



## The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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### BAJA'S BOUNTY

Stocked with supplies and a bountiful sense of adventure, follow Steinbeck's path into the protected waters of Cousteau's "world's aquarium." Active exploration and a menagerie of wildlife await you! The Sea of Cortés, also known as the Gulf of California, is thought to be one of the most diverse seas on our planet. Geologic evidence indicates that around 5.3 million years ago, tectonic forces separated the Baja Peninsula from the mainland creating the sea between them. In 2005 the islands and protected areas of the gulf were inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, for their natural beauty, diversity of terrestrial and marine life, and by ranking higher than any other marine and insular World Heritage site for the unique examples of "bridge islands" within a very short distance. Tiny Isla San Francisco boasts one of the most stunning crescent shaped bays with a long sandy beach lining its shore. Rocky cliffs on the island give shelter to birds and offer perches for pelicans to sit along the water's edge to keep watch of kayakers going by, most importantly for small tropical fish swimming under the water's surface. Striking, long-armed cacti dot the desert landscape and bloom into bright crimson during the season. Along the island's rocky coastline, octopus, eels, rays, and unique fish linger and find protection. Find abundant life including dolphins, sea turtles, sea lions, osprey, boobies, and many different fish on untouched, ruggedly beautiful Isla Coronado and in its surrounding clear, crystal blue water. Ancient fossils litter the rock cliffs from a time long ago when the Sea of Cortés was formed. Empty river beds give refuge for trees and cactus to grow and soft sandy paths for guests to follow. Bahia de La Paz Nestled between Baja California Sur, Isla

Espiritu Santo, and the city of La Paz, gorgeous, deep blue Bahía de La Paz is the gathering place for many marine and bird species, including the impressive, gentle giant whale sharks. The largest extant fish species, these white-spotted filter feeders can measure over 40 feet in length! Bahia Magdalena Sheltered from the Pacific Ocean by two long slivers of land, Isla Magdalena and Isla Santa Margarita, Bahía Magdalena is a 31-mile long circular cove full of wonderful biodiversity. On the western coast of Baja California Sur, the bay is at an unusual confluence of currents where the cool California current system that originates in Alaska and the warmer South American current meet. These special circumstances have created a rich marine landscape that supports a phenomenal, diverse variety of sea life. Some of Magdalena's most celebrated itinerants, California Gray Whales, come to this protected bay from Alaska to spend the winter calving each year. FARES INCLUDE: Onboard meals; premium spirits, wine, beer; non-alcoholic beverages; transfers and baggage handling between airport/vessel on embark/disembark days; entry fees to national parks/preserves; all from-the-ship adventure activities and

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equipment.

## ITINERARY

### Day 1: San José del Cabo / La Paz – Embarkation

Bienvenidos! You will be met at the Los Cabos International Airport and transferred to our San José del Cabo hospitality area. Joined by your expedition team, an overland orientation transfer to La Paz acquaints you with the dramatic Baja landscape and the week that lies ahead. The captain and crew welcome you aboard just in time for a cocktail and dinner with your new mates.

### Day 2: Isla San Francisco

In a playground of steep red bluffs and sweeping desert beach, kick off your weeklong adventure with a day of play. Don some flippers for a snorkel among colorful sea life, put on your walking shoes for an exploratory hike, grab a paddle, or relax on the beach with the sand between your toes. The rugged beauty of the island makes it an ideal spot for escapades.

### Day 3: Bahía Agua Verde

At Bahía Agua Verde, clear waters are bordered by sparse craggy mountains hemmed in green. Explore the coast by small skiff, visit with a local ranchero and his family, and take to the canyons and mountains on a burro ride and experience the “real Baja.” Scenic vistas, outstanding exploration, excellent birding, and unmatched camaraderie—the day is done.

### Day 4: Captain's Choice

While it's unlikely you'll find any black pearls, today you'll sail amongst islands once explored by early conquistadors. Your expedition team will be at-the-ready with more adventurous options to choose from—kayaking, hiking, paddle boarding, or beachcombing. Discover nature's diversity and learn about the geologic forces that formed these islands.

### Day 5: Marine Life Search

Magdalena Bay (mid-January – early-March) Mother Nature is your guide today. The gray whales arrive each year on Baja's west coast—migrating more than 12,000 miles—to calve in Bahía Magdalena. Dock in Puerto Escondido, then drive across the peninsula to ride in a panga and observe these mammals and their babies in the lagoon. —OR— Bahía de la Paz (November – mid-January; March; order of days changes) Whale sharks—the largest known species of fish—are known to frequent the bay. Keep watch for the watery “footprints” of these gentle

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giants, and conditions permitting, gear up for an unforgettable swim alongside this colossal creature or observe from above in the skiff.

### Day 6: Los Islotes / Isla Partida

At Los Islotes—a steep craggy seamount leaping straight from the sea—observe a sea lion colony from the boat and skiff, or slip into a wetsuit for an early morning snorkel with curious, agile young sea lion pups. Afterwards, heave anchor and set sail for Isla Partida, for an afternoon of water play or island hikes along desert beaches or into rocky arroyos.

### Day 7: Isla Espíritu Santo

Tuck into a secluded cove surrounded by long fingers of red rock and a golden beach. Spend your last full day enjoying the feel of warm sand under your feet on a beach walk, investigate nooks and crannies in the rocks by kayak, or explore a little further afield on a guided hike. Celebrate your week at tonight's special Farewell Dinner with an entertaining slideshow by your expedition team.

### Day 8: San José del Cabo / La Paz – Disembark

After breakfast, it's "adios" La Paz, as you transfer back to San José del Cabo airport.

#### Please Note:

A passport is required on this itinerary. Due to the nature of our explorations, itineraries are guidelines and will change in order to maximize wildlife and natural encounters. Variations in itinerary and the order of days may occur.



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## YOUR SHIP: SAFARI ENDEAVOUR

**YOUR SHIP:** Safari Endeavour

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

The ambience aboard this newly refurbished 86-guest yacht is casual elegance with a full menu of upscale amenities. Its new design is exquisitely appointed with features such as an intimate Wine Bar and spa area including two hot tubs, sauna, fitness equipment, yoga classes, and massage suite (complete with a complimentary massage.) The Safari Endeavour's three decks provide ample outside viewing opportunities and relaxing public spaces for gathering with new found friends. The EZ Dock launch platform makes launching a kayak or stand-up paddle board and boarding a skiff easy. Onboard adventure equipment includes kayaks and stand-up paddle boards; inflatable skiffs; hiking poles; yoga mats; and hydrophones for listening to below surface sounds. There are five stateroom categories aboard the Safari Endeavour: Master; Commander; Captain; Admiral; and Commodore Suite. Depending on the category, singles, doubles or triples can be accommodated. Common to all staterooms are: Flat-screen TV/DVD; iPod docking station. Read about an extraordinary cruise week on Safari Endeavour in Alaska



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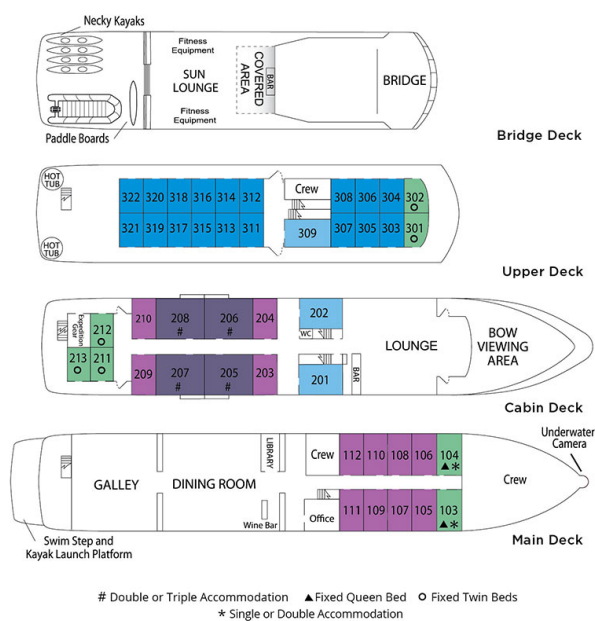
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## INSIDE YOUR SHIP



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## PRICING

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**ADDITIONAL CHARGES:**

Port taxes/fees 300 USD pp



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