




 Baja California & North America
25° 58' N 111° 15' W

Baja California: Among the Great Whales

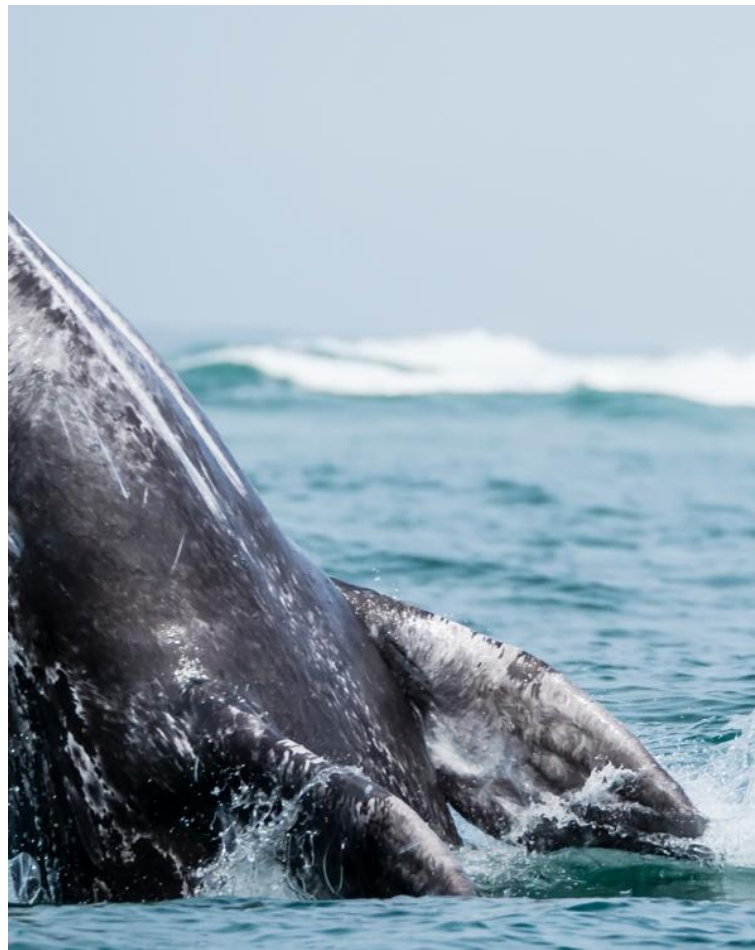
Explore Baja California's pristine coastlines and living sea in search of dolphins, sea lions, and as many as five different varieties of whales. Board local pangas and enter sheltered lagoons for up-close encounters with California gray whale mothers and their newborn calves. Witness an undersea wonderland, serene desert isles, and the most beautiful sunsets on Earth. Hike through towering cacti and up striking desert canyons or take a slow photo stroll along the shore. Every day is different and rewarding, with opportunities to indulge in active or relaxing pursuits.

From
\$ 6,981 / per person
Does not include flights

 DATES Jan, Feb and Mar	 DURATION 8 Days
 SHIPS <i>National Geographic Venture</i>	
 STARTS AT San Carlos, Mexico	 ENDS AT Loreto, Mexico

Highlights

- ★ Enter gray whale birthing lagoons for up-close encounters with gray whale mother-calf pairs
- ★ Embark on regular marine safaris in search of dolphins, sea lions, and up to six species of whales
- ★ Snorkel amidst the vibrant sea life, including playful sea lions at Los Islotes
- ★ Hike desert isles, including Espiritu Santo Archipelago National Park, and witness the variety of flora and fauna thriving in this region





Day by day

DAY 1

Loreto / San Carlos / Embark Ship

Arrive in Loreto by early afternoon for transfer to San Carlos. Embark *National Geographic Venture* 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 de Almejas / Rehusa Channel / Isla Magdalena

Awake this morning in Bahía de Almejas where we will board local pangas and enter the lagoons for encounters with gray whale mothers and calves. Whales tend to be very active here, seemingly oblivious to our presence, and sometimes curious and playful. Later head to shore at Isla Magdalena to explore ever-shifting sand dunes on a cross-island walk to pristine beaches. Bird-watching can be excellent here with abundant seabirds in action.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 3

Boca de Soledad

After breakfast, transfer by motorcoach to Puerto López Mateos to spend the full day observing, and, with luck, interacting with these majestic creatures. Together with savvy local Mexican fishermen we have known for years, we board boats to view the numerous mother-calf pairs that thrive in this sheltering region. Enjoy lunch at a traditional restaurant before returning to the ship in late afternoon.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 4

Bahía Magdalena / Cruising

Kickstart your day with morning stretches hosted by your onboard wellness specialist on the sun deck. After breakfast, enjoy opportunities to explore and better understand the ecosystems that make up and power this diverse region. This afternoon, we sail out through La Entrada as we leave Bahía Magdalena behind. Traveling south along the coast of the peninsula, there is a chance of seeing a wide variety of marine life, including the largest animal on Earth, the blue whale. Hear naturalist talks and learn photography basics.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 5

Gorda Banks and Cabo Pulmo

Ease into the day with a majestic sunrise over the iconic Friars Rocks at Land's End. We spend the rest of the morning searching the seas of the Gorda Banks seamount, a renowned gathering place for whales, especially humpbacks, dolphins, and other sea life. Following lunch, we set out to snorkel the pristine reefs of Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park, one of the most successful national marine parks in the world, and chat with locals about their advocacy to protect this unique place.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

DAY 6

Los Islotes and La Paz

Conditions permitting, we'll awake this morning off the rocky island of Los Islotes, where we don flippers, a mask, and snorkel (which we provide) and swim with curious sea lions. Then we reposition to

the colorful city of La Paz to garner insight into the culture of Mexico, soak in the vibrant street art, and stroll the lively Malecón. Dinner is an unforgettable cultural experience, complete with local cuisine, dancing, and folklore.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

◇ DAY 7

Exploring the Gulf of California

The Gulf of California is home to great biological diversity, and with some luck, sightings of whales, dolphins, and other sea life are among the highlights of our journey. Our plan is flexible as we explore some of the uninhabited islands sprinkled across these waters. Our Captain and Expedition Leader collaborate to choose the perfect combination of activities for the day. We may go ashore at Isla San Francisco, where a sweeping arc of white-sand beach fringes waters perfect for kayaking or stand-up paddleboarding. Or perhaps we'll visit Bahía de Los Muertos to snorkel among the coral.

Meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner

■ DAY 8

Loreto / Disembark Ship

After breakfast, disembark the ship and transfer to the Loreto International Airport for flights home or to Loreto's city center to begin a [two-night history and whale-watching extension](#).

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

Departure City: Loreto, Mexico

Meals included: breakfast

Eastbound

San Carlos, Mexico → Loreto, Mexico

2025 Departure Dates

Aboard *National Geographic Venture*

12 Jan	26 Jan			
09 Feb	23 Feb			
16 Mar				

Alternative Routes

Visit Expeditions.com for more information.

2025 Departure Dates

05 Jan, 19 Jan, 02 Feb, 16 Feb

2026 Departure Dates

03 Jan, 10 Jan, 17 Jan, 24 Jan, 31 Jan,
07 Feb, 14 Feb, 21 Feb

2027 Departure Dates

09 Jan, 16 Jan, 23 Jan, 30 Jan, 06 Feb,
13 Feb, 20 Feb, 27 Feb, 06 Mar, 13 Mar,
20 Mar



National Geographic Venture

Guests 100	Cabins 50
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The *National Geographic Venture* is a state-of-the-art expedition ship ideal for discovering remote locations in domestic waters.

Following the build of *National Geographic Quest* at Nichols Brothers shipyard, her sister ship the 100 guest *National Geographic Venture* floated into the bay on Whidbey Island, becoming the 4th ship in the Lindblad fleet built at this storied PNW shipyard. In the 1970s, Nichols Brothers built the twin ships *National Geographic Sea Bird* and *National Geographic Sea Lion*, which continue to sail the waters of the west coast of North America and Central America.

Venture, like much of the wildlife she follows, is migratory. She follows the seasons from Alaska, along the coast of British Columbia, up the Columbia & Snake Rivers, and along the Baja coast and into the Sea of Cortez. In each region, her design innovations were informed by 50+ years of expedition expertise to ensure extraordinary discoveries. Larger than her sibling twin ships, *National Geographic Sea Bird* and *National Geographic Sea Lion*, *National Geographic Venture* has the same shallow draft, enabling her to nimbly navigate the same inner reaches and provide the same intimate, 'insider' experiences of the charismatic regions we explore.

Like her sister ship *National Geographic Quest*, *National Geographic Venture* has dual boarding platforms, enabling our team to load two Zodiacs at once means guests get off ship quickly, to take advantage of wildlife sightings and maximize exploring time. Modern, cleaned-lined, with large expanses of glass to keep you connected to the extraordinary views, *National Geographic Venture* enables you to see, do and experience the best of her geographies.



Cabin Categories

Category 1

Main Deck: #301-306

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, two nightstands and two portholes, full length mirror, and reading lights.



Category 2

Main Deck: #307-315

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, two nightstands and two portholes, full length mirror, and reading lights.



Category 3

Upper Deck: #201-206

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, two nightstands, a large view window, full-length mirror, and reading lights.



Category 4

Upper Deck: #207-229

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, a writing desk, closet, two nightstands, full-length mirror, reading lights, sliding glass door, and a small, private balcony.



Note: Solo occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third person rates are available in Category 5 cabins at one half the double occupancy rate.

Connecting Cabins via internal doorway access:

Main Deck: #312-314, #311-315, #306-307;
Upper Deck: #224-226, #225-227

Category 5

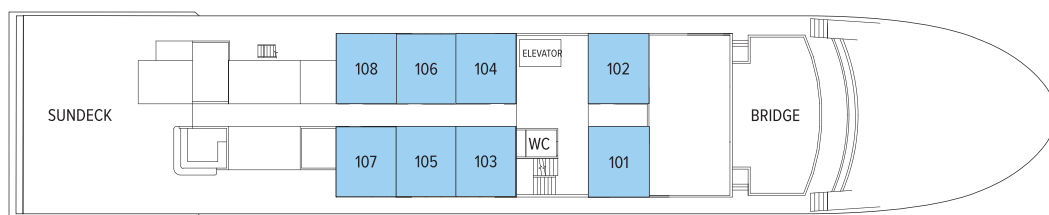
Observation Deck: #101-108 (SUITE)

Cabins feature two single beds that can convert to a Queen, large view windows, closet, two nightstands, full-length mirror, reading lights, a suite-sized expanded bathroom, writing desk, ample storage space, and a convertible sofa bed to accommodate a third person.

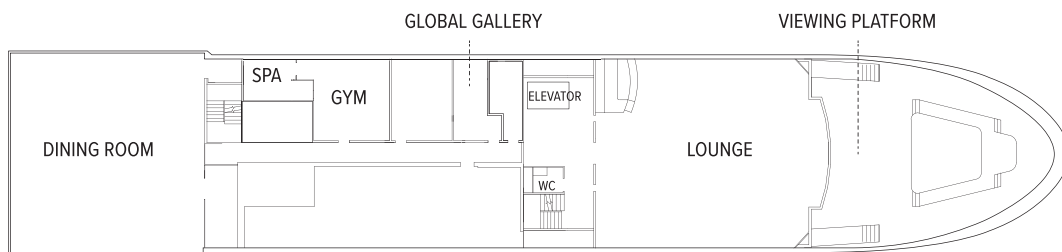


Observation Deck

Category 5

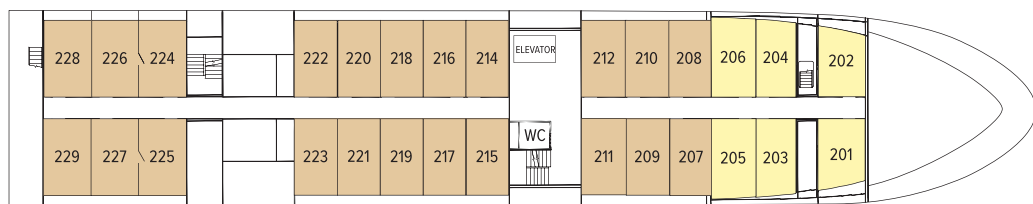


Lounge Deck



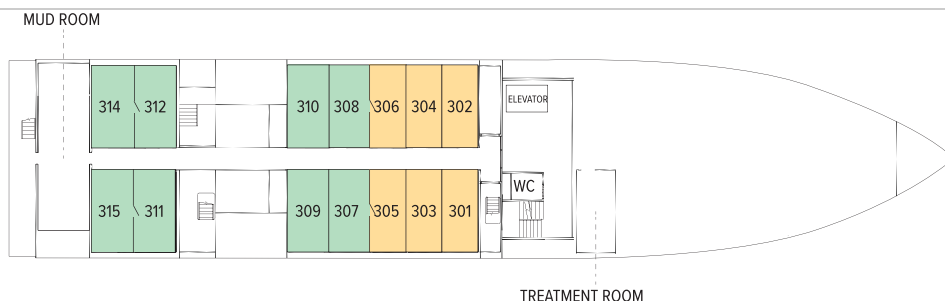
Upper Deck

Category 3
Category 4



Main Deck

Category 1
Category 2



Ship amenities

Public Areas

Reception; main dining area; global gallery; fitness center; lounge with full-service bar and state-of-the-art presentation facilities; observation deck; mudroom with lockers for expedition gear; partially-covered furnished sundeck; plus open access to the Bridge, the Captain, officers and on-duty wildlife spotters.

Meals

Meals are served in the dining room at a single seating with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Menus feature sustainable choices, local where possible.

Cabins

50 outside cabins. All cabins face outside with windows, private bathroom, and climate controls. Cabins are equipped with Wi-Fi, phone, multiple electrical and USB outlets, and phones. Luxury linens and pillows. Botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, and lotion are all available in cabin bathrooms, as well as an Expedition Essential Kit. Hair dryers, complimentary insulated water bottles and a National Geographic Atlas are also available in each cabin.

Expedition Equipment

A fleet of 8 Zodiacs, 24 kayaks, paddleboards; an ROV, hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, video microscope; snorkeling gear and wet suits for all guests (where applicable).

Special Features

Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, undersea specialist and video chronicler. Internet access. Elevator. The design of the outside decks—with the perfect wildlife viewing platform. And the way the proximity of the Lounge to the deck gives you instant access to spontaneous sightings. Have your camera ready!

Wellness

A fitness center with elliptical, treadmill, weights, resistance bands; LEXspa treatment room, staffed by wellness specialists.



Self-Disinfecting Ships

ACT Clean Coat™ is a light-activated, self-disinfecting cleaning process that continuously breaks down viruses, bacteria, mold, and airborne allergens across all ship surfaces. Not only does this create a cleaner, healthier shipboard environment for guests and crew alike, but this non-toxic, chemical-free system also saves more than one million gallons of water each year in our cleaning procedures, and reduces our carbon footprint as well as the amount of plastic and waste in our supply chain.

Special Offers

NATIONAL WILDLIFE DAY: 25% SAVINGS

Book between August 27th–September 19th, 2024, and save 25% on the cabin fare when booking any Category 1, Category 2, or Category 3 cabins, including solo cabins, and Category SU on *National Geographic Islander II* and *National Geographic Delfin II*, and Category 4 cabins on *National Geographic Delfina*, when you pay in full at time of booking on select departures in 2024 and 2025. To qualify for the discount, non-refundable payment in full is due at the time of booking and standard cancellation terms will not apply. Valid for new bookings only, based on availability at time of booking, cannot be combined with other offers, and is not applicable on airfare or extensions.

2026-2027 EARLY BOOKING OFFERS

Booking and deposit must be made by Nov. 1, 2024. Valid for new bookings only on departures from Jan. 1, 2026 through Mar. 31, 2027, subject to availability, may not be combinable with other offers, and not applicable on airfare or extensions.

Book Early to Lock in Current Rates on All

2026-2027 Departures: Pricing will increase on Nov. 2, 2024. Not applicable on airfare or extensions.

Bringing the Kids - Save \$1,000 Per Child Up To 22:

We believe sharing an expedition with children is a life-enhancing experience. Take \$1,000 off for each child under the age of 23 on any departure.

Save Up To 15% on Back-to-Back Voyages: Save up to 15% on voyage fares on consecutive back-to-back departures. Applicable on select departures only.

Book Two or More Voyages and Save 10%: Save 10% on the lowest priced departure when you book

two or more expeditions.

Bring a Friend and Save 5%: Save 5% when you book two or more cabins on the same departure. Valid on voyage fares only. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies when you book 8 or more guests.

SUITE EXCLUSIVES

Spacious living areas and incredible views immerse you in the beauty of your marine surroundings. Our new Suite Exclusives package helps make your voyage all the more memorable. [Learn more](#)

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.

COMBINING OFFERS

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.

Included in price

All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer and wine on all 2023 departures (starting in 2024, spirits and cocktails are also included, with super premium wines and liquors available for purchase); hors d'oeuvres, 24-hour access to snacks, premium coffees and teas, non-alcoholic beverages, and filtered water; excursions and airport transfers to and from recommended flights, as indicated in the itinerary; exploration tools curated to destination, such as Zodiacs, stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, snorkeling equipment (including wetsuits, masks, and fins); guidance and company of our leading expedition staff; assistance by the Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor; access to the OM System Photo Gear Locker; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; complimentary reusable water bottle; services of a physician, physician's assistant, nurse practitioner, or paramedic; morning stretch classes and 24-hour access to exercise equipment; 24-hour access to lounges, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; park and site entrance fees, special access permits, and port taxes. Unused services or items included in our programs are non-refundable.

Not included in price

Airfare (except flights when indicated as included); pre- and post-expedition extensions; additional hotel nights (except when indicated as included); crew gratuities; private transfers; laundry, spa treatments, Wi-Fi, and phone services (except when indicated as included); travel protection plans; and passport, visa, and immigration fees.

Travel protection plan

We strongly recommend our guests to take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, damage or loss of baggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date, Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased. Learn more about our Travel Protection "Plus" Plan: <https://www.expeditions.com/>

[terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/](#)

Cancellation policy

Review our cancellation policy: <https://www.expeditions.com/cancellation-policy/>