



Galapagos Cruise

SeaMan Catamaran II - 5 days cruise
Thursday to Monday



Characteristics:

The Motor Catamaran Seaman II, which was built in 2007, is equipped with the newest technology and most modern facilities. The nine spacious and comfortable double cabins with Twin- or Double beds offers you a beautiful view on the sea, private bathroom and air conditioning. Two bars (interior and exterior), the lounge and the comfortable dining room are perfect for a comfortable stay. Enjoy the sun on the ample sun deck and explore the fascinating landscape of the Galápagos Islands from the observation deck.

Technical facts and specifications:

Type: First Class Motor Catamaran
Year of Construction: 2006 - 2007
Length: 27.6 m
Beam: 11 m
Speed: 12 knots
Capacity: up to 16 passengers
Crew: 9 plus 1 naturalist guide (Level II or III)
Accommodation: 8 double cabins, private bathroom, air conditioning





Itinerary:

Thursday: Flight to Galápagos / Baltra Island – Island Santa Cruz / Charles Darwin Station

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. 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. -/L/D

Friday: Isabela Island / Punta Moreno – Elizabeth Bay

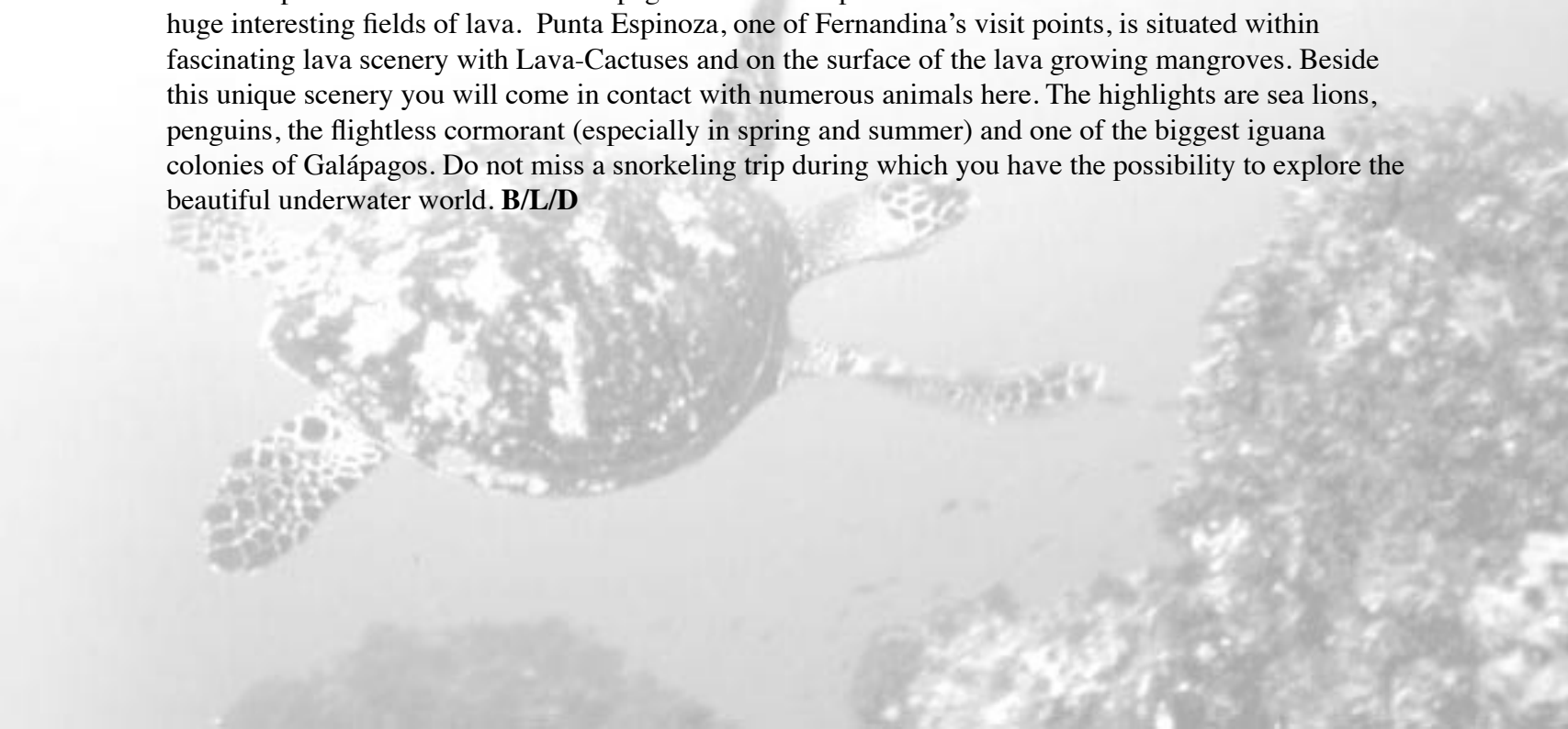
This day will lead you to the largest island of the archipelago, Island Isabela. With a surface of 4588 sq.km the isle engages more than the half of the land area of whole Galápagos. At Punta Moreno, a young volcanic landscape with numerous fresh-water pools and lagoons, you can see flamingos, bahama ducks and other birds. Then you will go to the mangrove area of Elizabeth Bay with little islands off-shore. Here you can see little dwarf penguins as well as schools of manta rays, turtles and other giants of the ocean such as whale-sharks and more. The mangrove woods are the home of different seabirds and herons. B/L/D



Saturday: Island Isabela / 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 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**





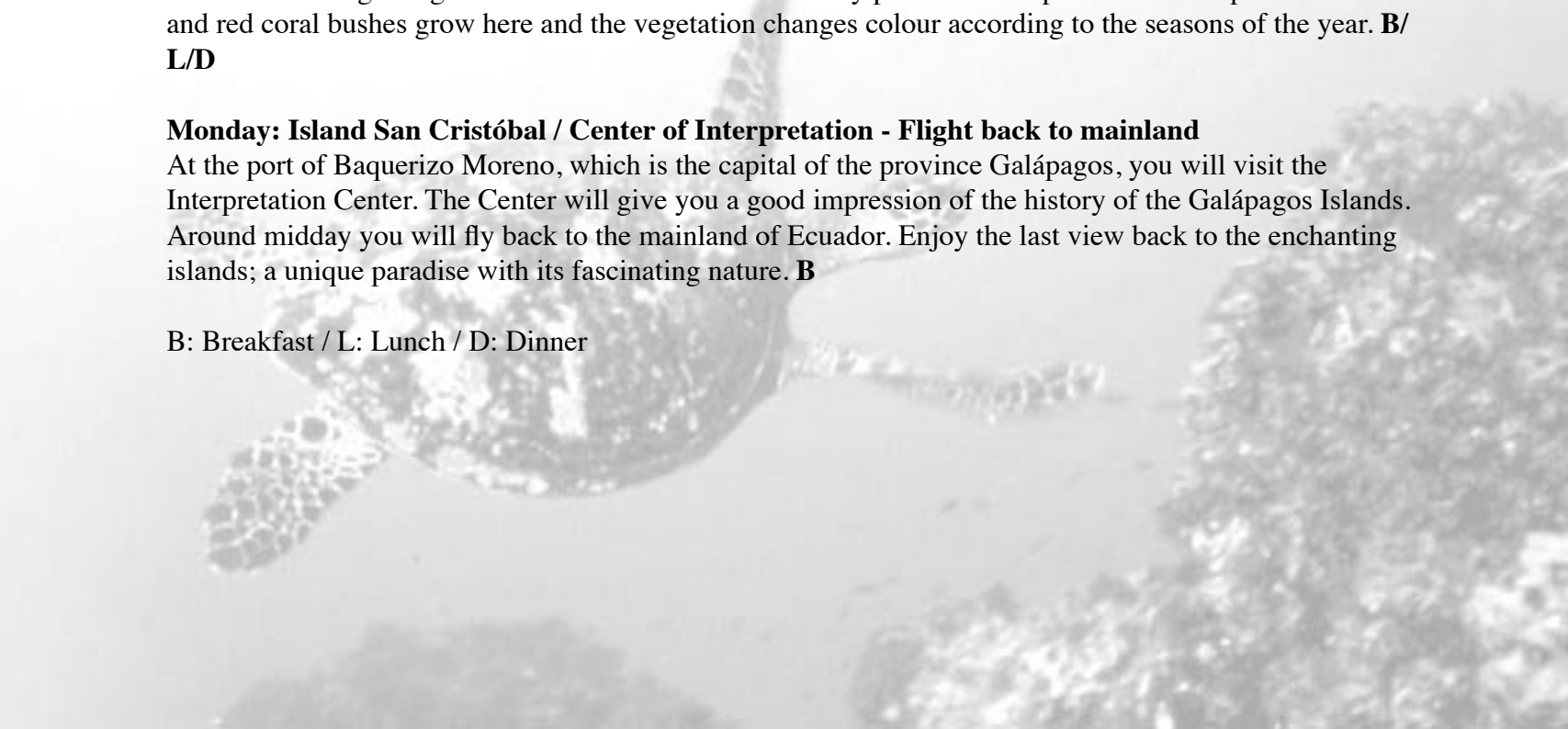
Sunday: Island Bartolomé – South Plaza Island

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. In the afternoon you will explore South Plaza Island, the more southernly island of the both Plaza Island, located in the east of Island Santa Cruz. On this island so full of life you will encounter colonies of sea lions and land iguanas. On the steep banks it is possible to see a great number of birds such as nesting tropic birds and fork-tailed seagulls. But most of all, enjoying the beautiful view from atop the steep banks or strolling along the base of the cliff is an extremely pleasurable experience. The Opuntia cactus and red coral bushes grow here and the vegetation changes colour according to the seasons of the year. **B/L/D**

Monday: Island San Cristóbal / Center of Interpretation - Flight back to mainland

At the port of Baquerizo Moreno, which is the capital of the province Galápagos, you will visit the Interpretation Center. The Center will give you a good impression of the history of the Galápagos Islands. Around midday you will fly back to the mainland of Ecuador. Enjoy the last view back to the enchanting islands; a unique paradise with its fascinating nature. **B**

B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner





Prices per person 2009:

Main Deck per person: USD 2,267.- (Twin Beds)
Upper Deck per person: USD 2,429.- (Double Beds)

Charter: USD 36,909.-

Single supplement: 90 %
No child discount

Included in the price:

All transfers in Galapagos, cruise on board of the SEAMAN CATAMARAN 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 – Galápagos – 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.