

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing



February 16 - 23, 2020

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

### TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Enjoy whale watching for migrating Gray Whale mothers and their offspring in Magdalena Bay, Sea of Cortez
- ▶ Get “up close and personal” with a sea lion underwater while swimming and snorkeling in Baja’s warm waters
- ▶ Learn how to make delicious Mexican cuisine from a talented Mexican “Maistro” using fresh local produce and seafood
- ▶ Get active in Baja with hiking, kayaking, paddle boarding, snorkeling, and glamping on a private beach in the Sea of Cortez

### TRIP ROUTE



# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

### QUICK VIEW ITINERARY

- Day 1: arrive in Todos Santos, welcome dinner
- Day 2: surfing lesson, horseback riding on the beach, Mexican cooking class
- Day 3: early morning yoga, kayak or stand up paddle board, glamp on a private beach
- Day 4: snorkel with sea lions, relax, and enjoy glamping in the wilderness
- Day 5: drive to Magdalena Bay, afternoon whale watching, nature walk at camp
- Day 6: full day of whale watching
- Day 7: morning whale watch, drive back to Todos Santos, farewell dinner
- Day 8: depart Baja

### TRIP PRICE

Main Trip: \$3,790

Optional Single Accommodations: \$650

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

### your adventure in depth

#### DAY 1

Sunday  
2/16/20

### Arrive in Todos Santos

Welcome to Baja! Bordered by both the wild Pacific Ocean and the protected Sea of Cortez, this finger-like desert peninsula is a haven for exotic plants, birds, and animals (both terrestrial and marine) and is home to friendly and welcoming people.

#### Pick-up and Transfer

You will be picked up at the San Jose del Cabo airport by your guide and transferred to your hotel.

You will receive specific instructions on the exact meeting location about a month prior to your trip. The Cabo airport is very busy, but AdventureWomen will make sure you know where you're going!

#### Welcome Dinner

Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening where you can get to know your AdventureWomen group!

#### Accommodations

Los Colibris Casitas

#### Meals Included

dinner

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

### your adventure in depth

#### DAY 2

Monday  
2/17/20

### Todos Santos

Todos Santos is an undiscovered gem, back-dropped by the Sierra de Laguna Mountains and rimmed with gorgeous beaches and lush gardens. It's an official Pueblo Magico, one of Mexico's 50 off-the-beaten-path towns known for their "magical ambiance."

**Breakfast** Start off your first day with a terrific Mexican breakfast prepared by Los Colibris Chef Iker Algorri.

**Tortilla-Making Class** Start your tortilla-making class right after breakfast to ensure that there are plenty of tortillas on hand for your cooking class tonight.

**Surfing Lesson** Take a surfing lesson today. No experience? No problem! Your instructors guarantee that you will stand up—at least for a moment—during your very first lesson!

**Horseback Riding** Todos Santos has 70 miles of pristine beach. Take in the beauty of a Baja landscape on horseback.

**Mexican Cooking Class** Take a Mexican cooking class this evening. Start by learning to make the perfect margarita. Make sure you pay attention as you learn from the chef - you are making your own dinner!

### Accommodations

Los Colibris Casitas

### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

.....

your adventure  
in depth

### DAY 3

Tuesday  
2/18/20

### Todos Santos to Isla Espiritu Santo

Espiritu Santo National Park in the Sea of Cortez is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and is one of the best marine life viewing destinations in the world. Whales, dolphins, whale sharks, sea turtles, manta rays, and plenty of beautiful tropical fish call the surrounding waters home, while a terrific range of bird species including Blue-footed Boobies, Reddish Egrets, Great Blue Herons, and Yellow-footed Gulls frequent the island's skies and shores. The island itself is stunning, with magnificent towering cliffs, spectacular sandy bays, amazing lava rock formations, and rock art left by the now-extinct Guaycura and Pericu Indians.

#### Morning Yoga

Enjoy an early morning yoga class on the sky deck. What better way to start your day than yoga overlooking the ocean?

#### Travel to Isla Espiritu Santo

Drive to La Paz, where you will get on a boat for your 90-minute ride to your exclusive camp on the beach. Wear your bathing suit this morning, just in case there is a chance to swim along the way!

#### Afternoon Activities

Spend your afternoon kayaking or stand up paddle boarding exploring hidden lagoons and desert beaches. Enjoy the sunset with your group!

### Accommodations

Glamping on the Beach

### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

### your adventure in depth

#### DAY 4

Wednesday  
2/19/20

### Isla Espiritu Santo

Jacques Cousteau once called the Sea of Cortez “the aquarium of the world” and “the Galápagos of North America.” About 39 percent of the world’s marine mammal species and 70 percent of the world’s marine cetacean species live or migrate through here, making this region one of the planet’s most bio-diverse ecosystems.

#### Swimming with Sea Lions

Swimming with sea lions is magical, with unforgettable nose-to-nose encounters. Grab some snorkel gear provided and jump in with them.

#### Dinner

Enjoy a dinner from the camp kitchen and a relaxing night on the beach.

#### Accommodations

Glamping on the Beach

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

.....

### your adventure in depth

#### DAY 5

Thursday  
2/20/20

### Isla Espiritu Santo to Magdalena Bay

Magdalena Bay is the largest wetlands ecosystem on the west coast of Baja and one of the most important in North America. The World Wildlife Fund ranks it as one of the most important coastal habitats in Mexico. Magdalena Bay has mangrove forests, barrier beaches and sand dune islands, all of which contribute to the incredible scenery and biological diversity of the area. The Bay is also the prime calving ground for the gray whale, and January to March it is possible to see - and often touch - a large number of whales, including mothers and calves.

#### Depart Isla Espiritu Santo

Depart your beautiful camp by boat for La Paz. From La Paz, drive about five hours to Magdalena Bay. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

#### Whale Watching

Enjoy a few hours of whale watching on your way to the island that you'll call home for the next few nights.

This camp will be similar safari-style tents, but with cots and sleeping bags since the location is even more remote than your last camp!

#### Evening at Camp

Once you settle in at camp, go on a guided nature walk to explore your surroundings. This evening you can relax with your group on the beach, and if you're lucky, observe whales from the shore.

### Accommodations

Magdalena Bay Camp

### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

### your adventure in depth

#### DAY 6

Friday  
2/21/20

### Magdalena Bay

The Gray whale is the largest animal to have ever exhibited friendliness towards humans. There is little to compare with the experience of closely observing a mother nurse her calf, or seeing juveniles leaping exuberantly out of the water. They frolic, breach, spyhop, and lobtail, while spouting heart-shaped clouds of mist into the cool midday air. The young calves are especially curious, following and sometimes even nuzzling up to the whale-watching skiffs. Sometimes they catch a ride on their mother's backs!

#### Full Day of Whale Watching

Head out onto the water for a full day of interacting with whales. Highly experienced local staff will ferry you through the waters of Magdalena Bay to whale watch from motorized skiffs, perfect conveyances from which to have a "whale's eye view" of the Great Grays!

It is impossible to predict anything with wildlife, but in the past, AdventureWomen guests have seen mother whales bringing their babies up to the boat to say hello, males sidling up to the boat and spouting water on the boat, and gray whales bringing their heads out of the water to look women in the eye.

#### Accommodations

Magdalena Bay Camp

#### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

.....

### your adventure in depth

#### DAY 7

Saturday  
2/22/20

### Magdalena Bay to Todos Santos

One of the most striking things about the Baja peninsula is the incredible juxtaposition of desert and sea, happy home to both cactus and seagull. Artists and photographers are lured here by the quality of light, marine sports enthusiasts come to enjoy the challenging fun above and below the surface of the inviting big blue sea, and the local residents enjoy a stress-free lifestyle, welcoming visitors who seek a multi-layered getaway.

#### More Whale Watching

Enjoy another few hours of whale watching, spending a little bit more time with these majestic, gentle creatures.

#### Drive Back to Todos Santos

Drive back from Magdalena Bay to Todos Santos, about five hours. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant along the way.

#### Farewell Dinner

Start your farewell dinner with a mezcal tasting. Reminisce over all of the memories you have made and celebrate the end of an incredible trip!

### Accommodations

Los Colibris Casitas

### Meals Included

breakfast, lunch, dinner

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

.....

your adventure  
in depth

### DAY 8

Sunday  
2/23/20

### Todos Santos and Depart

After a fond farewell and breakfast, say “hasta luego” to your guide and new friends!

**Transfer to the Airport** Say goodbye to your new AdventureWomen friends as you transfer to the airport for your flights home.

Meals Included  
breakfast

Please note: AdventureWomen will attempt to adhere to the itinerary as much as possible. However, certain conditions (political, climatic, environmental, and cultural) may necessitate changes in the itinerary. AdventureWomen reserves the right to alter any itinerary at any time, if necessary. We will attempt to notify participants of changes as far in advance as possible. Costs incurred by such changes will be the responsibility of the participants.

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

your adventure  
in depth

### Accommodation Details

#### Los Colibris Casitas

Los Colibris—The Hummingbirds—is located in Todos Santos, just a ten-minute walk from the area’s beautiful beaches. The property features two big casas (houses) and two casitas (little houses). Each building is configured and decorated in a unique way. The accommodations all include a kitchen or kitchenette with appliances, a dining area, a balcony, porch or patio, ceiling fans, and lovely views of the Pacific Ocean and lagoon.

#### Glamping on the Beach

You will love your base camp on one of the island’s most beautiful beaches! It features walk-in safari-style tents with twin beds, mattresses, pillows, sheets, and lamps. The accommodations are so comfortable and beautiful that you won’t want to leave. This is glamping (glamorous camping) at its best! There is a kitchen tent where our on-site chef makes wonderful meals for you every day, and there are sun showers and portable toilets in separate sheds.

#### Magdalena Bay Camp

This remote camp has safari-style tents with cots and sleeping bags. There is a washroom tent with a portable toilet, but you should bring biodegradable shower wipes to freshen up, as there is no fresh water available for bathing. The island you’ll stay on is near where the lagoon mouth meets the ocean, and you should be rewarded with whales swimming and playing all around the camp.

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

your adventure  
in depth

### Included/Not Included

#### Included:

- ▶ All hotel accommodations throughout the trip
- ▶ All meals as listed in the itinerary
- ▶ All ground transportation
- ▶ Fully-guided sightseeing as indicated in the itinerary
- ▶ English-speaking guides throughout the trip
- ▶ Gratuities for assistant guides, drivers, lodge staff, and camp staff
- ▶ One AdventureWomen Ambassador

#### Not Included:

- ▶ International airfare to and from Baja
- ▶ Optional activities as listed in the itinerary
- ▶ Meals not specified in the itinerary
- ▶ Alcoholic beverages
- ▶ Fees for passports, visas, or immunizations
- ▶ Cost of hospitalization or evacuation
- ▶ Items of a personal nature
- ▶ Gratuities for main guide

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

your adventure  
in depth

is this trip right  
for me?

the important  
stuff

how do I get  
there?

pack your  
bags!

the fine print

### Activity Level:

Moderate

**Active**

High Energy

Challenging

We rate this trip as Active. Our Active adventures at AdventureWomen get you on your feet! You should be in good physical condition for these trips and comfortable walking on uneven surfaces, such as cobblestone streets, biking well-maintained paths and natural trails, or kayaking in calm waters. Please note that this is a general description of what you might encounter; for specific details about your trip, please consult the itinerary.

We recommend training before your trip (with your doctor's permission!) to make the most of your adventure. We have a partnership with FitForTrips, a company that will design an individualized fitness plan for you with this itinerary in mind. Best of all, AdventureWomen guests get a 25% discount with the code FITWOMEN. Learn more at: <https://fitfortrips.com/partners/adventure-women/>

You should come with a flexible, adventurous, and enthusiastic spirit, and a wonderful sense of humor that adventure travel requires.

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

your adventure  
in depth

is this trip right  
for me?

the important  
stuff

how do I get  
there?

pack your  
bags!

the fine print

The deposit for this trip is \$800, and is nonrefundable and nontransferable. Once you book, you will need to fill out and return to AdventureWomen:

- Information Form
- Booking Conditions Form
- Copy of Flight Information
- Copy of Issuing Page of Passport (Photo Page)

**Final payment is due to AdventureWomen in a cash form (check, money order, or wire transfer) on or before November 18, 2019.** A maximum of \$1,500 per person can be put on a credit card, which includes your deposit.

### Passports and Visas:

Citizens of the United States must have a passport valid for six months beyond your travel dates with at least two blank facing pages. If you do not have a passport, please apply now!

### Health Considerations:

Make an appointment with a travel clinic. There are no immunization requirements for travel to Mexico, however your local travel clinic may have recommendations for you based on your age, health, and past vaccination history.

For more health information, go to [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel) and navigate to the page about Mexico.

### Money:

US Dollars are accepted in most places in Baja. Credit cards are accepted in downtown Todos Santos. We recommend bringing cash.

### Suggested Gratuities:

- ▶ Main guide: \$20 per day

All other tips are included.

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

your adventure  
in depth

is this trip right  
for me?

the important  
stuff

how do I get  
there?

pack your  
bags!

the fine print

**Arrive:** Arrive at San Jose del Cabo (SJD) on February 16, 2020 by 3:00pm.

**Depart:** Depart San Jose del Cabo (SJD) on February 23, 2020 after 12:00pm.

We are happy to help you make your flight and travel arrangements. Please contact us at:

**(800) 804-8686 or (617) 544-9393**  
**email: [info@adventurewomen.com](mailto:info@adventurewomen.com)**

If you'd like to do anything prior to or following the AdventureWomen trip, we'd be delighted to help you arrange any trip extensions you're interested in.

**Note:** The recent trend in travel is for travelers to finalize their plans much closer to departure time than was customary in the past. While we try to be as flexible as possible booking last-minute registrants, we must release hotel rooms two to three months prior to departure! Please keep this in mind when making your travel plans.

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

your adventure  
in depth

is this trip right  
for me?

the important  
stuff

how do I get  
there?

pack your  
bags!

the fine print

As you get ready to pack for your adventure, have a look at The AdventureWomen Store at [www.theadventurewomenstore.com](http://www.theadventurewomenstore.com) - we have picked out our favorite travel clothes and outdoor gear to help make packing easy for you. You can also see our recommendations for this trip on the [AdventureWomen Pinterest](#) page.

In February, the weather in Baja is warm (not hot) during the day with cool evenings. The highs will be in the low to upper 70s, and the lows will be in the lower 50s. You will want layers for evenings on your private island! Dress for this Baja adventure is casual.

### Clothing and Gear:

- Duffel bag or small suitcase (**soft-sided only**; wheels OK)
- Daypack
- Rash guard (for surfing and snorkeling)
- 2-3 short sleeve shirts (quick dry recommended)
- 2-3 long sleeve shirts (quick dry recommended; good for bug protection)
- 1 medium weight fleece sweater/jacket for cool evenings/whale watching
- 1-2 pairs of lightweight pants (for horseback riding and bug protection)
- 1-2 pairs of shorts
- 1-2 sets of nicer clothes for dinner
- 2 bathing suits
- 1-2 sun shirts/beach coverup
- 1 set of yoga clothing
- Waterproof/windbreaker jacket
- Hat for sun protection
- 5-7 pairs underwear
- 5-7 pairs of socks
- Sneakers or hiking shoes (closed-toe shoes for horseback riding)**
- 1 pair of sandals/beach shoes
- Sleepwear

### AdventureWomen Essentials:

- Travel documents (passport, airline tickets, money)
- 2-3 spare passport photos (in case of lost passport)
- Write down/print out travel insurance number
- Locks for your suitcase/duffel bag
- Travel alarm clock with spare batteries
- Headlamp or small flashlight with spare batteries
- Binoculars (optional; 8x40/42 models are excellent choices; center focus models are easiest)
- Digital camera, memory cards, battery charger
- Power adapters/power bank
- Sunglasses, case, and strap

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

---

your adventure  
in depth

is this trip right  
for me?

the important  
stuff

how do I get  
there?

**pack your  
bags!**

the fine print

### Essentials Continued:

- Spare glasses, contact lenses, cleaner, saline, etc.
- Money belt or neck pouch
- Your AdventureWomen water bottle
- Sunscreen and lip balm with SPF
- Mosquito repellent
- Hand wipes/hand sanitizer
- Toothbrush/toothpaste
- Soap, shampoo, and conditioner
- Small packet of tissues
- Tampons and panty liners (avoid plastic applicators)
- Earplugs: We recommend Mack's Pillow Soft White Moldable Silicone Snore Proof Earplugs. Available at most drugstores or at [www.earplugstore.com](http://www.earplugstore.com)
- Assortment of stuff sacks and Ziploc bags
- 1-2 bandanas/Buff
- Reading material/journal and pens

### Personal First Aid Kit:

- Prescription medicine you usually take (in original containers)
- Personal epi pen (if you need one, don't forget to pack it!)
- Bandages, Gauze, Ace bandage, blister prevention
- Antiseptic wipes/spray
- Antibiotic ointment
- Cotton-tipped applicators
- Oral rehydration tablets/packets
- Antidiarrheal medication
- Mild laxative
- Antacid
- Cold remedies
- Ibuprofen/acetaminophen
- Eye drops
- Tweezers, scissors (travel size), safety pins

If you prefer to buy a complete kit, we recommend the Smart Travel first aid kit.

# BAJA

## Whale Watching, Glamping, and Surfing

February 16 - 23, 2020

.....

your adventure  
in depth

is this trip right  
for me?

the important  
stuff

how do I get  
there?

pack your  
bags!

the fine print

### Cancellations and Refunds

Notification of cancellations must be received in writing. Full payment is due 90 days prior to departure date, and the registration deposit is non-refundable.

For cancellations received 61-90 days prior to the trip departure date: 50% of the total trip cost is non-refundable. For cancellations received 1-60 days prior to the trip departure date: 100% of the total trip cost is non-refundable.

You are highly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance to cover emergency situations. Travel insurance information will be sent to you once you have registered for your trip.

### Switching Trips

Our deposits are nonrefundable and nontransferable. If for some reason you need to switch to a different trip, please call us and we will do our best to accommodate you, but switching is not guaranteed.

### No Smoking Policy

Beginning in 1995, our trips became smoke free. Please note that there will be no smoking by any participants on AdventureWomen vacations.

### Health Insurance

You must have your own health insurance to participate in an AdventureWomen trip.

### Adventure Travel Today

At AdventureWomen, we want everyone to understand that our excursions are adventure travel vacations and not "tours." We define "adventure travel" as travel in which one **actively participates**, as opposed to a "tour," in which one is more or less a passive observer. AdventureWomen designs and organizes vacations all over the world for women who want to **experience an active, out of the ordinary vacation, and meet new friends**. Most of all, we want our trips to be **fun!**

**good-natured realist and have a sense of humor!** Adventure vacations, by nature, require that participants be self-sufficient, flexible, and able to accept situations as they exist, and not just as they would have preferred or expected them to exist. The constraints of scheduled group traveling also necessitate that each of us be understanding of and sensitive to others. **Being on time** is important, and contributes to the congeniality, success and well-being of both individuals and the group!

In this spirit, the successful adventure traveler should be a