

Baja: Explore, swim and hike on a Lindblad-Nat Geo excursion

By ANNE HARNAGEL

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Passengers on a Zodiac boat observe a bird sanctuary in the Sea of Cortez in Baja California. (Ralph Lee Hopkins)

Yes, it's only May, but it's never too early to start thinking about your winter holiday. With that in mind, Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic has introduced a new eight-day Mexico adventure, "Wild Islands & Treasures of Baja California," with two December departure dates.

The 62-passenger National Geographic Sea Bird embarks from La Paz, with stops at Isla San Jose and Isla San Francisco, Bahia Aqua Verde and the seaside town of Todos Santos, where there is an opportunity to meet local artists. Other stops include Isla Espiritu Santo and San Jose del Cabo, where the excursion disembarks.

Activities cover a range of interests and fitness levels, making the trip suitable for families. Highlights include exploring desert islands known for their native species, rare plants and forests of cacti; searching for humpback whales; hiking a desert arroyo to view ancient handprints; and snorkeling at Cabo Pulmo and Los Islotes.

Onboard are six naturalists, including two photography instructors and an undersea specialist.

Dates: Departures Dec. 20 and Dec. 27

Price: From \$5,690 per person, double occupancy. Must book by July 31 to receive a \$550 airfare credit.

Info: [Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic](#), (800) 397-3348

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