

2024 Whale watching schedule

The best whale watching camp is even better!

- **Heated** wood cabins on the shore.
- Gas heated **hot water showers**.
- Flush toilets.
- Real beds with comforters & warm bedding.
- Rugs on the floors.
- Robes and slippers.
- WIFI nearby.
- No single supplement ever!
- En-suite toilets & hot water showers optional.
- See whales jump from your cabin window.
- Hear whales breathing in the quiet of the night.
- Lowest priced all inclusive shoreside camp.



We offer several very different kinds of whale watching experience in Baja.

1. Combination Blue whales on the Sea of Cortez and gray whales at our Pacific Coast camp. The world's largest whales and the world's friendliest whales all during one vacation.
2. Gray Whales at Laguna Ojo de Liebre (Scammon's Lagoon) with accommodations in our upscale camp.
3. Busy professionals - 3 day intense whale watching air charter weekend. Not cheap, but action packed.

Fly in gray whale trips beginning in San Diego to Laguna Ojo de Liebre (formerly Scammon's)

Once again offering 4, 5, 6 & 8 day gray whale trips, flying to Guerrero Negro. Flight time is only a couple hours. So smooth! Departures & end dates can be arranged any Monday, Wednesday or Friday.



Brief trip description

Details below relate to our fly in option. Go to the bottom of this long brochure to read about the alternative ground transport option. There you can read about the advantages and disadvantages of each type of transportation to our camp.

Your adventure begins when our driver meets you at the Holiday Inn - Bayside and transports you about 70 miles to the Ensenada Airport. Upon arrival in Guerrero Negro our driver meets you at the Guerrero Negro Airport and transports you approximately 45 minutes to our shore side camp.

On arrival we get you situated in your cabin. Then a brief orientation so you understand how things work around our camp. Dinner is usually 6:30 pm. It is normal for people to gather in our dining tent earlier to talk, relax, play a game, drink a margarita before dinner.

Your second day in camp begins the actual whale watching trips. We plan to do two trips each day, usually early in the day just depending on weather and other conditions. Typically whale watching finishes around 2:00 to 3:00 pm. This leaves some free time to relax, go for a hike, do some bird watching or check for messages using the wifi available down at the dock about 1 mile from camp.

On your last day, breakfast is served early so you can get to the airport and check in on time. We transport you to the airport and wait to see your plane off. In Ensenada our driver will be waiting to get you back to the San Diego start point, usually between 3:00 and 6:00 pm.

2024 Season Gray Whale and Blue whale schedule		
Trip dates	price	Description and comments
Jan 31 - 9	\$4,395	10 day Blue & Gray whale combo trip.
Feb 2 - 5	\$2895	4 day gray whale watching weekend trip. Our lowest priced trip because sometimes our service or facility isn't perfect the first week we are open.
Feb 5 - 12	\$4095	8 day Blue & Gray whale combo trip
Feb 5 - 9	\$3295	5 day gray whale watching ADULTS ONLY Trip
Feb 9 - 12	\$3395	4 day gray whale trips are planned for 2 days X 2 trips = 4 boat trips
Feb 12 - 16	\$3495	5 day gray whale trips are planned for 3 days X 2 trips = 6 boat trips
Feb 14 - 19	\$3695	6 day gray whale watching President's Day weekend = 8 boat trips
Feb 16- 19	\$3395	4 day gray whales on President's Day weekend
Feb 19 - 23	\$3495	5 day President's Day weekend
Feb 23 - 26	\$3395	4 day gray whale trips
Feb 26 March 1	\$3495	5 day gray whale trips
Feb 28 – March 4	\$3495	6 day gray whale trips
March 1 - 4	\$3495	4 day gray whale trips
March 4 - 8	\$3595	5 day ADULTS ONLY Trip
March 8 - 11	\$3195	4 day gray whale trips
March 11 - 15	\$3295	5 day gray whale trips
March 13 - 18	\$3,495	6 day gray whale trips
March 15 - 18	\$3195	4 day gray whale trips
March 18 - 22	\$3295	5 day gray whale trip
March 20 - 25	\$3395	6 day gray whale trip
March 22-25	3195	4 day gray whale trips
March 25 - 29	3195	5 day gray whale trips

Important camp information & option prices:

- All cabins are insulated
- En-suite RV style toilets are available for \$50 per cabin.
- Cabins with en-suite hot water gas fired shower & toilet available for \$650 per cabin. Two are available.
- We have only 12 insulated wood cabins. After those are reserved we place guests in our old standard canvas tents. If placing guests in a tent we will always advise at sign up time.
- Cabin description: We call them cabins, but they are a hybrid cabin/tent. The walls and roof are wood to resist the weather elements. As in a traditional tent the floors are canvas, which is comfortable to walk on and allows for ease of set up and take down each season. The walls have high density foam insulation. There are heaters provided which allow 10-12 hours of heat for your 3 or 4 night stay. These heaters are intended to warm your cabin in the evening so you can dress for bed in comfort. They can be turned on again in the morning early so your cabin is warm as you dress before breakfast.

Need a very special trip. Want time to meditate, think and listen to whales breathe outside your tent? Then request our special Tent of Solitude. Perched on the sandy shore in a quiet and beautiful location just for you.



What's included in the price of a trip?

Food and drinks:

During your stay at our seaside whale watching camp we provide purified water, hot drip brewed coffee, hot chocolate and hot or cold tea all day without charge. We provide breakfast, lunch and dinner each day. Breakfast and lunch have a fairly wide range of food you can choose from. Dinners are a special affair and thus are a set meal menu. We can adjust your menu to suit almost any special dietary restrictions.

Whale tale bar:

Our bar provides only our guests a wide range of drinks at normal prices. Soda, beer, hard liquors & wine.

When at locations other than our seaside lodge (such as during the combo trips) meals are provided only as noted in the trip itinerary. To allow guests the widest range of food choices **the combo trip itineraries do not include dinners when outside our camp, such as in Loreto**. Included breakfasts are ordered from restaurant menus in Loreto. Lunches are bagged for the boat days. Lunch is eaten in roadside cafes while crossing the peninsula. Not included are wine, alcoholic beverages and premium juice and blended drinks.

Drinks and water:

We carry purified water in our vehicle. If possible your guide will have a quart or a 2 liter bottle of water for you to take to your room at night when on the combo trip. Some days due to the travel schedule we will not be able to do this and you will have to refill your personal water bottle from our bulk supply. We generally have large container bulk purified water available and **suggest each tour participant bring along his or her personal Nalgene water bottle to refill from our bulk supply.** This is a measure we have put in place to eliminate putting thousands of empty plastic water bottles into the environment each whale watching season. Many of our guests also bring a personal thermal cup so they can easily carry hot drinks to their tent or outside by the shore.

Whale watching:

When going out on the blue whale watching boats at Loreto, on the Sea of Cortez, the trip duration is set by the weather conditions. You can expect to leave the dock at 8 a.m. and to return anytime between noon and 4 pm. The boat captain is the sole decision maker about when to end a trip because of impending or strengthening wind or other sea conditions. Afternoon wind is an almost daily factor on the Sea of Cortez. Some of our Loreto boat trips each year are canceled due to weather.

Laguna Ojo de Liebre whale watching is 1 1/2 hours duration on the water, but frequently this stretches out informally to 2 hours or more. Each year some boat trips are canceled by wind, usually in the afternoon. The trip itinerary details how many trips daily are planned, but this is usually two trips.

Accommodations

Our shore side wood cabin/tent camp at Laguna Ojo de Liebre is the finest “camp” situation in the Baja Peninsula. Here we provide gas fired hot water showers, real flush toilets, comfortable beds with mattresses, pillows and comforters. En-suite showers and toilets available for additional fee. We avoid the use of the term Glamping because every person has a vision of what that word means. We are proud of and love our camp and it’s prime location. But it is a camp that is taken down completely every end of season and reconstructed every new start of season.

What’s included:**Food and drinks:**

Provided and mentioned just above.

Transportation:

We provide the ground transport across the border to the Ensenada Airport. Also the transfer from our camp to the airfield each way. We provide the air tickets for the Ensenada to Guerrero Negro flight R/T. If choosing the ride down option detailed at the end of this brochure, we provide that ground transport to our camp.

Whale watching as outlined in the itineraries.**Accommodations in our shoreside cabins or tents.****What’s not included:**

Hotel in San Diego before the trip.

Getting to the meeting point at the Holiday Inn – Bayside in San Diego.

Alcoholic beverages from the Whale Tail Bar.

Optional en-suite shower or toilet

Tips

Mexican tourist card (visa) \$35 sometimes this fee is not required.

Combo trip dinners in Loreto

Some optional or extra costs:

En-suite shower and toilet cabin \$650 per trip, not per person – pay as part of final payment.

En-suite toilet in cabin \$50 – we will add this to your bar tab to be paid in camp.

Dinners when on the combo trip in Loreto about \$20 a meal depending on drinks etc. You pay at the restaurant.

Alcohol and soda from the whale tale bar. We run a tab and settle on the final evening in camp

Below are the trip itineraries for all of our trips this year

Itinerary 4 day fly in gray whale trip

Day one Friday: Our driver meets you at 7:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Bayside in San Diego. From there he drives you approximately 1 1/2 hours to the Ensenada Airport where you will meet your flight to Guerrero Negro. Upon arrival at the Guerrero Negro Airport you will be transferred approximately 1 hour to our secluded and very nice seaside camp location. You will be scheduled to arrive in time for a nice dinner. Be sure and carry snacks and a drink as the flight is at or near lunch time. (D)

Day two and day three Saturday & Sunday: During these two days you are scheduled for two gray whale watching boat rides each day. We always expect to have fun on every boat trip. Every trip seems different, but you can be assured that you will see hundreds of whales while out on your whale watching trip. But no trip to see the gray whales would be complete without a very close encounter with a friendly whale. We do not offer a guarantee that this will happen. But we have a perfect 25 year record for close encounters for our five day and longer trips. (B, L, D)

Day four Monday: After breakfast at camp you will transfer to the Guerrero Negro Airport to meet your flight north. Upon arrival in Ensenada our driver will meet your flight and transport you back to the Holiday Inn Bayside in San Diego. You can expect to arrive back at the hotel around 3-6 p.m. (B)

Itineraries for 5, 6 & 8 day trips are the same as the four day trip above with the exception of more days of whale watching.

Meals provided as part of the tour are indicated by **(B, L, D)**. In this example breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided that day as part of the tour package.

Itinerary for 5 day fly in gray whale trip

Day one (Monday): Our driver meets you at 7:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Bayside in San Diego. From there he drives you approximately 1 1/2 hours to the Ensenada Airport where you will meet your flight to Guerrero Negro. Upon arrival at the Guerrero Negro Airport you will be transferred approximately 1 1/2 hours to our secluded and very nice seaside camp location. You will be scheduled to arrive in time for a nice dinner. (D)

Day two Tuesday: Today you are scheduled for two gray whale watching boat rides. We always expect to have fun on every boat trip. Every trip seems different, but you can be assured that you will see hundreds of whales while out on your whale watching trip. But no trip to see the gray whales would be complete without a very close encounter with a friendly whale. We do not offer a guarantee that this will happen. But we have a perfect 25 year record for close encounters for our five day and longer trips. (B, L, D)

Day three and four, Wednesday and Thursday:

Two more days filled with whale watching and great food. By now you're beginning to relax and really enjoy our shore side lodge. The anticipation and worry about whether or not you will see a lot of whales is surely gone. You'll undoubtedly spend some time sitting outside your tent watching the whales jump and play while you sip a drink and soak up the relaxing atmosphere.

(B, L, D)

Day five Friday: After breakfast at camp you will transfer to the Guerrero Negro Airport to meet your flight north. Upon arrival in Ensenada our driver will meet your flight and transport you back to the Holiday Inn Bayside. You can expect to arrive at the hotel around 5 to 6 p.m. (B)

2024 Day by day itinerary for 10 day combo trip January 31 – Feb 9

Date	
Day one Jan 31 Wednesday	Our driver meets you at 7:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Bayside in San Diego. From there he drives you approximately 1 1/2 hours to the Ensenada Airport where you will meet your flight to Guerrero Negro. Upon arrival at the Guerrero Negro Airport you will be transferred approximately 1 1/2 hours to our secluded and very nice seaside camp location. (D)
Day two February 1	Today we go on two gray whale watching boat rides at Laguna Ojo de Liebre. We always expect to have fun on every boat trip. Every trip seems different, but you can be assured that you will see hundreds of whales while out on your whale watching trips. But no trip to see the gray whales would be complete without a very close encounter with a friendly whale. We do not offer a guarantee that this will happen. But we have a perfect 20+ year record for close encounters for our five day and longer trips. We expect that you will have a great whale watching experience. (B, L, D)
Day 3 February 2	After breakfast your group will drive across the Baja Peninsula to the Sea of Cortez where you will stay in Loreto tonight at the El Dorado Hotel. (B & L) (In Loreto each traveler pays for their own dinner whether eating as a group or alone)
Day 4 & 5 & 6 Feb 3-4-5	These are your blue whale watching days. Each day you will get up and have breakfast at 7:00 a.m., then arriving at the dock at 8:00 a.m. Our days of whale watching in Loreto are always started early because of the constant afternoon winds. Time on the water is dependent on many variables such as location of the whales, weather and sea conditions. (B & L)
Day #7 February 6	Today the group rides back to Guerrero Negro and Laguna Ojo de Liebre. Along the way is time to view the unique desert scenery. (B & D)
Day #8 & 9 Feb 7 - 8	We're scheduled for two gray whale boat rides here at Laguna Ojo de Liebre each day. (BLD)
Day 10 February 9 Friday	Departure Day – We transport you to the Guerrero Negro Airport to meet your flight to Ensenada. There our transporter will greet you and carry you across the border to the Holiday Inn – Bayside in San Diego arriving around 3:00 to 6:00 pm. (B only)



2024 Day by day itinerary for 8 day combo trip Feb 5 – Feb 12

Date	
Day one Feb 5 Monday	Our driver meets you at 7:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Bayside in San Diego. From there he drives you approximately 1 1/2 hours to the Ensenada Airport where you will meet your flight to Guerrero Negro. Upon arrival at the Guerrero Negro Airport you will be transferred approximately 1 1/2 hours to our secluded and very nice seaside camp location. (D)
Day two February 6	Today we go on two gray whale watching boat rides at Laguna Ojo de Liebre. We always expect to have fun on every boat trip. Every trip seems different, but you can be assured that you will see hundreds of whales while out on your whale watching trips. But no trip to see the gray whales would be complete without a very close encounter with a friendly whale. We do not offer a guarantee that this will happen. But we have a perfect 20+ year record for close encounters for our five day and longer trips. We expect that you will have a great whale watching experience. (B, L, D)
Day 3 February 7	After breakfast your group will drive across the Baja Peninsula to the Sea of Cortez where you will stay in Loreto tonight at the El Dorado Hotel. (B & L) (In Loreto each traveler pays for their own dinner whether eating as a group or alone)
Day 4 & 5 Feb 8 -9	These are your blue whale watching days. Each day you will get up and have breakfast at 7:00 a.m., then arriving at the dock at 8:00 a.m. Our days of whale watching in Loreto are always started early because of the constant afternoon winds. Time on the water is dependent on many variables such as location of the whales, weather and sea conditions. (B & L)
Day #6 February 10	Today the group rides back to Guerrero Negro and Laguna Ojo de Liebre. Along the way is time to view the unique desert scenery. (B & D)
Day #7 Feb 11	We're scheduled for two gray whale boat rides here at Laguna Ojo de Liebre each day. (BLD)
Day 8 February 12	Departure Day – We transport you to the Guerrero Negro Airport to meet your flight to Ensenada. There our transporter will greet you and carry you across the border to the Holiday Inn – Bayside in San Diego arriving around 3:00 to 6:00 pm. (B only)

Offering both air and ground transport options this year. For many years we offered ground transport & not air transportation. Then we began offering air transport, but not ground transport. The 2024 season we are offering both air and ground options. We encourage you to ask questions if confused or uncertain about the travel plan. At the end of this transportation discussion is a schedule with our drive down trip option dates of travel. With either the fly option or the drive option the trip requires one day of travel in each direction.

Fly:

Meeting point is the Holiday Inn – Bayside 7:00 am departure.

Ride across the border in a car, SUV or passenger van about 1 ½ to 2 hours to Ensenada Airport.

Fly from Ensenada to Guerrero Negro, the town nearest our lagoon shoreside camp. 2 or 2 ½ hours.

Ride from the airport to our camp about 45 minutes.

The return is the same route in reverse.

Fly days are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only.

Advantages of flying:

- The time from Ensenada to Guerrero Negro is only 2 or 2 ½ hours of travel time vs. 8 – 9 hours by road.

Disadvantages of flying:

- No toilets on the 2 hour flight
- The flight time precludes getting a meal until after the flight lands & you get to camp. Miss breakfast.
- Weight limits strictly adhered to. Overweight fees about \$5-\$7 a pound. No oversize bags will fit on the plane. Maximum 30" bags.
- Flights are subject to delays or cancellations, especially with weather events such as rain or fog. About 25% of the flights were delayed, changed or canceled in 2023. 10% of flights were impacted in 2022.
- Space on the flights fills quickly and early. As the season approaches, getting space on a flight can be difficult.

Drive:

Meeting point is the Holiday Inn Bayside 5:00 am departure.

Ride across the border in a car, SUV or passenger van about 1 ½ to 2 hours to Ensenada.

Ride from Ensenada to our shoreside camp. This is about 9 hours drive time plus stops.

Return is the same route.

Drive days are any Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday only.

Advantages of riding:

- Rest stops along the way are possible for toilets etc. unlike on the flight.
- Weight and size limit of bags is much more flexible than on the plane.
- The driving route is seldom interrupted by weather or other events. Getting to our camp on time as planned is much less likely to be delayed. Baja Jones has been driving trips from San Diego since 1994. We have done hundreds of round trips on Baja Highway #1. We have a 100% on time record with ground travel.
- No 1 – 2 hour advance check in time such as is needed at the airport.
- The scenery is interesting and at places awesome.
- We can usually arrange the driving option with only a couple days advance notice. Not impacted by early sign ups as with the flights.

Disadvantages of driving/riding:

- 8 – 9 hour drive vs. 2 ½ hour flight.

Drive south and fly north:

If you want the opportunity to see the varying and sometimes awesome Baja desert and mountains, choose driving one way and flying the other direction.

If you choose a fly/drive, then you will fly on any Monday, Wednesday or Friday and you will ride by van any Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday.

There is no cost difference for these various options. You will choose your transport method upon signing up

Alternate trip schedule for transport by ground transport instead of air transport.

2024 Season Gray Whale and Blue whale schedule		
Trip dates	price	Description and comments
Jan 30 - 8	\$4,295	10 day Blue & Gray whale combo trip. Adults Only Feb 1 - 9
Feb 3 - 6	\$2895	4 day gray whale watching weekend trip. Our lowest priced trip because sometimes our service or facility isn't perfect the first week we are open.
Feb 4 - 11	\$3995	8 day Blue & Gray whale combo trip.
Feb 4 - 8	\$3295	5 day gray whale watching ADULTS ONLY Feb 1 -9
Feb 10 - 13	\$3395	4 day gray whale trips are planned for 2 days X 2 trips = 4 boat trips
Feb 13 - 17	\$3495	5 day gray whale trips are planned for 3 days X 2 trips = 6 boat trips
Feb 15 - 20	\$3695	6 day gray whale watching President's Day weekend = 8 boat trips
Feb 18 - 22	\$3495	5 day President's Day weekend
Feb 22 - 25	\$3395	4 day gray whale trip
Feb 25 - 28	\$3495	5 day gray whale trip
Feb 27 - March 3	\$3495	6 day gray whale trip
March 2 - 5	\$3495	4 day gray whale trip
March 3 - 7	\$3595	5 day gray whale trip
March 7 - 10	\$3195	4 day gray whale trip
March 10 - 14	\$3295	5 day gray whale trip
March 12 - 17	\$3,495	6 day gray whale trip
March 14- 17	\$3195	4 day gray whale trip
March 17 - 21	\$3295	5 day gray whale trip
March 19 - 24	\$3395	6 day gray whale trip
March 21-24	3195	4 day gray whale trip
March 24 - 28	3195	5 day gray whale trip
Boat trips are scheduled as noted. If weather or other event causes a group to miss a boat trip or trips, we take all available options to get the trips before the trip ends, But outdoor adventure sometimes doesn't go as planned. Weather is part of the adventure.		