## GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

## contemporary yacht charter M (1963) N C A D A

2020

ITINERARY

Yacht charter in the Galápagos Islands offers one of the most unique and unforgettable encounters with nature that you can experience. The islands have been listed by UNESCO as some of the most biologically diverse places on earth. The Galápagos are located off the west coast of South America, composed of 13 large and 7 small islands. The major surface area of the islands belongs to the Galápagos National Park. The park waters are the second largest marine reserve in the world. Whether in the water or land, in the Galápagos you will find unique creatures that will fascinate you.



The island of Santa Cruz is home to the largest settlement in the archipelago: Puerto Ayora. Santa Cruz is also the closest island to the main airport in the Galápagos. This makes Santa Cruz the perfect starting point for our vacation.

In Santa Cruz you can find many things to do. Discover more about the wildlife in the area and visit Darwin Research Station, a biological center for the study and conservation of many species of Galápagos flora and fauna.

Visit Las Grietas, a spot where deep ocean water runs through a crevasse between two tall cliffs, or just relax in any of the heavenly beaches like Tortuga Bay or Garrapatero.

DAY 1 1963 SANTA CRUZ

La Española, also known as Hood Island, is the most southerly and one of the oldest islands, with an estimated age of 3.3 million years. The island's endemic wildlife attracts visitors from all over the world. Below the cliffs on Española is the awesome blowhole El Soplador, capable of shooting water 20 to 25 metres high, depending on the intensity of the waves. Go to Gardner Bay, a white sand beach populated by sea lions where you can even swim with these friendly mammals. Head to the western side of the island to Punta Suarez, one of the favorite sights in the archipelago because of its fabulous variety of wildlife. You can see sea lions surf the waves, marine iguanas basking, the waved albatross, mockingbirds, Darwin's finches, lava lizards...



San Cristóbal or Chatham Island, is the oldest settlement and easternmost island in the Galápagos archipelago. It is the island where Darwin first went ashore. The Interpretation Center can be visited in Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, the capital of the Galápagos Islands. If you are interested in diving or snorkeling you must go to the north coast of the Island and visit Kicker Rock, also called León Dormido, an amazing rock formation near San Cristóbal and one of the most spectacular spots in the Galápagos. You will be able to swim in the middle of flocks of soaring rays, sea turtles, octopi and hammerhead Galápagos sharks.



SAN CRISTOBAL

In the central part of the Galápagos, we arrive to Santa Fe, also called Barrington Island. The vegetation of the island is characterized by brush and palo santo trees. It is a small, relatively flat island. There are two trails and one takes visitors to the peak of a cliff where land iguanas can be seen. South Plaza Island was formed by the uplifting of the sea floor instead of volcanic activity. Even if it is one of the archipelago smallest islands it has some of the most amazing flora and fauna and it is extremely rich in unique plants and vegetation. As you arrive to the pier you will see the sea lions welcoming you. Go to the cliffs and watch the swallow tailed gulls and the many other amazing birds.

4 (1963) SANTA FE & SOUTH PLAZA ISLAND

Genovesa Island, also known as Tower Island, is one of the most lovely places to visit in a Galápagos cruise. The island is shaped like a horseshoe and was formed from the eruption of a volcano. It has deep pools and caves carved from the lava shoreline. Genovesa has developed a reputation as "The Bird Island" because of the numerous and varied bird species that live there. Anchor and disembark at Darwin Bay in the south of the island for a nature walk. Once ashore take a short trail past tidal pools and lava ridges to a high point overlooking the bay, with one of the most awesome views in the Galapagos. You can visit Prince Philip's Steps, a natural stairway of rocks that takes you through massive colonies of birds that you can only find here, like storm petrels and and the red-footed and Nazca boobies. Amazing birdlife will surround you on all sides as you walk up this trail.



Santiago Island consists of two overlapping volcanoes. The island has beautiful landscape cliffs and pinnacles where hundreds of sea and shore birds nest. It also has an interesting history as it was once used as a stopping point for pirates looking to maintain their ships and stock up on food. Now the island is uninhabited. Anchor at Puerto Egas, a great spot for snorkeling Located just off the eastern side of Santiago we arrive to Bartolome. The landscape is stunning. The view from the top of the Island has an incredible 360° panorama and on a clear day more than ten islands can be spotted. Pinnacle Rock is the most recognizable landmark in the archipelago. A colony of penguins makes its home at the foot of the rock.

DAY 6

3 SANTIAGO & BARTOLOME ISLANDS

Rábida is a stunning tiny island located south of Santiago. Formerly called Jarvis, Rábida takes its name from the convent of Rábida, where Columbus left his son on his journey to Las Américas. The island has an astounding distinctive red colour as it is composed of lava deposits which are rich in iron oxide and magnesium.

You can go ashore and check out the red beach, home to countless birds including finches, brown pelicans and Galápagos doves. Follow the trail around the lagoon where flamingos nest, one of the highlights here.

If you have the chance, stop by Sombrero Chino Island, one of the best places to see Galápagos penguins.

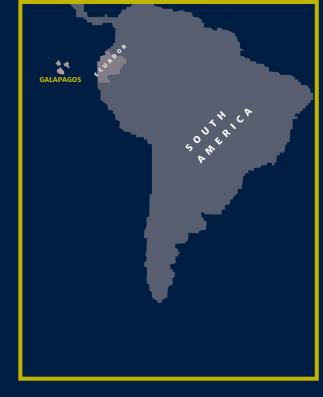
DAY 7 1963

**RABIDA ISLAND** 

Located a short distance north of Santa Cruz we arrive to our final destination, Baltra. It is a small flat island created by a geological uplift, and is very arid with a scrubby vegetation of salt bushes, prickly pear cacti and palo santo trees. It is time to say goodbye to your Galápagos yachting experience and all the marvels of these islands. After disembarking you will be directed to the Baltra airport, just five minutes away from the pier.

DAY 8 (1963) BALTRA





## GALAPAGOS

International airport	Language	Currency		Average air temperature	Average water temperature		Distances
Baltra Airport for embark and disembark. Flights from Guayaquil or Quito Int. Airp.	Spanish	US Dollar		26°C-31ºC December-June	22,5°C-25°C December-June		Day 1: 50 Day 2: 30 Day 3: 41 Day 4: 55
GALAPAGOS (1963) USEFUL DATA							

nm nm nm nm

Day 5: 53 nm Day 6: 13 nm Day 7: 25 nm Day 8: Disembark