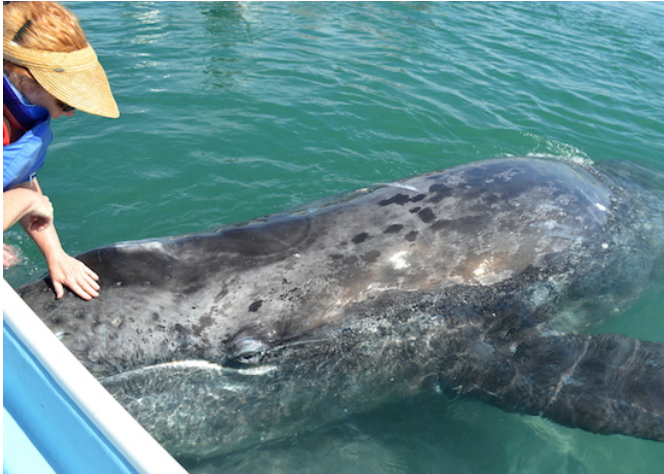




Mexico

# BORN TO FREAK BAJA: WHALES & WAVES FOR WOMEN



## an adventure of spirit, surfing, wildlife and culture

Get ready for the vacation of a lifetime! This nine day exploration of Baja, Mexico is sure to delight. The region's breathtaking desert landscapes and unique wildlife are a gorgeous backdrop for swimming, picnic lunches, hiking, and all of the other amazing experiences on this trip. You will go whale watching in Magdalena Bay, swim with sea lions at Los Islotes do a cliff hike on Pacific bluffs of Todos Santos and revel in the relaxing environment everywhere. This trip's exciting outdoor activities, intimate wildlife experiences, and luscious beaches create an all-around excellent adventure.

### day 1 - fri feb 19 - arrive san jose del cabo / la paz

Welcome to Baja! Upon arrival you'll be met at the airport in San Jose del Cabo and driven to La Paz ( 2 1/2 hrs), where you will check into a lovely hotel. La Paz is the capital of Baja California Sur, built along the shores of the incomparable Sea of Cortez. Once one of the leading pearl diving centers in the world, La Paz is now a mecca for adventurers seeking to explore the incredible bounty of the Sea of Cortez, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site and home to 39% of the world's total number of marine mammal species, a third of the world's marine cetacean species, and 891 fish species.



Welcome to Baja!

**Date** Feb 19-27, 2016

**Duration** 9 days

**Land Cost** \$4,295 - \$4,020

10-12: \$4020

8-9: \$4175

6-7: \$4295

**Single Supplement** \$780

The single supplement is applicable if a roommate is not available or if single accommodation is specifically requested.

While single accommodation is not available on all trips, we will try and honor this request whenever possible.

**Comfort Level** 2

**Activity Level** 2

**Group Size** 6-12

**Best Time To Visit**



**Meals:** Dinner

**Lodging:** El Angel Azul or similar

## day 2 - sat feb 20 - swimming with sea lions

You're in for a truly incredible experience today. Not only will you go snorkeling and explore Baja's underwater world, you'll also get to swim with sea lion puppies at Los Islotes! These playful creatures love people watching, and if you're polite and respectful, they may even swim close enough for you to pet them. You'll have a picnic lunch and exploration time on the magnificent Isla Espiritu Santo, then head back to the hotel for a relaxing evening and dinner.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging:** El Angel Azul or similar



*Swimming with sea lions!*

## day 3 - sun feb 21 - whale watching in magdalena bay

A peak lifetime experience awaits you today! After being transferred to Magdalena Bay (4 hours), an area of protected lagoons where gray whales come to mate and give birth each year, from late January through mid-March. A motorized skiff will take you deep into the lagoon lagoon where you won't be just a spectator – you may actually be able to pet some of the mother and baby whales that swim right up to the boat to look you in the eye! You'll spend the next two nights at ROW's tent camp on an island at the mouth of the Lopez Mateos lagoon. This remarkable location provides you with the opportunity to be delighted not only by the whales playing just offshore, but by a host of other wildlife including dolphins, sea lions, a vast array of birdlife and more! Comfortable camping allows you to relax and enjoy the scenery while your professional naturalist guides provide you with dinner, drinks, and plenty of great information.



*Whales in Magdalena Bay*

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging:** Camping

## day 4 - mon feb 22 - whale watching in magdalena bay

Two more opportunities for whale watching are on tap for today. Enjoy morning and afternoon outings on the water to look for and interact with these incredible marine mammals. In the evening, enjoy the pristine beach along with the beautiful full moon.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging:** Camping



*Whales in Mag Bay*

### day 5 - tue feb 23 - travel to todos santos

On your way back to shore this morning you'll have a chance to spend a couple more hours interacting with the gray whales. Then make your way this morning to Todos Santos where you'll check-into Los Colibris Casitas for the next three nights. This tropical paradise has a diverse selection of art galleries, boutiques, inns, and restaurants. Todos Santos was officially designated a Pueblo Magico, or "magical town," on June 17, 2006. In the evening you'll enjoy a taco dinner with one of our favorite chefs, Iker Algorri.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging:** Los Colibris



*Welcome to your charming casita in Todos Santos*

### day 6 - wed feb 24 - todos santos - surfing and cooking

Todos Santos boasts some of the best surf breaks in all of Baja! Mario, our veteran surf instructor, guarantees that you'll stand up and ride a wave – at least for a moment – before the end of your lesson! Surf enthusiasts of all ages and levels of experience welcome. A special treat awaits you this afternoon as you have a fun cooking lesson with Chef Iker. Learn how to make some truly delicious Mexican dishes using fresh Baja ingredients. Rest of the day is at leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Lodging:** Los Colibris



*Surfing lessons are fun*

### day 7 - thu feb 25 - cliff walk and beach picnic

Today's walk along the Pacific bluffs of Todos Santos leads you past sea lions, birds, whales, and the area's unique flora. It's a wonderful celebration of the unique beauty of Baja, where the desert meets the sea. The walk ends at a fabulously beautiful, pristine, palm-ringed beach where a terrific picnic lunch will be awaiting you. You can spend the rest of the afternoon swimming and relaxing. This evening you'll be taken into town for a nice, relaxing dinner at one of town's many terrific restaurants

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Lodging:** Los Colibris



*Enjoying a cliff walk*

### day 8 - fri feb 26 - free day

On your last day in Todos Santos you can do whatever strikes your fancy: hiking, cooking, surfing, beach walking, shopping, relaxing at the pool with a good book are all great ways to end this spectacular vacation. (Lunch will be on your own) In the evening you'll enjoy a delicious farewell dinner in town.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

**Lodging:** Los Colibris



*Enjoy the local food*

### day 9 - sat feb 27 - departure

You will be transferred to the airport for your flight home today. Your journey in Baja may be ending, but the memories you've made will stay alive for a lifetime.

**Meals:** Breakfast



*The sun sets on Todos Santos and your journey*

**Included in costs:** Meals as noted, each night in double occupancy accommodations, land transfers between components, English speaking guides, park or site entry fees, surface transport, equipment other than personal gear, government tax, airport transfer assistance, in-country ticket reconfirmation and check-in assistance (where permitted), complete pre-departure packet, toll-free pre-departure phone assistance.

**Not included in costs:** Meals not noted as included, gratuities, beverages (except tea or coffee at meals), international or domestic airfare unless specified, airport departure taxes not included with air tickets, visas, itinerary changes after confirmation, any services not included in itinerary, any costs incurred due to canceled or delayed flights, acts of nature or other happenings beyond our control, or other costs as are more fully described in Journeys Terms & Conditions.

**Deposit and payment schedule:** \$500 per person per trip or the applicable amount based on the trip and the proximity of the departure date. Custom trips and private departures require \$800 per person deposit. A second deposit of \$800 per person is due four months prior to departure, and final payment for land arrangements is due 60 days prior to departure. Any applicable permit fees required in advance are non-refundable as well. Airlines require full payment when tickets are issued. The deposit may be made by Visa, Master Card, American Express, or check, and the Reservation Form may be submitted by fax, mail, or via our website. Full payment schedule and cancellation penalties are described in our Terms and Conditions as noted in our Global Expedition Catalog, on our website, and elsewhere. Please request these if you do not have them before advancing a deposit.

**Air fares:** Journeys can make complete air arrangements applicable to your trip as noted in this itinerary. If you wish to redeem frequent flyer mileage or arrange flights directly with the airline, you may do so on your own at no penalty. If you do, please consult with us on exact arrival and departure dates and times before having your tickets issued to avoid errors.

**Insurance:** When you make your application, we strongly recommend the purchase of comprehensive travel insurance in case of emergency situations. Please contact us for a recommended policy.

**Itinerary Change Fee:** There will be a \$40 fee for changes once an itinerary has been confirmed and approved. Additional cancellation penalties or change fees may apply as per our terms and conditions. The passenger is responsible for such fees.

## WHY JOURNEYS?

**We are quite simply the best.** No other company matches our experience, breadth, flexibility and personal service. Our reputation is impeccable.

**We have been an acknowledged innovator in global adventure travel and ecotourism since 1978.** Our itineraries are original, and our trip content is thoughtful, intellectually ambitious, and as adventurous as you like. We are committed to the communities and environments we visit. Our Ecological Code of Ethics serves as a model for others.

**We have won the most prestigious awards in the industry.** Conde Nast selected us for their list of the world's Top Travel Specialists every year since 2003. This year, National Geographic Adventure named us one of the top ten global adventure tour operators.

**Our staff is professional and devoted.** The specialists in Ann Arbor and the guides in the field take pride in 100% client satisfaction. Many remain with us for decades. Journeys founders, Drs. Joan and Will Weber, are active in daily operations.

**We make your travel planning easy.** We offer you the ability to completely customize your trip, according to your interests and abilities. Our knowledgeable specialists are happy to help you select special inclusions and extensions. We'll make your air arrangements or you're free to do your own. We pay attention to detail, and we prepare you well for your trip. We respond promptly to your emails and, if you call us during our business hours, you will be greeted by a person and not a machine.

**We know our destinations well.** We will give you as honest and complete a picture of what you can expect as possible. We don't want to make an easy sale; we want to make an honest one. You will likely find that we under promise and over deliver.

**Our travelers come back again and again.** We have a sophisticated clientele with wide reaching travel goals. Many return to us for five, 10, or more trips.

**We love what we do, and we love sharing our passion with you.**

