

## WHALE WATCHING AT SAN IGNACIO LAGOON

### SELF ARRIVAL TRIPS - OVERVIEW

#### INTIMATE WHALE WATCHING EXPERIENCES



A special moment

Join us at Campo Cortez, our private Ecolodge along the shores of San Ignacio Lagoon where Gray Whales have migrated to for thousands of generations. This Gray Whale sanctuary is in the heart of Mexico's largest protected area, [El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve](#). Mother Gray Whales approach our boats and encourage us to scratch, pet and even sing to them and their newly born calves. Over the years, this has become a regular occurrence only at San Ignacio Lagoon. This truly unique location is the only Gray Whale birthing lagoon in the world that has been left untouched by man and has a local community striving to keep the lagoon a sacred and protected sanctuary for these

magnificent and friendly giants. Our Ecolodge is a low impact, sustainable way to come and experience this life changing interaction.

#### TRIP OVERVIEW

For the avid Baja traveler or those with a sense of adventure we offer a self-arrival program. Whether you arrive by automobile, bus, or private plane you'll enjoy the hospitality and comfort of our all-inclusive, secluded Ecolodge on the shores of San Ignacio lagoon - with all meals, beverages, kayaking, natural history excursions and two whale watches daily. Our "off the grid" solar and wind powered Eco-lodge offers all-inclusive amenities. Your days are spent whale watching and exploring, while evenings are spent in the company of our local lagoon resident staff in our eco-lodge discussing the day's events and enjoying informal lectures from our staff and resident experts.



On the road to San Ignacio Lagoon

#### SELF-ARRIVAL: 2 OPTIONS DEPENDING ON DATES OF TRAVEL

##### Option 1 Schedule your own Arrival and Departure Dates

Dates of OPEN CAMP: January 15 - February 7

Then again: March 24 - April 15

Daily Rate: \$375.00 per guest, double occupancy, 2 day minimum

Single Supplement fee: \$75.00 daily for single cabin or you can stay in a Safari tent for no Single Fee

\*group and family discounts of 6 or more and child discounts available

## Option 2 Join a Scheduled Guided group Air trip as a Self-Arrival guest

Dates to Join 5-day Air Trip: February 8- March 24

Trip Fee: \$2295.00 per guest, double occupancy (all-inclusive fee)

Single Fee: \$375.00 for cabin (if available) or you can stay in Safari tent for no Single fee

### Trip includes:

- 4 days and nights at camp
- 2 whale watching trips daily
- all excursions and presentations offered during our 5-day air trips

### Details:

Join one of our 5-day air trips and enjoy all the amenities of our most prestigious trip as a Self-Arrival guest at a fraction of the trip cost. Not all trips have availability and only a select number of Self-Arrival guests are permitted during each trip. Cabins not always available – air guests have priority. Safari Tents available and cabins guaranteed only after we close an air trip.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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- Two whale watch trips daily
- Full use of our Private Eco Lodge, Campo Cortez
- Solar powered beach cabins with lagoon views
- Naturalist lead discussions & field excursions
- All inclusive: meals, beer, wine, margaritas & happy hour
- Kayaking, hiking, beachcombing, tide pool exploration
- Experienced and knowledgeable local resident staff
- Mangrove tour
- Evening presentations
- Bird watching and star gazing
- Scientific Workshop and Research Station
- Comfortable amenities including hot showers and flushing toilets

## CAMPO CORTEZ OUR PRIVATE ECO-LODGE

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Seemingly perched on the edge of civilization Campo Cortez Ecolodge offers modern amenities that are clean, comfortable, and low impact on the environment. Campo Cortez is a completely off the grid solar and wind powered community. Constructed from local materials and by traditional building methods, our palapa is the gathering point for all our daily activities and meals. Powered by a modern solar and wind generation system, our electrical system provides 110 ac or 12-volt DC power for all your charging needs. You can charge your phone, video camera or camera batteries anytime in the dining palapa or your cabin during the day. Our facilities include hot showers, flushing marine toilets, and numerous hand washing stations.



Dining Palapa at the Point

### Always available in the palapa are:

- Book and video library of Baja & marine mammals & plants
- Television to view our daily videos & presentations
- Science and weather monitoring station
- Sodas, beer, and wine
- Fresh drinking water
- Coffee and hot tea
- Snacks and fruit

## BEACHSIDE CABINS

Our beachside cabins come equipped with electricity, comfortable beds and are well protected from the wind and elements. Twelve cabins are double occupancy with two single beds and three cabins are triple occupancy with a double bed on one side and a single bed opposite. All our cabins are supplied with fresh linens, pillows, shelves along with countertop space, small desk and mirrors. They are cozy, efficient and leave a small footprint on the land while keeping with local Biosphere Regulations.



The Ecolodge at San Ignacio Lagoon – Campo Cortez

**Special Accommodations:** If you have any special needs, let us know and we will do everything we can to make your stay comfortable. If you use a CPAP machine, we have two cabins that provide power throughout the night to CPAP devices.

## CAMP SCHEDULE AND ACTIVITIES

Daily Camp Schedule:	Camp Activities:
7:00am Coffee, cereals, fruit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Guided tide pool exploration &amp; critter hunts</li> <li>▪ Guided kayaking* excursions to mangroves</li> <li>▪ Naturalist lead excursions &amp; lectures</li> <li>▪ Up close whale observation &amp; petting</li> <li>▪ Happy hour &amp; incredible sunsets</li> <li>▪ Gray whale boneyard</li> <li>▪ Beach combing and star gazing</li> <li>▪ Bird watching</li> </ul>
8:00am Hot breakfast	
8:45am Whale watching	
12:00pm Lunch	
2:00pm Whale watching	
5:30pm Happy hour	
6:30pm Dinner	
9:00pm Lights out-Palapa (Baja Midnight)	

\*Camp Schedule WILL vary day to day based on tidal movements and weather

\*Kayaking is dependent upon the tide. Camp guides will lead kayaking trips

## INCLUDED IN YOUR TRIP FEE

- All meals & beverages: sodas, beer, wine & margaritas while at Ecolodge
- Round trip transportation from San Diego to San Ignacio Lagoon
- Entrance fee to Vizcaino Biosphere
- Tourist card: Mexican tourist visa
- Naturalist lead walks & discussions
- Two whale watching trips per day
- Kayaking & tide pool exploration
- Snacks on bus and airplane

## NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR TRIP FEE

- Premium liquor or call drinks
- Transportation to & from San Diego
- Hotel stays in San Diego
- Travel insurance
- Staff gratuity



Group exploring the massive whale vertebrae in the Boneyard

## BOOKING AND AVAILABILITY

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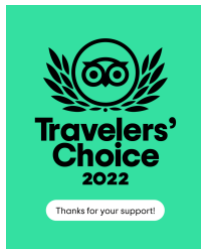
Availability is on a limited basis. Please make your reservations well in advance to secure your space on the aircraft and at the Ecolodge. Many of our guests plan and book their trips at least six to twelve months in advance. For your comfort, space is limited at camp and all our reservations are taken on a first come basis. Please call or email us to check our schedule for availability.

### **Before your departure, you'll receive from us:**

- Comprehensive itinerary package & travel information
- Camp guidelines & whale watching information
- Guide information & contact information
- Detailed packing list

## HAPPY GUESTS

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We are consistently rated the #1 Travelers' Choice on Trip Advisor year after year for one reason: our Staff and Owners - who are residents and locals to San Ignacio Lagoon. We are four generations of family living and working in the lagoon since the settlement of San Ignacio Lagoon. We take pride in our efforts at our Ecolodge to have a low-impact presence at San Ignacio Lagoon and take seriously our roles and responsibility that we carry as Ambassadors to the lagoon, Gray Whales and its many other wildlife residents.