

# Española Island

Today we visited the home of the waved albatross, the only species of albatross that nests in the Galapagos Islands. Every time we visit this island is special. It is always wonderful to observe the interactions and behaviors of this majestic bird. However, today was extra special as we got to share the island with Carl Safina, famous ecologist and author of many books about wildlife. In fact, he's one of my favorite writers. Carl stayed on Española Island for a week to study the waved albatross while he was writing his book, *The Eye of the Albatross*. This time, he came back to the Galapagos to share his knowledge and wisdom about how animals think and feel, a subject many people never thought possible that has now been scientifically proven.

In the morning, we explored Gardner Bay, a beautiful white sand beach that is home to Galapagos sea lions.

Dec 11, 2022 National Geographic Endeavour II in Galápagos



## Floreana Island

Today we spent the day visiting Floreana Island. We visited Punta Cormorant and Champion Islet in the morning. Here we had the chance to explore the island on land and underwater. We spent a fantastic morning looking for endemic creatures. In the afternoon, we went kayaking in Post Office Bay. We had the chance to visit the Post Office barrel, one of the most important spots connected to human history on these islands.

Dec 12, 2022

National Geographic Endeavour II in Galápagos



#### Santa Cruz Island

We spent our day on Santa Cruz Island. We enjoyed great opportunities to observe Galapagos giant tortoises as well as land birds. We walked around the breeding center for tortoises and saw adults as well as juveniles. They all looked so healthy. During the afternoon, we visited a local farm and looked for wild tortoises. We observed many large males and females.

Dec 13, 2022

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### Santa Cruz Island

We enjoyed a great day on the northern part of Santa Cruz Island. We hiked through a palo santo forest at Cerro Dragon. Our main goal was to find Galapagos land iguanas, and we saw males and females along the dusty trail. In the afternoon, we deployed kayaks, paddleboards, and Zodiacs. Borrero Bay is the perfect spot to have fun. Its calm waters are a great place for wildlife observation, including blue-footed boobies, brown pelicans, spotted eagle rays, and Pacific green sea turtles. Nature is generous in the Galapagos!

Dec 14, 2022

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Today we visited the incredible islets of Bartolomé and Sombrero Chino. These visitors' sites gave us the most amazing snorkeling opportunities and the chance to see one of the most charismatic animals of the Galapagos, the Galapagos penguin.

Dec 15, 2022

National Geographic Endeavour II in Galápagos



### Genovesa Island

While navigating along the northeast corner of the archipelago, we have reached the final full day of our expedition in the Galápagos Islands. Early in the morning, we woke up inside the majestic caldera of Genovesa, which is considered the "Island of the Birds."

After six hours of navigation, we enjoyed breakfast with dramatic views of impressive volcanic landscape, including the clefts of an old, massive, collapsed caldera that is home to many different species of marine birds.