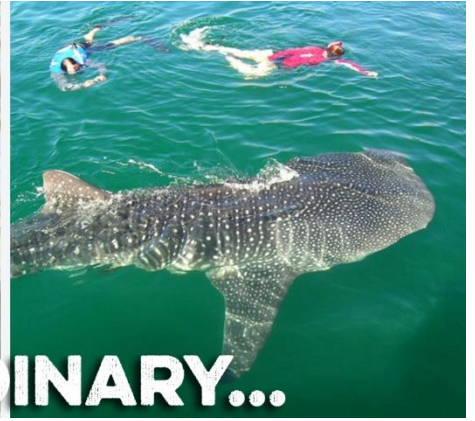




## **PACIFIC LAGOONS AND THE AQUARIUM OF THE WORLD**

Mexico Sea Kayaking and Wildlife Adventure

# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS



**DO SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY...**

## ITINERARY

**Pacific Lagoons and the Aquarium of the World**

**9 DAYS • 8 NIGHTS**

**La Paz – Espiritu Santo Island – La Paz – Lopez Mateos – Isla Magdalena  
– Curva Del Diablo – Cape San Lazaro – Puerto San – La Paz**  
This itinerary can be tailored to suit your requirements.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore by kayak a section of mangrove fringed lagoon between two pacific coastal villages: Puerto Adolfo Lopez Mateos and Puerto San Carlos
- Experience a virtually untouched area by human impact: Baja
- Unique opportunities to see grey whales, whale sharks, sea lion pups and dolphins in their natural habitat
- Paddle through tight waterways only accessible by kayakers to experience pristine Pacific lagoons

## TOUR ESSENTIALS

|                |                                     |
|----------------|-------------------------------------|
| Tour Style     | Sea Kayaking and Wildlife Adventure |
| Tour Start     | La Paz                              |
| Tour End       | La Paz                              |
| Accommodation  | Camping & Hotels                    |
| Included Meals | 7 Breakfasts, 7 Lunches, 7 Dinners  |
| Group Size     | Max. 12 people                      |

## THE GREAT WONDERS OF THE SEA OF



This is an exceptional adventure that encompasses some of the great wonders in the Sea of Cortes followed by a sea-kayaking expedition in a truly remote and spectacular part of Baja virtually untouched by human impact. Whale-sharks, Whales and friendly sea-lion pups: the marine encounters speak for themselves while the kayak trip will take us on a journey in a little touched paradise in the Pacific Lagoons. Sand dunes situated on the island provide a contrast to the labyrinth of mangroves along the Baja coastline and our wonderful campsites each night. Nesting amongst the thick groves are prolific numbers of exotic birds. The La Florida estuary and a maze of other channels offer a view into another vibrant ecosystem. The bay is also the winter home of grey whales who migrate 6000 miles to mate and give birth in these protected waters. Paddling the narrow waterways is interspersed with beach-combing the Pacific, jumping off sand dunes and the usual natural history education.



## MEXICO *an overview*

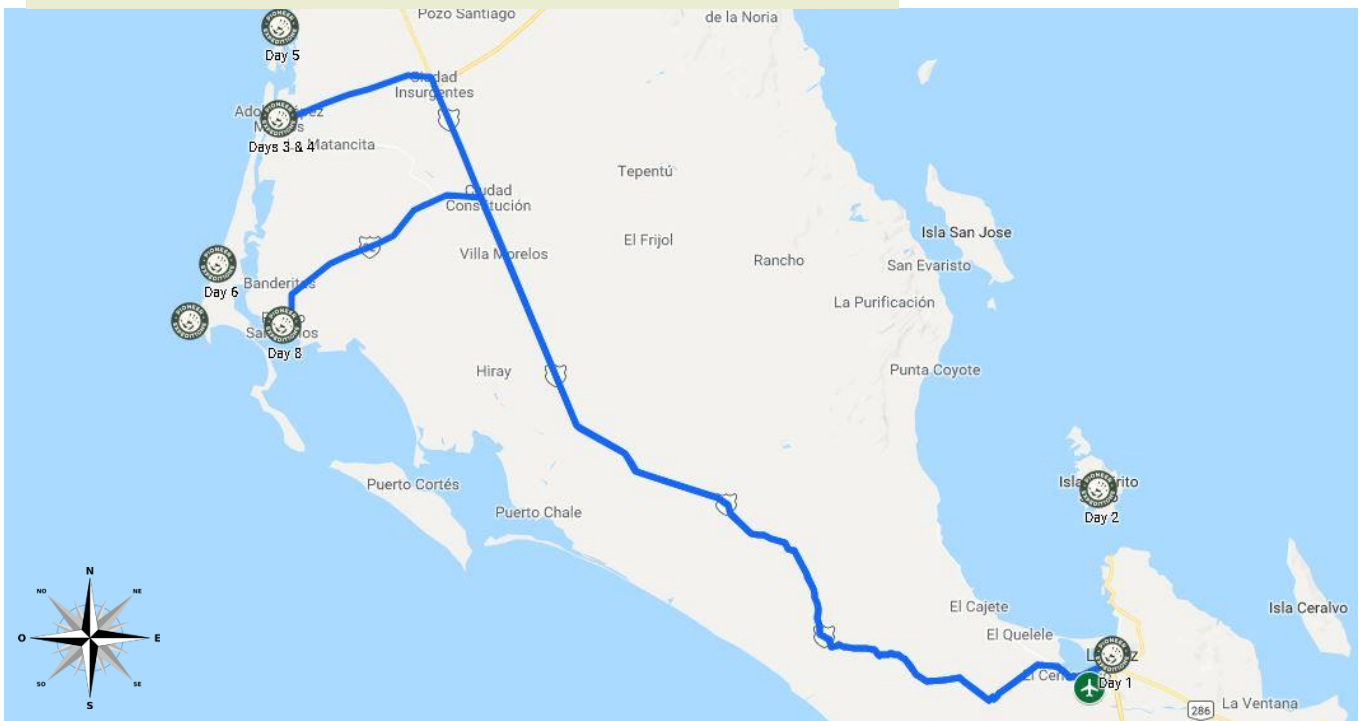
Bordered by the United States to the north, Pacific Ocean to the south, Guatemala, Belize and the Caribbean sea to the south east and the Gulf of Mexico to the east. Mexico is crossed north to south by two mountain ranges known as Sierra Madre Oriental and Sierra Madre Occidental, which are extension of the Rocky Mountains from northern North America. From east to west at the centre, the country is crossed by the Trans-Mexican volcanic belt, also known as, the Sierra Nevada. A fourth mountain range, the Sierra Madre del Sur, runs from Michoacan to Oaxaca. The Tropic of Cancer divides Mexico into temperate and tropical zones, both with constant temperatures. Home to a vast range of wildlife and geographic mountain regions, Mexico is the perfect destination for any adventure.

## WHY PIONEER EXPEDITIONS?

We really are one of the few specialists that really “do” off the beaten track and unique adventures. We are driven by a passion for adventure travel and wildlife. We are continuously collaborating with our local partners and tour guides to ensure that you have the best experiences on your dream adventure – this focus is reflected in our uniquely wonderful itineraries. Our experts are on hand whether you are looking for a small group trip or a bespoke holiday. Even better, our small group tours have a maximum of 12 people, making it a much more personal experience.

## ITINERARY

### MEXICO • Pacific Lagoon and the Aquarium of the World



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MEX02

## DAY 1: Arrive in La Paz

Upon arrival in La Paz you will make your way to your hotel where you will have a welcome meeting. We will spend the rest of the day at our own leisure exploring the quaint town of La Paz before joining the 9:00pm expedition orientation meeting.



*Overnight:*  
**Hotel**



*Meals:*  
**NA**



*Activity:*  
**In transit and Personal Preference**



*Distance:*  
**NA**

## DAY 2: Snorkel the North end of Isla Espiritu Santo

We will gear up with snorkel equipment and take a fast motor boat out to the National Park Island of Espiritu Santo. Located on the north end of the island is a sea-lion rookery and the site where we can snorkel with friendly sea-lion pups. Following this unique experience, we will have lunch on Espiritu Santo before returning to La Paz and a warm shower and dinner together in a traditional restaurant.



*Overnight:*  
**Hotel**



*Meals:*  
**B, L, D**



*Activity:*  
**Wildlife**



*Distance:*  
**NA**

## DAY 3: Swimming with Whale Sharks and Journeying Across the Baja Desert

This morning we will take a boat ride in search of the largest fish in the world – whale sharks. With a little luck we will spend time swimming alongside these gentle plankton feeders, marveling at their immense placid nature. We will then return to La Paz to enjoy a refreshing shower and lunch before we journey across the Baja desert, through agricultural town of Constitución until we reach the Pacific coastal town of Lopez Mateos. Here we check into our hotel for the night and dine in the fishing village.



*Overnight:*  
**Hotel**



*Meals:*  
**B, L, D**



*Activity:*  
**Wildlife**



*Distance:*  
**NA**

## DAY 4: Whale Watching and Starting our Kayaking Expedition



After breakfast, we will take a 3-hour boat ride to view up close the majestic Grey Whales in their natural habitat. We will only be a breath-taking fingertip distance away as they pass alongside our boat. Afterwards, we will return to Lopez for a quick lunch and begin our kayak expedition. A short paddle will bring us to our first night's camp under the stars.



*Overnight:*  
**Camp**



*Meals:*  
**B, L, D**



*Activity:*  
**Wildlife and Kayaking**



*Distance:*  
**9 Miles**



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MEX02

## DAY 5: Kayaking South with Our Local Wildlife Friends

After breakfast, we begin our day with a stroll across Isla Magdalena to beach-comb along the surf to the Pacific Ocean. Then we continue to kayak south. We might see whale calves training against the current for their 6000-mile migration north to their summer home in the Bering Sea. Dolphins and sea lions also visit the region and may provide additional entertainment along the way. Our camp spot has a convenient hill to watch the sun setting over the Pacific Ocean.



Overnight:  
**Camping**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Activity:  
**Kayaking and Wildlife**



Distance:  
**9 Miles**

## DAY 6: Paddling through Curva Del Diablo



Today we will begin a paddle through the narrowing Curva Del Diablo. The day is further highlighted by the opportunity to venture through a labyrinth of mangrove thickets. This amazing ecosystem is home to an exciting variety of marine and bird life. It is also fun to paddle in a place so narrow that few but kayakers can access them. The sand dune campsite across the bay contrasts as far as the eye can see.



Overnight:  
**Camp**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Activity:  
**Kayaking**



Distance:  
**9 Miles**

## DAY 7: Exploring the channel on our way to Cape San Lázaro

Today we will continue the expedition along the channel taking us to our final and most spectacular campsite. We are presented with a beautiful backdrop of mile upon mile of sand dune leading to the mountains of Cape San Lázaro.



Overnight:  
**Camp**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Activity:  
**Kayaking**



Distance:  
**9 Miles**

## DAY 8: Our Final Paddle

Our final morning's paddle will take us to the town of Puerto San Carlos, just shy of where Magdalena Bay empties into the Pacific Ocean. After spending the day soaking away all traces of the Pacific coast, we will celebrate our adventure with a farewell group dinner in La Paz. We will leave with magnificent memories and fantastic photographs.



Overnight:  
**Hotel**



Meals:  
**B, L, D**



Activity:  
**Kayaking**



Distance:  
**9 Miles**

## DAY 9: Depart La Paz

After breakfast, make your way back to the airport in time for your flight home or have an option to extend your holiday and stay a bit longer.



Overnight:  
**NA**



Meals:  
**B**



Activity:  
**Depart**



Distance:  
**NA**



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MEX02

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

| Included  | Not Included  |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ All meals as described (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)</li> <li>■ Accommodation as described</li> <li>■ Airport transfers</li> <li>■ Tours as described</li> <li>■ Tour guide from Days 2-8</li> <li>■ Local guide</li> <li>■ All gratuities to hotel, restaurant staff, local drivers, guides and porters</li> <li>■ Single and Double Kayaks</li> <li>■ All Kayaking and Camping equipment</li> <li>■ Snorkel kit and shorty wet suit</li> <li>■ Happy hour and wine with evening meals when camping</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ International flights (These can be arranged through us, if needed)</li> <li>➤ Visa fees</li> <li>➤ Meals other than mentioned</li> <li>➤ Alcoholic and soft drinks other than mentioned</li> <li>➤ Personal expenses</li> </ul> |

## ACCOMMODATION *at a glance*

|                            | Location         | Accommodation | Example                   |
|----------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| <i>Night 1, 2, &amp; 8</i> | La Paz           | Hotel         | <i>Hotel Cathedral</i>    |
| <i>Night 3</i>             | Lopez Mateos     | Hotel         | <i>Hotel Mangrove Inn</i> |
| <i>Night 4</i>             | Lopez Mateos     | Camp          | <i>Beach Camp</i>         |
| <i>Night 5</i>             | Isla Magdalena   | Camp          | <i>Beach Camp</i>         |
| <i>Night 6</i>             | Curva Del Diablo | Camp          | <i>Beach Camp</i>         |
| <i>Night 7</i>             | Cape San Lázaro  | Camp          | <i>Beach Camp</i>         |



## WHAT OUR CLIENTS HAVE SAID...

*"Another successful trip! The service was friendly and accommodating, the locations superb and the guides go out of their way to share their knowledge of the wonderful areas we explored." - Anne*



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MEX02

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# THE PIONEER BOOKING PROCESS

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Where do you go from here? Well, you can feel free to email us at [info@pioneerexpeditions.com](mailto:info@pioneerexpeditions.com) if you're interested in this trip, or any of our other expeditions from around the world.

**1. Contact us -**

We will be happy to answer any questions or enquiries you may have. From here we will begin to plan and put together your dream adventure holiday! Alternatively, on our website you will find our booking and enquiry forms; once filled in, we will be notified of your enquiry and will get back to you ASAP.

**2. Leave everything to us -**

Everything will be arranged and booked by us, but we will make sure to keep you updated every step of the way. In addition, we can arrange your international flights if needed, as we have access to competitive airfares. We can also arrange any additional tours or additional night's accommodation.

**3. Wait for your adventure to begin -**

Sit back and count down the days until your trip of a lifetime with Pioneer Expeditions. We'll handle all of the last minute preparations and provide you with everything you need. All practical information will be sent out to you, prior to your trip.

