

La Paz

Baja California Sur · Mexico

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

La Paz is the capital of Baja California Sur, a relaxed city on a calm bay on the Sea of Cortez. It has a long seafront promenade, a small historic centre, local museums and quiet sunsets. The city is less touristy than Los Cabos.

It suits two to four nights. Visitors come for boat trips to Espíritu Santo Island, swimming with whale sharks and sea lions, and for beaches nearby.

When to visit

October to May is dry and pleasant. Summer is very hot and humid, with a hurricane risk from about June to November. Whale sharks are seen from about October to April, and grey whales visit the Pacific coast from January to March.

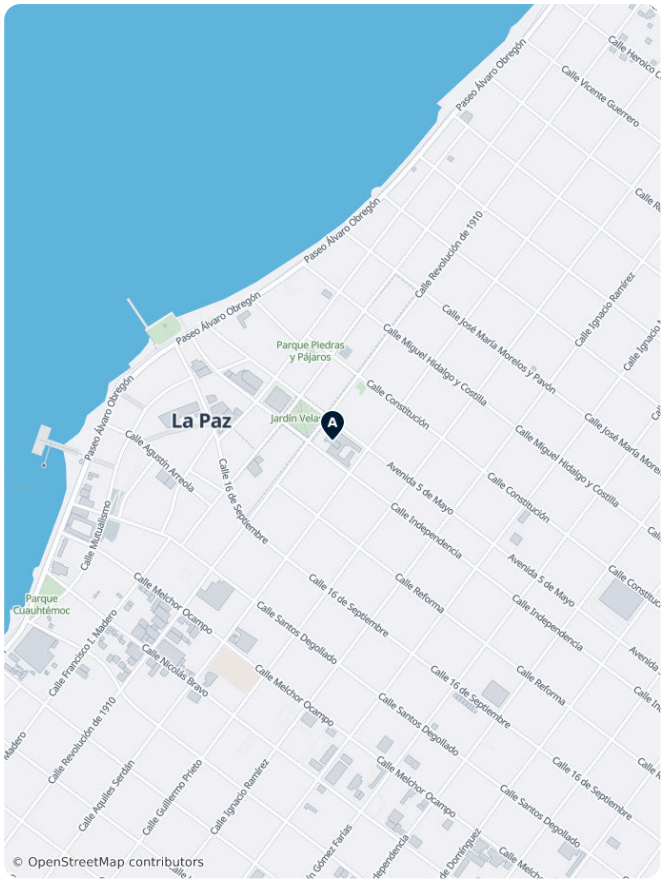
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	● Great Great for wildlife watching	22° / 25°	16° / 13°	☀ 22 sunny days · Dry air
February	● Great Great for wildlife watching	23° / 27°	16° / 13°	☀ 22 sunny days · Dry air
March	● Great Great for watersports	25° / 29°	17° / 14°	☀ 26 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
April	● Great Great for the beach	27° / 30°	18° / 15°	☀ 26 sunny days · UV 10 (Very high)
May	● Great Great for the beach	30° / 32°	20° / 16°	☀ 28 sunny days · UV 10 (Very high)
June	● Great Great for the beach	31° / 34°	22° / 18°	☀ 27 sunny days · Humid air · UV 11 (Extreme)
July	● Great Great for the beach	32° / 35°	25° / 23°	☀ 24 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
August	● Great Great for watersports	33° / 35°	27° / 25°	☀ 20 sunny days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
September	● Great Great for watersports	32° / 34° Feels like 35°	26° / 23°	Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
October	● Great Great for the beach	30° / 33°	24° / 20°	☀ 25 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds
November	● Great Great for the beach	27° / 30°	21° / 17°	☀ 23 sunny days · Humid air
December	● Great Great for wildlife watching	23° / 27°	17° / 14°	☀ 21 sunny days

Best months: January, February, March, April, May, June, October, November, December

Climate data: NASA POWER + Copernicus ERA5-Land and ERA5 · 1996–2025

Top sights

- The malecón is the seafront promenade, lined with sculptures, cafes and sunset views.
- Ⓐ Nuestra Senora de La Paz is the main church, on the plaza.
- Museo de Arte de Baja California Sur shows works by regional artists.
- Centro Cultural La Paz is a cultural centre with a museum of local history.
- Teatro de la Ciudad is a theatre and cultural venue in the city.
- Isla Espíritu Santo is a protected island, reached by boat, with beaches, sea lions and snorkelling.



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What to experience

- Swim with whale sharks on a guided trip in season.
- Take a boat to Espíritu Santo Island and snorkel with sea lions.
- Walk the malecón at sunset.
- Spend a day at Balandra Beach.

Day trips

- Ⓐ Isla Espíritu Santo: a boat trip of about 1 hour. Beaches, sea lions and clear water.
- Balandra Beach: about 30 minutes by car. A shallow bay with calm water and white sand.
- Ⓑ San Jose del Cabo: about 2.5 hours by car. A colonial town in Los Cabos.



Where to explore

- Isla Espíritu Santo for sea lions and island beaches.
- Loreto for a small colonial town on the Sea of Cortez.
- San Jose del Cabo for galleries and food in Los Cabos.

Getting there

- **By air**: Manuel Márquez de León International Airport (LAP) is about 20 minutes from the centre. It has flights from Mexico City and several other cities.
- **By bus**: Coaches run to Cabo San Lucas, San José del Cabo and Loreto.
- **By ferry**: Ferries cross from Mazatlán and Topolobampo on the mainland.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The centre and the malecón are flat and walkable.
- **Taxi**: Taxis are common. Agree the fare first.
- **Bus**: City buses reach the outer areas.
- **Bike**: The malecón has a cycle path.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The centre and the seafront promenade are flat and walkable.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

High

The malecón is flat and has a cycle path.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Useful for Balandra and other beaches. Not needed in the centre.
- **Roads**: Highways are in good condition. Distances in Baja are long, so check fuel.
- **Parking**: Street parking is easy in most areas.

Food & drink

La Paz is known for fresh seafood: fish tacos, ceviche, clams and smoked marlin. Many family restaurants serve local fish, and taco stalls along the malecón are cheap.

Local dishes from the Sea of Cortez are the main attraction.

What to eat & drink

LUNCH

Cochinita Pibil
Slow-roasted, citrus- and achiote-marinated pork, a Yucatán specialty traditionally cooked in an underground pit.

DINNER

Mole
A complex sauce, often built from chiles, spices, and sometimes chocolate; mole poblano and Oaxaca's several moles are the best known versions.

Chiles en Nogada
A Puebla dish of stuffed poblano chiles topped with a walnut cream sauce and pomegranate seeds, in the colors of the Mexican flag.

Pozole
A hominy stew with pork or chicken, topped with shredded cabbage, radish, and chile, traditionally eaten on special occasions.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Tacos
Corn or flour tortillas filled with meat, fish, or vegetables, with endless regional and stall-to-stall variation.

Tamales
Corn dough filled with meat, cheese, or vegetables, wrapped in a corn husk or banana leaf and steamed.

Elote/Esquites · Elote / Esquites
Grilled or boiled corn on the cob (elote) or served off the cob in a cup (esquites), topped with mayonnaise, cheese, chile, and lime.

DRINKS

Mezcal
A smoky agave spirit from Oaxaca and several other states, distinct from tequila, traditionally sipped neat.

Tequila
An agave spirit from the region around the town of Tequila in Jalisco, Mexico's best-known export spirit.

Horchata
A sweet, cinnamon-spiced rice-based drink, popular as a non-alcoholic accompaniment to spicy food.

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Safety & health

The city is generally safe. Take usual care with bags and phones at night.

- Use licensed operators for whale shark and sea lion trips, and follow the rules for wildlife.
- The sun is strong. Use sun protection and drink water.
- Hurricane season is June to November. Follow weather news.
- Drink purified or bottled water.

History

Hernán Cortés reached the bay in 1535. Pearl fishing was the main industry for centuries, until the pearl oysters died out in the early 20th century. The city grew as the capital of the state and as a port and cultural centre.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Mexico at a glance:

CURRENCY
MXN $

EMERGENCY
911

ELECTRICITY



Type A / Type B
127 V · 60 Hz

LANGUAGES
Spanish

TAP WATER
Not safe to drink

La Paz Essentials

La Paz offers a blend of historic landmarks and local commerce. The 19th-century Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace anchors the city's history, while the Whale Museum displays regional marine skeletons and biological data. Cultural life centers around venues like Teatro de la Ciudad and Teatro Benito Juárez. For local flavors, Mercado Bravo and Mercado Francisco I. Madero provide traditional goods and produce. The waterfront area features seafood-focused dining at Rancho Viejo and social hubs like the La Encantada wine bar and the Papas & Beer nightclub.





A Cathedral of Our Lady of Peace

An atmospheric 19th century church. A good place where to cool down and learn something about the history of the town.

310 Calle 5 de Mayo, La Paz, Mexico (24.16159, -110.31289)

B Whale Museum

The name says it all. You can find photos, skeletons and information on whales and how they are connected to this area.

855 Calle Antonio Navarro, La Paz 23000, Mexico (24.14745, -110.31835)

D Mercado Bravo

Traditional municipal market known for fresh regional produce, meats, and authentic local breakfast stalls.

Calle Nicolás Bravo, 23000 La Paz (24.15592, -110.31462)

Mo–Su 06:00–15:00

+52 612 122 1604

C Teatro Benito Juárez

Historic performing arts venue hosting local cultural events and theatrical productions.

50 Calle Belisario Domínguez, La Paz, Mexico (24.16204, -110.31511)

E Mercado Francisco I. Madero

Bustling local market offering a variety of Mexican food, spices, and everyday household goods.

Calle Revolución de 1910, 23000 La Pax (24.15857, -110.31555)

F City Theatre

The spacious venue hosts all sorts of performers, but also art exhibitions. Stop by and see what they have to offer.

Miguel L. de Legaspy 810, 23000 La Paz (24.14795, -110.31730)

isc.cultura-bcs.gob.mx, +52 612 125 0207

G Rancho Viejo

Serves Mexican cuisine with a seafood basis. A pleasant establishment almost by the sea.

Márquez de León esq. Belisario Domínguez, La Paz, Mexico (24.15421, -110.32278)

ranchoviejolapaz.com, +52 624 128 46 47

H La Encantada

Not just a terrific wine bar that often hosts live music, but also a small gallery. There is always something happening here.

1245 Belisario Dominguez, 23000 La Paz, Mexico (24.16332, -110.31409)

galerialaencantada.com, +52 44 612 140 0391

I Biblioteca Pública Central Estatal Filemón C. Piñeda

The central state library provides access to a collection of books and offers free internet services.

La Paz 23000, Mexico (24.14759, -110.31750)

Mo–Fr 08:00–20:00

+52 612 125 0369

J Papas & Beer

Oceanfront venue featuring music, dancing, and a lively atmosphere.

Calle Topete, La Paz, Mexico (24.15522, -110.32397)

DATA SOURCES

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- Papas & Beer — "Casa Julia" by booking.com

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