



Galapagos Cruise

Motor Yacht Fragata - 5 Days Cruise

Friday to Tuesday



Characteristics:

The motor yacht Fragata is a spacious and comfortable owner operated motor yacht that accommodates 16 passengers in cozy double cabins with bunk beds, all decorated and equipped to provide a relaxed cruise in the islands. The yacht Fragata would like to welcome you on board and invites you to discover the primeval flora and fauna of the Galapagos archipelago. 20 years of experience and a top qualified crew (captain, naturalist guide, cook, assistant of cook, barman, engineer and two sailors) guarantee safety, seriousness and comfort, preserving the fragile ecosystem of the Galapagos Islands, considered Heritage of the Humanity. The experienced naturalist guide will introduce you to the astonishing Galapagos flora and fauna. All 9 comfortable cabins are fully carpeted and have private toilet, shower (hot water), washbasin and vanity. The ship offers a nice atmosphere and attention to minimum details with features such as an ample dining room, bar, saloon, dining room, small library, sundeck, TV, VCR, and stereo music system. The motor yacht Fragata offers lots of space and comfort for naturalist cruises and enables the passengers to admire the incredible sub-marine world.

Technical facts and specifications:

Type: Motor Yacht
Length: 25 m
Draft: 6.5 m
Speed: 9 knots
Capacity: 18 passengers
Crew: 7 + 1 natural guide



Itinerary:

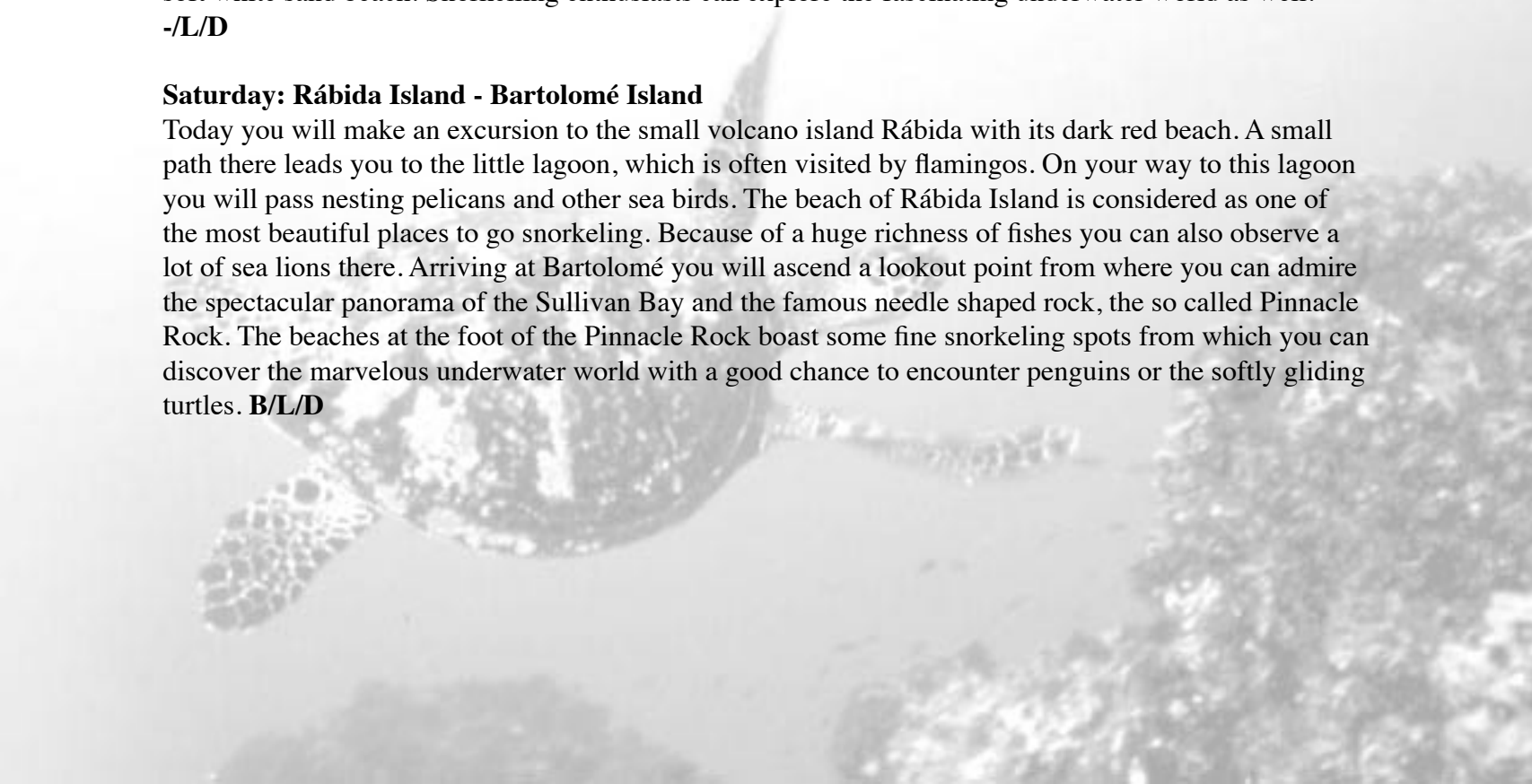
Friday: Flight to Galápagos / Baltra - Santa Cruz Island / Las Bachas Beach

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. In the afternoon 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.

-/L/D

Saturday: Rábida Island - Bartolomé Island

Today 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. 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. **B/L/D**





Sunday: Genovesa Island / Prince Philip's Steps – Darwin Bay

Your destination for today is Genovesa Island. Genovesa is considered as one of the wildest and untouched within the National Park of Galápagos. It is also known as “Bird Island” or “Tower Island”. On your way to this island you will cross the equator. After a panga ride along the cliffs of Genovesa Island you will make a dry landing at Prince Philip's Steps, a carved out of stone stair. This will lead you to a wide plateau, where you can observe large colonies of masked boobies, frigate birds, storm petrels and bahama ducks. During this easy stroll you will cross a little Scalesia wood, in which you can observe the short-eared owl. The same path will lead you back to your boat. After lunch make a wet landing onto Tower Island at Darwin Bay for an easy stroll observing seemingly thousands of birds, mainly frigate and red footed and masked boobies. On the beach you can see the interesting spectacle how the frigates try to catch the prey of the boobies. **B/L/D**

Monday: South Plaza Island - Santa Cruz Island / Charles Darwin Station

Today 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. In the afternoon you will 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 the tortoise breeding station as well. 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

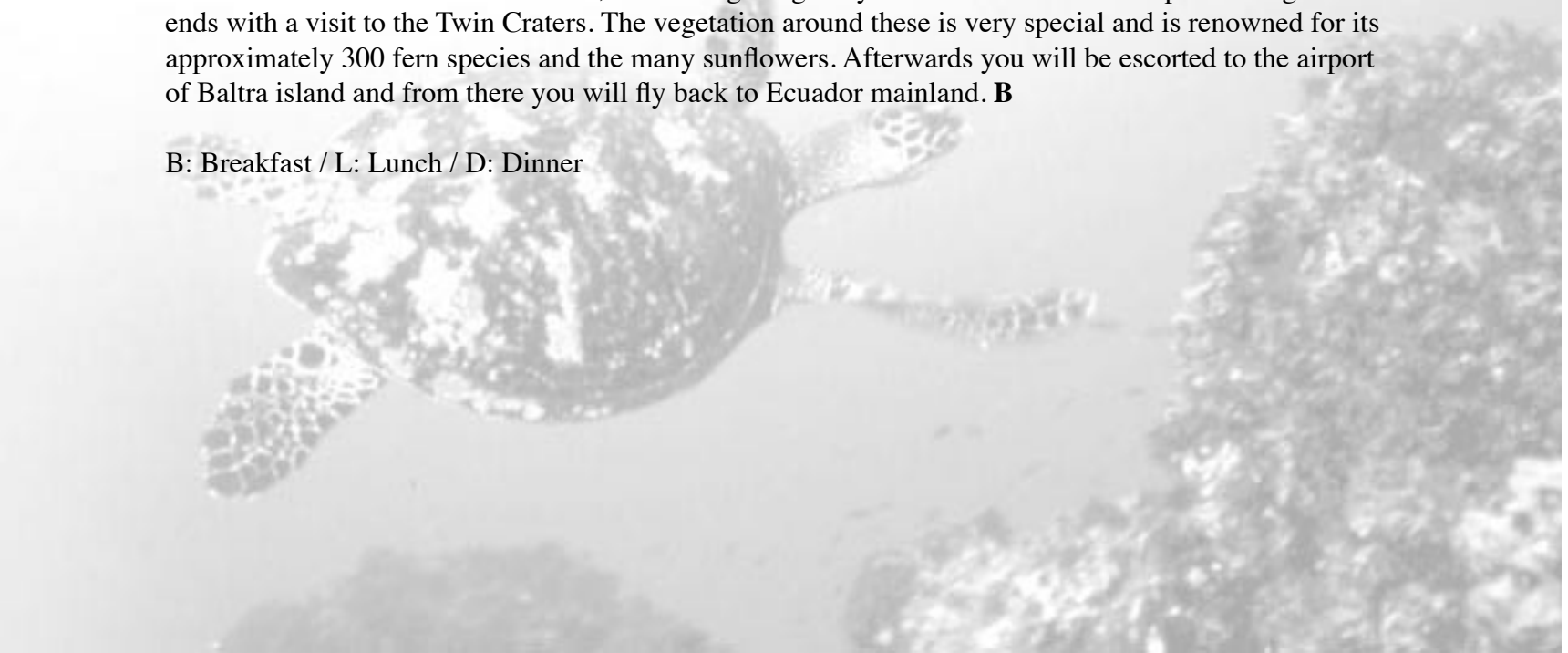


encounter tortoises of different subspecies, which are prepared for reintroduction to their natural habitats. The most popular inhabitant of this island is probably Lonesome George. He is the only survivor of his specific turtle species. In the past all approaches to find a partner for him failed. But 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. You will spend the last night in a hotel Puerto Ayora. **B/L/D**

Tuesday: Santa Cruz Island / Highlands – Baltra / flight back to mainland

In the morning 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. The trip to the highlands ends with a visit to the Twin Craters. The vegetation around these is very special and is renowned for its approximately 300 fern species and the many sunflowers. 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:

Double cabin per person: USD 1,825.-

Charter: USD 29,200.-

Single supplement 80 %

No child discount

Included in the price:

All transfers in Galapagos, cruise on board of the MOTOR YACHT NEW FRAGATA 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.

