

## Mexico

### Private Baja California Sur Expedition

Cabo San Lucas – La Paz – Magdalena Bay – Loreto

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#### BEST SEASON

January 15 to March 15

#### PRICE

From US \$5,250 pp excluding local flights

#### HOW LONG

9 Days / 8 Nights



#### ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Discover the marvels of Baja California Sur, a region where the arid desert meets the deep blue waters of the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Cortez. This extraordinary landscape sets the stage for a journey filled with celestial wonders and diverse wildlife. Rancho Cacachilas, located in Los Cabos, is a captivating oasis for nature enthusiasts. Explore scenic trails by foot, gaze at the mesmerizing night sky during stargazing sessions, embark on horseback riding adventures, or conquer thrilling mountain biking trails for a remarkable outdoor experience in this pristine Baja California desert sanctuary. Swim alongside gentle giants during thrilling encounters with both whale sharks and gray whales with their calves, marveling at their majestic presence. Explore Espiritu Santo Island's protected coves, adorned with stunning colors and geological formations. Visit Balandra Beach, a splendid natural sanctuary and one of Mexico's most exquisite beaches. Prepare to be captivated by playful sea lions and vibrant marine life during idyllic snorkeling experiences. As you venture to Loreto, its rich heritage provides a glimpse

into a bygone era, enveloping you into a lovely small oasis in the mountains with a timeless ambiance.

## Quick Summary

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner OV: Overnight

Day & Location	Transportation, Highlights and Accommodations	Meals
Day 1 <b>Arrive to Los Cabos, Sierra de las Cacachilas</b>	Arrive at Los Cabos airport (around 2p.m.) and land transfer to Sierra de las Cacachilas. Walking tour, stargazing, welcome dinner <b>OV: Glamping Rancho Cacachilas</b>	D
Day 2 <b>Sierra de las Cacachilas</b>	Choose activities: hiking, mule riding or mountain biking <b>OV: Glamping Rancho Cacachilas</b>	B, L, D
Day 3 <b>La Paz</b>	Land transfer to La Paz (45 min), boat transfer to Espiritu Santo Island (1.5 hr) Snorkeling with Sea Lion colony, La Paz Walking tour <b>OV: Hotel Catedral</b>	B, L, D
Day 4 <b>La Paz</b>	Boat transfer (30 min), swimming with Whale Sharks, Espiritu Santo and Balandra beach with picnic lunch <b>OV: Hotel Catedral</b>	B, D, BL
Day 5 <b>Magdalena Bay</b>	Land transfer (4 hrs) to San Carlos, Boat transfer. Gray Whale Watching Tour, beachcombing <b>OV: Magdalena Bay Camp</b>	B, L
Day 6 <b>Magdalena Bay</b>	Sunrise Walk over Magdalena Bay, Gray whale watching, kayaking or beachcombing/relax or birdwatch <b>OV: Magdalena Bay Camp</b>	B, L, D
Day 7 <b>Loreto</b>	Gray Whale watching, boat transfer (45 min) and land transfer (2 hrs) to Loreto. Afternoon walking tour <b>Overnight at Hotel La Mision</b>	B, L, D
Day 8 <b>Loreto</b>	San Javier Mission cultural trip with culinary experience, 1 hour transfer each way, farewell dinner <b>Overnight at Hotel La Mision</b>	B, L
Day 9 <b>Loreto – Departure</b>	Land transfer to Loreto International airport (15 min) to connect with your flight back home.	B

## ITINERARY IN DETAIL



### **Day 1 | Arrival, Transfer to Rancho Cacachilas, Stargazing**

Welcome to Mexico! Upon arrival at Los Cabos International Airport, clear customs and meet your private guide who will transfer you to the hospitality area. From there, embark on a 45-minute overland journey to Sierra de las Cacachilas, offering stunning Baja landscape views and an introduction to the upcoming adventure. Rancho Cacachilas, nestled in this remote mountain range, is a sanctuary for unique desert flora and fauna found nowhere else on Earth. Your Tour Leader provides informative orientation, followed by settling into your comfortable glamping tent and a nature walk. The day concludes with a delightful dinner and captivating stargazing under the exceptionally clear skies. Overnight at Rancho Cacachilas Glamping.



### **Day 2 | Two activities of choice: Hiking, Mule Riding or Mountain Biking. Stargazing after dinner**

2 activities: Hiking, Mule Riding or Mountain Biking. Stargazing after dinner The day begins with a delightful breakfast, setting the perfect tone for the day ahead. The adventure truly begins as you choose from three fun activity options: hiking, mule riding, or mountain biking. For biking enthusiasts, it's important to note that mountain biking is recommended for intermediate and advanced bikers. Whichever activity you choose, rest assured that breathtaking views of the mountain range and the enchanting desert landscape of Baja California Sur await you. A delightful ranch-to-table meal is served, and the afternoon offers another opportunity for adventure, allowing you to select one of the three exciting activities or simply unwind by the pool with a captivating book. As the day draws to a close, immerse yourself in the mesmerizing sunsets characteristic of the Sierra de las Cacachilas. Engage in friendly games with your knowledgeable local guides, creating cherished memories with your fellow travelers. As the night sky unfolds with dazzling stars, relish a delectable regional dinner. Overnight at Rancho Cacachilas Glamping.



### **Day 3 | Snorkeling with Sea Lions, La Paz Walking tour**

Following breakfast, embark on a 45-minute scenic road journey to La Paz, the capital of Baja California Sur, offering a unique blend of tourism and local culture, serving as the gateway to the Sea of Cortez. Upon arrival in La Paz, board a 1.5-hour boat ride to Espiritu Santo Island National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site celebrated for its remarkable ecosystem. Upon reaching Los Islotes, a rugged seamount north of Espiritu Santo Island National Park, you have the

opportunity to snorkel with a colony of sea lions. These agile marine mammals, known for their chocolate-colored fur, are swift swimmers and divers, some weighing up to 600 pounds. Witness their playful interactions and explore the island's protected coves featuring stunning geological formations. Enjoy a beach picnic lunch amidst picturesque surroundings, followed by leisure time. Return to La Paz and opt for rest or a stroll along the La Paz Malecon, a four-mile waterfront boardwalk on the Sea of Cortez, adorned with sculptures and offering a glimpse of local Mexican life. Dinner awaits at a culinary gem nestled within an iconic historic mansion in La Paz, Casamarte Oyster Bar & Grill. Your dining experience celebrates fresh, locally sourced, seasonal ingredients, complemented by artisanal mixology. The daily catch of seafood inspires the kitchen to craft simple, local recipes perfect for sharing. Overnight at Hotel Catedral.



#### **Day 4 | Snorkel with whale sharks, Balandra Beach**

Begin your day with a hearty breakfast, followed by a boat excursion for an exhilarating snorkeling adventure with whale sharks (conditions permitting). These gentle giants, the largest fish species, are often spotted near the island. Keep an eye out for their distinct underwater 'footprints.' After the incredible whale shark encounter, a 30-minute boat transfer brings you to the stunning Balandra Beach, celebrated for its turquoise waters and

natural beauty. This protected area ranks among Mexico and the world's most beautiful beaches. Have a picnic lunch, explore the bay with your naturalist guide, and learn about the local geology and species. Return to La Paz via a short boat ride, and enjoy the rest of the afternoon at your leisure. Stroll along the town adorned with vibrant murals and the Malecon, known for its mesmerizing Sea of Cortez sunsets. Dinner will be served at a local restaurant. Delight in Mexican haute cuisine at 3 Virgenes Restaurant, featuring exquisite steak cuts like the New York strip with risotto, and an enticing butcher's board with sumptuous seafood options, including the standout mezquite-grilled octopus. Overnight at Hotel Catedral.



#### **Day 5 | Whale watching and beach combing**

Start your day with a delightful breakfast at the hotel and soon after start your 4-hour journey, with two stops, to the picturesque San Carlos town on Baja's Pacific Coast. Upon reaching the charming dock, relish a mouthwatering lunch of Baja-style fish tacos, enjoying the seaside ambiance. Mother Nature is your guide today. A boat transfer takes us to the renowned

Magdalena Bay, a haven for wildlife enthusiasts and a place that offers a surreal encounter with gentle giants—the gray whales. This tranquil bay serves as their seasonal sanctuary, a birthing and breeding ground that showcases nature's marvel on an epic scale (mid-January – early March). Have your first encounter with magnificent gray whales on an approx 2-hour whale-watching tour, be awe-struck by these extraordinary mammals that have migrated over 12,000

miles to Baja's west coast for the incredible purpose of calving in these waters. An experience of pure luck and wonderment! In the late afternoon, return to the camp for a delightful happy hour followed by a delectable dinner at the camp's local restaurant. Don't miss the opportunity to go stargazing with your guide. Far from urban light pollution, the unpolluted skies of Baja treat stargazers to mesmerizing celestial spectacles, connecting us to the vastness of the universe. Overnight at the Magdalena Bay Camp.



**Day 6 | Sunrise walk, whale watching, kayaking, island exploring, or beach combing.**

Start your day with a sunrise walk along the remote coastline, witnessing the breathtaking sunrise over Magdalena Bay and immersing yourself in its pristine beauty. Amidst a captivating landscape of steep red bluffs and expansive desert beaches, your weeklong adventure continues with a day of play. After another 2-hour whale-watching tour, we will return to the glamping site for lunch. In the afternoon, you have the freedom to engage in various activities at the luxurious whale camp. Choose from an afternoon whale-watching tour, sea kayaking through intricate rock formations, exploring hidden coves, or beachcombing along the remote island's coastline. Bahía Magdalena is a haven for bird enthusiasts, hosting over 100 diverse bird species, including pelicans, frigate birds, red-billed tropicbirds, blue-footed and masked boobies, roadrunners, and elf owls. Alternatively, equip yourself with binoculars and embark on a remarkable journey, exploring the island and dunes through hiking while spotting these myriads of avian wonders. Savor an evening cocktail and a delectable meal thoughtfully prepared by our dedicated crew using fresh ingredients. Overnight at the Magdalena Bay Camp.



**Day 7 | Whale-watching and transfer to Loreto**

After a hearty breakfast, prepare your luggage for check-out and gear up for another whale-watching session. Following the session, return to San Carlos dock via a 45-minute boat ride, then board a van for a scenic 2-hour journey to Loreto. Arriving in Loreto at midafternoon, check in, and enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure, exploring the charming town of Loreto. Overnight at Hotel Mision Loreto.



### Day 8 | Walking tour of San Javier Mission

Begin your day with an early breakfast and embark on a historical expedition to Baja’s most significant mission, the San Javier Mission. Journey for three hours through the breathtaking natural landscapes of the Sierra Giganta Mountain range. Explore the remnants of the ancient Jesuit mission, stroll through cobblestone streets, visit fruit orchards, and discover Baja’s oldest olive gardens. Savor authentic Mexican cuisine, highlighting a culinary experience that caters to food enthusiasts. On the return journey to Loreto, time your drive to capture the region’s best panoramic views. In the late afternoon, return to Loreto and prepare for a farewell dinner with your tour leader at one of the town’s fine restaurants. Overnight at Hotel Mision Loreto.



### Day 9 | Transfer to Loreto International airport for Departure

After breakfast, it’s time to say goodbye to Baja. A brief 15-minute land transfer brings you to Loreto International Airport for your departure

#### Best time for:

Gray Whale Watching: Mid-January to Early March

Whale Sharks: November to February

Warmer water conditions: October and November, drop to around 60F in January and February

Please be aware that the routes, activities, and schedules provided may be subject to potential changes. Weather conditions could require adjustments to the itinerary or the sequencing of days to ensure the best possible and enjoyable experience. Moreover, the local trip coordinators maintain the authority to replace accommodation with alternatives of comparable quality if necessary. Please be assured that every endeavor will be undertaken to enhance your overall experience.

#### Pricing

2026	Price per person
Based on 4-6 adults traveling together	\$5,250

This is a preliminary costing; hotels may vary according to availability at time of booking.

## Included

- Private English-speaking Marine Biologist and Naturalist Guide
- Private land transportation
- Shared boat excursions
- Hotel accommodation as indicated.
- Meals as indicated [B-Breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner]
- Drinks: Bottled or filtered water is included in all meals, along with one beverage – either sodas, beer, or one cocktail such as a margarita or piña colada. Extra drinks must be paid at additional cost.
- Towels are provided for the duration of the trip
- Snorkeling equipment and vessels
- Green Planet Expeditions travel consultation and pre-departure services

## Not Included

- International airfare
- Tips and gratuities
- Airport departure taxes (when applied)
- Drinks, alcoholic beverages, and meals other than those listed above.
- Personal expenses for extra services, optional activities, or changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control
- Mandatory Travel Insurance: To ensure a smooth travel experience, all participants are required to have a comprehensive travel insurance policy. This policy should include trip cancellation, medical services, and coverage for active adventures or evacuations. “Cancel For Any Reason” (CFAR) coverage is highly recommended to protect your investment in case of unforeseen circumstances.
- Any other items not mentioned above

## ACCOMMODATIONS



### **Rancho Cacachilas, Sierra de las Cacachilas**

Located in the Sierra de las Cacachilas, Rancho Cacachilas is an eco-friendly retreat that offers rustic accommodations, including cozy cabins and glamping tents equipped with essential amenities. The on-site restaurant serves locally sourced meals, featuring fresh, organic ingredients grown on the ranch or from nearby farms. Guests can relax in communal outdoor lounge areas that offer stunning views of the surrounding landscape. The ranch emphasizes sustainability, utilizing solar energy, rainwater harvesting, and organic farming practices to minimize environmental impact. Activities at Rancho Cacachilas include hiking along scenic trails that showcase the diverse flora and fauna of the region, as well as wildlife watching opportunities, with various bird species and desert animals present. The remote location allows for excellent stargazing, providing clear views of the night sky. Additionally, Rancho Cacachilas offers yoga sessions and wellness retreats designed to promote relaxation and rejuvenation. Guests can also participate in sustainability tours to learn about the ranch's eco-friendly practices and the

importance of conservation. Conveniently located about 45 minutes from Los Cabos, Rancho Cacachilas serves as an ideal base for those seeking to explore the natural beauty and cultural richness of Baja California Sur.



### **Hotel Catedral, La Paz**

Hotel Catedral is a charming hotel located in the heart of La Paz, Mexico, offering guests a comfortable and convenient stay in this vibrant coastal city. Just a short distance from the waterfront promenade, Malecón, the hotel provides easy access to local attractions, shops, and dining options. The hotel features a variety of well-appointed rooms, each designed to provide a relaxing atmosphere. Guests can choose from standard rooms to

suites, all equipped with modern amenities such as air conditioning, free Wi-Fi, and flat-screen TVs. Many rooms offer beautiful views of the city or the surrounding landscape. Other amenities include an on-site restaurant that serves a selection of local and international dishes, swimming pool and fitness center. Situated in the historic downtown area, the hotel allows guests to explore local attractions, including the Cathedral of La Paz and the local markets. The hotel is known for its attentive and friendly staff, who are dedicated to providing excellent service and ensuring a pleasant stay for all guests.



### **Magdalena Bay Glamping, Magdalena Bay**

Magdalena Bay Camp offers a unique glamping experience in a pristine location in Baja California Sur, known for its incredible marine wildlife and stunning natural landscapes. The camp features cozy canvas tents, providing guests with an immersive outdoor adventure while maintaining comfort. Visitors can enjoy activities like whale watching, kayaking, bird watching,

and exploring the nearby sand dunes and mangroves. The camp is ideal for those seeking an eco-friendly, remote getaway with opportunities for wildlife encounters, including close interactions with gray whales and other marine species



### **Hotel La Mision, Loreto**

Hotel Misión is a charming and historical hotel located in the heart of Loreto. Overlooking the Sea of Cortez, it offers stunning views of the Loreto Bay National Marine Park, one of the most biodiverse bodies of water in the world. The hotel's classic colonial-style architecture, with its iconic bell tower and serene courtyard, reflects the rich heritage of the area. Most rooms offer private balconies or terraces with views of either the sea or the town's historic Mission. The hotel features a large

outdoor pool, hot tub, and a full-service spa with massages and beauty treatments. Dining options include the elegant Los Olivos Restaurant, serving international cuisine, and the Mezquite Pizza Grill for casual meals. Additional amenities include free Wi-Fi, a poolside bar, a gift shop, and easy access to outdoor activities like snorkeling, hiking, and fishing. Located steps away from the Mission of Nuestra Señora de Loreto and the Malecón, guests can easily explore Loreto's charming streets, cultural sites, and waterfront.



## **Your Tour Leader: Roman Cahero, Marine Biologist and Naturalist Guide**

Roman Cahero, hailing from Mexico City, has cultivated a profound connection with the ocean from an early age. His childhood explorations took him along the captivating coastlines of both the Caribbean and Pacific oceans in Mexico. Remarkably, at the tender age of 5, Roman embarked on his inaugural diving experience, inspired by the captivating documentaries of Jacques Cousteau. This initial immersion ignited an enduring passion for marine biology that continues to define his life's journey.

In the late 1990s, Roman's trajectory led him to a pivotal decision - the relocation to La Paz, Baja California Sur, where he embarked on his odyssey as a marine biology student. Concurrently, he delved into the realm of marine ecosystems by embracing the role of a naturalist guide.

Roman's insatiable thirst for adventure extended beyond the classroom, as he wholeheartedly embraced the art of sea kayaking. With certifications from the American Canoe Association (ACA) in the United States and the Irish Canoe Union in West Cork, Ireland, he honed his expertise. Additionally, Roman became a certified wilderness first responder in the US, equipping him with invaluable skills to navigate emergencies in remote and challenging settings.

His profound love for marine life and mastery in the realm of naturalism have propelled Roman to diverse corners of the globe, including Alaska, Iceland, East Asia, Kenya, Cuba, Belize, and the Baja region of Mexico. His deep connection to Oaxaca is also noteworthy. He is a prominent guide for our Gastronomic Trips to Oaxaca, where his rich family heritage infuses the experience with authenticity and a genuine sense of place.

Beyond his marine pursuits, Roman showcases a prowess in wildlife photography and draws solace and elation from the world of music. Under the starlit sky, his skilled hands often strum melodies on his guitar and ukulele, serenading those fortunate to be in his company. Furthermore, for those with a zest for the adventurous, Roman might even impart his enthusiasm for salsa dancing, unveiling yet another facet of his multifaceted persona.

## **Booking your Green Planet Expedition**

### **How to reserve a trip**

To secure your spot on a trip, you can conveniently book online using our [Reserve a Trip form](#) or by calling **1-800-430-9498**. Your reservation is confirmed upon receipt of the reservation form and the initial 50% trip deposit.

Please note that we are unable to hold space until the deposit is received. If the requested space is unavailable, we will promptly provide alternative options for your consideration (if an upgrade is necessary, higher rates may apply).

### **Pre departure service**

Upon receipt of your deposit and completed reservation form, we will email you a comprehensive Predeparture Dossier. This contains important information to help you prepare including immunizations, visas, trip insurance, packing checklist, reading list, maps,

cross-cultural information, optional trip extensions, and more. You will receive a final trip email including Final Reminders and local contact information in your destination 2-3 weeks before departure.

## **Terms and Conditions**

Green Planet Expeditions has arranged your trip utilizing the travel services of local in-country ground operators who are independent contractors. These local outfitters, lodges, hotels, and other suppliers of your travel services will make every effort to conduct this trip as described in the itinerary; however, it is possible that due to transportation schedule changes, weather, delays, and unforeseeable acts of God, humans or nature, this itinerary may vary from what is described. Participants must assume all risks whether identified in advance or unforeseen. All optional activities are at your own risk. Extra costs due to unexpected changes in your itinerary for reasons beyond our control are not included.

Caring for our planet is integral to our ethos. In alignment with our commitment to sustainability, a carbon emissions mitigation fee is incorporated into all our trips. This fee contributes to environmental initiatives that offset the carbon footprint associated with our journeys, ensuring a positive impact on the destinations we explore. Your safety and peace of mind during the journey is our top priorities. **The purchase of traveler's insurance is mandatory for all participants, and it must cover trip delays, trip cancellations, baggage, accident, or sickness. In some specific cases like Antarctica, it must cover evacuation.**

All information and services provided are subject to our [Terms and Conditions](#).

At Green Planet Expeditions, we craft strategically curated journeys that immerse travelers in the finest of nature, culture, and local traditions, always seeking out opportunities for exceptional dining experiences. Our expertise lies in tailor-made trips to destinations where we maintain close relationships with local partners, ensuring flawless execution with the assistance of passionate guides deeply connected to their heritage and committed to its preservation.

We believe that tourism, when harnessed thoughtfully, becomes a powerful catalyst for conservation and community upliftment in the destinations we visit.

## **As with any good recipe, our trips are infused with the following flavors:**

- Positive impact on the areas you choose to visit, directly or indirectly.
- Amazing private local guides.
- Lovely small boutique hotels according to your budget.
- Good food, no matter how remote the destination is, we strive to offer good cuisine.
- Our trips frequently include surprises, which often turn out to be the highlight of the journey.
- When open to it, visits to less-known destinations, reserved for the daring few, and engages in intimate and meaningful encounters with locals—a cherished treasure highly valued by discerning travelers, as we have discovered through our years of experience in the industry.

## **Still haven't found what you're looking for?**

We offer a wide range of amazing trips that may not all be listed on our website. Plus, we can custom-build pretty much whatever your heart desires, so let us know what we can do for you. If you have any questions about our expedition cruises, private trips, or just want to talk travel, give us a call at + 1 800- 430 9498 or contact us via email at [travel@greenplanetexpeditions.com](mailto:travel@greenplanetexpeditions.com)