

Full Itinerary

Galapagos Navigable Tour Isabela II Yacht

Introduction



Yacht Isabela II offers the perfect, intimate space for exploring Darwin's islands in comfort. Traditionalists will enjoy feeling at home with a crew that has remained almost unchanged for years, leading to seamless attention to detail that will make your stay extra special.

With just **20 guest cabins**, the yacht's convivial atmosphere leads to a close-up experience of this unique world. On board, guests find delicious cuisine, faultless service and excellent facilities, including a Hut Tub, fitness room, bar and outside deck for al fresco meals, drinks, and sunbathing.

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ITINERARY C

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS

Day 1 (Tuesday)



A.M. BAQUERIZO MORENO PORT (SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND)

We arrive by plane at San Cristobal Island and transfer to Yacht Isabela II for cabin assignment, introductory briefing and lunch.

P.M. CERRO COLORADO BREEDING CENTRE (SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND)

After lunch, we land back at Puerto Baquerizo Moreno and drive 40 minutes to the island's southern shore. At Cerro Colorado, we visit the breeding centre of the highly-endangered giant tortoises in the midst of a fantastic deciduous forest, home to dozens of bird species and the endemic San Cristobal lava lizard.

Day 2 (Wednesday)



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A.M. PRINCE PHILIP'S STEPS (TOWER/GENOVESA ISLAND)

Overnight, we navigate northbound to the incredible bird haven on Genovesa Island, crossing the equator on the way. The morning starts with a panga ride along the cliffs of this dramatic island, followed by a dry landing with a steep climb (90 feet) up some stairs to reach a flat plateau. Along our walk, we can observe large colonies of Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, great frigatebirds and storm petrels. Coastal exploration along the cliffs (depending on weather conditions) will let us see more wildlife, including Galapagos fur seals. We can also enjoy snorkelling and kayaking.

P.M. DARWIN BAY (GENOVESA ISLAND)

In the afternoon, we land at the beach for an easy stroll observing hundreds of birds, mainly frigatebirds, red-footed and Nazca boobies, gulls, herons, finches and mockingbirds. There's an optional walk over sharp lava and uneven terrain for dramatic views, or else we can return to the beach to enjoy snorkelling at this beautiful natural harbour.

Day 3 (Thursday)



A.M. BUCCANEER COVE (JAMES/SANTIAGO ISLAND)

After breakfast, we enjoy a coastal exploration along the impressive cliffs of Buccaneer's Cove, learning about the area's distant and recent history. The cove is home to a large number of marine birds, sea lions, and inter-tidal organisms. Enjoy fantastic natural formations such as the "The Bishop" and an impressive natural cave. This is a great site for snorkelling too or ride in our glass-bottom boat.

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P.M. EGAS PORT (SANTIAGO ISLAND)

This is a wonderful opportunity to see land and marine birds amidst a landscape of tuff-stone layers and lava flows. At low tide, marine iguanas graze upon the algae beds and we can also observe a colony of fur seals. Back at the beach where we land, there's very good snorkelling and swimming here.

Day 4 (Friday)



A.M. ESPINOZA POINT (FERNANDINA ISLAND)

In the morning, we visit the youngest island of the archipelago, Fernandina. Punta Espinoza has an amazing combination of barrenness and abundant wildlife. Highlights include hawks, penguins, flightless cormorants, and some of the densest colonies of marine iguanas. Snorkeling here usually bring unexpected marine encounters.

P.M. TAGUS COVE (ISABELA ISLAND)

Across the narrow Bolivar Channel, we anchor at this cove on the northwest of Isabela. It provided a favourite anchorage for pirates and whalers over the centuries. An uphill hike takes guests to the rim of Darwin Crater, filled with salt water and to a dramatic viewpoint. After our walk, we take a panga ride to spot local wildlife, including some Galapagos penguins with the possibility of swimming, kayaking or snorkelling.

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Day 5 (Saturday)



P.M. URBINA BAY (ISABELA ISLAND)

After breakfast we disembark at Urbina Bay, the result of an uplifting of the ocean floor in 1954. Here you can find corals, shells and many other calcareous organisms exposed above water. This area is also home to large and very colourful Galapagos land iguanas, and occasionally to giant tortoises. Along the shoreline, after the hike, guests may encounter flightless cormorants and see penguins while snorkelling.

P.M. VICENTE ROCA POINT (ISABELA ISLAND)

Since there is no landing site at this location, the coastal exploration is by skiff, while naturalists explain the dramatic geology of the area, with remains of lava flows and tuff stone layers. There is abundant wildlife and, depending on the conditions of the ocean, we'll be able to snorkel along the cliffs, hopefully in the company of green sea turtles and penguins. Expedition plan for Sunday and dinner.

Day 6 (Sunday)



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A.M. RABIDA ISLAND

In the morning, we disembark at Rabida Island's red-coloured beach. A stroll allows us to observe a large colony of sea lions, marine iguanas, mockingbirds, yellow warblers and several species of Darwin's finches. This is a great place to snorkel from the beach. We can also enjoy a panga ride, kayaking or ride in our glass-bottom boat.

P.M. DRAGON HILL (SANTA CRUZ ISLAND)

The north shore of Santa Cruz hosts Cerro Dragón (Dragon Hill). Our walk includes circling a brackish water lagoon frequented by lagoon birds, including ducks, stilts and some few flamingos. Further inland, the trail brings us to the nesting area of land iguanas, and then it offers a beautiful view of the bay and the western islands of the archipelago.

Day 7 (Monday)

A.M. BALTRA ISLAND

Our journey ends at Baltra Island where we transfer to the airport to take the flight back to the mainland.

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