

ECUADOR - OCEAN SPRAY 8 DAY CRUISE B



TRIP CODE

GATSOS8B

DEPARTURE

Selected Saturdays

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Galapagos Islands,
Ecuador



INTRODUCTION

The new Mega-Catamaran Ocean Spray offers the best performance and comfort in Galapagos Cruising. The elegant design includes a huge sundeck, Jacuzzi and spacious cabins each with private balcony.

Her speed, comfort, top guides and itinerary will make Ocean Spray perfect for your luxury Galapagos cruise. Kayaks are also available for use.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Saturday, Embark & León Dormido

Upon arrival at San Cristóbal Airport, the guide will meet you to transfer to the Ocean Spray. In the afternoon, visit Isla Lobos, appropriately named with a large population of noisy, frolicking sea lions. León Dormido, or Kicker Rock, is the remains of a lava cone, which is a fantastic spot for snorkelling. Above water you will see tropicbirds, frigates and boobies.



NO IMAGE
AVAILABLE

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DAY 2: Sunday, Punta Pitt and Cerro Brujo

Visit Punta Pitt in the morning for an easy hike rewarded with the only nesting site which hosts all species of Galapagos boobies. The volcanic land formations create an impressive backdrop, making for a fascinating site. Later, explore Cerro Brujo, or Witch Hill, starting at one the finest beaches of the archipelago with its soft white sand occupied by sea lions and blue-footed boobies alongside one another. Beyond the beach is a lagoon, occupied by egrets and great blue herons. Snorkel in the beautiful turquoise waters complete with abundant marine life.



DAY 3: Monday, Isla Floreana


Visit two sites on Isla Floreana today. In the morning, head to the famous Post Office Bay, where 18th Century whalers placed a wooden barrel for use as a manual post box, a system that still works today. In the afternoon, head to Punta Cormorant for a hike to a salt-water lagoon which is home to flamingos. You'll also be amazed by the green coloured beach, caused by a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand. You will also get to swim in the crystal clear waters off Corona del Diablo, Devil's Crown. This extinct volcano peaks out of the waters just off Floreana's coast and offers a magnificent snorkelling experience.



DAY 4: Tuesday, Black Turtle Cove & Isla Bartolomé

The shallow inlet of Black Turtle Cove is surrounded by mangroves and provides natural protection for a variety of marine life, attracting the vulnerable juveniles of many species. Below the surface of the water, you can see both black-tip and white-tip reef sharks, sea turtles, golden cow-nose rays, spotted eagle rays, and an occasional hammerhead shark. The afternoon visit includes Isla Bartholomé, home of the famous Pinnacle Rock. Bartholomé consists of an extinct volcano with a variety of red, orange, black and even green volcanic formations. Take a trail of stairs to the summit of the volcano for one of the best views of the islands. You will also visit a small, beautiful beach, surrounded by the only vegetation found on this barren island. The beach is perfect for snorkelling where you may even see the Galapagos penguins.



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DAY 5: Wednesday, Isla Genovesa

The morning visit will take you to the white sand coral beach at Darwin Bay to embark on a trail that winds through mangroves filled with land birds. You may see Nazca boobies, red-footed boobies, and swallow-tailed gulls. Arrive at the cliff's edge and take in the spectacular views. In the afternoon travel to El Barranco, also known as Prince Philip's Steps, whose steep, rocky path will lead you up a cliff-face. After marvelling at the view you will have the opportunity to take a trek through palo santo vegetation sighting red-footed boobies, short-eared lava owls, Galapagos storm petrels and Galapagos doves.



DAY 6: Thursday, Playa Espumilla & Puerto Egas


Visit Playa Espumilla where marine iguanas lounge and the Sally- lightfoot crabs attract the hunting herons. This is an excellent spot for snorkelling where you may see octopus, moray eel, shark, or a variety of tropical fish. At Buccaneer Cove, British buccaneers would anchor in the protected bay to make repairs and stock up on tortoise meat among other things. Marvel at the steep cliffs, where hundreds of seabirds perch in front of the dark red sand beach. The afternoon visit is to Puerto Egas, also known as James Bay, on Isla Santiago. Here, you will take a hike on a trail, spotting Galapagos hawks and Galapagos lava lizards, before reaching the coastline and its tide pools which are full of fauna. Observe the Galapagos fur sea lions and snorkel at Puerto Egas beach.



DAY 7: Friday, Isla Española

Venture to the southernmost island of the Galapagos archipelago, Española. Beginning at Punta Suarez, make way on a trail, sighting blue-footed boobies, albatrosses and Nazca boobies. Arrive at a beautiful ocean-front cliff that the albatross uses as a launch pad. Visit the blowhole that spurts water over 20m into the air. In the afternoon, make your way to Gardner Bay and Osborn Islet. Land on a beautiful white sand beach amongst a colony of sea lions, where you can snorkel with the pups in the water. Continue to the albatross nesting site, where almost the entire population of 12,000 waved albatross can be found.



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DAY 8: Saturday, Mosquera Islet & Disembark


Take a morning excursion to Mosquera Islet for its vast white sand beach. The island is an uplifted reef of rocks and coral. It is home to one of the largest populations of sea lions, while you can also observe shorebirds and occasional reports of orca sightings. Transfer to Baltra Airport for your departure flight to mainland Ecuador.



Inclusions & Details	
Accommodation	Standard
Inclusions	<div> All shore excursions All meals throughout the cruise Regular soft drinks and juices Champagne reception Use of Kayaks Snorkelling gear and wetsuits Galapagos National Park certified guide </div> <div> Exclusions Tips for crew/guide Alcoholic beverages Plastic bottled beverages Personal expenses Roundtrip airfare to Galapagos* Galapagos National Park Fee (USD\$100 per person subject to change) Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD\$20 per person subject to change) </div>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	Season and Availability.

Sustainability

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

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- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu's "Pass it on" programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures' offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure's internal processes are also structured to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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