



# **Know Before You Go**



# **SAN IGNACIO LAGOON** The Most Extraordinary Whale Interaction on the Planet



## BAJA **EXPEDITIONS**

Welcome to beautiful San Ignacio Lagoon! We hope you have an outstanding experience during your time here.

#### Whale Encounters

The most important part of your visit is your whale experience. For your safety, whale watching is weather-dependent and leaves from the beach in front of camp. There are up to 3 scheduled departures daily, with the first round in the morning for early risers. Your camp manager will discuss the timing at dinner every evening.

#### **Camp Amenities**

The village where you are staying is self-contained, including a dining tent and a club tent complete with honour bar. At the centre of camp, you will find a larger social and bar tent equipped with a pool table and a wide selection of beer, wine, and spirits. As well as, mountain bikes, volleyball, and pickleball. Kayaks and paddleboards are available just a short panga ride away in the mangroves across the lagoon. Don't forget to book your massage, or ask about tours of the local turtle sanctuary and visits to the nearby oyster farm.

#### **Safety First**

For your safety, our managers, naturalists and hosties are all trained in first aid. AEDs, medical oxygen, and trauma kits are located in the bar tent and onboard the panga flying the "Red Cross" flag. An ambulance is based at the clinic in the town of San Ignacio, 45 minutes away. Fire extinguishers are located in each tent, and a fire pump is next to the bar tent. A watchman will be on duty at night in case of any problems.

#### Weather

The weather can change suddenly at the Lagoon, ie. chilly and overcast in the morning, and then very warm by noon with clear skies and calm winds, and windy by late afternoon. Don't forget your complimentary "sea-safe" sunscreen, even on cloudy days when you go out on the water. Every day is different. We highly recommend layering up to stay warm when it's windy or cool and then you can strip down to a t-shirt when it warms up and the wind lies down. We have loaner windbreaker jackets available, as well as a full line of gift shop clothing, including fleece and warm jackets.

#### Safe in the Desert

While this is the desert, we generally don't have problems with scorpions, snakes or spiders. However, as a precaution, we suggest:

· Check your shoes before putting them on.

- Keeping your suitcase or bag zipped up.
- Pull back the sheets on your bed to check before climbing in.

- We highly recommend only wearing boots or closed-toe shoes in camp.

#### Whale Watching Guidelines

Please note that all the operators in the lagoon work together to maximize guest experience while ensuring no negative impact on the whales. For this reason, all whale encounters take place in a small, defined area of the lagoon. Pangas take turns entering the restricted area and for a maximum of 90 minutes. These schedules are coordinated in advance among the operators, which means we must abide by the set departure times. For this reason, we are unfortunately unable to offer "ad hoc" unscheduled whale watching departures.

We wish you the very best and a great San Ignacio adventure.

Mike Lever,

Proprietor, and your team at Baja Expeditions and Nautilus.

#### **TYPICAL ITINERARY**

#### **BAJA ULTIMATE WHALE ADVENTURES**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

SAMPLE GUESTS WAIVER

**A NOTE ON GRATUITIES** 

**ARE YOU BRINGING CAMERA INTO MEXICO?** 

#### **YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE!**

#### **Concierge Service**

Allow us to serve you better! Whether you have special requests, help with a pre-trip adventure, or assistance with transfers or hotel arrangements, our concierges are on standby to assist.

+52 624-129-9243 (WhatsApp) concierge@bajaex.com



Your trip meets at SeeCreatures Cabo.

Open at 6:30 am on departure days, will have fresh coffee out as well as yummy fresh baked goods, yoghurt and fruit.

Please note that your coach will depart for the private airport terminal promptly at **7:00 am**.

#### Address:

Calle Miguel Hidalgo 10, Centro, 23450 Cabo San Lucas, B.C.S., Mexico

## Open 7 days a week in season

#### Ask about a pre-trip adventure:

- Swimming with
- Kayaking
- whale sharks
- Day trip to Isla
  Espiritu Santo
- Scuba divingSnorkelling
- Cabo Pulmo

+52 624-143-6915 info@seecreaturesbaja.com



# Itinerary Overview\* 4 Days / 3 Nights Trip

Welcome to Baja! We are excited to have you join us. We encourage you to fly in early and enhance your vacation with additional adventures. There is so much to do from hotel stay to adventures out of La Paz, sea kayaking, scuba diving, complimentary whale watching, guided overlanding and sailing. SJD Los Cabos is the best gateway airport and it's important to fly in at least one day early. Our concierges will be on standby to assist with transfers and hotel stay.

#### Please note:

To serve you better, our concierge team will reach out ahead of time to assist in every way possible from hotel reservations, transfers and special requests to collecting the required passport information. Alternatively, if you would prefer to check-in at SeeCreatures in Cabo in person, please be sure to visit us on the morning of Day 1.

\*Itinerary is subject to the unpredictability of wildlife, weather, and mother ocean!







#### The Day Before Your Trip

We invite you to join our photo and video workshop at 9:30 am. And for those who sign up ahead of time, we offer a complimentary afternoon humpback whale watching adventure.

#### Day 1 - Meet the Gray Whales!

Your adventure begins with a private 1 hour 50 minute flight from Cabo to our airstrip at the Lagoon.

On arrival, our staff will meet you at the airstrip with welcoming smiles, glasses of champagne and hot apple cider, and we will travel to camp for brunch and welcome aboard briefing. After brunch, you have the option of two whale watching encounters or enjoying camp. Cocktail hour. Watching the sunset around one of our fire pits. Dinner. Presentation by one of our naturalists.

### Days 2-3 - San Ignacio Lagoon

All operators in the lagoon work together to maximize guest experience while ensuring no negative impact on the whales. For this reason, all whale encounters are in a small defined area of the lagoon with pangas taking turns entering the restricted area for a maximum of 90 minutes. The timing on this is worked out between the operators which means that we abide by scheduled departure times. For this reason, unfortunately, we can't just send a panga out to go whale watching whenever our guests want.

Option 1: 7 am breakfast after watching the sunrise over the sierras and then head out at 7:45 am for several whale watching encounters.

Option 2: Sleep in and relax. Breakfast when you are ready. 1 late morning whale watching encounter. Our camp manager can confirm the timing.

After lunch, enjoy another whale watching encounter in the afternoon. Or as long as the weather cooperates, enjoy kayaking or paddleboarding the mangroves across the lagoon or a leisurely walk, mountain biking, hiking, and bird watching with one of our naturalists or just kicking back, and relaxing. Cocktail hour, sunset viewing, making new friends around one of our fire pits, pickle ball or a game of billiards and an evening presentation by a naturalist are all fine ways to finish off your day in camp.

#### Day 4 - Return to Cabo

Early breakfast. One more whale watching encounter (always weather dependent) and then the beautiful flight back to SJD Los Cabos. Arriving 12:30 pm. If you are flying home this day, we recommend not booking a flight departure before 2:45 pm. Otherwise transfer back to SeeCreatures Cabo and more adventure!

# Itinerary Overview\* 6 Days / 5 Nights Extended Stay

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# AN IGNACIO LAGOON

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#### Days 2-5 - San Ignacio Lagoon

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## **Optional Baja Ultimate Whale Adventure**



The great whales come home to Baja every winter, giving us a plethora of experiences and adventures. Our ultimate whale trips combine our spotter airplane, swimming with whale sharks, snorkelling with sea lions, and spending 3 nights on your own 116-ft expedition yacht searching for blue whales, humpback whale mommas and babies, fin whales, and pods of dolphins. The adventure continues with a private sightseeing flight across Baja to our luxury camp at San Ignacio Lagoon with the most extraordinary whale interaction on the planet. This is an unforgettable 8 day / 7 night adventure and a tremendous value.

Your expedition begins in Cabo San Lucas with humpback whale watching, followed by a transfer to a boutique hotel in La Paz. The next morning includes swimming with whale sharks (weather permitting), a beach lunch at UNESCO Isla Espíritu Santo, and swimming with sea lions. Then, board our 116-ft expedition yacht for cocktail hour and dinner as we sail north toward Loreto, searching for the blue whales that frequent the national park during winter.

The adventure continues as you return to La Paz for a private 1-hour 40-minute flight to San Ignacio Lagoon, where you'll experience the most extraordinary whale interactions on the planet over 4 day / 3 night. Conclude your journey with a private flight back to the SJD executive terminal in Los Cabos.

\$4,995 USD (Luxury camp accommodation). Divers are encouraged to bring their scuba gear for limited diving.

**Upgrade to Baja Ultimate Whales** 

## TRAVEL DETAILS

#### What airport do I fly into?

SJD, Los Cabos International Airport

#### When should I fly in?

At least one day early. Of course, this is Cabo in peak winter season and we encourage you to fly in well before that and enjoy Los Cabos and La Paz and the Sea of Cortez. There is so much to do and our concierges are on standby to help you with questions, recommendations and arrangements. Please note that there is a complimentary photo workshop at 9:30 in the morning the day before you fly to the lagoon as well as an afternoon ocean safari with humpback whale watching.

#### Why do your trips leave out of SJD?

Because the shortest flight to the Lagoon is from SJD which is super easy to get to with service from 15 different US cities, most of Mexico and even direct flights from overseas. Because Cabo San Lucas in the winter and spring is a really fun place to visit!! Because you won't have any border crossing hassles. And because we offer all sorts of other activities from our Cabo San Lucas base including swimming with whale sharks and other adventures in the Sea of Cortez, scuba diving including our Socorro giant manta liveaboard trips, photography workshops and much more.

#### Can I make my own way to the airport to board the flight?

Unfortunately no. We depart from the secure private FBO Executive terminal, and it's not possible for a taxi or rental car to get past security.

#### What kind of airplane is used for flights to the lagoon?

Late model Cessna 208B Grand Caravan. These are 13 passenger airplanes with a jetprop engines, air con, leather seats, good soundproofing and a large cargo pod.



#### Is there a baggage allowance on the airplane?

Yes, 22 pounds (10kg) per person. Soft sided bags please. You are very welcome to leave your suitcases in storage at SeeCreatures Cabo San Lucas while you're in camp.

#### Is there another way to camp or do I have to fly from SJD?

We happily cater to self-arrivals whether it is by private aircraft or driving in. Our speciality is supporting guests with the rental of our Toyota Tacoma TRD overlanding camping trucks.

#### What time does the flight arrive back in SJD?

Normally 12:30 pm. It's easy to fly home that same afternoon but we recommend booking your flight for 2:45 pm or later. It's our pleasure to transfer guests from the FBO private terminal directly over to terminal one or two at the airport when the flight gets in.

#### When is the best time to visit?

We only operate in peak season when large numbers of whales are present from January through April.

#### How do I get from SJD into town?

Sealine Cabo Transfers is our recommended provider of airport transfers to and from Cabo San Lucas. For booking, please email Martin at mmoreno@sealinecabotransfers.com

We also recommend Miguel from Faro Nuevo as an alternative option. Email: mfc949@gmail.com Phone: +52 (624) 141 6254

#### Do you have hotel recommendations in Cabo San Lucas?

Yes, you have a number of options

We recommend the Casa Bella boutique hotel conveniently located next door to SeeCreatures Cabo. The property is beautiful. It's like an old Spanish hacienda that opens up to a beautiful interior courtyard. Please note that it is located in downtown Cabo which means that it's not perfectly quiet at night.

To book Casa Bella Hotel https://www.casabellahotel.com/ info@casabellahotel.com +52 624-143-6400

We have a constantly evolving list of other approved hotels ranging from 3 to 5-star that we can recommend or book on your behalf. Sometimes it's cheaper to book directly online, but sometimes our contract rates are a better deal. It's always your choice. Please contact our concierges for more info.

#### Where do we meet?

SeeCreatures Cabo at 6:30 am. Our private luxury coach will be departing at 7 am sharp. Pickups are also available from the Solmar hotel at 6:30 am by prior arrangement.

#### What will the weather be like?

Well, it's the desert, which means that it can be cold at night, down to the low 40s°F. Low temps in the mornings and then the clouds burn off by early afternoon and become warmer. Some days are calm. Some days can be quite windy. We are very lucky to have our camp on the north side of the lagoon where there is far more protection from the elements than the other camps on the south shore.

#### Can you accommodate special dietary requirements?

Yes, with at least 30 days advance notice, we will be happy to accommodate your dietary needs, whether vegetarian, vegan, lactose intolerant, gluten-free or halal/kosher quasi-vegetarian.

#### What's included with my trip?

Transportation from our recommended hotels or SeeCreatures to the private terminal, whale watching, accommodation, all activities, all meals and snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages.

#### What is NOT included in my trip?

Park and airport landing fees totalling \$35 USD per person, alcoholic beverages, single occupancy (if available, surcharge applicable), internet access (\$25 USD per device), and if you think the service is deserving, crew gratuities - typically between \$225 to 275 per person. Please note that the panga captains are independent service providers from the local village and it would be appropriate to tip them directly if the service is deserving.

## **ABOUT GRAY WHALES**

#### Will I see gray whales on this trip?

Yes! There are lots of whales in the lagoon and typically 300 to 400 are friendly and interactive with humans. Gray whales first arrive in the lagoon in December and are present through May. There is seasonality to the sightings. More mating activity happens at the beginning of the season and this is when we see newborn calves. The mamas and calves stay in the lagoon until the babies are big enough to safely make the 3000-mile northward trek to BC and Alaska. Towards the end of the season, the calves can be especially friendly.

#### Why are we trying to touch the whales? Is this bad for them?

Encounters and interactions with them are entirely on the whales' terms. We only interact with the whales in a small designated area and are very careful to stay away from them in the rest of the lagoon. The whales who are interested in humans literally swim over to this area and approach the pangas. The encounters are not forced in any way. The local captains are very careful not to approach or harass the gray whales. One of the extraordinary things about this interaction is that the whales only approach humans in Baja lagoons. During the rest of the year they are quite shy and reclusive and maintain the normal distance that you would expect between whales and nearby boats.

Interesting to note that gray whales were known as "devil fish" because during the terrible days of industrial whaling, harpooned gray whales would turn around and attack the whalers. Sometimes managing to sink the whaling boats and kill the whalers. All of that changed in 1972 when whaling was outlawed virtually everywhere in the world, and a local fisherman named Pachico felt an irresistible urge to reach out and touch a whale that presented itself beside his boat. We suspect that both Pachico and the whale were astonished by the interaction. Within a year, four whales and a handful of fishermen were interacting with each other. The behaviour we are so lucky to enjoy now grew from those first encounters.

#### How much whale watching is included in my trip?

Typically two afternoon whale watching encounters on the first day in the lagoon. Opportunity for two morning sessions and an afternoon session on day two and three in the lagoon. And one morning session before flying out on day four in the lagoon. Not all guests choose to do this much whale watching. It's entirely your option. It is important to note that it can be windy sometimes in the lagoon, which might limit the number of whale encounters that day. Rest assured that we always do our very best for you.

Important to note that the whale watching takes place entirely in one designated area with a maximum of 16 boats at one time. This means that when the lagoon is at its busiest. Each panga can stay in the reserve for 90 minutes maximum and then needs to exit to allow another panga to enter.

#### What kind of boats do you use for whale watching?

Whale watching excursions take plane on "panga" boats typically 24 - 28-ft in length. While these boats can easily accommodate up to 12 guests, we do our best to run with just 6 to 7 guests plus a captain and a naturalist whenever possible. Please note that operational realities in the lagoon may mean that sometimes we have to run with more guests in the pangas. The operation of these boats is a joint venture with the local captains and fishermen which we see as eco-tourism at its finest. Some of our pangas are brand new, purchased by BajaEx, and leased back to local captains for one dollar per year to help them maximize their earnings with the nicest possible boats.

Pangas are widely used throughout Baja and known for their sea kindliness and efficiency coupled with a good amount of speed. Interestingly, the design dates back to a 1970s project and joint venture between Yamaha outboards and the world bank. The design brief was to build a fast and efficient boat for the local fishermen. The name "panga "evolves from the panga fish that the boats were originally designed to fish for.

## My mobility is somewhat impaired. Will I have any trouble boarding the pangas?

No, we have wooden boarding ramps with handrails on both sides of the ramp which make the pangas quite accessible

#### I have a bad back. Is this a problem?

No. Just please let us know ahead of time. We have a limited number of comfortable special chairs that we can rig up in your panga.

#### Can I drink onboard the pangas?

Due to regulations and safety reasons, drinking alcoholic beverages is not allowed during whale watching activities.

## WHAT TO BRING

#### What should I pack?

We strongly recommend bringing layered clothing. It's not uncommon to be wearing a shirt, several sweaters and a windbreaker at 7am and then just a t-shirt by noon. Rain is very uncommon in this area, with the exception of one or two Pacific clouds that pass through every season. Rubber boots are an excellent idea. We have loaner boots and jackets available for everybody.

Comfortable clothes for camp: cotton T-shirts, long sleeve shirts, warm sweaters, shorts and pants, windbreaker, many people bring waterproof pants, a warm jacket, warm sleepwear, lots of extra warm socks, tennis or hiking shoes, water friendly sandals, dry bag, flashlight, sun hat, sea safe sunblock, personal medications, and a camera with loads of SD cards.

#### Can I bring my own beer, wine or alcohol into camp?

Sorry, no. For liability reasons, we are not able to allow any outside alcohol into camp. We stock one heck of a bar with a great selection of craft beer, wine, single malt scotch, fine vodkas and much more all at very reasonable prices. We know that you're on vacation. We want you to have a great time and that includes a great selection of drinks at lowest possible pricing.

#### Do I need to bring my passport?

Entry into Mexico requires a passport that still has six months of validity

#### Do I need a visa?

Mexico requires visas from a certain but small number of countries. Please double check your specific requirements online or contact us for assistance.

#### Do I need medical evacuation insurance?

Yes. Because of the remote location of the camp, medical evacuation insurance is required for all guests. We can assist with a purchase of this insurance and it's very affordable. **Click here**.

#### Should I buy travel interruption insurance?

Yes, highly recommended. We have seen too many guests with a cancelled or delayed flight or problems at work or some other reason for a trip being delayed or cancelled.

## CAMP DETAILS

#### What are the tents like?

The short answer is pretty darn luxurious! Most of our glamping tents are Weatherhavens which are well known from expeditions as far as the Arctic and all the way south of Antarctica. Each tent has adjustable twin beds or one quasi king and an ensuite bathroom and shower. 24-hour AC power. Lights. Heat. Hot and cold running water. Internet access. And of course, a chandelier over the bed.

Our luxury tents are considerably larger with adjustable twin beds or one king bed. As well as a sitting area with couches and chairs, a dresser, and a much larger bathroom even including twin vanities.

We also have a limited number of family tents which are the same size as the luxury tents, except the sitting area is replaced with extra beds for kids and teens.

Double-size tents are used for the different dining areas and bar.

#### Is there Internet access in camp?

WiFi is available for your convenience. Starting in 2025, there will be a charge of \$25 per device per trip. We use Starlink Internet and ask everyone to please be considerate of how much data you use so that everyone has reasonable access.

#### Is there a 24 hour power in our tent?

Yes!

#### How often can I shower?

Every tent has a full ensuite with hot and cold running water. There is ample water in camp for everyone to take a hot shower every day. But we do ask you to limit it to one shower because water is a very precious commodity in the desert.

#### Is there anything to do in camp other than whale watching?

Yes! Of course! Our camp is located beachfront right on the lagoon in the Vizcaino desert and biosphere reserve. It's a gorgeous setting. Watching the sun come up over the Sierras, the mountains, in the morning is stunning. Watching the sunset over the desert at the end of the day is good for the soul and very beautiful. The desert is a quiet and still place but there is lots to do from birdwatching to kayaking, paddle boarding, star gazing under the spectacular Mexican night sky to the billiards table and volleyball court that we set up in camp.

## Will it be quiet in camp or will a generator be droning away?

Our eco-experience camp is silent but don't be fooled! We have 24-hour AC power.

#### Are kids and teens welcome in camp?

Yes! One of our luxury camps and our salty dog bar is reserved for adults only. Kids and teens are welcome everywhere else. We do have special family tents with convertible futons in leau of a sitting area.

#### Are mosquitoes and bugs a problem?

Spiders, black widows, and scorpions can be found in the area. If you are allergic to any of these, please bring your epipen. While they aren't typically a problem, it's a good idea to keep your tent zipped up at all times—to keep out both critters and coyotes!

#### What happens in the case of an emergency?

Our camp operates with the same emergency preparedness and protocols as our ocean-going liveaboard ships. You can be sure that our camp will be stocked with an AED, emergency oxygen and extensive first-aid equipment and that we have trained "first responders" on site. In the very unlikely event of a medical emergency, medevac flights are available to an acute care hospital in Cabo.

#### **MORE ADVENTURES**

## What can I do in Cabo San Lucas before or after my visit to the Lagoon?

Plenty!!! Take a day trip to the Sea of Cortez with us and swim with whale sharks (weather permitting), snorkel with sea lions, spend a day kayaking around the Unesco World Heritage site, Isla Espirtu Santo, or a day at Balandra Beach or a couple of days in our eco-experience camp. For divers, we have daily departures for 2 and 3 tankers out of cabo, day trips to Cabo Pulmo and for more experienced divers, the sea mounts at Gordo Banks. For non-divers, ask about our Discover Scuba intro. Of course, the ultimate activity is to charter our 45-ft luxury sailing catamaran in the Sea of Cortez or join one of our liveaboard trips.

## Can I make this a longer trip? What activities are available if I fly in early?

We have loads of different activities on offer as pre-and post trip extensions. From our very popular Baja Ultimate Whales that adds a complete package, from swimming with whale sharks and sea lions to cruising on our expedition yacht looking for mama and baby humpback whales, finback whales, huge pots of dolphins and much more, **click here to see the adventure**. To day trips that might include an Introduction to Scuba, snorkelling with whale sharks, kayaking adventures, lots of different options for certified scuba divers, Mobula and Orca Ocean Safaris, multi-day sailing, or eco-experience camp, and to our extremely popular expeditions to Socorro Island.



## **Introducing Heavenly Massage at San Ignacio**



Does it get any better than enjoying a massage while on safari with the gray whales of San Ignacio Lagoon? It's not just the whales that are extraordinary. At Baja Expeditions, we continuously strive to provide excellence and our carefully curated massage offerings are designed to do just that. We encourage pre-booking because these massages sell out fast.

#### Stone Therapy Massage

Duration: 90 minutes | Price: US\$200

Experience the benefits of geothermal therapy by combining therapeutic massage with the use of hot and cold stones. These stones are placed at chakra points to ensure proper energy flow, relieving discomfort and enhancing overall well-being. The volcanic origin of the stones not only improves your energy flow but also allows your body to absorb the earth's natural energy.

#### Cupping Massage

Duration: 90 minutes | Price: US\$200

Cupping therapy is an ancient technique known for its multiple benefits, including pain relief, alleviating muscle tightness, stress reduction, and skin rejuvenation. By increasing blood flow and expelling toxins, this treatment helps alleviate muscle tension and promote overall relaxation and renewal.

#### Massage with Herbal Pindas

Duration: 90 minutes | Price: US\$200

Pinda massage is designed to balance the mind, body, and soul through relaxing movements, combining the therapeutic powers of phytotherapy and aromatherapy. Herbal pindas, filled with a unique blend of herbs, apply pressure to the body, activating chakras on both an energetic and physical level.

#### Deep Tissue Massage -

Duration: 70 minutes | Price: US\$120

Target deeper layers of muscles and connective tissue to relieve aches and pains. This massage focuses on relieving tension, improving flexibility, and promoting overall physical wellness.

#### Relaxation Massage –

Duration: 70 minutes | Price: US\$100

Relaxation massage is designed to reduce stress and create a sense of calm.

#### Reflexology Add-On (add to any massage)

Add-On: +20 minutes | Add-On: +US\$40

Reflexology, also known as Zonal Therapy, is a holistic treatment that balances the physical, energetic, and spiritual aspects of the body. This therapy views the human being as part of a greater whole, integrating the body, mind, and energy (spirit) into a single entity.

When receiving Reflexology, you can experience:

- Deep relaxation, an essential element for proper nervous system function. This relaxation helps release physical and mental tensions, reducing stress levels.
- Improved blood flow, vital for organs to perform their functions effectively.
- Self-awareness, which integrates emotions and physical sensations as parallel, interconnected processes.

This add-on enhances any massage session, leaving you feeling more connected, balanced, and restored.

## San Ignacio Lagoon Turtle Conservation Program



San Ignacio Lagoon, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, renowned as the last undeveloped gray whale lagoon on Earth is about much more than whales

Turtles in the lagoon are under unrelenting pressure, including being attacked by coyotes that leave them stranded on the beaches. We are always on the lookout for injured turtles and deliver them to EcoTortugas, a multigenerational fishing family dedicated turtle conservation. The family welcomes your visit when visiting the lagoon. What to expect:

- Participate in a half-day session that might include, monitoring turtles, measuring and identifying them, and releasing them back into the sea.
- Learn about the challenges sea turtles face, including threats from coyotes, through an engaging talk and a tour of the reserve.
- Enjoy a personal experience with group sizes capped at 8 participants, with two sessions daily (7:00–11:00 am. or after 4:00 pm.)
- **\$40 donation per person**, of which 100% goes to supporting turtle conservation. Pre-booking is highly recommended.

By participating, you're not only contributing to a vital conservation mission but also supporting a local family whose livelihood revolves around preserving these incredible marine creatures. Add this unique experience to your San Ignacio Lagoon adventure!.



## PASSENGER GUEST WAIVER, RELEASE AND INDEMNITY (the "Waiver")

In consideration of you allowing me to participate in your camping and/or whale watching and/ or excursion (the "Excursion"):

I voluntarily waive, release and forever discharge NAUTILUS DIVE ADVENTURES AND/OR all its related entities: ICARUS AVIATION LTD also doing business as "Lever Diving" AND/ OR NAUTILUS EXPLORER MEXICO, S. DE R.L DE C.V. AND/OR BAJA EXPEDITIONS AND/OR BSK, S.A. DE C.V. AND/OR SEECREATURES AND/OR CABO DIVE CENTRE, S. DE R.L. DE C.V (collectively the "Company") and its employees, directors, officers, agents and contractors (collectively the "Operators") from any and all liability, including but not limited to liability arising from the negligence (including gross negligence) or fault of the Operators or any of them for personal injury or death, property loss or damage or any other claims of any kind which may occur to me during or in connection with the Excursion and/or the use or misuse of any equipment, vessels or vehicles.

I agree that all agreements made between the Operators and myself (including this Waiver) shall be governed by the laws of Mexico and the courts of Mexico City, shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any matter relating to the said agreements or this Waiver.

I agree that this Waiver shall be binding upon my heirs, executors, administrators, successors, assigns and my estate and I agree that in the event that a claim is made against the Operators or any one of them in respect of any cause of action relating to me, I will indemnify the Operator(s) for their losses, damage and expenses arising from such claim.

I confirm that I have both read and fully understood the description of the risks involved in participating in the Excursion as set forth in the Company's disclosure information entitled "DIVING EXCURSION RISKS" published on the Company web site (https://nautilusliveaboards.com/diving-excursion-risks/) and in the pre-trip information package provided to me.

I also confirm that I:

- (a) am physically fit; without any health related reasons that would otherwise preclude my;
- (b) have had sufficient instruction, preparation and/or training for; and
- (c) have not been advised by any medical professional to avoid participation in the Excursion.

Finally, I confirm that I read and fully understood this Waiver before signing and, that I had the opportunity to do so before making any commitment of whatsoever kind or nature to the Company.

# Please note that you will be required to sign this waiver form upon the arrival at the hospitality suite.

## **Our Responsibilities**

- To ensure your safety.
- To give you the best possible experience.
- To treat you with respect and consideration and to provide excellence in service.
- To be responsive to special requests and needs.
- To plan each trip with respect to weather, sea conditions and animal behavior in order to maximize your experience.

## **Your Responsibilities**

#### 1. Animals

We love Mother Ocean! Unfortunately, sometimes guests will demonstrate unsafe or irresponsible behavior towards animals that impedes other guests' experiences and/or may cause harm to the animals. It is your responsibility to follow the staff's directions and recommendations with respect to interaction with the animals. In the unlikely event that an individual is impeding other guests and/ or causing harm to the animals, the camp manager will speak to that person and give them a formal warning. If the guest continues the same behavior, the camp manager has the authority to hold that guest off the water for the remainder of the trip.

#### 2. Alcohol

With over 30 years of operational experience, we have learned the safest alcohol policy is to restrict guests from bringing their own alcohol to the campsite. We provide a wide selection of beer, wine and alcohol at our bar at reasonable prices. We are also happy to hold your duty-free purchases or local purchases of alcohol in bond with your luggage in Cabo San Lucas until the end of your trip. Due to regulations and your safety, drinking alcohol during whale watching is prohibited.

#### 3. Government Rules

You must comply with all Mexican government rules and regulations. Please note that government regulations and laws may change without notice. Our contract with you is subject to "force majeure" without compensation.

#### 4. Marijuana

Marijuana is illegal in Mexico including medicinal prescription marijuana. We have a zero tolerance policy regarding guests bringing marijuana to our camp.

#### 5. Illegal Substances

We maintain a zero tolerance for illegal narcotics or substances. We're required under Mexican law to report any problems to the Mexican Federal Police.

#### 6. Staff

Treating our staff with courtesy and respect.

#### 7. Getting Sick

We sincerely hope that you stay healthy and don't get sick during your trip. Please let the crew know if you are not feeling well so that we can give you extra love and attention and also do our best to prevent anyone else in camp from getting sick.





I hope we have left you with the feeling that our crew has served you with warmth, good cheer, and has done their very best ensuring your safety and excellence in guest services. I am incredibly proud of our hardworking and dedicated staff.

Attitudes towards tipping vary around the world. In Mexico, it is considered disrespectful to the crew and staff to not leave a gratuity if the service is deserving. For your guidance, most guests leave a tip of US\$225 to \$300. Please note that the panga captains are independent service providers from the local village, and it would be appropriate to tip them directly if the service is deserving.

We greatly value your feedback about your experience with us, including anything we can improve on. I would really appreciate any comments or thoughts you might share. Simply click on **"Your Feedback"** on the camp Wi-Fi portal to share your thoughts.

On a personal note and as my thanks to you, I invite you to join our Last Minute Club, exclusively for repeat clients. Members receive incredible savings of up to 75% on last-minute adventures, offered 3 or 4 times a year. If you love awesome deals, simply click on "**Last Minute**" on the camp Wi-Fi portal to sign up.

Thank you very much for trusting us with your vacation!

Sincerely,

m Lever

Mike Lever Proprietor, Baja Expeditions



## **Mexico Customs and Cameras**

We have received reports of isolated incidents in which Mexican Customs (Aduanes) has charged taxes cameras and housings being brought into the country by divers. While this is a violation of both Mexican and international law, local officials have continued with this illegal behaviour. We are fighting it in every way that we can with the help of our lawyers and the tourism boards.

In the meantime, the easiest way to avoid problems with customs is to pack cameras and equipment in regular looking suitcases. NOT in pelican cases. No dive stickers. No destination stickers. Just plain old carry-in suitcases. Mexican customs seems to focus on luggage that looks like it contains dive or photography gear.

We are very sorry for this hassle. It's not fair. We sincerely hope that things will revert back to normal with the newly elected government in 2024.

## Other steps that you can take in case your luggage is identified as dive gear

- 1. Carry invoices for the used depreciated value of your camera and housing. The lower the dollar amount, the less illegal duty you will be assessed.
- 2. If you do get assessed duty, make contemporaneous notes. Including the identification of the customs officer. They likely won't let you take their photo but they do have to show their badge number. Be sure you note the time, place, badge number and the amount you were assessed.
- 3. Use your credit card to pay any duties or taxes. That way you can dispute the charge with your credit company. This is where your contemporaneous notes will be very valuable.
- 4. Please let our concierges know what happened. We will fight hard on your behalf.

# **Adventure Travel**



#### **Socorro Island** Nov - Jul / 9 Days, 8 Nights

Celebrating 45 years of diving this magical oasis.

Super friendly giant manta rays, Equally friendly dolphins, 11 species of sharks. Beautiful, beautiful diving.



#### San Ignacio Gray Whales Jan – Apr / 4 or 6 day trips

The most extraordinary whale interaction on the planet.

Gray whales actively seek us out for "human watching" and physical affection.



#### **Baja Ultimate Whales** Jan – Apr / 8 Days, 7 Nights

The great whales come home to Baja every winter, giving us a plethora of experiences and adventures.

Spotter airplane supported, whale watching off Cabo, Sea of Cortez expedition yacht, San Ignacio luxury camp.



#### **NexGen LifeLine**

100 hours of transmit time, improved range, improved accuracy, improved spool up time, 5-year warranty, MMSI included, AIS / DSC technology, works worldwide, and always free to use (no subscriptions).

# Spotter Airplane Supported!



#### **Ultimate Whale Sharks** Jun - Oct / 8 Days, 7 Nights

Whale Sharks!! Who doesn't want to swim with whale sharks.

Imagine loads of them in a deserted bay deep into the Sea of Cortez all for yourself.



Apr - Aug / 8 Days, 7 Nights

Spotter airplane supported.

Swim with hundred or thousands of mobulas. Peak season for orca encounters.

**Mexico Sardine Run** Oct - Dec / 8 Days, 7 Nights

Unique combo of liveaboard escort boat and local pangas.

Snorkelling and freediving.



#### **Sea of Cortez Getaways** Jul - Nov / 6 or 8 day trips

Different seasons, Different seas.

Mega pods of dolphins, sea lions, schooling fish, whales, orcas, and so much more!



#### **Espiritu Santo Kayaking** Year-round / Day trips

Kayaking + Espiritu Santo + lunch & beach

1 Day adventure includes return transfers from Cabo to La Paz.



**Swim with Whale Sharks** Year-round / Day trips

Whale sharks + lunch & beach + snorkelling with sea lions.

1 Day adventure includes return transfers from Cabo to La Paz.



#### **45-ft Sailing Catamaran** Year-round

With your captain, chef and naturalist / dive master at your service this is the way to experience the sea of cortez.

Includes all activities.



#### **Mothership Supported Espiritu Santo Beach Camp** Oct - May / 2 to 7 nights

Beach camping in an UNESCO World Heritage Site with the luxury of mothership support (all the hot showers you want).

Includes all activities: kayaking, SUP, scuba, snorkelling, beach walks and hiking into the desert.



**Ocean & Rainforest** 



**Guided Self-Drive Overlanding** October - May



**Mothership Supported** Kayaking



**Cocos Island of the Sharks** 

Imagine spending a night on an endless deserted beach and the sand dunes on the edge of the Pacific ocean.

Tacoma TRD Pro self-drive with guided vehicle, naturalist and chef and mobile base camp.

Explore the real Baja.

#### Year-round

The best of both worlds. Kayaking for all ages, experience and fitness levels, beach camping and the luxury of mothership support.

#### **Kayaking & Beach Camping**

Old school! Full panga support. We do all the heavy lifting. You do the paddling and enjoy.

#### Sept / 10 or 11 day trip

Cocos is the dive destination that experienced divers speak of in whispers.

It's legendary, super sharky, and some of the best diving anywhere on the planet.

#### August / 6 Days, 5 Night

132-ft liveaboard safari boat.

Unique adventure combines peak humpback whale season with diving Caño Island and naturalist guided rainforest adventure.



#### **Day Trips & Certifications**

Cabo San Lucas Discover scuba 2 and 3 tank dives Night dives Whale watching Nitrox courses MARES demo days SSI & PADI

Formerly Amigos del Mar



#### **Cabo Pulmo**

Diving in Cabo Pulmo is like diving into the past as the reefs serve as an example of what a healthy Baja reef should look like.

Teeming with fish life. schools of hundreds of snappers, turtles, bull sharks, and much more!

**Day Trips** 



#### Cabo & Gordo Banks

The holy grail of diving for Cabo divers, Gordo Banks is an underwater ridge with a series of pinnacles starting at a depth of 100 feet.

It's not a dive for the faint of heart unless they want to go with their own personal dive guide (of course is no problem).

**Day Trips**