



**PALACE TOURS**  
Travel Like Royalty

**PALACE TOURS**

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# Infinity Galapagos Luxury Yacht – Route A (Tuesday – Tuesday)

7 Nights • Luxury Experience

 [www.palacetours.com](http://www.palacetours.com)

 [travel@palacetours.com](mailto:travel@palacetours.com)

 786-408-0610

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# Overview

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**Whether traveling with your family or a group of friends or on a vacation or honeymoon, we will help bring your dream of a Galapagos cruise to life.**

This beautiful ship was designed with families and small groups in mind. With two large suites and eight cabins, some of which are interconnected, all with panoramic windows and private balconies. With spacious social areas, such as an al fresco dining area, barbecue area, and living room, guests will be comfortable during their entire journey.

## **Islands you will visit:**

- Baltra
- Genovesa Island
- Santiago Island
- Santa Cruz Island
- Floreana Island
- Española Island
- San Cristobal Island

# Your Itinerary

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## DAY 1

### BALTRA ISLAND AIRPORT: ARRIVAL AND TRANSFER TO THE BOA

AM Baltra Island Airport: Arrival and Transfer to the boat

PM Santa Cruz: Black Turtle Cove

#### Black Turtle Cove

Black Turtle Cove is situated in the northern part of Santa Cruz. This inlet is surrounded by mangroves and is only accessible by dinghy. The shallow cove is a safe haven for young marine life. Black-tip and white-tip reef sharks, sea turtles, and a variety of rays are often spotted here.

Highlights: Baby hammerhead shark, rays, sea turtles, sea birds

Possible Activities: Dinghy ride

Type of Landing: No landing

Difficulty: Easy

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## EL BARRANCO & DARWIN BAY

AM Genovesa Island: El Barranco

PM Genovesa Island: Darwin Bay

### 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.

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

### 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.

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

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## SULLIVAN BAY & RABIDA ISLAND

AM Santiago Island: Sullivan Bay

PM Rabida Island

### Sullivan Bay

A coral beach landing leads you towards a lava field as far as the eye can see. Hunt and peck over the two distinguished types of lava, pahoehoe and 'a'a, for signs of plant life that have managed to emerge over the past 100 years since the most recent volcanic explosion. A truly amazing volcanic experience...up close and personal!

|                      |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Highlights:          | Variety of lava formations and landscapes, pahoehoe lava which is found primarily in Hawai'i and the Galapagos islands, 'a'a lava, and pristine coral sand beach |
| Possible Activities: | Walk, snorkel, swim                                                                                                                                              |
| Type of Landing:     | Wet landing                                                                                                                                                      |
| Difficulty:          | Easy to moderate. Be sure to wear good solid walking shoes or boots as the 'a'a lava is very sharp and pointy                                                    |

### 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.

|                      |                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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                                                                                                    |

## TORTOISE BREEDING CENTER & EL CHATO

AM Santa Cruz Island: Tortoise Breeding Center

PM Santa Cruz Island: El Chato

### 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

### El Chato Tortoise Reserve

The El Chato reserve is divided into two areas: Caseta and Chato. The trail begins at Santa Rosa (13.7 miles / 22 km) from Puerto Ayora, with the Caseta route being the more challenging. The reserve allows visitors to observe giant tortoises in the wild during the dry season and is also a good place to spot short-eared owls, Darwin's finches, yellow warblers, Galapagos rails and paint-billed crakes.

Highlights: Giant tortoises, finches, Galapagos rails

Possible Activities: Walking, bird watching

Type of Landing: Dry landing

Difficulty: Easy / medium

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## DRAGON HILL & BACHAS BEACH

AM Santa Cruz Island: Dragon Hill

PM Santa Cruz Island: Bachas Beach

### Dragon Hill (Cerro Dragón)

Situated on Santa Cruz Island, Dragon Hill is one of the newest visitor sites accessible to tourists in the Galapagos Islands. One of the lengthier Galapagos walking trails will lead visitors along a beach and up a trail to the lagoon lookout where bright flamingos, pintail ducks, and land iguanas can be spotted.

|                      |                                                                                                 |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Highlights:          | Land iguana nesting spot, Galapagos flamingos, common stilts, palo santo trees and cacti forest |
| Possible Activities: | Walking and hiking                                                                              |
| Type of Landing:     | Dry landing                                                                                     |
| Difficulty:          | Easy to moderate: the trail may get muddy at times, and there is uneven rocky terrain.          |

### Bachas Beach

Located on the north shore of Santa Cruz, Las Bachas is a swimming beach. One of the few remnants of the U.S. World War II presence in the Galapagos, a floating pier, can be seen here. You may see flamingos, Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs, black necked stilts, and whimbrels. Sea turtles also nest off the beach.

|                  |                                                                                  |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Highlights:      | World War II remnants                                                            |
| Animals:         | Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs, black necked stilts, whimbrels, sea turtles |
| Type of Landing: | Wet                                                                              |
| Difficulty:      | Easy                                                                             |

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## POST OFFICE BAY & CORMORANT POINT OR DEVIL'S CROWN

AM Floreana Island: Post Office Bay

PM Floreana Island: Cormorant Point or Devil's Crown

### 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.

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

### 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.

Highlights: Flamingos, green-colored beach

Possible Activities: Dinghy ride & hike (1.2 miles /2 km)

Type of Landing: Wet landing

Difficulty: Easy

## SUAREZ POINT & GARDNER BAY

AM Española Island: Suarez Point

PM Española Island: Gardner Bay

### 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.

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

### 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.

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

## SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND: GIANNI ARISMENDY INTERPRETATION CENTER

AM San Cristobal Island: Gianni Arismendy Interpretation Center  
Transfer to the San Cristobal Airport

### 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.

Possible Activities: Short walk

Difficulty: Easy

Type of Landing: Dry

Highlights: Information and history about the Galapagos Islands.

# Terms & Conditions

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## 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.

# Frequently Asked Questions

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## When is the best time to visit Galapagos?

Galapagos is a place that can be visited at any time. There are two seasons, 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.

## 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 address 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.

# Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

 [travel@palacetours.com](mailto:travel@palacetours.com) |  786-408-0610

[www.palacetours.com](http://www.palacetours.com)

500 S. Federal Hwy, Unit 3852, Hallandale Beach, FL 33008