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## GALAPAGOS SAFARI CAMP

### Classic Safari

### 05 days / 04 nights

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#### Itinerary

#### Day 01: Arrival – Twin Craters – Reserve / (L, D)

Welcome to the Galapagos! After leaving the VIP airport lounge you will meet your bilingual naturalist guide who will be with you for the duration of your stay with us (according to the level of privacy chosen). To maximize your first day in the Galapagos Islands, you will be taken to a number of visiting sites on the way to Galapagos Safari Camp. The first stop is Los Gemelos (The Twin Craters); two colossal, volcanic sinkholes. On a gentle hike around the rim, your guide will point out the birds of the endemic Scalesia forest such as Galapagos doves and Darwin's finches. From Los Gemelos you continue to a reserve for giant tortoises. Your tour of the reserve will follow a gentle circuit trail where you get within meters of these iconic Galapagos creatures. Keep a look out too for short-eared owls, as they are occasionally spotted in the trees. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant. The tortoise reserve also contains a network of underground lava tubes, formed centuries ago when lava flows cooled at the edges but kept flowing in the middle, leaving cave-like tunnels in their wake. To fully appreciate the uniqueness of the Galapagos Islands, and its wildlife, it's important to first understand the archipelago's geology and volcanic history. End the day at Galapagos Safari Camp, enjoying uninterrupted views of the National Park and the shimmering blues of the Pacific Ocean, without another human in sight.

#### Day 02: Explore uninhabited islands / (B, L, D)

On this day, you will enjoy day cruises by motor boat to one of the neighboring, uninhabited islands close to our island of Santa Cruz: North Seymour, Bartolomé, Plazas, or Santa Fe. Each of the islands' tours includes a guided walk and a guided snorkel in the Galapagos Marine Reserve. Lunch is served onboard the boat (food is not permitted in the National Park). These boat navigations are often a good opportunity to chat with your guide and learn more about these extraordinary islands and the creatures that inhabit them. Alternatively, guests often use this time to quietly reflect on their Safari by jotting down their thoughts or elaborating on sketches. As author John C. Maxwell wrote, "It's not necessarily the experience that is valuable;



it's the insight people gain because of their experience." Note that these boat tours can either be fully private (chartered boat and private guide) or semi-private (with shared boat and shared guide, or shared boat and private guide). At the end of each day, you return to Galapagos Safari Camp in time for an evening stroll or a dip in the pool, followed by a sunset cocktail and dinner.

### **Day 03: Explore uninhabited islands / (L, D)**

On this day, you will enjoy day cruises by motor boat to one of the neighboring, uninhabited islands close to our island of Santa Cruz: North Seymour, Bartolomé, Plazas, or Santa Fe. Each of the islands' tours includes a guided walk and a guided snorkel in the Galapagos Marine Reserve. Lunch is served onboard the boat (food is not permitted in the National Park). These boat navigations are often a good opportunity to chat with your guide and learn more about these extraordinary islands and the creatures that inhabit them. Alternatively, guests often use this time to quietly reflect on their Safari by jotting down their thoughts or elaborating on sketches. As author John C. Maxwell wrote, "It's not necessarily the experience that is valuable; it's the insight people gain because of their experience." Note that these boat tours can either be fully private (chartered boat and private guide) or semi-private (with shared boat and shared guide, or shared boat and private guide). At the end of each day, you return to Galapagos Safari Camp in time for an evening stroll or a dip in the pool, followed by a sunset cocktail and dinner.

### **Day 04: Santa Cruz – The East / (L, D)**

Your Safari will begin at Cerro Mesa, a private reserve on the eastern side of Santa Cruz Island that is rich in endemic flora and bird life, including the elusive vermilion flycatcher and seven unique subspecies of finch. Explore the various trails with your guide, ending the circuit at a viewpoint where, on a clear day, you can survey the lush landscape of Santa Cruz as well as nearby islands. Afterward, you will make your way to Garrapatero Beach, either by car or by bicycle. In contrast to the thick, green vegetation of the highlands, the coastal terrain is made up of black lava, white sands, turquoise waters, and dense mangroves. The picturesque, white-sanded beach of Garrapatero is an ideal spot for a picnic and secluded swimming, set far away from the cruise ship crowds and visiting sites. Kayaking can also be arranged here and is a fun way to explore the coastline and its wildlife. Set behind the beach is a small lagoon where flamingoes are occasionally spotted. On your way back to Camp you can visit a working farm in the highlands that produces sugar cane liqueur and Galapagos coffee. The owner is a colorful character; he will teach you about the different methods used to refine sugar cane, including the use of a mule-driven press.



## Day 05: Relax before morning departure / (B)

Enjoy the serene nature and peace of the Camp this morning. Relax, walk, swim or enjoy the sunrise from our viewpoint before departure to the airport and your next destination. (Here's where you'll wish you had extended your journey!)

**Note:** Itineraries are subject to change without notice due to seasonal changes, last-minute weather conditions, and adjustments of Galapagos National Park policies

### What to bring to Galapagos Islands?

Wearables: Sun Hat, cap or bandana, cotton t-shirt, cotton expedition shirt, safari shirts, long sleeve shirts, hiking shorts or light full-length hiking pants, water shoes with non-slippery soles, sandals, windbreaker jacket, sunglasses, warm sweater, casual pants, shorts, dress or skirt, bathing suit, thin and breathable socks, hiking shoes.

Small backpack, water bottle, Ziplock, dry bag, waterproof see-through phone pouch, waterproof sunblock, and lip balm (SPF 50+), insect repellent, binoculars, camera, device chargers

