

Baja California
24° 34' N 112° 0' W

Baja California Mosaic: Magdalena Bay and Gulf of California

Experience Baja California aboard a purpose-built ship small enough to navigate both the wildlife-rich islands of the Gulf of California and the sheltered lagoons of Magdalena Bay. As you sail along both sides of this incredible peninsula, you'll enjoy unforgettable moments of discovery, from snorkeling with curious sea lions off Los Islotes to visiting the historic missionary town of San José del Cabo. Each day offers multiple ways to explore—kayak in protected mangroves, hike desert landscapes dotted with cacti or beachcomb endless stretches of sand—all while witnessing the remarkable biodiversity that make this region a naturalist's paradise.

From
\$ 3,534 / per person
Does not include flights

	DATES Jan and Dec		DURATION 8 Days
	SHIPS <i>National Geographic Sea Lion</i>		
	STARTS AT La Paz, Mexico	→	 ENDS AT San Carlos, Mexico

Highlights

- ★ Immerse yourself in Magdalena Bay's expansive ecosystem of protected waterways, mangrove channels and sheltered coves inaccessible to larger ships
- ★ Snorkel among curious sea lions at Los Islotes and swim among colorful tropical fish in the pristine waters of the Gulf of California
- ★ Visit the historic town center of San José del Cabo, where the beautiful San José mission stands alongside art galleries and cultural landmarks
- ★ Scan the waters of Gordo Banks, a renowned gathering place for marine mammals, where dolphins, sea lions and seasonal whales congregate in the nutrient-rich sea





Day by day

■ DAY 1

San José del Cabo / La Paz / Embark Ship

Arrive in San José del Cabo and transfer to La Paz to embark the *National Geographic Sea Bird* or *National Geographic Sea Lion*. You may opt for a [pre-voyage extension exploring the region's culture and cuisine](#).

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

Arrival City: San José del Cabo, Mexico

Meals included: dinner

◇ DAY 2

Exploring the Gulf of California

Dubbed the “world’s aquarium” by Jacques Cousteau, the Gulf of California is home to a tapestry of biological diversity. With some luck, and the help of your naturalists, you’ll encounter whales, bottlenose and common dolphins and other sea life in these wildlife-rich waters. The day’s plan is flexible as you explore some of the uninhabited islands sprinkled across the Gulf, spend time on the bow searching for marine life or visit uninhabited islands to hike among huge cacti and diverse bird life. Swim or snorkel with king angelfish, surgeonfish, butterfly fish, damselfish and iridescent parrotfish.

Meals included: [breakfast, lunch, dinner](#)

◇ DAY 3

Los Islotes and Espíritu Santo National Park

With deeply indented shorelines and dramatically eroded cliff faces, Los Islotes and Isla Espíritu Santo are two of the most beautiful islands in the Gulf of California. Suit up in provided snorkeling gear to

experience the thrill of swimming with the curious sea lions. This afternoon, choose to swim, kayak or hike at Isla Espíritu Santo where brown pelicans, gulls and boobies dot the landscape.

Meals included: [breakfast, lunch, dinner](#)

◇ DAY 4

San José del Cabo and Gordo Banks

Start the day cruising past the spectacular Friars Rocks at Land’s End, an iconic landmark named after its semblance to the hooded monks. Then, visit the historic town center of San José del Cabo, a culinary and cultural haven that’s home to the beautiful San José missionary and an array of art galleries. Spend the afternoon at the Gordo Banks seamount or La Fortuna, nutrient-rich gathering places for whales, dolphins and other exciting sea life. While on the lookout, naturalists are always available to inform and enlighten you with their deep knowledge of and passion for the peninsula.

Meals included: [breakfast, lunch, dinner](#)

◇ DAYS 5-7

Magdalena Bay

Explore the remarkable geography of Magdalena Bay—an immense system of protected coves and channels bordered by mangrove forests that transition into a vast, windswept plain. Hike across rolling sand dunes, kayak along pristine coastlines and explore this magical area by Zodiac. Watch for magnificent frigatebirds, pelicans, cormorants, terns, great blue herons, ibis and willets and capture their movements with the help of your certified photography instructor.

Meals included: [breakfast, lunch, dinner](#)

■ DAY 8

San Carlos / Disembark Ship / Loreto

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

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

Departure City: Loreto, Mexico

Meals included: breakfast

Expedition

La Paz, Mexico → San Carlos, Mexico

2026 Departure Dates

Aboard *National Geographic Sea Lion*

07 Jan				
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National Geographic Sea Lion

Guests

62

Cabins

31

**A U.S.-flagged vessel, she and her sister
National Geographic Sea Bird discover domestic waters**

Before they built the *National Geographic Venture* and *Quest*, U.S. shipbuilder Nichols Brothers built the twin ships *National Geographic Sea Lion* and *National Geographic Sea Bird*. Nimble, reliable, and intimately scaled, they both continue to sail the waters of the west coast of North America and Central America.

Sea Lion accommodates just 62 guests in 31 outside cabins. Her inviting public spaces foster a sense of shipboard life where everyone is integral to the adventure, engendering a rewarding sense of community and esprit du corps. National Geographic writer Andrew Evans called *Sea Lion* the “closest thing to Cousteau’s *Calypso*” he’s ever had the pleasure to be on.

With a shallow draft and small size, she can easily reach places inaccessible to larger ships. She can venture into fast-moving channels where whales come to feed, transit a series of locks in the Pacific Northwest, nose up to waterfalls in secluded coves, and sail into protected anchorages in small bays perfect for snorkeling and kayaking.



Cabin Categories

Category 1

Main Deck: #300-305

Conveniently located between the dining room and lounge, these cabins feature two single beds, and a large window. All cabins feature a closet, two nightstands, and sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom.



Category 2

Bridge Deck: #101-104

Upper Deck: #200-212, 215

These well-located cabins include two single beds and a window. Cabin doors and windows open to the outside. Cabins feature a closet, two nightstands, closet, and sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom.



Category 3

Upper Deck: #214, 216, 217, 219

These cabins include two single beds that can convert to a double bed and a pullout murphy bed for a third person. Cabins feature a small table, two chairs, large double closet, sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom, and two windows. Cabin doors and windows open to the outside. Third person rates are available in certain categories at one-half the double occupancy rate.



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

Shared Accommodations:

Shares can be arranged at the double occupancy rate in Categories 1 and 2 only.

Category 3

Bridge Deck: #105, 106

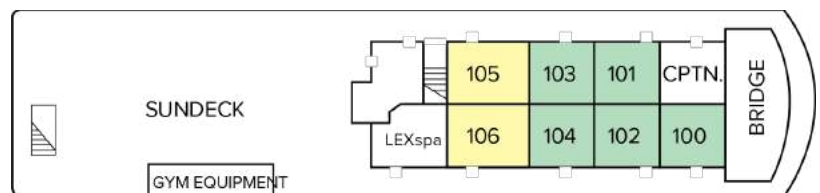
These cabins include two single beds. Cabins feature a small table, two chairs, large double closet, sink/vanity with large mirror outside the bathroom, and two windows. Cabin doors and windows open to the outside.



Bridge Deck

 Category 2

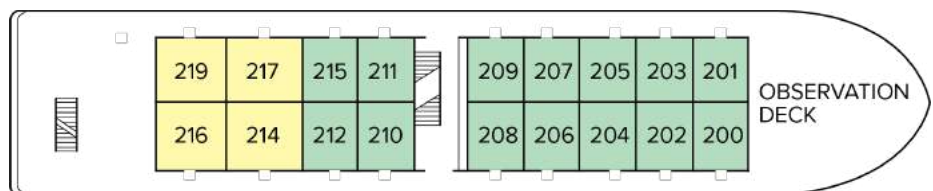
 Category 3



Upper Deck

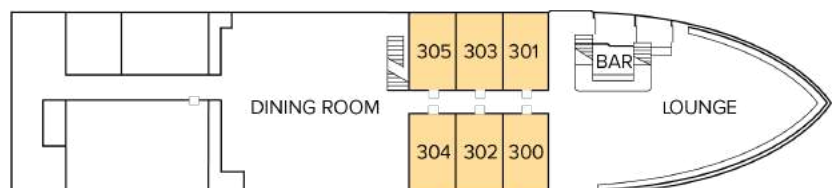
 Category 2

 Category 3



Main Deck

 Category 1



Ship amenities

Public Areas

A library; global market; lounge with full-service bar and facilities for films, slideshows and presentations; observation deck; partially covered sun deck with chairs and tables. Our “open bridge” provides guests an opportunity to meet our officers and Captain and learn about navigation.

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

All cabins face outside with windows, private bathroom, and climate controls. Cabins are equipped with WiFi, multiple electrical and USB outlets. 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 is available in each cabin.

Expedition Equipment

A fleet of 6 Zodiacs and 16 kayaks, paddleboards, Remotely Operated Vehicle (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.

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

PAY BY DEBIT: EARN A \$100 ONBOARD CREDIT

The \$100 onboard credit offer is applied after the final payment and requires 85% of the cost of the voyage to be placed on a debit card. Maximum of one \$100 onboard credit per cabin. The \$100 onboard credit is a non-refundable, non-transferable credit that can be used for various onboard purchases such as global gallery and spa treatments. It has no cash value, cannot be refunded if not fully utilized, and will be forfeited if not fully redeemed by the end of the voyage. This offer is combinable with other offers. If the booking is altered or canceled, the onboard credit may be forfeited, and it cannot be transferred if the booking is moved to another guest. Lindblad Expeditions reserves the right to modify or cancel the offer without prior notice. Offer applies to Lindblad Expeditions' owned ships only. Offer valid only for Debit Cards issued in the United States for payments made from the United States.

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.

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.

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 children is a life-enhancing experience. Save \$500 for each child under the age of 18 on any departure. Not applicable on extensions or airfare. Call for details.

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.

Included in price

All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary; all meals as indicated in the itinerary, both aboard and onshore; beer, wine, cocktails, and spirits (premium brands available for purchase) aboard; excursions and airport transfers to and from flights arriving and departing within recommended window, as indicated in the itinerary; exploration tools such as snorkeling equipment, wetsuits, Zodiacs, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards (where applicable); guidance and company of leading expedition staff; presentations by expedition staff and expert guest speakers; complimentary reusable water bottle; onboard physician consultations (where available); 24-hour access to exercise equipment (where applicable); 24-hour access to lounges, observation decks, library, and other shared spaces; basic Wi-Fi (where applicable); 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 and/or as required); charter airfare (where applicable, except when indicated as included and/or as required); pre- and post-expedition extensions (except flights when indicated as included); additional hotel nights; premium cocktails and spirits; private transfers (except when indicated as included); crew gratuities; additional costs associated with medical services outside onboard physician consultation (where applicable); enhanced and premium Wi-Fi plans aboard expedition fleet; laundry, spa treatments, and phone services; travel protection plans; 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/>

[terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/](https://www.expeditions.com/terms-conditions/travel-protection-plan/)

Cancellation policy

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