

M/C OCEAN SPRAY GALAPAGOS CRUISE

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS

Spend 8-days cruising around the Galapagos Islands aboard the luxury Ocean Spray Catamaran. You will get the most out of your time on this cruise ship, as it sails to a multitude of islands. Embark on exciting shore excursions, where you learn about what makes each island unique. Hike to panoramic vistas, swim with playful sea lions and keep your eyes open for the beautiful blue-footed boobie. When it's time to head home, you will be full of amazing stories to share with your friends and family about the remarkable biodiversity you witnessed aboard the Ocean Spray Catamaran.

Note: All itineraries can be combined, perfect for travelers looking for a longer Galapagos cruise.

<p>FROM \$ 6880 per person</p>	<p>THIS CRUISE INCLUDES: 7-nights accommodations All-inclusive programs All onboard meals Daily excursions Professional naturalist guides</p>	<p>HIGHLIGHTS Baltra Island Isabela Island Fernandina Island Santa Cruz Island Santa Fe Island Española Island San Cristobal Island Charles Darwin Research Center</p>
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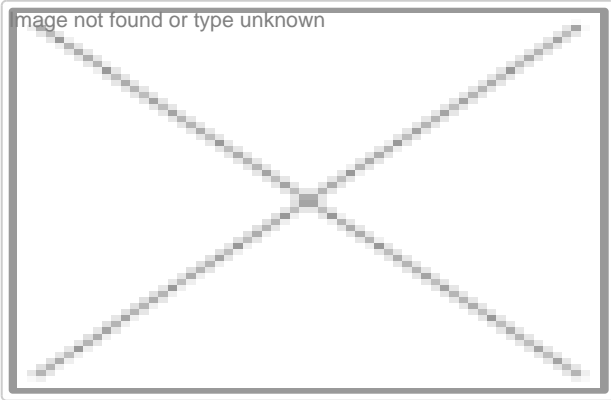


Day 1

ARRIVAL & CHINESE HAT

Saturday

Upon arrival, your Ocean Spray representative will guide you through immigration and baggage claim. Then, board the yacht and get acquainted with your private cabin, where you'll have time to relax before the welcome briefing and lunch. In the afternoon, visit Chinese Hat, a small island located in the central area of the Galapagos. Here, you will have the opportunity to hike the unique terrain, while exploring the various, well-preserved remnants of volcanic rock. The top of the hike offers amazing views of the Galapagos, a perfect way to begin your adventure here. On the way down, say hello to the sea lions, often resting on the white sand beach. You may also opt to snorkel with white-tipped reef sharks and various tropical fish.



Day 2

VICENTE ROCA POINT & ESPINOSA POINT

Sunday

Begin the morning with a visit to Isabela Island. Isabela Island is the largest of all the Galapagos Islands, reaching a vast 120 km long. Formed by 6 different shield volcanoes, this island is a perfect place to explore. Lookout for unique wildlife such as the pink iguana, tortoises, and other species near each of the 6 volcanoes. Then, head to Vicente Roca Point, where the geological formations will rock your world! Keep your eyes open for blue-footed boobies, Nazca boobies, gulls, and more. On the western part of the island, the Cromwell Current brings cold water and nutrients to many animals, such as whales, dolphins, sea lions, etc. This is a fantastic place to animal-watch.

In the afternoon, make your way to Fernandina Island. Fernandina is one of the island's most pristine island ecosystems, due to little human interaction. While here, visit the La Cumbre Volcano, as it extends its lava fields straight out to the ocean. Later, search for the Galapagos Hawk at Espinosa Point. Land iguanas and marine iguanas can be found on the inner parts of the island, as well. Hike, snorkel, or simply look out at your surroundings for the duration of your stay.



Day 3

TAGUS COVE & URBINA BAY

Monday

Wake up early and head back to Isabela Island, this time, visiting Tagus Cove! Tagus Cove is a visitor site, named after the English war ship that used to pass by the islands in the 18th-century. Pirates and sailors even inscribed their names and the names of the ship on volcanic rock. This place oozes with history.

Later, move south of Tagus Cove to Urbina Bay. The foundation of Urbina Bay is an intriguing site, due to the volcanic and tectonic activity that occurred. When the foundation rose, so did the corals and reefs that were once underneath the surface. If you're lucky, you might see giant tortoises, land iguanas, and flightless cormorants near the coast.



Day 4

ELIZABETH BAY & MORENO POINT

Tuesday

Begin your day on Isabela Island, at the visitor site, Elizabeth Bay. Explore the incredible series of islets, a lagoon and the mangroves surrounding it. The mangroves are an excellent place to birdwatch and the lagoon provides clear vision to sea turtles resting and feeding. Next, head to Moreno Point on the southwest point of the island. This is the home of endemic species, accustomed to barren lava flows that can be found here. Hike, birdwatch, marvel at the geological features, or snorkel with the vibrant underwater life.



Day 5

CHARLES DARWIN CENTER, HIGHLANDS

Wednesday

Rise and shine! Today you're headed to Santa Cruz, one of the most popular tourist sites. Spend some time here exploring the volcanic terrain and chatting with one of the 12,000 Galapagos natives. After, visit the Charles Darwin Research Station. Learn about the numerous research projects that are worked on here. The research station assists in educating the community and public schools in the Galapagos, and you'll be able to experience their efforts first-hand. You can also learn about the Giant Tortoise restoration program, that includes the various stages of the tortoise life cycle.

Later, visit the Highlands of Santa Cruz Island. Walk along the manmade path, designed for guests to observe the hills, ferns, volcanoes, and rich wildlife that makes up the area. While here, there is a good chance you'll see giant tortoises, mockingbirds, Darwin finches, and many other species. For a unique experience, walk along the lava tubes before you leave.



Day 6

SOUTH PLAZA & SANTA FE

Thursday

Today, visit South Plaza Island, one of the smallest islands in the Galapagos. This visitor site is home to an abundance of local flora and fauna. The island has a large amount of Sesuvium plants, like the prickly pear cactus tree, which land iguanas feed on. Next, visit Santa Fe Island, a fantastic place to spot land iguanas and the only place you can find Opuntia cactus. Giant tortoises were once native to this island, but after many years of pirate and buccaneer activity, they have become extinct. Sea lions and Galapagos hawks are also common here.



Day 7

SUAREZ POINT & GARDNER BAY

Friday

On your last full day in the Galapagos, explore Española Island, the oldest island. This island is estimated to be four million years old, and because of its location, far away from the other islands, the most endemic species occupy the ancient space. Your visit here is an excellent time to take photographs of endemic bird species that can only be found here, and amazing landscapes, created by millions of years of erosion. After taking in Española Island, go to Suarez Point. Pass by the albatross breeding site, where you might be able to watch young albatross takeoff for the first time! Other species found here include Galapagos doves, Nazca boobies, blue-footed boobies, and more.

Later, cruise to Gardner Bay, one of the best beaches in the Galapagos. This white sandy beach is home to a large colony of playful sea lions, three different types of finches, green sea turtles, and the hungry Espanola Mockingbird.



Day 8

INTERPRETATION CENTER, GALAPAGUERA & DEPARTURE

Saturday

Before you leave this ecological paradise, take a trip to San Cristobal Island. This is the fifth largest island in the Galapagos and lies the farthest East. This is the exact area where Darwin first landed in 1835. Today, the main port is the capital of the Galapagos and many government offices, the Ecuadorian Navy, and an airport fills up the terrain. Take a quick tour of the Interpretation Center, open to the public since 1998. Here, you can learn about the history of the Galapagos and all the ecosystems that thrive on the islands. Spend some time in the meeting rooms, interpretational panels, auditoriums, exhibits, and more.

After your visit at the Interpretation Center, it is time to bid farewell to the Galapagos Islands. Transfer to the San Cristobal Airport for your flight to your next destination!