



Galapagos Cruise

Motor Vessel Galapagos Legend - 5 Days Cruise

Characteristics:

The Motor Vessel “Galápagos LEGEND” is a 300 feet Ocean-going cruise ship that provides all the facilities and services to make the cruise around the Galapagos Islands enjoyable and comfortable. Yet the Galapagos Legend is small enough for that intimate experience with nature that brings you to the Galápagos Islands. All the fully carpeted luxurious and ample cabins have ocean views, excepting the interior cabins. Features aboard include among others swimming pool, outside pool bar, an inside bar, library, piano lounge etc. Six naturalist guides aboard lead daily shore excursions and offer briefings to prepare passengers for the islands to be visited the next day.

Technical facts and specifications:

Type	First-Class-Superior-Cruise ship
Length	300 feet / 91.5 m
Beam	47 feet / 14.3 m
Speed	19 knots
Capacity	up to 100 passengers
Crew	About 55 Plus 6 Naturalist Multilingual naturalist guides
(From 10 passengers from German speaking countries the group will be escorted by a German speaking naturalist guide)	





Itinerary:

Thursday: Flight to Galápagos / Baltra Island - Bartolomé Island

Morning arrival on Baltra Island where you firstly will pay the National Park Entrance Fee before you will be met by your guide and be transferred to the dock to board the boat. Here you will start your cruise with your first excursion.

Arriving at Bartolomé you will ascend a lookout point from where you can admire the spectacular panorama of the Sullivan Bay and the famous needle shaped rock, the so called Pinnacle Rock. The beaches at the foot of the Pinnacle Rock boast some fine snorkeling spots from which you can discover the marvelous underwater world with a good chance to encounter penguins or the softly gliding turtles. -/L/D

Friday: Isabela Island / Urbina Bay - Fernandina Island / Espinosa Point

This day will lead you to the largest island of the archipelago, Island Isabela. With a surface of 4588 sq.km the isle engages more than the half of the land area of whole Galápagos. At your next approach you will visit the “Bahia Urbina”. As a result of a strong outbreak of the volcano Alcedo in the year 1954 suddenly large sections of the coast were pushed up approximately 4 m, so that you can observe coral reefs here ashore. Meanwhile the reefs are covered with trees of chamomile and muyuyo. Furthermore you can observe terrestrial iguanas and the rare Mangrove finch from really close. From January to June occasionally elephant turtles, which live in the higher mountains, are visiting the bay.

In the afternoon you will visit Fernandina Island which is not only the westernmost but also the youngest and most pristine Island found in Galapagos. The last eruption of the volcano La Cumbre in 2005 created huge interesting fields of lava. Punta Espinoza, one of Fernandina’s visit points, is situated within a fascinating lava scenery with Lava-Cactuses and on the surface of the lava growing mangroves. Beside this unique scenery you will come in contact with numerous animals here. The highlights are sea lions, penguins, the flightless cormorant (especially in spring and summer) and one of the biggest iguana colonies of Galápagos. Do not miss a snorkeling trip during which you have the possibility to explore the beautiful underwater world. B/L/D



Saturday: Santiago Island / Egas Port - Rábida Island

Today you will land at Santiago Island, also known as James, or San Salvador Island, which is the fourth largest island in the archipelago. The influences of the former salt mine workers and their imported animals are still alive on the island. The last tries to populate Santiago Island were given up forty years ago. Visit the dark sand beach with a lot of marine iguanas at Egas Port after a wet landing. After a short walk of about 2 km along the coast you will reach the cliffy lava coast with natural pools where sea lions take a bath and herons and other sea birds are as well local. Additionally you can encounter a small group of sea bears. The surrounding area is good for spotting and observing colonies of sea lions, red sally light-foot crabs, lava iguanas, Galápagos buzzards and lava herons.

In the afternoon you will make an excursion to the small volcano island Rábida with its dark red beach. A small path there leads you to the little lagoon, which is often visited by flamingos. On your way to this lagoon you will pass nesting pelicans and other sea birds. The beach of Rábida Island is considered as one of the most beautiful places to go snorkeling. Because of a huge richness of fishes you can also observe a lot of sea lions there. **B/L/D**

Sunday: Island Santa Cruz / Charles Darwin Station – Highlands

Today you anchor at the harbour of Puerto Ayora on Island Santa Cruz. Beside its rank as homestay for sea lions and pelicans, the marina is a popular starting point for round-the-world-yachtsman. The island itself has come to be both touristic and scientific center of the archipeleago. The Charles Darwin Research Station and the Galapagos National Park offices are based on Santa Cruz Island. The station encompasses an information centre, a museum, a library and a tortoise breeding station. Here you will have an opportunity to visit some of the best scientists of the Galápagos. Park rangers and park managers among others, who make huge efforts to preserve this Unesco World Heritage Site, conduct the conservation of the islands. In the tortoise breeding and rearing centre you can encounter tortoises of different subspecies, which are prepared for reintroduction to their natural habitats. The most popular inhabitant of this Station is probably Lonesome George. He is the only survivor of his specific turtle species. In the past all approaches to find a partner for him failed. But in July 2008 the scientists found a carved nest with nine eggs

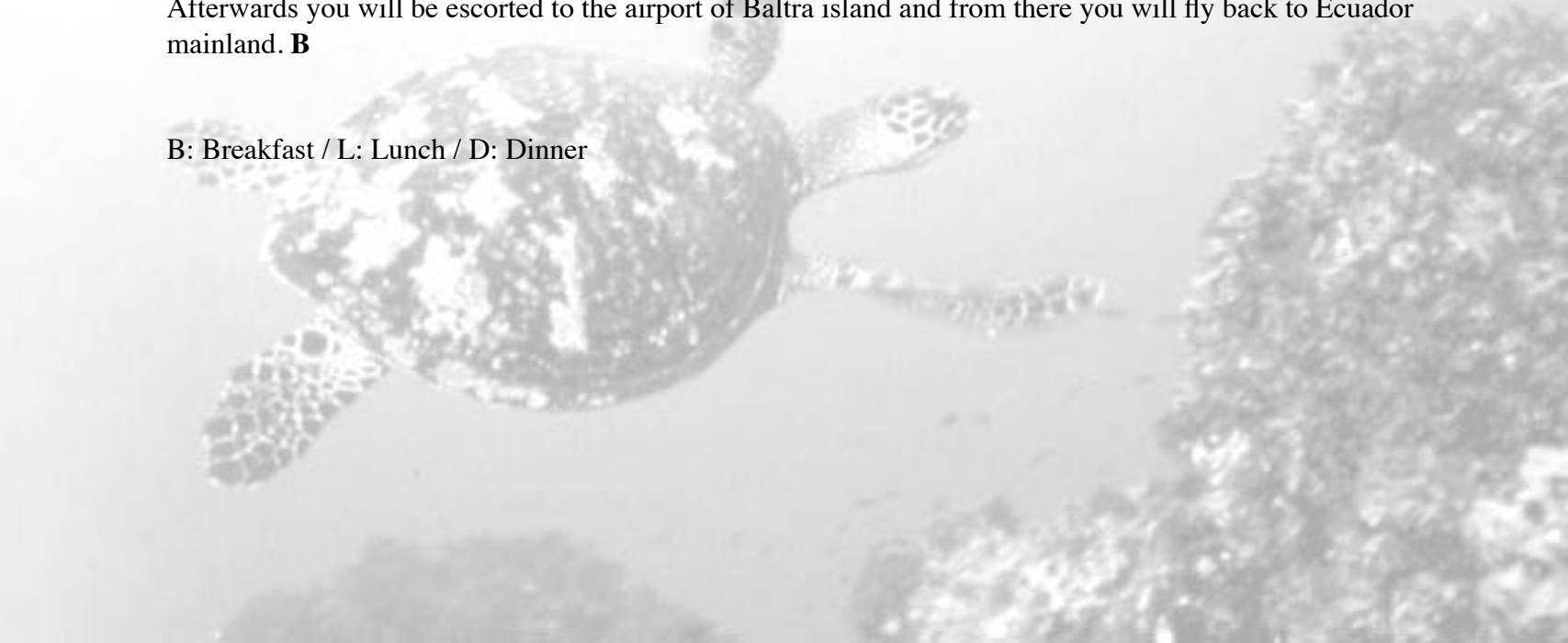


from a female tortoise. Three of them could be saved and now accordingly to strict instructions they are incubated synthetically. In the afternoon you will visit the highlands of Santa Cruz. The lush landscape there is a welcome contrast to the arid scenery of the smaller, lower islands. On your way you will cross the different zones of vegetation, from the dry lower region full of cactuses to the woods of scalesia in the highlands. Points of interest are the famed lava tunnels, a fun and geologically informative visit. During a visit of a hacienda in the highlands you can observe the Galapagos giant tortoises in their natural habitat. **B/L/D**

Monday: Las Bachas Beach - Baltra / flight back to mainland

In the morning you will visit the long sandy “Las Bachas” Beach. Here you encounter sea lions, herons and marine iguanas and with good luck penguins. You also have the opportunity to swim offshore of this soft white sand beach. Snorkelling enthusiasts can explore the fascinating underwater world as well. Afterwards you will be escorted to the airport of Baltra island and from there you will fly back to Ecuador mainland. **B**

B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner





Prices per person 2009:

5 days / 4 nights

Superior Interior USD 1,730.-	Superior Exterior USD 2,120.-	Junior Suite USD 2,530.-	Legend Suite USD 2,790.-	Balcony Suite USD 3.230.-
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Fuel surcharge per person: USD 90.-

Single supplement: 80 %

Discount for children under 12 years: 25 %

Included in the price:

All transfers in Galapagos, cruise on board of the MOTOR VESSEL LEGEND in double accommodation with all facilities, naturalist guide, purified water free to drink.

Not included in the price:

flights mainland to/from Galápagos (e.g. Quito – Galapagos – Quito USD 414.- per person), entrance fee to Galapagos National Park USD 100.- per person, migration card USD 10.- per person, beverages, tips, personal items, insurance.

NB: Itinerary is subject to change without previous notice, due to weather conditions, operational matters, National Park Authorities advice, or Captain´s decision for passengers security.