



Elite Yacht



Elite Yacht 15 Days Itinerary A + B

Day	Activities
1	El Junco Lagoon: Upon your arrival to San Cristobal Airport, you will head to the first visiting site, El Junco Lagoon, an impressive crater lake located in the highlands of San Cristobal Island, where you will enjoy superb panoramic views of the island, and also spot frigate birds diving in the clear crystal water at the lagoon. After this activity you will be transferred to the yacht to settle in and for dinner.
2	Dragon Hill & North Seymour: First activity of the day will be heading to North Seymour, a small island, and characteristic for its large population of blue footed boobies and swallow tailed gulls, along with frigate birds. If you are lucky enough you may spot the marvelous bright chests of male bird frigates when they court the females. In the afternoon, you will visit Dragon Hill at Santa Cruz Island, place named after the large population of land iguanas that live here, and that resemble miniature dragons, hence the name of this place. You will spot this species and also visit the Palo Santo forest here. This is also a nice place to snorkel
3	Tintoreras Islet and Isabela Island: Early in the morning you will take a panga ride to Tintoreras, a chain of Islets near Isabela Island, that have created a unique habitat for a variety of wildlife. You can snorkel, kayak, or paddle board at this spot. Then you will visit Sierra Negra Volcano at Isabela Island, one of the most active in the Galapagos. As you walk to the top of the caldera you will spot forest of guava trees, and if the weather allows it you will have a spectacular view of the entire island. After lunch you will head to Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center, where you will learn about the conservation efforts that have been made to preserve the two species of Galapagos giant tortoises that inhabit here. Then you will be transferred to Isabela wetlands, a spot comprised of lagoons, swamps and mangroves, which have become a paradise for migratory birds like stilts and flamingos.
4	Moreno Point and Urbina Bay: After breakfast, you will take a panga ride to Moreno Point, located on the west coast of Isabela, while spotting sea turtles and white-tip sharks. Once you land you will take a trail to a place with a multitude of green lagoons and mangroves. You may also spot penguins, blue herons and flamingos here. In the afternoon you will visit Urbina Bay, located at the foot of Alcedo Volcano, and result of a major volcanic uplift, resulting in a coral reef being lifted out of the ocean. You can observe corals and remains of marine life that were stranded due to this event. This place is also home to giant land iguanas and giant tortoises, Galapagos hawks and flightless cormorants. You can also snorkel at this spot.



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Espinosa Point and Vicente Roca Point: First activity in the morning will be heading to Espinosa Point at Fernandina Island, by a zodiac ride. You will be able to spot marine iguanas, sally light foot crabs, and once on land you will explore the mangrove plants, lava cacti and the lava formations that can be found here. In the afternoon you will visit Vicente Roca Point by a panga ride. This is a beautiful large bay with two coves that provide nesting sites for blue-footed and Nazca boobies, gulls storm petrels and Brown Noddy Terns. You can also snorkel here, while spotting a great abundance of marine life, like sea lions and dolphins.

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Tagus Cove and Espinoza Point: After breakfast, you will visit Tagus Cove. Rabida and Bartolome Island: Early in the morning, after breakfast, you will take a panga ride to Rabida Island, most known for its dark red sand beach surrounded by a backdrop of cliffs and steep volcanic hills, full of Palo Santo trees and endemic cacti. You can also spot blue-footed and Nazca boobies, and a large sea lion colony at the shore. This is also the only site where all nine Darwin's finches are found. You can also snorkel, kayak or paddle board at this spot. In the afternoon, head to Bartolome Island, an islet located in Sullivan Bay, famous for the huge volcanic cone named Pinnacle Rock. A walking trail leads to a viewpoint at the summit of the island where you can enjoy spectacular views of Pinnacle rock and the entire island. The northern beach of this place is perfect for snorkeling and spotting eagle rays and reef sharks.

7

San Cristobal and Witch Hill: Early in the morning you will head to Witch Hill, by a panga ride. This place is an eroded tuff cone, and the waters surrounding it are perfect for snorkeling. There is also the opportunity to go to the inland paths of this place to see a variety of shore birds, finches and mockingbirds. In the afternoon, you will head to Lobos Island, by panga, this place gets its name from the herds of sea lions that inhabit it. You can snorkel at this spot, with the opportunity to see this magnificent animals from up close. It is also common to spot green turtles and rays.

8

San Cristobal Interpretation Center: After breakfast, you will disembark at San Cristobal Island, to visit the Interpretation Center, that provides an overview of the fascinating history of the islands, and learn about the natural history, human history and the conservation for the future. After this activity you will go to David Rodriguez Breeding Center, place that provides information about the origin and evolution of the giant tortoise and explain the importance of this place to safeguard the future of these creatures. You can also see baby tortoises being reared in semi-natural conditions. After this activity you will be transferred to the yacht for dinner and rest.



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Suarez Point and Gardner Bay: Early in the morning you will head to Suarez Point at Española Island. This place is packed with wildlife and is best explored by following a circular trail, here you will observe nesting sites of large colonies of Nazca and blue/footed boobies and mocking birds. Red and marine iguanas are also present. There is also a geological highlight: several blowholes capable of shooting water 25, onto the air, which makes this place an amazing landscape. In the afternoon, you will visit Gardner Bay, place with a pristine sand beach, dotted with sea lions. This is a perfect spot to relax, kayak or paddle board. A short panga ride from here will take you to Gardner and Osborn Islets, superb locations for snorkeling with young sea lions and a variety of colorful tropical fish and corals.

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Cormorant Point and Post Office Bay: First activity of the day will be heading to Cormorant Point at Floreana Island, where you can find two contrasting beaches, one with green tinted sand due to the high content of olivine crystals, and another with pure white sand, derived from pulverized coral (known as "flour beach") There is also a saltwater lagoon frequented by one of the largest population of Galapagos flamingos, as well as other shorebirds like stilts, white cheeked pintails and large billed flycatchers. You can also take a panga ride to Champion Islet, an extinct shield volcano which provides a nice opportunity to snorkel. In the afternoon you will visit Post Office Bay, place established by British whalers in the 18th century that was used by them to post their letters, and visitors can still take part in today. Then you will head to Baroness' Lookout, a volcanic formation named after an Australian baroness, who visited the island in the 1930's. From here you have a panoramic view of the coastline.

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Mosquera Islet: Early in the morning you will head to Mosquera Islet, a flat small islet located between Baltra and North Seymour Islands, place where you will encounter a large population of sea lions, shorebirds and the striking sally light foot crabs that cling to the dark rocks. In the afternoon you will disembark at Santa Cruz Island to visit Charles Darwin Research Station, place that provides the opportunity to find out about the vital work that is being done to preserve the archipelagos ecosystems. There is also a significant breeding program for Galapagos tortoises, to preserve the. After this activity head back to the yacht for dinner and rest.



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Prince Philip's Steps and Darwin Bay: First activity of the day will be heading to Genovesa Island, specifically Prince Philip's Steps also known as El Barranco, a rocky stairway that leads past a colony of Nazca and red-footed boobies and up to a plateau of dried lava. You continue through a Palo Santo Forest, and often spot storm petrels too. A panga ride or kayaking along the edge of the cliffs of this place provides a chance to see the Galapagos fur seals nestled on the rocks. In the afternoon you will visit Darwin Bay, that has a small sand and coral beach, that provides a perfect spot for snorkeling, kayaking or paddle boarding. You can also spot hammerhead sharks, rays and a plethora of colorful reef fish. You can also visit a tidal lagoon and mangroves and see Nazca and red footed boobies and swallow tailed gulls.

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Espumilla Beach and Buccaneer Cove: Early in the morning you will head to Espumilla Beach at Santiago Island, an exquisite white sand beach, whose name refers to meringue-like trails of foam. You can fight sally light foot crabs, hawks, herons and pelicans. This place is also perfect for snorkeling, kayaking or paddle boarding. Then you will visit Buccaneer Cove, which was a place used by sailors, buccaneers and whalers to anchor their vessels in search for food and water. This is now a nesting site for turtles, and also a place where sea lions swim by. In the afternoon you will visit Egas port, once a salt mine, now is an impressive black sand beach, which provides an excellent location for snorkeling and observing shorebirds.

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Santa Cruz and Bachas Beach: After breakfast you will visit Bachas beach, a nice white sand beach, where the remnants of a rusted barge, thought to have been abandoned by the Americans during WWII can be seen. This is also a popular nesting site for turtles, and you can also practice snorkel here. In the afternoon you will disembark at Santa Cruz Island and visit the Highlands of Santa Cruz, and the abundance of scalesia trees, along with bird species as vermilion flycatchers, Darwin's finches and short ear owl with a bit of luck. Then you will visit twin craters, two almost identical crater like holes, caused by the collapse of empty lava chambers.

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San Cristobal: Early in the morning you will disembark at San Cristobal Island and you will be transferred to San Cristobal Airport to take your flight back to the continent.



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Inclusions:

- ✓ Meals: From lunch on day 1, until breakfast on the final day
- ✓ Accommodation with private bathroom
- ✓ Excursions as listed in the itinerary, with a certified naturalist bilingual guide (Spanish/English)
- ✓ All meals and snacks.
- ✓ Soft drinks and juices
- ✓ Glass of house wine for dinners

Exclusions:

- ✗ Entrance fees Galapagos: Galapagos National Park \$100pp (subject to change). Galapagos transit control card \$20pp (subject to change), Isabel docking fee \$15pp *Depending on cruise. Santa Cruz Highland Tortoises ranch \$5 * depending on the cruise. Bus ticket Baltra Airport / Itabaca Channel - \$5 * depending on the cruise
- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Quito/Guayaquil - Galapagos - Quito/Guayaquil
- ✗ Airport transfers in Quito or Guayaquil
- ✗ Singles supplement *Depending on the cruise
- ✗ Alcoholic beverages & colas (there is a bar on board)
- ✗ Tips for guides and crew
- ✗ Any other personal expenses.



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