**ITINERARY D**

(Thursday - Monday)

**5 days / 4 night**

**Thursday:**
- pm: Interpretation Center & Tijeretas (San Cristobal Island)

**Friday:**
- am: Gardner Bay, Osborn or Gardner Islets (Española Island)
- pm: Suarez Point (Española Island)

**Saturday:**
- am: Post Office (Floreana Island)
- pm: Cormorant Point, Devil’s Crown or Champion (Floreana Island)

**Sunday:**
- am: Charles Darwin Research Station & Highlands Tortoise Reserve (Santa Cruz Island)
- pm: Eden Islet or Ballena Bay (Santa Cruz Island)

**Monday:**
- am: Carrion Point (Santa Cruz Island) ➔ Baltra airport

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**The Galapagos Islands**

**DAY BY DAY**

Our Galapagos itineraries offer unforgettable experiences, with our weekly departures allowing you to experience 3, 4, 7, and up to 14 nights tours including: full board, two daily guided excursions with optional activities such as snorkeling, kayaking, dinghy rides and our new feature daily diving tours for license-holding divers.

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**5 days / 4 nights**

D SOUTH

**Thursday - Monday**

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**Monday:**
- am: Carrion Point (Santa Cruz Island) ➔ Baltra airport
DAY 1 - THURSDAY
am – San Cristobal Airport
Departure from Quito or Guayaquil to San Cristobal in a 2-hour flight. Upon arrival, passengers are picked up at the airport by our naturalist guides and taken on a ten-minute bus drive to the pier to board the Galapagos Legend.

pm – Interpretation Center & Frigatebird Hill (San Cristobal Island)
The interpretation center is full of interesting information and offers the perfect overview to the formation of Galapagos, its significance in the world, threats and conservation efforts. Followed by a hike to Frigatebird Hill (Cerro Tijeretas) we will have great looks at both species of frigatebird, with the bonus of a beautiful view of the bay below.
Difficulty level: easy / intermediate
Type of terrain: flat/stairs
Duration: 1-hour visit / 1-hour walk

DAY 2 - FRIDAY
am – Gardner Bay, Gardner & Osborn islets (Española Island)
One of the most stunning beaches in all of Galapagos. The long, white, sandy beach, lapped by turquoise waters is home to a colony of Galapagos sea lions, indifferent to the humans that walk amongst them. The Hood mockingbirds, endemic to this particular island, will be eager to inspect the visitors and satisfy their innate curiosity. Darwin’s finches may also join the throng including the reclusive warbler finch. We can also snorkel here from the beach, in the shallows of the bay.
Difficulty level: easy
Type of terrain: sandy
Duration: 1-hour walk / 1-hour snorkeling

pm – Punta Suarez (Española Island)
One of the highlight visits of the trip. Punta Suarez seems to have everything - a naturalist’s paradise. A slew of marine iguanas and sea lions greet us at the landing site from where our walk continues with close encounters of boobies, endemic lizards, gulls and even a dramatic blow hole. The oldest extant island in the archipelago it is our only opportunity to commune with the endemic waved albatross during their breeding season between April and December. With luck, we can watch their complex courtship display.
Difficulty level: difficult
Type of terrain: rocky
Duration: 2½-hour walk
DAY 3 - SATURDAY

am – Post Office Bay (Floreana Island)
A very short walk from the beach leads us to the famous Post Office Barnel. Claimed to have been first setup in 1793 by Captain James Colnett it remains the oldest functioning post office in the Pacific. The system was that whalers and fur sealers would leave addressed letters in the barrel to be picked up by homeward bound colleagues. In the spirit of maintaining tradition visitors today will often take letters and hand-deliver them in their home countries.

Difficulty level: easy
Type of terrain: sandy
Duration: 30-minute walk / 1-hour snorkeling

pm – Punta Cormoran / Devil’s Crown / Champion (Floreana Island)

Punta Cormoran:
On arriving, the observant visitor will notice that olivine, a volcanic crystal, has proffered a subtle green hue on the dark beach. Our walk takes us past island-endemic Scalesia plants to a large, shallow, lagoon often inhabited by a variable number of shockingly pink greater flamingoes. We continue through a forest of palo santo trees to arrive at a powdery white beach, a nesting area of green turtles. As we paddle barefoot in the shallow water we will spot diamond stingrays and white-tipped reef sharks.

Devil’s Crown:
One of the favourite snorkeling sites in the islands. Devil’s Crown, an eroded volcanic cone, is home to an abundance of fish and marine animals. We will swim with big schools of yellow-tailed surgeonfish, salemas and creolefish and with luck may spot turtles, spotted eagle rays, parrotfish, and even hammerhead sharks! The jagged ‘crown’ is a roosting area for boobies, noddies, tropicbirds and frigates.

Champion Islet:
A truly magical place to snorkel. We would expect to see here green turtles, harmless white-tipped reef sharks, an impressive diversity and abundance of fish as well as some playful sea lions often approaching very close, itching to show off their prowess in the water. Champion Islet also happens to be the last remaining home of the island-endemic Floreana mockingbird which we may be lucky enough to see from our pangas.

Difficulty level: easy
Type of terrain: sandy & flat
Duration: 1-hour walk / 1-hour snorkeling

DAY 4 - SUNDAY

am – Charles Darwin Research Station & Fausto Llerena Breeding Center (Santa Cruz Island)

Dry landing. In the mountains of Galapagos is possible to admire different kind of birds, such as: tree and ground finches, vermilion flycatchers, paint-billed crakes, yellow warblers, and cattle egrets usually standing on the tortoises’ shell. The journey to the reserve offers great opportunities to see the contrasts that the island offers in reference to the variety of ecosystems. The road goes from the coast through the agricultural zone and straight up to the dense humid forests. Often, Galapagos giant tortoises are also seen on the way, wandering through pastures in the paddocks. This spot is a birdwatchers’ haven, since almost every land bird present on the island lives or migrates here.

Difficulty level: easy
Type of terrain: flat & muddy (depending on season)
Duration: 45-minute drive / 1 ½-hour walk

pm – Eden Islet or Ballena Bay (Santa Cruz)

The perfect spot to enjoy our water activities of snorkeling, kayaking or the glass-bottom boat. Expect to see lots of fish species including king angelfish, surgeonfish, parrotfish, damsels, rays and sharks. From the land portion of the visit there will be sea lions and basking marine iguanas with herons and turtles in the mangrove areas. We might even discover some antique ceramic relics left behind by previous settlements.

Difficulty level: intermediate
Type of terrain: rocky
Duration: 1-hour walk / 1-hour snorkeling
DAY 5 - MONDAY

am – Carrion Point (Santa Cruz Island)

Dinghy ride at the entry of the Itabaca Channel in a lagoon with turquoise water, where we can observe sharks, blue-footed boobies, and different kinds of fish.

Difficulty level: easy
Type of terrain: none
Duration: 1-hour dinghy ride

pm – Baltra Island Airport

After the visit, passengers will be transferred to the airport for their return flight to Guayaquil or Quito.