



INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS

World Leader in Nature Travel

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Dear Friends,

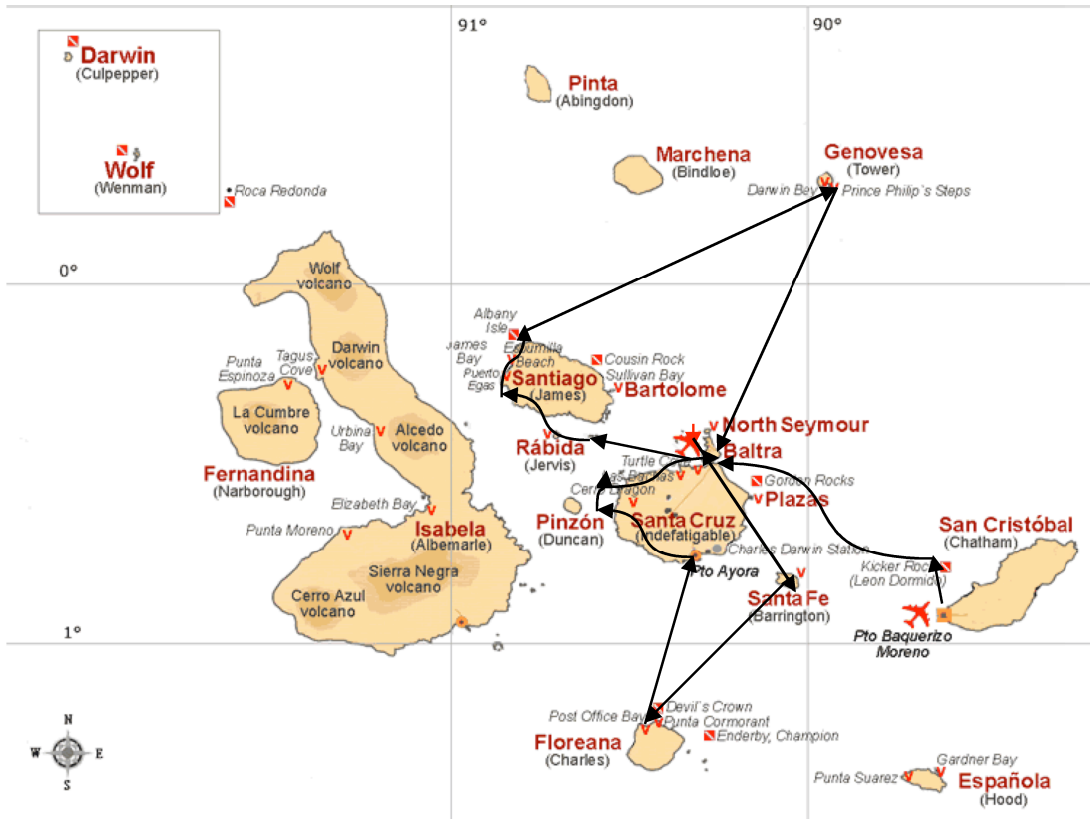
On behalf of International Expeditions, I would like to welcome you to our Galapagos adventure. We wish you a happy, comfortable and enjoyable time exploring the “Enchanted Galapagos Islands.”

In the following pages you will find a brief description of your Galapagos expedition, and the day-by-day program and activities. This is something that will help you plan and enjoy your day. Let me invite you to go and discover this amazingly and approachable wildlife which will allowed you to take a few thousand pictures to take home as souvenir together with the best memories of this Expedition.

Remember, all times are subject to change.

Your IE Expedition Leader and Naturalist,

Bolivar “Boli” Sanchez





SAN CRISTÓBAL ISLAND

We begin our expedition in the Capital of the Galapagos Islands “Puerto Alfredo Baquerizo Moreno” a small town of about 7,000 people. This is an island with a fascinating human history; this island was the kingdom of “Manuel Julian Cobos” who run an efficient but cruel slavery system in the late 1800ths. This is also the only island with a permanent fresh water lake in the Galapagos.

- 11:00 Plane arrives. (We will collect your luggage and take it to the ship)
- 11:45 We board our home for the next seven days, the *Evolution*
- 11:45 Introductory briefing about the Galapagos National Park, life on board and our program for the day.
- 12:30 Get settled in your cabin. Please, make sure you have your luggage
- 13:00 Our first lunch will be served

KICKER ROCK

- 15:30 The *Evolution* will ride around this magnificent remains of a tuff-cone, you will see a great deal of boobies, frigate-birds, pelicans and of course playful sea lions.

OCHOA BEACH

- 16:30 Wet landing on a coral sandy beach, (wear Tevas or any water shoes). This will be our first official encounter with sea lions, Sally Lightfoot crabs, pelicans, blue footed boobies and frigate-birds. This is also a good place to swim.
- 18 :00 Back on board for a nice shower and snacks.
- 19:00 Naturalist briefing about the next day program
- 19:30 Welcome cocktail and official presentation of our Captain and crew. After this, a delicious dinner will be served.



SOUTH PLAZA ISLAND

- 07:00 Wake-up call – coffee is ready if you are up early
- 07:15 Breakfast
- 08:15 Dry landing (wear hiking shoes; rocky trail approximately 1 mile.) Here we will see the endemic Galapagos Land Iguanas, a prickly pear cactus forest and walking along the cliffs we will find tropic-birds, gulls and boobies.
- 10:00 Back on board
- 11:30 Snorkeling gear distribution (please wear your swimming suit)
- 11:15 Briefing about safe snorkeling practice
- 12:00 Lunch followed by a power siesta

PUNTA CARRION

- 14:45 Snorkeling practice from the panga for both experienced and beginners, this is a great place to see fish, rays, play with sea lions and sometimes see small sharks. This is the time to practice and get familiar with our gear. Non-snorkelers can enjoy a panga ride.
- 15:30 Back on board

MOSQUERA BEACH

- 16:30 Wet landing on a white sandy beach, (no shoes required). This is one of the most beautiful beaches, here you can walk along the beach with many sea lions, take wonderful pictures of you with sea lions, lie down and read your favorite book as you enjoy the white sand, make a sand castle or go bird-watching and find some new species to add to your bird list.
- 17:30 Back on board for snacks, cocktails or a refreshing shower.
- 19:00 Naturalist briefing and a delicious dinner



SOMBRERO CHINO

ISLAND

Located off the southeast coast of James lies the tiny spatter cone island, whose name translates as “Chinese Hat.” A beautiful blue lagoon separates it from the larger island, where there are some good snorkeling spots.

07:00 Wake-up-call

07:15 Breakfast

08:15 First we will take a panga ride to look for penguins, lava herons, blue footed boobies and also to enjoy the view of some new pahoe-hoe lava flows. Then we will have a wet landing on a white coral beach with sea lions, our walk will take us to marine iguana colonies, lava lizards, sally light foot crabs, lava tunnels and many interesting volcanic features.

10:00 Back on board.

10:30 Great opportunity to swim and snorkel, the water here is usually nice and clear, we will see many fishes and hopefully get to swim with Galapagos Penguins. This is also an excellent place to see little sharks, marine

iguanas

feeding underwater.

11:30 Back on board and navigation to the next site.

12:15 Another yummy lunch.

JAMES BAY (JAMES OR SANTIAGO ISLAND)

Darwin’s favorite island. This is the site of successful eradication programs run by the National Park. Here we we’ll see the sea lion closest relative; the Galapagos fur seal, and also some remains of salt mining from the early 1960.

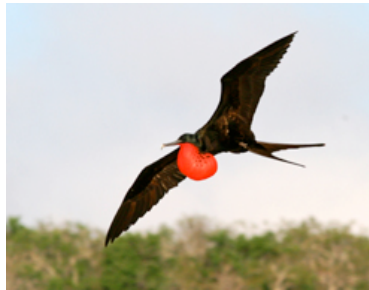
15:30 Wet landing on a black sandy beach with Galapagos sea lions, during our

2 hour walk (about 2 miles mostly flat), we will see the fur seal grottos, large marine iguana colonies, pelicans, herons, oystercatchers, plovers, sandpipers, and wonderful tuff formations.

18:00 Back on board

19:00 Naturalist briefing

19:00 Dinner



GENOVESA (TOWER)

Today our ship will be anchored in an old volcanic crater. Genovesa is one of the two pristine islands in the archipelago, home to more than a million seabirds, and the only site where you will encounter red-footed boobies in their own home.

DARWIN'S BAY BEACH

07:00 Wake-up-call

07:15 Breakfast

08:15 Wet landing on coral pebbles, wear landing shoes, also bring your water shoes or Texas and swimming suit if you'd like to swim after our walk (0.5 mile). This is a walk everybody should do! Here you will see a large red-footed booby colony, swallow tailed gulls, great frigatebirds, finches, sea lions and beautiful tide pools. Great place for photography.

10:00 Back on board

10:30 Snorkeling from the beach or from our pangas. You will see many more fishes, and hopefully some sea lions and sharks.

11:30 Back on board

12:15 Lunch time followed by a power siesta

PRINCE PHILIP'S STEPS

15:00 Kayaking along the cliffs of Darwin's Bay, non-kayakers will enjoy a movie about Charles Darwin's life.

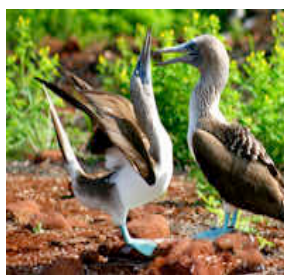
16:00 Dry landing (wear hiking shoes, rocky terrain, approximately 1.5 miles after climbing the steps, you will find a beautiful plateau with nazca and red-footed boobies. Then we go through the "Palo Santo Forest," and finally find the storm petrel colony and sometimes hunting short-eared owls.

16:30 Panga ride for non-hikers you will see fur seals, gulls, boobies, noddy terns, Frigate-birds, herons and some fishes too. This will take about one hour.

18:00 Back on board

19:00 Naturalist briefing

19:30 Dinner



NORTH SEYMOUR ISLAND

This island was formed by uplift of a submarine lava formation. The whole island is covered with low, bushy vegetation. The island is named after an English nobleman, Lord Hugh Seymour. The stock for the captive breeding program of the Galapagos land iguana is descended from iguanas which Captain G. Allan Hancock translocated from Baltra Island to North Seymour Island in the 1930s.



- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Dry landing (wear hiking shoes, rocky trail, 1.2 miles, total). Seymour holds one of the largest magnificent frigatebird colonies. This is the only place where you can always find the male frigates showing their red pouches to attract the females. We will also find land iguanas, sea lions, marine iguanas, gulls, pelicans and more wild creatures.
- 09:30 Back on board.
- 10:00 Snorkeling from the panga. Great place to see sharks, rays, and sea lions.
- 11:00 Back to the *Evolution*.
- 12:15 Another good lunch followed by a power siesta.

SANTA FE ISLAND

Santa Fe Island is also called Barrington Island after admiral Samuel Barrington, Geologically it is one of the oldest, since volcanic rocks of about 4 million years old have been found. Santa Fe was formed from an uplift (rather than a volcano) giving the island a relatively flat surface rather than the typical conical shape of the other islands.

- 15:30 Kayaking in this beautiful shallow turquoise water, you will find sea lions, sea turtles, pelicans and sometimes little sharks.
- 17:00 Wet landing (bring walking shoes) on a white coral beach with sea lions, we will walk through a giant cactus forest where we will see the Santa Fe land iguana, finches, doves and often the Galapagos hawk.
- 18:00 Back to our floating home.
- 19:00 Naturalist briefing
- 19:30 Dinner



FLOREANA ISLAND

Floreana was named after Juan José Flores, the first president of Ecuador, during whose administration the government of Ecuador took possession of the archipelago, having previously been called Charles Island (after King Charles II of England). It is also called Santa Maria after one of the caravels of Columbus. At Post Office Bay, since the 18th century whalers kept a wooden barrel that served as post office so that mail could be picked up and delivered to their destination, mainly Europe and the United States by ships on their way home. Cards and letters are still placed in the barrel without any postage. Visitors sift through the letters and cards in order to deliver them by hand.

POST OFFICE BAY

07:00 Wake-up-call

07:15 Breakfast

08:15 Panga ride before a wet landing at Post Office Bay where we will check the mail and hopefully find some postcards to take home with us in the traditional way, we can also leave our postcards to go from the islands in the same way. Afterwards we will go to explore one of the most interesting geological wonders a lava tunnel. (bring shoes and flashlight). After a swim we go back to the ship.

11:00 Back on board

12:00 Lunch followed by a nice siesta

SNORKELING AT CHAMPION ISLAND OR DEVIL'S CROWN

14:45 Depending on the sea conditions we will snorkel at Champion Island or Devil's crown, both are very good places to see different type of fishes and also to play with Galapagos sea lions, after snorkeling we all go back to the ship before our next walk at Punta Cormorant.

PUNTA CORMORANT

16:30 Wet landing (easy walk) on a dark green beach, we will go to the brackish water lagoon where we will find flamingos, ducks, stilts, plovers and other birds. The next walk will take us to sting ray beach which is also a green sea turtle nesting and mating site

18:00 Back home



19:00 Naturalist briefing

19:30 Dinner



SANTA CRUZ (INDEFATIGABLE) ISLAND

Puerto Ayora is the economic capital of the Galapagos, and also the home of the National Park Service and the Darwin Station Research Center. It has a population of

about 16,000 people and that makes Puerto Ayora the biggest city in the islands. Here we will see the Galapagos giant tortoises, including our friend “Lonesome George.” Today we will enjoy a great barbecue lunch in the highlands This is also a great place for shopping, check your e-mail, send your new pictures to your friends or go to the post office.

CHARLES DARWIN STATION

07:00 Official wake up call

07:00 Breakfast

08:00 Dry landing. This morning we are going to visit Lonesome George and also to learn about the tortoise captive breeding program which is one of the most successful conservation programs, if you purchase anything at the Darwin shop you are supporting conservation projects.

COFFEE AND SUGAR CANE FARM – TORTOISE IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAD

10:30 Bus ride to the highlands for about 30 minutes to Mr. Cabrera farm, we will learn all about the process to harvest and produce coffee and sugar cane in the

traditional way, you can also taste a Galapagos moonshine and coffee.

12:00 Bus ride to our next site

12:45 Barbecue lunch in the highlands

14:00 Hike to see the Galapagos giant tortoise in their natural world

PUERTO AYORA

15:30 Back to Puerto Ayora and free time to go shopping, walk by the fish market, check your mail, go for a drink or simply walk around this peaceful town

17:30 Back to the ship

19:00 Farewell briefing

19:30 Farewell cocktail and dinner



BLACK TURTLE COVE

Located on the northern side of Santa Cruz Island, this is a wonderful site surrounded by a large mangrove swamp.

- 07:00 Panga ride. Here we'll go to see sharks, rays, sea turtles and of course many sea birds like boobies, pelicans, herons and frigates.
- 08:00 Back on board
- 08:30 Breakfast – Please, leave your checked luggage outside your cabin before you come to enjoy our last breakfast on board. Please make sure your bags have name tags and your bags are locked too.
- 10:30 Dry landing – bus ride to the airport
- 12:00 Plane arrives
- 12:45 Plane leaves to Ecuadorian mainland
- 15:30 Plane arrives to Guayaquil and transfer to the HOTEL ORO VERDE, if you are flying to Quito and after a layover of 30 minutes, you will continue in the same plane for another 45 minutes

On behalf of International Expeditions, the *Evolution's* crew and your naturalist guides, we hope you had all your expectations met during this voyage and you are going back home with the best memories of this expedition. Have a nice and safe trip back home

Your IE Expedition Leader and Naturalist

Bolivar "Boli" Sanchez

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