

LOS CABOS

2009-2010



Day Trips
Dining
Ecotourism
Family
Golf
History & Culture
Hotels & Resorts
Meetings
Romance
Shopping
Spas
Sportfishing
Watersports



México

WELCOME



Los Cabos is located at the southern tip of the Baja Peninsula, called Land's End, because here is where the mountains, desert, ocean and sea all meet to create a world of incredible beauty. It is a special place that draws visitors from all over the world.

Los Cabos continues to attract record numbers of visitors, with more than 1.4 million airline passengers in 2008. Though 2009 has been a challenging year for all of Mexico, the destination continues to grow, with even more luxury resorts and communities being built and improvements being made to our airport and infrastructure, all designed to offer our visitors the utmost vacation experience. Our hotels are reaching out to visitors, providing more added value with terrific packages that

make it easy to experience what Los Cabos has to offer. Luxury here is affordable and accessible, exceeding expectations in an increasingly competitive market within a world of economic restraint.

What is most remarkable about Los Cabos is that it is a destination with luxury resorts, fine dining, remarkable golf courses and spas, yet it keeps with it a uniqueness due to its landscape of desert, sea and sand. There are so many adventures to be part of here, whether it's on land or below the sea. And there are the wonders of nature, including the whales that come to breed here each year, or the baby sea turtles that make their way to the waters.

This guide has been designed to help you get to know Los Cabos and all that it offers. For those of you who have been here before, take a look and see how we continue to add to the vacation experience.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Warm regards,

Gonzalo Franyutti

President
Los Cabos Convention & Visitors Bureau

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593 Rancocas Road
Westampton, NJ 08060
(856) 727-0035
info@pmgemail.com

Publisher, Custom: Jonathan Cooper
Director General Mexico: Jerry R. Landress
Director of Marketing Mexico:
Armando Figaredo
Editorial Director: Jane Jamison
Executive Editor: Stacey Zable
Design Director: Yiu-Wa Tso
Senior Multimedia Producer: Nick Choo
Multimedia Producer: Eugene Kang
Multimedia Producer: Seyi Akinnaso

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México

THE BEAUTY OF LOS CABOS



A REGION OF NEVER-ENDING ACTIVITIES

Los Cabos, or “the Capes,” is similar to its best-known image, El Arco, the natural stone arch formed where the Sea of Cortés meets the Pacific Ocean. The beauty of El Arco is one of contrasts against the sea, as is that of the destination itself. It is a region of two diverse towns, of dramatic desert landscape meeting the rich blues of the waters and of visitors coming to take advantage of some of the world’s top golf courses, spas and sportfishing.

Los Cabos includes the towns of San José del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas, as well as the Tourist Corridor, which runs between them. The destination is located about 1,000 miles south of San Diego, in the state of Baja California Sur. Cabo San Lucas, at the southern tip, features a vibrant dining, nightlife and shopping scene. To the northeast is San José del Cabo, once an 18th-century mission town, which still offers a quiet charm for visitors, including the original mission church, art galleries and boutique hotels.

The 20-mile Tourist Corridor is home to some of the region’s luxury resorts and golf courses. The white beaches and blue sea front one side, and the desert and backdrop of the Sierra de la Laguna Mountains are along the other side.

And now the resorts of the region are adding value to their stays, with packages that offer more for the dollar. No matter where vacationers stay in Los Cabos, the choice of activities will please them. In addition to the world-class golf courses and

spas, there is a host of watersports. The superior sportfishing is how the tourism industry first began to grow there. The desert offers its own choice for active vacationers seeking to explore on foot, mountain bike or ATV.

GETTING THERE

San Jose del Cabo International Airport is expanding and improving, making it even easier, safer and more comfortable to travel to Los Cabos. Airport enhancements scheduled for completion by early 2010 include the addition of parallel landing strips to accommodate more arrivals and departures, a new terminal building (T4), a complete remodeling of Terminal 3, and a new structure offering enhanced car rental facilities, shops and business services.

U.S. cities offering nonstop service to Los Cabos include:

Atlanta: Delta

Chicago: American Airlines, United

Dallas/Fort Worth: American Airlines

Denver: Frontier, United (seasonal)

Houston: Continental Airlines

Las Vegas: Mexicana Airlines

Los Angeles: Alaska Airlines, American Airlines, United, Mexicana Airlines

Minneapolis: Northwest Airlines

New York/Newark: Continental Airlines

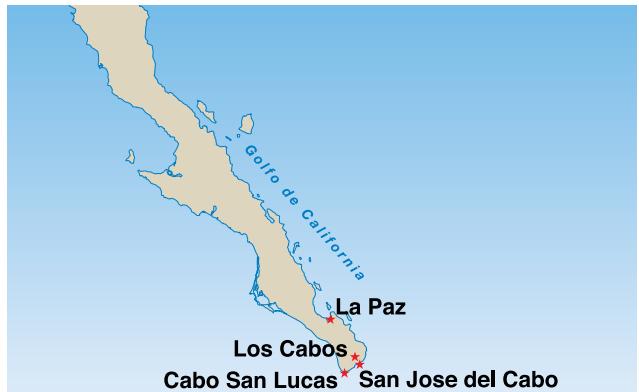
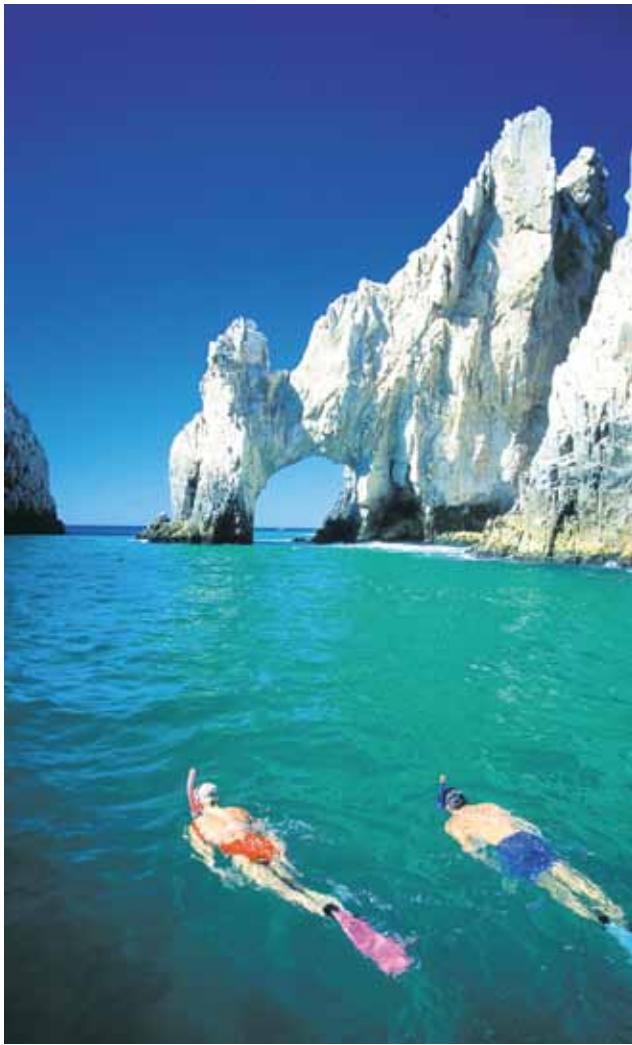
Phoenix: US Airways

Salt Lake City: Delta

San Diego: AeroMexico, Alaska Airlines

San Francisco: Alaska Airlines, United

Seattle: AeroMexico, Alaska Airlines (seasonal)



LOS CABOS FAST FACTS

Population: 130,000

Climate: The region's subtropical desert climate provides almost constant year-round sunshine. Summer temperatures reach into the 90s, with occasional showers. Winter temperatures hit about 80 degrees.

Time zone: Los Cabos is on Mountain Standard Time.

Language: Spanish is the official language in Mexico, but English is widely spoken in popular tourist destinations, including Los Cabos.

Electricity: 120 cycles/60 volts (the same as in the U.S.)

Banks and currency: Los Cabos has branches of every major Mexican bank, and most have ATMs that accept cards from foreign banks (the machines dispense pesos). It's also possible to exchange currency at the airport, at hotels and at bank counters. Some vendors and stores also accept U.S. dollars.

Drinking water: Large resorts and restaurants have purified water (many hotels have their own water-purification system on-site). Otherwise, it's a good idea to stick to bottled water.

Communication: Major resort hotels have direct-dial international phones in every guest room, so it's easy to reach home. But phone charges may be extremely expensive, so calling collect or using a phone card is usually the less-expensive alternative. Note also that calling local cell phones from a hotel room can be very costly.

Many hotels have broadband Internet or WiFi in their guest rooms, although there may be an extra charge for the connection. A less expensive option may be to visit a local Internet café. Hotel business centers also feature a full range of communication services.

Arrival requirements: All visitors arriving from destinations outside Mexico must pass through customs and immigrations upon arrival in Los Cabos. In accordance with new U.S. requirements, all American citizens will need a valid passport to visit Mexico.

For more information: Call the Los Cabos Tourism Board at 866-LOS-CABOS (in the U.S.) or visit www.visitloscabos.travel.

The Los Cabos Convention & Visitors Bureau has a new and improved consumer website, www.visitloscabos.travel. The website makes it easy to plan a trip to Los Cabos, with news, a calendar of upcoming events, an activities guide, weather forecasts and a photo gallery. There is a booking engine for hotel, airline and car rental reservations, a meetings and events planner, and a section with offers and travel packages.



DIVE RIGHT IN



THE WATERS OF LOS CABOS OFFER SOME OF ITS GREATEST ALLURES

Surrounded by some of the most beautiful waters in the world, Los Cabos invites its visitors to jump in and enjoy the adventures of the Pacific Ocean and Sea of Cortés. And so many of them do just that.

Los Cabos has blossomed into a top spot for scuba diving and snorkeling. None other than the famed marine filmmaker and researcher Jacques Cousteau has described it as "The World's Aquarium."

The waters along the southern coast of the Baja Peninsula are home to three major ocean currents—the California current, Panamic current and North Equatorial Counter-current—and the large amount of plankton they bring with them. A diverse array of fish and marine mammals follow this food source, providing divers with a plethora of colors and species.

At depths of only 20 feet to 25 feet near Land's End, divers will discover schools of Mexican goat fish, angelfish, parrotfish and spotted box fish. They can also see puffers, eels, lobsters, rays, turtles, white-tip reef sharks and sea lions. The visibility ranges from 30 feet to 35 feet in the winter months



to more than 100 feet from April through October. Beginners will enjoy the sites along the rock walls. More advanced divers should explore the canyons in the Bay of San Lucas, one of the deepest bays in the world. Two top sites are the Abyss, a canyon with steep granite walls and ledges about 100 feet below the surface of the water, and the Sand Falls, a 90-foot dive that starts at Pelican Rock and drops 1,200 feet.

Experienced divers can also try Gordo Banks, a sea mount located 28 miles from shore just north of San Jose del Cabo. Its summit lies 110 feet below the surface, and those who dare will discover hammerhead and whale sharks, big game fish and mantas. The best time of year to dive there is from August to November.

One of the most popular spots to dive and snorkel is 60 miles from Los Cabos, in the East Cape region. Cabo Pulmo Marine Park was established there in 1995 to protect the only natural living coral reef in the Western Hemisphere. It stretches five miles from the northernmost tip, Pulmo Point, to the southernmost tip, Los Frailes. There are more than 300 species of tropical fish and 2,000 invertebrates within its 14 dive sites. Highlights include a sea lion colony and the chance to see whale sharks. Sea lions also abound at Espíritu Santo's Los Islotes Rock, farther along the coast in La Paz.

ON TOP OF THE SEA

A serene way to explore the world on top of the sea is by kayak or canoe. These can be rented for only US\$10 to US\$15 per hour. A popular route is from Medano Beach to Land's End and Lover's Beach. Paddlers can check out the beauty below in Palmilla Bay and "Los Chopitos" in the San José Bay, though those in San José Bay mustn't forget to look up as well: It is home to more than 250 species of birds. Cabo Pulmo Marine Park is another good spot for kayaking.

For those who want to float on top of the sea and just enjoy the view, there are numerous cruises around Los Cabos that take in all its beauty. Choose the vessel that best suits a client's style, whether it be a pirate ship, sailboat, an America's Cup yacht or a catamaran, during sunset, for snorkeling, or just for a meal or to enjoy a margarita.

Beginners or experienced surfers can grab a board and take advantage of the rolling waves created by the confluence of the Pacific Ocean and Sea of Cortés. Group or individual lessons for every level take place at Mike Doyle Surf School at the Cabo Surf Hotel along Playa Acapulquito (also called Gringos or Old Man's Break), a beach recommended for beginning to advanced surfers. Visit www.cabosurfshop.com for details.

Surfers can also head for Cerritos, a beach formally known as Santa Lucía de los Cerritos, located at km 66 on the highway between Cabo San Lucas and Todos Santos. The East Cape area of Costa Azul is a favorite surf spot, as is Zippers—near San José del Cabo—and La Roca. Experienced surfers can be challenged by big winter waves at Todos Santos, about an hour north of Los Cabos. (See Day Trips, pages 20-21.)

For those looking for a new sport to conquer, recommend kite surfing, the hottest new activity in Los Cabos. It combines elements of windsurfing and wakeboarding using a shortened surfboard strapped to the foot while a parachute lifts the rider

into the sky for soaring jumps. It's most popular from November through early March, when Baja's "El Norte" winds make for ideal riding conditions. Tour operators offer private lessons and guided surfs. Visitors can also enjoy parasailing, through which participants glide via parachute 600 feet in the air while being towed by a boat. Now *that's* a view of the sea that can't be beat.



MAMMAL INTERACTION

Los Cabo's Magdalena Bay is where hundreds of visiting gray, humpback, fin and Bryde's whales go to breed from January to March. The mammoth beings make the 6,000-mile journey from the Chukchi and Bering seas between Alaska and Siberia to the warm Baja waters. Tours can bring visitors close to these beautiful creatures.

Want to get right in the water with a mammal? How about the wondrous—if not considerably smaller—dolphin? Cabo Dolphins' resident bottlenose dolphins enjoy frolicking with visitors. Located in the Cabo San Lucas Marina, Cabo Dolphins has a variety of programs for adults and kids that offer the chance to swim and interact with the creatures. Visit www.cabo-adventures.com for details.



CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY

LOS CABOS' GOLF COURSES COMBINE BEAUTY AND CHALLENGE

Los Cabos is a premier golf destination that has attracted the world's greatest course designers and played host to top tournaments.

The golf courses in Los Cabos are set among the dramatic scenery that makes the destination one of the most beautiful in the world. Just ask Jack Nicklaus, Tom Fazio, Greg Norman and other greats who have designed many of the courses there, incorporating sweeping views of the Sea of Cortés and the dramatic desert and mountainous landscape.

Los Cabos' stamp as a major golf destination is further reinforced by its continued selection as the site for major tournaments. The annual People vs. The Pros Championship Golf Event, one of the PGA's Challenge Events, takes place there, inviting amateurs to compete against golf pros.

Following is a listing of courses in Los Cabos.

Cabo del Sol: The Nicklaus-designed Ocean Course has been honored by many golf publications, and was named "Best Course in Mexico" in *Golf Digest* in 2008. Part of the Cabo del Sol resort community, the par-72 course boasts one and a half miles of oceanfront and spectacular views. Its nickname, "The Pebble Beach of Baja," is due to the finishing hole, which is guarded by desert and cactus on the right and rock cliffs leading to the sea on the left, modeled after the 18th at Pebble Beach.

A second course at Cabo del Sol is the target-style, 18-hole Desert Course designed by Tom Weiskopf—his first in Mexico. Players of all levels can enjoy the 140 acres of gently rolling desert terrain, which promises ocean views of the Sea of Cortés from almost every hole.

Cabo Real Golf Club: Golfers will find a Robert Trent Jones II-designed course among five luxury hotels in the Cabo Real resort

development. The 18-hole, par-72 course rises from the surf before winding into the mountains above, and there are nine oceanfront holes. It is a challenging course, and *Golf Digest* gave it a four-star rating in the 2008 "Best Places to Play" listing.

Cabo San Lucas Country Club: Formerly known as the Raven Golf Club, the Cabo San Lucas Country Club is a par-72 Dye Design team course. Located a few miles outside Cabo San Lucas, it is the only course in Los Cabos that overlooks El Arco. It also features the longest hole in Mexico.

Club Campestre San José: One of the newest courses in Los Cabos, Club Campestre opened in 2007 as part of a 550-acre gated golf community in San José del Cabo. The 18-hole, Nicklaus-designed, par-71 course features ocean and desert views. A beach club, social club and large retail center are being built as part of the community. Currently open to the public, the course will eventually become a private facility.

El Dorado Golf & Beach Club: A Nicklaus-designed, 18-hole course, El Dorado winds through desert landscape. It became private in 2006.

Palmilla Golf Club: Considered by many to be the "grande dame" of golf courses in the region, Palmilla is the only 27-hole course in Los Cabos and the first Nicklaus signature course in the destination. The Arroyo Nine, the Mountain Nine and the Ocean Nine have been fully renovated. Some holes offer views of the Sea of Cortés, and others are set in rough mountain terrain. Many are challenging, at varying lengths, and with water and sand hazards. It is a favorite among the celebrity set.

Puerto Los Cabos: The newest course in Los Cabos, Puerto Los Cabos is part of a resort complex just northeast of San José del Cabo. The course opened in September 2008 with 18 holes: nine from a Nicklaus-designed course and nine from a Norman-designed course that will eventually be a private course. Eighteen holes will be added in the next two years.





Punta Sur Golf Course Los Cabos: Formerly known as the San José Municipal Golf Course and the Grupo Mayan Golf Los Cabos, this nine-hole, par-35 course has been designed for beginner and intermediate golfers. The family-friendly course offers views of the Sea of Cortés and the East Cape.

Querencia Golf Club: This Fazio-designed course will be joined by a second course, designed by Gil Hanse, Jim Wagner and Geoff Shackelford. The club features a practice facility and clubhouse. Querencia offers only 350 memberships, with non-homeowner memberships available.

COMING SOON

Chileno Bay Club: Look for two 18-hole, Fazio-designed championship courses to be a part of the Chileno Bay Club, a private, 1,300-acre golf, beach and marina community to be built in the Tourist Corridor.

CONTACTS

Cabo del Sol: 877-703-4394, www.cabodelsol.com

Cabo Real: www.caboreal.com

Cabo San Lucas Country Club: 877-496-1367, www.golfincabo.com/home.htm

Chileno Bay Club: 847-826-0000, www.chilenobayclub.com

Club Campestre San José: 011-52-624-142-5327, www.clubcampestresanjose.com

Diamante Cabo San Lucas: 702-435-6222, www.threepalmsint.com/developersite/diamante/

El Dorado Golf & Beach Club: 011-52-624-144-5464, www.eldoradogolfandbeachclub.com

Palmilla Golf Club: 866-829-2977, www.oneandonlyresorts.com

Puerto Los Cabos: 877-507-4752, www.puertoloscabos.com

Punta Sur Golf Course Los Cabos: 866-465-7316, www.albatrossgolfcourses.com

Querencia: 888-236-2229, www.loscabosquerencia.com

Quivira Los Cabos: 866-578-4847, www.quiviraloscabos.com

Quivira Los Cabos: Two Nicklaus signature courses will be part of the \$1.5 billion luxury residential resort community that launched in spring 2008. The 1,850-acre property will include the Ritz-Carlton Los Cabos, Quivira and the Residences at the Ritz-Carlton Los Cabos, the first luxury-branded address in Cabo. Quivira is already home to Pueblo Bonito Oceanfront Resorts & Spas' Pacifica Holistic Retreat and Spa. The courses are expected to rank among the best in North America and will feature more oceanfront holes than any other development on the Baja Peninsula.

Diamante Cabo San Lucas: Two courses will be part of this residential golf community, which is under construction: Davis Love III's link-style Dunes Course and Phil Mickelson's tree-laden Oasis Course. Diamante will also feature a spa, a sports complex, an equestrian center, restaurants and retail stores.



BEACH PARADISE

MAJOR DRAWS FOR MOST LOS CABOS VISITORS ARE THE WHITE SAND, THE BLUE SURF AND THE OMNIPRESENT SUN



Los Cabos' beaches are plentiful, and with each comes its own personality. Following is a quick guide to which sands match which interests.

SUN AND SURF

Playa Costa Azul (Blue Coast Beach): Travelers go to surf or watch the surfers at Playa Costa Azul, known for its great breaks. Beginners can go to surf camp to learn how to tackle the waves. *West of San Jose del Cabo*

THE GREAT CATCH

La Playita (The Little Beach): The waters are not good for swimming, but they are good for watching the local fisherman bringing in their fresh catch, as La Playita is home to La Playa Sportfishing, the local panga fishing fleet. *San Jose del Cabo*

JUST FOR LOUNGING

Playa Hotelera (Hotel Beach): It's not a good spot for swimming due to the shore break and relatively deep drop-off, but Playa Hotelera is good for lounging, and there are shops, restaurants and a children's park steps away. It runs from the estuary west past the Royal Solaris Hotel, continuing until it reaches Costa Azul. *San Jose del Cabo*

Playa del Divorcio (Divorce Beach): The oddly named Divorce Beach offers white sand on the Pacific side of Land's End. Sunbathing and admiring the dramatic scenery are what this beach is about, as the swimming is dangerous due to the strong currents and crashing waves. *Cabo San Lucas*

Playa Solmar: Sitting northward of El Arco and facing the Pacific Ocean, Playa Solmar offers a wide stretch of white sand, but the waters are too rough for swimming. *Cabo San Lucas*

SWIMMING AND SNORKELING

Playa Palmilla: Pristine and protected, Palmilla Beach is home to calm waters that are good for snorkeling and diving in a tranquil cove. *San Jose del Cabo*

Playa Santa María: A horseshoe-shaped beach with beautiful pink sand fronts calm waters that are a protected marine sanctuary, making it a good place for visitors to get wet and explore the world below the sea. *The Tourist Corridor*

Playa Las Viudas (Widow's Beach): Small, secluded and scenic, Playa Las Viudas offers a restful place to sunbathe, snorkel or dive. *The Tourist Corridor*

FAMILY AND WATERSPORTS

Playa Chileno: One of the few beaches in Los Cabos with facilities, Playa Chileno is an ideal locale for a family outing. It's also a good spot for snorkeling, kayaking and boating, with all equipment available for rent. And if it's just a lazy day in the sun clients want, beach umbrellas and chairs are available for rent as well. *The Tourist Corridor*

ROMANCE

Playa del Amor (Lover's Beach): Tell couples to head for this partially secluded beach tucked near El Arco and only accessible by a short panga ride from the marina. *Cabo San Lucas*

ACTIVITY CENTRAL

Playa Médano (Dune Beach): Visitors will enjoy the water-based fun of their choice, with kayaks, parasails, catamarans and more available at one of the most popular spots on the sand along the hotel zone in San Lucas Bay. *Cabo San Lucas*



SELF-EXPLORATION

GET UP CLOSE TO NATURE IN THE DESERTS OF LOS CABOS



Adventures on foot, by mountain bike, via an off-road vehicle or high above on a zipline are ways to experience Los Cabos' dramatic desert and mountainous landscape.

Lush surprises await those who explore Desert Park, the gateway to the 50,000-acre Cabo Real Ecological Preserve. Visitors will hike or mountain bike past cascading waterfalls, colorful birds and flowers, and other indigenous wildlife. The challenging hike up the Sierra de la Laguna Mountains rewards participants with a great view of the desert terrain and Baja, and also the chance to see subtropical birds, mule deer and mountain lions along the way. The trail at Sierra de Laguna also leads to relaxing hot springs. The mountains' designation as a Biosphere Reserve is due to the characteristics of the flora and fauna that one won't see anywhere in the world because of their relative isolation. Guided hikes are available with local outfitters from Santiago and Miraflores.

Travelers can also explore the desert outback around the Sierra de la Laguna Mountains with an off-road tour. They can also experience the bumpy terrain and streams and remote villages in an open-air Mercedes Benz Unimog with Cabo Adventures. The tour includes a nature walk that provides an explanation of the unspoiled flora and fauna and indigenous wildlife of the desert as well as a stop with a local family for snacks and drinks. Visitors can also drive their own Hummer to local adventures in Todos Santos, Rancho La Verdad, Santiago and the East Cape with Baja Outback. These outings can include nature views, stops at missions and towns along the way, plus lunch at a local restaurant.

PROTECTING TURTLE EGGS

More than 20 hotels in Los Cabos are certified by PROFEPA, the federally funded organization dedicated to ensuring environmental justice in Mexico as sea turtle watch and rescue sites. Many hotels offer programs to get guests involved in protecting some of nature's cutest habitants. Los Cabos becomes the nesting ground for five species of sea turtles—loggerhead, black, leatherback, olive ridley and hawksbill—from June to December. Female turtles that have been born there return to lay their eggs in the sand. Guests can observe the incubating and hatching and help with the programs aimed at protecting the sea turtles. Highlights include releasing the baby turtles into the ocean and helping to keep land or sea predators away.

Some of the properties that feature such programs are Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort, Las Ventanas al Paraiso, Marquis Los Cabos Resort, Sheraton Hacienda del Mar and Zoetry Casa del Mar Los Cabos. Travelers can also ask their hotel concierge how they can get involved.

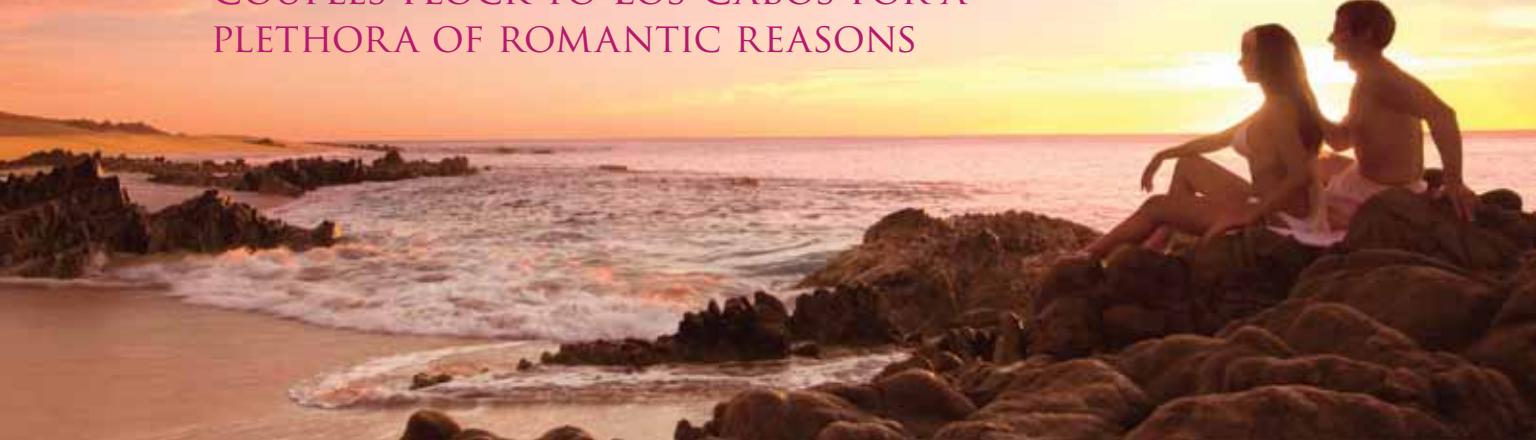


True adventurers will thrill to a zipline tour of Baja's desert canyons. Cabo Adventure's Canopy Tour can take clients high above the canyons and riverbeds of Boca de Sierra National Park for an unbelievable experience through nature.

Local outfitters include www.cabo-adventures.com and www.bajaoutback.com, and hotel concierges can also provide info about tour companies. Tours usually include roundtrip transportation from Cabo San Lucas or San José.

FEEL THE LOVE

COUPLES FLOCK TO LOS CABOS FOR A PLETHORA OF ROMANTIC REASONS



Couples can visit Los Cabos before, during and after their wedding, with resorts and the destination itself catering to them with packages for proposing, the wedding and the honeymoon, making it easy to just love falling in love.

A destination with this much beauty can only inspire romance. So many of Los Cabos' beaches were made for love, with white sand, dramatic scenery and picture-perfect backgrounds. After all, a region that has a beach called Playa del Amor, or "Lover's Beach," can only draw lovers from all over the world. The spot is just one of many secluded coves and beaches made for couples in love.

It is with these thoughts in mind that Los Cabos' resorts have turned the eternal question of "Will you marry me?" into a package of romantic indulgence. **Esperanza Resort's** "A Night to Remember" proposal package features a private beach dinner under the stars and a musical serenade. A fireworks display can even be added after the proposal is accepted.

Las Ventanas al Paraiso has its very own Director of Romance, who will work with clients to create their own "Cinema Proposal," a DVD created on site. **Marquis Los Cabos Beach, Golf, Spa & Casitas Resort's** "Pop the Question" package includes such pleasures as an en-suite massage for two and nightly "Aphrodisiac Turn Down Service."

Los Cabos has become a major destination for the weddings. Among the locations that are ideal for nuptials are beaches, private villas, yachts or any of a number of magnificent resorts, from boutique hotels to large properties with a host of amenities and facilities.



Most of the large resorts have their own wedding planners, who can help create a special day to couples' specifications. All the amenities one would expect can be part of it, including photography and video, entertainment and flowers. The celebration can be extended beyond the wedding day, with pre- and post-ceremony activities including golf, spa appointments and tours of the region.

Staying in Los Cabos for the honeymoon lets newlyweds enjoy more handholding, special dinners and all the pampering that this romantic setting offers.

MAKING IT LEGAL

Following are the requirements for getting married in Los Cabos.

- Current passport as proof of ID and marital status
- Certified copies of both the bride's and groom's birth certificates
- A tourist card (received upon arrival in Mexico) or visa
- The names, addresses, nationalities, occupations and ages of all parents
- A health certificate and blood test (Hotels will help set up the tests, which must be performed in Mexico.)
- Four witnesses

Brides and grooms who have previously been married must wait one full year prior to remarrying and provide either a certified copy of the final divorce decree or certified copy of the spouse's death certificate.

FOR KIDS ONLY

SMILES ABOUND AT CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS AT LOS CABOS' RESORTS

Families traveling to Los Cabos will find numerous resorts that have children's programs aimed at keeping the youngest guests happy while their parents get to enjoy their own fun.

Crowne Plaza Los Cabos Grand Faro All-Inclusive Resort: Open from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and again from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., the kids' club here invites guests 4 to 11 to enjoy indoor and outdoor activities, all supervised by specialized personnel.

Dreams Los Cabos Suites Golf Resort & Spa: There is no additional fee for the Explorer's Club, created for kids 3 to 12. Professionally supervised activities are based around nature, science and exploration. Kids enjoy such delights as hunting for hidden treasure, splashing into the sea from an ocean trampoline, sandcastle competitions, arts and crafts, and movies on the beach. There is also a playground and an indoor game room. Once a week, Dreams' youngest guests enjoy a camping adventure on the beach. The staff is certified in both CPR and first aid.

Fiesta Americana Grand Los Cabos: Fiesta Kids Club uses six animated characters, each with a different personality, to amuse children. It offers supervised pool and beach activities, arts and crafts, sports and singing programs, and special events that at times include parent participation.

Hilton Los Cabos Beach and Golf Resort: Guests 4 to 12 can enjoy the resort's kids' club, which features arts and crafts, games and a professional staff.



Melia Cabo Real All-Inclusive Beach & Golf Resort: The "Flintstones Land" mini-club is for kids 5 to 12, and there is a club for the littlest guests, from four months to 4 years.

Royal Solaris Los Cabos Resort & Spa: The Royal Solaris' kids' club has its own pool, a grassy play area and an indoor play center. Activities include arts and crafts, finger painting, story time and games. A new water park features a towering slide for kids 4 to 11. A fountain park is ideal for toddlers, with shallow pools surrounded by "friends" that include a whale, pelican and frog. A teen-only club for guests 12 to 18 features video games and is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Pool activities and other programs keep the teens busy in season.

Villa del Palmar Beach, Resort & Spa: The kids' club offers age-specific activities Sunday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., for guests 4 to 12. Kids Nights feature dinner, an arcade and a disco Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. A shallow pool for small children and a family pool with a whale waterslide are ideal when kids are not in camp.

Westin Resort & Spa Los Cabos: Complimentary full-day activities are available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for guests 4 to 12.

Contact information for all resorts is available in the Hotel Chart on page 19.



AWARD-WINNING CUISINE

NUMEROUS RESTAURANTS IN LOS CABOS RECEIVE ACCOLADES FOR THEIR FOOD



Fine dining in Los Cabos is not merely eating but an indulgent experience. Award-winning restaurants and chefs elevate meals to a true gastronomic experience. Tell clients to order a fine Mexican wine to accompany their meal!

Following is a selection of restaurants that have received official kudos for their cuisine. There are many more award-winning restaurants in Los Cabos. Access visitloscabos.travel for a more complete listing.

Arrecifes: Honored with the 2009 AAA Four Diamond Restaurant Award, Arrecifes is located in the Westin Resort & Spa. It offers panoramic views and a menu that focuses on local seafood and the culinary style of Baja California. Live jazz adds to the experience.

Canto del Mar: Marquis Los Cabos' Canto del Mar has been awarded the Five-Star Diamond Award by the American Academy of Hospitality Sciences for a number of years. The chef, Thierry Dufour, has been named "Master Chef of France" for his life-long commitment to the promotion of French cuisine. Limited to only 25 guests, this exclusive and elegant restaurant has a menu that changes every four days. The six-course culinary event is explained by the maitre'd, and a sommelier recommends an excellent wine pairing.

Las Ventanas al Paraíso: The resort has won awards from *Wine Spectator* magazine and AAA. The Sea

Grill's culinary art, "Cocina del Fuego," features food cooked on wood-burning grills or in the wood-burning brick-and-clay oven. The dramatic presentation features each piece of meat or seafood with the Las Ventanas logo and waiters cutting fresh herbs at the table to garnish the dishes.

Market: Michelin-starred chef Jean-George Vongerichten opened Market at the One&Only Palmilla resort in November 2008. The cuisine features Jean-Georges' signature style blended with traditional Mexican ingredients and accents. Guests can also take advantage of "couture cuisine," customizing dishes to their preference.

Pitahayas: Located at the Sheraton Hacienda del Mar, Pitahayas has won the Five-Star Diamond Award by the American Academy of Hospitality Sciences for seven consecutive years. It is also a winner of the Wine Spectator Award, given to restaurants that offer a superior selection of quality vintages. This modern, open-air restaurant overlooking the Sea of Cortés offers live classical music, a romantic setting and Pacific Rim cuisine paired with a fine selection of Mexican wines.

More Award Winners: A number of Los Cabos resorts have received the "Distintivo H" award from the Secretary of Tourism, given to restaurants in Mexico with highly trained staff that have passed more than 100 aspects of food preparation and handling. Winners include the Hotel Finisterra, the Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort, the Pueblo Bonito properties and Villa del Palmar.

BE SURE TO TASTE ...

Caldo de Pescado: fish broth

Carne a la Tampiqueña: grilled strips of beef

Chilaquiles: corn tortillas cooked with cheese, sauce and chiles, usually for breakfast

Chiles en Nogada: chiles stuffed with ground meat, served with a walnut-based cream sauce and topped with pomegranate seeds

Flauta: a long, thin, deep-fried taco

Huachinango a la Veracruzana: red snapper seasoned and cooked in red sauce with tomatoes, olives and onions



SHOP LOS CABOS

WHERE TO FIND THE PERFECT VACATION MEMENTO

Los Cabos' numerous shopping and dining complexes are filled with stores and restaurants. Visitors can take advantage of duty-free shopping for jewelry or perfumes, and find original Mexican artwork. Top designers and brands have opened stores there, adding to the Los Cabos retail experience.

CABO SAN LUCAS

The top shopping hot spot in Cabo San Lucas is **Puerto Paraíso** (www.puertoparaiso.com), right on the Cabo San Lucas Marina. There are more than 100 stores on three levels, as well as restaurants, live entertainment, 10 movie theaters and a bowling alley. High-fashion designers and brand shops include Kenneth Cole, Nautica and Hugo Boss. Travelers can pick up local arts and crafts, as well as something a little more one-of-a-kind at a selection of art galleries. Jewelry, including precious gems and watches, as well as perfume are available duty-free. Gifts can be purchased at a selection of souvenir shops, including Cabo-style, a regional brand offering sporty apparel.

Next door to Puerto Paraíso, the retail excursion continues at **Marina Golden Zone** (www.marinagoldenzone.com). There visitors will find dining choices and a look into Mexican culture at the Huichol Ethnic Art Store, where they can watch local craftsmen create art and take some home. Travelers can learn how tequila is made at the Tequila Museum.

Marina Boulevard is home to Ultrafemme, selling perfume and makeup, as well as Ultrajewels, where one will find high-end jewelry from such names as Rolex, Cartier and Tiffany. Royal Jewelers is located there, featuring fine diamonds and jewelry, including the rare and opal-like ammolite.

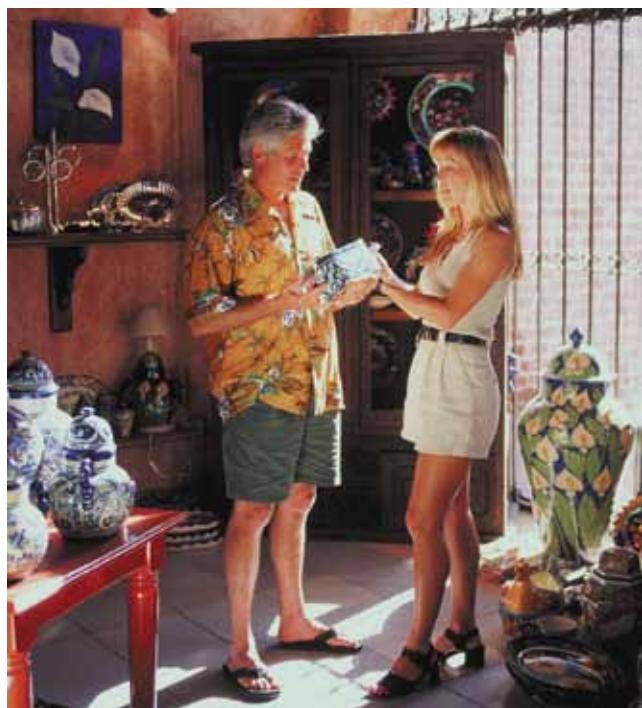
Magic of the Moon (www.magicofthemoon.com), a short walk from Marina Boulevard on Hidalgo Street, sells original designs of ladies apparel. Custom orders can be accommodated in just three days.

THE CORRIDOR

Las Tiendas de Palmilla (www.lastiendasdepalmilla.com) is a high-end shopping and dining complex on km 27.5. There one can find such brands as Harry Winston, Tommy Bahama, Emilia Castillo and Piaget. There is also Pure Spa, a number of art galleries and handmade artisan crafts.

SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO

Those in search of international and local art will discover just what they're looking for while strolling along the charming streets of San José. The **Art Walk** features local cuisine and special wines paired with a night of viewing original paintings and handcrafted sculptures. The Art Walk takes place every Thursday night from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., November through May, in San José's historic art district.



LUXURY AVENUE

Designer boutiques and the top brands in luxury retail are available at Luxury Avenue at Puerto Paraíso, which opened in December 2008. The elegantly designed shopping development is home to exclusive names in fashion, jewelry, fragrance and cosmetics, such as Burberry, Cartier, CH Carolina Herrera, Coach, Fendi, Louis Vuitton and Montblanc. It is located at the center of the Cabo San Lucas Marina, boasting contemporary architecture, marble and granite floors, and fountains. Visit www.luxuryavenue.com for a complete list of stores.

FIRST IT WAS FISHING

CONTINUING THE TRADITION THAT PUT
LOS CABOS ON THE MAP



Los Cabos first made its mark as a sportfishing mecca, attracting such celebs as John Wayne, Bing Crosby and John Steinbeck. They were drawn, as many are today, by the quest and success of unbelievable catches.

Ranked among the top five fishing destinations, with more than 800 species of fish, Los Cabos is known as “The Marlin Capital of the World.” The Sea of Cortés is full of black, blue and striped marlin, with some topping the scales at 200 pounds. Visitors will also find other large game fish there, such as giant dorado, tuna and wahoo, as well as the facilities to create the ideal sportfishing vacation. A catch-and-release policy is encouraged, especially with marlin and sailfish, which are not considered good for eating.

In addition to the abundance of fish, the proximity of the fishing adds to Los Cabos’ allure as a fishing mecca. One can usually catch fish anywhere from a few miles from shore to no farther than 25 to 40 miles out. Anglers have their choice of boats for day excursions, from 22-foot open-skiff pangas to 50- to 80-foot luxury vessels. Cruisers are the most popular kinds of boat, measuring 28 feet to 35 feet with a cabin, bathroom and fly bridge. These usually can take four to six anglers, plus crew.

There really is no bad time for fishing in Los Cabos. Striped marlin are around throughout the year, but May, June, December and January are the peak months. From July to mid-November is the best time for blue and black marlin, and sailfish, which can range from 70 pounds to 160 pounds. Swordfish can be caught in February and March, as well as during the daytime, unlike other locations, where night fishing is necessary to catch them. Schools of smaller fish are prevalent in April, and from July through November is when larger fish are present.

TOURNAMENT TIME

Have clients who are truly serious about sportfishing? Then send them to Los Cabos during one of its fishing tournaments. This year’s **IGFA Offshore World Championship** is slated to take place Nov. 8-13, though it is usually held in May. This marks the 10th year for the event, often referred to as the “Olympics of Sportfishing.” More than 70 teams from 30 countries compete.

The **Los Cabos Billfish Tournament** takes place in October each year, set for Oct. 13-17, 2009, and Oct. 12-16, 2010, the tournament’s 11th and 12th years. Fishermen can expect great parties, quality prizes and a purse of close to \$1 million. The 2009 winners receive an invitation to represent the tournament at the 2009 IGFA Offshore World Championship. **Bisbee’s Black & Blue Tournament** is slated for Oct. 20-24, 2009. The **WON Jackpot Tuna Tournament** is scheduled for Nov. 4-7, 2009.

Access visitloscabos.travel for ongoing updates on fishing tournaments.



MEET ME IN LOS CABOS

THE DESTINATION CAN EASILY MEET ANY GROUP'S NEEDS



Planners looking for the ideal spot for groups have discovered that Los Cabos caters to all their needs for both incentives and meetings. A large selection of full-service resorts, convenient airlift from the U.S. and experienced Destination Management Companies (DMC) make it all easy and lead to happy attendees.

Groups of any size will find hotels and resorts offering on-site meeting and convention space, from intimate boardrooms for a few top executives to grand ballrooms catering to more than 1,000 attendees. Los Cabos offers high-tech capabilities, including audiovisual equipment, translation and administrative services, business centers and Internet access. All-inclusive resorts appeal to groups seeking easy food-and-beverage planning. Many properties offer separate group check-in. A no-tax policy for meetings helps encourage the choice of Los Cabos, especially in today's economy.

The resorts' well-trained staff and local DMCs ensure the exact experience desired, creating an itinerary that starts and ends with airport transfers. The year-round warm weather makes for wonderful outdoor events either on-site or in desert canyons, on the beach or in the main plaza of San Jose.

For large groups seeking facilities offering a maximum meeting capacity of more than 1,000, there's the Crowne Plaza Los Cabos, with 12 meeting rooms; Fiesta Americana Grand Los Cabos, with nine; Meliá Cabo Real, with nine; Sheraton Hacienda del Mar Resort & Spa, with eight; and Tesoro Resort Los Cabos, with seven. Spas and golf courses are close by to enjoy during down time.

The Westin Resort and Spa, Los Cabos recently enhanced its meeting and ballroom areas to include more than 11,000 square feet of indoor function space, with a total of 12 meeting rooms, accommodating groups of up to 500. It features Wi-Fi access throughout the hotel, hi-tech capabilities and a new group business center.

The Marquis Los Cabos Beach, Golf, Spa & Casitas Resort has a capacity of 380 within its 10 meeting rooms, while the Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort has a capacity of 680. There are five meeting rooms with a maximum capacity of 350 at Playa Grande Resort & Grand Spa and a capacity of 750 within five meeting rooms at Royal Solaris Los Cabos.

WORKING WITH A DMC

Destination Management Companies (DMC) and local ground operators can help handle all group needs, providing detailed itineraries and taking care of all the logistics in terms of events and ground transportation because of their expert knowledge of the destination.

Tropical Incentives DMC (www.tropicalincentives.com) is one of the leading DMCs in Mexico. It can handle everything from transportation to hotel accommodations, ground services, restaurants, car rentals, tours and any other services required for seminars, conferences and meetings. They also can provide graphic designs, custom audiovisual services and equipment shipping.

Terramar Destinations (www.terramardestinations.com) assigns a sales manager to plan and design programs, including budget management, themes, customized group activities, ground services, team-building activities, even amenities and gifts. The firm can also arrange for such activities as zipline canopy tours, boat cruises, swims with dolphins and ATV tours.



LUXE ACCOMMODATIONS

UPSCALE PROPERTIES OFFER IT ALL



Above all else Los Cabos is a destination of luxury accommodations, designed to offer the ultimate in pampering. It is one that features a choice of levels of luxury and styles of lodging, and one that constantly offers more added value with a host of evolving hotel packages. There you will not only find the super upscale large resorts, but also boutique hideaways, offering intimate experiences, and a number of price-friendly all-inclusive hotels packaging it all for one rate. A growing number of condominiums and villas are also available for those seeking more room during their stay. And the building continues, with more exclusive communities being planned. (see the sidebar on page 17 for details.)

Guests ranging from couples, singles, families, honeymooners, ecotourists and adventure seekers to meeting attendees from around the world all find the perfect refuge for today's times at the end of the earth, yet so nearby. They enjoy a full array of amenities and services, such as championship golf courses, full-service spas, large meeting facilities, free-standing restaurants, business centers, fitness centers, on-site children's programs and more. Or they can choose to stay in a more low-key property, with only the amenities they require to relax and enjoy their visit.

THE TOURIST CORRIDOR

The scenic Tourist Corridor, located between the towns of San José del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas, is where you'll find many of the large luxury resorts. These properties offer it all in terms of amenities. Choices there typically are on the high end, including **Esperanza, an Auberge Hotel, Fiesta Americana Grand Los Cabos, Sheraton Hacienda del Mar Resort & Spa, the new Zöetry Casa del Mar, Suites, Golf & Spa Resort, The Westin Resort & Spa Los Cabos, Las Ventanas al Paraiso, and Marquis Los Cabos Beach Golf Spa & Casitas Resort.**

SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO

For those who seek a quieter experience, San José del Cabo features its own classic accommodation in a range of cate-





ries. Choices include the **One&Only Palmilla**, **Crowne Plaza Los Cabos Grand Faro** and **Presidente Intercontinental Los Cabos**. Boutique properties, such as the **Tropicana Inn**, offer a more intimate experience.

CABO SAN LUCAS

Cabo San Lucas' properties have the convenience of being close to the town's shopping, dining and nightlife if that's what you seek. There you'll find the **Chileno Bay Club**, **Capella Pedregal Los Cabos**, **Pueblo Bonito Rosé Resort & Spa**, **Los Patios Hotel** and **Villa la Estancia Beach, Resort & Spa**.

The chart on page 19 lists most properties, and offers their category, number of rooms and website. The chart also lists which properties are all-inclusive. Use it to get more information about any of the properties mentioned within the guide.

ALTERNATIVE LODGING

There are also a number of all-inclusive properties, where guests can take advantage of the pay-one-price value in which accommodations, meals, drinks, entertainment, and many activities—including children's programs—are available for one set rate. These properties on the Tourist Corridor include **Dreams Los Cabos Suites Golf Resort & Spa** and **Melia Cabo Real All Inclusive Beach & Golf Resort**. **Riu Palace Cabo San Lucas** and **Riu Santa Fe** are two all-inclusives in **Cabo San Lucas**, and **Royal Solaris Los Cabos Deluxe All Inclusive Resorts & Spa** and **Barcelo Los Cabos Palace Deluxe** are in San Jose del Cabo. The **Crowne Plaza** and **Presidente Intercontinental** also offer all-inclusive options in San Jose del Cabo.

There are also a number of multi-room, condo-style, privately owned units that are affiliated with a hotel that make a good choice for families or those who seek extra room. They include **Esperanza**, **Capella Pedregal Los Cabos**, **Playa Grande Resort & Grand Spa** and **Villa La Estancia Beach, Resort & Spa**.

NEW HOTELS AND DEVELOPMENTS

The hotel scene in Los Cabos continues to grow, with more resorts planned through 2011. These include:

Cabo Riviera: Located on the East Cape, La Ribera, this luxury residential and commercial development features a marina and an 18-hole Pete Dye golf course. It is scheduled to be completed by 2010.

Capella Pedregal: This 66-room top-tier hotel and residence resort opened in the summer of 2009. It is located along the Cabo San Lucas Marina, offering views of the Sea of Cortes and the Pacific Ocean.

Chileno Bay Golf & Ocean Club: A private golf, beach and marina community, Chileno Bay offers a mix of private and public use. It features a marina and village inspired by Portofino, Italy, with custom residential units, two 18-hole Tom Fazio golf courses, a private beach club, a spa and shopping.

Montage Los Cabos: A luxury hotel from Montage Hotels & Resorts, which has hotels and residential communities in Laguna Beach and Beverly Hills, will open on the site of the former Twin Dolphins Hotel, along the Sea of Cortes, in 2010.

Puerto Los Cabos: This 1,900-acre gated golf community featuring the upscale Mision La Serena is scheduled for completion by 2010. Two golf courses—one by Jack Nicklaus and one by Greg Norman—are planned.

Quivira Los Cabos: This 1,850-acre residential resort community will feature The Residences by Ritz-Carlton and a 200-room Ritz-Carlton Los Cabos, Quivira, which is scheduled for completion by early 2011. The community will boast two 18-hole Nicklaus-designed courses, scheduled to open by early 2010.

LOCAL SPA TREATMENTS

RESORTS PAMPER GUESTS WITH INDIGENOUS INGREDIENTS



Today's spa-goers do enjoy pure pampering during their stay, but many seek a unique treatment that they can only receive in the destination they visit. Recognizing this, Los Cabos' resorts have integrated the healing properties of the sea and of the desert plants into their treatments.

They include:

Cabo Azul Resort & Spa: The 7,000-square-foot PAZ Spa features seven treatment rooms, a rooftop treatment room and beachfront cabanas. The 80-minute Aloe Cooling Massage includes a healing mist of fresh coconut milk, a healing wrap of fresh aloe vera and spearmint, a nurturing facial mask, and a scalp and foot massage.

Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort: Spa Oasis offers the 50-minute Oxygen Ocean Blast Wrap, which features active oxygen bubbles releasing the sea's revitalizing energy into moisture-deprived skin. The treatment begins with a full-body mask applied with targeted massage strokes to activate the natural oxygen in the algae and plankton, and ends with algae laminaria oil.

Las Ventanas al Paraiso Hotel: The Spa embraces a holistic approach based on the beliefs of the ancient healers of Baja California. The 90-minute Nopal Desert Wrap uses locally grown Nopal cacti to help diminish the appearance of cellulite and lessen fluid retention.

Marquis Los Cabos Beach, Golf, Spa & Casitas Resort: A member of the Leading Spas of the World, the 15,000-square-foot holistic spa and fitness center features such treats as the Quetzalcoatl Oxygenating Experience, which begins with a eucalyptus footbath, followed by a mineral-salt body polish and derma-purification bath to detoxify skin, concluding with the body covered in a hydrating milk of cucumber.

ME by Melia Cabo: The 7,036-square-foot Yhi Spa features a hydrotherapy ritual center and a native Temazcal sweat lodge. The 75-minute Temazcal (ancient purifying steam) Ritual relaxes the muscular system, enhances the circulatory system and eliminates toxins.

One&Only Palmilla: The Aztec Aromatic Ritual is a curative treatment for headaches, arthritis and muscular aches. Using an ancient recipe of aromatic spices, the treatment includes a skin-smoothing preparation of the face and body combined with a massage, and ends with a soak in an outdoor garden bathtub.

Pueblo Bonito Pacifica Holistic Retreat & Spa: The Armonia Spa's 80-minute Obsidian Sacred Stone Massage was inspired by the smooth, sacred Mexican stones that were once used by ancient Indians to rebalance the body's energy, level body temperature and achieve deep muscle relaxation.

Villa Group Resorts: The Desert Spa, which serves Villa del Arco Los Cabos, Villa La Estancia Los Cabos and Villa del Palmar Los Cabos, is a 31,000-square-foot spa and fitness center. The Desert Spa's exclusive line of desert-inspired body products uses fruit and herb extracts native to the Baja California area.



MORE SPAS

Dreams Los Cabos Suites Golf Resort & Spa features whirlpools and other hydrotherapy choices, cleansing saunas and steam baths, massages, manicures, pedicures and a fitness center. **Esperanza, An Auberge Resort**, has been named the No. 1 spa in Latin America by *Travel & Leisure* magazine. The Cabo Spa features 14 treatment rooms, an outdoor shower and a private sunbathing area. It also has a yoga studio and fitness center. The **Sheraton Hacienda del Mar Resort & Spa** is a member of the Starwood Spa Collection. The Cactus Spa features 11 treatment rooms, a Vichy Shower and a Soft Pack System or "German Bed" for body wraps. **The Westin Resort & Spa**, also a member of the prestigious Starwood Spa Collection, uses the healing properties of the desert and the cleansing nature of the sea to offer an array of therapeutic treatments designed to pamper.

HOTEL CHART

Hotel Name	Category	Number of Rooms	All-Inclusive	Web Site
BARCELÓ LOS CABOS PALACE DELUXE	★★★★★	655	✓	www.barcelo.com
BUENAVISTA BEACH RESORT	★★★★	60		www.hotelbuenavista.com
CABO AZUL RESORT & SPA	★★★★	143 villas		www.caboazulresort.com
CABO VILLAS BEACH RESORT & SPA	★★★★★	136		www.cabovillasbeachresort.com
CAPELLA PEDREGAL LOS CABOS	★★★★★	66		www.capellacabo.com
CASA DORADA AT MÉDANO BEACH	★★★★★	184		www.casadorada.com
CHILENO BAY CLUB	Especial	40		www.chilenobayclub.com
CROWNE PLAZA LOS CABOS GRAND FARO	★★★★★	333	✓	www.cploscabos.com
DREAMS LOS CABOS SUITES GOLF RESORT & SPA	★★★★★	308	✓	www.dreamsloscabos.com
ESPERANZA AN AUBERGE HOTEL	Especial	53 / 6 Villas		www.esperanzaresort.com
FIESTA AMERICANA GRAND LOS CABOS	Gran Turismo			
	AAA Diamantes	250		www.fiestamericanagrand.com
FINISTERRE	Especial	286		www.finisterra.com
THE GRAND MAYAN	★★★★★	164		www.grupomayan.com
GRAND SOLMAR	Gran Turismo	270		www.solmar.com.mx
HILTON LOS CABOS BEACH & GOLF RESORT	★★★★	375		www.hiltonoscabos.com
HOTEL BAHIA	★★★	96		www.losarcosgroup.com
LAS VENTANAS AL PARAISO	★★★★★	71 suites /36 guest rooms		www.lasventanasalparaiso.com
LOS CABOS GOLF RESORT AT COUNTRY CLUB	★★★★★	74		www.golfincabo.com
LOS PATIOS HOTEL	★★★★	76		www.lospatioshotel.com
MARBELLA SUITES EN LA PLAYA	★★★	40 Suites		www.marbellasuites.com
MARINA FIESTA RESORT & Spa	★★★★★	155		www.marinafiestaresort.com
MARQUIS LOS CABOS BEACH GOLF SPA & CASITAS RESORT	★★★★	237		www.marquisloscabos.com
ME BY MELIA CABO	★★★★★	150		www.mebymelia.com
MELIA CABO REAL ALL INCLUSIVE BEACH & GOLF RESORT	★★★★★	305 Hotel / 47 Melia Vacation Club	✓	www.solmelia.com
MONTECRISTO ESTATES BY PUEBLO BONITO	Especial	64 villas / 5 guest rooms		www.pueblobonito.com
ONE & ONLY PALMILLA	Especial	172		www.oneandonlyresorts.com
PLAYA GRANDE RESORT & GRAND SPA	★★★★★	358		www.playa-grande.com, www.solmar.com.mx
POSADA REAL LOS CABOS	★★★★	148		www.posadareal.com.mx
PRESIDENTE INTERCONTINENTAL LOS CABOS	★★★★★	390	✓	www.intercontinental.com/sanjosedelcabo
PUEBLO BONITO LOS CABOS RESORT	★★★★★	148		www.pueblobonito-loscabos.com
PUEBLO BONITO PACÍFICA HOLISTIC RETREAT & SPA	★★★★	154		www.pueblobonito.com
PUEBLO BONITO ROSÉ RESORT & SPA	★★★★★	260		www.pueblobonito.com
PUEBLO BONITO SUNSET BEACH RESORT & SPA	★★★★	350		www.pueblobonitosunsetbeach.com
QUINTA DEL SOL	★★★	72		www.quintadelsol.com
RIU PALACE LOS CABOS	★★★★★	642	✓	www.riu.com
RIU SANTA FE	★★★★★	1000	✓	www.riu.com
ROYAL SOLARIS LOS CABOS DELUXE				
ALL INCLUSIVE RESORTS & SPA	★★★★★	389	✓	www.hotelessolaris.com
SANTA FE LOS CABOS	★★★★	46		www.villagroupresorts.com
SHERATON HACIENDA DEL MAR RESORT & SPA	Grand Turismo	270		www.sheratonloscabos.com
SOLMAR SUITES	★★★★★	190		www.playa-grande.com, www.solmar.com.mx
SUITES LAS PALMAS LOS CABOS	★★★★	50		www.suiteslaspalmas.com
TEMPTATION RESORTS	Especial	149		www.desireresorts.com
TESORO LOS CABOS	★★★★	286		www.tesororesorts.com
TROPICANA INN	Boutique Hotel	40		www.tropicanainn.com.mx
VILLA DEL ARCO BEACH RESORT & SPA	★★★★★	217		www.villagroupresorts.com
VILLA DEL PALMAR BEACH, RESORT & SPA	★★★★★	465		www.villagroupresorts.com
VILLA LA ESTANCIA BEACH, RESORT & SPA	★★★★	156		www.villalaestancialoscabos.com, www.villagroupresorts.com
VILLA LA PALOMA	★★★	26		www.hotelvillalapaloma.com
VISTAZUL SUITES & SPA	★★★★	28		www.vistazulsuites.com
THE WESTIN RESORT & SPA LOS CABOS	★★★★★	243		www.westinloscabos.com
ZÖETRY CASA DEL MAR, SUITES, GOLF & SPA RESORT	Gran Turismo	56		www.casadelmarmexico.com

HEADING OUT FOR THE DAY



BAJA'S DESTINATIONS OFFER GREAT DAY TRIPS

Travelers exploring beyond Los Cabos' borders will find more of the beauty and history of Baja California. The neighboring towns and communities offer much in terms of outdoor adventures and cultural excitement.

TODOS SANTOS

Tell clients to head north out of Los Cabos for a one-hour drive along the Pacific Coast on Highway 19 to get to Todos Santos, a quaint village that is a renowned artists' enclave. A stroll around this peaceful town will reveal plenty of artists, potters, glassmakers and sculptors in their studios, as well as some 20 galleries that house and sell these artisans' traditional and contemporary art. Visitors will also find a number of American and Canadian transplants who moved there to enjoy the slower pace of life. Leading galleries include Galería Santa Fe, Galería de Todos Santos, Jill Logan Gallery and the Charles Stewart Gallery. Stewart, who moved to Todos Santos from New Mexico in 1986, is said to be one of the leaders in making the town an artist colony. The annual Todos Santos Arts Festival takes place in late January/early February and features music, dance, theater and food.

Todos Santos' historic center is home to more than galleries and makes for a wonderful stroll. The city was founded by missionaries in 1723 and became a

wealthy sugar-cane town in the late 19th century, and much of its architecture is from that time. The famed Hotel California, which recently reopened after a major renovation by Debbie Stewart, is drawing crowds not only for the accommodations but for its attractive bar, restaurant and unique shop, with art pieces, clothing and jewelry that are one of a kind. Though once rumored to be where the Eagles wrote their classic song, this myth has been put to rest. The Hotel California is nevertheless creating history for itself as a popular attraction in Todos Santos and well worth a day trip from Los Cabos.

Lunch or an early dinner can be enjoyed at a number of great restaurants. A talented and passionate Italian chef, Ezio Colombo, and his wife, Paola, have made the Café Santa Fe, a former hacienda, a mecca for "foodies" and a must for one of the best dining experiences in Baja Sur. Los Adobes de Todos Santos serves great Mexican cuisine.

Just outside the town are many secluded beaches, accessible only by dirt roads. Many surfers challenge the waves at these scenic spots.

LA PAZ

Some 130 miles, or about a two-hour drive, from Los Cabos is La Paz, the official capital of Baja California Sur. *Money* magazine recently listed it as one of the 10 best places in the world to retire. This thriving port city, with a population of just under 400,000, was founded in 1535 by Hernán Cortés. John Stein-





beck set his novella, *The Pearl*, in the city he referred to as the “Pearl of the World” and which was once known as the pearl-fishing capital of the world.

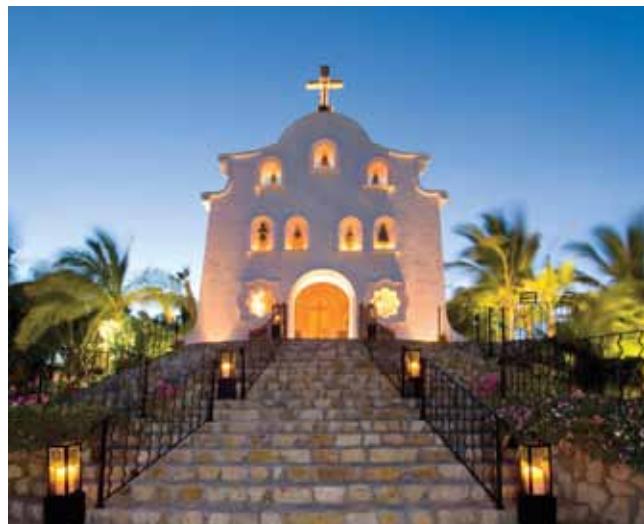
La Paz is an adventure or active travelers’ dream destination, and is often referred to as “The Galapagos of the North.” The island Espíritu Santo is the habitat of 235 species of plants, 271 of fish, 32 of reptiles, 98 of birds and 31 of marine mammals (11 of which are unique to the area). Espíritu Santo also offers great diving at its north end at Los Islotes Rock, home to a colony of sea lions. Snorkelers can find tons to see in the waters along large uninhabited islands that line the coast of La Paz.

Watersports enthusiasts can enjoy kayaking on calm seas that face beautiful beaches. Windsurfing, kiteboarding and sailing take place almost year-round in La Ventana and El Sargento. Prime fishing season is May through September, when anglers are thrilled by their catches of marlin and dorado. The top fishing spots are near Bahía de La Paz and Cabo del Este. La Paz’s close proximity to Magdalena Bay makes it a big draw for whale watchers during the breeding season, January through April. Mountain bike tours can take travelers into the deserts and mountains of La Paz.

The city itself offers museums, a cathedral built in 1720 and a waterfront promenade (malecón). Visitors should also stop by the Anthropology and History Museum and the La Esquina del Arte art gallery. There is a choice of good restaurants, plus plenty of shopping.

EAST CAPE

Only 60 miles up the eastern edge of the Baja Peninsula from Los Cabos, the East Cape returns visitors to what Los Cabos was some 20 years ago. Officially part of Los Cabos, but relatively undeveloped and rustic, it is made for fishermen, divers and anyone seeking a low-key vacation. Visitors will find many fishing lodges, dive shops and camping sites. Hotel Buena Vista Beach Resort, which has its own fishing fleet, is a great choice for those who want to spend all their days getting that great



THE MISSION ROUTE

There is a tour of the missions founded between the end of the 17th century and the 18th century, when Europeans tried to colonize the Baja Peninsula. Though the Spanish failed, the Jesuits succeeded, and they founded the Mission of Nuestra Señora de Loreto Concho in 1697. Among the missions are San Ignacio Kadakaaman, Santa Rosalía de Mulegé, San Francisco Javier Vigge Biandu, San José de Comondú Caamanc Cadeú, Nuestra Señora de La Paz Airapí, Santiago de los Coras, San José del Cabo Añuiti, Santa Rosa de las Palmas and San Luis Gonzaga Chiriyaki. For more information, visit www.vivalapaz.net.

catch. Divers spend their time at the 14 sites in Cabo Pulmo Marine Park, home to the only natural living coral reef in the Western Hemisphere. Serious windsurfers go there, too, as do those who enjoy kayaking, jet skiing and desert adventures.



México

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