



MASTER
LIVEBOARDS

Isabela land based extension

4 Days / 3 Nights

Day	Itinerary	Meals
1	Speed Boat Ride to Isabela Island - Arnaldo Tupiza Center – Wetlands Accommodation: Casita de la Playa**	None
2	Los Tuneles Excursion Accommodation: Casita de la Playa	B / BL
3	Sierra Negra excursion and Tintoreras Accommodation: Casita de la Playa	B
4	Transfer: Isabela Island - Santa Cruz Island	B

B: Breakfast / L: lunch / BL: Box Lunch / D: Dinner

Itinerary Details

DAY 1:

- Early morning speedboat to Isabela Island
- Puerto Villamil - Arnaldo Tupiza Center
- Isabela Wetlands

Your guide will be waiting for you at the pier when you arrive at Puerto Villamil on Isabela Island. You will be escorted on a short walk to the Arnaldo Tupiza Breeding Center where you will be able to learn about their conservation work and breeding program of 5 subspecies of Galapagos Giant Tortoises that are native to Isabela Island.

In the afternoon, your guide will take you on a leisurely walk through Los Humedales, the wetlands of Isabela Island where there are a number of trails to follow. Starting from the outskirts of Puerto Villamil, the area consists of numerous lagoons and mangrove swamps which play host to a variety of wading birds including flamingoes, avocets, gallinules and whimbrels. Along the way you will also cross lava tunnels that are popular hangouts for marine iguanas and lava lizards.

Beyond the wetlands is the "Wall of Tears," one of the most touching man-made features in the archipelago. Measuring roughly 8 metres high, 3 metres wide and 200 metres long, the wall was built over a 14 year period by prisoners of a penal colony that was located nearby from 1944 to 1959. Constructed by hand from heavy, sharp lava rocks, the wall is believed to have been built for no reason other than to make the prisoners do 'hard labour' as punishment for their crimes.

DAY 2: Los Tuneles Excursion



After breakfast, you will embark on a speedboat from Puerto Villamil Pier to travel along the southern shore of Isabela to the Cabo Rosa Tunnels, which takes roughly 30-40 minutes. 'Los Tuneles' as they are known locally are geographical formations comprising arches and tunnels created from ancient lava flows and tidal erosion. This unique landscape hosts several species of seabirds including albatros, blue-footed boobies, and penguins as well as offering superb snorkelling in shallow, calm waters. Lobsters, turtles, Galapagos sharks are just a few of the aquatic creatures to be spotted beneath the surface.

In the afternoon, you will have time to explore and enjoy Puerto Villamil town or you can take a short walk through red mangroves to Concha de Perla, where you can swim or snorkel in the calm turquoise water. The shallow protected lagoon, hidden away amongst the mangroves, boasts an incredible diversity of marine life: sea lions, penguins, marine iguanas, turtles, rays and colourful reef fish will hold your attention while above the surface Brown pelicans, Galápagos mockingbirds and frigatebirds are just a few of the avian residents found here.

DAY 3: Sierra Negra and Tintorerías Excursion



After an early breakfast, you will be picked up from your hotel to travel to the highlands of Isabela Island and the Sierra Negra Volcano. Reaching an altitude of around 1,500 metres, and having an outer diameter of approximately 10 kilometres, Sierra Negra is the second largest caldera in the world. The 40 minute drive from Puerto Villamil will bring you to El Cura to begin your guided hike up the slopes of the volcano to the edge of the crater. The trail then continues along the rim of the crater for a few kilometres to the resting place on the northeast side where you can enjoy the moonscape-like vistas.

Note total time from starting the trek to the summit and back down is around 4-5 hours. Be sure to take plenty of water and snacks with you.

In the afternoon, take a short boat ride from Puerto Villamil to visit Las Tintoreras. Located just south of Concha de Perla, Las Tintoreras is a group of small islets which are famous for the white-tip reef sharks after which they are named. As part of the Galapagos National Park, this is a protected area so visitors must be accompanied by a licensed tour guide. From a beautiful, small bay you will be taken on a guided walk around the islets to see Tintoreras sharks, adult and juvenile marine iguanas, sea lions, lava lizards and much more.



Photo credit: Nicole Hemsley

You will also have time to enjoy some snorkelling with the marine wildlife in the calm, turquoise waters, before returning to Puerto Villamil.

DAY 4: Departure

Breakfast at your hotel.

You will leave early in the morning from Isabela Island (06:00 am) for the speedboat crossing to Santa Cruz Island. Upon arrival at Puerto Ayora Town your guide will be waiting for you with a sign board with your name. You will have breakfast in a local restaurant and enjoy your last time on the enchanted island.

You will then be accompanied by a private guide to Baltra Airport for your flight to return to Quito.

Looking for a longer or shorter extension?

Each of the tours listed above are also available to book separately. If you would like to arrange a shorter or longer tour package, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to help tailor an itinerary to meet your preferences.