



# Galapagos Cruise

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



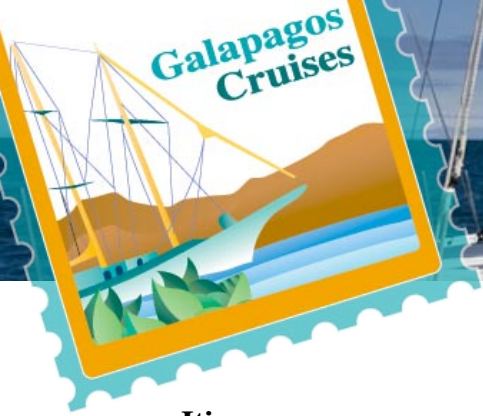
## Characteristics:

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:

### **Monday: Flight to Galápagos / Baltra - 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 with an excursion on 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 wit nine eggs from a female tortoise. Three of them could be saved and now accordingly to strict instructions they are incubated synthetically.

-/L/D





### **Tuesday: South Plaza Island - Island Santa Fé**

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 visit Santa Fe Island, a small rocky peninsula which is covered by little Palo Santo trees and by up to 6m high opuntia cacti. Inhabitants of this island are a specific species of large yellow land iguanas, the Galápagos buzzard, some blue footed boobies and pelicans. After the hike you can swim or snorkel in the bay in company of sea lions and marine turtles. Finally you can observe the tropic underwater world. **B/L/D**

### **Wednesday: Española Island / Gardener Bay – Suarez Point**

Española is the southernmost and oldest island of the Galápagos archipelago. Because of its isolated position you can explore a lot of endemic wildlife. Gardener Bay is on the eastern shore with turquoise shot coloured water and a magnificent beach. Around the small islets nearby, snorkelers will find lots of fish and sometimes turtles and sharks. The bay is also frequented by a transient colony of sea lions which like to swim with you. Birds, like the endemic Hood-Mockingbird and different species of Darwin finches, are omnipresent. In the afternoon you will have an excursion to Point Suarez which is one of the most outstanding wildlife areas of the archipelago, with a long list of species found along its cliffs and sand or pebble beaches. In addition to five species of nesting seabirds there are the curious and bold Española Island mockingbirds, Galapagos doves and Galapagos hawks. Several types of reptiles, including the marine iguana and the oversized lava lizard, are unique to this island. When heavy swells are running, Point Suarez is also the site of a spectacular blowhole, with thundering spray shooting 30 yards into the air. The walkabout on a stony path is about 2km (duration about 3 hours). **B/L/D**



#### **Thursday: Floreana Island / Cormorant Point – Post Office Bay**

Floreana Island is perceived as one of the most exotic Island of the archipelago. At Cormorant Point you land on a green olivine sand beach. Following a 100 m long path you will soon reach a lagoon with flamingoes, white-checked pintail ducks and other shorebirds.

Afterwards you will visit the famous Post Office Bay which keeps the legendary post barrel that whalers historically used to post their mail in. Nowadays you can leave a letter and hope that it will make its destination via another tourist. **B/L/D**

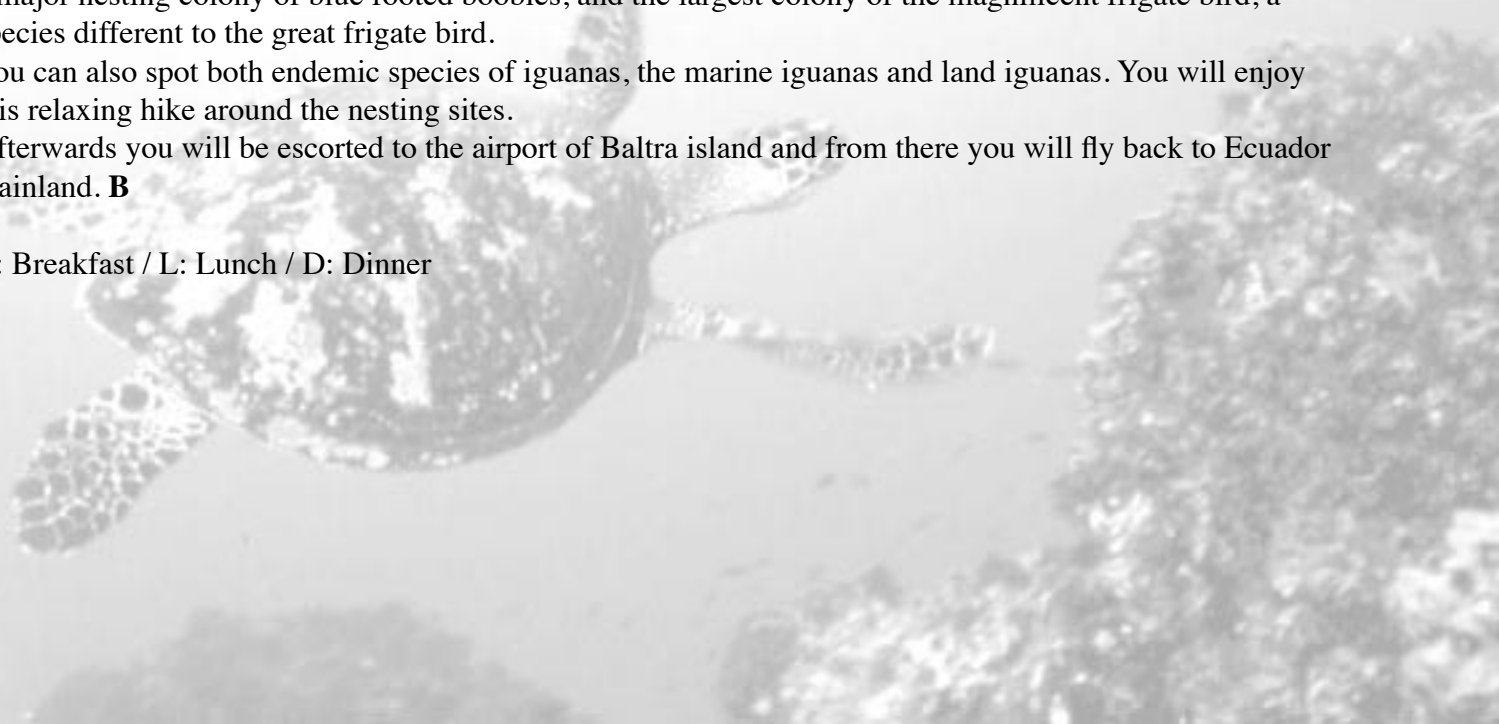
#### **Friday: North Seymour Island – Baltra / flight back to mainland**

After a dry landing, you will have a short walk along the coast of the northernmost island of Seymour. Guests will encounter swallow tailed gulls, sea lions and cliff crabs. This site is also known for being a major nesting colony of blue footed boobies, and the largest colony of the magnificent frigate bird, a species different to the great frigate bird.

You can also spot both endemic species of iguanas, the marine iguanas and land iguanas. You will enjoy this relaxing hike around the nesting sites.

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	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.

