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ENCHANTED GALAPAGOS LODGE EXTENSION

Trip Summary

HIGHLIGHTS

- Bike to a secluded white sand beach and swim with a host of Galapagos animals
- Relax after your busy boat trip at a lush and tranquil highlands lodge
- Hike to El Puntudo, nesting site of the Galapagos Petrel
- Connect with local artisans including artists, brewers, chocolatiers, and cheese makers
- Appreciate organic farm-to-table Ecuadorian cuisine and signature drinks

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TRIP AT A GLANCE

Location:

Santa Cruz, Galapagos

Activities:

Multisport

Trip Overview

If you're just not ready to make your way back home from Exploring the Galapagos Islands by Yacht and crave a more relaxed and local ending to your trip, consider spending a few days in the highlands of Santa Cruz at the Enchanted Galapagos Lodge! After spending a full week cruising the islands to see the very best of the incredible flora and fauna that the Galapagos is known for, settle into a slower-paced opportunity to dive deeper into the local flavor of Santa Cruz Island. You'll be awed by its beautiful lagoons and beaches as well as its lively towns and talented artisans. All while being pampered by the organic farm-to-table cuisine and breezy poolside hammocks of your comfortable highland lodging. Maximum group size: 13

What's Included

- 1 AGC guide based on group size and local Galapagos guides
- Transportation to the [Enchanted Galapagos Lodge](#) and back to the Baltra airport
- All meals from lunch on the first day through breakfast on the last
- Three nights lodging in a beautiful and tranquil highlands lodge with airy and comfortable rooms and delicious cuisine
- All activities on the itinerary

What's not included: Travel to and from Quito, alcoholic beverages (other than the wine tastings which are included), guide gratuities, and travel insurance.

OUR ITINERARY

Below is the itinerary we have planned for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

DAY 1

At Baltra you will be met by your local guide who will accompany you to the [Enchanted Galapagos Lodge](#), your base for the next 3 nights. The lodge offers an opportunity to experience the Galapagos in a more restful, luxurious, and local way. With its airy rooms, rejuvenating services and experiences, and local organic cuisine, you can regain your land legs in style. Upon arrival at the lodge, you will have some time to relax and rest before lunch. After lunch we hop on our bikes and begin our (downhill and paved) 8km bike ride to El Garrapatero Beach. This is a great opportunity to observe the change in vegetation from the lush midlands to the arid lowlands. If biking is a barrier for you, there will be an option to be driven to the beach. Once we arrive at the beach, we will walk along a path that brings us to El Garrapatero. This is a fantastic beach for swimming, relaxing, and observing flora and fauna. After a short interpretive walk, we'll get in our kayaks and go for a kayak around the bay. Afterwards return to the lodge. Dinner at the lodge (B, L, D)



DAY 2

After breakfast we'll depart on our hike to El Puntudo. This is one of the highest elevations on the islands, where we can enjoy a fantastic view of the island and surrounding areas. This hike takes about 3 hours round trip through vegetation typical of the highlands. This is also the nesting place for Galapagos Petrels, birds that can only be seen while feeding in the ocean during the day. Following our hike, we'll return to the lodge for lunch. After a delicious meal we will visit a local wood carver who makes beautiful wooden animal figurines. He will share his story, process, and materials with us; including a chance to try our hands at carving! Afterwards we'll continue down to the lively town of Puerto Ayora where we'll have a chance to explore and stop in at many local businesses such as a local chocolatier, an art gallery, and a local brewery. (B, L, D)



DAY 3

Today we'll enjoy a free day to explore Santa Cruz on our own, and options abound. Perhaps a little relaxation before your upcoming travel sounds good, in which case you may choose a refreshing dip in the outdoor pool followed by a soak in the hot tub. Scheduling a massage with a well-trained and certified masseuse is also an option. If you prefer more exploration, you may opt to visit the artisanal cheese factory at the lodge, souvenir shop in town, or walk to the beautiful Tortuga Bay beach! Biking or an additional nature walk can also be arranged. Your AGC and local guides will be sure to assist each traveler with planning their perfect last day. Transportation in and out of town is included. (B, L, D)



DAY 4

In the morning we will be escorted to the Baltra airport to catch our flight to Quito. If you are departing from Quito today, there will be restaurants with lunch available at the airport, and you can plan flights out after 7PM. There are overnight flights departing from Quito, or we also recommend booking a night at the Wyndham Quito Airport and flying out the next day. (B)