



Baja California

Includes ➔

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San Ignacio	718
Santa Rosalía	720
La Paz	727
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Best Tours

- ➔ Whale Shark Mexico (p727)
- ➔ Red Travel Mexico (p727)
- ➔ Sergio's Sportfishing Center (p711)
- ➔ Malarrimo Eco Tours (p717)
- ➔ Ecoturismo Kuyimá (p720)

Best Places to Stay

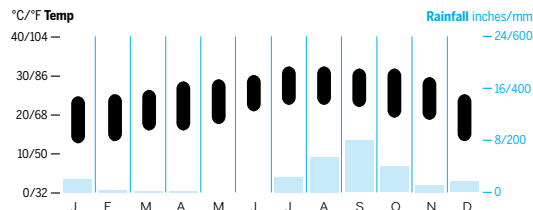
- ➔ Bungalows Breakfast Inn (p738)
- ➔ La Damiana Inn (p724)
- ➔ Casa Natalia (p734)
- ➔ El Ángel Azul (p729)
- ➔ Palapas Ventana (p732)

Why Go?

Baja, the earth's second-longest peninsula, offers over 1200km of the mystical, ethereal, majestic and untamed. Those lucky enough to make the full Tijuana to Los Cabos trip will find that the Carretera Transpeninsular (Hwy 1) offers stunning vistas at every turn. The middle of nowhere is more beautiful than you ever imagined, and people are friendly, relaxed and helpful – even in the border towns. Side roads pass through tiny villages and wind drunkenly along the sides of mountains. Condors carve circles into an unblemished blue sky. Some people simply sip drinks and watch the sun disappear into the Pacific. Some choose to feel the rush of adrenalin as they surf that perfect wave. Others walk through sherbet-colored canyons or stare up at the night's canopy of scattered-diamond stars. Whichever way you choose to take it, you'll discover some of Baja's many joys.

When to Go

Cabo San Lucas



Jan–Mar Flowers bloom, things get green. Whales and whale sharks play, and big waves delight surfers.

Aug–Sep Beaches all but empty. You'll have Baja all to yourself, but it's hot – even in the shade.

Oct–Nov Party-goers, don't miss Sammy Hagar's birthday bash or the Día de Muertos fiesta.



Baja California Highlights

- 1 Kayaking to **Espiritu Santo** (p727) as the big Baja sun drops into the bay.
- 2 Sipping, swilling and savoring the bucolic delights of the **Ruta del Vino** (p706) in northern Baja's unspoiled Valle de Guadalupe.
- 3 Taking the plunge at mystical **Las Sirenitas** (p733), in Cabo Pulmo, home to the Sea of Cortez' only living coral reef.
- 4 Marveling at the hundreds of ancient cave paintings at the **Sierra de San Francisco** (p719).
- 5 Crossing the world's most crossed border in **Tijuana** (p702) to eat, drink or shop to your heart's content.
- 6 Enjoying the cosmopolitan charms of the delightful small coastal town of **Loreto** (p723).
- 7 Taking a sunset cruise in **Cabo San Lucas** (p737) as the sun plunges into the Pacific.
- 8 Perusing the galleries on arty Boulevard Mijares in the heart of **San José del Cabo** (p734).