



# Southern Safari

## Sea of Cortez

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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO INFORMATION

Updated June 22, 2025

# Welcome Aboard!

Welcome to the Sea of Cortez and our Southern Safari!

We're delighted you'll be joining us! Our destinations are nothing short of magical, and we're proud to share them with travelers from around the world. Our exceptional crew is here to make your journey unforgettable. Inside this packet, you'll find helpful information to prepare for your upcoming adventure. If you have any questions or special requests, don't hesitate to reach out. We can't wait to share this experience with you!

## Contact Information

### **MEXICO LIVEBOARDS**

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[www.MexicoLiveboards.com](http://www.MexicoLiveboards.com)  
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### **VALERIE VISKAS**

Guest Services & Passenger Documents  
[Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com](mailto:Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com)  
M (619)251-3498



24-Hour Emergency Phone Number  
(602)558-9580

While we strive to keep this document as accurate and up-to-date as possible, its contents are subject to change without notice. For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website before your trip. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Guest Services at [documents@mexicoliveboards.com](mailto:documents@mexicoliveboards.com).

# About a Southern Safari in the the Sea of Cortez

Imagine yourself immersed in a world teeming with life, a vibrant underwater ballet unfolding before your eyes. This isn't a dream; it's the Sea of Cortez, a place Jacques Cousteau famously dubbed the "world's aquarium." Adventure awaits beneath the surface in the warm embrace of the Mexican sun. The Sea of Cortez, also known as the Gulf of California, is a strip of water separated from the Pacific Ocean by the Baja Peninsula. This isolation, on land and underwater, provides a unique series of contrasting ecosystems, from the vast solitude of the desert to the rich underwater realms and black coral gardens.

Surrender to the allure of the Sea of Cortez, where six days of underwater enchantment await. Lose yourself in vibrant coral gardens teeming with tropical fish, swim alongside graceful mobula rays and playful sea lions, and witness the mesmerizing dance of octopuses and eels. Encounter gentle sea turtles and graceful rays, and be captivated by giant pods of dolphins and breaching whales. Explore hidden coves, dive historic wrecks, and experience the magic of a night dive with mobula rays. This is more than just a dive trip; it's a love affair with the sea, a journey into the heart of a vibrant ecosystem where every moment is filled with wonder and enchantment.

The Sea of Cortez is more than just a dive destination; it's an experience that awakens your senses and connects you with the wonders of the natural world. It is where the desert meets the sea, where the stars seem so close at night you can touch them.

This itinerary is excellent for snorkelers.



# Our Vessels

Rocio del Mar and Quino el Guardian use US Coast Guard-approved equipment and are approved by the Mexican Coast Guard. They are equipped with state-of-the-art electronics and all required safety equipment.

## Rocio del Mar

Rocio del Mar is 110' long with a 25' beam.

Rocio Del Mar accommodates 20 guests in ten air-conditioned cabins, each sleeping two guests. There are six cabins with two oversized twin bunks (cabins 1-6), two cabins with a full bed and a twin bunk (cabins 9 & 10 on the upper deck), and two cabins with a queen bed each (cabins 7 & 8).

Each cabin has four drawers for storage and clothing/towel hooks. It also has a bathroom with a lavatory, shower, and toilet. We provide shampoo, soap, and bath wash. There are no hair dryers.

Our guests enjoy comfortable mattresses and quality bed linens. Our steward cleans all rooms, bunks, and bathrooms during the first dives of the day. We provide bath towels and dive deck towels, which are changed mid-trip.

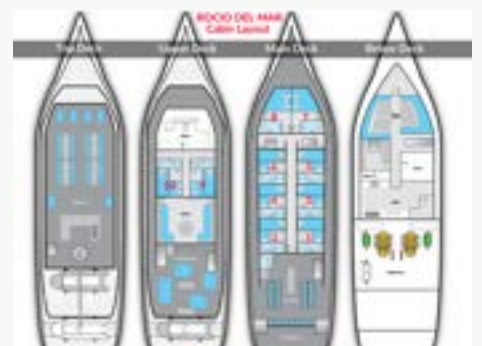
The galley is in the boat's bow and comfortably accommodates all 20 passengers. The galley also has a television and DVD player should the group want to do presentations.

We have a large salon on the upper deck with full-sized sofas, a TV, and a computer station.

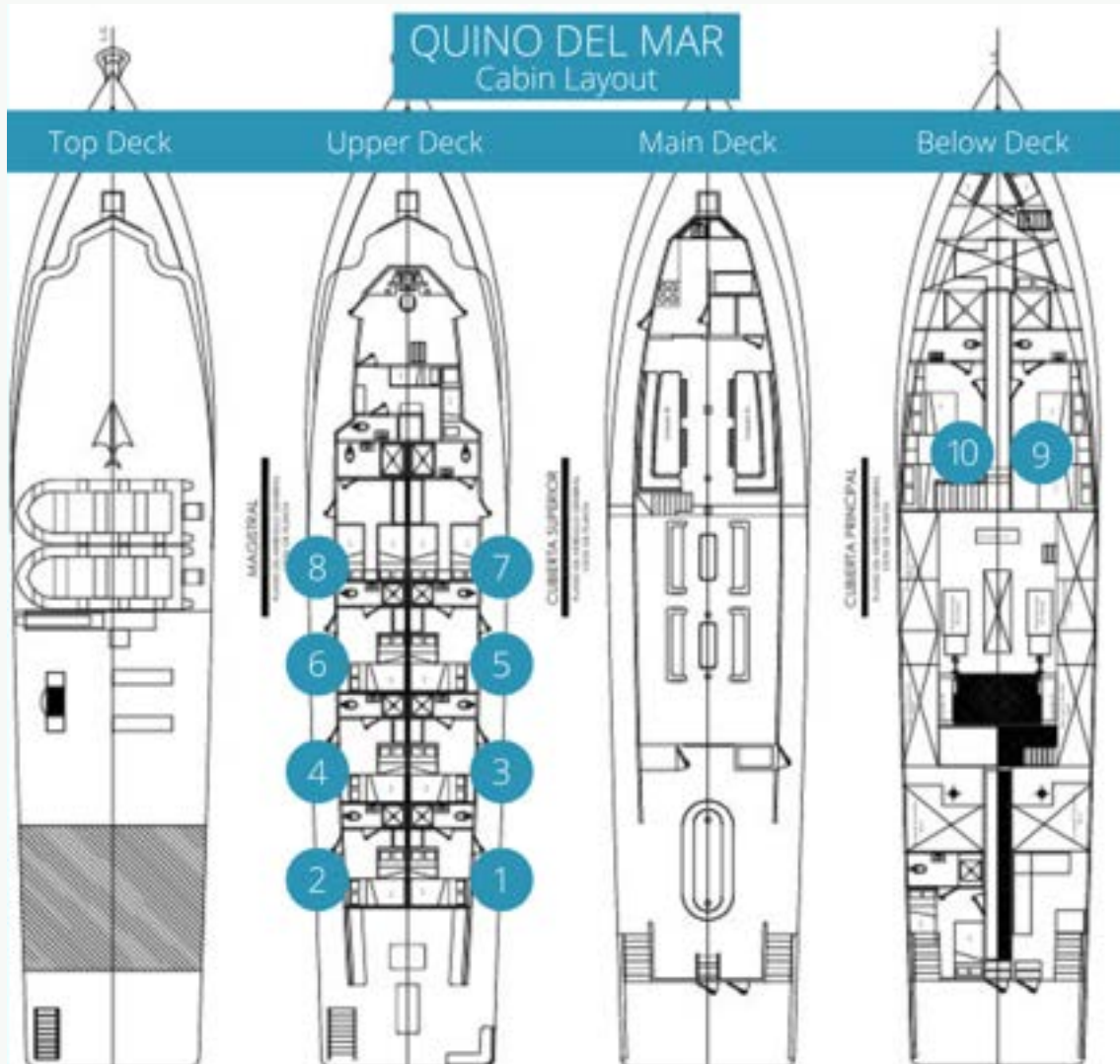
There is an outside covered deck with comfortable patio furniture and a shaded sundeck with lawn chairs perfect for relaxing between dives.

There are two outdoor showers and a restroom next to the dive deck.

All voltage is 110, just like in the USA. Each bunk has a double outlet.



# Quino del Mar - Launches July 2025!



118' length / 26.5' beam

Takes 20 divers / 10 Private Staterooms for two people with an ensuite bathroom

Built-in stabilizers

## BELOW DECK

Cabins 9 and 10 are extra-large and have two queen beds per cabin

## MAIN DECK

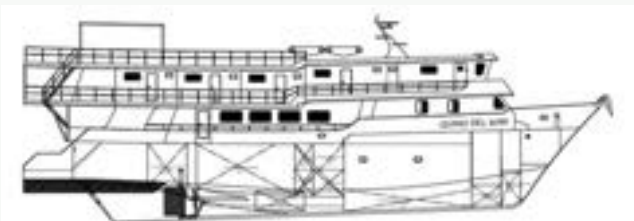
Galley and dining room  
Large Salon  
Large dive deck with fully-equipped camera table  
Two bathrooms  
Freshwater showers

## UPPER DECK

Cabins 1-6 have two XL twin bunks that are perpendicular to maximize cabin space  
Cabins 7-8 are larger and have two XL twin beds that can be made into one king bed  
Shaded patio area for relaxing

## TOP DECK

Shaded sundeck with deck chairs



# Diving

We require all divers to be open-water certified.

Our dive platforms are meticulously arranged, with each diver assigned a designated dive station.

On board, a well-equipped camera table, with numerous power outlets and access to compressed air is available. We have fire-retardant Lipo bags for charging lithium batteries.

We furnish 80 cubic ft. aluminum tanks compatible with both DIN and yoke connections, along with weights and belts for divers' convenience.

Our diving operations utilize two 18-foot Achilles inflatable pangas, each accompanied by a vigilant driver who constantly monitors for emerging bubbles. The transfer from the boat to the dive site is typically brief, facilitated by sturdy and user-friendly ladders on the pangas.

Passengers are organized into three groups, each led by a divemaster for the dive excursions. Upon receiving a detailed dive briefing, each group gears up, embarks on the panga, and enters the water with a backroll entry. Our attentive crew is available to assist divers with any physical limitations they may have. Group dives are conducted, and at the conclusion of the dive, the panga will approach each diver. Weight belts and BCDs are removed and lifted into the boat by the driver, and divers then remove their fins before boarding the vessel. Upon returning to the main boat, the crew will stow the gear and can hand back any cameras to the divers.

Given the demanding nature of diving, participants must maintain good physical health, engage in regular diving activities, and have recent diving experience. Our divemasters and instructors serve as guides solely and are not responsible for providing diving instruction or supervising guests lacking fundamental buoyancy skills. It is imperative that each diver comprehends their own diving proficiencies and limitations.

For those requiring more personalized attention during their diving ventures, booking a private divemaster is recommended at a rate of \$600. To secure a private divemaster, please coordinate this arrangement at least 30 days before your scheduled trip by emailing us at [info@MexicoLiveboards.com](mailto:info@MexicoLiveboards.com).



Proof of diving certification and dive insurance is required.

Without proof, you will not be able to dive.  
**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

## Communications

Our vessels maintain daily radio communication with our US office, and we are ready for constant communication in the event of an emergency. In an emergency, your family and friends can contact our office by phone or WhatsApp at +1 602 558 9580. Our office staff will immediately assist your family and friends in getting messages to you.

## Wi-Fi

We have limited Wi-Fi available for purchase at \$50. This provides full internet access within a 10-mile radius of an island and from the port.

While near the islands, guests can post to social media, access email, download videos, etc.

It is not available during open ocean crossings.

## Itinerary

Day 1 - Embark in San José del Cabo / Dinner and departure at approximately 7 pm

Day 2 - Isla Espiritu Santo and mobula ray night dive / 3-4 dives

Day 3 - Isla Las Ánimas / 3-4 dives

Day 4 - Isla Danzante and Isla San Francisquito

Day 5 - Isla El Bajo Seco and Isla San Francisquito / 3-4 dives

Day 6 - Isla Los Islotes and wrecks Salvaterra and Fang / 3-4 dives

Day 7 - Isla Cerralvo, also known as Jacques Cousteau Island / 3-4 dives

Day 8 - Arrival in San Jose del Cabo and disembark at 8:30 am

## Park Fees

Park fees are 230 pesos per day in the park, whether guests are diving or not. There are six days.

CONANP is the park authority. Mexico Liveboards has no control over the park and is required to pay all park fees to CONANP upon departure.

Park fees are subject to change without notice.

## Food & Beverage

This is one of the things that our liveboards are best known for ... the food!

Each day starts early with a continental breakfast with fresh fruit, cereals, bagels, yogurt, breads, and freshly brewed coffee. After the first dive, guests enjoy a plated, made-to-order breakfast. After the second dive, guests will be served a hot homemade soup followed by a hot plated lunch. We serve a large snack in the afternoon, often sandwiches, ceviche, fruit, cheeses, and more. For dinner, guests enjoy a three-course, plated meal with a salad, entrée, and homemade dessert. Hot and cold beverages are always available, including canned soft drinks.

Divers also enjoy complimentary beer and wine after their last dive of the day.

Our chefs can accommodate most special dietary needs, including gluten-free and vegan, with a wonderful variety of delicious options.

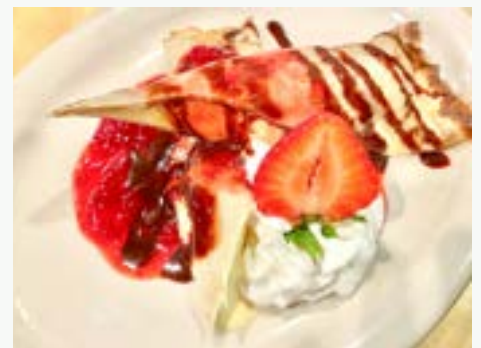
## Special Occasions

Please let us know if you are celebrating a special occasion such as a birthday or anniversary. We would love to celebrate it with you.

## Our Crew

The only thing better than the food aboard Rocio del Mar and Quino del Mar is THE CREW! Our captain, steward, panga drivers, divemasters, and engineer work together as a team to ensure your comfort and safety, so you come away feeling like you have a new family in Mexico.

Please let your crew know if there's anything you want or need at any time during your trip. No request is too big, and no job is too small.



# Passenger Documents

Passenger information and liability releases are completed online. The more information we have about you (including dietary restrictions or preferences), the better we can serve you.

Please complete the **Online Passenger Registration** no later than 30 days before your departure date. This form can be found on the home page of our website, [www.MexicoLiveboards.com](http://www.MexicoLiveboards.com). Scroll to the bottom of the home page, and it is under Pre-Trip Information.

Please read all of the instructions before you start and gather all relevant documents, such as dive certifications, medical and dive insurance information, etc.

Once you start, you will have a 4-hour window to complete the form; otherwise, you will need to restart the process. If you do not have the travel information now, you can leave it blank (and update it later).

To update your travel information, you can do this under **Online Passenger Travel Update**. This form can be found on the home page of our website, [www.MexicoLiveboards.com](http://www.MexicoLiveboards.com). Scroll to the bottom of the home page and it is under under *Pre-Trip Information*.

**The date format is month/date/year.**

The form will not accept any other format. Therefore, if you are receiving an error, this is likely the cause.

EXAMPLE: January 17, 2025 is 01/17/2025.

For returning guests, we have a **Customer Portal**. Please email Guest Services at [Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com](mailto:Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com), and we will send you a link and password to the Returning Customer Portal.

Once you completed your passenger information, you can download and print a copy for your records.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact with Valerie in Guest Services at [Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com](mailto:Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com).

If we do not receive your passenger documents, including the signed liability release, prior to departure, you may be refused boarding.

# Getting to the Boat

Our vessels are at Marina Puerto Los Cabos in San Jose del Cabo.

Marina Puerto los Cabos  
Blvd. Mar de Cortes s/n  
23403 San José del Cabo

Guests can fly into San Jose del Cabo (airport code SJD). Guests are responsible for their transportation to and from the boat. The marina is about 25 minutes from the airport.

Taxis are easy to use. You will enter a lobby after you collect your bags and leave customs. To the left of the lobby, you will see a counter that says TAXI. You can book a taxi and pay for it there via cash or credit card. The cost is approximately \$60 for two people.

The boat will be at the fuel dock directly next to the El Ganzo Hotel. If the boat is not there, our crew will meet you at the fuel dock and bring you to the boat.

El Ganzo Hotel  
Blvd. Tiburon s/n  
La Playita  
23402 San Jose del Cabo

Boarding begins at 5pm. Please do not board early, as the crew is busy getting the boat ready for you. If you arrive early and want to walk around San Jose del Cabo, you can take a taxi to the El Encanto Inn. The El Encanto Inn is in the heart of the Art District of the historic center of San Jose del Cabo. They are happy to store your luggage for you for \$7. The hotel is centrally located, has a restaurant and bar, and is surrounded by plenty of shops and restaurants.

When you are ready to go to the boat, the staff at El Encanto Inn can call a taxi.

The La Marina Inn is across the street from the El Ganzo Hotel if you prefer to go directly to the marina. It is a quaint hotel with a bar/restaurant, and they are happy for you to stop by while you wait to board.

## DIRECTIONS FROM THE AIRPORT AND DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE DEL CABO

Marina Puerto Los Cabos is about a 25-minute taxi ride from the airport and 15 minutes from downtown San Jose del Cabo. Please drive toward the small fishing town of "La Playita" and El Ganzo Hotel. Once in the marina area, you will drive on a long, winding road with roundabouts. To your right, you will see a tall, beige building called MARINE GROUP and, on the other corner, an OXXO store. Turn right at the Marine Group building and OXXO store. Keep driving toward El Ganzo Hotel.

## Return

The boat will return to the marina during the night, and passengers must be ready to depart by 8:30 am on the last day of your trip. Our steward will serve a continental breakfast. Our crew will call taxis to get everyone to the airport or their hotel. We suggest flights departing 11am or later.

Before disembarking, please take a moment to carefully check your cabin, salon, dive deck, camera table, and wetsuit rack for any personal belongings. Retrieving and shipping forgotten items from Mexico is time-consuming and costly, and we are unable to accommodate such requests. We appreciate your attention to this matter and thank you for your understanding.

## Water Temperatures

Water temperatures in September can range in the mid 80's in September and early October.

## Suggested Gear & Clothing

We absolutely recommend exposure protection on our trips. Many guests have found that a 3mm wetsuit works best for September, then a 3mm wetsuit with a hooded vest in mid-October. Guests may wear less during mid-day dives. Gloves are permitted and recommended. A light hood is good for night dives as there is significant krill in the water. A rash guard for sun protection is suggested when snorkeling with whale sharks.

We recommend a dive light, as looking under the rocks and crevices is fun. Plus, it makes the colors come alive!

The dress is casual. Do not forget your hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen.

Stream2Sea makes reef-safe sunscreen, and [we have a link on our website](#) and our guests receive a 10% discount.



Every diver is required to have a dive computer, a safety sausage (SMB) and a whistle.

## Rental Dive Equipment

We have a limited number of regulators, BCDs, dive computers, and HP steel 100 tanks available for rent.

Regulators, BCDs (size required), dive computers \$75 each  
HP 100cu ft/12L \$50 each

Please let us know as early as possible before your trip if you want to rent equipment so we have it onboard for you. Rental gear is on a first-come, first-served basis. We do not rent exposure suits, hoods, fins, masks, safety sausages (SMBs), whistles, or lights.

To reserve rental equipment, contact Valerie in Guest Services at [Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com](mailto:Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com).

If you need wetsuits, fins, masks, booties, SMBs, etc., we recommend:

Dive Adventures Los Cabos / Huitron  
[diveadventures.loscabos@gmail.com](mailto:diveadventures.loscabos@gmail.com)  
Guadalupe  
Phone & WhatsApp +52 1 624 158 6947

Manta Scuba  
[www.caboscuba.com](http://www.caboscuba.com) /  
[mantascuba@gmail.com](mailto:mantascuba@gmail.com)

Dive Ninja Expeditions  
[www.DiveNinjaExpeditions.com](http://www.DiveNinjaExpeditions.com) /  
[info@diveninjaexpeditions.com](mailto:info@diveninjaexpeditions.com)

## Nitrox Certification

We offer nitrox classes and certification through PADI on most of our trips. The price is \$200 per person. You will be able to dive nitrox throughout your trip. The price for nitrox is \$140 per per person.

If you would like to take a Nitrox certification class, please contact Guest Services at [documents@mexicoliveboards.com](mailto:documents@mexicoliveboards.com) to confirm the availability of an instructor on your trip and make the appropriate arrangements.

## What is Included in the Price of the Trip

All taxes & port fees  
All meals, snacks, and beverages, including canned soft drinks  
Complimentary local beer and wine  
Tanks (aluminum 80cu ft), weights, and weight belts

# What is Not Included in the Price of the Trip

National Park Fee – 230 pesos per day in the park\*

Nitrox Fee - \$140

Transfers to and from the boat

Crew Gratuity (10%-15% of the trip price is customary)

Rental Gear (if applicable)

Fuel Surcharge\*\* if applicable

Nitrox and gratuities can be paid before departure or at the end of the trip. To pay in advance, please contact Carmina in Accounting at [Carmina@MexicoLiveboards.com](mailto:Carmina@MexicoLiveboards.com).

We accept credit cards or cash in USD, EUR, or MXN if paid on the boat. We do not charge a credit card service fee.

\*Park fee is subject to change without notice.

\*\*Fuel Surcharge: Mexico Liveboards reserves the right to implement a fuel surcharge on all trips in the event the cost of fuel exceeds 20 Pesos per liter. Should this occur, all guests will be notified before boarding.

## Other Important Information

Although we do our best to accommodate cabin-type requests, we reserve the right to assign all cabins.

All guests are required to have dive/evacuation insurance. [Dive insurance can be purchased through our website from Divers Alert Network](#). If you have private health insurance coverage for dive accidents/evacuation, provide only the page that states coverage for a scuba diving accident (including evacuation) and the declaration page showing you are the owner of the policy and policy number.

You will be at sea, and though it can often be calm, please be prepared for rough seas. Several over-the-counter remedies can help you. If you have a propensity to motion sickness or are concerned that you might develop symptoms, please prepare yourself with preventive measures before departure. Please consult your physician about what will work best for you.

Marijuana and all drugs are illegal in Mexico. Do not bring these on board.

## Unforeseen Events / Trip Insurance / Trip Interruption

Rocio del Mar and Quino del Mar is of the utmost seaworthiness and approved by the US Coast Guard and the Mexican Coast Guard. She is equipped with state-of-the-art electronics and all necessary safety equipment.

Passenger safety is paramount; therefore, the captain has the sole discretion to change, delay, return early, or cancel the cruise if necessary. These reasons include, but are not limited to, adverse weather conditions, perils of the sea, acts of God, political disturbances, or force majeure.

We highly suggest trip insurance as it can reimburse you for unused, non-refundable, prepaid trip costs if you are prevented from taking your trip due to a covered reason. Not all trip insurance is the same, so it's essential to ensure that you purchase travel insurance that includes travel interruption coverage. Trip insurance can be purchased at [www.DiversAlertNetwork.com](http://www.DiversAlertNetwork.com).

We highly recommend all passengers purchase travel insurance.

## Deposits & Cancellation Terms

### INDIVIDUAL BOOKINGS

#### DEPOSITS

- A 25% deposit is due to hold the reservation
- 25% is due six months before the scheduled trip date
- The remaining balance is due three months before the scheduled trip date

Ensuring all scheduled payments are made on time is crucial. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of your trip, with all monies paid to date being forfeited.

#### CANCELLATIONS

- There is no penalty for cancellations made 9 months or more before the scheduled trip date
- 25% of the total rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 91 days to 9 months before the scheduled trip date
- 50% of the total rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 61 to 90 days before the scheduled trip date
- No refunds for cancellations made 60 days prior or less to the scheduled trip date

## GROUP BOOKINGS

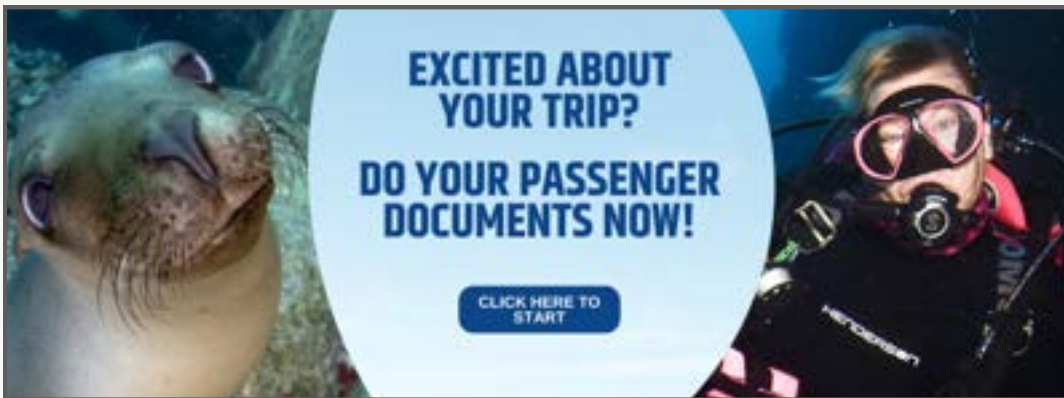
### DEPOSITS

- A \$5,000 non-refundable deposit is due to hold the reservation
- 25% of the trip price is due one year before the scheduled trip date (the \$5000 deposit can be used to make up the 25% deposit)
- 25% is due six months before the scheduled trip date
- The balance less your commission is due three months before the scheduled trip date

Ensuring all scheduled payments are made on time is crucial. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of your trip, with all monies paid to date being forfeited.

### CANCELLATIONS

- There is no penalty for cancellations made 12 months or more before the scheduled trip date; however, the \$5000 deposit is non-refundable
- 25% of the total rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 12 months to six months before the scheduled trip date
- 50% of the total rate will be forfeited for cancellations made six months to 91 days before the scheduled trip date
- No refunds for cancellations made 90 days or less before the scheduled trip date



# Hotel Recommendations

Casa Natalia Boutique Hotel  
Blvd. Mijares Centro Historico  
23400 San Jose del Cabo, Mexico  
1-888-277-3814  
+52 624 18 23709  
www.casanatalia.com  
reservacion@casanatalia.com

El Encanto Inn & Suites  
You can store your luggage for \$7  
while you walk around downtown  
if you arrive early  
Calle Morelos #133  
San Jose del Cabo  
Baja California Sur, Mexico  
011-52 (624) 142-0388  
From USA (210) 858-6649  
www.elencantoinn.com  
reservations@elencantoinn.com  
Facebook:  
facebook.com/elencantoinn

La Marina Inn  
Located across the street from the  
boat  
Calle S/N, Mantarraya  
La Playa, San Jose del Cabo  
BCS 23403  
USA +1 616-548-2681  
Mexico +52-624-142-4166  
www.lamarinainn.com

Hotel El Ganzo  
Located next to the boat  
Blvd. Tiburon S/N Fracc. La Playita  
San Jose del Cabo, B.C.S CP 23403  
+52 624 104 9000  
1-855-835-4269  
www.elganzo.com

Marisol Boutique Hotel  
Plaza Garuffi Paseo San Jose s/n esq  
Bahia de las Palmas sn  
Zona Hotelera  
23400 San Jose del Cabo, B.C.S., Mexico  
+52 624 142 4040  
www.marisolboutiquehotel.com

Bel Air Collection Resort & Spa Los Cabos  
Carretera Transpeninsular Km. 29,  
23400 San José del Cabo, B.C.S., Mexico  
+52 800 400 2040  
www.belaircabos.com

Barcelo Grand Faro Los Cabos  
Blvd. San Jose s/n, Seccion Hotelera 1 Zona  
Fonatur,  
San Jose del Cabo 23400, B.C.S. Mexico  
011 52 624 142 9292  
www.barcelo.com

Cabo Azul Resort  
Paseo Malecon SN Lote 11 Fonatur  
23400 San Jose Del Cabo, Mexico  
+52 800 438 2929  
www.caboazulresort.com

Hotel Posada Terranova  
Degollado s.n entre Manuel Doblado e i.  
Zaragoza  
23400 San Jose del Cabo  
+52 624 142 0534  
www.hotelposadaterranova.mxhotel.site  
This is a less expensive option (often \$50-\$70)  
and just a 5-minute walk from central San Jose  
del Cabo

Posada Real Los Cabos  
Malecon San Jose S/N  
Zona Hotelera,  
San Jose del Cabo 23400  
Mexico: +52 624 142 0155  
www.posadareal-hotels.com/loscabos/  
loscabos@posadareal.com.mx