



M.V. ECLIPSE 5-NIGHT SOUTHWEST ITINERARY



SATURDAY ARRIVAL

Arrival at the airport in Baltra & transfer to the dock
Check-in to your cabin
Introductory briefing & safety drill
Lunch
Dry landing at North Seymour
18:00 Back on board
19:30 Briefing on Sunday's program
20:00 Welcome cocktail
20:15 Dinner

North Seymour is a perfect introduction to the Galapagos Islands. Fauna abounds and you will soon find yourself surrounded by frigates and blue footed boobies. Keep an eye out for land iguanas and sea lions too! **Difficulty level: Moderate.**

SUNDAY

06:45 Wake up call
07:00 Breakfast
08:00 Dry landing and excursion at South Plaza Island
11:30 Back on board and lunch
15:00 Wet landing and excursion at Santa Fe Island
16:30 Swimming and snorkeling from the beach or kayak or panga ride
18:00 Back on board
19:30 Briefing on Monday's program
20:00 Dinner



South Plaza Island, although quite small, is actually home to a large *Opuntia* cacti forest, land iguanas and one of the largest sea lion colonies in the central region of the archipelago. An endemic plant, *Sesuvium*, inhabits this island and is a great climate indicator as its color is a greenish-yellowish during the rainy season and a bright red during the dry season. You will also be able to see Nazca boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, and other kinds of sea birds as well as different types of finches.

Difficulty level: Moderate.

Santa Fe was formed by uplifting, rather than by a volcano. Some of the island's endemic species include the Galapagos Hawk, Galapagos Snake, rice rats, different types of finches, and the Galapagos Mockingbird. The visit includes a hike on a trail past salt bushes where Galapagos hawks as well as the Santa Fe land iguanas tend to roam. Playful sea lions may accompany you during your snorkeling activities. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



MONDAY

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Wet landing and excursion at Punta Pitt, San Cristobal Island
Snorkeling, kayaking and panga ride opportunities
- 11:30 Back on board and lunch
- 15:00 Disembark at Cerro Brujo for excursion, kayaking, snorkeling & panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Tuesday's program
- 20:00 Dinner



Punta Pitt is located on the eastern tip of San Cristobal Island. You will hike up to a plateau where the view and landscape are so spectacular it is definitely worth the effort. Watch out for the Red Footed Boobies nesting in the cliffs. The power hike is followed by kayaking, snorkeling and panga rides opportunities. **Difficulty level: Difficult (longest hike of the cruise – 2 1/2 hours).**

Enjoy a fantastic landscape as well as wonderful swimming, snorkeling and panga ride experiences. Cerro Brujo's gorgeous beach is also home to many sea lions and it's also the first coast where Charles Darwin first stepped foot on in the Archipelago!

Difficulty level: Easy



TUESDAY

06:45 Wake up call

07:00 Breakfast

08:00 Dry landing and excursion on Floreana Island, visits to the Post Office followed by snorkeling, or panga ride

11:30 Back on board and lunch

15:00 Snorkeling or panga ride at Champion Islet followed by an excursion to Punta Cormorant

18:00 Back on board

19:30 Briefing on Wednesday's program

20:00 Dinner

Floreana is one of the Galapagos most famous islands due to many strange stories about past settlers. Post Office Bay is home to a unique "post office" inspired by 18th century pirates and buccaneers who used a wooden barrel as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. Floreana is also a magnificent site for swimming.



Difficulty level: Easy

In the 18th century whalers passing through the islands placed a wooden barrel on Floreana Island for use as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. This is one of the archipelago's most famous spots. Don't forget to look in your logbook for your postcards! For the more adventurous guests, there is an option for a visit inside a lava tunnel.

This tunnel has been kept untouched and completely natural, so please, watch your step! **Difficulty level: Easy to difficult (lava tunnel)**

A great site for bird-watching, Cormorant Point has a large lagoon where everything from Flamingos to Stilts and Pintail Ducks tend to roam. Don't forget your binoculars! Prior to the excursions, you will also have an opportunity to participate in a magnificent snorkel at Champion Islet. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



WEDNESDAY

06:45 Wake up call
07:00 Breakfast
08:00 Panga ride to Elizabeth Bay mangroves
11:00 Back on board and lunch
15:00 Landing at Punta Moreno followed by panga ride
18:00 Back on board
19:30 Briefing on Thursday's program
20:00 Dinner

Elizabeth Bay is one of the furthest points of the Galapagos that we will visit on our cruise. We will enter a sheltered cove accessible by panga only – a wonderful mangrove ecosystem that is a refuge for sea turtles, rays, blue-footed boobies, penguins, herons and more. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



Moreno Point is located just southwest of Elizabeth Bay on the west coast of Isabela Island. Observe and learn about different types of lava and pioneer plants while being surrounded by some of the most incredible scenery that Galapagos has to offer.



In the tide pools green sea turtles or white-tip sharks can be spotted. Afterwards you will enjoy a panga ride along the striking rocky shores observing penguins, sea lions, blue footed boobies and marine iguanas. **Difficulty level: Moderate to difficult.**

THURSDAY

06:45 Wake up call

07:00 Breakfast

Breakfast & disembark. In the morning you will visit the highlands of Santa Cruz to see giant tortoises in the wild, followed by a transfer to Baltra Airport for your flight back to the mainland.





M.V. ECLIPSE 7-NIGHT ITINERARY WITH ESPAÑOLA



SATURDAY ARRIVAL

Arrival at the airport in Baltra & transfer to the dock
Check-in to your cabin
Introductory briefing & safety drill
Lunch
Dry landing at North Seymour
18:00 Back on board
19:30 Briefing on Sunday's program
20:00 Welcome cocktail
20:15 Dinner

North Seymour is a perfect introduction to the Galapagos Islands. Fauna abounds and you will soon find yourself surrounded by frigates and blue footed boobies. Keep an eye out for land iguanas and sea lions too! **Difficulty level: Moderate.**

SUNDAY

06:45 Wake up call
07:00 Breakfast
08:00 Dry landing and excursion at South Plaza Island
11:30 Back on board and lunch
15:00 Wet landing and excursion at Santa Fe Island
16:30 Swimming and snorkeling from the beach or kayak or panga ride
18:00 Back on board
19:30 Briefing on Monday's program
20:00 Dinner



South Plaza Island, although quite small, is actually home to a large *Opuntia* cacti forest, land iguanas and one of the largest sea lion colonies in the central region of the archipelago. An endemic plant, *Sesuvium*, inhabits this island and is a great climate indicator as its color is a greenish-yellowish during the rainy season and a bright red during the dry season. You will also be able to see Nazca boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, and other kinds of sea birds as well as different types of finches.

Difficulty level: Moderate.

Santa Fe was formed by uplifting, rather than by a volcano. Some of the island's endemic species include the Galapagos Hawk, Galapagos Snake, rice rats, different types of finches, and the Galapagos Mockingbird. The visit includes a hike on a trail past salt bushes where Galapagos hawks as well as the Santa Fe land iguanas tend to roam. Playful sea lions may accompany you during your snorkeling activities. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



MONDAY

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Wet landing and excursion at Punta Pitt, San Cristobal Island
Snorkeling, kayaking and panga ride opportunities
- 11:30 Back on board and lunch
- 15:00 Disembark at Cerro Brujo for excursion, kayaking, snorkeling & panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Tuesday's program
- 20:00 Dinner



Punta Pitt is located on the eastern tip of San Cristobal Island. You will hike up to a plateau where the view and landscape are so spectacular it is definitely worth the effort. Watch out for the Red Footed Boobies nesting in the cliffs. The power hike is followed by kayaking, snorkeling and panga rides opportunities. **Difficulty level: Difficult (longest hike of the cruise – 2 1/2 hours).**

Enjoy a fantastic landscape as well as wonderful swimming, snorkeling and panga ride experiences. Cerro Brujo's gorgeous beach is also home to many sea lions and it's also the first coast where Charles Darwin first stepped foot on in the Archipelago!

Difficulty level: Easy



TUESDAY

06:45 Wake up call

07:00 Breakfast

08:00 Dry landing and excursion on Floreana Island, visits to the Post Office followed by snorkeling, or panga ride

11:30 Back on board and lunch

15:00 Snorkeling or panga ride at Champion Islet followed by an excursion to Punta Cormorant

18:00 Back on board

19:30 Briefing on Wednesday's program

20:00 Dinner

Floreana is one of the Galapagos most famous islands due to many strange stories about past settlers. Post Office Bay is home to a unique "post office" inspired by 18th century pirates and buccaneers who used a wooden barrel as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. Floreana is also a magnificent site for swimming.



Difficulty level: Easy

In the 18th century whalers passing through the islands placed a wooden barrel on Floreana Island for use as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. This is one of the archipelago's most famous spots. Don't forget to look in your logbook for your postcards! For the more adventurous guests, there is an option for a visit inside a lava tunnel.

This tunnel has been kept untouched and completely natural, so please, watch your step! **Difficulty level: Easy to difficult (lava tunnel)**

A great site for bird-watching, Cormorant Point has a large lagoon where everything from Flamingos to Stilts and Pintail Ducks tend to roam. Don't forget your binoculars! Prior to the excursions, you will also have an opportunity to participate in a magnificent snorkel at Champion Islet. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



WEDNESDAY

06:45 Wake up call
07:00 Breakfast
08:00 Panga ride to Elizabeth Bay mangroves
11:00 Back on board and lunch
15:00 Landing at Punta Moreno followed by panga ride
18:00 Back on board
19:30 Briefing on Thursday's program
20:00 Dinner

Elizabeth Bay is one of the furthest points of the Galapagos that we will visit on our cruise. We will enter a sheltered cove accessible by panga only – a wonderful mangrove ecosystem that is a refuge for sea turtles, rays, blue-footed boobies, penguins, herons and more. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



Moreno Point is located just southwest of Elizabeth Bay on the west coast of Isabela Island. Observe and learn about different types of lava and pioneer plants while being surrounded by some of the most incredible scenery that Galapagos has to offer.

In the tide pools green sea turtles or white-tip sharks can be spotted. Afterwards you will enjoy a panga ride along the striking rocky shores observing penguins, sea lions, blue footed boobies and marine iguanas. **Difficulty level: Moderate to difficult.**

THURSDAY

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Dry landing at Puerto Ayora to visit the Charles Darwin Station
Afterward bus ride to the highlands of Santa Cruz to see wild giant tortoises
- 13:00 Back on board & lunch
- 15:30 Optional afternoon activities
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Friday's program
- 20:00 Dinner

On your visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station you will gain insight into the huge efforts being made by scientists, guides, rangers and park managers to preserve this UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will see the famous Galapagos tortoises that are the islands' namesake.

After the visit we drive to the green highlands of Santa Cruz, where you will visit a tortoise reserve to search for giant tortoises in their natural surroundings. The afternoon is at leisure. **Difficulty level: Easy to moderate.**



FRIDAY



- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Wet landing at Gardner Bay on Española Island for swimming and snorkeling
from the beach or kayaking
- 10:00 Deep water snorkeling
- 12:00 Lunch
- 15:00 Dry landing at Punta Suarez, Española Island
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:15 Departure briefing
- 19:45 Farewell cocktail & Dinner
- 21:00 Please settle your bills

Gardner Bay offers the chance to enjoy a wonderful white sandy beach. It is home to one of the most important colonies of sea lions, and it is also a nesting site for sea turtles. Throughout the morning there are opportunities for swimming, snorkeling and kayaking. **Difficulty level: Easy**

Punta Suarez is one of the most popular and attractive sites in the Galapagos. Due to its isolation from other islands, Espanola has a high proportion of endemic fauna. A few steps inland from the landing site, groups of Española marine iguanas bask in the sun. Further inland, Nazca and blue-footed boobies nest near the trail, Galapagos doves peck around unaware of visitors and finches go about their day to day business. The trail continues towards a blowhole, which is a fissure in the lava where water spurts high into the air like a geyser. The cracks in the cliffs are home to swallow-tailed gulls and red-billed tropicbirds. Further up the cliff in an area of low-lying trees you will find waved albatrosses nesting. The 15,000 to 17,000 pairs of albatrosses on Española represent almost the entire population of this species on the planet. They perform one of the most spectacular courtship rituals of the animal world.



Difficulty level: Difficult

SATURDAY

- 05:45 Optional wake up call by phone
- 06:00 Panga ride to Mosquera Islet
- 07:15 Official wake up call
Back on board from Mosquera Islet
- 07:30 Breakfast
- 08:00 Luggage out & vacate cabins
- 08:45 Galapagos documentary shown in main lounge
- 09:45 Snack in the al fresco dining area
- 10:00 Disembark for airport transfer
- 12:30 Plane departs



Mosquera Islet is a tiny islet, actually home to a huge population of sea lions and also home to many shorebirds. While at Mosquera, keep your eyes peeled as there are occasional reports of dolphins and orcas. **Difficulty level: Easy**

M.V. ECLIPSE – 7 NIGHT ITINERARY WITH GENOVESA



SATURDAY ARRIVAL

Arrival at the airport in Baltra & transfer to the dock
 Check-in to your cabin
 Introductory briefing & safety drill
 Lunch
 Panga ride to Black Turtle Cove, Santa Cruz Island
 18:00 Back on board
 19:30 Briefing on Sunday's program
 20:00 Welcome cocktail
 20:15 Dinner

Black Turtle Cove is one of the most beautiful marine sites in the Galapagos. It is a complex maze of tranquil salt-water inlets, surrounded by three different species of mangrove. Its waters are a nursery site for sea turtles, rays and sharks as well as a nesting site for sea birds. This site is only accessible by panga.

Difficulty level: Easy

SUNDAY

06:45 Wake up call
 07:00 Breakfast
 08:00 Wet landing at Rabida Island
 10:00 Snorkeling and panga ride at Rabida Island
 11:00 Back on board
 12:00 Lunch
 15:00 Wet landing at Puerto Egas, Santiago Island
 16:00 Swimming and snorkeling from the beach
 18:00 Back on board
 19:30 Briefing on Monday's program
 20:00 Dinner



Rábida is a small island with red volcanic rocks surrounding a beautiful red sand beach, where there is a colony of sea lions and a pelican nesting site. The trail leads to a salt water lagoon where shore birds can be seen. Rábida is not only considered to be one of the best snorkeling sites in the Galapagos Islands, but it's great for kayak and panga rides.



Puerto Egas (James Bay) is located on the northwest side of Santiago Island. The landing is on a black beach with eroded rock formations in the background. The trail crosses the dry interior, where the remains of a salt mining enterprise can still be seen, and then continues along the coast. Tidal pools are home to a variety of invertebrate organisms, including sea urchins, octopus and starfish. You will also see marine iguanas, finches, oyster catchers and possibly the Galapagos Hawk. The trail leads to the Fur Sea Lion Grottos, one of the only places in the islands where these unique animals can be seen. After

the walk, you will have time to swim or snorkel off the beach, where you will see sea lions, fish and maybe some turtles, rays and maybe some reef sharks.

Difficulty level: Easy to Moderate.

MONDAY

- 06:00 Optional wake up call by phone
- 06:30 Dry landing at Tagus Cove, Isabela Island for power hike
- 07:45 Official wake up call
- 08:00 Breakfast
- 08:45 Kayaking, snorkeling or panga ride along the cliffs
- 11:00 Back on board
- 12:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Dry landing at Punta Espinoza, Fernandina Island
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Tuesday's program
- 20:00 Dinner



Tagus Cove was historically used as an anchoring place for pirates, buccaneers and whalers. Here you will see the names of hundreds of ships painted on the high ridges (a practice now forbidden). On the hike, the trail goes through an area of vegetation and the volcanic landscape of Darwin volcano. At the top of the trail, you will enjoy an incredible view of the whole cove and Darwin Lake.

The early morning activity is followed by kayaking or a panga ride, where you will have the opportunity to see a large number of blue-footed boobies perched on the ledges of the cliffs, as well as marine iguanas, penguins, brown pelicans, brown noddy terns and swallow-tailed gulls. While exploring the channel between Fernandina and Isabela Islands, we sometimes encounter dolphins and whales. **Difficulty level: Easy to Difficult (panga ride is easy; hike up to lake can be strenuous for some)**

Fernandina Island is one of the most pristine ecosystems in the entire world and also one of the most dynamic. La Cumbre Volcano last erupted in April 2009, and also dominates the landscape, with lava fields stretching towards the ocean from its base. Punta Espinoza is a narrow piece of land where some of the most unique Galapagos species can be seen, including the flightless cormorant, Galapagos snakes, marine iguanas, penguins and the Galapagos hawk.

Difficulty level: Moderate



TUESDAY

06:45 Wake up call
07:00 Breakfast
08:00 Disembark at Urbina Bay for excursion
10:30 Back on board
12:00 Lunch
14:30 Panga ride along Punta Vicente Roca or deep water snorkeling
17:30 Back on board
19:30 Briefing on Wednesday's program
20:00 Dinner

Urbina Bay is located in Western Isabela, at the foot of Alcedo volcano. After a wet landing on a beautiful black-sand beach, you may be able to observe sea turtle nesting sites. This area is also known for penguin and flightless cormorant sightings and is one of the best places to see Darwin's finches as well as large land iguanas. Be on the lookout for Galapagos tortoises which like to feed within the site's dense vegetation.

Difficulty level: Moderate





Punta Vicente Roca is a wonderful snorkeling site, where you can usually see turtles as well as all kinds of fish. For those who do not snorkel, a panga ride will give you the opportunity to study some of the Galapagos' spectacular geological rock formations. Nazca boobies, pelicans, swallow-tailed gulls, marine iguanas, flightless cormorants and penguins are often seen in the area. **Difficulty level: Easy to moderate.**

WEDNESDAY

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Dry landing at Puerto Ayora to visit the Charles Darwin Station
Afterward bus ride to the highlands of Santa Cruz to see wild giant tortoises
- 13:00 Back on board & lunch
- 15:30 Optional afternoon activities
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Thursday's program
- 20:00 Dinner



On your visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station you will gain insight into the great efforts being made by scientists, guides, rangers and park managers to preserve this UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will see the famous Galapagos tortoises that are the islands' namesake.

After the visit we drive to the green highlands of Santa Cruz, where you will visit a tortoise reserve to search for giant tortoises in their natural surroundings. The afternoon is at leisure. **Difficulty level: Easy to moderate.**

THURSDAY

- 06:30 Wake up call
- 06:45 Breakfast
- 08:00 Dry landing at El Barranco on Genovesa Island
- 11:45 Back on board & lunch
- 14:30 Wet landing and excursion at Darwin Bay Beach
- 16:30 Beach time, snorkel or panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Friday's program
- 20:00 Dinner

Genovesa, or Tower Island, is the northernmost island that is allowed to be visited by naturalist (non-diving) cruises. This island is extremely remote and home to literally millions of birds belonging to many different species including the red footed booby as well as frigates, swallow-tailed gulls and even endemic owls! There are two sites on Genovesa that are visited by the M.V. Eclipse.



El Barranco, also known as Prince Phillip's Steps, is a steep path with stairs carved into the rock which leads to a plateau full of bird life amongst a Palo Santo forest. You will see Nazca boobies, Galapagos doves, mockingbirds and petrels. With some luck, you may spot a short-eared lava owl. **Difficulty level: Moderate.**

Darwin Bay's soft, coralline white sand is only the beginning of a spectacular excursion. A trail from the beach takes you into lush mangroves where red footed boobies nest. Other locals include sea lions, swallow-tail gulls, frigates and more. Snorkeling is a must here as sharks, colorful reef fish, rays and tortoises are common. **Difficulty level: Easy to moderate.**



FRIDAY

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Disembark at Bartolome Island for excursion, snorkeling or panga ride
- 11:30 Back on board & lunch
- 14:30 Dry landing and excursion at Cerro Dragon, Santa Cruz Island
- 16:30 Beach time, swim and snorkel at Cerro Dragon
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:15 Departure briefing
- 19:45 Farewell cocktail
- 20:00 Dinner
- 21:00 Please settle your bills

Bartolome is a small island that has two visitor sites. At the first site, you can snorkel around Pinnacle Rock, where penguins are usually seen. Then, it's back on board for a quick change of clothes followed by a short dinghy ride to a dry



landing for a climb to the highest point on the island. On the way up, you will encounter different volcanic formations, including spatter and tuff cones, lava flow and lava tubes. From the summit you will have a wonderful view of Sullivan Bay. For those not interested in the hike, there is the option of a panga ride. Usual fauna and flora also includes sea lions, pioneer plants, reef sharks, rays and colorful reef fish. **Difficulty Level: Moderate. Walk up 375 low-grade stairs to top of volcano at a slow to moderate pace.**



The name Cerro Dragon (Dragon Hill) stems from the fact that it was one of the few sites on Santa Cruz Island where a healthy population of land iguanas were found in 1975. After landing at a pier, a hike takes you to a salt water lagoon behind the beach, frequented by common stilts, pintail ducks and occasionally flamingos. A short walk up the hill leads you to a land iguana nesting site, with breathtaking views of the bay. You will have the chance to go swimming after

the walk. **Difficulty level: Easy to moderate.**

SATURDAY DEPARTURE

- 05:45 Optional wake up call by phone
- 06:00 Disembark at Bachas Beach for excursion
- 07:15 Official wake up call
- 07:30 Breakfast
- 08:00 Luggage out & vacate cabins
- 08:45 Galapagos documentary shown in main lounge
- 09:45 Snack in the al fresco dining area
- 10:00 Disembark for airport transfer
- 12:30 Plane departs

Las Bachas Beach is located in the north of Santa Cruz Island. Its soft, white sand is derived from decomposed coral, making it a favorite nesting site for sea turtles. Behind the beach there is a small brackish lagoon, where it is possible to observe flamingos and other coastal birds, such as black-necked stilts and whimbrels. **Difficulty level: Easy.**

