



Cormorant 5 Day Itinerary "A"

(Santa Cruz - Bartholomew - Santiago - South Plaza - Santa Fe - San Cristobal)



Day 1 (Saturday) BALTRA & SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

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 Cormorant 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.

Afternoon's visit is to **Bachas Beach**, which is located on the north shore of Santa Cruz which 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	
Possible Activities:	Hiking
Difficulty:	Easy
Type of Landing:	Wet landing
Highlights & Animals:	World War II remnants, Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs, black-necked stilts, whimbrels, sea turtles.


Day 2 (Sunday) BARTHOLOMEW & SANTIAGO ISLANDS

In the morning, you will head to **Bartholomew Island** where the famous Pinnacle Rock is found. Bartholomew consists of an extinct volcano with a variety of red, orange, black and even green volcanic formations. We will take a trail of stairs to the summit of the volcano (about 30 or 40 minutes) where you will enjoy one of the best views of the islands! You will also visit a small, beautiful beach surrounded by the only vegetation found on this barren island. The beach is perfect for snorkeling where you may even see and swim with Galapagos penguins.


Bartholomew Island	
Possible Activities:	Dinghy ride, snorkeling & hiking (1.2 miles/ 2 km)
Difficulty:	Moderate/difficult. Walk up to the top of the volcano's 375 wooden steps (450 feet / 150 meters).
Type of Landing:	Dry and wet landings
Highlights & Animals:	Pinnacle Rock, panoramic view, moonlike landscape, penguins, pioneer plants, lava cactus; snorkeling: penguins, reef sharks, rays, and great colorful fish.

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In the afternoon, you will visit **Sullivan Bay** located on the southeast part of Santiago. This place is interesting for its geology because the area is covered by lava flows. This place has elevations in the form of small volcanoes formed by the lava flows.

Sullivan Bay	
Possible Activities:	Hiking
Difficulty:	Easy / moderate
Type of Landing:	Dry landing
Highlights & Animals:	Lava flows, small volcanoes

Day 3 (Monday) SOUTH PLAZA & SANTA FE ISLANDS

In the morning, you will visit **South Plaza Island**. This small island with steep cliffs was formed by rising lava and is now covered by Opuntia cacti. It is also home to one of the largest sea lion colonies as well as colorful yellow and red land iguanas. The most characteristic plant is the Sesuvium. During the rainy season its color is a greenish to yellowish tone and in the dry season (end of June through January) a bright red.

South Plaza Island	
Possible Activities:	Hike (1.5 miles / 2 ½ km)
Difficulty:	Moderate
Type of landing:	Dry landing
Highlights & Animals:	Land iguanas, sea lion colony, Audubon's shearwaters, swallow-tailed gulls, Nazca boobies, amazing landscape with cliffs

Your afternoon visit is to **Santa Fe Island** (Barrington) which is home to the small picturesque bay and anchorage on the island's northeast coast. The bay has two visitor trails: one leading to a scenic viewpoint atop a cliff, and the other spanning from a small beach to a tall prickly pear cactus forest.

Santa Fe	
Possible Activities:	Hiking
Difficulty:	Moderate
Type of landing:	Dry landing
Highlights & Animals:	Land iguanas, giant Opuntia cacti



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Day 4 (Tuesday) 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	
Possible Activities:	Hike, dinghy ride, snorkeling & kayaking
Difficulty:	Easy walk along the beach
Type of Landing:	Wet landing
Highlights & Animals:	Beautiful rock formations, sea lions, shore birds, finches and mockingbirds; Snorkeling: nice tropical fish, anemones, sponges, coral

In the afternoon, you will visit **Pitt Point**, situated on the north-eastern tip of the island, hosts frigate birds, storm petrels, and all three types of booby birds: the Nazca, blue-footed and red-footed boobies. A steep trail goes up a cliff and through a ravine leading visitors to an area with an abundance of birds.

Pitt Point	
Possible Activities:	Dinghy ride, snorkeling, kayaking & hike (1.5 miles / 2.5 km)
Difficulty:	Moderate/Difficult
Type of Landing:	Wet landing
Highlights & Animals:	Frigate birds, storm petrels, Nazca boobies, blue- and red-footed boobies

Day 5 (Wednesday) SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND

In the morning you will visit the **Breeding Center Jacinto Gordillo - "La Galapaguera"** in Cerro Colorado. It is a new visitor site in the southeast part of San Cristobal Island and can now be reached in roughly one hour by road from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno. On the trees and shrubs surrounding the site, you may see land birds like warblers, finches and mockingbirds. Giant tortoises can be observed on the trails. They live there wild but in a protected area to ensure their survival by sealing them off from introduced predators like pigs and goats.

Breeding Center Jacinto Gordillo (Galapaguera)	
Possible Activities:	Short hike (0,6 mi / 1 Km)
Difficulty:	Easy /moderate
Type of Landing:	Dry landing
Highlights & Animals:	Giant tortoises, finches, warblers, mockingbirds



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Then you will take 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	
Possible Activities:	Short hike (less than 0,6 miles / 1 km), dinky ride
Difficulty:	Easy / moderate
Type of Landing:	Dry landing
Highlights & Animals:	Sea lions, frigate birds, blue-footed boobies

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