

## ECUADOR - SOUTHERN GALAPAGOS CRUISE 6 DAY ITINERARY A | SEA STAR



### INTRODUCTION

**This 6-day Galapagos cruise offers travellers a dynamic mix of wildlife encounters, guided hikes, and snorkeling adventures across six islands.** The cruise starts at San Cristobal Island with a visit to a tortoise breeding center. Followed by close-up views of land birds like warblers and finches. On Espa ola Island, expect dramatic cliffside views, nesting albatrosses, and playful sea lions at Gardner Bay. Explore historic sites like Post Office Bay on Floreana Island, as well as exploring volcanic reefs at Devil's Crown. Santa Fe and South Plaza Islands feature cactus forests, land iguanas, and panoramic trails. North Seymour offers prime sightings of frigate birds and blue-footed boobies, while Bachas Beach invites swimming alongside nesting sea turtles. The cruise finishes with a last chance to spot dense sea lion colonies or the occasional orca sighting, before returning to Baltra for your departure.

**Want to explore more of these magnificent Galapagos Islands?** You can combine this cruise itinerary onboard the **Galapagos Sea Star** with either the [Northern Galapagos Cruise 5 Day Itinerary](#) or the [Western Galapagos Cruise 6 Day Itinerary](#) to the start or end of this current itinerary.\*

(\* Subject to scheduling & availability. Please [Contact Us](#) for full information)

### ITINERARY

#### TRIP CODE

ECRG6DSA

#### DEPARTURE

Selected Tuesdays

#### DURATION

6 Days

#### LOCATIONS

Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, South America




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**DAY 1: Arrival at San Cristobal Island**

In the morning you will arrive at San Cristobal Island in the morning. After passing through immigration and baggage claim, you will be met by a Sea Star staff member and transferred to the yacht. You will be shown to your cabin where you will have some time to settle in before lunch and a welcome briefing. In the afternoon you will go to David Rodriguez Breeding Center “La Galapaguera”, in Cerro Colorado, which is a new visitor site in the southeast part of San Cristobal Island and can now be reached in roughly one hour by road from Puerto Baquerizo Moreno. On the trees and shrubs surrounding the site, you may see land birds like warblers, finches and mockingbirds. Giant tortoises can be observed on the trails. They live there wild but in a protected area to ensure their survival by sealing them off from introduced predators like pigs and goats.



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**DAY 2: Espanola Island**

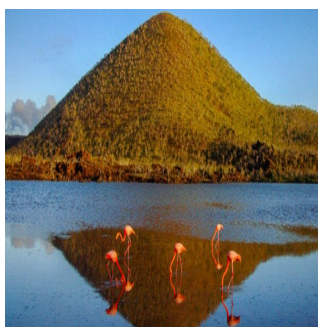
In the morning, on the trail to Suarez Point you will have the chance to spot blue-footed boobies, albatrosses, and Nazca boobies. This island is the breeding site of nearly all of the world’s 12,000 pairs of waved albatrosses. You will also visit a beautiful site on the ocean front where there is a cliff that the large albatrosses use as a launching pad! You will have the chance to see the famous blowhole that spurts sea water into the air. The landscape is great for photography. In the afternoon you will visit Gardner Bay, Gardner Islet & Osborn Islet. This excursion takes you to the spectacular Gardner Bay. After landing, you can walk across a lovely white-sand beach amongst a busy sea lion colony or dive into the water to swim with sea lion pups. You may also see curious mockingbirds on the beach.



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### DAY 3: Floreana Island

In the morning you will visit Cormorant Point. Cormorant Point hosts a large flamingo lagoon where other birds such as common stilts and white-cheeked pintails can also be seen. The beaches on this island are distinct: The Green Beach is named so due to its green colour, which comes from a high percentage of olivine crystals in the sand, and the Flour Sand Beach is composed of white coral. Afterwards, you will have a chance to snorkel around Devil's Crown which is the rocky remains of an offshore volcano sticking out of the water. This is a great location to spot a wide range of marine creatures. In the afternoon you will visit Baroness Viewing Point. Baroness Viewing Point 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 for exploring the flora and fauna of Floreana. Afterwards, visit Post Office Bay, You will land on a beach and head to a spot where 18th century whalers placed a wooden barrel used as an unofficial mail box. The custom continues to this day with Galapagos visitors. So, don't forget your postcards, and don't be surprised if the post card arrives to its destination before you even get home!



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### DAY 4: Santa Fe & South Plaza Islands

In the morning you will visit Santa Fe Island (Barrington) which is home to the small picturesque bay and anchorage on the island's northeast coast. The bay has two visitor trails: one leading to a scenic viewpoint atop a cliff, and the other spanning from a small beach to a tall prickly pear cactus forest. In the afternoon you will visit South Plaza Island. This small island with steep cliffs was formed by rising lava and is now covered by Opuntia cacti. It is also home to one of the largest sea lion colonies as well as colourful yellow and red land iguanas. The most characteristic plant is the Sesuvium. During the rainy season its colour is a greenish to yellowish tone and in the dry season (end of June through January) a bright red.



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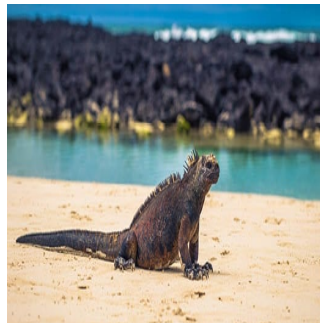
### DAY 5: North Seymour & Santa Cruz Islands

In the morning on North Seymour Island you may see Galapagos sea lions, blue-footed boobies, and magnificent frigate birds which are abundant on this island. North Seymour was formed by a series of submarine lava flows containing layers of sediment that were uplifted by tectonic activity. The island is characterized by its arid vegetation zone. In the afternoon you will visit Bachas Beach. Bachas Beach is located on the north shore of Santa Cruz and is a beach for swimming. One of the few remnants of the U.S. World War II presence in the Galapagos, a floating pier, can be seen here. You may see flamingos, Sally Lightfoot crabs, hermit crabs, black-necked stilts, and whimbrels. Sea turtles also nest on the beach.



### DAY 6: Mosquera Islet & Baltra Airport Departure

In the morning you will visit Mosquera Islet. Mosquera Islet is located between the islands of Baltra and North Seymour. This reef of rocks and coral (the result of an uprising) is only 160 meters across at its narrowest width. This island has one of the largest populations of sea lions and is home to many shorebirds. There have been occasional reports at this site of orcas feeding on sea lions. After this final visit, you will be transferred to the Baltra airport in time for your flight back to the mainland. Please note: Itineraries are generally stable but may change due to weather, wildlife, safety, park regulations, guest abilities, or operational needs. Not all listed activities on each visitor point may be completed. Your guide and captain will always aim to choose the best possible itinerary.



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## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

#### Accommodation

Cabin on board ship

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<b>Inclusions</b>	<p><b>INCLUSIONS</b>            Accommodation in your chosen cabin onboard the Galapagos Sea Star            All meals and excursions while onboard the ship            Group transfers in the islands            English Speaking National Park Guide            Use of snorkelling equipment/wetsuit            Use of underwater camera            Free Airport Assistance*            Hotel night in Quito or Guayaquil (the day before the cruise)*            A free transfer to Galapagos Flights*            *Applies only when purchasing roundtrip Galapagos/mainland airfare from the cruise operator</p>
	<p><b>EXCLUSIONS</b>            Roundtrip airfare to/from Galapagos            Alcoholic drinks            Galapagos National Park Entrance fee (US\$200 per person from Aug 2024 - Subject to change)            Galapagos Transit Control Card (USD\$20 per person - Subject to change)            Travel/Medical insurance            Gratuities            Personal Expenses</p>
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	2 (light adventure)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	A single supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
<b>Notes</b>	<p>All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.            * Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions and government regulations.</p>
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	Seasonality, fuel surcharges, currency fluctuations and availability at time of booking.

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**SUSTAINABILITY**