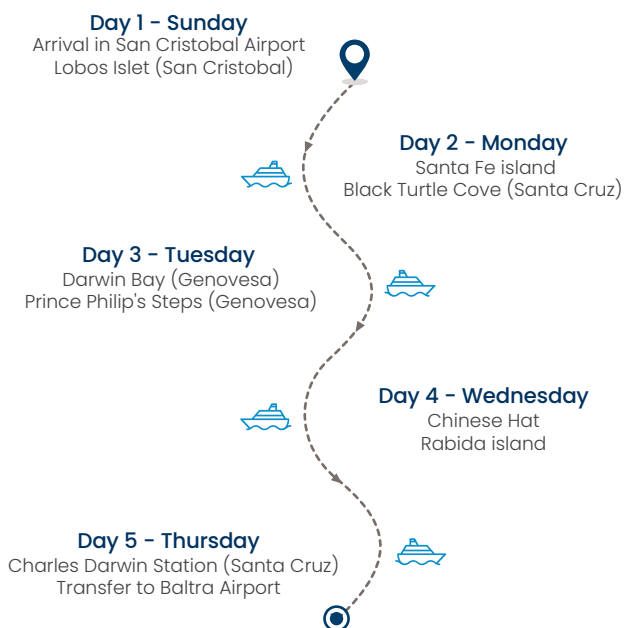


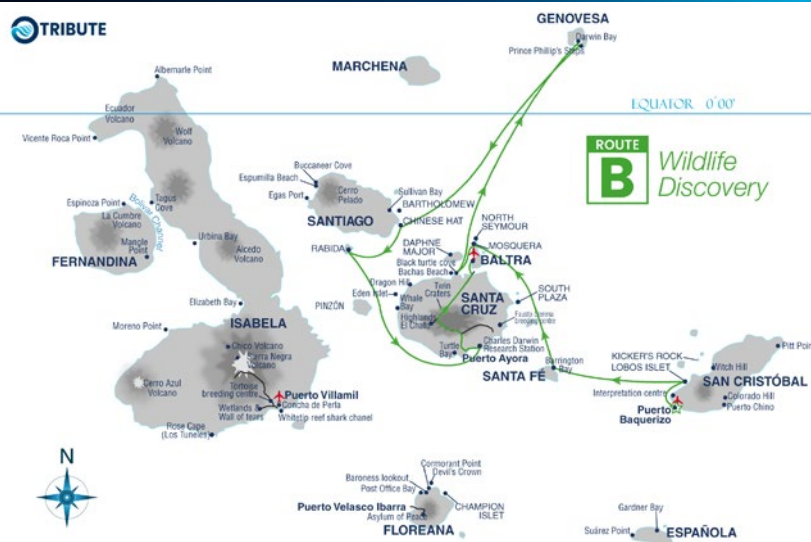


ITINERARY B | **5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS**
Sunday to Thursday

Wildlife Discovery



ROUTE



This curated voyage through the Central and Northern Galapagos blends close wildlife encounters with breathtaking landscapes. Walk among sea lions, seabirds, and giant cacti, then sail north to Genovesa for world-class birdwatching. Explore volcanic wonders like Chinese Hat and the red shores of Rabida, with vibrant snorkeling throughout. Your journey concludes at the Charles Darwin Research Station, where conservation and discovery meet in the heart of the archipelago.

HIGH CHANCE OF SPOTTING:



Waved Albatross



Blue & Red footed boobies



Galapagos Giant Tortoise



Galapagos Sea Lion



Great & American Frigatebird



Land Iguana

DAY 1 - Sunday

AM: Arrival at San Cristobal & Welcome Aboard

Your journey begins as you arrive at San Cristobal Airport, where you'll be welcomed by an Oniric Cruises guide who will assist with Galapagos entry formalities, including the National Park entrance fee (unless pre-arranged). After a short transfer to the harbor, you'll board the Galapagos Tribute, your elegant home at sea.

A warm welcome from the captain and crew awaits as you settle into your suite and enjoy a delicious lunch on board, surrounded by your first views of this pristine archipelago.

PM: Lobos Islet (San Cristobal)

Your first excursion leads to Lobos Islet, a small, protected haven for sea lions, blue-footed boobies, and great frigatebirds. Here, you may witness tender interactions between sea lion pups and their mothers or marvel at the amusing courtship rituals of boobies and frigates during the breeding season.

After your walk, take to the water for your first snorkeling session. The protected channel between San Cristobal and Lobos Islet offers a calm, rich environment where you may spot tropical fish, marine iguanas, and even juvenile sea lions darting playfully underwater.



DAY 2 - Monday

AM: Santa Fe Island

Nestled in the heart of the archipelago, Santa Fe is known for its towering prickly pear cacti, which create a dramatic backdrop for encounters with Galapagos hawks, land iguanas, and inquisitive sea lions.

A short trail brings you through the cactus forest and offers panoramic coastal views. Back at Barrington Bay, you may snorkel in crystalline waters teeming with reef fish, stingrays, turtles, and white-tipped reef sharks. Or, for a different perspective, kayak along the shore where cliffs, coves, and submerged lava structures reveal hidden marine life just below the surface.

PM: Black Turtle Cove (Santa Cruz)

This tranquil lagoon, surrounded by red, white, and black mangroves, is best explored by dinghy, offering a serene and silent experience. Keep your camera ready for Pacific green turtles surfacing between mangrove roots, spotted eagle rays gliding in formation, and baby reef sharks navigating shallow inlets.

The calm waters and dense vegetation of Black Turtle Cove reveal an ecosystem in balance a vital nursery for many marine species and a photographer's paradise.

DAY 3 - Tuesday

AM: Darwin Bay (Genovesa Island)

Overnight navigation brings you to the remote northern island of Genovesa, a partially submerged volcanic caldera and a crown jewel of birdwatching. Darwin Bay offers a compact but vibrant display of Galapagos biodiversity, from red-footed boobies nesting in the mangroves to yellow warblers, finches, and sea lions dotting the tide line.

Following your nature walk, you may choose to snorkel in the protected bay where sightings of hammerhead sharks, jacks, and turtles are not uncommon or kayak along the towering volcanic walls of the inner caldera for an unforgettable perspective of this geological marvel.

PM: Prince Philip's Steps (Genovesa Island)

Climb the lava stairway at Prince Philip's Steps to reach a plateau that is home to one of the largest colonies of red-footed and Nazca boobies. This site is also your best chance to spot the short-eared owl, which stalks prey silently from the ground.

The surrounding cliffs are alive with seabirds in flight, creating an unforgettable symphony of sound and color in this remote sanctuary once favored by royalty.



DAY 4 - Wednesday

AM: Chinese Hat Islet

This young volcanic islet, named for its distinctive cone shape, is a fascinating site of geological and ecological rebirth. Pioneer plant species grow among lava fields, supported by sea lions, marine iguanas, and Galapagos hawks that enrich the soil.

Snorkeling here is superb, with excellent chances of swimming alongside Galapagos penguins, sea lions, and green sea turtles. The shallow, protected bay allows for long, unhurried exploration of lava tunnels and coral structures teeming with life.

PM: Rabida Island

With its distinctive red sand beach, Rabida offers an otherworldly landscape framed by cliffs and mangroves that shelter songbirds and brown pelican colonies. Inland, a brackish lagoon may attract American flamingos, while coastal paths lead to stunning views over the bay.

After the guided hike, enjoy a snorkeling excursion off the beach, where parrotfish, rays, and reef sharks are frequently encountered. Alternatively, opt for a kayaking adventure along Rabida's vibrant coastline, paddling past rocky outcrops and caves carved by the sea.



DAY 5 – Thursday

AM: Charles Darwin Research Station (Santa Cruz Island)

Disembark at Puerto Ayora for a visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station, a center of conservation, science, and education. Walk through shaded trails past native gardens and visit the giant tortoise breeding center, where you'll witness various stages of these iconic reptiles' lives true ambassadors of resilience and longevity.

The center offers meaningful insight into the history and challenges of protecting this remarkable archipelago. After the visit, you will be transferred across the island to Baltra Airport for your return flight to mainland Ecuador, closing your journey with a deep appreciation for the Galapagos Islands and their conservation legacy.



TRIBUTE

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