



## Ocean Spray – B 6 Days

One of only a small handful of yachts offering true 5 star facilities in Galapagos, the ‘Mega-Catamaran’ Ocean Spray is one of the newest vessels in Galapagos and offers some of the best performance and comfort in Galapagos Cruising. The elegant design includes a huge sundeck, jacuzzi and spacious cabins each with private balcony. The company that owns and operates the Ocean Spray (the sister yacht of the Cormorant) has a great reputation for excellent service and works with very good naturalist guides. Service on board is excellent, with an administrator on board to ensure the smooth running of operations. Taking you to the Central, Southern and Eastern part of the archipelago, this itinerary has an excellent mix of islands allowing you to see a wide selection of Galapagos wildlife, with superb snorkelling opportunities especially with sealions and includes a visit to the beautiful island of Espanola.



## Day 1 Arrive Baltra

**Santa Fe** This is the oldest of the Galapagos islands. Its paradisiacal bay offers great possibilities to swim and snorkel in crystal clear waters. A hike inland offers a great chance to see a species of Land Iguanas (*Conolophus pallidus*) which is endemic to Santa Fe Island. In the same area you'll also see a forest of giant prickly pear cactus. After your visit you can swim and snorkel both inside and outside the bay.

**Activities:** Hiking, Snorkel

**Difficulty:** Moderate

**Type of Landing:** Wet landing

**Highlights:** Santa Fe Land Iguanas, Sea Lion colony, Galapagos hawks, Mockingbirds, giant prickly pear cactus (the tallest in Galapagos). Snorkel: Sea Lions, Reef Sharks, Parrotfish, Surgeonfish.



## Day 2

**Española (Hood)** This island is one of the highlights of any visit to Galapagos. Espanola is the southernmost island in the Galapagos, and is also one of the oldest. Numerous Sea Lions are seen here, plus hundreds of Marine Iguanas basking on the rocks. Espanola's Marine Iguanas are unlike other Galapagos Marine Iguanas thanks to their bright colouring. Espanola is home to thousands of nesting seabirds all year, including Blue-footed Boobies, Nazca Boobies and Frigatebirds. Between late March and December the Waved Albatross, perhaps the most spectacular of Galapagos birds, returns to Espanola by the thousands to perform their amazing mating dance and produce the next generation. Almost the entire population breeds on this island during this time, and they spend the rest of the year at sea.



**Punta Suárez** Regarding the amount of wildlife, this one of the best trails in the whole islands. Despite the difficult terrain, the walk is an absolute marvel, as from the beginning to the end you will see large quantities of Sea Lions, Marine Iguanas, Blue-footed and Nazca boobies, gulls, Galapagos Hawks and during most of the year, Waved Albatross. There are spectacular views of flying birds from the cliffs.

**Activities:** Hike (1.9 mi / 3 km)

**Difficulty:** Difficult, rocky terrain.

**Type of Landing:** Dry Landing

**Highlights & Animals:** Española Mockingbird, Nazca Boobies, Waved Albatross, Red-billed tropicbirds, lava lizards, Galapagos Hawk, Blue-footed Boobies, blow hole, amazing landscape.

**Gardner Bay** This beautiful bay is nested between Gardner islet and the beautiful coral sand beach in Española. You will visit a spectacular white sand beach, home to one of the largest Sea Lion colonies in the islands, where you can also see endemic Española Mockingbirds and with some luck, Galapagos Hawks.



**Activities:** Snorkelling and kayaking. Short hike along the beach (0.6 mi / 1km)

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Type of Landing:** Wet landing

**Highlights & Animals:** White sandy beach, Sea Lion colony, Mockingbirds Galapagos Hawks. Snorkelling: colourful fish, Sea Lion nursery.

### Day 3

**San Cristobal – Puerto Baquerizo and the Interpretation Centre** The easternmost island in the archipelago, this island has a small town, Puerto Baquerizo Moreno and is home to a fantastic interpretation centre, which provides an excellent overview to the islands human history and the conservation work being done to protect it.

**Activities:** Easy hike (0.2 mi / 0.3 km)

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Type of Landing:** Dry landing

**Highlights & Animals:** Interesting information centre focused on the human history of the islands. Around the centre, Finches, Mockingbirds and endemic pants



**San Cristobal - Isla Lobos** A perfect place to swim with playful Sea Lions and snorkel. This basalt island outcropping lives up to its name of “Sea Lion Island”. As well as the Sea Lion colony on the beach it is also a nesting place for Blue-footed Boobies.

**Activities:** Hike (0.5 mi / 0.8 km), dinghy ride, snorkelling

**Difficulty:** Short but difficult walk.

**Type of Landing:** Dry landing

**Highlights & Animals:** Sea lion colony, shore birds, seasonal nesting Frigatebirds, Darwin finches. Snorkelling: Sea lions, fish.



### San Cristobal - Leon Dormido

Sometimes called Kicker Rock, Leon Dormido is a huge rock formation near the coast of San Cristobal, an eroded cinder cone with two vertical rocks rising over 150 meters from the ocean, and a favourite spot for Tropicbirds along with Great and Magnificent Frigatebirds. You will visit this site by boat and it is a great spot for snorkelling.

**Activities:** Snorkelling & dinghy Ride

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Type of Landing:** No landing

**Highlights:** Deep water snorkelling: Sharks, tropical fish, Turtles, Manta rays, Hammerhead shark, spectacular rock formations, sea birds: Blue-footed Boobies, Nazca Boobies & Frigatebirds.



**Day 4 San Cristobal – Punta Pitt** Located in the northwest of the island, this is a large eroded tuff cone with dramatic volcanic scenery and is home to a large colony of Sea Lions, as well as a few Red-footed Boobies, Blue-footed Boobies and Nazca boobies.

**Activities:** Uphill hike (1.5 mi / 2 ½ km), dinghy ride, snorkelling, kayaking.

**Difficulty:** Moderate/difficult

**Type of Landing:** Wet landing

**Highlights & Animals:** Wonderful landscape, Sea Lion colony, three possible species of Boobies. Snorkel: tropical fish, Sea Lions.



### San Cristobal – Cerro Brujo

This striking eroded tuff cone was one of the first sites visited by Charles Darwin. It has a beautiful coral sand beach where you can take a leisurely walk (depending on time of year) visited by Brown Pelicans, Blue-footed Boobies, and Swallow Tail Gulls as well as Marine Iguanas and Sea Lions. The beauty of this dramatic area can also be explored from the dingy, exploring caves and looking for sea birds.

**Activities:** Hike along the beach (1 mi / 1.6 km), dinghy ride, snorkelling & kayaking

**Difficulty:** Easy walk along the beach

**Type of Landing:** Wet landing

**Highlights & Animals:** Beautiful rock formations, Sea Lions, shore birds, Land birds: Finches and Mockingbirds, snorkelling: Sea Lions, nice tropical fish, anemones.



**Day 5 Floreana - Post Office Bay** The famous Post Office Bay is where people leave their mail to be picked up and delivered by others in the “post office” barrel—a time-honoured tradition begun by whalers more than two hundreds of years ago.

**Activities:** Short hike (less than 0.2 mi / 0.3km), lava tunnel & snorkelling

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Type of Landing:** Wet landing

**Highlights:** Barrel Post Office, lava tunnel inland (difficult access), nice sandy beach

**Floreana – Baroness Viewpoint** Baroness Viewpoint is a fantastic place to absorb the environment of the Galapagos. Once inhabited by an indulgent Baroness and her three lovers, the history of this island is intriguing. The legends about this baroness are associated with a fascinating murder mystery. There are easy trails in this area to an outlook to see wonderful vistas of Punta Cormorant, Post office bay and Loberia.

**Activities:** Short hike (0.2 mi / 0.3 km)

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Type of Landing:** Wet landing

**Highlights:** Great view, Sea Turtles, mysterious story about the first inhabitants of the islands.



**Floreana - Punta Cormorant** At Punta Cormorant you will walk on an olivine beach (a mineral known for its olive-green quality, that is found in meteorites, the moon and mars as well as on earth), visit a large lagoon where Great Flamingos sometimes nest, and walk over to Flour Beach, a beautiful white sandy beach to look for Green Sea Turtle nests.

**Activities:** Hike (1.2 mi/2km)

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Type of Landing:** Wet landing

**Highlights and Animals:** An easy walk along a coastal lagoon where Flamingos are often found, along with Stilts and Ducks. White sand beach.

## Day 6

**Santa Cruz - Black Turtle Cove (Caleta Tortuga Negra)** A beautiful mangrove lagoon on the north shore of Santa Cruz Island. The yacht anchors just outside the cove and you will enter on a dinghy, paddling through the calm waters of the lagoon, which is a resting site for Green Sea Turtles. A wonderfully quiet journey, through a beautiful and unique habitat. With good luck as well as Marine Turtles you will see different types of Sharks and schools of Golden and Eagle Rays swimming just below the surface, whilst Yellow Warblers singing from above.

**Activities:** Boat tour in a lagoon, wildlife observation.

**Difficulty:** Easy

**Type of Landing:** No landing

**Highlights & Animals:** Lagoon surrounded by mangroves. Sharks, Rays, Sea Turtles, Pelicans and Blue-footed boobies

After this final visit, you will be transferred to Baltra's airport for your flight back to the mainland, or you could continue your Galapagos adventure with a stay in one of the inhabited islands.

Please note: *Itineraries are unlikely to change significantly but are subject to change. Weather, wildlife breeding, instructions from the Galapagos National Park, specific abilities and interests of passengers as well as operational matters may cause your guide or captain to change the times or nature of your visits. Your guide will always endeavour to have the best itinerary for you within these constraints.*



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