

## 4 Days/3 Nights

Departs Sundays from Quito or Guayaquil



### **M/V Coral I & II - North:** Galapagos Islands

These are two comfortable motor yachts that travel together. The Coral I has 18 cabins accommodating up to 36 guests, while the Coral II has 11 cabins accommodating up to 20 guests. Enjoy a classic private yacht experience that includes a Jacuzzi on the open deck area as well as interiors with a comfortable ambiance.

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#### ACCOMMODATIONS

- Cruise Accommodations

## INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip Air & Ground Transfers

- Galapagos National Park Entrance Fee

- Excursions with Naturalist Guide
- All Meals



### ARRIVAL:

#### **(AM) Flight to Galapagos from Quito/Guayaquil Airport:**

Upon arrival at Baltra Airport, guides will meet you, collect your luggage, and escort you to the ship, where the crew will welcome you aboard. After an orientation and safety briefing, lunch is served and the cruise begins.

#### **(PM) Charles Darwin Research Station & Fausto Llerena Breeding Center:**

Once home to the famous Lonesome George, the last tortoise of the Pinta race, the breeding and relocation center is named in honor of his long-time guardian. The center is set in the Galapagos National Park Service where various interpretative buildings are available to visit. The grounds, with large stands of native vegetation are one of the better places to spot some of the seldom seen Darwin's finches such as the woodpecker, cactus and vegetarian finches.

*(Lunch, Dinner, & Accommodations, Coral I or II)*



### CORAL I OR II:

#### **(AM) Dragon Hill (Santa Cruz Island):**

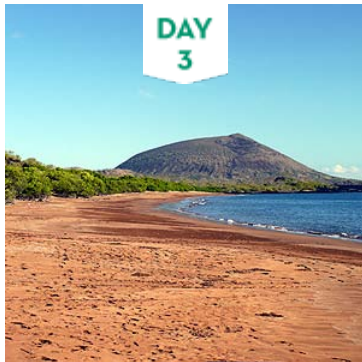
Arriving at a small lava dock our first encounters are with marine iguanas that blend in perfectly to the dark rock. As we walk past large prickly pear cacti we arrive to one end of a long, sickle-shaped, beach with Dragon Hill standing in the distance. Our walk takes us on a circular path, past a shallow lake where flamingos frequently come to feed. Waders such as stilts, turnstones and sandpipers work the muddy edges frenetically looking for food as we continue inland to a dry, forested habitat where land iguanas nest and burrow.

#### **(PM) Barlolomé Island:**

Considered the most iconic landscape of the entire archipelago the view from the top of Bartolomé Island, overlooking the famous Pinnacle Rock and the austere Santiago Island beyond, is well worth the climb up the wooden boardwalk. This volcanic scene has often been likened to a lunar landscape. Our subsequent snorkel here might put us face to face with Galapagos penguins, white-tipped reef sharks and playful sea lions.

*(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, & Accommodations, Coral I or II)*

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## **CORAL I OR II:**

### **(AM) Rabida Island:**

Lying at the heart of the archipelago this dramatic island, with its distinctive red-sand beach, is home to sea lions, mockingbirds, finches, endemic Galapagos doves and vermilion flycatchers. A walk takes us through a forest of palo santo and cacti to a beautiful overview of the bay. Snorkeling here can be excellent, often with large schools of black-striped salemas, sea lions and the ubiquitous turtles.

### **(PM) Buccaneers' Cove/ Espumilla Beach (Santiago Island):**

This is an amazing location, featuring the remains of an eroded shoreline that is home to seabirds, fur seals and the playful sea lions. Its different shapes have been made throughout a process caused by erosion of the waves and the wind. Espumilla Beach is a white-sandy beach in James Bay and is a popular place among visitors. There are mangroves and a small palo santo forest that lead to salty-water lagoons that are home to wading birds such as flamingos. In the upper dunes are a nesting site for sea turtles. A good place to snorkel to see rays.

*(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, & Accommodations, Coral I or II)*

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## **DEPARTURE:**

### **(AM) Black Turtle Cove (Santa Cruz Island):**

Here we can find four species of mangrove in the extensive tidal lagoon system that stretches for almost a mile inland. During our panga ride through the labyrinth we will spot many turtles, herons of several species, sharks and rays. The experience is otherworldly and seems to transport us back to the beginning of time.

### **(PM) Baltra Island Airport:**

Your journey ends at the Baltra Airport, for your return flight to mainland Ecuador—where you can continue on to your next Avanti destination!

*(Breakfast, Coral I or II)*

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