

www.galapagosedencruises.com

EXPLORE GALAPAGOS

AT EDEN TURIST SUPERIOR YACHT



A.M. Baltra (Airport)

Departure from Quito or Guayaquil to Baltra Island (2 1/2-hour flight). Arriving in the Galapagos, passengers are picked up at the airport by our natural guides and taken to a ten-minute bus drive to the pier to board the Eden Yacht.

P.M. Highlands Tortoise Reserve (WLK)

Dry landing. In the central highlands of Santa Cruz Island we have our best opportunity to interact at close quarters with totally wild, Galapagos giant tortoises. A short walk among these huge, 600 lb, reptiles will also offer the chance for more highland species, especially several species of the famed finches.











A.M. Post Office (SN/WLK)

Wet landing. A very short walk from the beach leads us to the famous Post Office Barrel. Claimed to have been first setup in 1793 by Captain James Colnett it remains the oldest functioning "post office" in the Pacific. The system was that whalers and fur sealers would leave addressed letters in the barrel to be picked up by homeward bound colleagues. In the spirit of maintaining tradition visitors today will often take letters and hand-deliver them in their home countries.

P.M. Cormorant Point (SN/WLK/PR)

Wet landing. On arriving, the observant visitor will notice that olivine, a volcanic crystal, has proffered a subtle green hue on the dark beach. Our walk takes us past island-endemic Scalesia plants to a large, shallow, lagoon often inhabited by a variable number of shockingly pink greater flamingoes. We continue through a forest of palo santo trees to arrive at a powdery white beach, a nesting area of green turtles. As we paddle barefoot in the shallow water we will spot diamond stingrays and white-tipped reef sharks.













EXPLORE GALAPAGOS

AT EDEN TURIST SUPERIOR YACHT



SATURDAY: Española

A.M. Suarez Point (WLK)

Dry landing. One of the highlight visits of the trip. Punta Suarez seems to have everything – a naturalist's paradise. A slew of marine iguanas and sea lions greet us at the landing site from where our walk continues with close encounters of boobies, endemic lizards, gulls and even a dramatic blow hole. The oldest extant island in the archipelago it is our only opportunity to commune with the endemic waved albatross during their breeding season between April and December. With luck, we can watch their complex courtship display.

P.M. Gardner Bay – Gardner & Osborn Islet (SN/WLK)

Wet landing. One of the most stunning beaches in all of Galapagos. The long, white, sandy beach, lapped by turquoise waters is home to a colony of Galapagos sea lions, indifferent to the humans that walk amongst them. The Hood mockingbirds, endemic to this particular island, will be eager to inspect the visitors and satisfy their innate curiosity. Darwin's finches may also join the throng including the reclusive warbler finch. We can also snorkel here from the beach, in the shallows of the bay.











A.M. Leon Dormido – Breeding Center (WLK)

Dry landing in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, capital of the Galapagos Islands. Passenger visit to the Interpretation Center; Excellent place to learn about natural history in the Galapagos. The Natural History Museum displays information about the volcanic origin of the islands, their remoteness from the continent, their sea currents, climate, the arrival of different species and their colonization, among some topics of interest. Human history is also exposed, chronological narrative of the most important events related to the discovery and colonization of the islands.

P.M. Isla Lobos (SN/PR)

On this Galapagos tour to Lobos Islet, we will disembark and go for an hour-long hike and snorkel around the island, hopefully spotting blue-footed boobies, marine iguanas and frigatebirds. If luck is on our side, there is a chance to see the marine iguanas feeding underwater. Thanks to the channel this islet creates with the island of San Cristobal, we will be able to see rays and turtles on the sandy bottom. This is considered a great place for first time snorkelers as the water is clear and not far away from land.











EXPLORE GALAPAGOS

AT EDEN TURIST SUPERIOR YACHT



MONDAY:

A.M. Santa Fe (SN/WLK/PR)

Wet landing. Santa Fe shows white sand beaches surrounded by sea lion colonies; through the island path, an endemic cactus forest is passed, home the Santa Fe land iguanas (the largest in the islands). This island is the habitat for a number of species, including the Galapagos hawk, Galapagos snakes, rice rats (one of the few endemic Galapagos rodents) a variety of finches and one of the four mocking bird species of the archipelago.

P.M. South Plaza Islet (WLK)

Dry landing. 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 fly past at eye level in the up draught. These include, frigatebirds, flocks of Galapagos shearwaters and of particular note, flights of displaying red-billed tropicbirds. Back at sea level, we once again encounter land iguanas, some of which have hybridized with their resident marine cousins.

TUESDAY: Santa Cruz

A.M. Charles Darwin Research Station (WLK)

Dry landing. Once home to the famous Lonesome George, the last tortoise of the Pinta race, the breeding and relocation center is named in honour of his long-time guardian. The center is set in the Galapagos National Park Service where various interpretative buildings are available to visit. The grounds, with large stands of native vegetation, are one of the better places to spot some of the seldom seen.

Baltra (Airport)

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







