

YACHT ANGELITO I.

The authentic Galapagos cruise ship with a unique story!

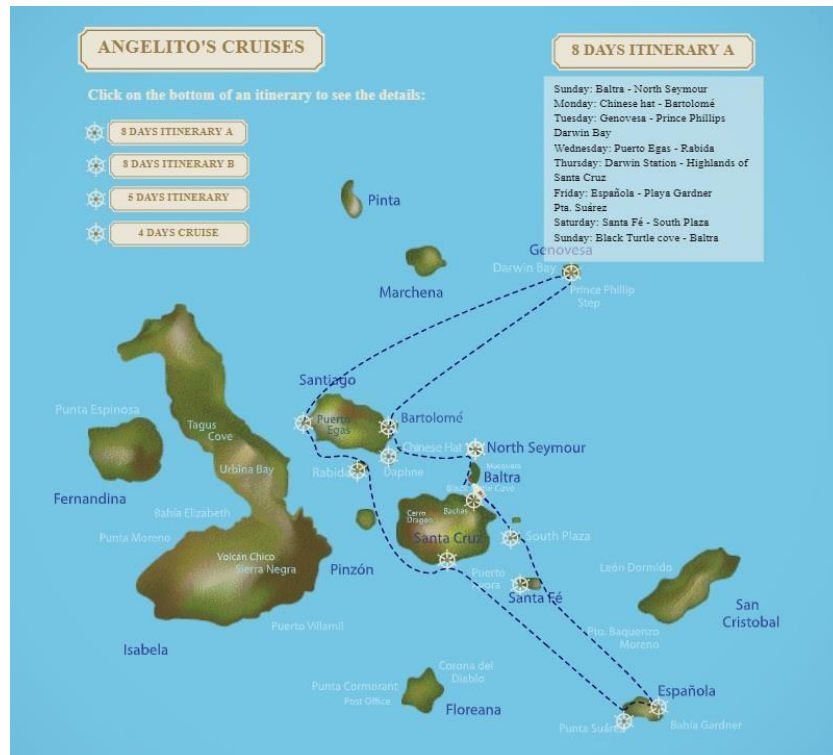
ITINERARIES

DAY-BY-DAY DESCRIPTIONS



ITINERARY A4, 4 days Thursday-Sunday

1. Thursday: Baltra - Highlands of Santa Cruz
2. Friday: Española Playa Gardner – Punta Suarez
3. Saturday: Santa Fe - South Plaza
4. Sunday: Black Turtle Cove - Baltra



First, some essential facts:

Your cruise journey starts at the airport of Quito or Guayaquil to take a flight. Galapagos is 1000 km from the continent, and visitors can only access it by plane.

To protect the island, you must pass through the special luggage control before going to the airline counter. You also must buy a visa, called TCT Card or INGALA, for 20* U\$ in cash at the special counter at the departure airport. These procedures and the airline check-in need 2 ½ hours; we recommend not going to the airport later.

The flight from Quito to the Galapagos lasts 2.5 hours, with a stopover in Guayaquil. We base the yacht's operation on flying the same day as the cruise starts at Baltra and back on the last day, also from Baltra. Of course, flying out before or remaining in Galapagos longer is possible.

Please, do not buy your ticket before ensuring that the arrival matches the cruise departure if you fly on the same Sunday as the cruise's start. We recommend buying them with Angelito's representatives to be on time and help us have an organized cruise start.

When arriving in Galapagos, the visitors must first pay the entrance fee of 100* U\$ for the National Park. Then, after picking the luggage up, Angelito's guide will be waiting for you at the exit of the arrival hall. We take a bus to the harbor of Baltra, where the Angelito anchors. The cruise can begin!

After the accommodation in your cabin and the lunch on board, we start our first visit!

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(*prices are subject to change without previous notification)



1. Thursday: Baltra - Highlands of Santa Cruz Island Santa Cruz

- a) **If you are in Puerto Ayora before the cruise starts, the meeting is at 11:30 at the harbor of Puerto Ayora.**
- b) **If you arrive from the mainland:** Baltra is a small island, the only Galapagos Island not included in the National Park's area. The Americans built Baltra's airport in 1941-1948, using it as their air force base in the Pacific during the Second World War. The airport and harbor are now Ecuadorian military territory. Unfortunately, both of the military presences have left their traces.

Even if we always speak about Baltra, the airport's official name is South Seymour, and its air code is GPS. With an essential reduction of energy consumption for lighting and ventilation, rainwater recovery, waste recycling, and more, the new building of 2013 has been promoted as the first ecological airport worldwide.

Puerto Ayora is a small charming town, the largest in the Galapagos, and the head of tourism, and offers several hotels, bars, restaurants, a hospital, banks, and many small shops. The airport Baltra is in the north, linked by a road to cross the island.

The Galapagos National Park's offices and the Charles Darwin Research Station are in Puerto Ayora.

After lunch, we visit Highland Santa Cruz: The drive up to the highlands takes approximately a half-hour. In this short time, we can observe the changes between the different vegetation zones, from the Arid zone to the Transition zone and up to the Scalesia zone, which is also agricultural. Here, the problems of introduced animals and plants are noticeable. On the road's highest point, the National Park area starts again.

In the highlands, we visit the Rancho Primicias to enjoy the Galapagos tortoises living here in liberty; these are easy to view on this small farm, refreshing in the water pools or snoring in the shadow.

2. Friday: Española Playa Gardner – Punta Suarez

Española belongs to the oldest islands of the Galapagos. Because of its geographic isolation, many endemic species are to find the island, making our visit especially attractive. Española is the only place worldwide where the endemic waved albatrosses come for breeding from April to December.

Playa Gardner: We have a wet landing on a splendid, long, white beach of coral sand. For this visit, you do not need shoes. There is no trail, and the open beach offers the opportunity to observe finches and mockingbirds in the saltbush vegetation, as Galapagos sea lions sleeping in the sun.

It is an excellent place for swimming and snorkeling from the beach!

Punta Suarez: Loop trail with a smooth, dry landing on a jetty. The walk on stony, rocky ground is longer and more challenging.

Even at the first steps of the trail, the colorful Española marine iguana and Galapagos sea lions welcome us. Everywhere the curious Española mockingbird approaches the visitors. The path leads through the nesting colonies of blue-footed boobies, Nazca boobies, and waved albatrosses. Also, the big Española lava lizards are to find everywhere.

The low cliff of the whole south coast is an ideal nesting place for the endemic Galapagos albatross; here, it is the only place in the world where, from April to December, we can see these big, beautiful birds. Then, another resting spot close to a cliff with an incredible landscape offers the observation of all the different marine birds flying along the coast. An albatross during his ungainly landing or the spectacular take-off from the cliff to start its elegant flight are fantastic events to witness.

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Our next stop is at the blowhole: the waves push the seawater through a fissure in the cliff, depending on the strongness and tide level, till 80 feet/24m high in the air!

3. Saturday: Santa Fe - South Plaza

Santa Fe: Santa Fe has a large colony of sea lions living in this beautiful bay. After the wet landing on the beach, the trail leads through the dry vegetation of the Arid zone to a beautiful cliff with notably high prickly pear cacti, then back to a second beach.

Only very attentive visitors may detect the endemic land iguanas of Santa Fe because their camouflage is perfect, and their territories are pretty significant!

Those who want can end the morning with snorkeling at this new special place!

South Plaza: It is a small uplifted island with a cliff of 25 meters altitude on the island's southern side. The flat, rocky northern coast has a big colony of Galapagos sea lions and, on the East-point, lives a colony of bachelor sea lions.

The loop is easy, with a dry landing on a jetty.

The prickly pear cactus trees and the vital colony of land iguanas are beautiful. Depending on the season, the sesuvium ground vegetation changes its color from intense green in the rainy season to orange and purple in the dry season.

4. Sunday: Black Turtle Cove - Baltra

Black Turtle Cove: Before breakfast, we leave the boat to enjoy a beautiful panga ride into the big, protected mangrove cove. In the far away, small corners, we turn the motor off to row noiselessly and observe the marine turtles: many of them are in this cove during their mating and nesting season from December to February! But even out of season, we always find some turtles staying back in the mangroves. So early in the morning, there is high activity, and we observe golden rays, spotted eagle rays, white-tipped reef sharks, and young Galapagos sharks.

Unfortunately, after breakfast on board, it is time to say goodbye to the staff and leave the Angelito. We disembark at the harbor of Baltra.

Baltra: With the bus, drive to the airport for a morning flight back to the continent. Our guide takes care until the last minute!

Meantime, the Angelito is thoroughly cleaned and prepared to be ready for the next group, which arrives on the same flights as the leaving group flies out!



➔ The ship's captain, tour operator, or third-party providers reserve the right to change or cancel any part of the itinerary or services without notice due to unforeseen circumstances, such as changes in National Park regulations or other governmental decisions, weather, natural disasters, health emergencies, social and political conditions or instability, inability to obtain fuel or food, or other situations beyond the control of the companies, or any other *force majeure*.
