



Galapagos Cruise

Galapagos Motor Yacht Tip Top II – 5 Days Cruise
Friday to Tuesday

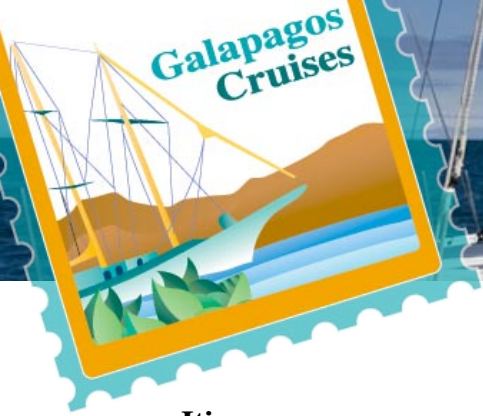
Characteristics:

The Tip Top II is a 85 foot steel hulled motor yacht which was built in 1983 in Guayaquil, Ecuador. Since this time the yacht was refurbished three times, for the last time in 2006. It provides very comfortable accommodation and meals for your unforgettable natural history tour of the Galápagos Islands. It accommodates 16 passengers in 9 double cabins, 6 of them at the lower deck with two twin beds and 2 cabins at the upper deck with two twin beds and 1 cabin with one twin bed. Each of the cabins features private shower and toilet. Moreover the yacht provides for their guests a bar, dining room, a lounge and an ample sun deck. All cabins and public areas are fully carpeted and air conditioned. Each cabin is outfitted with a personal safe and a wardrobe.

Technical facts and specifications:

Type: Motor Yacht
Length: 22 m
Beam: 5.50 m
Speed: 9 knots
Crew: 6 Plus bilingual naturalist guide





Itinerary:

Friday: Flight to Galápagos / Baltra - Island Santa Cruz / 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 / Darwin Bay – Prince Philips Steps

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 breakfast 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.

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. **B/L/D**

Monday: Island Santa Cruz / Highlands – Charles Darwin Station

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

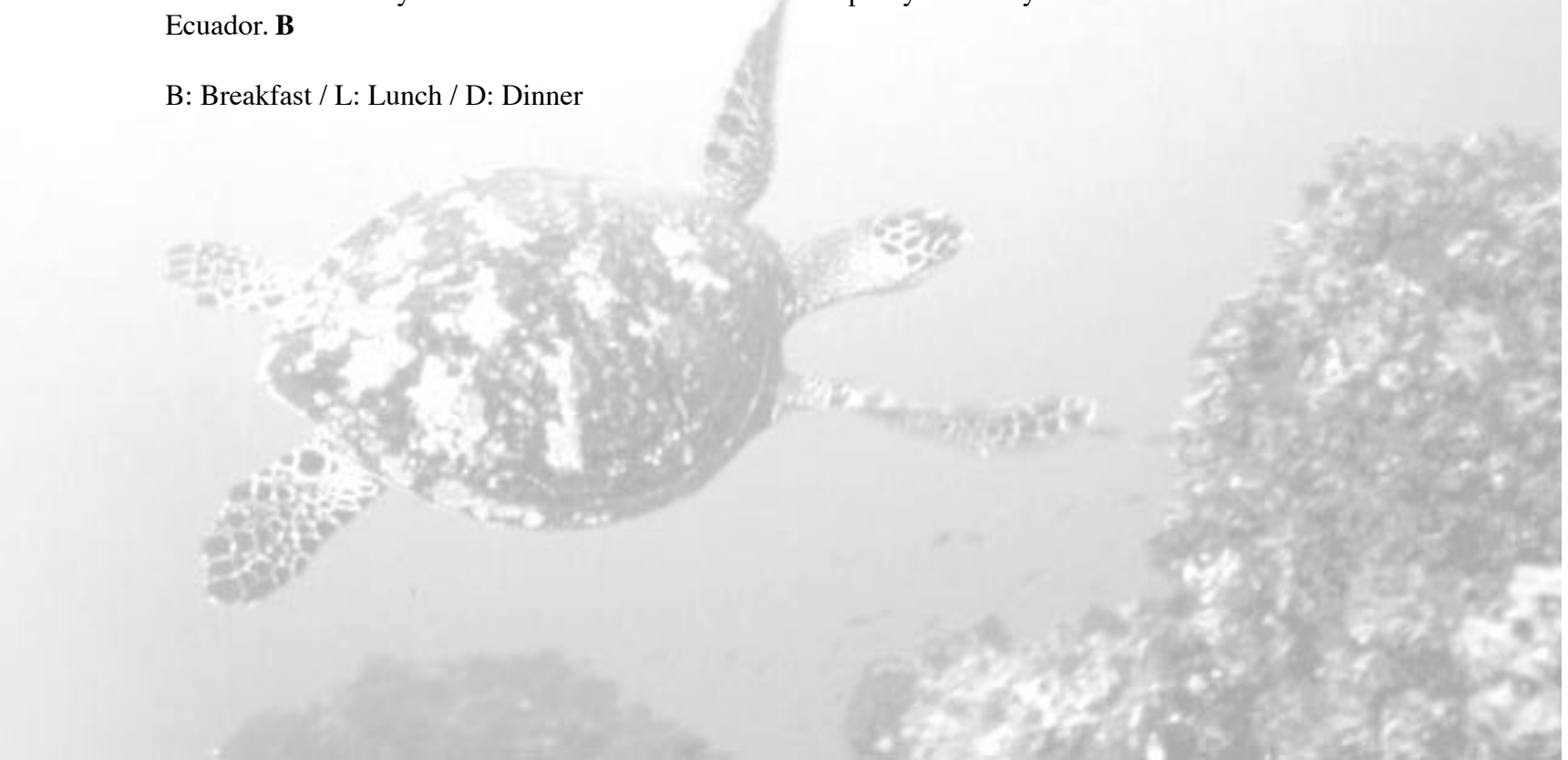


reintroduction to their natural habitats. The most popular inhabitant of this Station is probably Lonesome George. He is the only survivor of his specific turtle species. In the past all approaches to find a partner for him failed. But in July 2008 the scientists found a carved nest with nine eggs from a female tortoise. Three of them could be saved and now accordingly to strict instructions they are incubated synthetically.
B/L/D

Tuesday: Baltra / flight back to mainland

Today you will be escorted across the island to the north of Itabaca Chanel and you will cross over to Baltra Island. After your transfer from the channel to the airport you will fly back to the mainland of Ecuador. **B**

B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner





Prices per person 2009:

	Double	Single
Cabins 1 - 6	USD 1,800	USD 2,700.-
Cabins 7 - 8	-	USD 2,925.-
Cabins 9 - 10	USD 1,950	USD 2,925.-
 Charter (16 persons)		 USD 25,920.-
 Fuel supplement per person:	 USD 105.-	
Fuel supplement for Charter:	USD 1,535.-	

Discount for children under 12 years: 10%

Included in the price:

All transfers in Galapagos, cruise on board of the MOTOR YACHT TIP TOP II 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.-, 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 advise, or Captain's decision for passengers security.

