, Galapagos doves |
| Possible Activities: | Hiking (0.9 miles/2 km) |
| Type of Landing: | Dry, difficult landing |
| Difficulty: | Moderate |

PM: Darwin Bay

This white sand coral beach heads a half mile trail (0.75km) that winds through mangroves filled with land birds. Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, and swallow-tailed gulls can be spotted here. Further down the path are tidal pools where sea lions swim playfully. At the end is a spectacular view off a cliff.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | Nazca boobies, red- footed boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, mangroves, coral pebbles beach, snorkeling: rays, colorful reef fish and hammerhead sharks |
| Possible Activities: | Hiking (0.9 miles/1.5 km), snorkeling, kayaking & dinghy ride |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing. |
| Difficulty: | Easy / moderate |

DAY 6

# RÁBIDA ISLAND



AM: Rabida Island

Rabida Island (Jervis) is one of the most colorful and volcanically varied islands in the archipelago and a great snorkeling site. Its famous maroon sandy beach and stunning lookouts provide wonderful landscapes. The island is a birdwatcher's delight. Some of the rarest species are in abundance, such as nine varieties of finches, large-billed flycatchers, Galapagos hawks and brown pelicans.

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|---|---|
| Highlights: | Snorkeling: white-cheeked pintail ducks, colorful fish, sea lions, brackish water lagoon, penguins, Galapagos hawk |
| Possible Activities: | Snorkeling, dinghy ride & short hike (0.6 miles /1 km) |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy / moderate |

PM: Chinese Hat Islet

This small islet is located near the southeast coast of Santiago Island. Its name comes from the distinct shape of the islet's summit. This small islet is a great location to view many geological formations such as lava tubes and lava flows.

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|---|---|
| Possible Activities: | Hike & snorkeling (1,9 miles / 3 km) |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy / Moderate |



DAY 7

# SAN CRISTOBAL

AM: Witch Hill

Located on the northern coast, this eroded hill and its surroundings present one of the most picturesque beaches in the Galapagos with its white powdery sand and the abundance of animals. Wildlife includes sea turtles, rays, and various types of booby birds. The clear water provides an excellent opportunity for enjoying swimming and snorkeling.

| | |
|---|---|
| Highlights: | Beautiful rock formations, sea lions, shore birds, finches and mockingbirds; snorkeling: nice tropical fish, anemones, sponge coral |
| Possible Activities: | Hike, dinghy ride, snorkeling & kayaking |
| Type of Landing: | Wet landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy walk along the beach |

PM: Lobos Island

The name of this island means "Sea Lion Island." This appropriately named island is ripe with noisy, frolicking, jolly sea lions who will welcome you to their home with open, well, fins. This island also offers great snorkeling opportunities as well as the chance to see blue-footed and Nazca boobies.

| | |
|---|---|
| Highlights: | Snorkeling with sea lions, frigatebirds, blue-footed boobies |
| Possible Activities: | Short hike (less than 0.6 miles/1 km), dinghy ride and / or snorkeling. |
| Type of Landing: | Dry landing |
| Difficulty: | Easy / moderate |

DAY 8

# SAN CRISTOBAL



AM: Gianni Arismendy Interpretation Center

The Gianni Arismendy Interpretation Center was opened in 1998 as a phase of the project “Interpretation and Environment Education Project.” Visitors enjoy expositions on natural history, human history, and conservation. The conservation efforts represent the movement to protect the wildlife and natural environment through means of population and tourist control. The Gianni Arismendy Interpretation Center has an outdoor stadium, audio-visual equipment, and meeting rooms.

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|---|---|
| Possible Activities: | Short walk |
| Difficulty: | Easy |
| Type of Landing: | Dry |
| Highlights: | Information and history about the Galapagos Islands. |

After this tour, transfer to the San Cristobal Airport

DATES & PRICING

# Departure Dates & Rates

| DEPARTURE DATE | CLASS / CABIN | SINGLE | DOUBLE (PP) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Nov 30, 2026** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Jun 28, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Jul 26, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Aug 9, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Aug 23, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Oct 18, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Nov 1, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Nov 15, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |
| **Nov 29, 2027** | Stateroom | — | **$7,045** |
| | Master Suite | — | **$9,145** |

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.

**Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.**

Visit https://www.palacetours.com/tour/grand-majestic-yacht-route-a-monday-galapagos for the latest information.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

# Terms & Conditions

## Payment Policy:

- At the time of booking a deposit of 20% of the total tour price
- The remaining balance is due a minimum of 65 calendar days prior to departure date

To issue final confirmation Palace tours requires 60 days prior to departure (or at time of reservation for last minute bookings) the following information for all passengers:

- Complete passenger names
- Passport copy
- Nationality
- Date of birth
- Marital Status
- Dietary or medical restrictions

Failure to provide the above information on time may result in delays and possibly passengers missing the tour completely. Palace tours will not accept responsibility or provide refunds if the above information is not provided in its entirety and on time.

## Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be done in writing. If a cancellation is received more than 125 days prior to tour departure date a cancellation fee of 10% of the total price will be retained as cancellation fee.

If a cancellation is received between 125 days and 65 days prior to tour departure date, 20% of the total price will be forfeited.

In the case of a cancellation received less than 65 days prior to the boat departure the full amount will be retained.

*Christmas & New Year: special conditions apply. Please contact us for details.

COMMON QUESTIONS

# Frequently Asked Questions

## When is the best time to visit Galapagos?

> Galapagos is a place that can be visited at any time. There are two season, and the warmest is between December and May. It is the time of year when the sky is always clear, and the sun shines strongly. If you love to dive in amazing places, the best time to visit Galapagos is from June to November. During this season the weather is a little cooler, but it gives you the chance to enjoy the best from Galapagos' famous marine reserve.

## What should we bring?

> Since the islands are situated very near the Equator, we recommend that you bring lightweight clothing and of course, don't forget your swimsuits, sun lotion, and good footwear.

## How long is the flight from Ecuador to the Galapagos?

> It depends from where you depart. Flights to the Galapagos leave from Quito and Guayaquil. It takes about half an hour to get from Quito to Guayaquil and roughly one and a half hours from Guayaquil to the islands.

## Are there any immunizations required/recommended?

> For the Galapagos Islands there are no required or recommended immunizations. If you, however, intend to spend more time in Ecuador, especially in the jungle, immunization is highly recommended. As this changes from time to time please check with your local health office (or the Institute for Tropical Diseases) a few weeks in advance of your trip.

## Are single or triple suites available?

> Most of our cruises will assign double cabins to all passengers unless you want to pay the single supplement if traveling alone. Triple cabins can also be arranged on request, depending on availability and the vessel you choose.

## What is the time zone of the Galapagos Islands?

> The Galapagos Islands are 6 hours behind GMT (equivalent to USA Central Standard Time)

## Does the equatorial line cross the Galapagos Islands?

> The equatorial line does pass through the Galapagos, just north of Isla Santiago. Please refer to our Itinerary page to see which itinerary passes through the equatorial line.

## What are marine currents like the Galapagos?

> The Galapagos Islands waters have the Humboldt Current's influence that brings cold waters especially during the mist rainy season (cool weather) from July to December. The warm season is during the months of January to June. The southeast trade winds become weaker and the water from the Panama Basin remains warm. During this season there is more of a tropical climate with some occasional rains. "El Niño" current may cause a much greater flow of warm waters, making the surface warmer and rainfall increase.

## What is the water temperature in the Islands?

> Average water temperatures in Galapagos:
> January - June: 70°F - 80°F (20°C - 26°C)
> July - December: 65°F - 75°F (18°C- 23°C)

## Can you snorkel in the Galapagos?

> Snorkeling equipment is available on-board and is an activity on all of our Galapagos Cruises. All water sports convey a certain risk. Passengers participating in these activities do so under their own responsibility.
> *Restrictions and fees might apply, please contact us for more information.

## Special Diets:

> Passengers with special dietary needs are asked to request the latest menu offered and in such cases that stated menu does not meet their needs to clearly convey their specific dietary needs. It is the responsibility of passengers with specific dietary needs to addressed additional requirements at least 30 days prior to the start of the cruise. Those general and specific needs not clearly conveyed cannot be met. Every reasonable effort will be made to cater to such requests within reason, subject to availability of products in Ecuador retains the right to refuse to cater such special needs.

## Which islands does the Grand Majestic Route A visit and in what order?

> Route A is an 8-day, 7-night cruise from Monday to Monday. It visits San Cristobal (El Junco Lagoon) on Monday, Floreana on Tuesday, Espanola on Wednesday, Santa Cruz on Thursday, Genovesa on Friday, Rabida and Chinese Hat on Saturday, Witch Hill and Lobos Island on San Cristobal on Sunday, and the Gianni Arismendy Interpretation Center on the final Monday.

## Which Galapagos airport does Grand Majestic Route A start and end at?

> Route A starts and ends at San Cristobal Airport, with a transfer to the yacht on arrival and back to the airport after the last morning visit. Mainland Ecuador to Galapagos flights are not included, while one hotel night in Quito or Guayaquil before the cruise is included, with restrictions.

## What cabin types are on the Grand Majestic and how much does Route A cost?

> Choose a Stateroom with double or twin beds, or the Master Suite on the main deck with his and her bathrooms, a sofa and panoramic windows. All cabins have air conditioning and private bathrooms. Fares start from USD 7,045 per person sharing, and the exact fare for each departure is shown on this page.

## What wildlife highlights does Grand Majestic Route A offer?

> Highlights include waved albatrosses, Nazca and blue-footed boobies and the blowhole at Suarez Point on

## What is included and not included on Grand Majestic Route A?

> Included are all meals, island transfers, all excursions with a bilingual national park guide, snorkeling gear, an underwater camera and wetsuit, airport assistance and transfers, and one hotel night before the cruise (restrictions apply). Not included are mainland flights, the USD 100 national park fee, the USD 20 Transit Control Card, bar drinks, insurance, tips and personal expenses.

## How physically demanding is Grand Majestic Route A?

> Most visits are easy or easy to moderate, such as El Junco Lagoon, Post Office Bay and Witch Hill. The hardest walk is Suarez Point on Espanola, a 3 km hike rated difficult, and El Barranco on Genovesa has a dry but difficult landing. Los Gemelos on Santa Cruz is rated moderate.

## What deposit is required for Grand Majestic Route A and are there child fares?

> A 20% deposit confirms your cabin and the balance is due 65 days before departure. Child fares apply by age at departure in two bands: from 0 to under 5, and from 5 to under 12.

## Which Grand Majestic Route A departures are on sale, and can it be combined with Route B?

> There are 36 Monday departures on sale, from 5 October 2026 to 27 December 2027, listed on this page. Grand Majestic Route B also starts and ends on a Monday at San Cristobal, so the two routes can be combined for a 14-night cruise; ask us about availability.

## How do I ask a question or book the Grand Majestic Yacht Route A cruise?

> Email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at https://wa.me/17864080610, answered by a travel specialist or our AI assistant. The departure list on this page is bookable directly, with the exact fare shown for each date.

# Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

travel@palacetours.com | 786-408-0610

www.palacetours.com

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