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Our name is our passion™

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS LEGEND CRUISE



Explore the Galapagos Islands aboard the Galapagos Legend

5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS

The Galapagos Legend cruise ship allows you to venture around the archipelago aboard one of the most comfortable ships available. There are balcony suites, junior suites, and standard cabins, all well-equipped with modern amenities. During cruise Itinerary D, the ship circumnavigates Española and Floreana Islands and San Cristobal, and visits interesting highlights including Devil's Crown and Cormorant Point, the Santa Cruz highlands and Charles Darwin Station.

<p>FROM \$ 2215 per person</p>	<p>THIS CRUISE INCLUDES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodations aboard the Legend All meals on the Legend Snorkeling and hiking opportunities 	<p>HIGHLIGHTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpretation Center (San Cristobal) Tijeretas Hill (San Cristobal) Gardner Bay (Española) Gardner & Osborn islets (Española) Suarez Point (Española) Post Office (Floreana) Cormorant Point (Floreana) Devil's Crown (Floreana) Champion (Floreana) Santa Cruz highlands Fausto Llerena Breeding Center (Santa Cruz) Charles Darwin Station (Santa Cruz) Daphne islet
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ITINERARY ITINERARY D



Day 1 - Thursday

BOARD THE LEGEND AND DEPART FOR SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

Depart mainland Ecuador for San Cristobal. Passengers are picked up at the airport by our naturalist guides and taken on a short ride to the pier to board the M/V Galapagos Legend.

In the afternoon, a dry landing in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, capital of the Galapagos Islands. Guests visit the Interpretation Center, an excellent place to learn about natural history in the Galapagos. The Museum of Natural History displays information on the volcanic origins of the islands, their remoteness from the continent, ocean currents, climate, the arrival of the different species and their colonization, among other points of interest. The human history is also showcased, chronologically narrating the most significant events related to the discovery and colonization of the islands. Tijeretas Hill involves a high intensity walk amidst beautiful landscapes and a magnificent view at the foot of a frigate bird nesting colony.



Day 2 - Friday

HIGHLIGHTS OF ESPAÑOLA ISLAND

Gardner Bay, Gardner & Osborn islets, Suarez Point

In the morning, a wet landing on a beautiful white coral sand beach guarded by a colony of sea lions. There are no trails, so we stay along the shore where we can spot Galapagos hawks, American Oystercatchers, Galapagos Ground Doves, Hood mockingbirds, Yellow Warblers, lava lizards, marine iguanas, and three species of Darwin finches: a subspecies (*Geospiza fuliginosa*) of the Large Cactus Finch, which is similar to the large ground finch, the Small Ground Finch (*Geospiza fuliginosa*) and the Warbler Finch (*Certhidea Olivacea*), another endemic subspecies. Swimming and snorkeling offer a great variety of Galapagos marine wildlife: king angelfish, creole fish, damsel fish, parrotfish, manta rays, and white-tipped reef sharks.

In the afternoon, a dry landing that will appeal to those with geological interest. We explore volcanic formations and riveting wildlife. Large sea lion colonies and seabirds including the Española mockingbird, Nazca Boobies and the spectacular Red-billed Tropicbird. You will also encounter marine iguanas, lava lizards, and the colorful Sally Lightfoot Crabs. A somewhat lengthy hike will bring you among Nazca and Blue-footed Boobies, right up to nesting grounds that sometimes overlap the trail. Other birding favorites include the Galapagos Dove, Galapagos Hawk, Swallow-tailed Gulls and the world's largest colony of Waved Albatross, an unequivocal highlight during mating season (May-December). Admire the island's dramatic backdrop, featuring the famous Soplador, a seaward blowhole that shoots water some 23 m. (75 ft.) in the air.



Day 3 - Saturday

FLOREANA ISLAND SIGHTSEEING

Post Office, Cormorant Point, Devil's Crown and Champion

In the morning, a wet landing on the north side of Floreana. The bay is so-named because in 1793 Captain James Colnett installed a wooden barrel which served as an informal post office for sailors passing through, who would take letters with them to their destinations. Today, our visitors continue the tradition by placing unstamped postcards inside the barrel that should reach their destinations for free. It can take weeks, months, even years, may not arrive at all, or even arrive before you!

We may also encounter Darwin finches, the Yellow Warbler and lava lizards. Great snorkeling opportunities exist here with Green Pacific Sea Turtles. This island is best known for its endemic vegetation: *Scalesia villosa*, *Lecocarpus pinnatifidus*, and Galapagos milkwort. Snorkelers can practice on the main beach among playful sea lions.

Wet landing, on an olivine green sand beach. We hike from the black mangrove beds to a brackish lagoon, which usually holds one of the largest flamingo populations in the Galapagos. This island features some endemic plants such as *Scalesia villosa*, white and black mangrove, and holy stick. The trail continues to a beautiful white-sand beach, one of the most important nesting sites of Green Pacific Sea Turtles. It is important to avoid walking in the water due to the Sting Rays that may be hiding in the sand, which can be dangerous if accidentally stepped on. From the beach you can spot sea turtles, Blue-footed Boobies plunging into the water, and small reef sharks floating along the shoreline in search of food. This coral-sand beach marks the end of our trail, and we head back to the olivine beach to swim or snorkel amongst sea turtles, reef fish, sea lions and, on a good day, white-tipped reef sharks. A small colony of penguins resides on Floreana and can sometimes be observed as well.



Day 4 - Sunday

SANTA CRUZ HIGHLANDS & BALLENA BAY

Charles Darwin Research Station & Ballena Bay

In the morning, a dry landing and short bus ride will take us to the Santa Cruz highlands, located to the northwest of Puerto Ayora, where we will find a natural reserve with giant tortoises. These enormous and slow-moving reptiles are responsible for the island's name and therefore approaching them in their humid and forested abode is always an inspiring adventure. They can weigh between 250 and 300 kg and can live up to 150-200 years. Additionally, travelers can walk inside surprising lava tubes.

In the afternoon, a wet landing on Ballena Bay where a beautiful green sand cove rests. Explore the beach, where volcanic crystals have formed. During your visit here, you may see tortoises, marine iguanas, sea birds, and more.



Day 5 - Monday

CARRION POINT & DEPARTURE

Today, explore the marine biodiversity of Santa Cruz Island. Snorkel with colorful fish, swim alongside stingrays and keep your eyes out for the chance to see the magnificent white tipped shark.

After the visit, transfer to Baltra Airport for your return flight to Guayaquil, Quito, or your next destination.