

BAJA CALIFORNIA DISCOVERY: EXPLORING MEXICO'S GULF OF CALIFORNIA

Journey deep into the Gulf of California to discover its hidden treasures. This encompassing expedition is the result of years of careful exploration by our veteran naturalists and features the best destinations this rich sea has to offer. It truly captures the exploratory spirit of our earliest days on the peninsula, more than 40 years ago, when Sven Lindblad first introduced intrepid travelers to its wild waters and desert shores.



ITINERARY

Day 1 Loreto, Mexico / Embark Ship

Arrive in the charming seaside town of Loreto by early afternoon. If schedules permit, explore on your own by visiting the first mission in Baja California, learning the town's history at a nearby museum, or sampling local cuisine. Embark National Geographic Venture in the evening and begin our journey along the Gulf of California.

Arrival Time: Arrive before 2:30 p.m. local time.
Arrival City: Loreto, Mexico



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Meals Included: Dinner

Day 2 Bahía Concepción

Awake in Bahia Concepcion, one of the largest bays of the Baja California peninsula, with over 50 miles of beaches. Take your coffee to the deck to witness the colorful landscapes revealed by the first of many gorgeous sunrises. This biodiversity hotspot is ripe for exploration. Board Zodiacs in search of whales and other marine life, kayak through lush mangrove systems, and snorkel in turquoise waters. On land, join an invigorating hike among towering cacti, or stroll the pristine beaches and learn about the ecology from our naturalists.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3 Santa Rosalía / Cruising

After breakfast, disembark in Santa Rosalía, established as a French copper mining town in 1884. The French influence remains in the architecture—including a steel church designed by Gustave Eiffel—and the mining facilities have been left intact, with old locomotives and machinery visible throughout. Engage with the city's culture and cuisine as you walk the streets, stopping in at a world-famous French bakery for a sweet or savory treat. Back on board, take in the desert landscapes and search for a variety of whales as we cruise to our next destination.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4 Bahía de los Ángeles

Get active this morning with options to hike, kayak, swim, snorkel, or beachcomb within the Bahia de los Ángeles Biosphere Reserve. Board Zodiacs to seek out this protected reserve's diverse marine population, including endangered species such as fin whales, California sea lions, and five species of sea turtles. Whale sharks have also historically been known to populate these waters. Later, enjoy a rare opportunity to see one of the strangest plants

on earth, the Boojum tree. Sacred to indigenous people, and believed to have supernatural powers, this evolutionary oddity takes its name from a Lewis Carroll poem. Capture the experience with help from your Certified Photography Instructor.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Days 5-7 Exploring the Midriff Islands / Bahía Loreto Marine Park

The islands of the Midriff region in the northern Gulf of California are favorites among our naturalists for their remoteness as well as their exceptional wildlife and birdlife. With nature as our guide, we will actively explore these areas by Zodiac, kayak, paddleboard, snorkeling, and hiking. Some of the locations we may visit include:

Isla San Pedro Martir

This 1,000-foot-high guano-covered island is home to the world's largest nesting colonies of blue-footed and brown boobies. The surrounding waters boast 14 species of marine mammals, including fin whales, Bryde's whales, and a resident group of sperm whales.

Isla San Esteban

Featuring volcanic slopes and cliffs, Isla San Esteban is home to spiny-tailed iguana and chuckwalla, cohabitant lizards with fascinating evolutionary traits. As we hike the broad arroyo, keep an eye out for the spiny-tailed iguana feeding on flowers atop cardon cacti, while the chuckwalla dines on the leaves and fruits of low-lying plants.

Isla Rasa

This legendary, uninhabited island is less than 0.21 square miles wide, and yet is crucial to the survival of two species of seabirds. Historically 95% of the world's Heermann's gulls and elegant terns use the island as their nesting grounds, creating a cacophonous, avian spectacle seen nowhere else on earth.

Bahia Loreto Marine Park

One of Mexico's natural treasures, this protected area offers a variety of

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pristine landscapes and a plethora of marine life. Search for bottlenose and common dolphins, with the possibility of encountering blue or sperm whales.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Days 8-10 Exploring Southern Gulf Islands

Venture south to discover the gems of the southern Gulf. These islands and surrounding waters are celebrated for their conservation stories, marine life, and the many thrilling experiences on offer. Some of the locations we may visit or enjoy by Zodiac include:

Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park

Set out to snorkel the pristine reefs of Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park, one of the most successful national marine parks in the world. Chat with locals about their advocacy to protect this unique place, including a cessation of fishing to protect the reef.

Isla Espiritu Santo

A national park as well as UNESCO World Heritage site with volcanic rock formations, scenic beaches, and coral reefs. This magical island offers excellent hiking opportunities and crystal-clear waters for snorkeling. It's a popular destination for researchers monitoring sea turtles.

Los Islotes

Located at the northern tip of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, Los Islotes is largely inaccessible to people and home to a large colony of sea lions. Conditions permitting, we'll anchor off the rocky island where we don flippers, a mask, and snorkel (which we provide) and swim with these curious inhabitants.

Isla San Jose

One of the larger islands in the Gulf of California, San Jose offers several landing possibilities depending on conditions and the whim of the moment. Photograph the ochre cliffs of the island's eastern shore, hike an enchanted, cactus-laden arroyo, or visit the abandoned salt works to the west. Discover rare wildlife among desert islands.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 11 La Paz / Disembark Ship / San José del Cabo

Disembark in La Paz after breakfast and transfer to Los Cabos airport for flights home, or join a three-day, two-night culture and cuisine extension exploring La Paz, Todos Santos, and San Jose del Cabo.

Departure Time: After 2:00 p.m., local time

Departure City: San Jose del Cabo, Mexico

Meals Included: Breakfast

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

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YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC VENTURE

YOUR SHIP:	National Geographic Venture
VESSEL TYPE:	Expedition Ship
LENGTH:	
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	100
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	2017

National Geographic Venture is a purpose-built expedition vessel designed to follow the seasons and uncover the wild beauty of North America's west coast and Baja California. A sister ship to National Geographic Quest, she was constructed at the renowned Nichols Brothers shipyard in the Pacific Northwest, continuing a legacy of shipbuilding excellence that began with Sea Bird and Sea Lion in the 1970s. Carrying 100 guests in 50 comfortable cabins, Venture offers the perfect balance of modern amenities and expedition-ready design, with a shallow draught that allows for access to hidden coves, narrow inlets, and wildlife-rich waters.

On board, guests enjoy spacious public areas including a lounge with bar and presentation space, a dining room with open seating, a Global Gallery, fitness centre, and a furnished sundeck. A mudroom with lockers keeps expedition gear handy, while the open Bridge invites guests to learn from the Captain and crew. With twin Zodiac platforms for efficient embarkation, Venture is ideally suited for spontaneous wildlife encounters and exploration by paddleboard or kayak. Her design, informed by over 50 years of expedition expertise, ensures an immersive, flexible, and unforgettable experience at sea.



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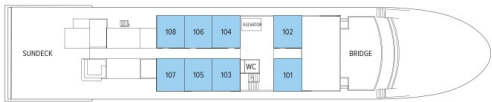
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP

Observation Deck

Category 5



Lounge Deck



Upper Deck

Category 3
Category 4



Main Deck

Category 1
Category 2



Category 1. From





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PRICING

28-Mar-2026 to 07-Apr-2026

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07-Apr-2026 to 17-Apr-2026

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