WILD BAJA
CALIFORNIA ESCAPE
THE WHALES OF MAGDALENA BAY

JANUARY 16-21, 2024
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD
TRAVEL WITH CELIA CHEN ’78 GR’94,
RESEARCH PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY

$500 AIR CREDIT +
COMPLIMENTARY HOTEL STAY
The beaches along the Pacific coast go on for miles and miles, unmarred by any infrastructure. You can hike or run for a mile or ten—it’s up to you.

**SAND DOLLAR BEACH**
At this point, the distance across the dunes from the bay to the Pacific is only a few hundred yards. Search for treasures on the aptly named sand dollar beach. These dunes are a great place for sunrise yoga or sunset cocktails.

**ISLA MAGDALENA**
The Pacific coast go on for miles and miles, unmarred by any infrastructure. You can hike or run for a mile or ten—it’s up to you.

**BOCA DE SOLEDAD**
“Grand Central” for California gray whales. Together with the savvy local fishermen, we will observe numerous cow-calf pairs.

**LORETO**
The historic, charming town where our expedition begins and ends. Home to Baja’s first mission, a lovely museum, and vibrant streets. A perfect place to experience the culture of the region.

**LA ENTRADA**
The entrance to Magdalena Bay is dramatic and a great place to view whales from the ship. It’s also a place where large pods of dolphins can often be seen.

**SAN CARLOS**
DEAR ALUMNI, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS OF DARTMOUTH,

Baja California’s Pacific coast is home to over 20,000 California gray whales each winter. Among the lagoons along the Baja Peninsula, Magdalena Bay is the best place to witness this remarkable gathering. Our whale-watching expedition aboard the National Geographic Sea Bird is scheduled at the peak of the season for possible encounters with active, curious calves and their attentive mothers.

The phenomenon known as “friendly whales” was first documented in 1972. These encounters, though never guaranteed, have increased over the years and are now quite common. Our visit is timed to provide us with the greatest likelihood to observe and, if we are fortunate, interact with these immense cetaceans as they winter in Baja California.

Visits to Magdalena Bay traditionally have been a part of longer cruise itineraries around Baja California. But now, for the first time, you have an opportunity to explore this remarkable place more fully and with a nimble and comfortable expedition ship as your base camp.

Magdalena Bay is so much more than the gray whales. There are untouched beaches, full of shells and sand dollars, that extend for miles; spectacular sand dunes to explore by day and, if you wish, by night when all kinds of critters emerge; intricate mangrove channels to explore by Zodiac or kayak; and countless seabirds—large flocks of grebes, pelicans, and frigatebirds. Those who are shy about being in the open ocean should rest assured that Magdalena Bay is in protected waters.

Magdalena Bay is a treasure trove of natural wonders. I trust that this brochure will give you a clear view of what we have in store. To reserve your space, please return the reservation form or call (833) 985-1261.

Sincerely,

Robin Albing Tu'81
Director, Alumni Lifelong Learning & Advancement Special Projects

Alicia V. Wright, Ph.D.
Assistant Director, Alumni Lifelong Learning

Celia Chen ’78 GR’94, research professor of Biology, graduated from Dartmouth College in 1978. After receiving her M.S. in biological oceanography from the University of Rhode Island, Chen returned to Dartmouth for her Ph.D. in aquatic ecology. She teaches Dartmouth undergraduates in courses about marine science and ecotoxicology. Her research focuses on the bioaccumulation and fate of metals—mercury, in particular—in aquatic ecosystems including lakes and ponds, reservoirs, streams and rivers, and estuaries. She works with policy makers, other stakeholder groups, and the public at state, national, and international levels to communicate and apply the research findings in context. She serves on committees and partnerships of the United Nations Environment Programme related to the Minamata Convention; on Science Advisory Board Panels of the USEPA; and locally, on the Town of Hartford Conservation Commission and the Board of Trustees of the Vermont Chapter of The Nature Conservancy and of the Vermont Center for Ecostudies. Celia lives in Hartford, VT, with her husband, Professor Doug Bolger, and two daughters, Jane and Maya.

Cover photo: Gray whale breaching alongside Zodiac © Alberto Montaudon Ferrer
Ship’s registry: United States
“The baby is pushing us!
The baby is literally pushing the boat right now!”

“When you think about a California gray whale mother, bringing her calf and literally putting it on her body and lifting it up to be touched, to be rubbed along the side of the boat. We aren’t just watching whales, we are interacting with them. And they are just as curious about us as we are with them. What in the world is going on? We took these whales to the brink of extinction twice in the last two centuries. These are very sentient beings, these are very intelligent animals, they’re mammals after all. They have very large, well-developed brains. Why in the world would these whales now approach the very shaped boats that were hunting them in times past? It’s hard to say if they’ve forgiven or forgotten? ...There are a lot of theories about it, but no one really knows.”

— MICHAEL NOLAN, CERTIFIED PHOTO INSTRUCTOR
THE PERFECT PLATFORM TO DISCOVER WHALES AND MORE

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. And the ship’s smartly furnished cabins, lounge, bar, and dining room ensure that it is more than comfortable as our base for exploration.

TOOLS AND TECHNOLOGY FOR EXPLORATION

ZODIACS: Experience up-close encounters with marine life, and land on otherwise inaccessible desert islands.

KAYAKS: Paddle 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.

FAT-TIRE BIKES: Cover more ground by roaming the seemingly endless beaches on one of the fat-tire bikes.

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): Enjoy opportunities to paddleboard; kayakers have an up-close experience with wilderness; Baja California is a paradise for birders; a sunset Zodiac cruise, Isla Magdalena. This page: Pod of long-beaked common dolphins.
MAKING YOUR EXPERIENCE EXTRAORDINARY

Whether it means staying up until the wee hours to scan for rare sightings, taking advantage of an opportunity to view a pod of leaping dolphins, or holding an impromptu stargazing on a beach at night, the expedition team is dedicated to revealing Baja California and making sure your experience is exceptional. Benefit from the personalities and knowledge of an expedition leader, naturalists, an undersea specialist, and a certified photo instructor plus a wellness specialist to enhance the revitalizing effects of life in Baja California.

CAPTURING THE LAND WITH PERFECT LIGHT

Make the most of unrivaled photo opportunities of Baja California’s wild islands, whales, dolphins, seabirds, and peerless light with the Expedition Photography program. Your voyage features a certified photo instructor who offers assistance, instructions, and shooting tips in the field. His or her expertise will inspire you and help you improve your skills—no matter your current ability or interest level—and ensure you return home with incredible photos.

Opposite page (clockwise from top): Photo instructor helps you take the perfect shot; beach BBQ ashore; playing among Baja California’s vast sand dunes; smartphone photographer. This page: Naturalists are always on hand to point out wildlife; capturing the vibrancy of a Baja California sunset.
WILD BAJA CALIFORNIA ESCAPE: THE WHALES OF MAGDALENA BAY
6 DAYS/5 NIGHTS—ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD

Spend several extraordinary days in the company of majestic gray whales in Mexico’s Bahía Magdalena, one of the best places in the world to witness interactions between gray whale mothers and their curious calves. On this compact trip, we’ll navigate the length of the bay aboard a nimble expedition ship, and set out by Zodiac or local panga for thrilling, up-close encounters. Kayak through mangrove forests and hike desert islands, watch pelicans and ospreys soar overhead, and soak up the sun on some of the Pacific’s most pristine beaches. Beachcomb endless crescents of sand, studded with thousands of sand dollars. And revel in the vastness and serenity as you view the many species of birds in this world-renowned region.

DAY 1: LORETO, MEXICO/SAN CARLOS/EMBARK
Arrive in Loreto and transfer to the port town of San Carlos, where we embark the National Geographic Sea Bird. Tonight, unwind under a star-studded sky as we anchor in the southern reaches of Magdalena Bay. (D)

DAY 2: BAHÍA ALMEJAS/REHUSA CHANNEL/ISLA MAGDALENA
Awake anchored in Bahía Almejas, the southernmost part of the Bay. We’ll make a special stop to view a large frigatebird colony on Isla Santa Margarita before heading out on our first whale-watching trip of
the voyage. The whales in Bahía Almejas tend to be very active, seemingly oblivious to our presence, so settle in for some great experiences. As we explore this bay and the Rehusa Channel via local panga, the expedition team will do whatever it takes to provide you with memorable and meaningful experiences. During lunch, the ship will reposition to Isla Magdalena where we’ll head to shore to explore the ever-shifting sand dunes, on a cross-island walk to one of the most pristine beaches in the Pacific. Take a dip or tally the treasure found on what we affectionately call sand dollar beach. (B,L,D)

**DAY 3: TRANSIT THE HULL CANAL/BOCA DE SOLEDAD**
Spend the morning transiting the scenic winding Hull Canal. Within its narrow channels, bordered by mangroves and sand dunes, and filled with abundant wildlife, we’ll hang out on deck with our keen-eyed naturalists to spot species and hear expert commentary. Weather permitting, we’ll explore the vast mangrove system via kayak and Zodiac. Bird-watching here can be excellent. Among the species we might see are pelicans as they plunge-dive from on high, cormorants actively fishing, terns, great blue herons, ibis, whimbrels, and willets. These fertile shorelines provide a bounty for migratory shorebirds as they refuel, preparing to commence their arduous northbound journeys along these fertile shorelines where they refuel for their destinations ahead. This afternoon, we’ll head out to explore the breeding grounds of Boca de Soledad. (B,L,D)

**DAYS 4 & 5: BOCA DE SOLEDAD**
Each winter, during their long migration, gray whales travel south from their Arctic feeding grounds to breed and give birth to their calves in these sheltered waters. “Grand Central” for California gray whales, we’ll spend two full days observing, and with luck, interacting with these majestic creatures. Together with savvy local Mexican fishermen, we’ll venture out in Zodiacs or local pangas to view the numerous mother-calf pairs that thrive in this sheltered region. We’ll also have an opportunity to get out to the beaches to explore; if you’re feeling up to it, grab one of our fat-tire bikes to roam the seemingly endless beaches. (B,L,D)

**DAY 6: LOPEZ MATEOS/DISEMBARK/LORETO**
After breakfast, disembark the ship and transfer to Loreto’s city center. Choose to visit the first mission in Baja California, as well as the nearby museum to learn more about what makes this town so special. After lunch, transfer to Loreto Airport for flights home. (B,L)

**LORETO + BLUE AND FIN WHALE EXPERIENCE POST-VOYAGE EXTENSION—3 DAYS/2 NIGHTS:**
Add an exploration of Loreto’s inland wilderness to your coastal expedition, and discover the region’s human history through its missions and villages. Visit stunning San Javier, a mission built in the 1700s by Jesuits and see the surrounding town, with streets and buildings largely untouched since 1875, then hike outside the village to experience Baja’s inland wilderness. In the Loreto National Marine Reserve, board local boats for a chance to see magnificent blue and fin whales, the two largest animals on Earth. Hike through the fascinating ecosystems of the desert and canyons of the Sierra de la Gigante. Call for details and pricing.
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD

CAPACITY: 31 outside cabins accommodating 62 guests.
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. Menu emphasizes local fare. Cuisine is fresh, sustainable, and accented with regional flair.
CABINS: All cabins face outside with windows, private bathroom, and climate controls. Cabins are equipped with Wi-Fi, multiple electrical and USB outlets. Botanically inspired shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, and lotion are all available in cabin bathrooms, as well as an Expedition Essentials Kit. Hair dryers, complimentary insulated water bottles and an atlas are available in each cabin.
EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiacs, kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, fat-tire bikes, bow camera, hydrophone, splash-cam, underwater video camera, and video microscope.
SPECIAL FEATURES: Guest Wi-Fi access. A certified photo instructor, undersea specialist, 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.
SUSTAINABILITY: Lindblad Expeditions takes responsible, sustainable travel to heart. For 50+ years, our expeditions have inspired travelers to protect the ocean, conserve wildlife, bolster local communities, and enable meaningful scientific research. We are 100% carbon neutral and dedicated to green business practices at every level of our operations. When you travel with us, you’ll eat sustainable meals, experience our commitment to single-use plastic-free travel, and be aboard the industry’s first self-disinfecting expedition ships, prioritizing your health and safety. Feel good about exploring with us and preserve the planet for future generations.

From top: Category 2 cabin with single beds; the lounge is the center of life aboard ship; the sundeck is a perfect place to relax and observe the scenery.
CATEGORY 1:
Main Deck #300-305 — Conveniently positioned between the dining room and lounge, these cabins feature two single beds and a large view window.

CATEGORY 2:
Bridge Deck #100-104; Upper Deck #200-212, 215 — These well-located cabins include two 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 single beds only.

NOTE: Solo 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.

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<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 AIRFARES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wild Baja</td>
<td>$4,040</td>
<td>$5,100</td>
<td>$5,900</td>
<td>$6,080</td>
<td>$7,640</td>
<td>15% of the cabin fare per person</td>
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<td>California Escape:</td>
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<td>Round-trip Los Angeles/Loreto: Economy from $475; Business from $1,140. Subject to change.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Whales of Magdalena Bay</td>
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INCLUSIVE PRICING

ABOARD SHIP
✓ All meals and beverages (except certain super-premium brands of alcohol)
✓ 24-hour coffee, tea and soda, and complimentary refillable water bottle
✓ Hors d’oeuvres and snacks during evening Recaps
✓ Computers for downloading your photos
✓ Regionally-specific, professionally-curated library
✓ Fitness equipment
✓ The guidance and company of our expedition staff
✓ Access to the Bridge to learn about navigation

ASHORE
✓ Special access permits, park fees, and port taxes
✓ Transfers to and from designated flights
✓ The expertise of our expedition staff

ACTIVITIES
✓ All shore activities
✓ Zodiac explorations
✓ Kayaking and stand-up paddleboarding
✓ Fat-tire biking
✓ Lectures and presentations in the lounge
✓ Photo instruction from a skilled photographer
✓ Morning stretch classes with our wellness specialist

SPECIAL OFFERS:

$500 AIR CREDIT: Book by June 30, 2023 to receive a $500 air credit per person. Air credit will be deducted from cabin fare prior to any additional applicable savings.

BE OUR GUEST: Enjoy a complimentary pre-voyage hotel night in Loreto, Mexico. Limited availability.

MILESTONE CELEBRATION PACKAGE: Celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, family reunions, etc., with your group of eight or more, and receive 5% off, a $150 shipboard credit for the spa or champagne, a complimentary group photo, and more. Milestone celebration must be communicated at time of booking. Milestone amenity package is one per group, intended for the guest celebrating the Milestone event. Group discount is applicable to cruise portion only, and does not apply towards additional services such as hotels, extensions, airfare, etc. Group cancellation terms also apply. Not combinable with certain offers.

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

All offers are valid for new bookings only, may not be combinable with other offers, and subject to availability at time of booking.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COSTS INCLUDE: Accommodations aboard ship; all meals and beverages aboard ship (except super-premium brands of alcohol); shore excursions, sightseeing, special access permits, and entrance fees; transfers to/from airport if traveling on designated flights; use of kayaks, paddleboards, and fat-tire bikes; taxes, service charges, and gratuities (except to ship’s crew); services of the Lindblad Expeditions’ natural history staff and ship physician. Unused services or items included in the program are non-refundable.

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; meals not indicated; passport, visa, and immigration fees; travel protection plan; items of a personal nature such as super-premium brands of alcohol, Wi-Fi, and laundry; gratuities to ship’s crew at your discretion.

AIRFARE: Airfare is an additional cost. Lindblad Expeditions will assist in making your air arrangements for a $50 per person service fee.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, an advance payment of 15% of the cabin fare per person is required at the time of reservation and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover or check. Receipt of advance payment indicates your acceptance of the terms and conditions.

FINAL PAYMENT: Payment is due no later than 120 days prior to departure. Lindblad Expeditions reserves the right to cancel your reservation if payment has not been received by final payment due date.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Travel and medical insurance are available at an additional cost. Information will be sent to you by Dartmouth Alumni Association upon registration.

ENTRY AND VISA REQUIREMENTS: Guests are advised to verify travel documents (passport/transit visa/entry visa) for the country(ies) 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(s) 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 AND VAPING POLICY: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Expeditions’ and National Geographic Expeditions’ (a division of National Geographic Partners, LLC) 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.

Note: Itinerary and prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date and are subject to change. Under normal conditions the total expedition price is guaranteed at the time of booking. However, the expedition pricing is determined far in advance of initial departure on the basis of then-existing projections of fuel and other costs. In the event of increases in those costs, including but not limited to increases in the price of fuel, currency fluctuations, increases in government taxes or levies, or increased security costs, the right is reserved to adjust the price of your expedition or add a surcharge to cover such unexpected increases. We will always provide an explanation of the reason for increase in costs.

Photo Credits: John Bodner, Rab Cummings, Ralph Lee Hopkins, Sven-Olof Lindblad, Michael S. Nolan, Rich Reid, Marco Ricca, Max Seigal, Rikki Swenson.

CANCELLATION POLICY

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<tr>
<th>Number of Days Prior to Expedition Start</th>
<th>Per Person Cancellation Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>120 or more days</td>
<td>No penalty: Advance payment will be credited toward your next expedition**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>119-90 days</td>
<td>50% of trip cost***</td>
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<tr>
<td>89-0 days</td>
<td>100% of trip cost***</td>
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**Advance payments will be credited in the form of a Lindblad Expeditions Travel Certificate, valid for 12 months from the date of cancellation, and which may only be applied towards final payment on any future booking.

***Trip cost is total price paid including extensions, charter airfare, and other additional services. We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.
Please send reservation to:
Lindblad Expeditions
96 Morton Street
New York, NY 10014
Ph: (833) 985-1261
Fax: (646) 390-2050
Email: groups@expeditions.com

RESERVATION FORM:
WILD BAJA CALIFORNIA ESCAPE: THE WHALES OF MAGDALENA BAY
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SEA BIRD • JANUARY 16-21, 2024

Please reserve _______ place(s).

Name 1: ____________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 1:_________________________ Date of Birth: __________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: ____________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 2:_________________________ Date of Birth: __________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: ______________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: __________ Zip: ______

Home Phone: ________________ Business Phone: ________________

Cell Phone: ________________ Fax: ____________________

Email: _______________________

Accommodations: ☐ Double ☐ Single ☐ Twin share with a friend
☐ Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:
1st choice: ________________________ 2nd choice: ________________________

☐ Please send me information on the Two-Night Blue and Fin Whale Loreto Extension.

Advance Payment Information: 15% of the cabin fare per person.

☐ If paying by check, please make payable to: Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.
Enclosed is my advance payment of $ _________

☐ If paying by credit card, we will contact you to finalize your booking and collect payment information.
WILD BAJA CALIFORNIA ESCAPE

EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

» Enjoy up-close encounters with gray whale mothers and their calves.
» Kayak and paddleboard stunning mangroves or stroll endless beaches.
» Hike diverse landscapes, from windswept sand dunes to cactus groves.
» Ride a fat-tire bike down remote Pacific beaches.
» Learn about desert ecosystems and whale behavior from expert naturalists.

100% CARBON NEUTRAL AND COMMITTED TO BEING SINGLE-USE PLASTIC FREE

We have chosen Lindblad Expeditions because they care deeply about the planet, and see travel as a powerful force for good.