



WILD BAJA ESCAPE: THE WHALES OF MAGDALENA BAY

Enjoy several days in the company of majestic gray whales in Baja California's Magdalena Bay, one of the best places in the world to encounter gray whale mothers and their curious calves. On this compact trip, we explore the bay aboard our nimble expedition ship, and set out in local pangas for up-close encounters. Kayak mangrove forests and hike desert islands, look for pelicans and ospreys, and soak up the sun on pristine beaches.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: Loreto / San Carlos / Embark

Arrive in Loreto by early afternoon for transfer to San Carlos. Embark ship in the evening, anchored off the coast of Isla Santa Margarita.

Arrival Time: Arrive before 2:30 p.m. local time.

Arrival City: Loreto, Mexico

Meals Included: Dinner

DAY 2: Bahía Almejas / Rehusa Channel / Isla Magdalena

Our day starts in the southernmost waters of Bahía de Almejas. We make a special stop to view, with luck, a large frigatebird colony on Isla Santa Margarita before heading out on our first whale-watching trip. The whales here in the bay tend to be very active, seemingly oblivious to our presence, so settle in for some great experiences. We explore the area and the Rehusa Channel



0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | **+64 (0) 3 365 1355** | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

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via local pangas. During lunch, the ship repositions to Isla Magdalena, and later we head to shore to explore the ever-shifting sand dunes on a cross-island walk to one of the most pristine beaches in the Pacific. Take a stroll and tally the treasure found on what we affectionately call "sand dollar beach."

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3: Transit the Hull Canal / Boca de Soledad

Spend the morning transiting the scenic, winding Hull Canal. Within its narrow channels, bordered by mangroves and sand dunes and filled with abundant wildlife, we join our keen-eyed naturalists on deck to spot species and hear expert commentary. Weather permitting, we explore the vast mangrove system via kayak and Zodiac. Bird-watching can be excellent here with abundant seabirds in action and shorebirds patrolling the beaches as they fatten up and prepare for long journeys to Arctic breeding grounds. Among the species we might see are diving pelicans, wheeling cormorants, terns, great blue herons, ibis, whimbrels, and willets. This afternoon, we set out to explore the whale-rich waters of Boca de Soledad.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4-5: Boca de Soledad

Each winter, during their long migration, gray whales travel south from their Arctic feeding grounds to breed and give birth to their calves in these sheltered waters, often called "Grand Central" for California gray whales. We spend two full days observing and, with luck, interacting with these majestic creatures. Together with savvy local fishermen we have known for years, we venture out in Zodiacs to view the numerous mother-calf pairs that thrive in this sheltering region. We also have an opportunity to explore the beaches, and if our guests feel up to it, pedal across the sands riding fat-tire bikes.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6: San Carlos / Disembark Ship / Loreto

After breakfast, disembark the ship and transfer to Loreto's city center. Choose to visit the first mission in Baja California, as well as the nearby museum, to

learn more about what makes this town so special. Enjoy free time to explore the quaint shops and vibrant side streets. After lunch, transfer to the Loreto International Airport for flights home.

Departure Time: Depart after 1:00 p.m. local time.

Departure City: Loreto, Mexico

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEABIRD & SEALION

YOUR SHIP:

National Geographic SeaBird & SeaLion

VESSEL TYPE:

Comfortable Expedition

LENGTH:

52 metres

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

62 (in twin cabins)

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

1982 / Refurbished 2015

Twin Expedition ships, National Geographic Sea Bird & Sea Lion, can reach places inaccessible to larger ships due to their small size, yet each can comfortably accommodate 62 guests. The feeling, is often compared to that of a large private yacht, with everyone integral to the adventure. Accessibility means freedom. Our captains have decades of sailing experience in the regions we explore. They know when and where to navigate so that you feel the places we visit are all ours.

Full interior renovations have been completed on these twin 62-guest ships, _National Geographic Sea Lion_ and _National Geographic Sea Bird_. The extensive renovation to guest cabins, the lounge and bar, dining room, public areas and spa has transformed the ships to provide the ultimate in expedition hospitality and comfort. Nothing has been left untouched, from the sleekly framed wall photos, to the fresh paint, and new carpets throughout the ships.

\- The lounge and bar have been completely redesigned and reconfigured to provide an open, enhanced environment with additional seating and better flow. The modern design features new tables and chairs, upholstery of settees, overhead ceiling

panels, and LED dimmable lighting. The lounge also hosts a new food & beverage area, library, and Global Market.

\- The dining room's upgrade features all new tables, chairs, ceiling panels, and LED dimmable lighting. The wine bar has been replaced and features a display showcasing selections from the regions explored.

\- Every cabin has been completely redone and all furnishings have been replaced. Modern aged cherry bed boxes, faux leather headboards, Lindblad signature bed linens, new windows, lighting, and additional USB outlets provide a dramatic makeover for a relaxing guest experience. Bathrooms now feature new shower doors and all new hardware.

\- Exterior renovations include new deck furniture and outdoor awning.



oor awning.



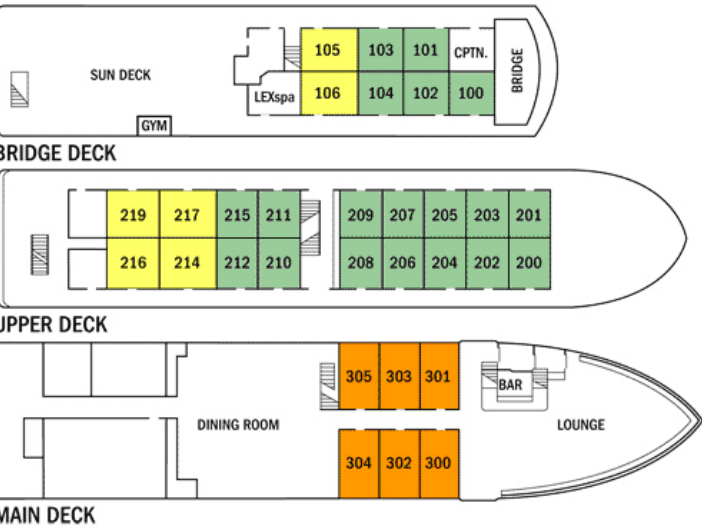
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INSIDE YOUR SHIP

Sea Bird / Sea Lion

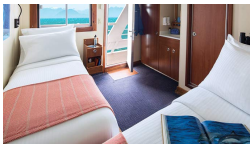
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Category 1



Category 2



Category 3



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****CELEBRATE LIFE'S MILESTONES****

Celebrate a milestone with a group of eight or more and enjoy a special amenity package including: 5% savings on voyage fares, custom group photo, US\$150 shipboard credit for the group, and other special gifts. Milestone celebration to be communicated at time of booking.

****10% OFF BACK-TO-BACK VOYAGES****

Save 10% on consecutive departures, applicable on voyage fares only and not valid on extensions or airfare. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

****SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP****

Save 5% when traveling as a group of eight or more people. Valid on voyage fares only and not applicable on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

****BRINGING THE KIDS****

We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So take \$715 off for each child under the age of 18.

****COMBINING OFFERS****

Combine now and save!

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

Optional extras & upgrades

Optional tours and excursions available. Please contact us for more details.