

BAJA CALIFORNIA & THE SEA OF CORTEZ



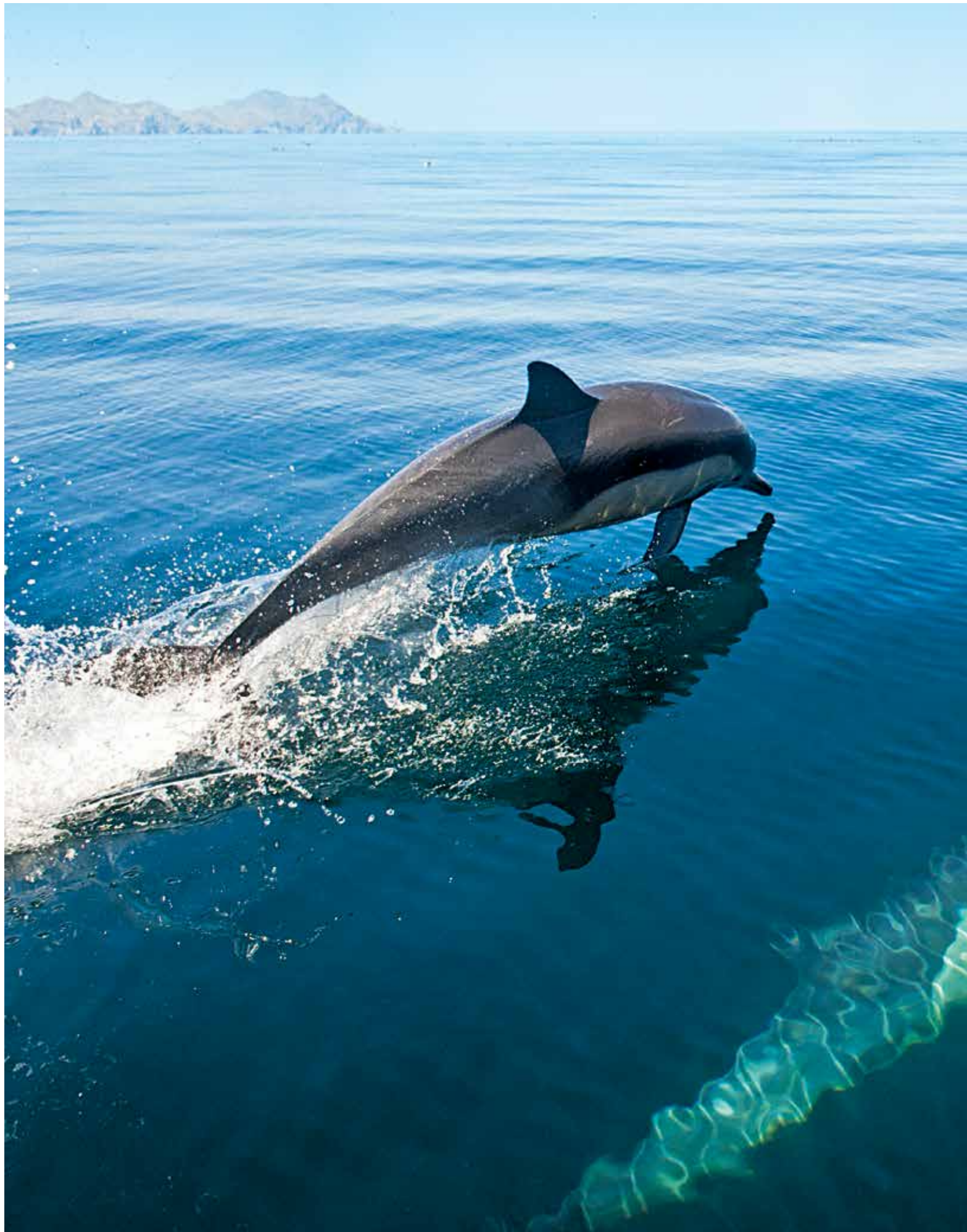
ENCOUNTER
GENTLE GIANTS

EXPLORE
WILD ISLES &
A LIVING SEA

WITH
HOLIDAY
AIRFARE SAVINGS

ABOARD THE NEWLY RENOVATED
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD & SEA LION | 2015-16





DEAR TRAVELER,

Baja California is a place of rare beauty. It is where the desert meets the sea. A place where you can kayak wind- and sea-carved shorelines, hike desert canyons abloom with life, and encounter a tremendous variety of marine life. And there is simply no better place to see whales.



There's a real chance for discovery here, and there's no better way to explore Baja California than by expedition ship. The islands in the Sea of Cortez are home to wildlife and pristine landscapes, and the peninsula adds charming towns with welcoming people. And our, nimble 62-guest twin ships, *National Geographic Sea Bird* and *Sea Lion*, give us the flexibility to adjust our itinerary to make the most of exhilarating spontaneous events and conditions.

The gray whale nursery lagoons of the Pacific are a powerful draw for many. The female whales arrive in winter to birth and rear their young, and just when you think they would be the most protective, they often approach our expedition landing crafts, displaying their curious calves, both as interested in us as we are in them. Spending time among them is a uniquely moving and rewarding experience on our **Among the Great Whales expedition** (pgs. 12-13). And if you have the luxury of time, I can't recommend our **Remarkable Journey expedition** (pgs. 14-15) enough. It includes gray whale encounters in the nursery lagoons, plus ample time exploring the Sea of Cortez on the ultimate photo expedition.

In winter you'll find the islands in the Sea of Cortez teeming with endemism and desert life. Our **Wild Islands & Treasures of Baja California expedition** (pgs. 10-11) explores this facet of the region, as well as its charming seaside towns and artist communities. This is an ideal place for a family adventure during the holiday season, which is why we're offering \$500 off for kids under 18, in addition to a \$500 air credit.

Baja California is hidden in plain sight—one can spend a week or more on our ship and not see another soul, besides the odd fishing boat. It is a wildness that feels spectacularly remote. I hope you'll join us here this season.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sven-Olof Lindblad'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a large initial 'S'.

Sven-Olof Lindblad





THE WONDER OF BAJA CALIFORNIA

Discover a miraculous sea, teeming with life, ringed by desert islands alive with wildness. It is like no other place—much of the flora and fauna is endemic, making sightings of rare wildlife the norm. You'll discover hidden beaches, a forest of gigantic cacti, and wind-sculpted dunes. The region is among the best in the world for marine mammals. On the Pacific side see gray whale mothers nurturing their calves, and in the Sea of Cortez spot dizzying numbers of leaping dolphins, seabirds, and a variety of whale species. Immerse yourself the splendid solitude of Baja California and the strange desert wildness of its pristine islands—a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is absolutely the best place to be from late December to early April.

Clockwise from left: Magnificent Magdalena Bay sand dunes; Nesting Elegant Terns, Isla Rasa; Endemic hedgehog cactus; Giant cardon cactus; Gray whale, San Ignacio Lagoon.



ENHANCE YOUR EXPEDITION WITH A TOP TEAM

Learn, see, and do more by exploring with experts who know the region best. Share the adventure with an expedition leader, four naturalists, including a photo instructor, an undersea specialist, and a wellness specialist to lead morning stretching and aerobic hikes, plus a video chronicler who records your unique adventure.



Jim Kelley
Expedition Leader

A former Fulbright Professor in Athens and professor of oceanography at the University of Washington, Jim has led expeditions since 1985.



Carlos Navarro
Undersea Specialist

A biochemist and marine biologist, Carlos has spent most of the last 30 years studying the Sea of Cortez.



Alberto Montaudon
Naturalist

A biologist born and raised in Tampico, Tamaulipas, Mexico he spent most of his childhood exploring the Charilel Lagoon and the Tamesi River.



Linda Burback
Photo Instructor

A former naturalist at Saguaro National Park, Linda is an extraordinary photographer and teacher.



Birgit Buehleier

Birgit Buehleier, a National Geographic filmmaker and scientist is aboard our **Among the Great Whales** Jan 16, 2016 departure.



Photographers at sunrise in the Sea of Cortez.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

IN A LAND WITH PERFECT LIGHT, BENEFIT FROM EXPEDITION PHOTOGRAPHY

Make the most of the unrivaled photo ops of Baja California's wild islands, whales, dolphins, pelicans, and sea birds with our Expedition Photography program. Every expedition features a Lindblad Expeditions-National Geographic certified photo instructor who offers assistance, instructions and shooting tips in the field. Their expertise will inspire you and help you improve your skills—no matter your current skill or interest level—and ensure you return home with incredible photos.



Lindblad Expeditions and National Geographic have joined forces to further inspire the world through expedition travel. Our collaboration in exploration, research, technology and conservation will provide extraordinary travel experiences and disseminate geographic knowledge around the globe.

THE PERFECT PLATFORM TO DISCOVER BAJA

The newly renovated 62-guest twin ships, *National Geographic Sea Bird & Sea Lion*, are purpose-built to explore regions like the Sea of Cortez. A nimble design allows us to venture into shallow lagoons where whales give birth, and a fleet of expedition landing craft let us land on islands unmarred by tourist infrastructure. Share the thrill of spotting whales and pods of dolphins from the open bow—and use onboard tools for deeper exploration. Listen to whale communications via hydrophone, and observe undersea life via a bow-mounted camera. A fleet of kayaks lets you head off to explore windswept shores and water-level caves. Snorkeling gear for all aboard enables you to experience the thriving undersea and swim with sea lions. And the new renovations—including updated cabins, a new lounge, bar, and dining room—ensure it is more than comfortable as our base for exploration.





*Main image: Kayaking, Isla Danzante, Loreto Bay National Park;
Clockwise from top above: Our newly refurbished lounge and dining room; the ship's bow is a great place to spot wildlife.*



Wild Islands & Treasures of Baja California

Discover Baja's twin facets, culture & wildness—on an expedition timed for holiday adventure. Explore the desert isles, search for migrating humpbacks. Snorkel a vibrant reef and World Heritage Site, and visit modern artist communities with outside charm to see contemporary work and meet the artists.

FOUR UNIQUE WAYS TO EXPER



Baja California: A Remarkable Journey

A pure photo expedition and the most comprehensive exploration possible. This 15-day photo-centric voyage includes ample time spent within arm's reach of gray whales, plus an extensive exploration of the wild islands of the Sea of Cortez and the charming towns of the Baja Peninsula. A National Geographic photographer and photo instructors aboard ensure you'll go home with top shots.





Among the Great Whales

Focus on whales—and up-close experiences with mothers and their calves in Pacific nursery lagoons. Spend two days among these wild gentle giants—far more satisfying than a day trip, the only other alternative. And, also explore the other side of the Baja Peninsula—to snorkel with sea lions, hike forests of cacti, and leave tracks on pristine desert islands.

EXPERIENCE THE WONDER OF BAJA

Whales & Wildness: Spring in the Sea of Cortez

Focus on the Sea of Cortez at its absolute peak of whale, dolphin, and sea-bird activity. A rare and incredible gathering of life occurs each year in early April. The variety and splendor includes pods of dolphins, leaping mobula rays, and a convergence of many species of feeding whales.



WILD ISLANDS & TREASURES OF BAJA CALIFORNIA

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS—ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD
PRICES FROM: \$5,990 to \$10,340 (See pages 18-19 for complete prices.)

Discover the pure wildness of Baja's desert islands and the living sea, and then go further and delve into the Peninsula's unique culture and art from ancient times to modern. You'll find the dolphins, seabirds, and extraordinary marine life enchanting and the region's history and culture rich and intriguing. And when you see Baja's islands with rugged cliffs and white sand beaches reflected in an azure sea, you'll understand immediately why UNESCO designated them a World Heritage Site.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Visit art galleries and meet the artists in Todos Santos, a Pueblo Magico.
- ▶ Search for humpback whales, active off the southern coast of the peninsula.
- ▶ Snorkel at Cabo Pulmo, a vibrant reef and model for ocean conservation.
- ▶ Kayak, swim, and hike the pristine desert islands of the Sea of Cortez, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

35+
YEARS
EXPERIENCE

Our expert 6-person expedition team will illuminate the wonders of the Sea of Cortez from every possible angle. Your expedition leader, undersea specialist, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and naturalists, plus a wellness specialist and video chronicler, are dedicated to ensuring an incredible voyage. Certain departures feature a National Geographic photographer.

Visit our website to read staff bios for this expedition.

Breaching humpback whale.



DAY 1: LOS CABOS/LA PAZ/EMBARK

Upon arrival in Los Cabos, transfer to downtown La Paz where we embark.

DAY 2: ISLA SAN JOSE/ISLA SAN FRANCISCO

Explore two gems of the Sea of Cortez. UNESCO World Heritage site islands, Islas San José and San Francisco offer abundant opportunities to snorkel, kayak, beachcomb, or hike. (B,L,D)



Kayaking at Isla Espiritu Santo

DAY 3: EXPLORING THE SEA OF CORTEZ

Today we will let mother nature be our guide and explore further in the Sea of Cortez. Search for marine mammals, known to inhabit the region north of Isla San José. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: LOS ISLOTES/ISLA PARTIDA

Snorkeling with playful and curious sea lions—a highlight. Tuck into a shallow, emerald green anchorage, where we can snorkel once more or hike the island’s beautiful arroyo. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: TODOS SANTOS/LA PAZ

Transit the narrow peninsula to Todos Santos, a charming town filled with art galleries. Stroll the town, meet the artisans, and dine at a local restaurant. Take an evening stroll along the malecon in downtown La Paz before departing for more explorations at sea. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: ISLA ESPÍRITU SANTO

Explore the island’s beautifully indented bays by expedition landing craft, kayaks, or

snorkeling. Go beachcombing or opt for a hike along the rocky coast, keeping your eye out for brown pelicans, gulls, wandering tattlers, great blue herons, and blue-footed boobies. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: CABO PULMO/GORDA BANKS/ LANDS END

Learn the inspiring story of Cabo Pulmo National Park conservation, and snorkel the reef among red fan corals and large schools of fish. Meet some of the people responsible for protecting Cabo Pulmo and learn how it has become a model for ocean conservation around the world. Search for humpback whales before taking in sunset at Lands End. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: SAN JOSÉ DEL CABO/LOS CABOS/ DISEMBARK

Disembark this morning in San José del Cabo and transfer to the Los Cabos airport for flights home. (B)



EXPEDITION DETAILS

**DATES: 2015: Dec. 19, 26*;
2016 DEC. 17, 24*, 31**

Please call for 2016 rates.

**Voyage operates in reverse, making all the same stops.*

SPECIAL OFFER

Book by Sep. 30 to receive a \$550 air credit on both the 2015 departures.

New bookings only. Call for details.



Snorkeling with a California sea lion.

BAJA CALIFORNIA AND THE SEA OF CORTEZ: AMONG THE GREAT WHALES

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS—ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD
PRICES FROM: \$6,390 to \$11,090 (See pages 18-19 for complete prices.)

Seeing gray whales in their natural habitat is one of the great delights of this voyage. In Bahía Magdalena, venture out in expedition landing craft among these magnificent creatures. In the Sea of Cortez, search for a variety of whales, plus dolphins, blue-footed boobies, pelicans, cormorants and magnificent frigatebirds. You'll also snorkel among sea lions, join naturalists on hikes amid barrel cacti and sculpted sand dunes, and see a variety of desert flora and fauna.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Get an up-close view of gigantic gray whale mothers and their calves in the breeding grounds of Bahía Magdalena.
- ▶ Go snorkeling amid sea lions, brilliant blue damselfish, and schools of king angelfish.
- ▶ Kayak clear blue waters on the lookout for a variety of bird species including magnificent frigatebirds.
- ▶ Explore diverse landscapes, including sand dunes, a cactus forest and deserted islands.

EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

35+
YEARS
EXPERIENCE

Our expert 6-person expedition team will illuminate the wonders of the Sea of Cortez from every possible angle. Your expedition leader, undersea specialist, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and naturalists, plus a wellness specialist and video chronicler, are dedicated to ensuring an incredible voyage. Certain departures feature a National Geographic photographer.

Visit our website to read staff bios for this expedition.

California gray whale photographed half above and half below the water in San Ignacio Lagoon.



DAY 1: LOS ANGELES/LA PAZ/SAN CARLOS/EMBARK

Upon arrival in La Paz, transfer to San Carlos where we embark. (D)

DAYS 2-4: 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 our expedition landing craft. Watch for magnificent frigate birds, pelicans, cormorants, terns, great blue herons, ibis and willets. (B,L,D daily)



Inquisitive California sea lions.

DAY 5: LOS CABOS AND GORDA BANKS

This morning cruise past Friars Rocks at Land's End. For those who wish, we will visit the historic town center of San José del Cabo. The afternoon is spent at the Gorda Banks seamount or La Fortuna, gathering places for whales, especially humpbacks, dolphins and other sea life. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: LOS ISLOTES AND ISLA ESPÍRITU SANTO

At Los Islotes, don flippers, a mask and snorkel (which we'll gladly provide) and swim with curious sea lions. We have a leisurely afternoon to swim, kayak or hike at Isla Espíritu Santo. Brown pelicans, gulls and boobies are all part of the landscape. Finish the day with a relaxing beach barbecue complete with a campfire and a star-filled sky. (B,L,D)



iPhone photographer.

DAY 7: EXPLORING THE SEA OF CORTEZ

Search for whales among the islands of the southern Sea of Cortez, an area that has proven to be one of the best for finding blue whales, and often common and bottlenose dolphins. Explore the many uninhabited islands such as Isla San José or Isla Santa Catalina to walk among huge cacti and observe the diverse bird life. Swim or snorkel with king angelfish, butterfly fish, damselfish and the beautiful parrotfish. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: LA PAZ/DISEMBARK/HOME

Disembark in La Paz after breakfast and drive to the airport for flights home. (B)



EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2016: Jan. 16*, 30*; Feb. 6, 13*, 20, 27*; Mar. 5, 12*

**These departures travel in reverse from La Paz to San Carlos, making all the same stops.*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPERT

Travel with **Birgit Buehler**, a National Geographic filmmaker, producer and scientist who has played an integral role in the evolution of National Geographic's Crittercam, a video camera system that has provided fascinating insights into the daily lives of hundreds of species. Through her work with Crittercam, she has sidled up to seals, sea lions and whales. Join Birgit on the Jan. 16, 2016 departure.



After a beach barbecue, guests gather around a bonfire.

BAJA CALIFORNIA: A REMARKABLE JOURNEY

15 DAYS/14 NIGHTS—ABOARD *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD*
AND *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA LION*

PRICES FROM: \$10,900 to \$18,680 (See pages 18-19 for complete prices.)

Embark on a comprehensive photo expedition that explores both the Pacific side of Baja California and the islands in the Sea of Cortez. Venture into the gray whale lagoons for up close encounters, and then spend ample time exploring the Sea of Cortez and all its marine mammals. See scores of blue-footed boobies and pelicans, kayak into quiet grottos, and visit charming seaside towns.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Get up-close views of gray whale mothers and their growing calves as they prepare for their journey back to arctic feeding grounds.
- ▶ Kayak clear blue waters to search for wildlife, including magnificent frigatebirds, and possibly explore water-level caves by kayak.
- ▶ Snorkel the living sea: Observe large schools of vibrantly colored fish, swim among playful sea lions, and much more.
- ▶ With more time for adventure, rely on your expedition leader to take you where wildlife will be at its best—including a possible exploration of a rare island covered in hundreds of thousands of elegant terns or shorelines where whales and dolphins congregate in great numbers.

EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

35+
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EXPERIENCE

Our expert 6-person expedition team will illuminate the wonders of Baja & the Sea of Cortez from every possible angle. Your expedition leader, undersea specialist, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and naturalists, plus a wellness specialist and video chronicler, are dedicated to ensuring an incredible voyage. A National Geographic photographer is on board and at your service.

Visit our website to read staff bios for this expedition.

Bottlenose dolphins.

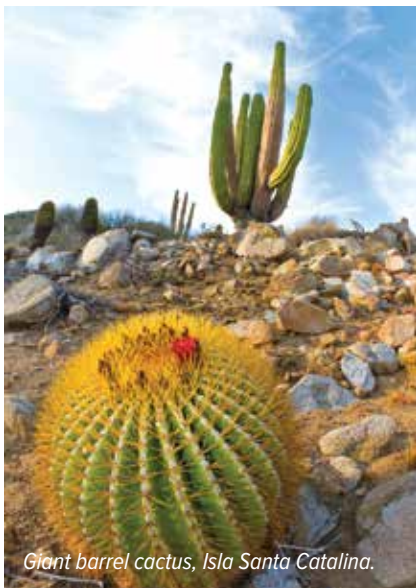


DAY 1: LOS ANGELES/LA PAZ/SAN CARLOS, MEXICO

Fly to La Paz and transfer to San Carlos to embark. (D)

DAY 2: BAHÍA MAGDALENA

In kayaks and expedition landing craft we'll explore the winding canals of the dense mangrove swamps of Bahía Magdalena. Bird watching here can be excellent—magnificent frigatebirds, pelicans, cormorants, terns, and great blue herons, ibis, whimbrels and willets are among the species we might see. It's not unusual to see forty species of birds in just one day along these fertile shorelines where they refuel for their destinations ahead. (B,L,D)



Giant barrel cactus, Isla Santa Catalina.

DAY 3-4: LAGUNA SAN IGNACIO

Laguna San Ignacio is a large bay and favored haunt of the gray whales in Baja. The ship will linger in this remote and important locale, while we observe the mother and calf pairs—from the ship, and from water level in our expedition landing craft. For some reason, the whales here seem to be friendlier than they are elsewhere. It's not unusual for mothers and calves to approach our boats, the calves often playing hide and seek—even wanting to be petted and scratched. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: AT SEA

As we travel south along the Pacific coast of the peninsula, there is a chance of seeing a wide variety of marine life, including the largest animal on Earth, the blue whale. (B,L,D)

DAY 6-14: ISLANDS OF THE SEA OF CORTEZ

Cruise past the spectacular Friars Rocks at Land's End. For those who wish, we will arrange a visit to the historic town center of San Jose del Cabo. Espiritu Santo. Los Islotes. Santa Catalina. Rasa. These are some of the melodious names of these islands scattered throughout this beautiful sea. After over 20 years of exploration here, we are still discovering new places and experiencing exciting events: one hundred bottlenose dolphins leaping over sperm whales near our ship; a pod of fin whales feeding around a convergence zone; thousands of Heermann's gulls and royal terns arriving on the shores of Isla Rasa to begin incubating their eggs; the vision of hundreds of Humboldt squid illuminated in the ship's bow lights. The best areas for whale watching remain consistent—the waters south of Isla Carmen, Canal de Ballenas up north, and near the mouth of Bahía Concepcion. Whether on the bridge of the ship, on expedition landing craft or kayaks, we will be in prime position to observe them all. (B,L,D)

DAY 15: LA PAZ/DISEMBARK/ RETURN U.S.*

After a visit of La Paz, Transfer to the airport for your flight to the U.S. (B)



EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2016: Mar. 19 📷, 28 📷

📷 Photo Expedition

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHERS

Travel with founder and director of the Expedition Photography program, **Ralph Lee Hopkins** who is a widely published photographer and



an ace at imparting wisdom and technique in the field. Join Ralph March 28, 2016. National Geographic assignments have taken **Ira Block** from deserts to Siberia to the North Pole. His momentous book, *Saving America's Treasures*, was shot across the U.S. in just 100 days. Join Ira on the March 19, 2016 departure.



Guests meet a gray whale.

WHALES & WILDNESS: SPRING IN THE SEA OF CORTEZ

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS—ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD
PRICES FROM: \$5,990 to \$10,300 (See pages 18-19 for complete prices.)

Watch whales and dolphins from the deck of one of our intimate, 62-guest expedition ships and at water level from nimble expedition landing craft. Spring in the Sea of Cortez is the best time to see large pods of dolphins and various species of whales—blue, sperm, pilot, fin and Bryde’s—all in the same week. Hike uninhabited beaches and desert landscapes. Observe myriad seabirds. Kayak in pristine waters, snorkel among reef fish and enjoy the serenity of a sunset beach barbecue under a starry sky. This unique journey is designed with a flexible itinerary, with our staff choosing sites based on conditions and to maximize wildlife sightings, adding a stimulating sense of adventure to each day.

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

- ▶ Search for pods of dolphins and various species of whales: blue, fin, sperm, humpback, pilot or Bryde’s.
- ▶ Kayak, swim and snorkel with sea lions in pristine waters, and hike diverse desert landscapes.
- ▶ Visit the old mining town of Santa Rosalia, with its wooden homes and a steel church designed by Gustave Eiffel.

EXPERIENCE & EXPERTISE

35+
YEARS
EXPERIENCE

Our expert 6-person expedition team will illuminate the wonders of Baja & the Sea of Cortez from every possible angle. Your expedition leader, undersea specialist, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and naturalists, plus a wellness specialist and video chronicler, are dedicated to ensuring an incredible voyage. A National Geographic photographer is on board and at your service.

Visit our website to read staff bios for this expedition.

California sea lions basking in the sun.

**DAY 1: HOME/LOS CABOS, MEXICO/
EMBARK LA PAZ**

Fly into Los Cabos and transfer to La Paz to set sail on the Sea of Cortez. (D)

**DAY 2-7: EXPLORING THE SEA OF
CORTEZ**

Our routing is designed with flexibility in mind, to maximize opportunities for wildlife sightings. It will most likely include the islands and activities listed below, although the order may vary. (B,L,D daily)

**ISLAS SAN ESTEBAN AND SAN
PEDRO MÁRTIR:**

Walk up a desert wash, to search for desert birds and the endemic pinto chuckwalla—a fat, harmless desert lizard. Later visit Isla San Pedro Mártir, a 1,000-foot-high guano-covered island that is home to thousands of seabirds. Blue-footed boobies, red-billed tropicbirds, pelicans and frigatebirds are all found here.

ISLA RASA:

In the spring, one of the great wildlife spectacles of the Sea of Cortez is in full swing at Isla Rasa—the nesting of thousands of Heermann’s gulls and elegant and royal terns. We will go ashore to meet researchers and unobtrusively observe the behavior of these three species.

ISLA SAN MARCOS:

At Isla San Marcos there is a beautiful cove for swimming, snorkeling, and kayaking. In the afternoon we are again in rich whale waters, near the mouth of Bahía Concepción where we stand a good chance of sighting several

species of whales, particularly fin or sperm

ISLA SAN JOSE:

Take expedition landing craft cruises and kayaks into mangrove channels in search of shorebirds and waders. Nearby are ancient shell mounds, or middens, that reveal traces of former occupation by the Guaicura Indians.

ISLA SANTA CATALINA:

This morning we’ll search for whales in the waters south of Isla Carmen, an area that has proven to be one of the best for finding blue whales, and often bottlenose and common dolphins. In the afternoon we visit Isla Santa Catalina, famous for its giant barrel cactus and lovely cardon cactus forest. The protected bay of our anchorage is also an excellent site for snorkeling. With a full afternoon here, there is time for swimming, snorkeling and hiking.

**LOS ISLOTES AND ISLA ESPÍRITU
SANTO:**

At Los Islotes, snorkelers have one of life’s great opportunities—swimming with graceful and curious sea lions. With a deeply indented shoreline and dramatically eroded cliff faces, Isla Espíritu Santo is perhaps the most beautiful island in the Sea of Cortez. We have a leisurely afternoon for swimming, snorkeling, kayaking, and in the evening, a beach barbecue under the desert sky.

**DAY 8: DISEMBARK LA PAZ, MEXICO/
LOS CABOS**

Disembark in La Paz and transfer to the airport in Los Cabos for flights home. (B)



EXPEDITION DETAILS

DATES: 2016: April 2 📷

📷 Photo Expedition

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER

Join **Flip Nicklin**, the world’s premier marine mammal photographer, on the April 2, 2016 departure.



Humpback whales.



A fun ride alongside a common dolphin.



NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD & SEA LION

CAPACITY: 62 guests in 31 outside cabins.

REGISTRY: United States.

OVERALL LENGTH: 152 feet.

PUBLIC AREAS: Our ships feature 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, and LEXspa. Our “open bridge” provides guests an opportunity to meet our officers and captain and learn about navigation.

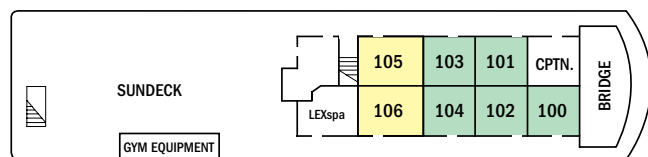
MEALS: Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Breakfast is a wide selection buffet and lunch is often served family style. Menu emphasizes local fare.

CABINS: All face outside with windows, private facilities and climate controls.

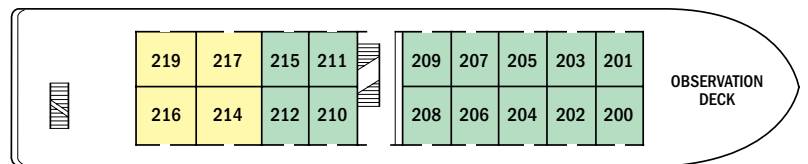
EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Bow camera, hydrophone, kayaks, snorkeling gear, wetsuits, Splash-Cam, underwater video camera, video microscope, and expedition landing craft.

SPECIAL FEATURES: Guest Internet access. A video chronicler, undersea specialist and ship's doctor are on board all voyages.

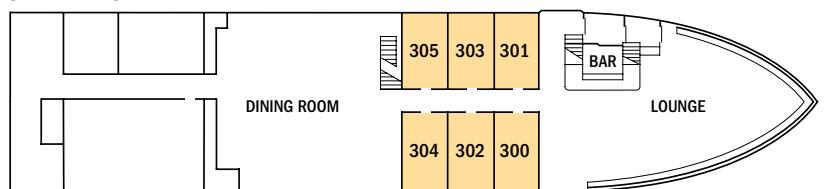
WELLNESS: The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features exercise equipment, LEXspa and outdoor stretching area.



BRIDGE DECK



UPPER DECK



MAIN DECK

THE PRIVILEGE OF WILDNESS IN COMFORT AND STYLE

Our twin ships have been transformed: the lounge, bar and dining room have been handsomely renovated. And every cabin category has been refreshed with warm cherry veneer, our signature bed linens, sleekly framed photos and more. Now, each ship sets new standards for expedition hospitality and comfort.



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

Photos (clockwise): 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; Dinner is served in single seatings with unassigned tables for easy mingling; a comfortable Category 2 cabin freshly redesigned.

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

ITINERARY	YEAR	CAT. 1	CAT. 2	CAT. 3	CAT. 1 SOLO	CAT. 2 SOLO	ADVANCE PAYMENT	NOTE
Wild Islands & Treasures of Baja California – Page 10	2015	\$5,990	\$6,890	\$7,730	\$8,990	\$10,340	\$750	Sample Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/Los Cabos/ Los Angeles: Economy from \$450.
Baja California and the Sea of Cortez: Among the Great Whales – Page 12	2016	\$6,390	\$7,390	\$8,390	\$9,440	\$11,090	\$750	We have arranged a dedicated, direct flight round-trip La Paz for this voyage. Due to the voyage ports there are no other direct flights available. Please contact our air department to book. Sample Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/La Paz/Los Angeles: Economy from \$650.
Baja California: A Remarkable Journey – Page 14	2016	\$10,900	\$12,450	\$14,520	\$16,350	\$18,680	\$1500	We have arranged a dedicated, direct flight round-trip La Paz for this voyage. Due to the voyage ports there are no other direct U.S. flights available. Please contact our air department to book. Sample Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/La Paz/Los Angeles: Economy from \$650.
Whales & Wildness: Spring in the Sea of Cortez – Page 16	2016	\$5,990	\$6,870	\$7,860	\$8,990	\$10,300	\$750	Sample Airfare: Round-trip Los Angeles/Los Cabos/ Los Angeles: Economy from \$450.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR SPECIAL OFFERS

AIRFARE CREDIT: Receive a \$550 air credit when you book Wild Islands and Treasures of Baja California by Sep. 30, 2015. Valid on new bookings only. Not combinable with other offers. Please call for details.

TRAVELING AS A GROUP: Save 5% when traveling as a group of 8 or more people. Take advantage of these great savings, while enjoying traveling with your friends and family. This savings is applicable on voyage fares only, and not on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payment, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies.



INCLUSIVE PRICING

We include just about everything you have the opportunity to do as part of your expedition aboard ship and ashore. The only things not included are those of a personal nature—internet usage, wellness treatments and other specialized arrangements.

ABOARD SHIP

- ✓ All meals and non-alcoholic beverages
- ✓ Accommodations
- ✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
- ✓ Hors d'oeuvres & snacks during Recap
- ✓ Fully stocked library
- ✓ The guidance and company of our expedition staff
- ✓ Environmentally friendly refillable water bottle

ASHORE

- ✓ Meals on land, as indicated in itinerary
- ✓ Special access permits, park fees, port taxes
- ✓ Transfers to and from group flights
- ✓ The expertise of our expedition staff

ACTIVITIES

- ✓ All shore activities
- ✓ Expedition landing craft explorations
- ✓ Kayaking
- ✓ Snorkeling
- ✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge
- ✓ Morning stretch classes with wellness specialist



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RESERVATION INFORMATION

Costs Include: All accommodations aboard ship or in hotels per itinerary or similar, all meals and nonalcoholic beverages aboard ship, meals on land as indicated, air transportation where indicated as included, shore excursions, sightseeing and entrance fees, special access permits, transfers to and from group flights, use of snorkeling equipment and use of kayaks (where available), tips (except to ship's crew), taxes and service charges, services of a ship physician, and services of our expedition staff.

Not Included: Air transportation (except where shown as included), extensions, passport, visa, immigration fees, meals not indicated, travel protection plan, items of a personal nature such as alcoholic beverages, e-mail, voyage DVD, scuba diving (where available), laundry. Gratuities to ship's crew are at your discretion.

Airfare: For all programs, airfare is an additional cost unless otherwise indicated. Sample airfares are subject to change. We will gladly assist in making your air arrangements for a \$50 per person service fee.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Reservations: To reserve your place, an advance payment is required at the time of reservation. The per person advance payment amount varies by program, and is outlined in our brochures, as well as on our website. Payment is accepted by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or by check. Receipt of your initial payment indicates your acceptance of our complete Terms and Conditions. We require written notice at the time of reservation for any physical condition, diet, or treatment requiring special attention. Once your reservation is confirmed, we urge you to use your personalized online account for important information to help you prepare for your voyage. Managing your documents online will facilitate fast and accurate communication, and allow you to provide us with pertinent details we require, in order to complete your reservation. Your online account gives you access to your Expedition Guide, which includes valuable information specific to your voyage. You can also use your online account to make easy payments, view recommended flights and reading material, packing list, and so much more.

Final Payment: Due no later than 90 days prior to departures, depending on the expedition.

Travel Protection Plan: We strongly recommend that you take advantage of our Travel Protection Plan. This plan offers comprehensive coverage to protect you from cancellation fees, costs incurred due to trip delays/interruption, and damaged or lost baggage, and provides medical assistance and evacuation during your travels. Our Travel Protection Plan is available for U.S. and Canadian residents only, and may be purchased any time prior to final payment due date. Travel Protection premiums are non-refundable once plan is purchased.

Smoking Policy: Smoking is allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

Responsibility and Other Terms & Conditions: Among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions' and the National Geographic Society's 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, and are also available on our website at www.expeditions.com/terms, or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Note: Itineraries and prices listed in this brochure are valid as of publication date, and are subject to change. Under normal conditions, the total expedition cost is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, the

published price is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event we determine that current costs create an unsustainable financial model, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, we reserve the right to pass on these costs to you, to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide a transparent accounting of the reason for such an increase in costs.

A State Department travel warning for Mexico is currently in effect (<http://travel.state.gov>). The area of concern noted in the warning is not near the region we visit on this itinerary. We expect to operate these expeditions as planned, but will continue to closely monitor events in the country.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start	Per Person Cancellation Fee
120 or more days	\$350
119–90 days	Advance payment cost
89–60 days	25% of total fare
59–45 days	50% of total fare
44–0 days	No refund

\$350 will be rewarded in the form of a Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate. This cancellation policy applies to expeditions as well as pre and post extensions. The effective date of a cancellation will be the date on which your notice is received. Note: Airline cancellation policies vary by carrier, as well as the type of fare used to issue your ticket. Any revisions you make within the cancellation penalty period, such as departure date or choice of voyage, are subject to cancellation fees. Additional Terms and Conditions may apply. For complete terms, please visit our website at www.expeditions.com/terms.

United States Tour Operators Association \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program



Lindblad Expeditions, as an Active Member of USTOA, is required to post \$1 Million with USTOA to be used to reimburse, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the USTOA \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program, the advance payments of Lindblad Expeditions customers in the unlikely event of Lindblad Expeditions bankruptcy, insolvency or cessation of business. Further, you should understand that the \$1 Million posted by Lindblad Expeditions may be sufficient to provide only a partial recovery of the advance payments received by Lindblad Expeditions. More details of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program may be obtained by writing to USTOA at 345 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1801, New York, New York 10001, or by email to information@ustoa.com or by visiting their website at www.USTOA.com.

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TRAVEL PLANNING WITH A DIFFERENCE

Half of travel planning is learning what you don't know and generating questions. The other half is getting answers.

When you call **1.800.EXPEDITION**, you can ask for any one of our Expedition Specialists who have been on our Baja expeditions. They are full members of the Lindblad Expeditions team—students of the natural world and born explorers, not trained call center telemarketers.

SO WHY NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THEIR EXPERTISE? Don't hesitate to call with your questions—they're equipped to provide answers based on their knowledge and personal experience.

Ask them about Baja California, how we explore there, our ships, our itineraries, and more. We think you'll find the conversation rewarding.

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For Reservations: Contact your travel advisor or Lindblad Expeditions

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SELECTED HONORS & AWARDS

- » Condé Nast Traveler’s Readers’ Choice Award—Top Small Ship Cruise Lines, 2014
- » Condé Nast Traveler’s 2014 Readers’ Poll—Top 20 Small Cruise Ships in the World, 2014
- » Condé Nast Traveler World Savers “Doing it All” Award, 2013
- » Condé Nast Traveler Readers’ Choice Award—Top 25 Cruise Lines, 2013
- » Condé Nast Traveler “Gold List”, 2013, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005
- » Virtuoso “Sustainable Tourism Leadership-Supplier” Award, 2013
- » Travel + Leisure “World’s Best” Award for Small-Ship Cruise Lines, 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008
- » Travel + Leisure “World’s Best for Families” Award for Small-Ship Cruise Lines, 2012, 2011, 2010, 2009
- » Cruise Critic Editor’s Pick Awards “Best for Adventure,” 2013, 2012, 2011, 2010
- » Climate Champion Award to Sven Lindblad by Clean Air-Cool Planet, 2009
- » Conservation Achievement Award for Corporate Achievement from National Wildlife Federation, 2008
- » Tourism for Tomorrow “Global Tourism Business Award,” 2007

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