

Things to Do & See in La Paz

Following are a few of our favorite things to do in La Paz. Many we have personally tried and can recommend. This list is by no means complete, and businesses here come and go, so it's always best to check first to confirm hours and locations.

Exploring & Shopping:

- Stroll the *malecón* in the morning or at sunset for great people-watching and souvenir shopping. Try one of the local food trucks for fish tacos or a street hot dog for a quick snack. Stop by La Fuente or Giulietta y Romeo for an ice cream. Shop for souvenirs at the vendors near La Paz marina.
- Visit the farmer's market on Tuesday and Saturday mornings, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., just off the malecón, on Antonio Rosales between Ignacio Allende and Nicolas Bravo.
- Stop in at [Doce Cuarenta](#) coffee shop on Calle Madero for organic fresh ground coffee and pastries, and browse the Got Baja shop for t-shirts and souvenirs. Free WiFi available and courtyard patio with tables in back.
- Visit the Mercado Madero (corner of Revolucion y Degollado) or Mercado Bravo (Nicolas Bravo and Guillermo Prieto), outdoor markets to find fresh fish, steak, organic veggies and pottery.
- Rent bicycles at TIM Rent-A-Bike or Adso & Nara (just off the malecón) and tour the city.
- Visit [Galerías La Paz](#), an outdoor shopping mall across from Sam's Club on Olachea, with a department store (Liverpool), a Mac store, clothing and shoe stores, and more. There is also a Starbucks here.
- Go bargain hunting at the *segundas* (second hand stores) in Chametla (on the Transpeninsular highway just past the turnoff for the La Paz airport).
- Shop at Casa Parra for local art and decor (right across the street from the Cathedral).
- Browse the stores in the shopping district around 16 de Septiembre between the *malecón* and Madero.
- Visit [Ibarra's](#) pottery to shop and (if you're lucky) watch them make pottery.





Visit the Museo de Arte on Cinco de Mayo.

Culture

- Hunt for hand painted street murals on the side streets just off the *malecón*.
 - Visit the Cathedral (Revolucion & Independencia).
 - Tour the [Anthropology Museum](#) at Almirante and Cinco de Mayo.
 - Visit the Art Museum ([Museo de Arte de Baja California Sur](#)) on Cinco de Mayo.
 - Enjoy the park next to the art Museum on Cinco de Mayo, across from the Cathedral
 - Check out the [Serpentario de La Paz](#), a local wildlife rehabilitation center (near Hotel La Posada).
 - Visit [Perlas de La Paz](#), located at the Pichilingue port. Book the tour and learn about the history of pearls in La Paz and how pearls are farmed today.
 - Sign up for Spanish classes at [El Nopal Spanish Academy](#), or hire one of the many local tutors to teach you while you are here.
 - Attend a Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos) celebration in November at Teatro de la Ciudad La Paz. [Get the details on our blog here.](#)
 - Enjoy the Christmas decorations in downtown La Paz along the *malecón* during December. Weather permitting, there is also a Christmas boat parade. Check local event schedules for details and times.
 - Attend a [Lucha Libre](#) (professional wrestling) event.
- ## Outdoor Adventures
- Swim and snorkel with whale sharks, La Paz's most famous attraction and an unforgettable experience. Tours are available right from the La Paz *malecón* and the whale sharks are just a 15 minute boat ride away. Tours start in November and go through March.
 - Snorkel with sea lions at Isla Espiritu Santo. Tours available from the La Paz *malecón* or from Tecolote beach. We recommend www.espiritubaja.com.mx and www.redtravelmexico.com.
 - Go snorkeling or scuba diving in the Sea of Cortez, "The World's Aquarium." Ask a local dive shop for recommendations, or contact [The Cortez Club](#).
 - Go hiking or mountain bike riding in the hills overlooking La Paz, or in El Centenario. La Paz trails can be found at <https://www.wikiloc.com/trails/hiking/mexico/baja-california-sur/misiones-de-la-paz>.
 - Rent stand-up paddle boards (SUPs) or kayaks at [Harker Board](#) on the *malecón*, or at Hotel La Posada, Hotel La Concha, or Tesoro beach.
 - Go deep sea fishing for tuna, dorado and marlin with one of the many local fishing charters, such as [Baja Rancheros](#).
 - Go sailing: rent a sailboat and crew, and sail the Sea of Cortez for the day with [Dream Chaser Charters](#).
 - Go whale watching during the grey whale season from December through March to see baby whales and their mamas in Puerto Chale, a 2 hour drive from La Paz. See our [blog for details](#).
 - Go surfing or boogie boarding at El Cerritos beach (on the Pacific side, just south of Todos Santos).
 - Play golf at [Puerta Cortez golf club](#) or at [Paraiso del Mar](#) on the Mogote peninsula.
 - Rent an ATV and explore the desert around La Paz. Or for something new, try sandboarding in the dunes on El Mogote with [4XFour Tours](#).
 - Go horseback riding on the beach and visit a real Mexican ranch at [Rancho San Lorenzo](#).
 - Take kite boarding or wind surfing lessons at La Ventana beach, a 30 minute drive from La Paz.

Beaches

- **Balandra:** 25 minutes from downtown La Paz, rent a car or take the bus. Voted one of the top beaches in Mexico, Balandra has shallow, very clear water and white sand. Very popular and limited capacity, so go early to get a spot. There is a fee for entry. Bring your own food/beverage, there are no restrooms or facilities here. Paddle or kayak around the corner to the right to the next beach for good snorkeling and to see the famous "Mushroom Rock."
- **Tecolote:** Just 2 minutes past Balandra, 30 minutes from downtown La Paz. There are several full-service restaurants (lunch starts around 1:00 p.m.) with restrooms available. There is usually a small fee required to use the chairs and tables in front of the restaurants.
- **Pichilingue:** Small beautiful beach near the ferry terminal on the way to Balandra. Two restaurants on site. SUP and kayak rentals available.
- **Playa Coromuel:** the city beach just north of downtown La Paz. The water slides are not operational.
- **Tesoro:** Small beach next to the highway on the way to Balandra, with restaurant, restrooms and SUP/kayak rentals. Very nice beach with crystal clear water for paddleboarding and kayaking.
- **La Concha beach hotel:** quick taxi or Uber ride from downtown. Beautiful private beach with food, kayak and SUP rentals, and bar. You can purchase a day pass to use the beach club.
- **La Posada:** right in front of Hotel La Posada. Services include kayak and SUP rentals, but the water is not great for swimming here. Dog-friendly, lots of local residents walk their dogs here.
- **El Mogote:** Very close to El Centenario, yet secluded, especially during the week. Great place to bring your dogs. You can often see dolphins and whale sharks from shore, be sure to keep a safe distance from wildlife. Park up on the dirt road and walk down, vehicles get easily stuck in the sand here.
- **El Saltito:** a little further drive, but beautiful and secluded. No services, so bring your own food, beverages, and shade. Good snorkeling over by the rocks on either side, or kayak out to the island offshore.
- **Punta Arena:** beautiful white sand beach and clear water, great for swimming, just past La Ventana. Stay to the left off the light house for calm water, head to the right side for great snorkeling and diving.
- **El Cerritos:** a great surfing beach on the Pacific side, just South of Todos Santos. Park to the right, just under the cliff with the big yellow hotel above it. Experienced swimmers only, this beach has strong currents and waves.
- **La Ventana:** a beautiful small beach town 45 minutes from La Paz. It gets very windy in winter, and is popular with kite boarders and wind surfers.
- **El Sargento:** just north of La Ventana, look for the beach with the palapas. It's rocky as you wade in just off shore, great spot for snorkeling.



Day Trips:

- [Todos Santos](#): About an hour from La Paz, great shopping and art galleries. Stop for lunch at one of many excellent restaurants. Visit the Hotel California for lunch, excellent margaritas and souvenirs. During the winter season, hit Las Tunas beach before sunset to watch turtle hatchlings get released into the Pacific Ocean. Or drive a short way out of town to El Mirador for a cocktail and enjoy the sunset there.
- [Pescadero](#): Go to El Cerritos beach to surf or just hang out. Visit the nearby Blanket Factory for Mexican rugs and blankets. Head to [Hierbabuena](#), a local farm to table restaurant set among the property's own gardens. Visit the Baja Beans farmers market on Sunday mornings to shop the local vendors for organic produce, fresh caught fish, handmade jewelry, artisan clothing, live music and coffee.
- [El Triunfo](#): Visit the mining museum, go for a hike or go mountain biking on the trails around town. Have coffee and lunch at [El Triunfo cafe](#). Pick up a loaf of their amazing bread. For dinner, try [El Minero](#), for the house-made sausage, or go on Sundays for the *pa-ella*, cooked on the patio in a huge iron skillet.
- [Los Barriles](#), a small beach town around 2 hours from La Paz. Go shopping in town, relax on the beach, and have lunch at one of the beachfront restaurants. Drive a little further on highway 1 toward San Jose del Cabo, and stop at the Tropic of Cancer monument (the southern most point on the globe where the sun can still be directly overhead).

Entertainment:

- Cheer on one of La Paz's local professional sports teams including soccer, baseball or basketball at one of the stadiums downtown, or at a sports bar with local fans.
- Attend one of the music festivals during the winter season at Marea La Paz on the beach.
- Hang out at TRIBU on the malecon for music, drinks, and dancing.
- Visit the [Cinépolis](#) movie theater at The Shoppes at Liverpool, across from Walmart/Sam's Club, for movies in English with Spanish subtitles.
- Eat dinner downtown, and pay one of the wandering local musicians to play at your table. See our Restaurant Guide for recommendations.
- Go for drinks at [Harker](#), [Seis Uno Dos](#), or the [Baja Club](#) for happy hour and watch the sunset.
- Go to [Mucho Gusto Tacos and Mezcal](#) for a mezcal tasting.
- Go to [La Costa Restaurant](#) on Wednesday night, have dinner and enjoy music and dancing.
- Go to [Tecolote Beach](#) late afternoon for live music on Sundays.



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