

SOUTH & NORTH EXPEDITION

GALAPAGOS LEGEND

South&NorthExpedition (D+A) 8 days - 7 nights

Thursday - Thursday

Experience unforgettable Galapagos adventures with our weekly departures. Our itineraries include full board, two daily guided excursions, and optional activities like snorkeling, kayaking, and dinghy rides. You can also extend your trip with diving programs and extra nights in Galapagos upon requests.



Thursday:

- am. ✈ San Cristobal Airport
- pm. Interpretation Center & Frigatebird Hill (San Cristobal Island)

Friday:

- am. Gardner Bay (Espanola Island)
- pm. Punta Suarez (Espanola Island)

Saturday:

- am. Post Office (Floreana Island)
- pm. Punta Cormoran / Devil's Crown (Floreana Island)

Sunday:

- am. Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz Island)
- pm. Mosquera Islet

Monday:

- am. Highlands & Charles Darwin R.S. (Santa Cruz Island)
- pm. Black Turtle Cove (Santa Cruz Island)

Tuesday:

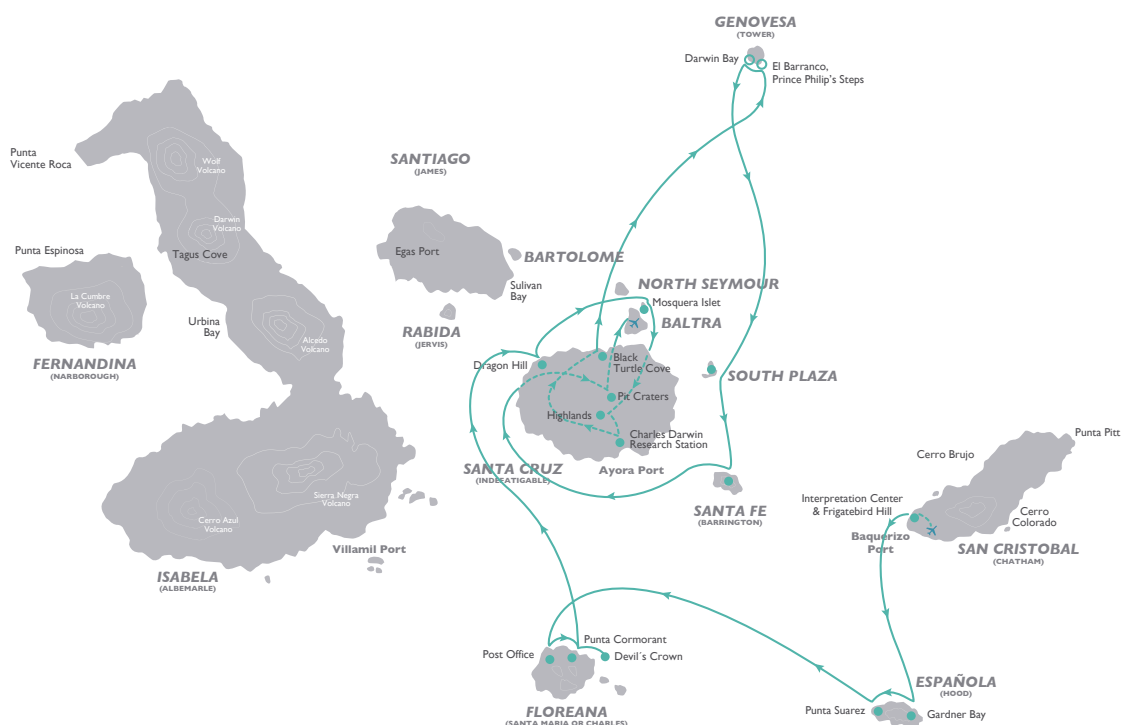
- am. El Barranco Prince Philip's Steps (Genovesa Island)
- pm. Darwin Bay (Genovesa Island)

Wednesday:

- am. South Plaza Island
- pm. Santa Fe Island

Thursday:

- am. Pit Craters (Santa Cruz Island)
- ✈ (Santa Cruz Island)



DAY 1

THURSDAY



 Morning

Departure from either Quito or Guayaquil to San Cristobal is a 2 ½ hour flight. Upon arrival in the Galapagos, passengers are greeted at the airport by our knowledgeable guides who will accompany them on a short ten-minute bus ride to the pier where they will board the Galapagos Legend.

 Afternoon



 Interpretation Center & Frigatebird Hill (San Cristobal Island)

The interpretation center is full of interesting information and offers the perfect overview of the formation of the Galapagos. Following a hike to Frigatebird Hill (Cerro Tijeretas) we will have a great look at both species of frigatebirds, with the bonus of a beautiful view of the bay below. Landing: dry



Difficulty level
Low / High  



Type of terrain
Flat path / Rocky



Duration
1 hour hike
1 hour walk



DAY 2

FRIDAY

 Morning

One of the most stunning beaches in all of the Galapagos. The long, white, sandy beach, lapped by turquoise waters, home to a colony of Galapagos sea lions. Hood mockingbirds, endemic to this particular island. We can also snorkel here from the beach, in the shallows of the bay.
Landing: wet



Difficulty level

Low ●



Type of terrain

Sandy



Duration

1 hour hike
30 min kayaking
30 min Glass-bottom boat
1 hour 45 min beach or deep snorkeling

 Afternoon



Punta Suarez is a naturalist's paradise. The oldest extant island in the archipelago is our only opportunity to commune with the endemic wave albatross during their breeding season between April and December. With luck, we can watch their complex courtship display.
Landing: dry



Difficulty level

High ●



Type of terrain

Rocky



Duration

2 hours 15min hike




DAY 3

SATURDAY

 Morning



 Post Office (Floreana Island)

Post Office (Floreana Island). The famous Post Office Barrel. Claimed to have been first set up in 1793 by Captain James Colnett. The system involved whalers and fur sealers would leave addressed letters in the barrel to be picked up by homeward-bound colleagues. Actually visitors often take letters and handdeliver them to their home countries.
landing: wet



Difficulty level
Medium ●



Type of terrain
Rocky




Duration
1 hour 15 min hike
1 hour beach snorkeling

 Afternoon

Our walk takes us to a large, shallow lagoon, often inhabited by a variable number of shockingly pink greater flamingos. We arrive at a powdery white beach, a nesting area for green turtles. Devil's Crown is one of the favorite snorkeling sites on the islands.
Landing: dry



 Punta Cormoran & Devil's Crown (Floreana Island)



Difficulty level
Low ●



Type of terrain
Sandy & flat



Duration
1 hour 45 min hike
45 min glass-bottom or ,
45 min deep or beach snorkeling



DAY 4

SUNDAY

 Morning

Arriving at a small lava dock, our first encounter is with marine iguanas that blend-in perfectly with the dark rock. As we walk past a large prickly pear cacti, we arrive at one end of a long, sickle-shaped beach with Dragon Hill standing in the distance. Our walk takes us on a circular path, past a shallow lake where flamingoes frequently come to feed.
Landing: dry



📍 Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz Island)



Difficulty level
Medium ●

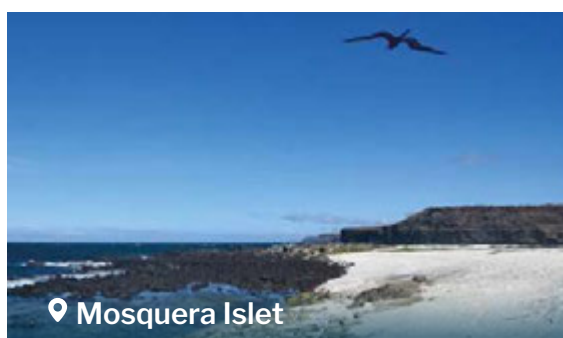


Type of terrain
Rocky



Duration
45 min walk
1 hour 15 min snorkeling

 Afternoon



📍 Mosquera Islet

This tiny, low-lying islet, converted into coral sand, is set between the north and south Seymour Islands. It's home to a group of sea lions that come to laze on the soft white sand, it's an excellent spot to observe shorebirds, herons, lava gulls, and boobies. Snorkeling or diving here, one can often see sharks, rays, and barracudas.
Landing: wet



Difficulty level
low ●



Type of terrain
Sandy



Duration
1 ½ hour walk
1 hour snorkeling or
1 hour beach time



 Morning



 **Highlands & Charles Darwin Research Station (Santa Cruz Island)**

Highlands Tortoise Reserve
We have our best opportunity to interact at close quarters with totally wild, Galapagos giant tortoises. A short walk among these huge, 600lb, reptiles will also offer the chance for more highland species, especially several species of the famed finches.
Landing: dry

Charles Darwin Research Station
We visit the Station where the Galapagos giant tortoise breeding program takes place as part of our efforts to preserve the fragile Galapagos environment..
Landing: dry



Difficulty level
Low ●




Type of terrain
flat & muddy
depending on the season



Duration
2 ½ hour walk
45 minute drive

 Afternoon



 **Black Turtle Cove (Santa Cruz Island)**

On the north shore of Santa Cruz Island, accessible only by sea, four species of mangrove crowd and form an internal lagoon, turtles visit the calm waters, peaking their heads above the surface while fish, rays circle below. White-tipped reef sharks can be seen beneath the boat, plus sea birds, including pelicans, herons and egrets. This cove has been declared as a "turtle sanctuary".
Landing: none



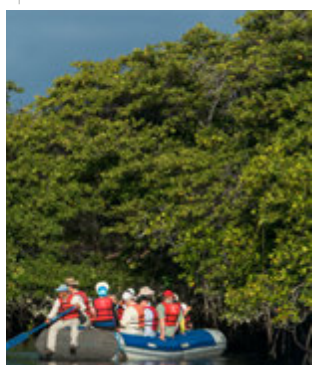
Difficulty level
Low ●



Type of terrain
none



Duration
1 hour dingy ride



DAY 6

TUESDAY

 Morning

Be marveled at the variety of sea life that uses the crevices of the lava cliffs for shelter. Red-billed Tropicbirds fly overhead, and a small colony of fur seals may be found near the landing site. You will be dropped off at a steep stairway that begins on rocks at the foot of a path that leads through a seabird colony full of Nazca and Red-footed Boobies. Landing: dry



Difficulty level
Medium ●



Type of terrain
Rocky - lava



Duration
1 hour 45 min hike
30 min kayaking or,
glass bottom boat
1 hour deep snorkeling

 Afternoon



From within the flooded caldera of Tower Island, we set foot onto a sandy beach to be greeted by swallow-tailed gulls often said to be the most beautiful gull in the world. In the trail we can see at nesting red-footed boobies and great frigatebirds. Landing: wet



Difficulty level
Medium ●



Type of terrain
Sandy



Duration
45 min Kayaking
1 hour 15 min hike
45 min glass bottom boat or,
1 hour deep or beach snorkeling



DAY 7

WEDNESDAY

 Morning



Sea lions, swallow-tailed gulls, and land iguanas are all present at the landing site. The small island is covered with a carpet of a red succulent studded with Opuntia cacti. At the cliff edge, we spend time watching birds like frigatebirds, flocks of Galapagos shearwaters, and of particular note, flights of displaying red-billed tropicbirds. Landing: dry



Difficulty level
Medium ●



Type of terrain
Rocky



Duration
2 hours hike

 Afternoon

After a fabulous snorkel in the turquoise waters of the protected bay, we may have enjoyed time with sea lions, turtles, reef sharks and spotted eagle rays. Landing on a sandy beach, we spend time watching the abundant sea lions there with us and . We begin a walk past a forest of island-endemic giant Opuntia cacti and we can watch the Santa Fe land Iguana. Landing: wet



Difficulty level
Medium ●



Type of terrain
Rocky



Duration
30 min Kayaking
1 hour 45 min hike
1 hour deep snorkeling
45 min Glass-bottom boat



DAY 8

THURSDAY

 Morning



 Pit Craters (Santa Cruz Island)

The Pit Craters, geologically speaking, were not directly formed by volcanic action. They were created as a result of the collapse or sinking of surface materials into cracks or manholes. It's a great place to spot vermilion fly catchers as we walk inside an endemic Scalesia forest. Great opportunity to observe giant tortoises.
Landing: dry



Difficulty level
Low ●



Type of terrain
Flat & Muddy



Duration
1 hour walk
45 minutes drive



 Baltra Island Airport

After the visit, passengers will be transferred to the airport for their return flight to Guayaquil or Quito.