

BAJA

& THE SEA OF CORTEZ

NORTH AMERICA'S BEST-KEPT SECRET

ABOARD THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD & SEA LION | 2017-18



Lindblad
Expeditions







DEAR TRAVELER,

I think it is safe to say that relatively few people have any idea what we mean when we say ‘Baja California.’ I would venture to say that most people who recognize the name, associate it with Cabo San Lucas—with vacation resorts, sport fishing, or spring break madness.



The Baja we explore during our season in the Sea of Cortez and Bahía Magdalena is a far different place. It is remote, wild and untrammled—and yet not far at all: a short hop from Los Angeles or San Francisco. We can roam freely there, in our nimble expedition ship, ruled by wind, wave and weather (which is almost invariably, blissful.)

And we can have the kind of experiences that only Nature can provide—in a place of such beauty and exultant wildness that every day reminds us what a privilege it is to be here.

During one part of our season in Baja, the gray whales are birthing and raising calves in the nursery lagoons of Bahía Magdalena. We visit them and have extraordinary up-close encounters with these gentle giants. After the gray whale mothers and calves start their migration north, we spend our time inside the Sea of Cortez. There we have the potential for sighting multiple species of whales, dolphins and sea lions. Over the years, many of our guests have had their first or best-ever sightings of a variety of whales, from giant blues to deep-diving sperm whales. There are dolphins by the score, often approaching us to playfully “surf” the pressure wave pushed ahead of the ship, speeding along with us in an exuberant display of leaping and racing prowess.

We snorkel with sea lions amid reef fish, hike into cactus forests of surreal strangeness and beauty, make tracks on the silken sands of desert islands, have barbecues on the beach as dusk shades into evening—and generally have the place to ourselves, an uncanny feeling in this crowded world.

Baja is one of those places on the planet that supply the human spirit the tonic of wildness it needs. Whether you need it for yourself, or are seeking an experience for your family to share, I hope you will join us this season. Few experiences are as rewarding, I promise.

All the best,

Sven-Olof Lindblad

*Cover: Friendly gray whale calf, Laguna San Ignacio. © Ralph Lee Hopkins
Left: Guests exploring at sunrise. © Ralph Lee Hopkins*

Ships' registry: United States

CHOOSE FROM THREE FASCINATING ITINERARIES

To be on expedition with us in Baja & the Sea of Cortez is to feel truly free, genuinely connected to the natural world, and in a constant state of wonder as you discover the stark beauty and solitude of this wild region, figuratively speaking, right there in your own backyard. Our season begins in January when the gray whales calve, and continues through April when sea birds fill the skies, and fascinating whale species—blue, pilot, fin, humpback, sperm, and many more—plus innumerable dolphins are regularly observed. Our itineraries are designed for maximum flexibility, with our staff choosing sites based on conditions and to maximize wildlife sightings, adding a stimulating sense of adventure to each day—whenever you choose to join us. Each of our three itineraries is unique. Choose any one, and you choose both wisely and well.

BAJA CALIFORNIA: A REMARKABLE JOURNEY

The quality of the light in Baja is magical, something top nature photographers keep to themselves and return for time and again. On our 15-day photo-centric voyage you will have the opportunity to capture everything Baja provides from gray whales to the untracked sands of idyllic island beaches, with marine life, bird life and glorious light, too. The National Geographic photographer and photo instructors aboard ensure you'll go home with your best shots ever. All levels welcome. *See itinerary on pages 16-17.*

Giant cardon cactus.

AMONG THE GREAT WHALES

You can *whale-watch* in a number of places; only here can you *whale encounter*. Enjoy moving and meaningful up-close experiences with gray whale mothers and their calves in Pacific nursery lagoons. The only other route to this experience is a day trip—on our expedition, however, you'll spend two days among these gentle giants. You'll also explore the other side of the Baja Peninsula—to snorkel with sea lions, hike forests of cacti, and leave tracks on pristine desert islands. *See Itinerary on pages 12-13.*



Gray whale encounter.



Snorkeling with young California sea lion.

WHALES & WILDNESS: SPRING IN THE SEA OF CORTEZ

Extraordinary performers get audiences. Brilliant chefs seldom remain a secret. That's why it's mystifying to us that spring in the Sea of Cortez isn't already 'a thing.' It's one of the hidden wonders of the planet. And on our expedition you'll have the whole sunlit expanse to yourself (& your fellow guests) when weather and wildlife are at their best. With more time dedicated to exploring the Sea of Cortez, odds are exceptional for encountering an exuberant pod of dolphins, a school of leaping mobula rays or some of the many whale species found here—often in near perfect sea conditions.

See Itinerary on pages 20-21.



Elegant terns.

An aerial photograph of several whales swimming in clear, turquoise ocean water. The whales are seen from above, with their dark bodies and white underbellies visible. The water is a vibrant blue-green color, and the whales are scattered across the frame, some swimming towards the viewer and others away. The overall scene is serene and majestic.

A GLORIOUS PLACE TO
DISCOVER, VIBRANT
WITH NATURAL BEAUTY



*Left: Gray whale pod.
Right, clockwise: curious California sea lion; sand dunes, Magdalena Bay; pod of longbeaked common dolphins, red-billed tropicbird; sperm whale fluke; giant barrel cactus; Sand Dollar Beach, Magdalena Bay.*

THE PERFECT MOBILE BASE CAMP FOR EXPLORING

With generous decks that take full advantage of the sun and ocean breezes, our twin expedition ships *National Geographic Sea Lion* and *Sea Bird*, are uniquely designed to optimize being in this remote



part of the world. Equipped with cool tools for exploration—a fleet of Zodiacs, kayaks, paddleboards, plus snorkeling gear for all, hydrophones for whale listening, and more—each is ideal for discovering the region’s spectacular locales, from desert island and cactus forest. And whether you love snorkeling or prefer to stay dry, our undersea specialist/expedition diver will capture video for all to enjoy in brilliant HD from the comfort of the ship’s lounge, perhaps with a cocktail in hand.





Guests enjoy close-up view of new born gray whale.

TRAVEL WITH AN A+ EXPEDITION TEAM

The comment cards we receive from guests after every voyage consistently express the same sentiments: “Outstanding expedition staff.” Discover Baja with a veteran expedition leader and a team of naturalists well-versed in the region’s flora and fauna. An undersea specialist will maximize your understanding of Baja’s incredible marine environment, while a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and a video chronicler aboard will ensure you go home with amazing shots and a DVD that captures the story of your voyage. Plus, a wellness specialist will help enhance the relaxing and revitalizing benefits of life in the Sea of Cortez.

▶ LEARN MORE AT [EXPEDITIONS.COM/EXPERTBIOS](https://www.expeditions.com/expertbios)
FOR FULL BIOS ON OUR STAFF



Some expedition team members aboard National Geographic Sea Lion or Sea Bird include, clockwise from left: Carlos Navarro, undersea specialist; Larry Prussin, expedition leader; Jim Kelley, expedition leader; Alberto Montaudon, naturalist; Linda Burback, naturalist and photo instructor.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

IN A LAND WITH PERFECT LIGHT, BENEFIT FROM EXPEDITION PHOTOGRAPHY

Make the most of the unrivaled photo ops of Baja California's wild islands, whales, dolphins, pelicans, and sea birds with our Expedition Photography program. Every expedition features a Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor who offers assistance, instructions and shooting tips in the field. Their expertise will inspire you and help you improve your skills—no matter your current skill or interest level—and ensure you return home with incredible photos.



**Lindblad
Expeditions**



**NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC™**

Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic have joined forces to further inspire the world through expedition travel. Our collaboration in exploration, research, technology and conservation will provide extraordinary travel experiences and disseminate geographic knowledge around the globe.



UP-CLOSE & PERSONAL ENCOUNTERS: LIKE NOTHING ELSE ON EARTH

What experience have you had with whales to date? If you've been on whale watching excursions, then you'll have some precedent for this. And if you haven't had any whale experiences to date—then, get ready for one of the more memorable events of your life.

Gray whale females have always come to the nursery lagoons of Bahía Magdalena to give birth, and instruct their young before making the annual migratory trek to the food-rich Arctic waters. Local fisherman, observing the phenomenon for years, began taking people out in day boats from the mainland to search for the mothers and calves. What we offer is an altogether richer, more in-depth experience. We are the only travel company allowed to anchor inside the bay, and use our own expedition landing craft along with local permitted guides for whale encounters. We can take all the time we choose, and are often rewarded not only with close sightings, calves and watchful mothers mere feet from our expedition landing craft, but also heart-touching eye contact with playful calves surfacing to interact with us. Plus, because we're at anchor, we can hang out on deck in the evening under stars, or depending on the calendar, a full moon, and hear and see the whales breathing and moving around the ship. And that's only part of what your remarkable days in Baja will offer.



Main Image: Gray whale mother pushes calf to surface. Above: A gray whale approaches guests on an expedition landing craft cruise.

BAJA CALIFORNIA AND THE SEA OF CORTEZ: AMONG THE GREAT WHALES

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS—ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD AND NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION

PRICES FROM: \$6,590 to \$11,390 (See page 23 for complete prices.)

Seeing gray whales in their natural habitat is one of the great delights of this voyage. In Bahía Magdalena, venture out in expedition landing craft among these magnificent creatures. In the Sea of Cortez, search for a variety of whales, plus dolphins, blue-footed boobies, pelicans, cormorants and magnificent frigatebirds. You'll also snorkel among sea lions, join naturalists on hikes amid barrel cacti and sculpted sand dunes, and see a variety of desert flora and fauna.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Get an up-close view of gigantic gray whale mothers and their calves in the breeding grounds of Bahía Magdalena.
- ▶ Go snorkeling amid sea lions, brilliant blue damselfish, and schools of king angelfish.
- ▶ Kayak clear blue waters on the lookout for a variety of bird species including magnificent frigatebirds.
- ▶ Explore diverse landscapes, including sand dunes, a cactus forest and deserted islands.

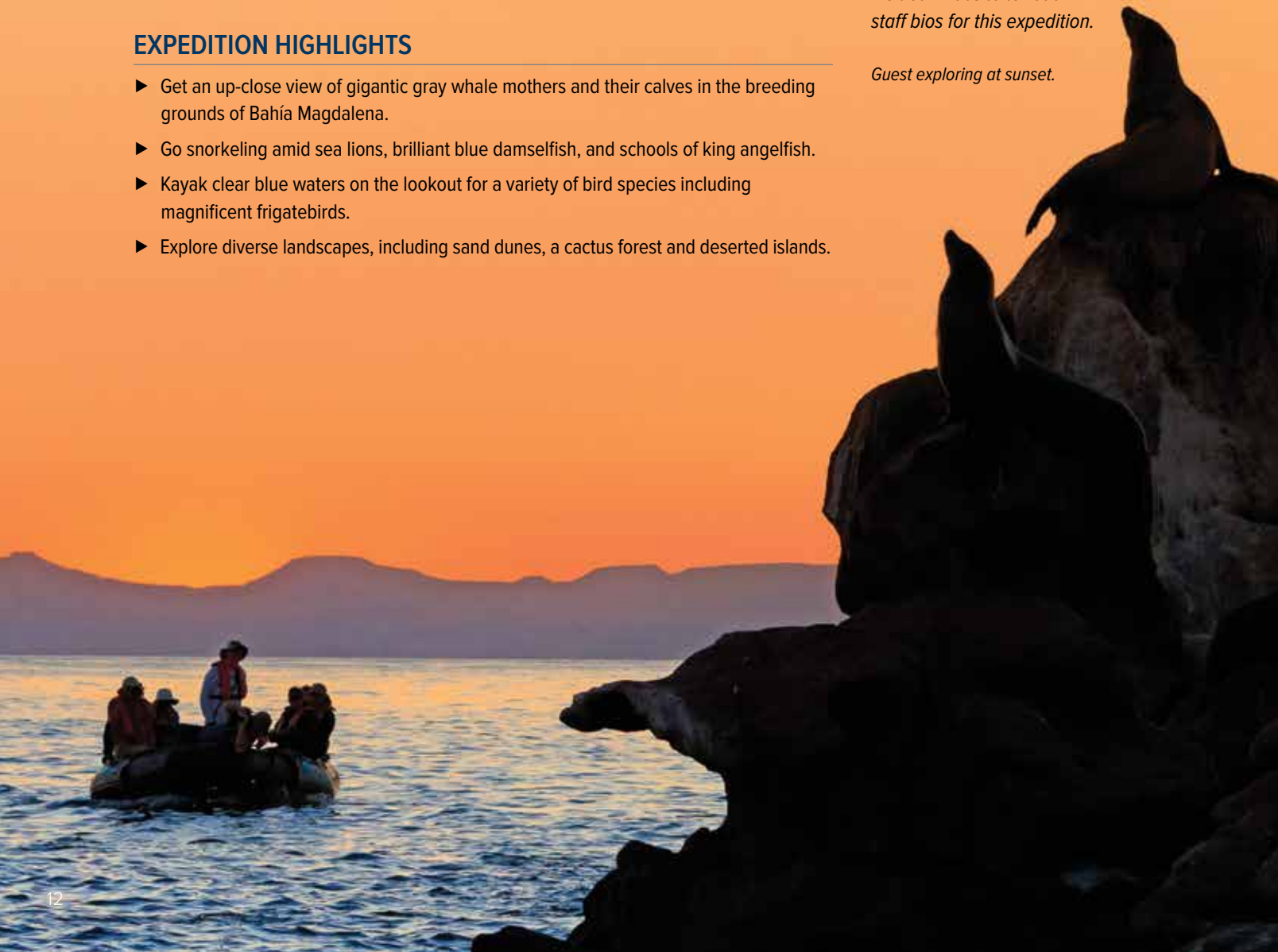
EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE



Our expert 6-person expedition team will illuminate the wonders of the Sea of Cortez from every possible angle. Your expedition leader, undersea specialist, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and naturalists, plus a wellness specialist and video chronicler, are dedicated to ensuring an incredible voyage. Certain departures feature a National Geographic photographer.

Visit our website to read staff bios for this expedition.

Guest exploring at sunset.



DAY 1: LOS ANGELES/LA PAZ/SAN CARLOS/EMBARK

Upon arrival in La Paz, transfer to San Carlos where we embark. (D)

DAYS 2-4: BAHÍA MAGDALENA

Navigate through an immense system of protected coves and channels, surrounded by a fringe of mangrove channels at one edge of a vast, windswept plain. Each winter, during their long migration, gray whales travel south from their Arctic feeding grounds to breed and raise their calves in these sheltered waters. Observe migrating whales from the ship and up close from our expedition landing craft. Watch for magnificent frigatebirds, pelicans, cormorants, terns, great blue herons, ibis and willets. (B,L,D daily)

DAY 5: LOS CABOS AND GORDA BANKS

This morning cruise past Friars Rocks at Land's End. For those who wish, we will visit the historic town center of San José del Cabo. The afternoon is spent at the Gorda Banks seamount or La Fortuna, gathering places for whales, especially humpbacks, dolphins and other sea life. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: LOS ISLOTES AND ISLA ESPÍRITU SANTO

At Los Islotes, don flippers, a mask and snorkel (which we'll gladly provide) and swim with curious sea lions. We have a leisurely afternoon

to swim, kayak or hike at Isla Espíritu Santo. Brown pelicans, gulls and boobies are all part of the landscape. Finish the day with a relaxing beach barbecue complete with a bonfire and a star-filled sky. (B,L,D)



Iguana on top of cardon cactus.

DAY 7: EXPLORING THE SEA OF CORTEZ

Search for whales among the islands of the southern Sea of Cortez, an area that has proven to be one of the best for finding blue whales, and often common and bottlenose dolphins. Explore the many uninhabited islands such as Isla San José or Isla Santa Catalina to walk among huge cacti and observe the diverse bird life. Swim or snorkel with king angelfish, butterfly fish, damselfish and the beautiful parrotfish. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: LA PAZ/DISEMBARK/HOME

Disembark in La Paz after breakfast and drive to the airport for flights home. (B)



EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2018 Jan. 13*, 20, 27*; Feb. 3, 10*, 17, 24*; Mar. 3, 10* (*Sea Bird*) Jan. 27, Feb. 3*, 10, 17*, 24* (*Sea Lion*)

**These departures travel in reverse from La Paz to San Carlos, making all the same stops.*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPERT

Greg Marshall is a scientist, inventor, and filmmaker who has dedicated the last 25 years to studying, exploring, and documenting life in the oceans. He is the inventor of Crittercam, a research tool used to record data from an animal's perspective. Join Greg on the Jan. 13 & 20, 2018 voyages.



An incredible gray whale photo op for guests.

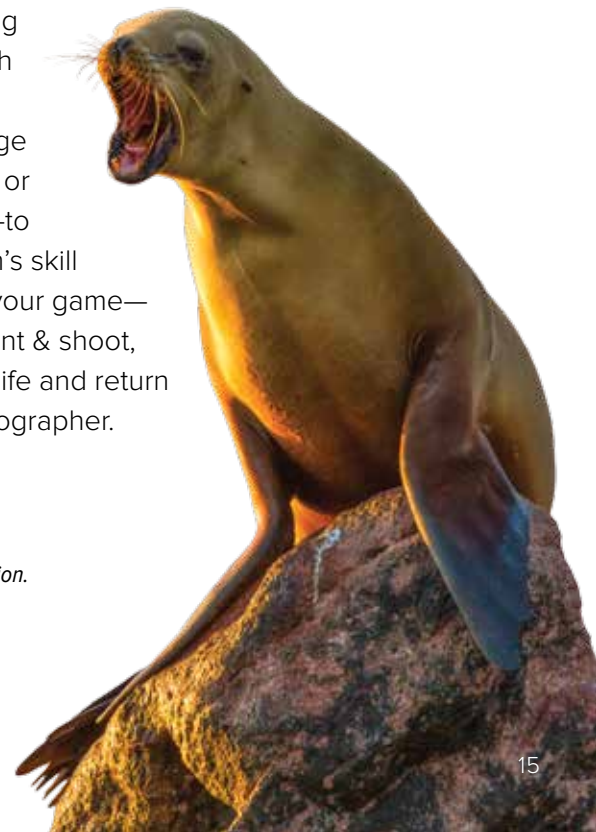




TAKE YOUR CAMERA WHERE IT WANTS TO GO

Give your eye the light it deserves—Baja's. This photo 'safari,' led by an ace photo team, including a top National Geographic photographer and three Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructors, delivers all the major Baja sites & experiences on one sweeping two-week expedition: gray whales, and a plethora of passing whale species, to racing, leaping dolphins and an island teeming with birds, with island hopping among pristine desert isles, charming peninsula towns, and snorkeling with playful sea lions, as well. You'll have the luxury of time and perfect vantage points—on shore, on the ship's bow or aboard an expedition landing craft—to get your best shots. Our photo team's skill and attention will help you step up your game—whether you're using an iPhone, point & shoot, or big glass. Have the time of your life and return home a better, more confident photographer.

*Main Image: Sunset on Santa Catalina Island.
Above: photographers at sunrise; right: vocal sea lion.*



BAJA CALIFORNIA: A REMARKABLE JOURNEY

15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS—ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD*
AND *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION*

PRICES FROM: \$11,290 to \$19,340 (See page 23 for complete prices.)

Embark on a comprehensive photo expedition that explores both the Pacific side of Baja California and the islands in the Sea of Cortez. Venture into the gray whale lagoons for up close encounters, and then spend ample time exploring the Sea of Cortez and all its marine mammals. See scores of blue-footed boobies and pelicans, kayak into quiet grottos, and visit charming seaside towns.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Get up-close views of gray whale mothers and their growing calves as they prepare for their journey back to arctic feeding grounds.
- ▶ Kayak clear blue waters to search for wildlife, including magnificent frigatebirds, and possibly explore water-level caves by kayak.
- ▶ Snorkel the living sea: Observe large schools of vibrantly colored fish, swim among playful sea lions, and much more.
- ▶ With more time for adventure, rely on your expedition leader to take you where wildlife will be at its best—including a possible exploration of a rare island covered in hundreds of thousands of elegant terns or shorelines where whales and dolphins congregate in great numbers.

EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

35+
YEARS
EXPERIENCE

Our expert 6-person expedition team will illuminate the wonders of Baja & the Sea of Cortez from every possible angle. Your expedition leader, undersea specialist, three Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructors and naturalists, plus a wellness specialist and video chronicler, are dedicated to ensuring an incredible voyage. A National Geographic photographer is on board and at your service.

Visit our website to read staff bios for this expedition.

Kayaking the calm water in the Sea of Cortez.

**DAY 1: LOS ANGELES/LA PAZ/
SAN CARLOS, MEXICO/EMBARK**
Fly to La Paz and transfer to San Carlos to
embark. (D)



Gray whale.

DAY 2: BAHÍA MAGDALENA

Explore the ever-shifting sand dunes of Isla Magdalena, on a cross-island walk to one of the most pristine beaches in the Pacific. Bird watching here can be excellent—magnificent frigatebirds, pelicans, cormorants, terns and great blue herons, ibis, whimbrels and willets are among the species we might see. It's not unusual to see forty species of birds in just one day along these fertile shorelines where they refuel for their destinations ahead. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 AND 4: LAGUNA SAN IGNACIO

Laguna San Ignacio is a large bay and favored haunt of the gray whales in Baja. The ship will linger in this remote and important locale, while we observe the mother and calf pairs—from the ship, and from water level in our expedition landing craft and local pangas. For some reason, the whales here seem to be friendlier than they are elsewhere. It's not unusual for mothers and calves to approach our boats, the calves often playing hide and seek—sometimes even wanting to be petted and scratched. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: AT SEA

As we travel south along the Pacific coast of the peninsula, there is a chance of seeing a wide variety of marine life, including the largest animal on Earth, the blue whale. (B,L,D)

**DAY 6-14: ISLANDS OF THE SEA
OF CORTEZ**

Cruise past the spectacular Friars Rocks at Land's End. For those who wish, we will arrange a visit to the historic town center of San Jose del Cabo. Espiritu Santo. Los Islotes. Santa Catalina. These are some of the melodious names of these islands scattered throughout this beautiful sea. After over 20 years of exploration here, we are still discovering new places and experiencing exciting events: bowriding bottlenose dolphins, or sperm whales near our ship; a pod of fin whales feeding around a convergence zone; the vision of hundreds of Humboldt squid illuminated in the ship's bow lights. The best areas for whale watching remain consistent—the waters south of Isla Carmen, Canal de Ballenas up north, and near the mouth of Bahia Concepción. Whether on the bridge of the ship, on expedition landing craft or kayaks, we will be in prime position to observe them all. (B,L,D)

**DAY 15: LA PAZ/DISEMBARK/
RETURN U.S.**

After a visit of La Paz, transfer to the airport for your flight to the U.S. (B)



EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2018 Mar. 4 📷, 17 📷, 18 📷
📷 Photo Expedition

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER



Enjoy a unique experience and travel with award winning photographer and filmmaker **Rich Reid** on the Mar. 4, 2018 voyage.

Sunset over La Giganta mountains.



Long-beaked common dolphins at sunrise.





RAREST THINGS ON EARTH: A PRISTINE PLACE, NO OTHER PEOPLE

Whether you need an escape or simply want a different vista, seek the Sea of Cortez. It's a tonic for what ails you, a pick-me-up for the spirit, or simply the most enlivening several days away you could spend.



Nature works her miracles here, presenting a daily spectacle that can range from a dolphin ship escort (often numbering in the hundreds), to a passing blue whale, the largest animal on the planet. Snorkeling, kayaking, paddleboarding. Sea caves, sand dunes, nights under stars. And the joy of feeling you're on a private planet.

*Main Image: Common dolphins bowride in front of the National Geographic Sea Lion.
Above: magnificent frigatebird; fin whale skimming the surface,*

WHALES & WILDNESS: SPRING IN THE SEA OF CORTEZ

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS—ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD
AND NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION

PRICES FROM: \$6,190 to \$10,790 (See page 23 for complete prices.)

Watch whales and dolphins from the deck of one of our intimate, 62-guest expedition ships and at water level from nimble expedition landing craft. Spring in the Sea of Cortez can be a great time to see pods of dolphins and various species of whales—blue, sperm, pilot or fin—all in the same week. Hike uninhabited beaches and desert landscapes. Observe myriad seabirds. Kayak in pristine waters, snorkel among reef fish and enjoy the serenity of a sunset beach barbecue under a starry sky. This unique journey is designed with a flexible itinerary, with our staff choosing sites based on conditions and to maximize wildlife sightings, adding a stimulating sense of adventure to each day.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Search for pods of dolphins and various species of whales: blue, fin, sperm, humpback, pilot or Bryde's.
- ▶ Kayak, swim and snorkel with sea lions in pristine waters, and hike diverse desert landscapes.
- ▶ Visit the old mining town of Santa Rosalia, with its wooden homes and a steel church designed by Gustave Eiffel.

EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

35+
YEARS
EXPERIENCE

Our expert 6-person expedition team will illuminate the wonders of Baja & the Sea of Cortez from every possible angle. Your expedition leader, undersea specialist, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and naturalists, plus a wellness specialist and video chronicler, are dedicated to ensuring an incredible voyage. A National Geographic photographer is on board and at your service.

Visit our website to read staff bios for this expedition.

California sea lions basking in the sun.



**DAY 1: HOME/LOS CABOS, MEXICO/
EMBARK LA PAZ**

Fly into Los Cabos and transfer to La Paz to set sail on the Sea of Cortez. (D)

**DAY 2-7: EXPLORING THE SEA OF
CORTEZ**

Our routing is designed with flexibility in mind, to maximize opportunities for wildlife sightings. It will most likely include the islands and activities listed below, although the order may vary. (B,L,D daily)

**ISLAS SAN ESTEBAN AND SAN
PEDRO MÁRTIR:**

Walk up a desert wash, to search for desert birds and the endemic pinto chuckwalla—a fat, harmless desert lizard. Later visit Isla San Pedro Mártir, a 1,000-foot-high guano-covered island that is home to thousands of seabirds. Blue-footed boobies, red-billed tropicbirds, pelicans and frigatebirds are all found here.

ISLA SAN MARCOS:

At Isla San Marcos there is a beautiful cove for swimming, snorkeling, and kayaking. In the afternoon we are again in rich whale waters, near the mouth of Bahía Concepción where we stand a good chance of sighting several species of whales, particularly fin or sperm.

ISLA SAN JOSE:

One of the larger islands in the Sea of Cortez, San Jose offers several landing possibilities

depending on conditions and the whim of the moment. Photograph the ochre cliffs of the island's eastern shore, hike an "enchanted" arroyo, or visit the abandoned salt works to the west.

ISLA SANTA CATALINA:

This morning we'll search for whales in the waters south of Isla Carmen, an area that has proven to be one of the best for finding blue whales, and often bottlenose and common dolphins. In the afternoon we visit Isla Santa Catalina, famous for its giant barrel cactus and lovely cardon cactus forest. The protected bay of our anchorage is also an excellent site for snorkeling. With a full afternoon here, there is time for swimming, snorkeling and hiking.

**LOS ISLOTES AND ISLA ESPÍRITU
SANTO:**

At Los Islotes, snorkelers have one of life's great opportunities—swimming with graceful and curious sea lions. With a deeply indented shoreline and dramatically eroded cliff faces, Isla Espíritu Santo is perhaps the most beautiful island in the Sea of Cortez. We have a leisurely afternoon for swimming, snorkeling, kayaking, and in the evening, a beach barbecue under the desert sky.

**DAY 8: DISEMBARK LA PAZ, MEXICO/
LOS CABOS**

Disembark in La Paz and transfer to the airport in Los Cabos for flights home. (B)



EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2018 Mar. 31, Apr. 2, 7, 9, 14
Photo Expedition

SPECIAL OFFERS:

Book now and receive a **\$500 AIR CREDIT** per person—plus **\$1,000 OFF KIDS UNDER 18**—for any 2018 departures.



Humpback whale.



A fun ride alongside a leaping common dolphin.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD & SEA LION

CAPACITY: 62 guests in 31 outside cabins.

REGISTRY: United States. **OVERALL LENGTH:** 152 feet.

PUBLIC AREAS: Our ships feature a library; global market; lounge with full-service bar and facilities for films, slide shows and presentations; Observation Deck; partially covered sundeck with chairs and tables, and LEXspa. Our “open bridge” provides guests an opportunity to meet our officers and captain and learn about navigation.

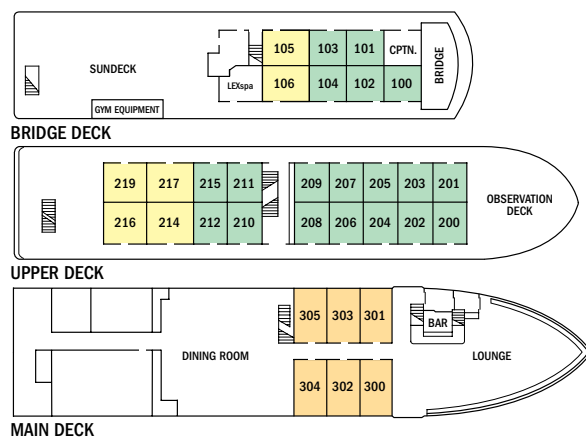
MEALS: Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Breakfast is a wide selection buffet and lunch is often served family style. Menu emphasizes local fare.

CABINS: All face outside with windows, private facilities and climate controls.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Bow camera, hydrophone, kayaks, snorkeling gear, paddleboards, wetsuits, Splash-Cam, underwater video camera, video microscope, and expedition landing craft.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Guest Internet access. A video chronicler, undersea specialist and ship’s doctor are on board all voyages.

WELLNESS: The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features exercise equipment, LEXspa and outdoor stretching area.



CATEGORY 1: Main Deck #300-305 — Conveniently positioned between the dining room & lounge, these cabins feature two single lower beds, a writing desk and a large view window.

CATEGORY 2: Bridge Deck #100-104; Upper Deck #200-212, 215 — These well-located cabins include two lower single beds & a view window.

CATEGORY 3: Bridge Deck #105, 106; Upper Deck #214, 216, 217, 219 — These cabins feature a seating unit with table and two large view windows. Upper Deck cabins include two lower single beds which can convert to a double bed and a pull-out single bed for a third person; Bridge Deck cabins include two lower single beds only.

Note: Sole 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.



Photos (clockwise): Expedition ship National Geographic Sea Lion can access hard to reach locations; twin beds can be pushed together to form a double bed in Category 3 cabins on the Upper Deck; dinner is served in single seatings with unassigned tables for easy mingling; the ship's lounge is where we gather daily for presentations and Recap; Category 1 cabin; Category 2 cabin.

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo.

ITINERARY	YEAR	CAT. 1	CAT. 2	CAT. 3	CAT. 1 SOLO	CAT. 2 SOLO	ADVANCE PAYMENT	NOTE
Baja California and the Sea of Cortez: Among the Great Whales – Page 12	2018	\$6,590	\$7,590	\$8,590	\$9,890	\$11,390	\$1,000	We have arranged a dedicated, direct flight round-trip La Paz for this voyage. Due to the voyage ports there are no other direct flights available. Please contact our air department to book. Sample Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/La Paz/Los Angeles: Economy \$800, Business \$1,450.
Baja California: A Remarkable Journey – Page 16	2018	\$11,290	\$12,890	\$14,990	\$16,940	\$19,340	\$1,500	We have arranged a dedicated, direct flight round-trip La Paz for this voyage. Due to the voyage ports there are no other direct U.S. flights available. Please contact our air department to book. Sample Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/La Paz/Los Angeles: Economy \$800, Business \$1,450
Whales & Wildness: Spring in the Sea of Cortez – Page 20	2018	\$6,190	\$7,190	\$7,990	\$9,290	\$10,790	\$750	Sample Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/Los Cabos/ Los Angeles: Economy from \$450.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR SPECIAL OFFERS

\$500 AIR CREDIT + \$1,000 OFF KIDS under 18 on all Whales & Wilderness 2018 departures.

BRINGING THE KIDS: We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So take \$500 off for each child under the age of 18.

TRAVELING AS A GROUP: Save 5% when traveling as a group of 8 or more people. Take advantage of these great savings, while enjoying traveling with your friends and family. This savings is applicable on voyage fares only, and not on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payment, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies.



INCLUSIVE PRICING

We include just about everything you have the opportunity to do as part of your expedition aboard ship and ashore. The only things not included are those of a personal nature—alcohol, internet usage, tips to the crew, wellness treatments and other specialized arrangements.

ABOARD SHIP

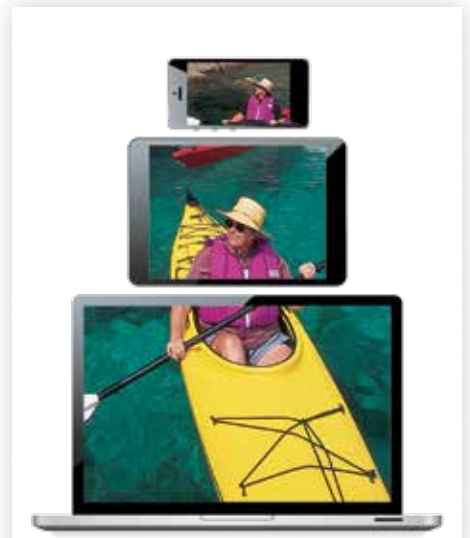
- ✓ All meals and non-alcoholic beverages
- ✓ Cappuccinos, lattes & complimentary environmentally friendly refillable water bottle
- ✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
- ✓ Hors d'oeuvres & snacks during lounge recap
- ✓ Fitness center
- ✓ Fully stocked library
- ✓ The guidance and company of our expedition staff

ASHORE

- ✓ Meals on land, as indicated in itinerary
- ✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
- ✓ Transfers to and from group flights
- ✓ The expertise of our expedition staff

ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All excursions
- ✓ Expedition landing craft & kayak explorations
- ✓ Snorkeling and paddleboarding
- ✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge
- ✓ Morning stretch classes with wellness specialist



BE PART OF OUR EXPEDITION COMMUNITY

Join in! Here's how:

- ✓ Check our daily blog for interesting posts, video clips and Photos of The Week: expeditions.com/blog
- ✓ Like us on Facebook: hear what our travelers have to say, get inspired and chime in: facebook.com/LindbladExpeditions
- ✓ Preview an expedition before you go or subscribe to our videos on youtube.com/lindbladexpeditions
- ✓ Follow us [@LindbladExp](https://twitter.com/LindbladExp) and our founder, Sven Lindblad [@SvenLEX](https://twitter.com/SvenLEX), on Twitter; and on Instagram [@SOLindblad](https://instagram.com/SOLindblad) for his interesting view of the world.
- ✓ Check out Expedition Snapshots from guests—and upload your own on the expeditions.com homepage.



RESERVATION INFORMATION

Costs Include: All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary or similar, all meals and nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship, meals on land as indicated, air transportation where indicated as included, shore excursions, sightseeing and entrance fees, special access permits, transfers to and from group flights, use of snorkeling equipment and use of kayaks (where available), tips (except to ship's crew), taxes and service charges, services of a ship physician, and services of our expedition staff.

Not Included: Air transportation (except where shown as included), extensions, passport, visa, immigration fees, meals not indicated, travel protection plan, items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, e-mail, voyage DVD, scuba diving (where available), laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew are at your discretion.

Airfare: For all programs, airfare is an additional cost unless otherwise indicated. Sample airfares are subject to change. We will gladly assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Reservations: To reserve your place, an advance payment is required at the time of reservation. The per person advance payment amount varies by program, and is outlined in our brochures, as well as on our website. Payment is accepted by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or by check. Receipt of your initial payment indicates your acceptance of our complete Terms and Conditions. We require written notice at the time of reservation for any physical condition, diet, or treatment requiring special attention. Once your reservation is confirmed, we urge you to use your personalized online account for important information to help you prepare for your voyage. Managing your documents online will facilitate fast and accurate communication, and allow you to provide us with pertinent details we require, in order to complete your reservation. Your online account gives you access to your Expedition Guide, which includes valuable information specific to your voyage. You can also use your online account to make easy payments, view recommended flights and reading material, packing list, and so much more.

Final Payment: Due no later than 90 days prior to departures, depending on the expedition.

Travel Protection Plan: We recommend that you 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, damaged or lost luggage, medical assistance, and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. and Canadian residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date. If you are not satisfied for any reason, you may return your plan within 10 days after purchase. Your premium will be refunded if canceled within 10 days, provided you have not already departed on the trip or filed a claim. When so returned, the coverage under the plan is void from the original date of purchase.

Smoking Policy: Smoking is allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

Responsibility and Other Terms & Conditions: Among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and the National Geographic Society's liability for loss of property, injury, illness or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship's ticket sent prior to departure, and are also available on our website at www.expeditions.com/terms, or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Note: Itineraries and prices listed in this brochure are valid as of publication date, and are subject to change. Under

normal conditions, the total expedition cost is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, the published price is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event we determine that current costs create an unsustainable financial model, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, we reserve the right to pass on these costs to you, to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide a transparent accounting of the reason for such an increase in costs.

A State Department travel warning for Mexico is currently in effect (<http://travel.state.gov>). The area of concern noted in the warning is not near the region we visit on this itinerary. We expect to operate these expeditions as planned, but will continue to closely monitor events in the country.

CANCELLATION POLICY	
Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
120 or more days	\$350
119–90 days	Advance payment cost
89–60 days	25% of total fare
59–45 days	50% of total fare
44–0 days	No refund

\$350 will be rewarded in the form of a Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate. This cancellation policy applies to expeditions as well as extensions and other additional services. The effective date of a cancellation will be the date on which your notice is received. Note: Airline cancellation policies vary by carrier, as well as the type of fare used to issue your ticket. Any revisions you make within the cancellation penalty period, such as departure date or choice of voyage, are subject to cancellation fees. Additional Terms and Conditions may apply. For complete terms, please visit our website at www.expeditions.com/terms.

United States Tour Operators Association \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program

Lindblad Expeditions, as an Active Member of USTOA, is required to post \$1 Million with USTOA to be used to reimburse, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the USTOA \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program, the advance payments of Lindblad Expeditions customers in the unlikely event of Lindblad Expeditions bankruptcy, insolvency or cessation of business. Further, you should understand that the \$1 Million posted by Lindblad Expeditions may be sufficient to provide only a partial recovery of the advance payments received by Lindblad Expeditions. More details of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program may be obtained by writing to USTOA at 345 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1801, New York, New York 10001, or by email to information@ustoa.com or by visiting their website at www.USTOA.com.



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TRAVEL PLANNING WITH A DIFFERENCE

Half of travel planning is learning what you don't know and generating questions. The other half is getting answers.

When you call **1.800.EXPEDITION**, you can ask for any one of our Expedition Specialists who have been on our Baja expeditions. They are full members of the Lindblad Expeditions team—students of the natural world and born explorers, not trained call center telemarketers.

SO WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR EXPERTISE? Don't hesitate to call with your questions—they're equipped to provide answers based on their knowledge and personal experience.

Ask them about Baja California, how we explore there, our ships, our itineraries, and more. We think you'll find the conversation rewarding.

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For Reservations: Contact your travel advisor or Lindblad Expeditions

1.800.EXPEDITION
(1.800.397.3348)

Reservation Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 9am-10pm ET,
Sat. & Sun. 10am-5pm ET
Lindblad Expeditions, Inc.,
96 Morton Street, New York, NY 10014
Phone: 212.261.9000
Email: explore@expeditions.com

For additional information and online reservations, visit us on the Web:
www.expeditions.com



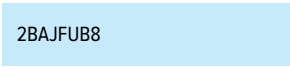
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SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

- » Condé Nast Traveler’s Readers’ Choice Award—
Top Small Ship Cruise Lines, 2016, 2015, 2014
- » Virtuoso “Best VAST Partner” Award, 2016
- » Cruise Critic Editor’s Pick Awards “Best for
Adventure,” 2016, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010
- » 2016 World Tourism Award
- » Andrew Harper’s Reader Choice Awards:
Best Cruise Lines, 2016
- » Town & Country Cruise Awards: Best for Families
and Onboard Activities, Expedition Cruises, 2016
- » Porthole Cruise Magazine Readers’ Choice
Awards: Best Expedition Cruise Line, 2015
- » Tourism Cares Travel Philanthropy Awards:
Legacy in Travel Philanthropy, 2015
- » Condé Nast Traveler’s “Gold List,” 2013,
2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005
- » Virtuoso “Sustainable Tourism Leadership-
Supplier” Award, 2013
- » Travel + Leisure “World’s Best” Award for
Small-Ship Cruise Lines, 2013, 2012, 2011,
2010, 2009, 2008
- » Travel + Leisure “World’s Best for Families” Award
for Small-Ship Cruise Lines, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009
- » Climate Champion Award to Sven Lindblad by
Clean Air-Cool Planet, 2009

▶ GO TO WWW.EXPEDITIONS.COM/AWARDS FOR AN EXTENDED LIST.

