



# Galapagos Cruise

Motor Catamaran Queen of Galapagos - 5 Days Cruise



## Characteristics:

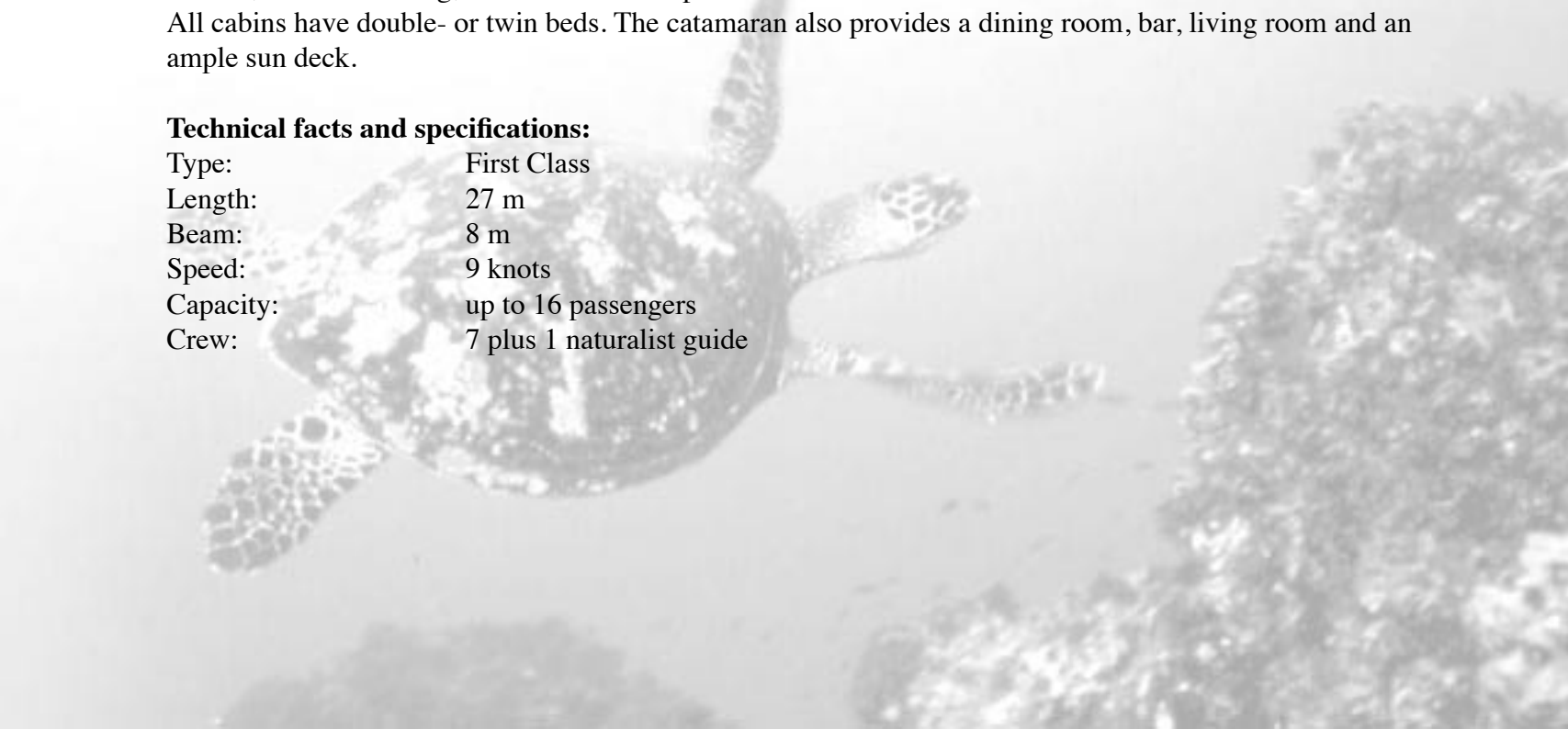
Simply one of the most elegant and comfortable catamaran cruises operated on Galápagos.

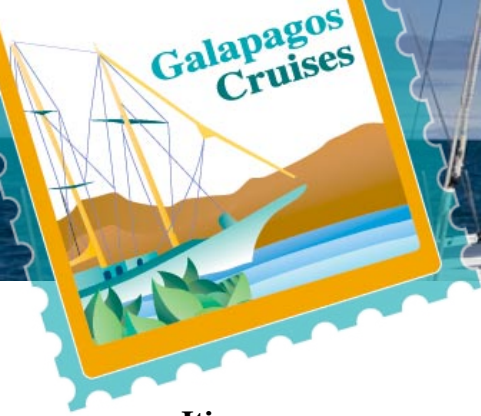
There can be accommodated 16 passengers in comfortable double cabins, each with private bathroom, shower, air conditioning, TV and DVD and panorama windows.

All cabins have double- or twin beds. The catamaran also provides a dining room, bar, living room and an ample sun deck.

## Technical facts and specifications:

Type:	First Class
Length:	27 m
Beam:	8 m
Speed:	9 knots
Capacity:	up to 16 passengers
Crew:	7 plus 1 naturalist guide





## Itinerary:

### Monday: Flight to Galápagos / Island San Cristóbal – Lobos Island

In the morning you will fly to the Galapagos Island San Cristobal from which you will start your cruise. After paying the National Park Entrance Fee, a crew member will accompany you to your cruise ship or yacht which anchors at Baquerizo Moreno harbour. After arrival on board, check- in and explanations in general, lunch will be served. Afterwards you will start with your first excursion.

In the afternoon you will visit Lobos Island, which is located in front of San Cristobal Island. It is a seasonal nesting location for the blue footed booby and frigate birds. You also should enjoy swimming and snorkelling with sea lions in this calm bay. **-/L/D**

### Tuesday: South Plaza Island - Island Santa Fé

Today you will explore South Plaza Island, the more southernly island of the both Plaza Island, located in the east of Island Santa Cruz. On this island so full of life you will encounter colonies of sea lions and land iguanas. On the steep banks it is possible to see a great number of birds such as nesting tropic birds and fork-tailed seagulls. But most of all, enjoying the beautiful view from atop the steep banks or strolling along the base of the cliff is an extremely pleasurable experience. The Opuntia cactus and red coral bushes grow here and the vegetation changes colour according to the seasons of the year.

In the afternoon you visit Santa Fe Island, a small rocky peninsula which is covered by little Palo Santo trees and by up to 6m high opuntia cacti. Inhabitants of this island are a specific species of large yellow land iguanas, the Galápagos buzzard, some blue footed boobies and pelicans. After the hike you can swim or snorkel in the bay in company of sea lions and marine turtles. Finally you can observe the tropic underwater world. **B/L/D**



### **Wednesday: Española Island / Gardener Bay – Suarez Point**

Española is the southernmost and oldest island of the Galápagos archipelago. Because of its isolated position you can explore a lot of endemic wildlife. Gardener Bay is on the eastern shore with turquoise shot coloured water and a magnificent beach. Around the small islets nearby, snorkelers will find lots of fish and sometimes turtles and sharks. The bay is also frequented by a transient colony of sea lions which like to swim with you. Birds, like the endemic Hood-Mockingbird and different species of Darwin finches, are omnipresent.

In the afternoon you will have an excursion to Point Suarez which is one of the most outstanding wildlife areas of the archipelago, with a long list of species found along its cliffs and sand or pebble beaches. In addition to five species of nesting seabirds there are the curious and bold Española Island mockingbirds, Galapagos doves and Galapagos hawks. Several types of reptiles, including the marine iguana and the oversized lava lizard, are unique to this island. When heavy swells are running, Point Suarez is also the site of a spectacular blowhole, with thundering spray shooting 30 yards into the air. The walkabout on a stony path is about 2km (duration about 3 hours). **B/L/D**

### **Thursday: Floreana Island / Cormorant Point – Post Office Bay**

Floreana Island is perceived as one of the most exotic Island of the archipelago. At Cormorant Point you land on a green olivine sand beach. Following a 100 m long path you will soon reach a lagoon with flamingoes, white-checked pintail ducks and other shorebirds.

Afterwards you will visit the famous Post Office Bay which keeps the legendary post barrel that whalers historically used to post their mail in. Nowadays you can leave a letter and hope that it will make its destination via another tourist. **B/L/D**

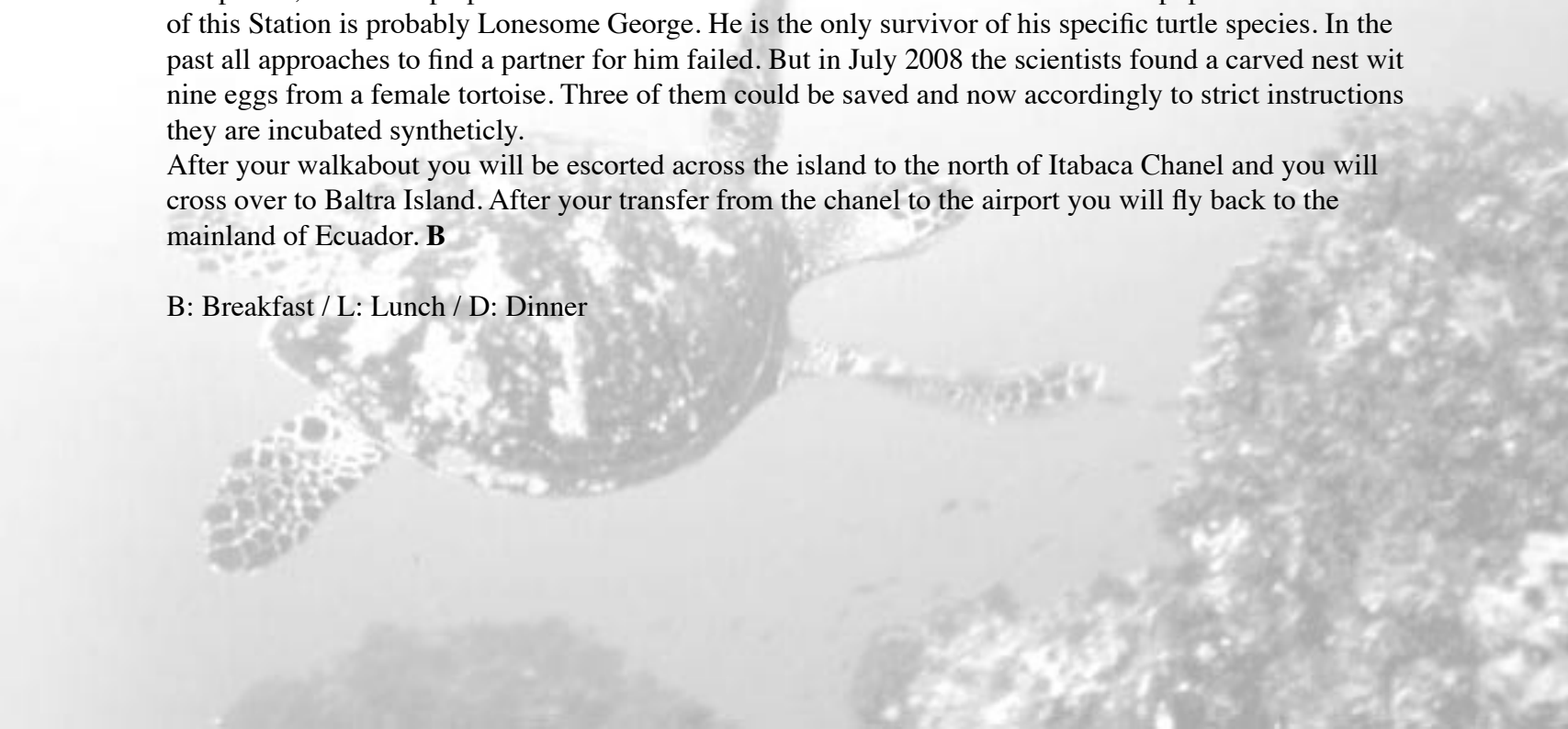


**Friday: Island Santa Cruz / Charles Darwin Station – Baltra Island / flight back to mainland**

Today you anchor at the harbour of Puerto Ayora on Island Santa Cruz. Beside its rank as homestay for sea lions and pelicans, the marina is a popular starting point for round-the-world-yachtsman. The island itself has come to be both touristic and scientific center of the archipeleago. The Charles Darwin Research Station and the Galapagos National Park offices are based on Santa Cruz Island. The station encompasses an information centre, a museum, a library and a tortoise breeding station. Here you will have an opportunity to visit some of the best scientists of the Galápagos. Park rangers and park managers among others, who make huge efforts to preserve this Unesco World Heritage Site, conduct the conservation of the islands. In the tortoise breeding and rearing centre you can encounter tortoises of different subspecies, which are prepared for reintroduction to their natural habitats. The most popular inhabitant of this Station is probably Lonesome George. He is the only survivor of his specific turtle species. In the past all approaches to find a partner for him failed. But in July 2008 the scientists found a carved nest with nine eggs from a female tortoise. Three of them could be saved and now accordingly to strict instructions they are incubated synthetically.

After your walkabout you will be escorted across the island to the north of Itabaca Chanel and you will cross over to Baltra Island. After your transfer from the chanel to the airport you will fly back to the mainland of Ecuador. **B**

B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner





**Prices per person 2009:**

Double cabin per person: USD 2,050.-  
Charter: USD 28,125.-

Upper Deck surcharge per person: USD 300.-  
Fuel surcharge per person: USD 110.-

Single supplement: 80 %

**Included in the price:**

All transfers in Galapagos, cruise on board of the QUEEN OF GALAPAGOS in double accommodation with all facilities, naturalist guide, purified water free to drink.

**Not included in the price:**

flights mainland to/from Galápagos (e.g. Quito – Galapagos – Quito USD 414.- per person), entrance fee to Galapagos National Park USD 100.- per Person, migration card USD 10.- per person, beverages, tips, personal items, insurance.

**NB:** Itinerary is subject to change without previous notice, due to weather conditions, operational matters, National Park Authorities advice, or Captain's decision for passengers' security.