

# **ITINERARY AT GLANCE**

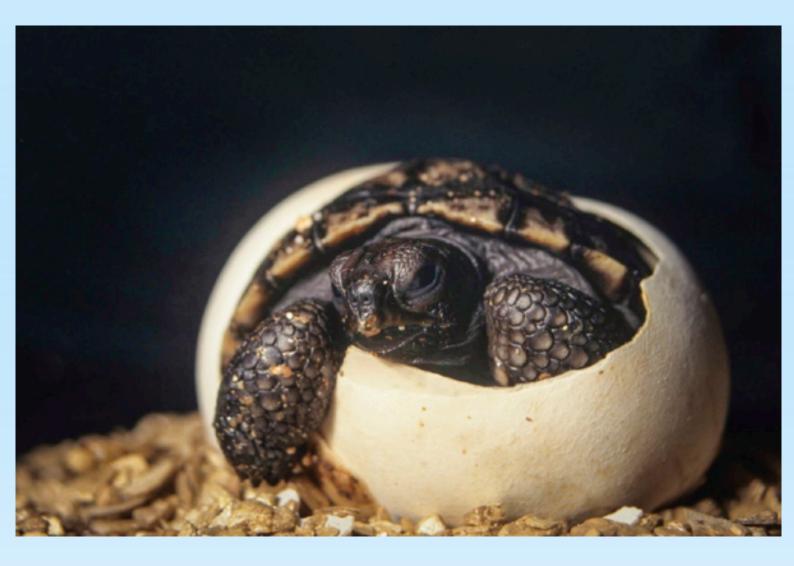
- DAY 1 | ARRIVE INTO BALTRA CHARLES DARWIN CENTER
- DAY 2 TORTUGA BAY HIGHLANDS
- DAY 3 DAILY NAVIGATION TOUR PINZON
- DAY 4 DAILY NAVIGATION TOUR SANTA FE
- DAY 5 TRANSFER OUT



# **ARRIVAL IN BALTRA - CHARLES DARWIN CENTER**

UPON ARRIVAL AT BALTRA AIRPORT, A GUIDE WILL MEET YOU, HELP YOU COLLECT YOUR LUGGAGE, AND ESCORT YOU TO YOUR HOTEL. ON THE FIRST DAY, YOU WILL VISIT THE BREEDING CENTER WHERE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE A VARIETY OF SPECIES OF GIANT TORTOISES IN CAPTIVITY. YOU WILL WATCH THEIR DIFFERENT SIZE AND AGES, AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ISLANDS.

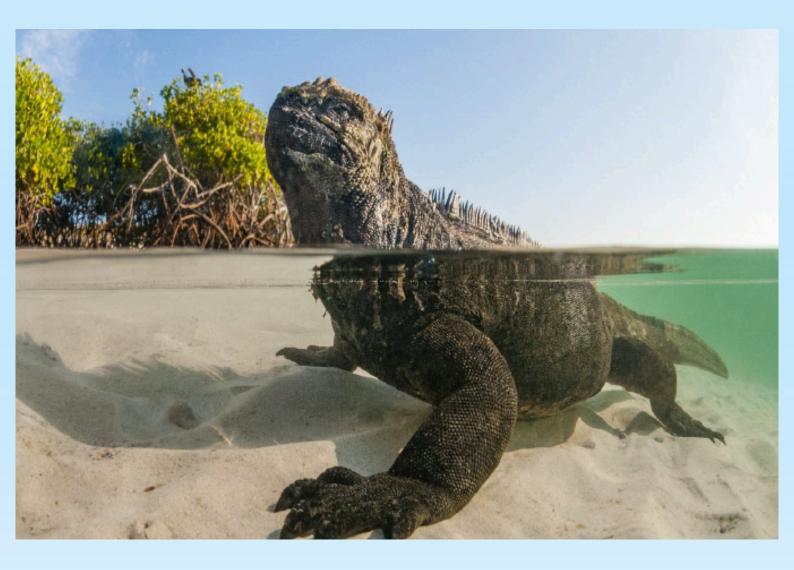
POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES:	WALKING
DIFFICULTY:	EASY
HIGHLIGHTS & ANIMALS:	GIAN TORTOISE, LAVA LIZARDS, MARINE IGANAS



# TORTUGA BAY BEACH

HOME TO THE LONGEST BEACH IN THE GALAPAGOS OFFERS A PERFECT SPOT TO RELAX AND ENJOY THE ISLAND'S NATURAL BEAUTY. A 45-MINUTE WALK FROM PUERTO AYORA TAKES YOU TO THIS PRISTINE DESTINATION. THE FIRST STRETCH OF BEACH, WITH ITS STRONG CURRENTS, IS POPULAR AMONG SURFERS, WHILE FURTHER ALONG LIES PLAYA MANSA, A SHELTERED LAGOON IDEAL FOR SWIMMING AND SOAKING UP THE TRANQUIL ATMOSPHERE. ALONG THE WAY, KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MARINE IGUANAS BASKING ON THE ROCKS. AFTER YOUR VISIT. RETURN TO PUERTO AYORA.

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES:	WALKING, SNORKELING
DIFFICULTY:	MODERATE
HIGHLIGHTS & ANIMALS:	MARINE IGUANA, LONG WHITE SANDY BEACH



## HIGHLANDS

THE NATIVE SCALESIA FOREST OF EL CHATO TORTOISE RESERVE IS THE BEST PLACE TO SEARCH FOR GALAPAGOS GIANT TORTOISES IN THEIR MOST AUTHENTIC SETTING! DESPITE THE INTERESTING BREEDING CENTERS – WHERE YOU ARE GUARANTEED TO FIND TORTOISES IN THEIR CORRALS – THERE IS NOTHING BETTER THAN TO OBSERVE THEM IN THEIR WILD ENVIRONMENT. THOUGH IT CAN BE QUITE MOIST AND MUDDY, YOUR VISIT MAY TURN INTO AN ADVENTUROUS QUEST WHEN THEY HAVE LEFT THEIR FAVORITE POND SILENTLY. THE TWIN CRATERS ARE FOUND ON EITHER SIDE OF THE ROAD LEADING TO PUERTO AYORA. THESE IMPRESSIVE FORMATIONS ARE NOT REALLY VOLCANIC CRATERS AND WERE FORMED BY MAGMA DOMES, WHICH HARDENED ON THE OUTSIDE WHILE THE LAVA CONTINUED FLOWING INSIDE, LEAVING HUGE AND EMPTY MAGMA CHAMBERS THAT EVENTUALLY COLLAPSED, LEAVING TWO LARGE HOLES. THE CRATERS LIE WITHIN A LUSH SCALESIA CLOUD FOREST, A HIGH-ALTITUDE PLANT SPECIES THAT ARE ENDEMIC TO THE GALAPAGOS. THIS AREA IS ALSO HOME TO THE CARPENTER FINCH, WHICH USES TOOLS TO SEARCH FOR FOOD. THERE MAY ALSO BE OPPORTUNITIES TO SEE THE VERMILLION FLYCATCHER, A SMALL RED-BREASTED BIRD

#### **POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES:**

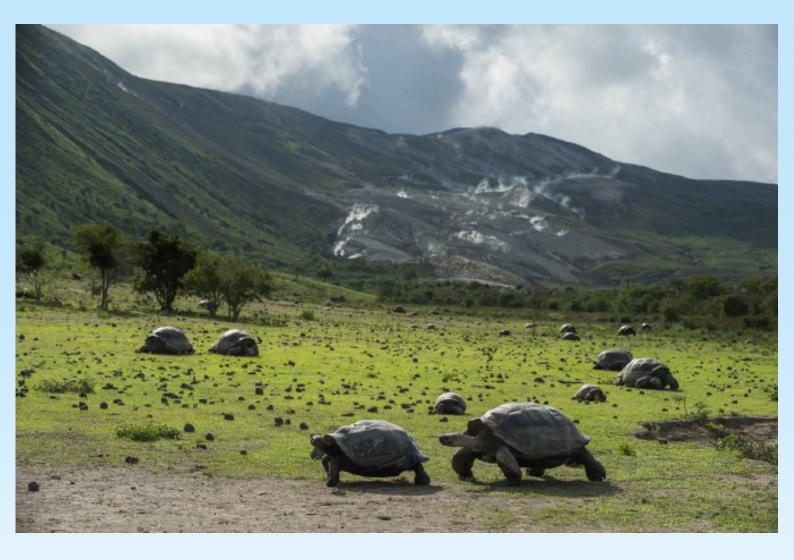
### WALKING

MODERATE

**DIFFICULTY:** 

**HIGHLIGHTS & ANIMALS:** 

GIAN TORTOISE, LAVA TUNNEL



## **PINZON ISLAND**

BREAKFAST/ AFTER SAILING, YOU ARRIVE AT PENGUIN BAY, WHICH IS THE NAME GIVEN TO PINZÓN BAY, FEATURING CRYSTAL-CLEAR WATERS WHERE YOU CAN OBSERVE ABUNDANT MARINE LIFE. HERE, YOU WILL SEE SEA LIONS, TURTLES, WHITE-TIP SHARKS, RAYS, AND VARIOUS REEF FISH SUCH AS PARROTFISH AND OCCASIONALLY PENGUINS. THE TRIP WILL MOVE SLIGHTLY OFF THE COAST OF PINZÓN TO THE SECOND SNORKELING SPOT TO ENJOY THE MARINE ANIMALS AGAIN. YOU CAN ALSO ENJOY SOME FISHING TIME ONBOARD AFTER 30 MINUTES OF SAILING; YOU WILL REACH LA FE, A BEACH LOCATED ON THE SOUTHEAST COAST OF SANTA CRUZ WITH WHITE SAND AND PRISTINE WATERS WHERE YOU CAN CONTINUE SNORKELING OR JUST RELAX. THE TOUR CONCLUDES BACK IN PUERTO AYORA./DINNER

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES:	SNORKELING
DIFFICULTY:	MODARATE
HIGHLIGHTS & ANIMALS:	SEA LIONS, COLORFUL FISH, RAYS, SEA TURTLE AND WHITE-TIPPED SHARKS



### SANTA FE ISLAND

BREAKFAST / MORNING DEPARTURE TO SANTA FE ISLAND, WITH A 45-MINUTE NAVIGATION. BEGIN WITH A PANGA RIDE ALONG THE CLIFFS TO SPOT SEABIRDS LIKE BLUE-FOOTED BOOBIES, SEAGULLS, AND TERNS IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT. ENJOY SNORKELING AT TWO VIBRANT SPOTS, WHERE ENCOUNTERS WITH PLAYFUL SEA LIONS AND COLORFUL FISH ARE COMMON, IN WATERS 3-4 METERS DEEP, RICH IN MARINE LIFE. CONTINUE TO PLAYA ESCONDIDA, A SHORT 25-MINUTE RIDE FROM SANTA FE, KNOWN FOR ITS CRYSTAL-CLEAR WATERS AND SCENIC BEAUTY. HERE, YOU CAN SNORKEL, SWIM, AND TAKE A WALK TO OBSERVE MARINE IGUANA COLONIES. RELAXATION TIME INCLUDES SUNBATHING AND SWIMMING. SNACKS, BEVERAGES, AND LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED ON BOARD. AFTERNOON RETURN TO SANTA CRUZ FOR DINNER.

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES:	SNORKELING
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**DIFFICULTY:** 

MODARATE

HIGHLIGHTS & ANIMALS: SEA TURTLE, MANTA RAYS, WHITE- TIPPED REEF SHARKS



# **TRANSFER OUT**

YOU WILL BE TAKEN FROM YOUR HOTEL TO BALTRA AIRPORT.