

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS - BONITA | 5 DAY SOUTHERN ROUTE



INTRODUCTION

Explore the remarkable Galapagos islands on this 5 day Southern Route tour. Experience 4 unique islands as you cruise through the Galapagos on the superior class Bonita. Encounter Galapagos tortoise, seal, crabs, marine and land iguanas and a multitude of fish species as you snorkel, hike and cruise your way through this incredible archipelago.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival and Santa Cruz

Take a flight from either Quito or Guayaquil to the Galapagos Islands. Upon arrival at Santa Cruz airport you will be met by our representative who will transfer you to your vessel. In the afternoon you will head for the Santa Cruz Highlands. Here you have the unique opportunity to encounter Galapagos Tortoise in their natural habitat, a true natural wonder of the Galapagos



TRIP CODE

ECGS5DE

DEPARTURE

Select Saturday
departures through 2020

DURATION

5 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos: Santa Cruz,
Floreaana, Espanola and
San Cristobal Island



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DAY 2: Floreana Island

In the morning This point is located at west of Floreana Island and it is famous for its dark green beach (due to the great quantity of olivine crystals). You can see many marine invertebrates, as well as sea lions, sea iguanas, the frigates and pelicans. After this activity you will head for Devil's Crown. Enjoy a panga ride around a small island, a satellite islet of Floreana Island. Here, we will find a group of rocks that resemble a Crown due to the constant erosion caused by the sea. It is one of the better places to snorkel (shallow diving) in the interior and around the crown. Excellent visibility allows guests to admire a great variety of fish and sea animals. You will then arrive at Post Office Bay. Mail Bay is located on the north side of Floreana Island. Captain James Colnett installed an empty barrel to be used as a post office for the whaling fleets that stopped at the Galapagos Islands. You can leave postcards to your friends and relatives here and/or pick up mail to deliver. Back at the ship, Delicious snacks and beverages are waiting for you.



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DAY 3: Suarez Point and Gardner Bay

In the morning you will arrive at Suarez Point, on Espanola Island. There is no color more amazing and outstanding in this tropical desert island, than that of the blue-foot boobies. These birds have an impressive form of “greeting” and it is a real thrill to see their mating dance. The blue-footed booby can be seen on several of the islands as nesting grounds and feed are located in several coastal locations. The albatross, an aristocratic bird weighing up to four kilograms, can be observed here. One of the largest birds of the islands, approximately 12,000 couples nest on Espanola Island and a smaller number nest on Silver Island, near mainland Ecuador. This species is considered endemic to this island; during our walk, we will observe these fantastic birds while taking in the beautiful landscapes offered by this island. It is important to note that albatrosses will not be seen between January and March (non breeding) season. We will also see colonies of marine iguanas, zayapas, masked boobies, finches, Espanola cucuvers, and seagulls unique to the islands. Our walk will be on lava rock where we will be able to see lava tubes. Red mangroves are found here. Delicious snacks and fresh beverages are waiting for you on the ship. In the afternoon you will make your way to Gardner Bay. The sea lion is one of the animals in Galapagos which gets the total attention of the visitors in the Galapagos: they are curious and playful, but at times aggressive; they are nice and loving, but also lazy. In Gardner Bay, we are going to find many of them relaxing on the beach enjoying the sun. In addition to observing these fascinating animals, while snorkelling, we will be able to swim with sea lions, sea turtles, a diversity of tropical fish, marine iguanas.



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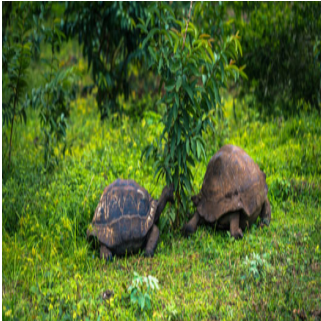
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DAY 4: Interpretation Centre and Lobos Islands


In the morning you will arrive at the interpretation centre. This center is location in the main port. After breakfast, our first visit is to the Interpretation Center of San Cristobal. This modern and sophisticated architectural space was designed for the natural interpretation of the Galapagos. You will learn about the volcanic formation of the islands, the evolution of the species, the history of human settlement, and complex systems and management models. In the afternoon you will head for Lobos Islands. Here you can walk, swim and snorkel among seals, frigates, marine iguanas, lava lizards and the small endemic Galapagos snake.



DAY 5: Bachasbeach and Transfer

Bachas bay is a beautiful sandy white-coral beach is located in the north of Santa Cruz Island; the beach is one km long. The site was named during WWII (World War II) when the American army left two barges on the beach. The early colonists couldn't pronounce barges correctly, so they called the area "Bachas". It is considered as one of the nesting sites for sea turtles. We can also observe, flamingos, seabirds and white-cheeked pintail ducks. After this activity you will be transferred to the airport where you will board your departure flight from the Galapagos.




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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
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Inclusions	Cabin accommodation on board ship All meals on board Transfers in Galapagos Guiding and lectures by experienced Naturalist bilingual guide Snorkel gear Use of kayaks and paddle boards Tea, coffee and water Exclusions International flights Local flight to/from Galapagos Galapagos national park entry fee Galapagos transit control card Wetsuit rental Gratuities Travel insurance
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details
Notes	Please note park entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, seasonality and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

Alya cruise contributes to a number of sustainability initiatives in line with Galapagos park policy and their own unique contribution philosophy. Plastic is eliminated

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throughout the Galapagos, naturalist guides provide in depth education and respect for ecosystems when undertaking tours, and suppliers are chose from locally-owned organisations and operators to ensure economic sustainability within the region. While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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