

Since 1989
Over 5,000
Happy Guests

#1 TripAdvisor
Specialty Lodging
in Baja, Mexico

The #1 Tripadvisor Specialty Lodging & Nature Vacation In Baja, Mexico

The Galapagos of Mexico
Sea of Cortez, Baja Mexico



Discover Baja California's Premier Ecotourism Escape

Nestled on an untouched, boat-access-only beach, Las Animas Ecolodge offers an extraordinary private, small group, naturalist-led retreat where pristine wilderness meets thoughtful comfort. As Tripadvisor's #1 Specialty Lodge in Baja, we provide an intimate, sustainable travel experience just a scenic half-day journey from San Diego.

Imagine a secluded paradise where seven luxurious beachside yurts blend seamlessly with the natural landscape. Each private sanctuary features California King pillow-top mattresses, skylight roofs, and eco-friendly amenities, creating an perfect balance of comfort and environmental consciousness.

Our main lodge becomes your communal haven – a spacious gathering place for dining, relaxation, and connecting with fellow adventurers.

More than just a destination, [Las Animas](#) is an immersive journey into the heart of Baja's untouched beauty - where every moment celebrates the delicate harmony between travelers and the extraordinary ecosystem we're privileged to explore.

Your unforgettable ecotourism adventure begins here.

The “Galapagos of Mexico”

Your 6-day all-inclusive multi-sport soft eco-adventure departs San Diego and is based at our award-winning [Las Animas Wilderness Ecolodge](#). Our private and remote ecolodge is the #1 Tripadvisor Specialty Lodging in Baja, Mexico, and has [210+ 5-Star reviews](#).



This is the ONLY boat-in ecolodge in Baja, Mexico, surrounded by Bahia de Los Cirios and Parque de Golfo Island National Parks.

This one-of-a-kind destination, located in the heart of the “Midriff Islands Region” and the best whale shark feeding grounds, has been called the [*“Galapagos of Mexico”*](#) by author John Steinbeck and many seasoned global travelers.

As Featured In:

- San Francisco Chronicle
- Los Angeles Times
- Sunset Magazine
- Outside Magazine
- San Diego Union-Tribune
- Chicago Sun-Times
- Western Outdoor News

Your days will be filled with daily nature excursions focused on the abundant marine diversity of the Sea of Cortez and the magical Sonoran desert. You’ll enjoy cruising uninhabited coves and islands looking for up to 10 species of whales—including blue and finback whales, sea turtles, dolphins, and manta rays—and discovering the abundant wonders of the Sea of Cortez’s diverse marine life.

As a bonus, there’s a Sea Lion rookery close by. Our guests love the easy, fun snorkeling with these curious and playful marine mammals in shallow, clear waters.



Average Summertime to Fall water temperatures are around 78F—81F. Las Animas Ecolodge enjoys a cooler microclimate from the ocean’s influence, with daytime temperatures between 80 – 90F and evenings a pleasant 66 – 76F.

Average Winter to Spring water temperatures are around 66F—76F. Las Animas Ecolodge enjoys a cooler microclimate from the ocean's influence, with daytime temperatures between mid 70'sF and evenings a pleasant 50F – 60F. Wetsuits are provided if needed.

Addition Fun Experience – All Included

- Kayaking (single & double)
- Snorkeling clear, warm waters
- Swimming with Sea Lions
- Fishing (guaranteed catching)
- Walking
- Hiking
- Clamming
- Exploring
- Windsurfing
- Paddleboarding
- Lying in your hammock
- Taking in the beautiful, untouched scenery
- Amazing dark skies
- Whale & Dolphin watching
- Ocean Bioluminescence
- Birding
- Photography

About Midriff Islands Region the “Galapagos of Mexico”





The Midriff Islands of the Sea of Cortez represent an extraordinary marine ecosystem. This pristine, almost uninhabited archipelago hosts incredible biodiversity in a dramatic landscape of volcanic islands rising from azure waters.

Seabird populations are spectacular, with massive breeding colonies of blue-footed boobies, brown pelicans, and elegant frigatebirds nesting on rocky cliffs. Marine mammals thrive here, including significant populations of California sea lions, harbor seals, and several whale species like blue, fin, and sperm whales.

Endemic species are the region's hallmark: unique lizard species like the chuckwalla, specialized desert plants, and marine creatures found nowhere else on Earth. These islands serve as critical breeding and feeding grounds, creating a natural sanctuary where marine and desert ecosystems converge in remarkable harmony.

The region remains largely untouched by human development, preserving a complex and delicate ecological balance that makes it one of the **most important marine conservation areas in North America**.

Watch This Quick Video Comment from 40 Year Eco-Adventure Travel Expert Why He Loves The Las Animas Experience



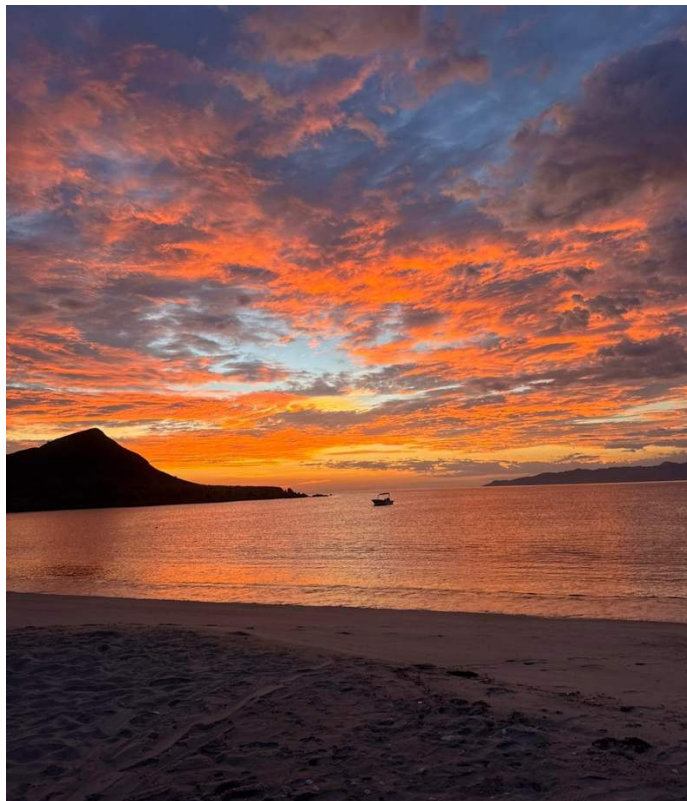
[Watch Here Now](#)

Las Animas Ecolodge Experience Itinerary (8 - 16 Guest)

Day 1... Free local hotel pick-up or arrive at San Diego Brown Field at 7:00 AM. Private carriage transfer (3.5 hours) to San Felipe with a 20 -minute rest stop at the halfway point.

We will have muffins, fruit, and juice available. Scenic drive along the Sea of Cortez with amazing views of the Isla Encantadas (1.5 hours) with a 20-minute rest stop in Gonzaga Bay. We will have deluxe deli lunches and abundant snacks and drinks available. We then travel south through the National Park of Valle de los Cirios and then down to the Midriff Island region of the Sea of Cortez (1 hour).

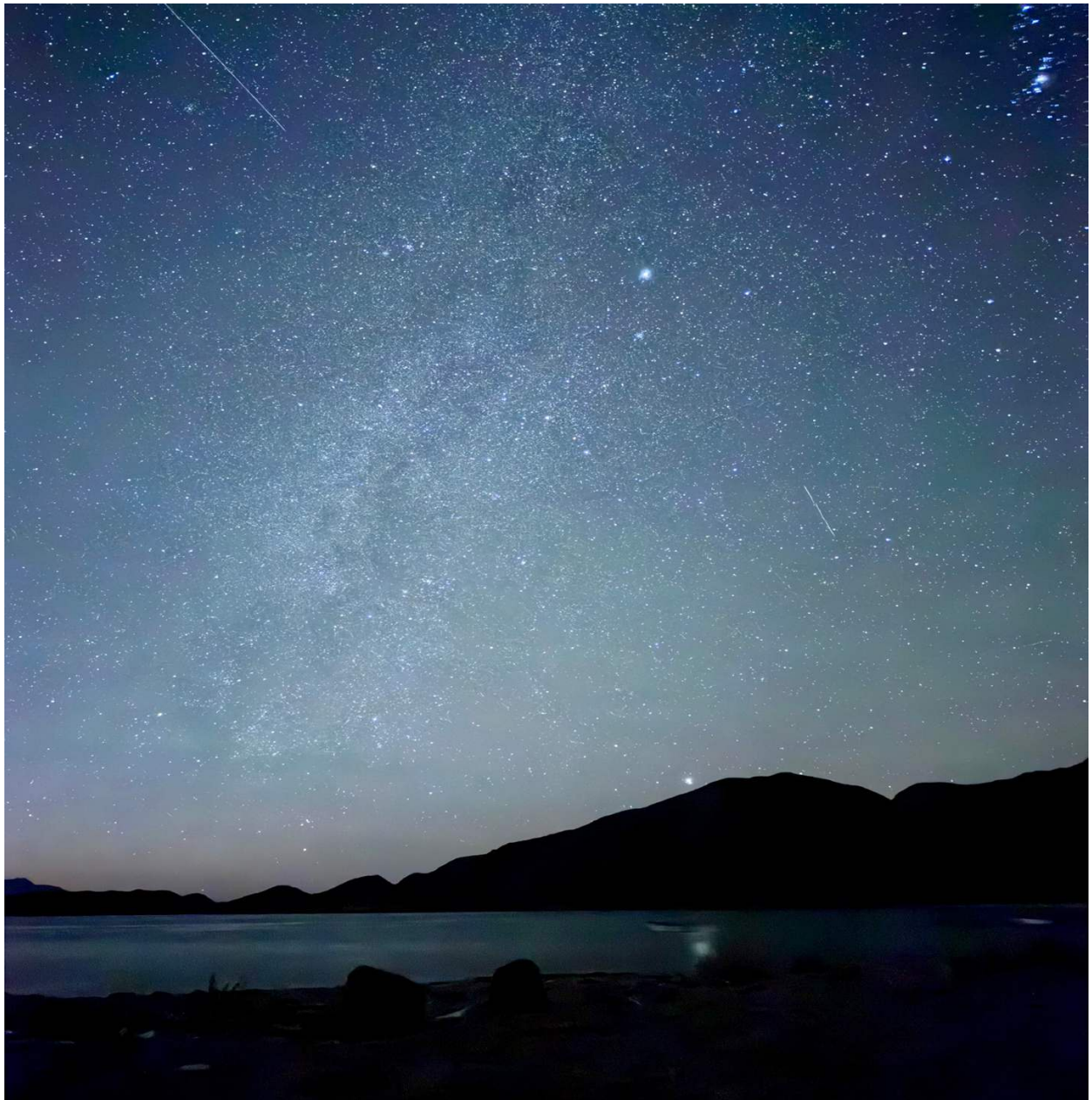
Load boats and scenic boat transfer out to [Las Animas Wilderness Ecolodge](#), passing numerous bird nesting Islands and fantastic seashores on the way to the ecolodge (1 hour). **Welcome, Happy Hour, & fun.** (AM snacks, Lunch, Dinner)



Day 2 – 5... Early morning fishing adventure and biologist-led nature walks, followed by a delicious breakfast. Morning excursions can include boating to see dolphins, possibly whales, and an abundant diversity of sea birds, snorkeling with sea Lions, sea kayaking, SUP's and more. Nature helps define our activities. We return to Las Animas for a delicious lunch.

Your afternoons give you many opportunities for more fun and sport at no additional cost. This includes snorkeling with nearby Sea Lions and numerous local reefs, sport fishing, world-class kayaking, exploring the shoreline on stand-up paddle boards, offshore island exploration by boat, amazing hiking (guided interpreted or on your own), or just simply relaxing in your hammock, taking in the peace and serenity of this untouched true wilderness area.

Evenings can provide some of the **best star gazing you have seen.** (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)





Day 6: Depart Las Animas at 7:00AM. A scenic 1-hour boat ride and the opportunity to see more marine mammals and birds on the way to the port. Ground transfer through the Valle de Los Cirrios to Gonzaga Bay for a 20-minute rest stop (1.5 hours). Scenic drive along the Sea of Cortez to San Felipe (1.5 hours) with a 20-minute rest stop. We will have snacks, drinks, and lunches enroute.

Continue to San Diego. (3.5 hours) with a 15-minute rest stop half way before we cross the border. Arrive at the US/Mexican border approx.

2:00 – 3:00 PM for border crossing. Arrive at Brown Field, San Diego, at approximately 4:00 – 5:00 PM. (Breakfast, Lunch).

Boat Accessible Only #1 Tripadvisor Specialty Baja Ecolodge

Our truly unique and private [Ecotourism Lodge](#) offers eight romantic, private beach-side yurts equipped with bathrooms, pressurized on demand hot water showers, Sun/Mar EcoToilets, California King-Sized Pillow-Top Memory Foam Mattresses, skylight roofs, and covered decks with Adirondack Chairs and a Hammock.

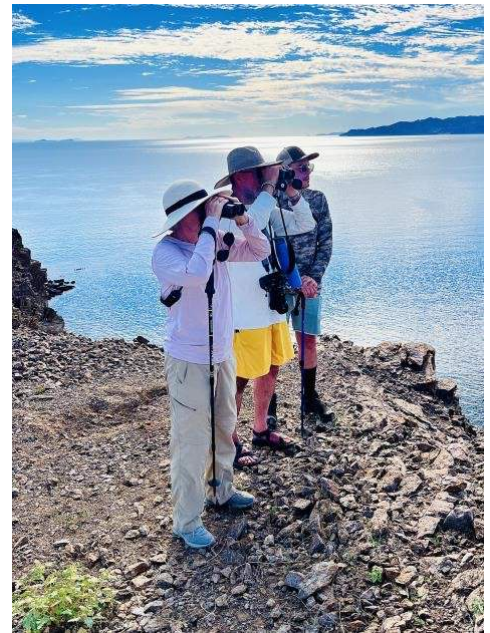
Trips are limited to 16 guests to ensure the preservation of the environment and the private experience you seek.



The yurts are built around the spacious main lodge yurt, with an expansive deck that serves as a central dining area, game area, and communal lounge space.

American Naturalist & Field Biologist Guide You the Whole Trip

From the moment you meet your [Baja Spirit naturalist guide](#) at departure, you will see they are deeply rooted in the unique ecosystems of the Baja peninsula, bringing decades of local knowledge and hands-on experience exploring the Sea of Cortez. With an intimate understanding of the region's wildlife, landscapes, and natural rhythms, our guides offer more than just a tour – they provide a genuine, personal connection to this extraordinary environment. Their wealth of local wisdom transforms each trip into an enlightening journey of discovery.



Passionate about sharing the wonders of Baja, our guides and boat captains are true stewards of the natural world. Their deep respect for the local environment, combined with decades of firsthand observation and exploration, ensures that every guest experiences the magic of this remarkable region through the eyes of those who know it best. From marine life to desert ecosystems, our naturalists' guides, field biologists, and local boat captains bring the landscape and Sea to life with engaging stories, keen insights, and an infectious love for the natural world.

Your Private Retreat Destination



Discover our award-winning [Las Animas eco-lodge](#), ranked **#1 on TripAdvisor for Specialty Lodging in Baja**, nestled in the heart of a breathtaking landscape of mountains, deserts and the Sea of Cortez.

Our all-inclusive sanctuary offers a versatile, private venue perfect for transformative experiences of all kinds – from wellness retreats and yoga workshops to multi-generational family reunions, corporate team-building events, and intimate weddings.

Our **boat accessible-only Eco-lodge** provides accommodations for up to 8 - 16 guests and a serene and totally private backdrop for meaningful connections, personal growth, and unforgettable group experiences.

Immerse yourself in the natural beauty of Baja, where every detail of our all-inclusive retreat center is thoughtfully curated to support your unique gathering. From cozy, comfortable beachside yurts to a main lodge with indoor and outdoor spaces that can be customized for various activities, our eco-lodge invites groups to create deeply personal and memorable moments.

Whether you're seeking a peaceful corporate retreat, a soulful wellness experience, a family celebration, or a romantic wedding destination, we offer the perfect environment for connection, rejuvenation, and inspiration – all seamlessly included in your stay.

Amazing Fresh Food is a Key Element of Our Baja Eco-Travel Experience



In our case, the source of a good deal of positive feedback from our clients. We use only the freshest local ingredients to prepare top-quality meals for our guests.

Our staff and guests harvest seafood from the ocean by fishing and snorkeling whenever possible. Fresh from the sea, Baja Spirit's team creates cuisine that would make any chef envious. Meals are well-balanced, and servings are ample.

We can also accommodate special vegetarian or vegan diets.

Our happy hour and handmade agave margaritas are world famous, so our guests say. 😊



Our Mission

Baja Spirit's mission is to combine excellent service, lodging, and safety with transformative nature-based Baja soft eco-adventure vacation experiences. We strive to create a fun and relaxing environment for our small groups of guests in the remote pristine areas of Baja, Mexico, and the Sea of Cortez.

We promote and encourage a greater appreciation, awareness, and preservation of our environment.

Our Goals

- To operate responsible Baja ecotours in undeveloped pristine areas of Baja
- To facilitate local community involvement in our programs and operations
- To maintain a sustainable level of small group size at all levels of our operation
- To protect and conserve the environment, and the wildlife and cultures that live within it
- To provide ongoing, quality training for all staff and guides

2026 /2027 Las Animas Ecolodge Year-Round Availability*:

- Jan. 6 – Feb. 1 Call for availability
- Feb. 3 – April 5 Best of Baja Whale Watching
- March 30 – April 4: **10 Open Las Animas Ecolodge**
- April 6 – 11: **10 Open Las Animas Ecolodge**
- April 13 – April 18: **8 Open Las Animas Ecolodge**
- May: Call office
- July 6 – 11: Call office
- July 13 – 18: Call office
- August 31 – Oct. 31: Ultimate Whale Shark Snorkeling
- Nov. 23 – 28 Las Animas Ecolodge - Thanksgiving
- Dec. 21 – 26 Las Animas Ecolodge – Xmas
- Dec. 28 – Jan. 2. 2026 Ecolodge – New Years **(Family reunion: SOLD OUT)**

Please call the office for current availability for 2026/2027 or to make your Reservations

- Trips can fill fast. Website and online brochure many not be totally up to date.
- **2027 trips:** 6-day all-inclusive Las Animas Ecolodge trips depart Monday and return Saturday.

(619) 421-2235

Las Animas Ecolodge: Best Dark Skies on the Planet





***All-Inclusive Package from San Diego**

- Call or email us today for special pricing
- **CALL** us for "arriving on your own" all-inclusive packages. 3 night/4 Day minimum

Join us. You'll be glad you did.

Please call us to secure your ultimate Baja Bucket List experience.

PS If you have a group of 8 – 14, call us about having your own private retreat and saving \$\$ too.



(619) 421-2235 • contact@BajaSpirit.com

374 East H St. #500 Chula Vista, CA

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