



## **BOAT TOUR ESPAÑOLA ISLAND**

### **TOUR DETAILS:**

**HIGHLIGHTS:** Blue footed boobies + Albatross + Nazca Boobies + nesting grounds (Albatross) + snorkeling with sea lions, iguanas + spectacular Punta Suarez blowhole

**BASIS:** Share tour up to 16 pax aboard with 1 bilingual guide

**Departure Island:**  
**SAN CRISTOBAL**

**Starting at 07:15 AM**

**Meeting Point:** At Dock of Puerto Baquerizo

**Type of landing:** Wet or dry (there is a dock)

**Includes:** Naturalist guides, lunch aboard, visits according to itinerary, snorkel equipment, snacks, towels

**Duration of the tour:**  
**8 hours**

**Activities:** animal observation + trail walking + snorkeling


### **TOUR OVERVIEW**

Española is the southernmost island and known as the oldest island in the archipelago, approximately 3.3 million years. It is famous for its community of waved albatross which can be seen from the end of March to December.

There are two places to visit on the island: Punta Suarez and Gardner Bay. In the western part of the island you will find a colony of marine Iguanas, bright red and ready to go. The 2 km of road leads through the colonies of blue-footed and masked boobies to a vent, in which the waves force the water to rise through this hole up to twenty meters in the air. It is best to go in the morning when the tide is high, because later you may not have the opportunity to see the water jump so high.

The Gardner Bay, in the eastern part of the





island, has ideal rocks for snorkeling and diving and a beautiful beach to rest and watch the sea lions. White tip sharks, puffer fish and colorful tropical fish fill the waters of Gardner Bay.

Return to Puerto Baquerizo Moreno.

#### INFORMATIVE DATA OF PUNTA SUAREZ:

- The waved albatross, is considered to be endemic to the island of Española, although some individuals nest in Isla de la Plata, (Machalilla National Park), near Manta. They spend much of their time flying above the marine areas off the coast of South America, but in April they come here to begin their time of reproduction. Pairs mate for life. They lay one egg on the open ground. Incubation takes 60 days. Fledglings are ready to fend for themselves at the end of the year, and leave the archipelago entirely at that time. The young birds return about five years later, when they have reached sexual maturity. Courtship activities strengthen the relations between the pairs for the next year. From January to April they are not found here. Sometimes the birds abandon their eggs for uncertain reasons, although it may be related to lack of food or climatic changes.
- Some species here have evolved in unique ways, probably due to significant isolation from other islands. Good examples are the marine iguanas and the lava lizards. One of the four species of Galapagos mockingbird (Española mockingbird), is only found on this island.