



# 5 DAYS

## OPUNTIA GALAPAGOS SURFING ADVENTURE

**Effort: Moderate -  
Challenging**

**Hotel Casa Opuntia, San Cristobal Island**

### Activities: Surfing, Wildlife Viewing, and Island Explorations

*Galapagos offers the ultimate surfing and nature experience. Here, you will find world class waves and share the warm clear waters with sea turtles, dolphins, sea lions, and marine iguanas. The best place to surf in the Galapagos is San Cristobal Island. Besides natural beauty, San Cristobal is so perfect for surfing because of its high consistency of surf, the size of some of its waves, the variety of its different waves, and its lack of crowds.*

### THE GALAPAGOS SURFING ADVENTURE EXPERIENCE:

This all-inclusive tour is the best way to surf the Galapagos. The value of having an expert local surfing guide is immeasurable. Your surfing guide will take you to the best surf spots at the ideal times and coach you through the intricacies of each wave. Equally important, your guide will become your portal into life on the island, introduce you to the surfing community and likely bring you to the island's best watering holes.

Another critical aspect of our Galapagos Surfing Adventure is that it

provides a much greater experience than just surfing. When the waves aren't breaking or you simply want a break, you can discover the Galapagos through hiking, biking, sea kayaking, scuba diving, or snorkeling adventures.

Our surfing tour is made even more distinctive by fine accommodations and superlative service at a beautiful ecologically-conscious seaside hotel. While dining on deliciously fresh food (much of which is organic and local) in the open-air dining room, you can watch how the waves are breaking at Punta Carola to the west and at Tongo and El Cañón to the east.

### SURFING SPOTS:

**Punta Carola:** This is considered to be the best wave in the Galapagos, and is one of the top waves in South America. It offers square barrels and long rides. It provides fairly consistent surf, and at high tide you will find waves that average up to ten feet (right-hand wave). However, this wave can get even bigger! Low tide is perfect for boogie boarders and beginning surfers. It also has a post-card worthy beach with excellent snorkeling when you want a break from the waves.

**El Cañón:** A 10 minutes walk from the hotel, you will find this great surfing bay with fast tubing waves averaging 6 feet (left-hand wave). El Cañón takes N, NW, W and strong SW swells. It is also a favorite surfing



### Trip highlights:

- World-class waves in a world-class National Park
- Riding a wave for 300 (1,000 feet) meters at Tongo Reef
- Catching waves up to 18 ft at Punta Carola during strong swells
- Fun square-barrels and tubes
- Uncrowded
- Share the waves with sea lions and sea turtles
- Warm waters from December to April
- Terrific snorkeling and sea kayaking
- See marine iguanas, boobies, lava lizards, finches, and sally-light footed crabs
- All waves located conveniently close to the hotel
- Top surfing guides take you to the best spots at the best times and coach you through the waves
- Stay in a first-class waterfront hotel with a pool and gourmet restaurant
- Optional adventure day tour activities

spot for sea lions.

**La Loberia:** A 10 minute drive from the hotel, here you will find very consistent 6 foot waves that are both right and left-handers. There is also a beautiful white sand beach with terrific snorkeling.

**Tongo Reef:** A southerly and westerly swell that provides fun tubes (left-hand wave). Best of all, this wave can be ridden for over 300 meters!

**Manglecito:** A 15-20 minute boat ride away, Manglecito is a gorgeous beach with fun 6 foot right-hand waves. It requires a strong N or NW swell and must be done at low tide, but the wave lasts 6 hours.

## SEASONS:

San Cristobal is unique as it receives northern and southern swells equally well, which means there is good surfing year-round. However, the absolute best time to surf is from December to March, when the northern swell is largest and most consistent. April and May still provide very high quality surfing as both the northern and southern swells are pulsing at this time. June to May is a bit colder and windier and only has a southern swell, but you will still find good waves.

INCLUDED:	NOT INCLUDED:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2 Galapagos airport-hotel transfers</li> <li>- 4 night accommodation at Hotel Casa Opuntia</li> <li>- 3 meals per day</li> <li>- Up to 5 days of Surf (transfers by water taxi within the bay, car, and walking)</li> <li>- 1 day of kayaking and snorkeling as an alternate activity to surfing</li> <li>- ½ day in the highlands at a crater lake and giant tortoise breeding center</li> <li>- Refreshments including water and snacks</li> <li>- Experienced local surfing guide (basic to intermediate English)</li> </ul>	<p>Airfare to/from Galapagos; Galapagos National Park entrance fee; adventure tours other than the ones included; hotel &amp; restaurant beverages, tips</p>
IMPORTANT:	NOTE:
<p>This itinerary is subject to change without notice due to seasonal changes, last minute weather conditions and adjustment of Galapagos National Park policy.</p>	<p>We will have the option of hiring a boat for an additional fee to surf otherwise inaccessible wave breaks along the untamed northern coast.</p>

Surfing in San Cristobal, Galapagos

<b>Avg. swell face height</b>	4 to 8 ft
<b>Max. swell face height</b>	12 to 18 ft
<b>Bottom Composition</b>	Volcanic rock / boulder (similar to Hawaii but without reefs)
<b>Water temp</b>	Dec – May 21-24 C (70-75 F) ; June – Nov. 20-22 C (68-72 F); El Niño years 24-26 C (75-79 F)
<b>Water visibility</b>	Often 60+ feet
<b>Crowd Dynamic</b>	Light - Moderate.
<b>Access</b>	Boat, car, and walking