

Fernandina Island, Galápagos, Ecuador

The youngest volcano in the Galápagos, Fernandina has never had invasive mammals — leaving it hauntingly pristine. Its only visitor site, Punta Espinoza, is carpeted with thousands of marine iguanas and home to the rare flightless cormorant.

 Tender (Zodiac/panga landing)

 Typical call: 4–6 hrs

 USD

 Spanish

 Wildlife expedition

🗓 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____

Arrive: _____

All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____

Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender only — Zodiac (panga) from ship to Punta Espinoza dry landing

Best For: Endemic wildlife, volcanic geology, photography, snorkeling

Walk to shore: No infrastructure; guided trail only (~1.6 km / 1 mile loop)

Don't Miss: Hundreds of basking marine iguanas & nesting flightless cormorants at Punta Espinoza

 Getting around:  **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Punta Espinoza Guided Nature Walk** — The island's only trail winds ~1.6 km across pahoehoe lava fields past dense colonies of marine iguanas, nesting...
- Snorkeling off Punta Espinoza** — From the panga just offshore, snorkel alongside marine iguanas grazing on algae, playful sea lions, Galápagos penguins...
- La Cumbre Volcano & Lava Field Views** — Fernandina is dominated by the highly active La Cumbre shield volcano.

BEST WALKS

- Punta Espinoza Lava Loop** ~1.6 km • 1.5–2 hrs • Moderate (uneven lava) • Guide required — The only trail on the island takes you through a living natural history exhibit: fields of black lava rock covered in hundreds of...

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Footwear is non-negotiable. Wear sturdy closed-toe hiking shoes or trail runners — the black lava is sharp enough to cut skin and will shred sandals. No flip-flops.
- No shade, intense equatorial sun. Apply reef-safe sunscreen before leaving the ship (required by park rules), wear a wide-brimmed hat, and bring UPF-rated clothing.
- Wildlife may approach you — back away slowly. The 2-meter rule is law, but iguanas and sea lions don't read signs. If an animal walks toward you, step aside without touching it.