



AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2022

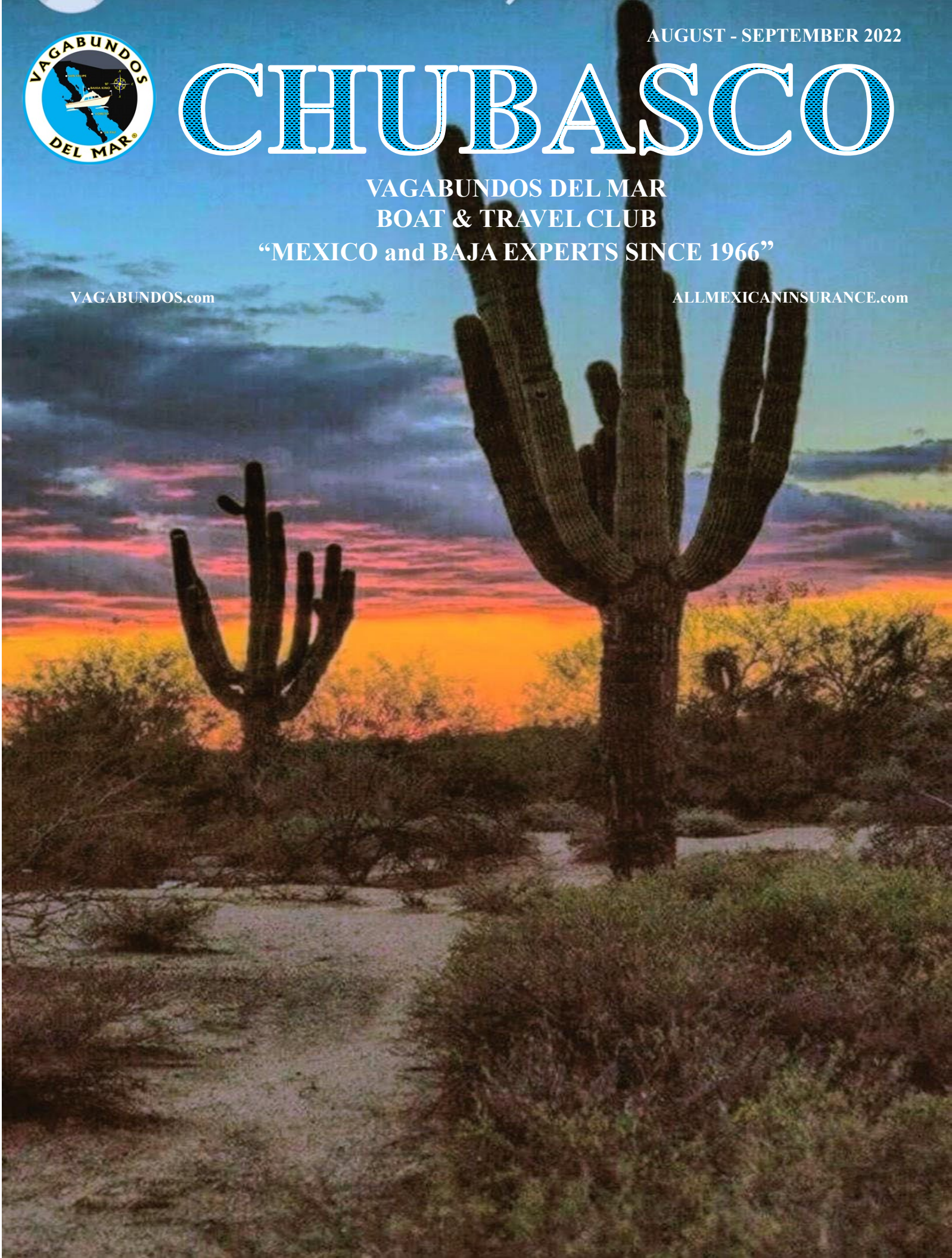
CHUBASCO

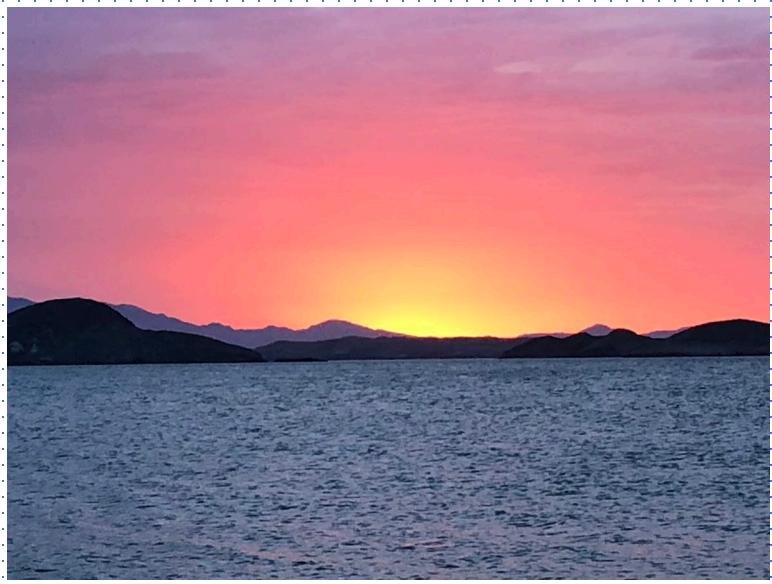
VAGABUNDOS DEL MAR
BOAT & TRAVEL CLUB

“MEXICO and BAJA EXPERTS SINCE 1966”

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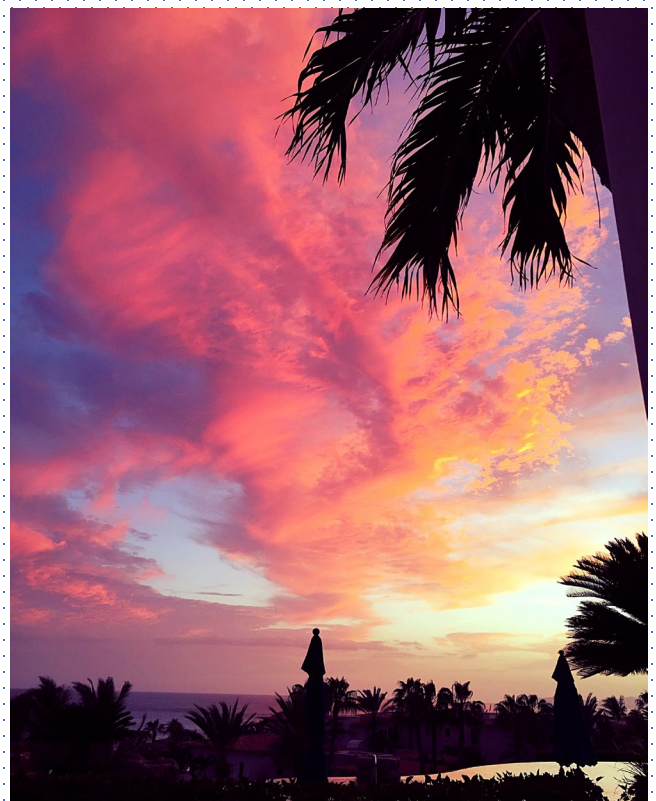
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VAGABUNDOS DEL MAR

190 Main Street
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WHOM SAVE MONEY, TRAVEL SAFELY
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EDITORS NOTES

Board of Directors

Gary Kirkman, long-time Board Member has resigned from Board of Directors to pursue other interests.

We are pleased to announce **Mark Martinez**, as our newest Member of the Board of Directors. Mark and his wife Faith have been Members of Vagabundos since 1997. He has lived in Walnut Creek/Concord area his entire life. He has been in the trucking business since 1978 and married to his wife for 29 years. Here is Mark's story:

I started exploring Mexico with my family in 1967 and have traveled extensively in an RV throughout Mexico. In 1976, we discovered the Baja peninsula when we took the ferry from Guaymas to Santa Rosalia when the Transpacific Highway was built. In the 1980's, we started discovering Baja again concentrating from La Paz north. However, travels were not limited to Baja and Mexico, but included the Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon, Canada, and California), Nevada, Arizona and Texas.

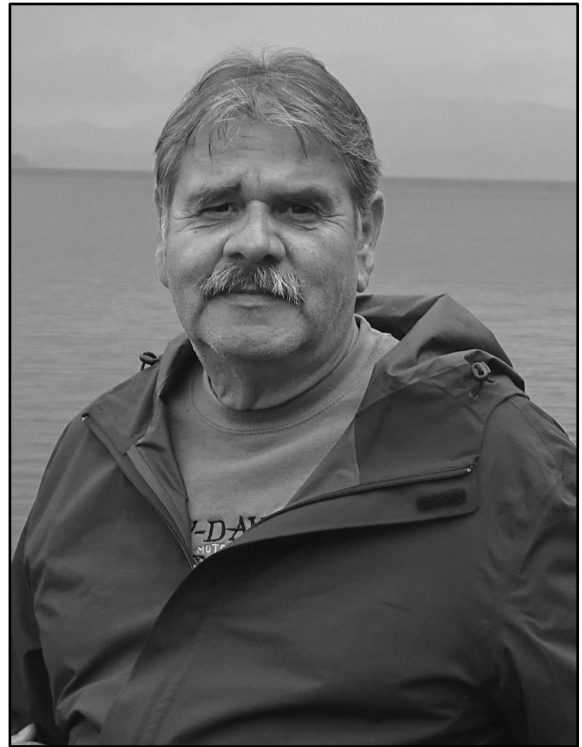
I am now semi-retired and can concentrate much of my time and interest to the Vags. My wife and I are avid RV travelers, fishermen, motorcycle riders and leaders, and we appreciate the Baja wilderness. We are also former property owners in Loreto, Baja Sur from 2002 to 2018, former property owners in Washington and current property owners in Oregon. We have run into many Vag members on our travels to and from California to Loreto over the years.

I have only been a Vag member for 25 years and my wife and I have met and maintained friendships for a lifetime. We have attended the annual crab feed yearly since 1997, the pig roast in Celito Lindo, annual pig roast at Tower Park and have attended and ran the Loreto Dorado Tournament (which my wife took second place in on the second day, 40.5 lbs!), and have attended I led the first Baja Direct in 2002 for the Vagabundos as well as did the Vagabundos two-month trip to the Yucatan in 2007, where I acted as the unofficial tail gunner for that trip.

Being 66 years young, I am prepared to devote many years to the interest of the Vags to carry on the mission of *"helping its members travel safely, economically and enjoyable in all of North America, especially in Baja, California,"* and to promote the enthusiasm of the club.

I am willing to work my way up through the Vags and keep the club active and interesting for new and present members. Through the activities we have attended in the past years, we have benefited from very special friendships and acquaintances with the present and past directors, founders and former presidents, as well as many of the current members.

We truly enjoy the club's mission, goals, activities, and I look forward to the opportunity to provide service to this very wonderful organization that has given so much to our lives.



RECIPES, CALLING FOR RECIPES!!

Everybody has a favorite recipe of some kind. In order to share your recipes, we would like to put together a Vags Cookbook. We will be starting a new tradition with the Chubasco where we will feature a recipe of the month in each issue.

Send us your recipes and we will put together a cookbook that will feature all of our best recipes. Recipes for main entrees, vegetables, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, cookies all will be welcome and featured in our cookbook. If any are hand me downs or old family traditions, let us know and we will label them as such. Be sure to include the name of the recipe and your name to get credit for the recipe. The more recipes you send in the better our cookbook will be. Everyone that submits a recipe will get a copy.

Mail your recipes to 190 Main Street, Rio Vista, CA 94571 or email to info@vagabundos.com

FRIENDS OF BAJA

By Vice President Scott McEwen

I first met Oscar during a Beaches and Whales caravan in Loreto, Baja California Sur. Oscar is a local taxi driver who has been a friend of Vagabundos for years. He is bilingual and a friend of Fred and Gloria Jones. He has safely provided transportation, arranged tours and excursions and rescued a few Vag members when they experienced troubles. Oscar knows everybody, good guy to know.

Oscar Roman Ayon. Servicia de Taxi #32. Oscar is a Loreto native, born and raised. He is a family man, three kids, his wife a local schoolteacher. He is a wealth of information and always eager to help.

My first encounter with Oscar was on a wonderful trip up to tour San Javier Mission. Oscar picked up our caravan group in his taxi van from our campsite at Rivera Del Mar campground. He was joined by Judy Leighton, a local docent guide and walking encyclopedia. On the road up to San Javier we enjoyed Judy's narrative of the local flora and fauna and historical points of interest.

We enjoyed a thorough tour of the ancient mission, gardens and local history. After the tour, Oscar had arranged lunch at a close by working rancho. There we learned how to make our own tortillas and enjoyed a wonderful lunch. This was great fun and not to be missed. The following day, on short notice, some of our group wanted to go explore the offshore island and search for Blue Whales.

I called Oscar and he set us up, no problem. Oscar can also arrange whale watching tours in Lopez Mateo or San Ignacio

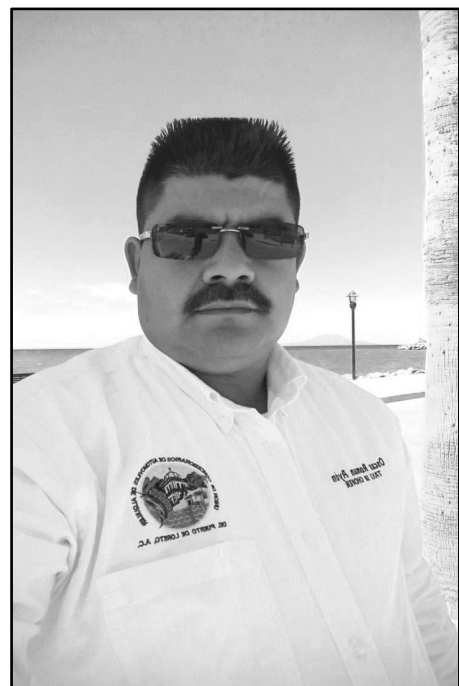
If you are planning on visiting Loreto, I suggest you keep Oscar's contact information handy. If flying in, contact Oscar prior to your flight and he will pick you up upon arrival, no waiting. Let him know you're a Vagabundo member, he'll take care of you. Safe travels.

Oscar Roman Ayon-Taxi #32

Loreto: 613 109 71 56

From USA: (011 521) 613 109 71 56

email: gato_8_1@hotmail.com



PADRE LUCAS YELLOWTAIL TOURNAMENT

The Vagabundos Padre Lucas Yellowtail fishing tournament was resurrected on June 23 through June 26, 2022. This is a family friendly and fun tournament, held in beautiful Bahia de Los Angeles. The event was put on hiatus for three years due to the pandemic and is sure nice to return to some sort of normal.

On the evening of June 22nd, we met at the Villa Vita hotel pool area for a welcome happy hour and briefing hosted by tournament director and Vagabundos Board member, Larry Lammon.

Refreshments and snacks were provided, tournament rules explained, and all questions answered. After the briefing, everyone was ready to get on the water in the morning and start fishing.

Early the following morning, boats loaded and launched, everyone was eager to hear "FISH ON"!! The weather cooperated, hot and humid with little or no wind. Some participants had brought their own boat, and some used their favorite local panga and skipper. All boats were instructed to return to the launch ramp and weigh in their catch by 3 pm.



Dylan Andrews - 1st Place First Day of Tournament

Day 3: Yellowtail

1st place: Ray Andrews - 28.5 lbs

2nd place: Viktor Toghia - 26.8 lbs

Other species

1st place: Ray Andrews - 5.6 lbs cabrilla.

2nd place: Martha Andrews - 4.8 lbs cabrilla.

Grand Champion: Ray Andrews with a total combined weight of 37.1 lbs (Largest yellowtail and other species).

The three days of fishing took place without mishap, everyone had a great time on the water in a safe manner, very important.



Padre Lucas Yellowtail Tournament Participants

Day 1: Yellowtail

1st place: Dylan Andrews - 21.6 lbs

2nd place: Casey Andrews - 14.8 lbs

Other species

1st place: Esmeralda Lopez - 5.8 lbs spotted bay bass.

2nd place: Steven Lammon - 4.5 lbs trigger fish.

Day 2: Yellowtail

1st place: Candace Krutcher - 34 lbs (biggest of the tournament).

2nd place: Ray Andrews - 31.5 lbs

Other species

1st place: Esmeralda Lopez - 2.4 lbs spotted bay bass.

2nd place: Jamie Garcia - 2 lbs spotted bay bass.



Director Freddie "Boom Boom" Washington with his catch at tournament



Grand Champion Padre Lucas

Yellowtail Tournament Ray Andrews

The awards banquet was held at the air conditioned "LIZ RESTURANT" located in front of Guillermo's. This is a new establishment, restaurant with full bar, and Liz went above and beyond to make sure we had a good time. We had a wonderful meal, fresh yellowtail. Everyone provided part of their daily catch for the banquet and the fish were cooked in three different methods. A great meal with all the trimming, excellent!! Trophies and awards presented, lots of laughs, lot of fun!!

Mark your calendars for next year: **June 22-24, 2023**. This is a fun filled, no drama fishing tournament. Bring the family, everyone is welcome.

Keep an eye out for further updates and announcements. The Vagabundos will be sponsoring a Tony Reyes boat trip out of San Felipe on August 6, 2023. Baja Direct Caravan will begin on October 26, 2022. The popular Beaches and Whale Caravan will begin February 6, 2023. **Future Chubascos will have all of the details.**



Vice President Scott Mc Ewen with his catch at tournament

2022 ADVENTURE TOURS

CST#2044242-40

**PASSPORTS WILL BE
REQUIRED**

BAJA DIRECT ITINERARY

**October 26 – November
9, 2022**

October 26: Meet at the Desert Trails RV Resort in El Centro, Ca. Introduce ourselves and go over driving and safety information.

October 27: Cross into Mexico at the Mexicali East port of entry. After obtaining our mandated documents, we'll travel to Rancho Grande beach campground in the Gonzaga Bay area for some dry camping.

October 28: Easy drive to Guerrero Negro where we will enjoy some of the best fish/shrimp tacos in all of Baja. Spend a restful night at Malarrimo RV.

October 29: Beach camping at one of the most beautiful beaches in Baja, Santispac Beach. Santispac Beach is just south of Mulege in the Baja Concepcion area, dry camping.

October 30: Arrive in Loreto, Rivera Del Mar RV.

October 31: Escorted tour to the beautiful San Javier Mission, lunch at a working rancho with tortilla making lessons. A really fun day.

November 1: Free day to explore Loreto. Group dinner at a favorite local restaurant.

November 2: Head north, back to Santispac beach, dry camping.

November 3: Enjoy & relax at Santispac beach, dry camping.

November 4: Continue north to San Ignacio, explore the colonial town square and mission. We'll stay at Rice & Beans RV and enjoy the cantina and pool.

November 5: Arrive in beautiful Bahia de Los Angeles. We will beach camp at Daggetts campground, camping right on the beach with million-dollar views, dry camping.

November 6: Eco tour with White Bay Tours, searching for Whale Sharks. If they are still in the area, we will be able to swim with them!

We will explore the areas many islands and other natural wonders, dry camping.

November 7: Free day to explore the Bahia de Los Angeles, go fishing or check out the local museum and restaurants. Group dinner at a favorite local restaurant (with great margaritas) dry camping.

November 8: Continue north, arriving in San Felipe, Victors RV.

November 9: Cross back into the USA at the Mexicali East port of entry. Say our goodbyes and head home!

The number of rigs for this adventure is limited to 8, that ensures access to campgrounds and attractions. I bring my propane firepit and we'll all enjoy campfires and happy-hour. Pot-luck dinners always make for a good time. Kids and dog's welcome! Come join us for some fun and adventure!

We still have spots available. If you are interested the trip is \$300. For more information call the Vagabundos office at 800-47-4-BAJA(2252).

2023 ACTIVITIES

43rd ANNUAL CRAB FEED FIESTA GRANDE May 11 – 14, 2023

We are pleased to announce the Annual Crab Feed will be held May 11 – 14, 2023 at the Lighthouse Marina and Resort.

We are limited to 80 rigs and 230 people, so get your tickets early. Tickets are on sale now but will close October 31, 2022. We must have all reservations to Lighthouse Marina by October 31, 2022.

Cost for the Pig Roast/Potluck and the Mexican catered dinner TBD. Due to rising costs of everything, tickets for the Crab Feed will be \$100 per person.

You will get all you can eat Dungeness crab and shrimp, crunchy sour dough bread, jumbo artichokes, and gallons of white box wine.

The draft beer wagon will flow Friday from 1 to 10 pm and Saturday 10 am to 10 pm. RV sites will be \$70/night, 4 person cabins \$130/night and 6 person cabins \$150/night, plus a one-time cleaning fee of \$50 for the cabins.

We need volunteers to help with the Pig Roast/Potluck on Thursday and the Crab Feed on Saturday which includes the meeting of the Members. If you are willing to help, let the office know when you make your reservations.



ADVENTURE TOURS 2023

CST#2044242-40
**PASSPORTS WILL BE
REQUIRED**

BEACHES AND WHALES February 6 – 22, 2023

This is the tentative itinerary for the Beaches and Whales tour, 2023. This is a fun, relaxing tour with lots of beach camping and time to explore the wonders of Baja. We will have side trips to visit beautiful missions established in the 1600/1700's and still in use, group meals and time around the campfire! The highlight will be our visit with the California Grey Whales. This is an amazing experience that will stay with you always.

February 6: Meet at Desert Trails RV park, El Centro, Ca. Evening gathering to discuss driving safety and get to know each other.

February 7: We will enter Mexico at the Mexicali Port of Entry. First night in Mexico will be at Rancho Grande Campground, Gonzaga Bay. Dry camp on the beach.

February 8: Guerrero Negro, Malarrimo campground, full hook-ups. Great restaurants and eating options.

February 9: Santispac campground, south of Mulege. Dry camping on the beach. One of the most beautiful beaches in Baja.

February 10: Loreto, Rivera Del Mar campground, full hook-ups.

February 11: Loreto. Guided tour, visiting San Javier Mission with lunch at a working rancho. A really great experience.

February 12: Loreto. Free day to explore this beautiful city, site of the first mission in all of the California's. Group meal at a local restaurant.

February 13: Santispac Beach. Dry camping on the beach. Great beachside restaurant.

February 14: Santispac. Time to explore the colonial town of Mulege.

February 15: Santispac. Beach relaxing.

February 16: Guerrero Negro, Malarrimo campground, full hook-ups.

February 17: Guerrero Negro. Whale watching in the morning with Malarrimo Eco Tours. A really exciting experience.

February 18: Bahia de Los Angeles, dry camping on the beach at Daggetts Campground.

February 19: Bahia de Los Angeles. Eco tour with White Bay Tours.

February 20: Bahia de Los Angeles. Free day to explore, enjoy the beach. Group dinner at a favorite local restaurant.

February 21: San Felipe, Victors RV, full hook-ups. Great beachside restaurant.

February 22: Cross back into the USA, Mexicali East port of entry.

We have limited spots. If you are interested a \$200 deposit is required. For more information call the Vagabundos office at 800-47-4-BAJA(2252).



MEMBERS SPEAK

YEAR PINS ISSUED

Robert & Donna Amma
20 Years

Raymond & Jan Caldwell
25 Years

Rick & Kimberlee DeLany
20 Years

Patrick Howard
20 Years

Brian & Kellie Leribeus
25 Years

Mark & Faith Martinez
25 Years

BAJA ROAD CONDITIONS

I just returned from a wonderful Baja adventure and found the roads throughout Baja to be in excellent condition. We entered Mexico at the Mexicali East Port of Entry. Very easy to navigate and obtain your FMM.

Turn left when exiting the Mexican POE, follow the signs towards Rio Hardy and San Felipe and you'll have no troubles. There is a section going through an industrial area of the city where the pavement is pretty rough, but it's only for a short distance. Highway 5 is in great shape all the way to the intersection with Mex Highway 1. The worst part of the drive on the peninsula is through Santa Rosalia where it gets pretty rough, but it's slow going through town so no big deal.

There are a few random potholes, but with attentive driving (a must in Baja), they are easy to avoid. No biggie.

I am told that road construction south of Ensenada continues, resulting in some slow traffic. I have not personally observed this.

On a side note, the road to San Javier Mission near Loreto and the road to Bahia de Los Angeles are both in excellent condition.

Gas, diesel, and propane were available throughout Baja.

Safe travels;

Scott McEwen

BAJA TRIP WITH NEW MEMBERS

DAN & HAYDEE OSBORNE

We left Florence, Arizona on March 3, 2022, heading for Loreto, Baja Sur. To make the trip easy, we stopped the first night in El Centro, CA, had dinner at Denny's. Next morning quick breakfast at Denny's then Calexico to cross border into Mexicali. Somehow, we missed FMM validation stop. Road through Mexicali on Highway 5 was well marked and had no trouble getting through and out of town. We found Highway 5 to be a very good road with light traffic until we got to San Felipe.

San Felipe was the center for a major desert race going when we got to town. Lots of traffic and vehicles parked along road to unload racing buggies and watch race. We had been told by two racers at Denny's that the race was on and no gas in San Felipe. San Felipe is much larger than we expected with lots of RV parks and hotels. But got through with one missed turn. Too crowded so decided to skip lunch and drive on.

Not too far out of San Felipe traffic thinned out and we drove along at a good speed on a very nice two-lane road along the Sea of Cortez. We stopped at a Pemex station for fuel, potty break, and refreshments at the entrance to a beach resort. First fuel stop since San Felipe.

From there we crossed over to the Pacific side to meet Highway 1. Not as nice as Highway 5, narrow and more traffic. Stopped at border crossing into Baja Sur paid small fee and easy stop. Drove on to Guerrero Negro. Our next stop was at Malarrimos RV Park and Hotel. About a seven-hour drive from El Ciento. We have stayed here many times with our RV. Nice rooms and reasonable with a very good restaurant. Had dinner there and breakfast the next morning.

Off the next morning to our last stop in Loreto. About a 5-hour drive back across to the Sea of Cortez side thru Santa Rosalia. Quite mountain pass into Santa Rosalia, steep, narrow and lots of curves it has been about 18 years since we were in Loreto, and it is much larger than we remember. Had trouble finding Pino Suarez, but then the fun began finding how to get in. Our information was not very good and confusing, but finally got in and settled. Cocktail time!!!

Had dinner that night at Mi Loreto, very nice, good food. Next day went to leys market to stock up on some food, and an adult beverage store. Rest of the day rest up until dinner time at Orlando's, another very good restaurant.

On Sunday we drove south stopped at Vista del Mar along the coast on the water for lunch. Sea food soup, very good, typical Baja beach restaurant. Then on to Puerto Escondido. When we were there last it was deserted and looked broken down. Now it is a first-class marina with lots of docks, big boats and very nice. Drove back to casa for cocktails then dinner at Santo Cielo Cocina across from mission Loreto built in 1697.

Monday had light breakfast in casa drove out to San Javier in mountains to see mission that was built in 1699, small but well restored and still in use. Back to town to see mission de Nucest Senda de Loreto Concho built in 1697 closed in 1817. Was restored and still in use today. Walked through shopping district and drove down Malecon. Walked back to Mi Loreto for a second dinner there.

Thursday morning coffee on patio. Took inventory of casa, then packed up to leave Friday. Walked to San Cielo for dinner.

Friday started trip home, stopped again in Guerrero Negro, Malarrimo's, Hotel & Restaurant.

Saturday left for drive back to USA by Highway 1 and Highway 5 to border at Mexicali. Almost made it with no errors but missed the final turn to border. Got turned around but in wrong lane, took 1 ½ hours to get through, but no problem. Once we got to the customs gate, we went right through. The only thing they checked was passport and driver's license.

Overall, the trip was very nice and relaxing. Vags casa was very nice, good condition, and a nice place to stay.

Bob & Donna Amma April 4, 2022



Left – Right: Bob and Donna Amma,
Haydee and Dan Osborne



EL PALMAR CASA

Vag Rental in Loreto

Casa For Rent

Two Weeks Maximum

(If you want more time, call Vag HQ to see if vacant)

Patio, Pool

Secure Parking For Small Vehicles

Internet & Wi -Fi Service

Three Blocks From Sea of Cortez

Walking Distance to All Facilities in Loreto

International Airport in Loreto

Call Club Headquarters at (800) 47-4-BAJA (2252)
For Details and Reservations

CASA 7

\$80 Per Night For up to four Members

\$90 Per Night For up to five Members

\$100 Per Night For up to six Members

Two Full Baths With Shower

Two Bedrooms (One in Loft)

Maximum of Six People

Living Room, Kitchen

TV



Casa 7 Dining Room and Kitchen

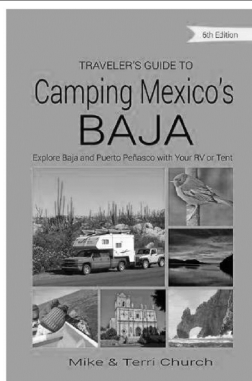


Casa 7 Living Room and Bedroom in Loft

Fishing in the Loreto Bay National Marine Park can be exceptional for migratory dorado, yellowtail, sailfish, marlin and many other resident species.

Diving around the nearby islands is very popular, as well as kayaking and whale watching with several different species. Pangas can be chartered for a delightful day of picnicking and snorkeling. The area has lovely white-sand beaches with several adjoining reefs and numerous tropical fish. Several businesses cater to these activities.

Fascinating side trips can be made to Puerto Escondido to the south and the village of San Javier high in the Sierra de La Giganta to the west. Nopolo is a few miles south of Loreto and has a fine golf course and a tennis complex.



Offering invaluable sightseeing tips, advice on fun activities, and detailed descriptions of campgrounds, this grand tour of Mexico's Baja Peninsula provides both RV and tent campers with the best resources for planning a vacation chock-full of beach combing, back-roads exploring, golf, fishing, whale watching, and water sports.

The tour centers around a two-lane ribbon of asphalt winding southward to Cabo San Lucas, from the Pacific Ocean to the Sea of Cortez and back again—and includes important information on border crossings, document requirements, vehicle preparation, and road conditions. In addition to describing the formal campgrounds of Baja—featuring updated maps, recreational opportunities, lists of facilities, and driving instructions—this revised guide also provides telephone numbers, websites, e-mail addresses, GPS coordinates, and picture icons that offer a convenient, quick review of each campground.



FOR A TRAVEL MEDEVAC QUOTE
Visit www.vagabundos.com and Click on
Travel Med Evac Insurance

As we further develop plans for a wider range of coverage options, we recently enhanced the Travel Medical plan (Hospital of Choice Medical Evacuation and Emergency Medical Expense coverage) to now include Trip Delay coverage which includes a unique quarantine provision. This highly desirable provision is especially relevant given the CDC requirement to obtain a negative COVID test before returning to the U.S. Even more important is the fact there are no infectious disease exclusions in any of our plans – which means COVID-19 is covered as any other illness. The addition of the Trip Delay with the quarantine provision provides a great complement for both domestic and international travelers seeking that added peace of mind when planning a trip.

MEXICAN VEHICLE INSURANCE

License 0A06282

As a non-profit social club, we have gone to great lengths to provide low-cost Mexican vehicle insurance for our members, with competitive rates based on the size of our club. We have also insisted on solid claims service, which is really the only reason to have insurance. Our standard annual tourist full coverage rates start at \$186, with a \$300,000 liability. We also have \$500k options. If you want to add special services for uninsured motorist, increased cost of repair, increased medical expenses, the lowest rate annual tourist is \$225. Travel Aid is included in all vehicle policies, Standard or Premier. We also offer liability only starting at \$117 for our annual tourist. The Annual Driver's License Liability Only Policy starts at \$116.26 and Boat Liability in the water at \$150.28 annually. You can find all the details and purchase a policy on the insurance pages on our website www.vagabundos.com. Please make sure your membership is current. If you need assistance, call Vag Headquarters at (800) 47-4-BAJA (2252).

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Photo by Arnie Austin-Agnew



Photo by Arnie Austin-Agnew

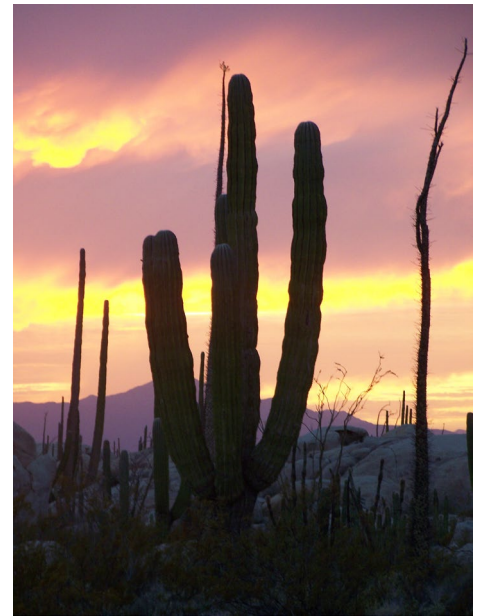


Photo by Les Reams



**Baja Skyscraper Photo by
Avi Meyers**



Photo by Tanis Rovner



Photo by Les Reams



Photo by Keith Brown

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TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL
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**“Iggy” (Ignacia, rescued from San Ignacio BCS) enjoying sunset at Rancho El Cardon
Photo by David Mervinsky**