

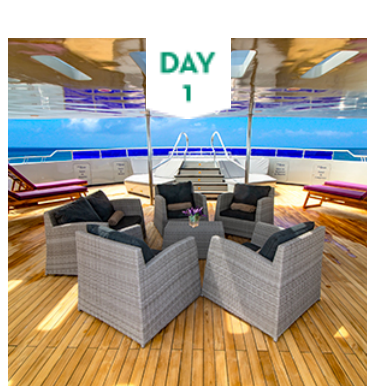


Galapagos Cruise M/T Camila: Itinerary A

Discover the wonder of the Galapagos as you explore this enchanting UNESCO World Heritage site on the deluxe M/T Camila. Get up close and personal, encountering many native species like Galapagos Giant Tortoises, Penguins, Sea Lions, Marine Iguana's, Cormorants, Blue Footed Boobies, and much more! Experience the beauty of the islands; hiking on Santa Fe and South Plazas Islands, snorkeling in turquoise waters off Floreana Island, or kayaking. For birdwatchers, you will have plenty of opportunities to observe both native and migratory birds, as well as learning more about tortoise propagation at the Charles Darwin Center. Finally, you will be astonished by the view at the Baroness Lookout, and if you like, send a postcard to your friends from the "Post Office".

INCLUSIONS

- Arrival and Departure Transfers
- 7 Nights Accommodations M/T Camila
- Excursion Isabela Island
- Excursion Santa Cruz
- Excursion Santa Fe/South Plazas Islands
- Excursion Floreana Island
- Excursion to Charles Darwin Station
- All Meals Included



ARRIVAL:

After arriving at Baltra Airport, you must first pass through the Galapagos National Park entrance and then onto baggage claim. After scanning your baggage, you'll exit to the arrivals hall. Your Haugan Cruises Guide will be waiting with a sign to greet you and transport you to the vessel. The Camila crew will show you to your accommodations, and afterwards, the guide and cruise manager will hold a short briefing on all safety and emergency protocols. The Camila is one of the more modern yachts servicing this region. It has a capacity for just 16 passengers in 8 comfortable staterooms, each with their own balcony. On board a bilingual naturalist guide will accompany you on all itineraries to provide commentary and answer questions. The yacht features kayaks, a jacuzzi, and snorkel gear, plus wetsuits for underwater exploration. After checking into your stateroom, in the afternoon, you'll stop at **Sullivan Bay** with its interesting lava field, dating back to 1897. Because the rocks are black and formed of lava, it can get quite hot. Returning to the vessel, relax on one of the sun decks before dinner.

(Dinner & Accommodations, M/T Camila)



ISABELA ISLAND:

After breakfast, you'll take a ride on a *panga*, an open outboard-powered boat, as you head to **Isabela Island**. It's famously known as the island shaped like a seahorse. While in the *panga*, keep an eye out for the magnificent mola-mola sunfish! While not landing on the island, you'll have the opportunity for snorkeling.

In the afternoon, you'll sail through the Bolivar Channel dividing Isabela and Fernandina Islands and arrive at **Espinosa Point**. The highlight of this visit is the nesting colony of the Flightless Cormorant, which over time lost its ability to fly due to evolutionary distinct changes, helping it swim better and faster. They are superb fishers, and to this day, fishermen in Japan, China and Korea use trained cormorants to fish in rivers. Also seen at this site is the incredible remnants of solid magma, but watch your step for the many marine iguanas known to crowd the area.

What to Bring: Dry bag for camera or any electronics brought onto the *panga*.

(All Meals, & Accommodations, M/T Camila)



ISABELA ISLAND:

If you like historic remnants, then you will enjoy finding what was left behind from pirates and sailors in the 1800s in **Tagus Cove**. This site was one of their preferred pit stops while traveling the seas. The hike here will provide incredible views of the cove and on the other side the mangrove forest where the last 35 pairs of Mangrove finches thrive.

In the afternoon, you'll head to **Urbina Bay**. Millions of years ago, Urbina Bay once lay on the ocean floor. Volcanic uplifts caused it to rise and now it is occupied by sea lions, land iguanas and flightless cormorants. It is a great place to enjoy some free time on the beach, do some snorkeling, or the guide may suggest a hike.

(All Meals, & Accommodations, M/T Camila)



ISABELA ISLAND:

On the eastern coast of Isabela Island is **Elizabeth Bay** with many islets. We'll visit these parts by *panga* and on the rocky shores Galapagos penguins can be seen. These are the only species of penguins found north of the equator. Keep your eyes open as there is a large abundance of marine life that can be seen in the clear waters.

Attention birdwatchers: In the afternoon, we head to the beautiful rocky shores of **Moreno Point**, offering a plethora of birds to be seen. Besides our feathered friends, you'll enter the coast lagoons where white tipped sharks can be seen. And the panoramic views of Sierra Negra and Cerro Azul volcanoes cannot be missed.

(All Meals, & Accommodations, M/T Camila)



SANTA CRUZ ISLAND:

The **Charles Darwin Research Station** is one of the Galapagos Islands' most important sites for visitors. It is a research facility that has an extensive collection of Galapagos plant life specimens carefully preserved and also acts as a biological research station and active breeding center operated by the Charles Darwin Foundation. The famous "Lonesome George" was cared for in this place, and was the only known living individual from his specific subspecies until his recent death in 2012. You'll also find many adult Galapagos tortoises living on the premises. In the afternoon, we'll embark on a moderate hike. The **Santa Cruz Highlands** are located in the northern part of the island and can reach elevations up to 1500 meters. This area is rich with hills, ferns, volcanoes and wildlife. A great contrast to the molten lava hardened beaches and rocky areas of other islands already seen. It's home to giant tortoises, mockingbirds, finches and many other species.

(All Meals, & Accommodations, M/T Camila)



SANTA FE ISLAND - SOUTH PLAZAS ISLAND:

Santa Fe is home to the endemic Santa Fe iguana. The island was created by a volcanic uplift that now hosts a forest of Opuntia and Palo Santo trees. It is a picturesque island with two different trails, one leading to a scenic viewpoint and the other leading to a small beach.

In the afternoon, you'll visit **South Plazas Island**; a small island with steep cliffs formed by rising lava. It is home to one of the largest sea lion colonies, as well as colorful land iguanas. The most characteristic plant on the island is the Sesuvium that turns bright red during the dry season, creating a contrast on the landscape. The amazing colors of the turquoise waters against the black lava create a setting for amazing photography opportunities.

(All Meals, & Accommodations, M/T Camila)



FLOREANA ISLAND:

In the morning, you head to **Post Office Bay**. Ask the Cruise Manager for one of our complimentary postcards to write a message and address it home. Historically, this site is the location of a wooden barrel that was placed in the 18th century by the crew of a whaling ship. It has been used since this time by marines and tourists as a post office. Leave it in the barrel used before by pirates and sailors. While you're there, see if there are any other postcards you can take home with you to send for fellow travelers who have already left their messages!

In the afternoon, just off Floreana Island, a fantastic snorkeling site known as **Devil's Crown** is on the agenda. Various tropical fish species can be seen, even Galapagos sharks or white-tipped sharks. Sea lions can be seen hunting for fish or playing through schools of hundreds of fish in circles. Cormorant point on Floreana Island is a great place to see one of the places where flamingos live in salt water lagoons. Walking along the trail after the lagoon leads to a hidden beach great for walking in the soft sand.

(All Meals, & Accommodations, M/T Camila)



SAN CRISTOBAL ISLAND:

After breakfast, you'll return to **San Cristobal**. At the Interpretation Center you'll find many different exhibits on information about the natural and geological history of the Galapagos Islands. It first opened in 1998 to help enforce the efforts of wildlife protection and the natural environment through means of population and tourist control.

Afterwards, you'll have time to gather your belongings and say good-bye to your guide and crew. Your driver will take you to the airport for your return home, or on to your next Avanti Destination!

(All Meals, & Accommodations, M/T Camila)