

Galaven 4 Day Itinerary (Tue-Fri) (Baltra, Genovesa, Santiago, Rabida, Santa Cruz)





Day 1 (Tuesday)

MORNING FLIGHT FROM QUITO OR GUAYAQUIL TO BALTRA (GALAPAGOS) - BLACK TURTLE COVE

Assistance at the airport by our representative for your Galapagos flight.

You will arrive at *Baltra* in the morning. After going 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 you will visit *Black Turtle Cove* in the northern part of Santa Cruz. This inlet is surrounded by mangroves and is only accessible by dinghy. The shallow cove is a haven for young marine life. Black-tip and white-tip reef sharks, sea turtles, and a variety of rays are often spotted here.

BLACK TURTLE COVE		
Possible Activities:	Dinghy Ride	
Difficulty:	Easy	
Type of Landing:	No landing	
Highlights & Animals:	Baby hammerhead shark, rays, sea turtles, sea birds.	

Day 2 (Wednesday)

GENOVESA: EL BARRANCO & DARWIN BAY

Genovesa Island is located at the inner part of Darwin Bay. This area contains an abundance of frigate birds and other interesting seabirds. Behind the small beach filled with nesting areas for frigates, red-footed boobies, and swallow-tailed gulls are a number of tide pools. At high tide it is likely that the trail will be covered with water.

Your morning visit is to *El Barranco* which is also known as Prince Phillip's Steps, El Barranco's steep and rocky path leads up to a high cliff-face. A marvelous view can be appreciated from here. This site is also home to Palo Santo vegetation as well as red-footed boobies, short-eared lava owls, Galapagos swallows, and Galapagos doves.

Sales

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Galapagos Expedition Yacht

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EL BARRANCO		
Possible Activities:	Hiking (0.9 miles / 2 Km)	
Difficulty:	Moderate	
Type of Landing:	Dry, difficult landing	
Highlights & Animals:	Red-footed boobies, short-eared lava owls, storm-petrels, Galapagos doves.	

In the afternoon, you will head to *Darwin Bay*. This white-sand coral beach heads a half mile trail (0.5 miles / 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 are tidal pools where sea lions swim playfully and at the end of the path there is a spectacular view off the cliff.

DARWIN BAY		
Possible Activities:	Hiking (0.9 miles/1.5 km), snorkeling, kayaking & dinghy ride.	
Difficulty:	Easy / moderate.	
Type of Landing:	Wet landing.	
Highlights & Animals:	Nazca boobies, red- footed boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, mangroves, coral pebble beach, snorkeling: rays, colorful reef fish and hammerhead sharks.	

Day 3 (Thursday)

SANTIAGO – SULLIVAN BAY & RABIDA ISLAND

The morning visit heads to **Santiago Island – 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 form of small volcanoes, formed by the lava flows.

SULLIVAN BAY		
Possible Activities:	Hiking (0.9 miles / 1.5 km)	
Difficulty:	Easy / moderate.	
Type of Landing:	Dry landing.	
Highlights & Animals:	Lava flows, small volcanoes.	

In the afternoon 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. You will start on Rabida's famous maroon/red sand beach and after an easy hike you will arrive to a stunning lookout point to enjoy the amazing landscapes.

The island is a birdwatcher's delight. Some of the rarest species are in abundance such as nine varieties of finches, large-billed flycatchers, Galapagos hawks and brown pelicans.



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RABIDA ISLAND (or Jervis)	
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, colorful fish, sea lions, brackish water lagoon, penguins, Galapagos hawk

Day 4 (Friday)

SANTA CRUZ: FAUSTO LLERENA TORTOISE BREEDING CENTER & EL CHATO

Today you will visit *Fausto Llerena Tortoise Breeding Center.* This is home to tortoises ranging from 3-inches (new hatchlings) to 4-feet long. Subspecies of 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 here until they are about four years-old and strong enough to survive on their own.

FAUSTO LLERENA GIANT TORTOISES BREEDING CENTER		
Possible Activities:	Walking	
Difficulty:	Easy	
Type of Landing:	Dry landing	
Highlights & Animals:	Giant tortoises in captivity	

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