

DISCOVER THE WORLD OF PANTERRA



JOURNEY TO THE SEA OF CORTEZ

7-Day Natural History and Wildlife Expedition

Apr. 10 - 16, 2024

La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico

México
LIVE IT TO BELIEVE IT


PANTERRA
Adventure Travel

Trip Overview

Panterra - For over 30 years, our team has been exploring and designing eco expeditions in the Sea of Cortez. Join us onboard the 110' ship, the MV Adventure, as we take you on a true wilderness adventure in a stunning Galapagos-style setting. It is the perfect environment for hiking, snorkelling, kayaking, and rare wildlife viewing. It is an ideal backdrop for a multi-environment adventure. Experience a blend of adventure travel, education and cultural interaction while exploring the natural history of the marine environment. An unforgettable journey of discovery!

What to Expect (Hotel, land excursions and cruise package) - The expedition has an activity rating of novice to moderate level. Travellers should be comfortable hiking, walking or standing for short periods and able to engage in multiple activities in a day. Hikes range from 1 – 2 hours on uneven terrain at low elevations in warm and humid conditions. Guests are also required to have basic swimming skills and some experience snorkelling. Travellers have the option of opting out of any activity at any time. Our natural history expeditions combine educational, cultural and wildlife-viewing activities.

Panterra Experts in the Field - Our experts in the field (naturalists, scientists and/or conservationists) will offer evening presentations engaging guests on local conservation efforts, the health of the environment, and adaptations animals are making to the ever-changing environment. The experts will depend on the expedition focus, and a portion of the expedition cost goes toward supporting our wildlife research and conservation efforts.

Hotel Accommodations - [Hotel Catedral](#), La Paz (4-star rating) is a new concept of lodging that adapts to the needs of today's travellers. The hotel is situated in the historic center of the city, surrounded by several points of interest and located next to the oldest church in La Paz. With its sophisticated architecture in a contemporary modernist style, the hotel offers its guests a service of excellence and quality, both in the rooms and in its haute cuisine restaurant. It is more than a lodging. It is an invitation to an elegant, comfortable and relaxing stay.



Ground Transportation - As specified in your trip itinerary, we have arranged all transportation needs during your expedition. All transporters are certified and registered with the Department of Transport and the Mexican Board of Tourism. If you choose to arrive early or stay later and spend time on your own, we will happily recommend convenient transportation options if required.



Land Excursions – We have arranged for two half-day trips at the start and end of the expedition. The first trip will entail a cultural tour of La Paz, including a Modern Art Museum visit. The second trip will take you to the Museo Ruta de Plata (a mining museum) and the Museo del Vaquero de las Californias (a museum dedicated to Baja cowboys). Both trips are highly educational and culturally enriching.



The MV Adventure - [SHIPS LAYOUT](#)

Ships Crew - The Captain, engineer, and crew are onboard to ensure the safety and well-being of the group. They bring many years of mariner experience in the Sea of Cortez, reflecting the warmth, kindness, and hospitality of the people of Baja, Mexico. Ratio: 2 to 1, 16 guests to 8 crew/Panterra staff.

Ship Information - The "MV Adventure" is a 117' aluminum hull ship. As a certified passenger vessel, all crew, vessel paperwork, safety, and navigation equipment meet the legal requirements under the "Nacional de Seguridad Maritima" laws. The ship's inventory includes kayaks, snorkel gear, a ship's library, scientific equipment and two 28' pangas for ship-to-shore transport.

Ships Interior and Accommodations - Multiple-level decks are ideal for wildlife viewing, group gatherings and areas for relaxing. The upper deck offers a bird's eye view and a comfortable seating area. The main deck (bow) offers sea-level viewing, ideal for closer wildlife viewing and often hearing the animals communicate. The main deck (salon) offers dining and classroom space, a couch, and a TV for evening presentations. The main deck (stern) is ideal for snorkel gear and hanging wet close to dry. The below deck offers eight cabins with dbl occupancy (upper/lower bunks), vanity, sink, drawers, and cupboard space to unpack. Shower/bathroom facilities are separate from the staterooms. There are two sets of facilities; one for guys and one for gals.

Meals - Our meals consist of a variety of healthy and nutritious foods including fresh fruits, veggies, meat, and seafood. The cuisine reflects the Mexican culture and most dietary needs can be accommodated with advanced notice.

Daily Activities (during the cruise) - Each expedition differs slightly based on the seasonal weather and marine life present. Water activities include kayaking, snorkelling and wildlife viewing, all supported by two 28' pangas. Land activities include visits to remote communities, beach walking, hiking, exploring the desert island flora and fauna and discovering the geological makeup of the islands. During this time of year, the great whales (blues, humpbacks, Orcas and more) are wintering in the Sea of Cortez. *Juvenile whale sharks are also feeding in the Bay of La Paz. The expedition highlights rare wildlife viewing and encounters.

Disclaimer: All activities/excursions are carefully planned based on safety, ideal weather and sea conditions. Rarely is an activity or excursion not possible. Should this happen, Panterra reserves the right to substitute an activity/excursion not necessarily outlined in this brochure but found on our Recommended Add-Ons webpage, under Day Trips. Panterra is not responsible for circumstances beyond its control. *As an example, snorkelling with whale sharks is highly regulated by the government and the tourist season is only open when there is a sustainable number of whale sharks in the area. In 2022, the season which normally opens in early Oct., opened in mid-Nov. Closed again and then reopened weeks later, when there were once again enough whale sharks to support sustainable tourism. Beyond our control.

Itinerary

The Baja California Peninsula is beautifully embraced by two bodies of water: the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Cortez. A striking natural beauty set in a dramatic backdrop of rugged mountains and desert islands with high cliffs dropping down to sandy beaches and crystal-clear turquoise waters. It is rich in natural history, unspoiled in beauty, and unrivalled in rare marine and terrestrial wildlife.

Day 1 (Apr. 10) - Arriving in La Paz

Upon your arrival at the Cabo (SJD) or La Paz International Airport (LAP), our drivers will transfer you to the Hotel Catedral in La Paz for your first night's stay.

Drive Time: Cabo to La Paz - 2.5 hours / La Paz to Hotel - 20 mins.

Day 2 - 6 - Land Excursion and Boarding the Ship, the MV Adventure

On Day 2, we will check out of the hotel at 12 pm and depart on a half-day land excursion to explore a town rich in cultural history. Visit a Mining Museum, enjoy lunch and shopping, then complete the day trip with a visit to the Vaquero (Baja cowboys and ranching) Museum. Our drivers will then transfer the group to the marina at 5:00 pm, where the ship will be docked. Once onboard, guests will be shown to their cabins as we ready the ship for immediate departure to the islands. Please see daily ship activities as outlined on page 3. On Day 6, disembark the ship at 10:00 am.

Cruising Time: 4 - 6 hours sailing per day

Day 6 (Apr. 15) – Disembarkation and By Land Half-Day Trip

On Day 6, at disembarkation, our drivers will pick guests up and depart on a half-day land excursion touring the City of La Paz. Our drivers will then transfer the group to the Hotel Catedral for their 3:00 pm check-in.

Excursion Time: 5 hours

Day 7 (Apr. 16) - Hotel Check Out

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast, check out of the hotel and our driver will return guests to the La Paz or Cabo International Airport for your flight home.

Drive Time: La Paz to Cabo 2.5 hours





What's Included

- ❖ Airport/hotel transfers on arrival and departure dates
- ❖ All ground transportation provided on excursions
- ❖ Accommodations as indicated in the itinerary
- ❖ Meals and beverages as indicated in the itinerary
- ❖ Daily activities and excursions as indicated in the itinerary

What's Not Included

- ❖ Airfare to and from the destination
- ❖ Trip cancellation insurance or any other form of travel insurance
- ❖ Two lunches and evening dinners during excursions and hotel stay
- ❖ Crew gratuities (Recommended 10%)
- ❖ Items of a personal nature

Cost

\$2395 USD

- ❖ Prices are per person based on double occupancy.
- ❖ Single travellers are welcome at no additional cost for assigned shared accommodations.
- ❖ Single supplement \$300 USD. Limited space.
- ❖ For groups of 6 or more a 10% discount applies. Please contact our office for a private group or travel agency bookings.
- ❖ Works out to \$342 USD per day pp for ground transfers and transportation, accommodations, meals/beverages, activities, land excursions, personal customer service and an unforgettable experience of a lifetime!

Where we make the impossible adventure possible!