



## The Tortoises Trail Santa Cruz - 4 Days (#18953)

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **29-12-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

### Trip Highlights

Santa Cruz

### Detailed Itinerary

#### Day 01

#### Day 01: Quito/Guayaquil – Baltra – Puerto Ayora

Flight from Quito or Guayaquil to Baltra's airport where a naturalist guide will transfer you to Puerto Ayora. On the way, the guide will make a stop in order to visit the highlands and the giant land tortoises. Here, you would have time for lunch, and enjoy the view. Afterwards, you will continue with the transfer to the hotel.

In the afternoon, the guide will take you to enjoy Tortuga Bay. Here, you walk for approximately 45 minutes, through a cactus trail on to the first beach, which is called Playa Brava due to its strong currents. On this beach you would see a lot of



marine iguanas, marine birds and pelicans. After visiting Playa Brava, we continue with an additional 15 minute walk to reach Playa Mansa. This second beach is a natural lagoon visited by blue footed boobies and pelicans. It is also a beautiful place for swimming and relaxing on the beach.

You will be walking the same distance to return to the hotel for dinner and accommodation.

Note: To execute this itinerary, it is important to choose an early flight that arrives maximum at 10am to Baltra.

**Meal:** Lunch & Dinner

## Day 02

### Day 02: Navigation (Bartolome or North Seymour or Plazas or Santa Fe)

We will be visiting only one island today.

After breakfast, the guide will meet you at the hotel's lobby in order to take you to the dock, and start the tour. Lunch will be included on board the small yet comfortable and beautiful yacht. After concluding our tour in the afternoon, we will return to the port.

North Seymour Island is a spectacular place to hike, swim, and enjoy snorkelling. The main attractions are: frigates, boobies, gulls, hawks, green sea turtles and the famous Galapagos Sharks.

Likewise, Bartolome Island is the most attractive landscape of the archipelago. This island is undoubtedly the most photographed in all the Galapagos Islands. You can appreciate a spectacular view of two beautiful bays and observe the fascinating formations of lava and volcanic cones.

Two islands form Plazas. The turquoise waters of the channel contrast brilliantly with the white sand and black lava coast. It is a wonderful spot to observe marine life, including manta rays. Coasts are a perfect spot for snorkelling activity.

Santa Fe Island (Spanish: Isla Santa Fe), also called Barrington Island after Samuel Barrington, is a small island of 24 square kilometres (9.3 sq. mi) which lies in the centre of the Galapagos archipelago, on the south east of Santa Cruz Island.

Geologically it is one of the oldest, since volcanic rocks of about 4 million years old have been found. The vegetation of the island is characterized by brush, Palo Santo trees and stands of a large variety of the prickly pear cactus *Opuntia echinocarpa*.

After completing our tour, we will return to the hotel for Dinner and our accommodation.

\*Island will be chosen according to available spaces.

**Meal:** Breakfast, lunch and Dinner



**Day 03****Day 03: Navigation (Bartolome or North Seymour or Plazas or Santa Fe)**

We will be visiting only one island today.

After breakfast, the guide will meet you at the hotel's lobby in order to take you to the dock, and start the tour. Lunch will be included on board the small yet comfortable and beautiful yacht. After concluding our tour in the afternoon, we will return to the port.

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After completing our tour, we will return to the hotel for Dinner and our accommodation.

\*Island will be chosen according to available spaces

**Meal:** Breakfast, lunch and Dinner

**Day 04****Day 04: Santa Cruz-Baltra**

Early in the morning you will visit the Charles Darwin Station. Here you will see a variety of species of Giant Tortoises. You will also hear and learn about the ongoing conservation efforts directed at preserving the Giant Tortoises, as well as the environment of the archipelago as a whole.

Afterwards, you and the guide will take the route to the airport, which lasts approximately 1 hour. At the airport, you will take your flight back to Quito or Guayaquil.

Note: To execute this itinerary, it is important to choose a late flight that departs not before 11am from Baltra.

**Meal:** Breakfast



## Inclusions

Accommodation in double rooms.

All meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner). First day: lunch and dinner. Last day: Breakfast.

Transportation and Maritime timedviews.

Bilingual naturalist guide (English, Spanish).

Scheduled Visits.

Snorkeling equipment.

Transfers from Puerto Ayora –Isabela Island–Puerto Ayora.

Shared Sailing tours.

Navigation tours are shared.

## Exclusions

Air Ticket.

Galapagos National Park entrance fee AUD 230.00

INGALA Migration Control Card AUD 46.00

Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages.

Tips.

## Note

Hotels Used Or Similar

Tourist Superior

Santa Cruz: Finch Bay or Montemar.

First Class

Santa Cruz: Safari Camp or Villa Escalesia.

Luxury Class

Santa Cruz: Pikaia Lodge

## Program Touring / Guide

Private touring



## Periodic Departure

**23 Feb, 2024 to 31 Dec, 2024**

Tourist Superior

AUD 3,947 P P twin share

AVAILABLE

First Class

AUD 4,383 P P twin share

AVAILABLE

Luxury Class

AUD 5,818 P P twin share

AVAILABLE

