

Mosquera Island, Galapagos, Ecuador

A flat sliver of white sand and black lava between Baltra and North Seymour, Mosquera Island is one of the Galapagos' most rewarding quick stops — sea lions everywhere, lava gulls nesting on shore, and crystal-clear snorkeling with turtles and reef sharks.

 Wet Landing (no pier or tender dock)

 Typical call: 2-4 hrs

 USD (Ecuador)

 Spanish / English guides

 Wildlife-focused

👉 MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Wet landing from panga — step into shallow water onto the beach

Size: ~600 m long × 160 m wide; flat sandy terrain, lava rock edges

Best For: Sea lion encounters, snorkeling, birdwatching (lava gulls, boobies, herons)

Don't Miss: Snorkeling alongside sea lion pups; scanning offshore for orcas

 Getting around: 📱 **Rideshare** ❌ not available

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Sea Lion Beach Walk** — Stroll the white-sand beach among one of the largest Galapagos sea lion colonies.
- **Snorkeling with Sea Lions & Turtles** — The calm, shallow, crystal-clear waters around Mosquera are exceptional for snorkeling.
- **Birdwatching** — Mosquera hosts the rare lava gull — the world's rarest gull species — alongside blue-footed boobies, brown pelicans...
- **Combined North Seymour & Mosquera Day** — Many itineraries pair Mosquera with North Seymour Island in the same half-day.

BEST WALKS

- **Mosquera Beach & Lava Rock Circuit** ~0.5 mi · 45-60 min · Flat/Easy — Follow the white-sand beach from the landing point toward the lava rock outcrops at each end, weaving around sea lions.

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Wear water shoes. The wet landing gets your feet wet — water sandals or Chacos work best. You can walk barefoot on the sand once ashore, but the lava rocks are sharp.
- Bring a dry bag. Your camera and phone will thank you. The panga ride is usually calm, but spray happens.
- Zero shade. Apply reef-safe sunscreen, wear a wide-brimmed hat, and consider a UV rash guard. The equatorial sun is intense even on overcast days.