Elite
GALAPAGOS LUXURY CRUISE

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D

Galapagos Islands / Elite Luxury Yacht

Brief itinerary and visitor sites
4-Night Cruise - Tuesday / Saturday

Day 1 - Tuesday							
1			Arrival to Baltra Airport				
2		PM	Bachas Beach, Santa Cruz Island	◆	◆		

Day 2 - Wednesday							
3		AM	Prince Philip's Steps / El Barranco, Genovesa Islnd	◆	◆	◆	◆
4		PM	Darwin Bay, Genovesa Island	◆	◆	◆	◆

Day 3 - Thursday							
5	6	AM	Espumilla Beach / Buccaneer Cove, Santiago Island	◆	◆	◆	◆
7		PM	Egas Port, Santiago Island	◆	◆		

Day 4 - Friday							
8		AM	Black Turtle Cove, Santa Cruz				◆
9	10	PM	Highlands and Charles Darwin Research Station, Santa Cruz	◆			

Day 5 - Saturday							
11		AM	Lobos Island, San Cristobal	◆	◆		◆
12			Transfer to San Cristobal Airport				

Walking Snorkeling Kayaking / Stand-up paddle board Dinghy ride

* Itineraries / activities are subject to change without prior notice due to weather conditions, National Park regulations, emergencies on board or any unforeseen situation.

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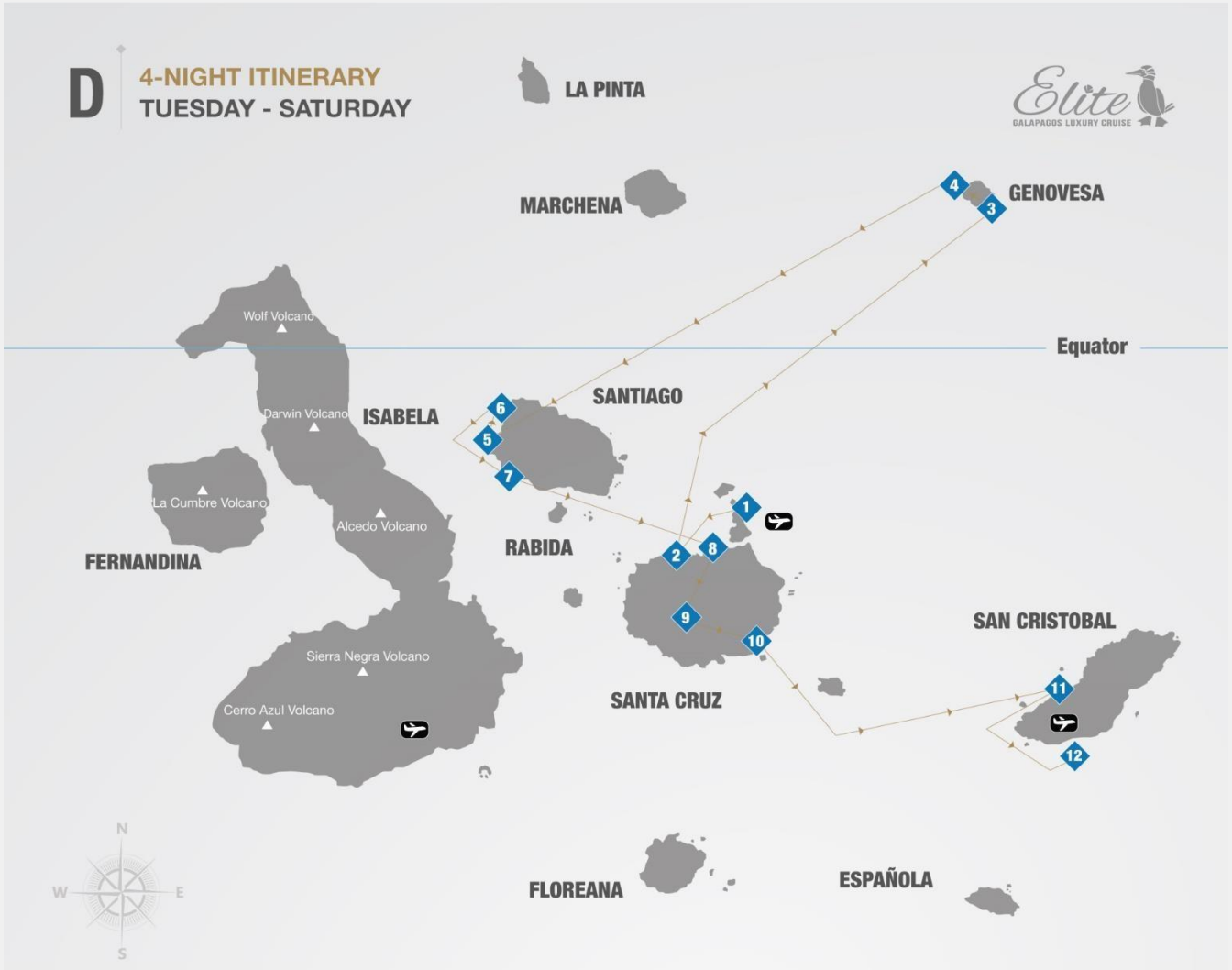

M/C ELITE
Itinerary D
4-Night Cruise
Tuesday – Saturday

DAY BY DAY ITINERARY DESCRIPTION

(**B:** breakfast/ **L:** lunch/ **D:** dinner)

Tuesday

AM: Baltra Airport

Arrival to Baltra airport and transfer to the vessel.

PM: Santa Cruz - Bachas Beach

Bachas Beach is a beautiful white-sand beach on which the remnants of a rusted barge, thought to have been abandoned by the Americans during WWI, can be seen. It is a popular nesting site for turtles, so if you go for a snorkel, you might find yourself sharing the water with these wonderful creatures.

The beach is also full of vibrant Sally Lightfoot and hermit crabs, and elegant pink flamingos that frequent the saltwater pond located just behind the beach.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, snorkeling
Difficulty: Easy

(B, L, D)

Wednesday

AM: Genovesa - Prince Philip's Steps / El Barranco

El Barranco, also known as Prince Philip's Steps, is a rocky stairway that will lead you past a colony of Nazca and red-footed boobies leads up to a plateau of dried lava. Continuing through the thin Palo Santo forest and looking out over the plain, visitors are often treated to sites of storm petrels launching out over the ocean.
A dinghy ride or kayaking boarding along the edge of the cliffs provides a good chance to see the elusive Galapagos fur seals nestled on the rocks, and snorkeling is a great activity if you fancy a dip with a variety of shark species.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, snorkeling, dinghy ride, kayak
Difficulty: Moderate

PM: Genovesa - Darwin Bay

Darwin Bay has a small sand and coral beach that provides the perfect spot for snorkeling, kayaking or paddle boarding in calm, sheltered waters in the company of hammerhead sharks, rays and a plethora of colorful reef fish. Onshore, a short trail leads along a tidal lagoon and mangroves, home to a variety of land bird species, including Nazca and red-footed boobies and swallow-tailed gulls.
The trail culminates at a viewpoint that offers a stunning view overlooking the cliffs and the bay below.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, snorkeling, dinghy ride, kayak
Difficulty: Moderate

(B, L, D)

Thursday

AM: Santiago - Espumilla Beach / Buccaneer Cove

Espumilla beach, located on the northern coast of Santiago island, is an exquisite white sand beach, whose name refers to the meringue-like trails of foam left by the lapping of the waves. Sally Lightfoot crabs are in abundance here and as a result, it is common to see predatory birds such as hawks, herons and pelicans.
This idyllic location is perfect for snorkeling or kayaking boarding amongst a raft of marine life, including species of octopus, eels and sharks. Buccaneer Cove has an interesting history as it is where sailors, buccaneers and whalers frequently anchored their vessels in search for food and water. In more recent times it has become an important nesting site for turtles and is also popular with sea lions.
A dinghy ride along the eroded shoreline provides views of intriguing rock formations that provide excellent ledges for boobies, pelicans and gulls.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, snorkeling, dinghy ride, kayak
Difficulty: Moderate

PM: Egas Port

Egas Port was once the site of a salt mine, but now this impressive black sand beach is an excellent location for snorkeling and observing shorebirds, Sally Lightfoot crabs and marine iguanas.
A stroll along the wide trails inland leads you past tidal pools and rocky volcanic formations known as grottoes where it is possible to spot fur seals enjoying a spot of shade.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, snorkeling
Difficulty: Easy

(B, L, D)

Friday

AM: Black Turtle Cove

The first visit of the day is to Black Turtle Cove, which is located on the north shore of Santa Cruz. It is a living illustration of how mangroves alter the marine environment to create a rich and unique habitat. Three mangrove species crowd the area from the shore out into a shallow lake which reaches almost a mile inland.

As you drift through quiet waters in the dinghy you are likely to see spotted eagle rays and diamond-shaped mustard rays, which swim in a diamond formation. White-tipped reef sharks slip beneath the dinghy and Pacific green sea turtles come to the surface for air and to mate. Waterfowl, including pelicans, herons and egrets, all feed in the cove. It's a peaceful place where visitors often have up-close encounters with Galapagos wildlife, often making it a highlight of the trip!

Activities and Excursions: Dinghy ride
Difficulty: Easy

PM: Highlands and Charles Darwin Research Station

On the highlands of Santa Cruz, you'll have the opportunity to see the famous giant tortoises in the wild. So renowned are these endemic animals that they gave the archipelago its name. Birdwatching is also one of the activities do to in the Santa Cruz highlands, since this area is home of finches and other Galapagos birds.

After the visit to the highlands, we continue to the famous Charles Darwin Research Station that provides guests with a unique opportunity to find out about the vital work that is being carried out to preserve the archipelago's ecosystems.

The Research Center is also home to a significant breeding program for Galapagos tortoises, whose numbers have been in decline since the 1970's.
These captivating reptiles are very accustomed to humans, so be sure to bring your camera for some close-ups.

Activities and Excursions: Walking
Difficulty: Easy

(B, L, D)

Saturday

AM: Lobos Island, off San Cristobal

Accessed by dinghy, Lobos Island gets its name from the herds of sea lions that have made their home here.

Snorkeling in the calm clear water provides a unique opportunity to see these inquisitive and playful animals up close and it is also common to be accompanied by green turtles and rays as well.

Inland, there is a trail where you can expect to encounter nesting sites for blue-footed boobies and frigates.

Activities and Excursions: Walking, snorkeling, dinghy ride
Difficulty: Moderate

San Cristobal Airport
Depart from San Cristobal airport.

(B, -, -)

End of cruise

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