



## Galaven 5-day Cruise "A"

(Santa Cruz, Floreana, Española, San Cristobal)



### Day 1: Friday

#### SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

##### In the morning: Baltra Airport Arrival

Morning flight from Quito or Guayaquil to Baltra, Galapagos Islands.

You will arrive at Baltra Island in the morning. After passing through immigration and baggage claim, you will be met by a Galaven 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: El Chato

El Chato reserve is divided into two areas: Caseta and Chato. The trail begins at Santa Rosa (13.7 miles / 22 km) from Puerto Ayora, with the Caseta route being the most challenging. The reserve allows visitors to observe giant tortoises in the wild during the dry season and is also a good place to spot short-eared owls, Darwin's finches, yellow warblers, Galapagos rails and paint-billed crakes.

El Chato, Santa Cruz Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Walking, bird watching
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Easy/Moderate
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Dry Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	Giant tortoises, finches, Galapagos rails

### Day 2: Saturday

#### SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

##### In the morning: Dragon Hill

The visitors' site at Dragon Hill is located in northwestern Santa Cruz Island and consists of a 1,600 m long trail that runs through three different environments. The beach is very rocky. At high tide it's a nice place for snorkeling. At this visiting site you can find vegetation of the typical intertidal zone and dry zone.

Dragon Hill, Santa Cruz Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Panga ride & short hike
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Easy
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Dry Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	Frigatebirds, herons, blue-footed boobies, rays, reef sharks

**In the afternoon:** Bachas Beach

Bachas Beach is located on the north shore of Santa Cruz and is a beach for swimming. One of the few remnants of the U.S. World War II presence in the Galapagos, a floating pier, can be seen here. You may see flamingos, Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs, black-necked stilts, and whimbrels. Sea turtles also nest on the beach.

Bachas Beach, Santa Cruz Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Hiking
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Easy
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Wet Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	World War II remnants. Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs, black necked stilts, whimbrels, sea turtles.

## Day 3: Sunday

### FLOREANA ISLAND

**In the morning:** Post Office Bay

You will land on a beach and head to a spot where 18th century whalers placed a wooden barrel used as an unofficial mail box. The custom continues to this day with Galapagos visitors. So, don't forget your postcards, and don't be surprised if the post card arrives to its destination before you even get home!

Post Office Bay, Floreana Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Short hike (less than 0.6 miles / 1km) & snorkeling
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Easy
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Wet Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	Post office barrel, nice sandy beach

**In the afternoon:** Cormorant Point

Cormorant Point hosts a large flamingo lagoon where other birds such as common stilts and white-cheeked pintails can also be seen. The beaches on this island are distinct: The Green Beach is named so due to its green color, which comes from a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand, and the Four Sand Beach is composed of white coral.

Cormorant Point, Floreana Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Dinghy ride & hike (1.25 mi /2 km)
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Easy
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Wet Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	Flamingoes, green-colored beach

**Afterwards:** Devil's Crown

You will have a chance to snorkel around Devil's Crown which is the rocky remains of an offshore volcano sticking out of the water. This is a great location to spot a wide range of marine creatures.

Devil's Crown, Floreana Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Snorkeling, panga ride
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Moderate/Difficult
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	No Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	Large array of marine species

# Day 4: Monday

## ESPAÑOLA ISLAND

### In the morning: Suarez Point

On the trail to Suarez Point you will have the chance to spot blue-footed boobies, albatrosses, and Nazca boobies. This island is the breeding site of nearly all of the world's 12,000 pairs of waved albatrosses. You will also visit a beautiful site on the ocean front where there is a cliff that the large albatrosses use as a launching pad! You will have the chance to see the famous blowhole that spurts sea water into the air. The landscape is great for photography.

Suarez Point, Española Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Hike (1,9 miles / 3 km)
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Difficult
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Dry Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	Hood mockingbirds, Nazca boobies, waved albatrosses (approximately from the last week of April until the last week of January), red-billed tropicbirds, lava lizards, Galapagos hawks, blowhole, amazing landscape and maybe blue-footed boobies.

### In the afternoon: Gardner Bay, Gardner Islet & Osborn Islet

This excursion takes you to the spectacular Gardner Bay. After landing, you can walk across a lovely white-sand beach amongst a busy sea lion colony or dive into the water to swim with sea lion pups. You may also see curious mockingbirds on the beach.

Gardner Bay, Gardner Islet & Osborn Islet, Española Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Snorkeling, panga ride, short hike (0,6 miles / 1km) and Kayaking
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Easy
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Wet Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	White sandy beach, sea lions, mockingbirds; snorkeling: colorful fish, sea lion nursery

# Day 5: Tuesday

## SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

### In the morning: Gianni Arismendy 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.

Gianni Arismendy Interpretation Center, San Cristobal Island	
<b>Possible Activities:</b>	Museum visit
<b>Difficulty:</b>	Easy
<b>Type of Landing:</b>	Dry Landing
<b>Highlights &amp; Animals:</b>	Great exhibits about the archipelago's natural history

### Afterwards: San Cristobal airport departure

After this final visit, you will be transferred to the San Cristobal airport in time for your flight back to the mainland.

## Sales

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