



## ***M/V ECLIPSE 5 – NIGHT ITINERARY***



### ***SATURDAY ARRIVAL***

- Arrival at the airport in Baltra & transfer to the dock
- Check-in to your cabin
- Introductory briefing & safety drill
- Lunch
- Dry landing at North Seymour
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Sunday's program
- 20:00 Welcome cocktail
- 20:15 Dinner



North Seymour may very well be the perfect introduction to the Galapagos Islands. Although the island is characterized by arid vegetation, fauna abounds and you will soon find yourself surrounded by sea lions, blue footed boobies, marine iguanas, frigates and more. With some luck you may even get to see land iguanas as well. **Difficulty level: Moderate.**

### ***SUNDAY***

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Dry landing and excursion at South Plaza Island
- 11:30 Back on board and lunch
- 15:00 Wet landing and excursion at Santa Fe Island
- 16:30 Swimming and snorkeling from the beach or kayak or panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Monday's program
- 20:00 Dinner



South Plaza Island, although quite small, is actually home to a large *Opuntia* cacti forest, land iguanas and one of the largest sea lion colonies in the central region of the archipelago. An endemic plant, *Sesuvium*, inhabits this island and is a great climate indicator as its color is a greenish-yellowish during the rainy season and a bright red during the dry season. You will also be able to see Nazca boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, other kinds of sea birds as well as different types of finches. **Difficulty level: Moderate.**

Formed by uplifting, rather than by a volcano, Santa Fe is known for having one of the most beautiful coves in all the Galapagos. Some of the island's endemic species include the Galapagos Hawk, Galapagos Snake, rice rats, different types of finches, and the Galapagos Mockingbird. The visit includes a hike on a trail past salt bushes where Galapagos hawks as well as the Santa Fe land iguanas tend to roam. Playful sea lions will usually accompany swimmers and snorkelers during beach time. **Difficulty level: Moderate.**



## **MONDAY**

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Wet landing and excursion at Punta Pitt, San Cristobal Island.  
Snorkeling, kayaking and panga ride opportunities
- 11:30 Back on board and lunch
- 15:00 Disembark at Cerro Brujo for excursion, beach activities, snorkeling, and panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Tuesday's program
- 20:00 Dinner



Punta Pitt is composed of volcanic bluff substrate and is located on the eastern tip of San Cristobal Island. This is the only site in Galapagos where one may have the opportunity to see all 3 species of boobies and both species of frigates. Make sure you keep your eyes peeled as the Red Footed Booby is not as easy to spot because they prefer to nest in areas of thick brush. You can also enjoy kayaking, snorkeling and panga rides at Punta Pitt. **Difficulty level: Moderate to difficult.**



Located on the north coast of San Cristobal Island, this eroding tough cone offers a fantastic landscape as well as wonderful swimming, snorkeling and panga ride experiences. Cerro Brujo's gorgeous beach is also home to many sea lions and it's also the first coast where Charles Darwin first stepped foot on in the Archipelago! You will also see a beautiful lagoon used by the locals of Baquerizo Moreno Port for salt mining as well as two different species of halophytes (rare plants that grow in soils with a high salt content) **Difficulty level: Easy to moderate.**



## **TUESDAY**

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Dry landing and excursion on Floreana Island, visits to the Baroness's outlook point and Post Office followed by snorkeling or kayak
- 11:30 Back on board and lunch
- 15:00 Punta Cormorant & Champion with snorkeling, kayak or panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Tuesday's program
- 20:00 Dinner

Floreana is one of the Galapagos most famous, or shall we say, "infamous" of islands due to many strange stories regarding past settlers. There are many wonderful and diverse sites to visit including Post Office Bay and the "Baroness's Viewing Point". Marine life also abounds in Floreana's coastal regions making it a fantastic site for snorkeling. Flamingos also populate the island and may be seen during your visit.

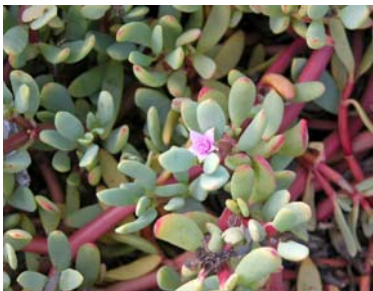




The Baroness's Viewing Point is the perfect place to take in the special environment that defines Floreana, and a great spot to talk and ponder regarding the intriguing history of the Baroness and her three lovers! **Difficulty level: Easy.**

In the 18th century whalers passing through the islands placed a wooden barrel on Floreana Island for use as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. This is one of the archipelago's most famous spots. Don't forget to look in your logbook for your postcards! **Difficulty level: Easy.**

A great site for bird-watching, Cormorant Point has a large lagoon where everything from Flamingos to stilts and pintail ducks can be observed. The beach nearby is also quite special and known as: The "Green Beach" named so due to its green color, which comes from a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



### **WEDNESDAY**

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Panga ride to Elizabeth Bay mangroves
- 11:00 Back on board and lunch
- 15:00 Landing at Punta Moreno
- 16:30 Snorkeling or panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Thursday's program
- 20:00 Dinner



Elizabeth Bay is one of the furthest points of the Galapagos that we will visit on our cruise. We will enter a sheltered cove – a wonderful mangrove ecosystem that is a refuge for sea turtles, rays, blue-footed boobies, penguins, herons and more.

**Difficulty level: Easy.**



Moreno Point is located just southwest of Elizabeth Bay on the west coast of Isabela Island and is known for large populations of sea birds which can be appreciated during a panga ride along the striking rocky shores or a hike along path through lava rock leading to tide pools and mangroves. In the tide pools green sea turtles or white-tip sharks can be spotted. **Difficulty level: Moderate to difficult.**

#### **THURSDAY**

06:45 Wake up call

07:00 Breakfast & disembark. Transfer from yacht to Puerto Ayora via panga. Then transfer to Charles Darwin Research Station accompanied by a guide. After a quick yet informative visit to the CDRS, escorted transfer to Baltra airport for departure back to the mainland.