NG &E - Multisport

Grupo San Vicente Galapagos

Galapagos Land Tour: *MULTISPORT PROGRAM*

Express *– Galapagos Adventure Tour*

4 DAYS **3 NIGHTS**

CODE: MA001

Isabela Island

** Hotels depend on the category you choose – see alternatives bellow **
Hotels are subject to availability

TRIP SUMMARY

Day 1 Arrive at **Baltra** – Lunch / Transfer to **Isabela Island**

Day 2 **Isabela Island**:
OPTION 1: ***AM***. Sierra Negra Volcano + Chico Volcano Hike ***PM***. Snorkel in Concha Perla
HIKIING + SNORKEL

OPTION 2*: Full Day: Visit* Cabo Rosa aka. Los Tuneles (extra cost)
NAVIGABLE TOUR + SNORKEL

Day 3 **Isabela**: Kayaks in Puerto Villamil Bay/ Lunch / Humedales Complex
KAYAKING + BIKING

Day 4 Transfer out to **Baltra Airport** / Goodbye Galapagos!

DEAR TRAVELERS:

Please take the time to read thoroughly the following itinerary as many important details and recommendations about the program are explained here. If you should have any questions or concerns after reading this itinerary, please do not hesitate in contacting one of our travel specialists, we will gladly provide you with further information and make any recommendations to make your trip the most suitable possible.

DAY-BY-DAY TRIP ITINERARY

DAY 1 Arrive at **Baltra** Airport / Transfer to **Isabela Island**

*You can arrive to the Galapagos only by flight from either Quito or Guayaquil (air ticket not included). Our English speaking guide will be waiting for you at the airport in **Baltra**, who will then take you to the port of **Puerto Ayora** (Santa Cruz Island) for lunch. Afterwards, we will take the **Public speedboat** to **Isabela Is.** (at 15:00), for approximately two and a half hours. After arriving at Isabela, at the Isabela Island dock, one of our representatives will pick you up to transfer you to the hotel of your choice. On the way to the hotel you will be given instructions for dinner and other activities for the day and the following days.*

*Accommodations in the **hotel class of your choice**.*

DAY 2 Isabela Island:
OPTION 1: Hike Sierra Negra + Chico Volcanoes / Snorkel at Concha Perla
OPTION 2: Full Day: Visit Cabo Rosa aka. Tuneles (extra cost – please ask)

*(This day you may choose **ONE** of the following options)*

OPTION 1: Sierra Negra Volcano + Chico Volcano Hike ***PM***. Snorkel in Concha Perla. *Early in the morning (8:00 am), after breakfast, you will get ready for the **Sierra Negra Volcano hike** (comfortable clothes, walking shoes and a light rain jacket are recommended). Make sure your camera is stored in waterproof bags, wear some sunscreen, bring water, and a hat! A box lunch will be prepared by yourself at the hotel with the foodstuff of your choice. We will then travel approximately 45 minutes by truck or bus to begin the 12 km hike (appx. 4 hours). The hike is long in terms of distance, but not very difficult as the inclines and declines are quite gradual. **There is an option to ride horses for an additional cost, and if interested please let us know beforehand.** Sierra Negra Volcano has the second largest crater in the world, measuring approximately 6 miles in diameter and 300 feet deep. We will reach **Chico Volcano** before heading back, which should provide a spectacular view of the incredible moonlike terrain.*

*Once we get back to the hotel we will take a short break to rest. On the afternoon you will get to do some fine snorkeling in **Concha Perla**. There you can swim with sea lions, colorful varieties of*

fish, and with luck sea turtles and rays. Return to the hotel to rest before heading to dinner at a local restaurant indicated by the guide.

OPTION 2: *Full Day: Visit* Cabo Rosa aka. Tuneles **(extra cost)**
There are two departure times for this tour*, one at 08:00 am with return time at 13:00 pm approx., and one at 11:00 am, with return time at 16:00 pm. approx. The chosen departure time for your tour might vary; hence, you will be notified on the departure time for this day trip on the night before the tour.*

Cabo Rosa aka. Los Tuneles._ *is perhaps one of the most beautiful sights in the archipelago. Continuous volcanic eruptions petrified into tunnel-like lava formations right in the middle of the sea, and crystal clear turquoise water allows an amazing view of marine vegetation and playful sea lions. The tour begins early at 8:00am via speedboat and the first stop is a small islet in the middle of the ocean, home to pelicans, blue-footed boobies, and sea lions.* ***Finados*** *snorkeling site is the next stop, where you can swim next to sea turtles,* ***Tintoreras*** *sharks (endemic to the islands), trumpet fish and surgeonfish. With some luck, eagle and golden rays will come to this site too. Getting to Los* ***Tuneles*** *will take around 1 ½ - 2 hrs. Once there, the speedboat will navigate through various spots in and around the Lava Tunnels. Here you get the chance to do some more snorkeling and enjoy some short walks while observing the landscape and wildlife inhabiting the area.* ***A box lunch*** *on board will be provided for this day. Dinner will be served at the local specified restaurant.*

Accommodations in the ***hotel class of your choice.***

DAY 3 **Isabela Island**: Kayaks in Puerto Villamil / Humedales Bike Ride

After breakfast and depending on the tide, we will make our way to the dock and prepare for the ***kayaking excursion****. After listening to the instructions and safety precautions, and once equipped with lifejackets and oars, we will begin rowing towards along all the seas of Puerto Villamil bay and reaching* ***Tintoreras Islet*** *where we will be able to observe a variety of fauna from our kayaks, including* ***Penguins, Blue-footed Boobies,*** *and* ***Marine Iguanas****. We will make our way up to* ***El Faro*** *before heading back to shore (appx. 2 hours). After this we will return for a well-deserved lunch.*

On the afternoon we will get ready with our ***bikes*** *for a car ride to the Humedales Complex starting point. Our first stop is the* ***Giant Tortoise Breeding Center*** *of Isabela. Here we will be able to see a variety of species of giant tortoises in captivity. We will also hear how this center has successfully been able to breed and raise the giant tortoises in order to preserve many of their endangered subspecies. We will mount on our bikes to the* ***Lava Tunnel****, as well as visits to* ***Mirador Orchilla, Estero de Isabela,*** *and* ***Playa del Amor.*** *After parking our bikes and a short hike we will then reach the 100 meters long and 7 meters high* ***Wall of Tears (Muro de las Lagrimas)****. Between 1946 and 1959 Isabela Island was used as a penal colony by the Ecuadorian government, and the prisoners were obligated to construct this wall out of the sharp and hard volcanic rocks. The name is derived from the arduous work*

and harsh conditions in which the prisoners work and by which many lost their lives. We will get back on our bikes and return to the hotel to rest before heading to dinner.

*Accommodations in the **hotel class of your choice.***

DAY 4 Transfer out to **Baltra Airport** - Goodbye Galapagos!

*On the final day we recommend waking up at 5:00 a.m. to get ready to get to the dock from there we will take the **Public speedboat**, which leaves at 6:00 a.m. (subject to change), to Puerto Ayora (2 hour and a half estimated navigation time).*

*After breakfast at Puerto Ayora we then depart for **Baltra Airport** to catch the returning flights to either Quito or Guayaquil. Our unforgettable experience now ends at **Baltra Airport**.*

***** NOTE **** *Itinerary subject to change without prior warning depending on seasonal changes, weather conditions, and adjustments in policies set by the Galapagos National Park, and other unforeseen circumstances that may arise.*

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **HOTEL SELECTION:** The hotel selection depends on the category of hotel that you choose. Once you choose the hotel class of preference, we will specify to you which hotels are available for the dates of your trip. Hotels are categorized in the following classes: **Economic Class**, **Tourist Class**, **Tourist Superior Class**, and **First Class**. All the hotels we work with have been carefully chosen by us after close inspection. Nature Galapagos & Ecuador is the proud owner of the *Hotel San Vicente Galapagos* (Tourist Class), and *La Laguna Galapagos* (Tourist Superior Class), both of which are located on Isabela and for both the quality of service can be assured.

- **AIRFARE NOT INCLUDED:** The price of the tour does not include air tickets. We will gladly help your with the booking of the ticket from Quito or Guayaquil to Galapagos. You may also book the flights on your own if cheaper. PLEASE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT which island you will arrive and leave from, and if you choose to book your own flight please try to book your arrival in the morning (before 11 am) and your departure in the afternoon (12 PM or after) so that you don't miss any part of the tour. You can book your flight either through TAME, AEROGAL, LAN, or TAME (recommended).

- **RESTAURANTS:** We work with both hotel and local restaurants alike for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. This also depends on the chosen hotel class, as some hotels have

restaurant services, **in which case food will be served on the hotel restaurant**. Meals are served in the "meal of the day" style. In case food is not served at the hotel, the guide will specify the chosen restaurant **(no transfers to and from the restaurants to the hotels are included in the cost of the program. However, distances are all at a minimum walking distance in Galapagos).**

- **LUNCH AND DINNER** during our tours consist on the meal of the day (not a la carte). Most provisions are bought in form the mainland to Galapagos, hence, a limited variety of food can be found. If you require vegetarian meals, let us know ahead of time so we can make all arrangements necessary within the possibilities.

- **GUIDES:** We organize excursion with local naturalist guides for each island (and sometimes for each activity). The guides will accompany you throughout all excursions, give explanations of the islands (flora and fauna) and coordinate the activities each day. Regarding lunch and dinner, the guide will specify the restaurant designated but he will not accompany you during this time. The guide's activities will start and end with each daily excursion. The guide will not go with you on the speedboats between islands either. The guides are certified by the Galapagos National Park - if you feel that their guidance does not meet your expectations, feel free to leave a complaint at the National Park Direction to help improve the quality of service in the islands.

- **PUBLIC SPEEDBOATS:** We recommend that you take a seasickness pill before each ride between islands if you are prone to seasickness. It is also recommended that you carry small plastic bags with you in case of seasickness. The speedboats are not completely covered so please make sure that valuable objects and electronics are stored in a plastic bag. The **guide will not go with you on the speedboats** but a new guide will greet you on the other side. There are no services onboard as the speedboat space is limited and the journey is relatively short. A water taxi ride is sometimes required (depending on the tide) from the dock to the speedboat; the cost is **1 USD** per person and **per ride**. Please, make sure you bring cash in small denominations in case this expense is needed. ***This is a Public service out of our control.***

- **SCHEDULE OF EXCURSIONS:** The schedule of the excursions will be coordinated and determined locally through the guide and those responsible for the operations. The guide will indicate what time each activity will start. The transfers between islands on the public speedboats are the only activities that have fixed departure times.

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS

THE RATE INCLUDES:

- ✓ *Accommodation in selected hotels and rooms*
- ✓ *All meals (breakfast – lunch – dinner)*
- ✓ *All land and sea transportation within the Galapagos during the program*
- ✓ *Bilingual naturalist guides for each island and all activities*
- ✓ *Excursions and visits during the program*
- ✓ *Kayak (boat and rows) and Snorkeling Equipment (mask, fins, tube)*
- ✓ *Bikes for the excursions according to itinerary.*
- ✓ *Transfer Puerto Ayora – Isabela – Puerto Ayora by public speedboat*
- ✓ *Transfer Baltra – Puerto Ayora – Baltra (by truck or by bus depending on group size.*

THE RATE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- × *Air Ticket*
- × *Galapagos National Park Entry Fee - USD $200.00*
- × *Isabela Dock Fee - USD $10.00*
- × *Water taxi from dock to speedboat (Isabela, Santa Cruz Islands - depending on the tide)*
  - ***USD $ 1.00 per person per ride***
- × *Migratory Control Card - **USD $20.00***
- × *Transportation Baltra Airport – Itabaca Channel - **USD 5,00 per person** (subject to change).*
- × *Transportation Itabaca Channel – Baltra Airport - **USD 5,00 per person** (subject to change).*
- × *Extra cost for alternative excursion on Day 2 (OPTION 2)*
- × *Cost of the transfer between the hotels and the restaurants designated for the meals in each island*
- × *Soft-drinks and alcoholic beverages*
- × *Tips.*

Note: Ask about rates with full meals or breakfast only.