

# Celebrity Xperience<sup>SM</sup>

## **7-NIGHT SOUTHERN LOOP ITINERARY**



### **SATURDAY ARRIVAL**

Arrival at the airport in Baltra & transfer to the dock  
Check-in to your cabin  
Introductory briefing & safety drill  
Lunch  
Dry landing at North Seymour  
18:00 Back on board  
19:30 Briefing on Sunday's program  
20:00 Welcome cocktail  
20:15 Dinner

North Seymour is a perfect introduction to the Galapagos Islands. Fauna abounds and you will soon find yourself surrounded by frigates and blue footed boobies. Keep an eye out for land iguanas and sea lions too! **Difficulty level: Moderate.**

### **SUNDAY**

06:45 Wake up call  
07:00 Breakfast  
08:00 Dry landing and excursion at South Plaza Island  
11:30 Back on board and lunch  
15:00 Wet landing and excursion at Santa Fe Island  
16:30 Swimming and snorkeling from the beach or kayak or panga ride  
18:00 Back on board  
19:30 Briefing on Monday's program  
20:00 Dinner



South Plaza Island, although quite small, is actually home to a large Opuntia cacti forest, land iguanas and one of the largest sea lion colonies in the central region of the archipelago. An endemic plant, *Sesuvium*, inhabits this island and is a great climate indicator as its color is a greenish-yellowish during the rainy season and a bright red during the dry season. You will also be able to see Nazca boobies, swallow-tailed gulls, and other kinds of sea birds as well as different types of finches.

**Difficulty level: Moderate.**

Santa Fe was formed by uplifting, rather than by a volcano. Some of the island's endemic species include the Galapagos Hawk, Galapagos Snake, rice rats, different types of finches, and the Galapagos Mockingbird. The visit includes a hike on a trail past salt bushes where Galapagos hawks as well as the Santa Fe land iguanas tend to roam. Playful sea lions may accompany you during your snorkeling activities. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



## **MONDAY**

06:45 Wake up call

07:00 Breakfast

08:00 Wet landing and excursion at Punta Pitt, San Cristobal Island  
Snorkeling, kayaking and panga ride opportunities

11:30 Back on board and lunch

15:00 Disembark at Cerro Brujo for excursion, kayaking, snorkeling & panga ride

18:00 Back on board

19:30 Briefing on Tuesday's program

20:00 Dinner



Punta Pitt is located on the eastern tip of San Cristobal Island. You will hike up to a plateau where the view and landscape are so spectacular it is definitely worth the effort. Watch out for the Red Footed Boobies nesting in the cliffs. The power hike is followed by kayaking, snorkeling and panga rides opportunities. **Difficulty level: Difficult (longest hike of the cruise – 2 1/2 hours).**

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Enjoy a fantastic landscape as well as wonderful swimming, snorkeling and panga ride experiences. Cerro Brujo's gorgeous beach is also home to many sea lions and it's also the first coast where Charles Darwin first stepped foot on in the Archipelago!

**Difficulty level: Easy**



## **TUESDAY**

06:45 Wake up call

07:00 Breakfast

08:00 Dry landing and excursion on Floreana Island, visits to the Post Office followed by snorkeling, or panga ride

11:30 Back on board and lunch

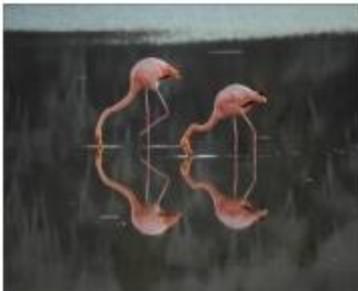
15:00 Snorkeling or panga ride at Champion Islet followed by an excursion to Punta Cormorant

18:00 Back on board

19:30 Briefing on Wednesday's program

20:00 Dinner

Floreana is one of the Galapagos most famous islands due to many strange stories about past settlers. Post Office Bay is home to a unique "post office" inspired by 18<sup>th</sup> century pirates and buccaneers who used a wooden barrel as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. Floreana is also a magnificent site for swimming.



**Difficulty level: Easy**

In the 18th century whalers passing through the islands placed a wooden barrel on Floreana Island for use as an unofficial mail box. The tradition continues today as visitors leave addressed postcards in the barrel and sort through left mail to deliver at home. This is one of the archipelago's most famous spots. Don't forget to look in your logbook for your postcards! For the more adventurous guests, there is an option for a visit inside a lava tunnel.

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This tunnel has been kept untouched and completely natural, so please, watch your step! **Difficulty level: Easy to difficult (lava tunnel)**

A great site for bird-watching, Cormorant Point has a large lagoon where everything from Flamingos to Stilts and Pintail Ducks tend to roam. Don't forget your binoculars! Prior to the excursions, you will also have an opportunity to participate in a magnificent snorkel at Champion Islet. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



## **WEDNESDAY**

- 06:45 Wake up call
- 07:00 Breakfast
- 08:00 Panga ride to Elizabeth Bay mangroves
- 11:00 Back on board and lunch
- 15:00 Landing at Punta Moreno followed by panga ride
- 18:00 Back on board
- 19:30 Briefing on Thursday's program
- 20:00 Dinner

Elizabeth Bay is one of the furthest points of the Galapagos that we will visit on our cruise. We will enter a sheltered cove accessible by panga only – a wonderful mangrove ecosystem that is a refuge for sea turtles, rays, blue-footed boobies, penguins, herons and more. **Difficulty level: Easy.**



Moreno Point is located just southwest of Elizabeth Bay on the west coast of Isabela Island. Observe and learn about different types of lava and pioneer plants while being surrounded by some of the most incredible scenery that Galapagos has to offer.

In the tide pools green sea turtles or white-tip sharks can be spotted. Afterwards you will enjoy a panga ride along the striking rocky shores observing penguins, sea lions, blue footed boobies and marine iguanas. **Difficulty level: Moderate to difficult.**

#### **THURSDAY**

06:45 Wake up call  
07:00 Breakfast  
08:00 Dry landing at Puerto Ayora to visit the Charles Darwin Station  
    Afterward bus ride to the highlands of Santa Cruz to see wild giant tortoises  
13:00 Back on board & lunch  
15:30 Optional afternoon activities  
18:00 Back on board  
19:30 Briefing on Friday's program  
20:00 Dinner

On your visit to the Charles Darwin Research Station you will gain insight into the huge efforts being made by scientists, guides, rangers and park managers to preserve this UNESCO World Heritage Site. You will see the famous Galapagos tortoises that are the islands' namesake.

After the visit we drive to the green highlands of Santa Cruz, where you will visit a tortoise reserve to search for giant tortoises in their natural surroundings. The afternoon is at leisure. **Difficulty level: Easy to moderate.**



#### **FRIDAY**



06:45 Wake up call  
07:00 Breakfast  
08:00 Wet landing at Gardner Bay on Española Island for swimming and snorkeling from the beach or kayaking  
10:00 Deep water snorkeling  
12:00 Lunch  
15:00 Dry landing at Punta Suarez, Española Island  
18:00 Back on board  
19:15 Departure briefing  
19:45 Farewell cocktail & Dinner  
21:00 Please settle your bills

Gardner Bay offers the chance to enjoy a wonderful white sandy beach. It is home to one of the most important colonies of sea lions, and it is also a nesting site for sea turtles. Throughout the morning there are opportunities for swimming, snorkeling and kayaking. **Difficulty level: Easy**

Punta Suarez is one of the most popular and attractive sites in the Galapagos. Due to its isolation from other islands, Espanola has a high proportion of endemic fauna. A few steps inland from the landing site, groups of Española marine iguanas bask in the sun. Further inland, Nazca and blue-footed boobies nest near the trail, Galapagos doves peck around unaware of visitors and finches go about their day to day business. The trail continues towards a blowhole, which is a fissure in the lava where water spurts high into the air like a geyser. The cracks in the cliffs are home to swallow-tailed gulls and red-billed tropicbirds. Further up the cliff in an area of low-lying trees you will find waved albatrosses nesting. The 15,000 to 17,000 pairs of albatrosses on Española represent almost the entire population of this species on the planet. They perform one of the most spectacular courtship rituals of the animal world.



**Difficulty level: Difficult**

### **SATURDAY**

- 05:45 Optional wake up call by phone
- 06:00 Panga ride to Mosquera Islet
- 07:15 Official wake up call  
Back on board from Mosquera Islet
- 07:30 Breakfast
- 08:00 Luggage out & vacate cabins
- 08:45 Galapagos documentary shown in main lounge
- 09:45 Snack in the al fresco dining area
- 10:00 Disembark for airport transfer
- 12:30 Plane departs



Mosquera Islet is a tiny islet, actually home to a huge population of sea lions and also home to many shorebirds. While at Mosquera, keep your eyes peeled as there are occasional reports of dolphins and orcas. **Difficulty level: Easy**