Pre-Hispanic Art, Missions & Wildlife of the Sea of Cortez

January 2-9, 2011

Aboard National Geographic Sea Bird
“The very air here is miraculous,
And outlines of reality change with the moment…
A dream hangs over the whole region,
a brooding kind of hallucination.”

— John Steinbeck, The Log from the Sea of Cortez
Dear Alumni and Friends of Cal,

Known by many as “Mexico’s Galápagos,” the islands of the Sea of Cortez are thriving with life and pristine beauty. They were named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005. Just as spectacular is the Baja California peninsula, an area with a human history dating back to 4,500 B.C. Join us January 2-9, 2011 as we explore these two worlds on an adventure spanning desert, sprawling mountain ranges, and the living sea.

The Cal Discoveries Difference

Our goal is to provide the University of California community with an exciting combination of discovery, learning, and adventure in educationally oriented travel. Cal Discoveries offers travelers value for our times – thoughtfully crafted excursions to experience new places, interesting people, and fascinating insights. When you travel with Cal Discoveries, you can be assured that we understand your desire for a strong educational component, a carefully selected destination, and a Cal connection on every trip.

Benefits of traveling with Cal Discoveries:

- Experience “lifelong learning” with world-renowned Cal faculty and/or local experts
- Receive outstanding customer service from Cal Discoveries staff with more than 35 years expertise
- Meet new friends and old, and find interesting, inquisitive travel companions who have Cal in common

In other words, Cal Discoveries travel is Captivating! Educational! Fun!

Traveling with a small group of inquisitive fellow guests and a fine staff of naturalists, you will experience a unique and exciting adventure. Book by October 30 and take $500 off the published cabin rate. To make your reservation, please call 510.642.3717 or toll free 888.225.2586 or return the attached reservation form. We hope you will join us!

Go Bears!

Cal Discoveries Travel
alumni.berkeley.edu/caldiscoveries
Email: caldiscoveries@alumni.berkeley.edu

CAA is a self-funded non-profit organization that relies on donations to provide programs and services that support students, alumni, and the University. To make a gift, please visit alumni.berkeley.edu/donate or call 510.643.2664. Thank you for choosing CAA as the recipient of your generosity.

Cover photo: Originally constructed in 1697, Loreto Mission was the first mission in Baja California. Opposite page: The wildlife of Baja California bathed in a fiery sunset.
Discover the Cultural and Natural History of Baja California & the Sea of Cortez

EXPLORE IN THE COMPANY OF NATURALISTS AND LOCAL EXPERTS

This land and sea journey combines both the living and the ancient treasures of the Baja California peninsula and the Sea of Cortez. At sea, days will be spent in the company of an expert expedition team exploring among hundreds of playful dolphins, snorkeling with sea lions, kayaking, bird watching, observing marine life and hiking on uninhabited desert islands. In the evening, join presentations and lively discussions in the ship’s lounge, on deck underneath a starry sky or even at a beach barbecue.

Beauty and mystery await ashore as you discover the native cultures that have made the peninsula such a historically significant place. In Loreto, the first Spanish settlement on the peninsula, explore with local historians to learn about the region’s history. You’ll also be accompanied by naturalists who will add meaning to the spectacular, and sometimes endemic, flora and fauna of the region. Witness the abundance of European artifacts that decorate centuries-old missions. And marvel at Neolithic petroglyphs and paintings set amid the spectacular landscape of Mulegé and the surrounding Sierra de la Giganta mountain range.

“This is one of the planet’s richest seas of similar latitude, so it is well deserved that Jacques Cousteau named it “the aquarium of the world.” The great diversity of life seen on the islands and above the surface is just a small reflection of the enormous variety of species that live beneath the sea. Because of its unique location and areas of strong upwelling, the Sea of Cortez is a very dynamic environment that supports a tremendous diversity of marine life.”

— Carlos Navarro, Undersea Specialist/Naturalist

Opposite page (clockwise from top): guests explore a beautiful coast at sunset; learning from one of the ship’s naturalists; rock paintings adorn the landscape of La Trinidad, near Mulegé; dancers perform ballet folklórico; taking in the beautiful marine vistas; leaping common dolphins; kayakers take to the azure waters.
Explore the Sea of Cortez and the Pristine Landscape of Baja California

You’ll find the Sea of Cortez bursting with marine life, but virtually empty of humans. The ocean explodes with hundreds of dolphins racing to the ship, and the sea boils as boobies plunge in search of fish. Beneath the surface, sea lions dart back and forth in balletic motion.

But this Baja offers much more than sea life; you’ll hike over desert sand dunes, kayak in protected bays, and observe the rich and diverse bird life along the shores. And in an area as wild as this, a rigid schedule can mean you miss out on the best moments. The ship will stop to linger with an unexpected blue whale, while the ship’s innovative tools will add depth to what you’re seeing. Relax in the Lounge while keeping an eye on a live picture of undersea life sent directly from a camera mounted on the ship’s bow. A fleet of Zodiacs stands ready for quick debarkation to explore a deserted shoreline or get an up-close look at a whale spotted off the ship’s bow.

The hallmark of the Sea of Cortez voyage is the flexible itinerary. These are expeditions. Not cruises. If dolphins or whales are spotted off the bow, the captain will cut speed and move in carefully for a closer look. If wind and seas conspire, the expedition leader will choose a protected anchorage where you can go ashore for a more intimate exploration. This is when the expertise and experience of your expedition leader and captain make all the difference in maximizing your voyage. Rather than leave an extraordinary sighting or fight the elements unnecessarily, they adjust, and you’ll often have some of the most incredible experiences as a result.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): a family swims in the clear waters; guests join the ship’s naturalists to explore in a Zodiac; a tern takes off; Zodiacs and a flexible schedule enable guests to explore at the most dramatic times of day; leaping common dolphins; a curious sea lion; the view from Isla Santa Catalina.
Mulegé: Stories in the Rock

Soaring mountains, deserts and stretches without a soul in sight — the Baja peninsula is a wild, beautiful and, at times, harsh wilderness. In so many ways, it’s an environment all its own. That isn’t to say that man hasn’t played a significant role in its history. In Mulegé, north of the pristine Bahía Concepción, desert arroyos lead to rocks adorned with petroglyphs and paintings left by inhabitants some 1,500-4,500 years ago. Prancing deer, fish, stingrays and even rows of handprints — these are the marks of ancient artists who could never have known the lasting impact their work would have. Who were these people? What were their lives like? The answers are in the rock.

“I am continually amazed by Baja California’s beauty and diversity. After photographing it for over twenty-five years, I have barely mined the richness of imagery it contains. Time spent in the field, visiting its people, places and creatures is a great and rare privilege.”
— Enrique Hambleton, authority on Baja California’s aboriginal rock art and paintings. Enrique will be one of our guides for the land portion of this expedition.

The Missions of Baja California: A Living History

Baja’s mission history began with a small statue placed among the sprawling mountains and azure waters of the Sea of Cortez. Carried from Italy and blessed by Jesuit priest Juan Maria Salvatierra, the statue marked the foundation for Our Lady of Loreto mission. This was the first mission in a region that would see widespread expansion in the coming years, followed by a dramatic collapse.

A short distance from Loreto, the San Javier Mission appears almost improbably out of the Sierra de la Giganta mountain range. Only the second on the peninsula, this baroque church is considered one of the most beautifully preserved missions. Its original name, “Vigge Biaundo,” is emblematic of the local history in many ways. In the Cochimi Indian language, “Vigge” means “elevated land that dominates the valley.” The meaning of “Biaundo” has vanished over time — a taste of the truth mixed with thought-provoking mystery that makes Baja California such a magical escape.
Pre-Hispanic Art, Missions & Wildlife of the Sea of Cortez

ITINERARY: 8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS

Day 1: Los Angeles/La Paz, Mexico/Embark
Fly to La Paz. Explore La Paz and enjoy drinks and appetizers followed by a performance of a local ballet folklórico before embarkation. (D)

Day 2: Islas Los Islotes and Espíritu Santo
At Isla Los Islotes, you have an opportunity for one of life’s greatest pleasures — snorkeling among playful sea lions. With deeply indented shorelines and dramatically eroded cliff faces, Isla Espíritu Santo is perhaps the most beautiful island in the Sea of Cortez. We have a leisurely afternoon for swimming, snorkeling, kayaking, long walks and perhaps even a beach barbecue in the evening. (B,L,D)

Day 3: Isla San Jose
Take Zodiac cruises through the island’s lush mangrove channels and discover nearby middens (ancient shell mounds) — evidence of the region’s rich Indian history. This island is perfect for exploration as each turn may provide yet another unusual flower, butterflies, a bird’s nest or endemic reptiles, all nestled in and around a great display of geologic history. (B,L,D)

Day 4: Exploring the Sea of Cortez/Isla Danzante
This morning search for whales in the waters around Isla Danzante, an area that has proven to be one of the best for finding several species of whales and often bottlenose and common dolphins. The island is surrounded by the most majestic part of the Sierra de la Giganta mountains and is also the perfect location to kayak and snorkel, or walk through a magnificent desert environment. (B,L,D)

Day 5: Isla Santa Catalina
Today we’ll visit lovely Isla Santa Catalina, famous for its giant barrel cactus and cardon forest. The San Javier Mission.
protected bay of our anchorage is also an excellent site for snorkeling. With a full afternoon here, there is time for swimming, snorkeling, hiking and kayaking. Observe the great diversity of bird life, including verdins, woodpeckers and Costa's hummingbirds. (B,L,D)

**Day 6: Disembark/San Javier Mission/Loreto**
Disembark at Puerto Escondido, a natural port about 45 minutes south of the town of Loreto. Drive through the breathtaking Sierra de la Giganta mountains to the town of San Javier, where we’ll visit the second oldest mission in Baja and enjoy a local lunch. Learn from a local guide who will make the history of the region come alive. Later, drive to Loreto and check into *La Mision Hotel* in the afternoon. You’ll have time on your own to explore Loreto and join a discussion on tomorrow’s visit to Mulegê before dinner. (B,L,D)

**Day 7: Mulegê**
Drive north along the coast past the beautiful Bahía Concepción and arrive in Mulegê, where we’ll hike through time to view rock art dating back to the Neolithic period — some 1,500 to 4,500 years B.C. You have the option of viewing beautifully preserved petroglyphs or taking a more active hike into a canyon where paintings adorn the walls. This area was later home to the Cochimies Indians. Enjoy lunch in Mulegê before returning to Loreto for the evening. Overnight at *La Mision Hotel*. (B,L,D)

**Day 8: Loreto/Los Angeles/Home**
Visit the Loreto Mission and museum in the morning and transfer to Loreto airport for flights to Los Angeles in the early afternoon. (B,L)
National Geographic Sea Bird

CAPACITY: 62 guests in 31 outside cabins.
REGISTRY: United States.
OVERALL LENGTH: 152 feet.
PUBLIC AREAS: The ship features a Library; Global Market; Lounge with full-service bar and facilities for films, slide shows and presentations; Observation Deck; partially covered Sun Deck with chairs and tables. The “Open Bridge” provides guests an opportunity to meet the officers and captain and learn about navigation.
MEALS: Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Breakfast is a wide selection buffet and lunch is often served family style. Menu emphasizes local flair.
CABINS: All face outside with windows, private facilities and climate controls.
EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiac landing craft, kayaks, bow camera, hydrophone, Splash-Cam, underwater video camera and video microscope.
SPECIAL FEATURES: Guest Internet access. An undersea specialist, ship’s physician, and a video chronicler on board all voyages.
WELLNESS: The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features exercise equipment, LEXspa and outdoor stretching area.

BOOK BY OCT. 30 AND TAKE $500 OFF THE PUBLISHED RATES BELOW.

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**CATEGORY 1:** Main Deck #300-305
—Conveniently positioned between the dining room and lounge, these cabins feature two single lower beds, a writing desk and a large view window.

**CATEGORY 2:** Bridge Deck #100-104; Upper Deck #200-212, 215—These well-located cabins include two lower single beds and a window.

**CATEGORY 3:** Bridge Deck #105, 106; Upper Deck #214, 216, 217, 219—These cabins feature a seating unit with table and two large view windows. Upper Deck cabins include two lower single beds which can convert to a double bed and a pull-out single bed for a third person; Bridge Deck cabins include two lower single beds only.

**NOTE:** Sole-occupancy cabins are available in Categories 1 and 2 only. Third-person rates are available in certain categories at one half the double-occupancy rate.

**SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS:** Shares can be arranged at the double-occupancy rate in Categories 1 and 2 only.
Feel the freedom that comes from exploring quiet coves and uninhabited islands with expert naturalists.

Special Offers

SAVINGS: Book by Oct. 30 and take $500 per person off the published cabin rate. (Excludes airfare.)

BRING THE KIDS: We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So, take $500 off the double-occupancy price for each person under 18.

Terms and Conditions

Voyage Costs Include: Accommodations aboard ship and on land as indicated; meals indicated; non-alcoholic beverages aboard ship; shore excursions, sightseeing and entrance fees; transfers to and from group flights; taxes, service charges and tips (except to ship’s crew). And there’s never a charge for kayaks, Zodiaks, snorkel gear, or the services of ship’s physician and Lindblad’s expedition staff.

Not Included: Airfare between hometown and Mexico; individual transfers; baggage/accident/travel protection plan; voyage DVD; items of a personal nature, such as alcoholic beverages, email, etc., and discretionary gratuities to ship’s crew.

Airfare: Lindblad Expeditions will gladly assist in making your air arrangements to/from Mexico, if needed, for a $50 per person service fee.

Note: A complete packet of pre-departure information, including recommended reading list and suggestions on what to bring, will be sent to you approximately four months before departure.

Reservations: To confirm your place, an advance payment of $500 per person is required at the time of reservation and is payable by VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or check.

Final Payment: Due 60 days prior to departure.

Trip Protection Plan: A travel protection plan is available at extra cost. Upon receiving your reservation, Cal Discoveries Travel will send you information on this policy. This comprehensive guest protection plan covers trip cancellation for medical reasons, trip delay, medical expenses, accidental death, lost baggage, and medical evacuation.

Smoking Policy: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

Activity Level: Moderately active – Faster pace, substantial distances covered, extensive walking and stair climbing.

Responsibility: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of the Companies’ liability for loss of property, injury, illness or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests prior to final payment, and to prospective guests upon request.

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<th>CANCELLATION POLICY</th>
<th>Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start</th>
<th>Per Person Cancellation Fee</th>
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<td>90 or more days</td>
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This policy applies to expeditions and extensions. We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.

Prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date, and are subject to change. Note: All cancellations must be submitted in writing to the CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL office. The Company reserves the right to impose surcharges based on increases in the Company’s actual cost of fuel.
Please reserve ________________ place(s)

Name 1: _____________________________ Cal Class Year: ____________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 1: ______________________________ Date of Birth: ____________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: _____________________________ Cal Class Year: ____________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 2: ______________________________ Date of Birth: ____________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: ________________________________________________________

City: ________________________________ State: _______________ Zip: ________

Home Phone: __________________________________________________________

Alternate Phone: _______________________________________________________

Fax: ________________________________________________________________

Email: _______________________________________________________________

Accommodations: □ Double □ Single □ Twin share w/friend
□ Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:
1st choice: __________________________ 2nd choice: __________________________

□ Enclosed is my advance payment of $ ____________________ (US$500 per person).
Check made payable to Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.

□ Charge my advance payment of $ ____________________ (US$500 per person).
  to my □ Visa □ MasterCard □ American Express or □ Discover.

Account Number: __________________________ Expires: __________________

Cardholder Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________

Travelers, whether alumni or friends, must be current CAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION members to participate in CAL DISCOVERIES TRAVEL offerings. A payment of $50 for seniors 65 years and over, and $60 for those who are 64 years and under establishes a regular or affiliate membership with all other Association benefits. A married couple and their children under 21 years may travel on one membership; memberships are non-refundable and non-transferable. Please make dues payable to CAA by separate check, or, if you prefer, provide a Visa, MasterCard or American Express number with expiration date and security code for payment.
Expedition Highlights

▶ Discover the rich marine life and diverse islands of the Sea of Cortez aboard an intimate 62-guest ship.
▶ Kayak remote coastlines, hike uninhabited islands and snorkel with sea lions.
▶ Explore the first two missions on the Baja California peninsula, dating back to the early 18th century.
▶ In Mulegé, walk through time to discover ancient petroglyphs and sprawling rock paintings.
▶ Travel with a knowledgeable team of naturalists and local historians.

Cal Discoveries Travel
1 Alumni House
Berkeley, CA 94720-7520

Save $500 per person.
BOOK BY OCT. 30!