



## Mexico Surfing in Baja

"The whole Baja California peninsula is an energetic place, & it's incredibly alive!"

This state boasts some of Mexico's most spectacular mountains & beaches. With majestic, untouched scenery that unfolds along the world's second-longest peninsula, this is a visit to an area of outstanding natural beauty.

Working with the leading pioneer Sea Kayak Adventure company in Mexico, students will learn expedition skills and a deep appreciation for this delicate environment.

With a UNESCO visit and some of the most amazing fish to swim with, what's not to love!



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Day 1-2

#### Arrive La Paz

After arrival to Mexico City and an internal flight to La Paz we transfer to our hotel for an acclimatisation day. After meeting our guides we start our city tour! We will visit the local whale museum. Later on we will organise our snorkel equipment ready for tomorrows exciting science day. Dinner is with the local guides in a traditional restaurant.



#### Whale science day

Today we swim with whale-sharks and participate in a valuable science project, collecting data that will be used in collaboration with a Whale Shark research project that influences government policy on protecting the largest fish on the planet. After lunch we return to the Kayak centre and pack up in preparation for the main expedition. Here we split in to two smaller groups where one set buys provisions from the local supermarket and the other learn how to pack our kayaks for the expedition that follow. Dinner again is with our local guides in a traditional restaurant. Overnight in a hotel.

Day 4

> Day 5

#### Espiritu Santo Island visit

We transfer to this highly protected, UNESCO preserved, uninhabited island, there follows a camp, kayak orientation and safety talk. This island has been voted as one of the most beautiful in the world. The surrounding reefs are home to many different fish including sharks, rays, turtles, dolphins and even whales. With many bird species and a large sea lion colony there is much to see and do! In the evening we will have our first kayak in the mangroves, learning about their importance in the local ecology. Camping overnight.

#### **Turtle Science**

Today we kayak to our next beach. After lunch there is a turtle science session. Local Scientists will join us as we collect "real" data that is used by the environmental department to influence conservation policy. Camp overnight.





#### Kayaking

Another new beach today. We enjoy an afternoon hike and a guided talk on the local flora and fauna. Camping overnight.

#### Isla Partida

Today we cross over to Isla Partida, also UNESCO protected and utterly beautiful, to complete our kayak journey. We enjoy a last night camp in Ensenada Grande.



Day

6

Day

7

#### Snorkelling with sea lions

We snorkel with sea lions pups today—a trip highlight and experience of a lifetime! This is a permanent colony of sea lions with over 300 of them present at any one time. Your guide will give you a safety briefing on how to swim safely and respectfully in the area of the sea lions' home and then it's off into the water for some fun! We enjoy a delicious picnic lunch and return to La Paz in a motor boat. Overnight in a hotel.



Day 10

#### Surfing at Los Islotes

We journey across the Pacific Ocean and hit the surf beach of Los Islotes. Dramatic shore and surf, expansive ocean, island and mountain views—another spectacular spot. We benefit from an instructor led surf lesson. Who will be standing up by the end of the afternoon? Overnight in a hotel.

#### Coastal hike

Today we can appreciate a spectacular coastal hike in the protected reserve of Balandra. Along the hike we learn about the pre-Hispanic history of this region of Baja. We enjoy a last leisurely swim, lunch and then catch an afternoon flight to Mexico City and then onto the UK (showers will be available before departure).

Day 11

#### UK

We arrive in the UK having completed this fabulous experience with minds bursting of new experiences to share!

### **Further information**

#### Look what's included!

- International flights
- All accommodation
- All food
- All transportation and activities
- Bi-lingual, first-aid qualified local expedition leader
- Parent and student expedition launch evening
- Comprehensive pre-expedition training programme
- 1-day offsite safety INSET day for staff
- ATOL financial protection

- Medical Emergency / Repatriation Travel Insurance
- Group first aid kit and prescription meds pack
- BS8848 safety management and risk assessments
- Detailed pre-departure information and kit lists
- Comprehensive teacher travel packs
- Permanent operations team in your destination
- 24-hour UK operational support whilst overseas
- Carbon offsetting of all flights
- Free t-shirt for every participant and teacher

#### What's excluded?

- Transport to airport in UK
- · Drinks (advice will be given on purification of water)
- Visas or tourist cards if required
- Any required inoculations

- Personal spending money
- Tips for guides, drivers and porters
- Airport departure taxes paid locally
- · Cancellation and personal effects insurance

#### Your expedition timeline



# Physical expedition rating:

Moderate physical activities are included in Grade 3 trips. Good health and reasonable fitness are important to get the most out of the trip. Trips of this grading are likely to include some walking at moderate altitude (up to 2,500m) and occasional longer/harder days may be involved, with between five and seven hours of walking on certain days. The trip may contain other activities such as cycling or rafting which also require physical effort and a reasonable level of fitness. Some steady preparation and an increase if your underlying fitness levels would help you get the most from this grade trip.

# Culture shock rating:

Expect to find local life broadly familiar to that in the UK, however aspects of the trip are likely to be in remoter areas where differences are more profound. Whilst English may not be the native language, you can expect it to be widely spoken. There may be some cultural differences and although western pallets should be well catered for there will be the opportunity to try new dishes.



### A journey of 1,000 miles...

Starts with a single step... Contact us now to start your expedition journey

- Get your tailor-made proposal and further information 1 If this itinerary doesn't quite scratch your expedition itch then let us tailor-make one for you. Our wealth of experience and expert in-country contacts means we can design an itinerary just for you. Contact us for more information and a detailed quote.
- Ask for risk assessments and marketing materials 2 We can provide initial risk assessments and destination threat assessments to help you with your expedition approval process. Ask for posters and your pre-booking information pack too.
- Arrange an expedition launch evening at your school 3 This is a chance for students and parents to hear more about the expedition with a comprehensive information evening with opportunity for questions.







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