BAJA CALIFORNIA & THE SEA OF CORTEZ
AMONG THE GREAT WHALES
MARCH 10-17, 2018 | ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD
WITH STUDY LEADER DAVID A. AGUILAR
Discover a miraculous sea, teeming with life, ringed by desert islands alive with wildness. Baja California is like no other place—and much of it accessible only by small ship. Join us and immerse yourself in its splendid solitude.
Join study leader David A. Aguilar to discover a miraculous sea, teeming with life, ringed by desert islands. The region is also among the best in the world for marine mammals. The surface of the Sea of Cortez literally erupts with dizzying numbers of leaping dolphins, diving seabirds, and a variety of whale species. On the Pacific side of the peninsula, you’ll have the rare privilege of entering the California gray whale birthing lagoons aboard expedition landing craft in search of up-close encounters. Immerse yourself in the alluring desert wilderness of Baja California and its pristine islands—a UNESCO World Heritage site.

About the Museums
The Harvard Museums of Science & Culture (HMSC) partnership was established in 2012 to develop a strong, coordinated public face for the six museums that are within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard. Its mission is to foster curiosity and a spirit of discovery in visitors of all ages, enhancing public understanding of and appreciation for the natural world, science, and human cultures. HMSC works with Harvard faculty, museum curators, students, and members of the extended Harvard community to provide interdisciplinary exhibitions, events, and lectures, as well as educational programs for students, teachers, and the general public. HMSC draws primarily upon the extensive collections of the member museums and upon the research of their faculty and curators.

About the Travel Program
Harvard Alumni Travels is the umbrella organization for all Harvard alumni and museum travel programs. Harvard Alumni Travels and HMSC have formed a partnership to offer superior trips with expert planning, custom designed itineraries, and Harvard lecturers. Journey in the spirit of expeditions gone by, with small groups of like-minded travelers. Travel with HMSC and discover the world.

Cover photo: An exciting encounter with a gray whale. © Michael S. Nolan
Opposite: Photographing on Magdalena Bay at sunrise. © Ralph Lee Hopkins
Ship’s Registry: United States
ENCOUNTER FRIENDLY GRAY WHALES UP CLOSE

California gray whales migrate yearly from their feeding grounds in Alaska to the calving lagoons on the west side of the Baja California peninsula. An estimated 20,000 animals make the trip every year, and so they are very much in evidence. Spend two days in these lagoons among the gentle giants and their calves—they are often incredibly social and have been known to even push their newborn calves up to the expedition landing craft. While it is impossible to guarantee encounters, our expedition is expertly designed to maximize opportunities to experience all aspects of Baja’s remarkable nature.

EXPLORE WILD ISLES AND A LIVING SEA

On the other side of the Baja peninsula, in the Sea of Cortez, you’ll discover the uninhabited, pristine desert islands that dot the clear blue sea. Hike a forest of giant cacti, kayak or paddleboard in protected lagoons, snorkel with sea lions, and join a naturalist aboard an expedition landing craft to observe the diverse birdlife along the shores. When you see Baja’s islands with their desert landscape, rugged cliffs, and white-sand beaches reflected in an azure sea, you’ll understand immediately why they have been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Red-billed tropicbird; gray whale, San Ignacio Lagoon; hiking amongst giant cacti on Santa Catalina Island; breaching humpback whale; expedition landing craft gets up close to playful dolphins.
The Perfect Platform to Discover Baja

The National Geographic Sea Bird is purpose-built to explore regions like Baja California. A nimble design allows us to venture into shallow lagoons where whales give birth and to islands unmarred by tourist infrastructure. Since this is an expedition, not a cruise, flexibility is a hallmark. The itinerary draws on the extensive experience in the region of the expedition team and captain to maximize viewing opportunities. If a pod of dolphins approaches us, the ship will change course to take advantage of the encounter. You’ll discover that life aboard is warm and welcoming, with everyone participating equally in the adventure. Evening recaps in the lounge are a chance to swap stories of the day’s surprises with family and new friends over hors d’oeuvres and cocktails. The ship’s updated cabins, lounge, bar, and dining room ensure that it is more than comfortable as our base for exploration.

Tools & Technology for Exploration

**Expedition Landing Craft:** Experience up-close encounters with whales, dolphins, and sea lions, and land on otherwise inaccessible desert islands.

**Kayaks:** Kayak along peaceful coastlines in one of the twelve double or eight single kayaks for a water-level look at stunning scenery.

**Paddleboards:** Get up and out on the fleet of stand-up paddleboards for a personal adventure.

**Snorkeling Gear:** Don a mask, flippers, and wetsuit, and explore the undersea realm.

**Underwater Video Camera:** View live footage of the vibrant marine life, shot by an undersea specialist, in the comfort of the lounge.

**Hydrophone:** Listen to the awe-inspiring sounds of whales and dolphins in the surrounding waters.

**Video Microscope:** Examine the intricacies of seldom-seen marine life.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Your ship is equipped with kayaks that can be launched at a moment’s notice; kayakers have an up-close experience with wilderness; snorkeling with sea lions; guest exercising on the beach; friendly encounter with a curious gray whale; enjoy opportunities to paddleboard.
ENHANCE YOUR EXPEDITION WITH AN A+ TEAM

Learn, see, and do more by exploring with experts who know the region best. Share the adventure with an expedition leader and four naturalists, including a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and an undersea specialist. Additionally, a wellness specialist leads morning stretching and aerobic hikes, and a video chronicler films the story of your adventure.

TRAVEL WITH STUDY LEADER DAVID AGUILAR

DAVID A. AGUILAR is the former director of Science Information and Public Outreach at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics. A naturalist, astronomer, author, and space artist, David’s expertise lies in his enlightening ability to communicate science. While at Harvard he was also the popular host of “Observatory Nights” and “Everything I Know About Science—I Learned At The Movies!” available on YouTube. In 2015, he directed the NASA's New Horizons Mission special media team during the fly-by close encounter of Pluto. David is author and illustrator of seven National Geographic books on astronomy, including ALIEN WORLDS—a look at how bizarre alien life may be throughout the Universe and Cosmic Catastrophes—7 Ways to Destroy a Planet Like Earth. In 2010, ASTEROID 1990DA was named in honor of his exceptional educational outreach efforts. David and wife Shirley, who will accompany him on this voyage, reside under the starry skies outside of Aspen, Colorado.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Photographer aims for the perfect sunset shot; guests shoot from expedition landing craft; photo instructor shares tips in the field; undersea specialist captures a sea lion on video; red sandstone, Sea of Cortez.
S\text{eeing }C\text{alifornia gray whales in their natural habitat is one of the great delights of this voyage. You’ll spend two days in Bahía Magdalena’s nursery lagoons where the whales come to birth and rear their calves. Join experienced naturalists aboard expedition landing craft to come within arm’s length of these magnificent creatures. On the other side of the peninsula, you’ll explore the desert islands of the pristine Sea of Cortez, search for whales and dolphins, plus blue-footed boobies, pelicans, cormorants, and magnificent frigatebirds. You’ll snorkel among sea lions, hike amid barrel cacti and sculpted sand dunes, and kayak and paddleboard in protected coves for a personal perspective. At the end of the day, relax at a beach barbecue and bask in the splendid solitude of Baja.

\textbf{SATURDAY, MARCH 10: LOS ANGELES/LA PAZ, MEXICO/EMBARK}
Upon arrival in La Paz, drive along the Malecón and embark ship. (D)

\textbf{SUNDAY, MARCH 11: EXPLORING THE SEA OF CORTEZ}
Today is a day with the luxury of no specific plan. You may spend time on the lookout for whales, bottlenose
and common dolphins, or explore some of the many uninhabited islands such as Isla San Francisco or Isla San Jose, known for its sweeping beaches and arroyos. Birdlife may be plentiful, and the nutrient-rich sea is home to an overwhelming variety of fish: king angelfish, surgeonfish, butterfly fish, damselfish, and the beautiful parrotfish. (B,L,D)

MONDAY, MARCH 12: LOS ISLOTES AND ISLA ESPÍRITU SANTO
At Los Islotes, don flippers, a mask, and snorkel (which are provided), and swim with curious sea lions. Enjoy a leisurely afternoon to swim, kayak, paddleboard, or hike at Espíritu Santo. Brown pelicans, gulls, and boobies are all part of the landscape. Finish the day with a relaxing beach barbecue complete with bonfire and a star-filled sky. (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, MARCH 13: GORDA BANKS AND LOS CABOS
Spend the morning at the Gorda Banks seamount or La Fortuna, gathering places for whales, especially humpbacks, dolphins and other sea life. In the afternoon, cruise past Friars Rocks at Land’s End. For those who wish, we will arrange a visit to the historic town center of San José del Cabo. (B,L,D)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14–FRIDAY, MARCH 16: BAHÍA MAGDALENA
Navigate through an immense system of protected coves and channels, surrounded by a fringe of mangrove channels at one edge of a vast, windswept plain. Each winter, during their long migration, gray whales travel south from their Arctic feeding grounds to breed and raise their calves in these sheltered waters. Observe migrating whales from the ship and up close from expedition landing craft. Watch for magnificent frigatebirds, pelicans, cormorants, terns, great blue herons, ibis, and willets. (B,L,D daily)

SATURDAY, MARCH 17: SAN CARLOS/DISEMBARK/LA PAZ/HOME
Disembark after breakfast In San Carlos and drive to the airport in La Paz for flights home. (B)
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD

CAPACITY: Accommodates 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 sundeck 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: Expedition landing craft, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, snorkeling equipment; bow camera, hydrophone, Splash-Cam, underwater video camera, and video microscope.
SPECIAL FEATURES: Guest Internet access. A video chronicler, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, and ship’s doctor are on board.
WELLNESS: The ship is staffed by a wellness specialist and features exercise equipment, LEXspa, and outdoor stretching area.

Clockwise from top: Expedition ship National Geographic Sea Bird can access hard-to-reach locations; twin beds can be pushed together to form a double bed in Category 3 cabins on the Upper Deck; a comfortable Category 2 cabin; the casual dining room accommodates all guests in a single seating.
CATEGORIES:

CATEGORY 1:
Main Deck #300-305 — Conveniently positioned between the dining room and lounge, these cabins feature two lower single beds 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.

Prices are per person, double occupancy unless indicated as solo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITINERARY</th>
<th>CAT. 1</th>
<th>CAT. 2</th>
<th>CAT. 3</th>
<th>CAT. 1 SOLO</th>
<th>CAT. 2 SOLO</th>
<th>ADVANCE PAYMENT</th>
<th>SAMPLE AIRFARE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baja California &amp; the Sea</td>
<td>$6,700</td>
<td>$7,700</td>
<td>$8,700</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$11,500</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>Sample Exclusive Charter Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/La Paz/Los Angeles: Economy from $800; Business from $1,450. Subject to change.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of Cortez</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INCLUSIVE PRICING

ABOARD SHIP
✓ All meals & nonalcoholic beverages
✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
✓ Hors d’oeuvres & snacks during nightly recap
✓ Environmentally friendly refillable water bottle
✓ Fully stocked library
✓ Exercise equipment
✓ The guidance & company of the expedition staff
✓ Gratuities to ship’s crew & naturalist staff

ASHORE
✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
✓ Transfers to & from group flights
✓ The expertise of the expedition staff
✓ Gratuities to local guides

ACTIVITIES
✓ All shore activities
✓ Expedition landing craft explorations
✓ Kayaking
✓ Snorkeling
✓ Stand-up paddleboarding
✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge
✓ Photo instruction
✓ Morning stretch classes with wellness specialist

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

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COSTS INCLUDE: Accommodations aboard ship; all meals and nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship; shore excursions, sightseeing, and entrance fees; special access permits; transfers to/from airport if traveling on group flights; use of kayaks, paddleboards, and snorkeling gear; taxes and service charges; gratuities to local guides, naturalist staff, and crew; services of Lindblad Expeditions’ leader and natural history staff and a ship physician; $200,000 Medical Evacuation Insurance.

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; meals not indicated; passport and visa fees; insurance; items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, voyage DVD, laundry and email.

AIRFARE: Airfare is an additional cost. Sample airfares are subject to change. Lindblad Expeditions will assist in making your air arrangements for a $50 per person service charge.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, a deposit of US$1,000 per person is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or check payable to Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.

FINAL PAYMENT: Due no later than 90 days prior to departure.

INSURANCE: We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for insurance will be provided by Harvard Alumni Travels upon confirmation.

ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/visa) for the country through which they are transiting and/or entering. Reliable and most current information regarding international travel can be found by contacting the consulate/embassy of the country you are visiting or transiting through. We will not be responsible if you are denied entry or transit into a country, if you are unable to provide valid documents as per the country’s requirement.

SMOKING POLICY: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Harvard Alumni Travels’ and Lindblad Maritime Enterprises’ liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship’s ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions

Prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date, and are subject to change. Lindblad Maritime Enterprises reserves the right to impose surcharges based on increases in the actual cost of fuel.

QUESTIONS: Please call Harvard Alumni Travels at (617) 495-2463 or (800) 422-1636 or email hmsctravel@hmsc.harvard.edu

CANCELLATION POLICY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start</th>
<th>Per Person Cancellation Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>120 or more days</td>
<td>$350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119–90 days</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>89–60 days</td>
<td>25% of trip cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59–45 days</td>
<td>50% of trip cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44–0 days</td>
<td>No refund</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.

Photo Credits: Christian Brechesi/Corbis, Linda Burbank, Rab Cummings, Ralph Lee Hopkins, Sven-Olof Lindblad, Michael S. Nolan, Marco Ricca, Susan Seubert, Jack Swenson, Rikki Swenson.
RESERVATION FORM:  
BAJA CALIFORNIA & THE SEA OF CORTEZ  
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD • MARCH 10-17, 2018

Name (Traveler 1): __________________________  Date of Birth: __________________________
Street Address: _____________________________________________________________________
City:_____________________________________ State:  _________________Zip: _______________
Phone (Home): ___________________ (Cell):  __________________(Office): ____________________
Email: ______________________________________________________________________________

Name (Traveler 2): __________________________  Date of Birth: __________________________
Street Address: _____________________________________________________________________
City:_____________________________________ State:  _________________Zip: _______________
Phone (Home): ___________________ (Cell):  __________________(Office): ____________________
Email: ______________________________________________________________________________

Accommodations: □ Double  □ Single  □ Twin share w/friend
Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:
1st choice: ______________________________  2nd choice: ________________________________

To register, fill out this form and return with your check payable to Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.
of $1,000 per person.

Method of deposit: □ Check  □ Mastcard/Visa  □ AMEX
Card Number: ___________________ Expiration Date:  _______________ CVV: _______________
Name as it appears on the card: _______________________________________________________

□ I/we confirm that I/we have carefully read the information on refunds, general conditions,
and the responsibility clause specified in the tour conditions.
Signature: ________________________________________ Date: ____________________________
Signature: ________________________________________ Date: ____________________________

Please return this form with deposit to the address at the top right of this page or
fax it to (617) 496-4011.

QUESTIONS? Please call us at (617) 495-2463 or email hmsctravel@hmsc.harvard.edu

HMSC Membership
One membership in the Harvard Museums of Science & Culture opens the doors to four
unique museums. As a member, enjoy access to the museums through free admission,
behind-the-scenes tours, exclusive member events, and opportunities to interact personally
with celebrated scientists, archaeologists, artists, and experts from Harvard and around
the world. Additionally, membership supports the museums’ ability to bring dynamic
exhibitions and engaging public programs to a broad and diverse audience.

I/we would like to become a member at the following level:
□ $35 Senior/Student  □ $50 Individual  □ $85 Household
□ $125 Supporting  □ $250 Sustaining  □ $500 Patron

Please enclose a separate check made out to Harvard University/HMSC for membership. Thank you.
BAJA CALIFORNIA & THE SEA OF CORTEZ
MARCH 10-17, 2018
AMONG THE GREAT WHALES
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD
WITH STUDY LEADER DAVID A. AGUILAR

UPCOMING HMSC TRIPS

INSIDE IRAN: AN IN-DEPTH EXPLORATION
SEP 9-23, 2017
DAVID ROXBURGH
JEREMY BEHR

WALKING THE FOOTSTEPS: OF ST. JAMES: EL CAMINO
SEP 15-27, 2017
MARY GAYLORD
JONATHAN LOSOS

CHILE: EARTH & SKY
OCT 15-27, 2017
DAVID AGUILAR
JEREMY BEHR

ULTIMATE TANZANIA SAFARI: EXPLORING THE CRADLE OF HUMAN KIND
NOV 4-18, 2017
JONATHON LOSOS
MARK VAN BAALLEN

WILD AFRICA
MAY 14-28, 2018
JONATHAN LOSOS
JULIE BUCKLER

DESERT KINGDOMS OF PERU
MAY 25-JUNE 6, 2018
JEFFREY QUILTER

JOURNEY TO MONGOLIA
MAY 27-JUNE 8, 2018
MARK VAN BAALLEN

DISCOVER ETHIOPIA
OCT 25-NOV 10, 2018
DANIEL LIEBERMAN

PUEBLA & OAXACA
NOV 6-12, 2017
BENEDICT GROSS

ARCTIC EXPLORER ABOARD THE GOLDEN EAGLE EXPRESS PRIVATE TRAIN
DEC 28, 2017-JAN 9, 2018
JULIE BUCKLER

WILD AFRICA
MAY 14-28, 2018
JONATHON LOSOS
JULIE BUCKLER

JOURNEY TO MONGOLIA
MAY 27-JUNE 8, 2018
MARK VAN BAALLEN

DISCOVER ETHIOPIA
OCT 25-NOV 10, 2018
DANIEL LIEBERMAN

PUEBLA & OAXACA
NOV 6-12, 2017
BENEDICT GROSS