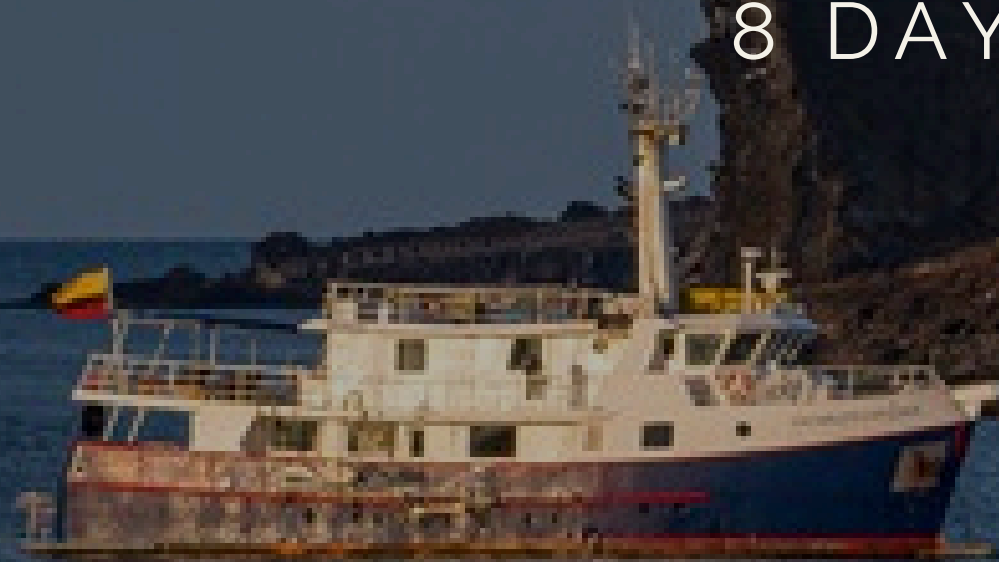


CACHALOTE EXPLORER'S TOWER ITINERARY

8 DAYS | 7 NIGHTS



ITINERARY SUMMARY

LOCATIONS	Galapagos Islands (Eastern): Santa Cruz, Plazas, Santa Fe, San Cristobal, Kicker Rock, Española, Santiago, Floreana, Genovesa
DURATION	8 DAYS 7 NIGHTS
ACTIVITIES	Wildlife viewing, walking, hiking, snorkelling, land visits to inhabited and uninhabited islands in the National Park, sightseeing, kayaking
HIGHLIGHTS	Tours to inhabited and uninhabited islands in National Park, snorkelling or kayaking in renowned marine reserve, tortoise reserve, beautiful beaches, and more!
SEASON	All year
INCLUDED	All amenities of the yacht, certified naturalist guide, excursions, meals, and activities mentioned in itinerary, snorkelling gear, access to kayaks
NOT INCLUDED	Flights, Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee, Migratory Card Fee, bottled and alcoholic beverages, personal expenses, tips



CACHALOTE EXPLORER

- Up to 16 passengers
- 8 Cabins w/ private bathrooms
- Air-conditioning
- Multiple common areas





THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Nestled in the waters of the Pacific Ocean, the Galapagos Islands stand as a testament to the sheer wonder of nature. Renowned for unparalleled biodiversity and otherworldly landscapes, this UNESCO National site beckons both adventurers and nature enthusiasts. Each moment spent in this remote archipelago feels like stepping into an untouched realm where time stands still and endemic species thrive in splendid isolation. Uncover the secrets below the water in one of the world's largest and most renowned marine reserves. This enchanting archipelago is not just a destination, but an experience unlike any other—a journey into the heart of our planet's natural heritage. Here, amidst the cradle of evolution, one can't help but marvel at the intricate tapestry of life that unfolds at every turn. In the Galapagos, the mystical and the magnificent converge, leaving an indelible mark on all who are fortunate enough to wander its shores.



THE CRUISE EXPERIENCE

Embarking on a boutique cruise through the Galapagos Islands is the ultimate way to experience the wildlife, landscapes, and history of this extraordinary archipelago. With fewer passengers than larger vessels, boutique cruises offer an intimate, relaxed environment where you'll form lasting connections with your fellow travellers while enjoying all the amenities typically associated with larger ships. These cruises are led by certified naturalist guides, whose in-depth knowledge of the Galapagos enriches your journey. Aboard a boutique cruise, you'll have the privilege of visiting remote, inhabited and uninhabited islands and exploring the vibrant Galapagos National Marine Park, all while making the most of your time. Travelling between destinations at night means you wake each day at a new location, maximizing your days with incredible wildlife encounters, snorkeling in some of the most biodiverse waters on Earth and walking through breathtaking volcanic terrains. From basking sea lions to thriving coral reefs and fascinating volcanic landscapes, each day holds new discoveries that highlight the full spectrum of Galapagos wonders. This immersive experience is simply the best way to appreciate the full depth and beauty of the Galapagos Islands.



DAY 1

ARRIVE IN GALAPAGOS, BOARD YACHT FOR 8 DAY CRUISE

Upon arriving at Baltra Airport, your guide will welcome you and escort you to a bus heading to the canal, where a ferry will take you to Santa Cruz Island. You will board our bus and enjoy a scenic drive to Los Gemelos (sunken craters) for breathtaking views. Next, you'll visit a Tortoise Reserve to observe these incredible creatures in their natural environment and enjoy a delicious lunch. Afterwards, explore the Charles Darwin Station to learn about the tortoise breeding program and see tortoises at various stages of life. If time allows, take a leisurely stroll through the charming streets of Puerto Ayora. Then board a dinghy to your yacht located in Academy Bay, where the friendly crew will welcome you onboard. Enjoy a delightful dinner and settle into your cabin for the night, as the yacht begins motoring to its first destination.



Place(s): Baltra Island, Santa Cruz Island



Sights: Los Gemelos, Tortoise Reserve, town of Puerto Ayora, Charles Darwin Station, beautiful landscape of the highlands



Activity level: Easy ●○○○○

Activities: Walking at tortoise reserve & Charles Darwin Station



Wildlife you may see: Tortoises, endemic birds, sea lions, marine iguanas, lava lizards, various marine life off docks



Meals included: lunch, dinner & snacks



DAY 2

SOUTH PLAZAS & SANTA FE ISLAND

Awake to the stunning views of South Plazas Island and enjoy a delicious breakfast before your morning adventure begins. A dinghy will escort you to the island, where you'll be greeted by sea lions. Wander along a scenic trail for apx. 1.5 hours, scattered with red-billed tropic birds, swallow-tail gulls and land iguanas as you reach a cliff lookout, offering breathtaking views of the landscape and bachelor sea lions. After, return to the yacht for lunch as it motors to Santa Fe Island. Upon arrival prepare for your first snorkel in the celebrated Galapagos Marine Park, with the chance to swim alongside playful sea lions and other unique marine life. Later in the afternoon, step onto a pristine beach dotted with sea lions and begin an up-hill walk up where towering opuntia cacti and vibrant yellow land iguanas thrive. Back aboard, End the day with a satisfying dinner and a debrief of today's highlights and tomorrow's plans.



Place(s): South Plazas Island, Santa Fe Island



Sights: Beautiful landscapes, flora and fauna of South Plazas and Santa Fe Island



Activity level: Easy - moderate ●●○○○
Activities: Walking, hiking, snorkeling



Wildlife you may see: Sea lions, endemic birds, frigates, swallow-tailed gulls, red-billed tropic birds, land & marine iguanas, lava lizards, sharks, rays, sea turtles, towering opuntia cactus



Meals included: Breakfast, lunch, dinner & snacks



DAY 3

SAN CRISTOBAL

Wake up to San Cristobal Island, the easternmost and oldest island of this remarkable archipelago. Following breakfast, prepare for your first visit to Cerro Brujo, near the historic spot where Charles Darwin first arrived in the Galapagos. After a quick dinghy ride, step onto a pristine white sandy beach, and take a scenic walk along the shore and to a nearby lagoon (apx. 1.5 h). Enjoy a snorkel session in the coastal waters before returning to the boat for lunch. As we journey toward Kicker Rock, take in the striking views as we circumnavigate this iconic landmark. From here, we continue to Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, where a bus will take you to the highlands of San Cristobal. Explore El Junco, the only freshwater crater lake in Galapagos, and visit the tortoise breeding center to learn about conservation efforts. Then, venture to La Galapaguera to observe tortoises roaming in their natural habitat. Return to the yacht for dinner and a debrief.



Place(s): San Cristobal Island



Sights: Cerro Brujo, Kicker Rock, Puerto Baquerizo Moreno, El Junco, La Galapaguera



Activity level: Easy - moderate ●●○○○
Activities: Walking, hiking, snorkeling



Wildlife you may see: Tortoises, sea lions, endemic birds, marine iguanas, lava lizards, various marine life



Meals included: Breakfast, lunch, dinner & snacks



DAY 4

ESPAÑOLA ISLAND, GARDNER BAY & PUNTA SUAREZ

Wake up to the stunning landscapes of Española Island. After breakfast, take a wet landing onto the pristine white sands of Gardner Bay, where sea lions lounge, hawks glide above, and curious mockingbirds may join your walk. Following this serene exploration, return to the yacht to snorkel among vibrant marine life, including colorful fish, sea turtles, and playful sea lions, before enjoying a delicious onboard lunch.

In the afternoon, journey to Punta Suarez where you will dingy to a pier and take a scenic hike along dramatic cliffs. Marvel at the natural Blowhole and spot unique wildlife like Nazca boobies, blue-footed boobies, and striking marine iguanas. From April to December, witness the graceful courtship rituals of the Waved Albatrosses. End the day with dinner and a debrief on the yacht, which will sail overnight to Floreana Island.



Place(s): Española Island, Gardner Bay, Punta Suarez



Sights: Beautiful landscapes of Española Island, Gardner bay and Punta Suarez



Activity level: Moderate ●●●○○

Activities: Walking, hiking (rugged terrain), snorkeling



Wildlife you may see: Sea lions, endemic birds, marine iguanas, boobies, Waved Albatross (April - Dec), mocking bird, sharks, rays, sea turtles, various marine life



Meals included: Breakfast, lunch, dinner & snacks



DAY 5

FLOREANA ISLAND

Start your day on Floreana Island, known for its colorful history of pirates, whalers, convicts, and early settlers and home to a small community of fewer than 200 people. Begin your morning with a dinghy ride to Punta Cormorant, where you'll explore a scenic trail connecting two beaches. Along the way, visit a large lagoon frequented by flamingos. Return to the yacht to prepare for snorkeling at the renowned Devil's Crown, a submerged volcanic crater just off Punta Cormorant. Known as one of the top snorkeling spots in the Galapagos, teeming with vibrant marine life, offering an unforgettable underwater experience. After lunch onboard, the yacht will take a short journey to Post Office Bay. Here, take a brief walk to the historic wooden mail barrel, where visitors can leave letters or postcards to be picked up by future travellers, as well as the remnants of an old Norwegian tuna canning location. Return for a delicious dinner and a debrief then motor overnight.



Place(s): Floreana Island



Sights: Punta Cormorant, beautiful beaches and wildlife, Devil's Crown, vibrant sealife, Post Office Bay



Activity level: Easy - moderate ●●○○○
Activities: Walking, hiking, snorkeling



Wildlife you may see: Sea lions, endemic birds, flamingos, marine iguanas, tropical fish, sharks, rays, eels, sea turtles, various marine life



Meals included: Breakfast, lunch, dinner & snacks



DAY 6

SANTA CRUZ & SANTIAGO ISLAND

Start your day on the scenic north coast of Santa Cruz Island with an excursion to Dragon Hill (Cerro Dragón). After a dry landing, embark on a 1.5-hour guided walk, beginning with a stroll past a lagoon where flamingos and pintail ducks often gather. Continue inland to discover a unique habitat for land iguanas, and make your way up the hill for a breathtaking panoramic view of the surrounding landscape.

Return to the yacht for lunch as you cruise towards Sullivan Bay on Santiago Island. Here, you'll take an awe-inspiring walk on rugged, 100-year-old pahoehoe lava flows, dotted with distinctive lava cacti. Afterwards, prepare for a refreshing snorkel in the bay, where diverse marine life awaits — and if you're lucky, you might even spot a Galapagos penguin.

Back on board, enjoy dinner and a debriefing as the yacht begins its journey to Genovesa Island (Tower), setting the stage for the next adventure.



Place(s): N. Santa Cruz, Santiago Island



Sights: Beautiful landscapes, Sullivan Bay, ancient lava flows



Activity level: Easy - moderate ●●○○○

Activities: Walking, hiking (rugged terrain), snorkeling



Wildlife you may see: Penguins, sea lions, endemic birds, land iguanas, tropical fish, sea turtles, various marine life



Meals included: Breakfast, lunch, dinner & snacks



DAY 7

GENOVESA (TOWER) ISLAND

Begin your morning anchored inside the stunning caldera of Genovesa Island. Enjoy breakfast before heading to Darwin Bay by dinghy. Here, a short beach walk brings you into a vibrant nesting ground for red-footed boobies, frigatebirds, lava gulls, tropicbirds, doves, storm petrels, and yellow-crowned night herons. Take in the fascinating diversity of avian life. Return to the yacht and prepare for a snorkel in the caldera's deep waters, where marine life is abundant. After lunch prepare for a kayak or a snorkel, where you may encounter the elusive scalloped hammerhead sharks. Return to the yacht to get ready for an adventure at Prince Philip's Steps. Upon arrival, fur seals may greet you at the landing site before you ascend to the island's outer edge, passing through trails lined with fragrant palo santo trees. Here, keep an eye out for short-eared owls and nesting boobies. Enjoy a delicious dinner on board and a debriefing to reflect on the day's sights as you cruise to your next destination.



Place(s): Genovesa (Tower) Island



Sights: Diverse bird nesting grounds, Prince Philip's steps, snorkeling in the caldera



Activity level: Moderate ●●●○○

Activities: Walking, hiking, snorkeling (choppy water), kayaking



Wildlife you may see: Scalloped hammerhead, sea lions, boobies, doves, lava gull, yellow crowned night heron, storm petrels, tropic birds, short-eared owl, endemic birds, fur seals, marine life



Meals included: Breakfast, lunch, dinner & snacks



DAY 8

SANTA CRUZ & DEPARTURE

Your final day of this unforgettable journey takes you to the peaceful Black Turtle Cove, on Santa Cruz Island. Take a scenic dinghy ride through this serene red mangrove lagoon which is home to sea turtles, baby sharks, rays, and other marine life. After exploring this thriving cove, return to the yacht for a delicious breakfast. Afterward, the yacht will navigate back to Baltra Island, where your incredible journey through the Galapagos Islands comes to an end. You and your luggage will be transferred to the airport, where you can either catch your departing flight or, if you prefer to extend your adventure, continue exploring the Galapagos by land. For those on a two-week itinerary, your journey aboard the yacht will continue, leading you to even more unforgettable Galapagos destinations.



Place(s): Santa Cruz



Sights: Black Turtle Cove, marine life in lagoon, endemic birds



Activity level: Easy ●○○○○○

Activities: dinghy ride



Wildlife you may see: Sea turtles, rays, sharks, endemic birds, various marine life



Meals included: Breakfast