



Majestic 5 Day Itinerary

(Santa Cruz - Genovesa - Rabida - San Cristobal)



Day 1 (Thursday)

Santa Cruz Island

You will arrive at *Baltra Island* in the morning. After going through immigration and baggage claim, you will be met by a Majestic staff member and transferred to the yacht. You will be shown to your cabin where you will have some time to settle in before lunch and a welcome briefing.

In the afternoon, you will visit “*Fausto Llerena*” *Giant Tortoises Creeding Center* in Puerto Ayora, Santa Cruz Island, where giant tortoises are bred in captivity; this is home to tortoises ranging from 3-inches (new hatchlings) to 4-feet long adults. Subspecies of the giant tortoises interact with one another, and many of the older tortoises are accustomed to humans stretching out their heads for a photo opportunity. The babies are kept until they are about four years-old and strong enough to survive on their own.

“Fausto Llerena” Giant Tortoises Breeding Center	
<i>Possible Activities:</i>	Walking
<i>Difficulty:</i>	Easy
<i>Type of Landing:</i>	Dry landing
<i>Highlights:</i>	Giant tortoises

Day 2 (Friday)

Genovesa Island

In the morning, you will visit *El Barranco* which is also known as Prince Phillip’s Steps. It is a steep, rocky path that leads up to a high cliff rock face. A marvelous view can be appreciated from here. This site is also home a palo santo forest as well as red-footed boobies, short-eared lava owls, Galapagos swallows, and Galapagos doves.

El Barranco	
<i>Possible Activities:</i>	Hiking (0,9 miles / 2 Km), snorkeling
<i>Difficulty:</i>	Moderate
<i>Type of Landing:</i>	Dry, difficult landing
<i>Highlights & Animals:</i>	Red-footed boobies, short-eared lava owls, storm-petrels, Galapagos doves, frigate birds and Nazca boobies. Snorkeling: hammerhead sharks, rays, fish

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In the afternoon, you will visit the white-sand coral beach of *Darwin Bay* which heads a half mile trail (0,75km) that winds through mangroves filled with land birds. Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, and swallow-tailed gulls can be spotted here. Further down the path we find tidal pools where sea lions swim playfully. At the end is a spectacular view of a cliff.

Darwin Bay	
Possible Activities:	Hiking (0,9 miles / 1,5 Km), snorkeling, kayaking, and dinghy ride
Difficulty:	Easy
Type of landing:	Wet landing
Highlights & Animals:	Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, swallow-tail gulls, mangroves, coral pebble beach, snorkeling: rays, colourful reef fish, and white-tipped reef sharks occasionally

Day 3 (Saturday)

Rabida and Chinese Hat

In the morning, you will visit *Rabida Island (or Jervis)* which is one of the most colorful and volcanically varied islands in the archipelago as well as a great snorkeling site. We will start on Rabida's famous maroon/red sand beach, and after an easy hike, you will arrive to a stunning lookout to enjoy the amazing landscapes. The island is a birdwatcher's delight. Some species are abundant such as a few varieties of finches, Galapagos vermilion flycatchers, Galapagos hawks and brown pelicans.

Rabida Island	
Possible Activities:	Snorkeling, panga ride & short hike (0,6 miles / 1km)
Difficulty:	Easy/Moderate
Type of Landing:	Wet landing
Highlights & Animals:	Snorkeling: white-cheeked pintail ducks, colourful fish, sea lions, brackish water lagoon, pelicans

In the afternoon, you will visit *Chinese Hat Islet*. This small islet is located near the southeast coast of Santiago Island. Its name comes from the distinct shape of the islet's summit. This small islet is a great location to view many geological formations such as lava tunnels and lava flows. Some of the lava flows were formed underwater and subsequently raised above sea level. The presence of coral heads on the lava flow indicates this phenomenon.

Chinese Hat Islet	
Possible Activities:	Hike (1,9 miles / 3 km)
Difficulty:	Easy/moderate
Type of Landing:	Wet Landing
Highlights & Animals:	Lava formations, great site for snorkeling with an abundance of marine species such as sea lions, sharks, rays and penguins.



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Day 4 (Sunday)

San Cristobal Island

In the morning, you will visit *Witch Hill*. Located on the northern coast, this eroded hill and its surroundings present one of the most picturesque beaches in the Galapagos with its white powdery sand and the abundance of animals. Wildlife includes sea turtles, rays, and various types of booby birds. The clear water provides an excellent opportunity for enjoying swimming and snorkeling.

Witch Hill	
<i>Possible Activities:</i>	Beach walk, dinghy ride, snorkeling & kayaking
<i>Difficulty:</i>	Easy walk along the beach
<i>Type of Landing:</i>	Wet landing
<i>Highlights & Animals:</i>	Beautiful rock formations, sea lions, shore birds, finches and mockingbirds; Snorkeling: tropical fish, anemones, sponges, coral

In the afternoon you will take part in an excursion to *Lobos Island* which means “Sea Lion Island.” This appropriately named island is ripe with noisy, playful, jolly sea lions who will welcome you to their home with open, well, fins. This island also offers great snorkeling opportunities as well as the chance to see blue- footed and Nazca boobies.

Lobos Island	
<i>Possible Activities:</i>	Short hike (less than 0,6 miles / 1km), dinghy ride
<i>Difficulty:</i>	Difficult
<i>Type of Landing:</i>	Dry landing
<i>Highlights & Animals:</i>	Sea lions, frigate birds, blue-footed boobies

Day 5 (Monday)

San Cristobal Island

In the morning, you will visit the *Interpretation Center*. This site is part of an environment project. The tour of this center will explore the natural history of the islands including human interaction and conservation efforts. The Museum of Natural History explains the volcanic origin of the archipelago, ocean currents, climate, and the arrival of endemic species. The Human History exhibit chronologically describes significant events such as discovery and colonization of the islands.

Interpretation Center	
<i>Possible Activities:</i>	Museum visit
<i>Difficulty:</i>	Difficult
<i>Type of Landing:</i>	Dry landing
<i>Highlights & Animals:</i>	Great exhibits about the archipelago’s natural history

After visiting the Interpretation Center, you will be transferred to the San Cristobal airport to catch your flight to Guayaquil or Quito on mainland Ecuador.