

San Jose del Cabo

Los Cabos · Mexico

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

San José del Cabo is a quiet colonial town at the southern tip of the Baja California peninsula. It is calmer and more traditional than nearby Cabo San Lucas. The centre has a tree-lined plaza, a mission church, art galleries and restaurants, with a beach hotel zone along the coast.

It suits a relaxed stay of two to four nights, with food, galleries, beaches and day trips to whale watching or Cabo Pulmo.

When to visit

December to April is dry and sunny, and humpback whales visit the coast from about December to April. Summer is hot and humid, and the hurricane season runs from about June to November. Autumn has the highest risk of storms.

Art Walk on Thursday evenings in winter fills the galleries with visitors.

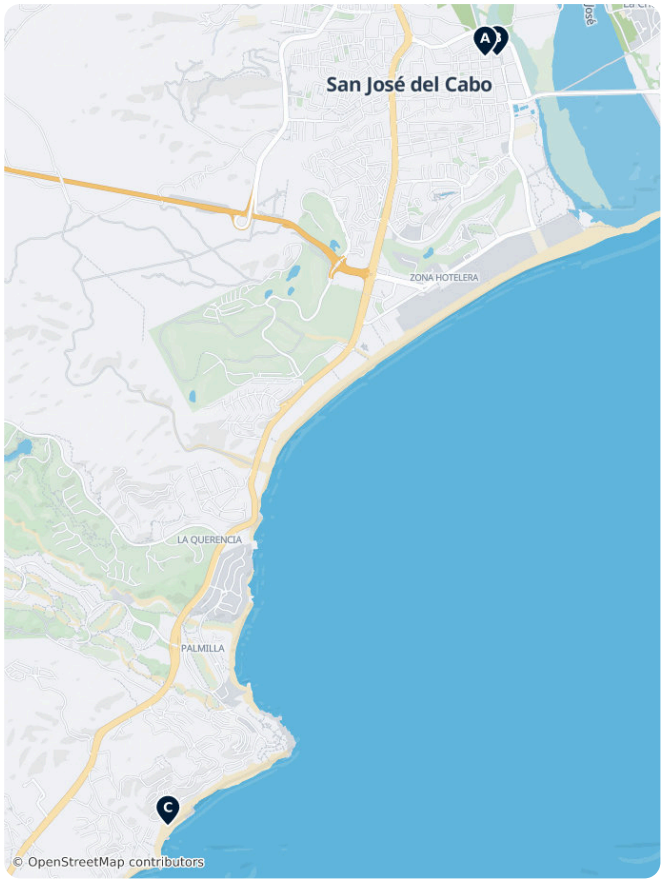
MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for the beach	26° / 30°	16° / 12°	22 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds
February	Great Great for the beach	27° / 30°	16° / 12°	22 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds
March	Great Great for the beach	28° / 31°	17° / 14°	26 sunny days · Dry air · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
April	Great Great for the beach	30° / 33°	19° / 16°	26 sunny days · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
May	Great Great for the beach	31° / 34°	21° / 18°	28 sunny days · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
June	Great Great for the beach	32° / 35°	24° / 21°	27 sunny days · Muggy, humid air · Calm winds · UV 11 (Extreme)
July	Great Great for watersports	33° / 36°	26° / 24°	22 sunny days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high)
August	Great Great for watersports	33° / 36° Feels like 37°	27° / 25°	Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 10 (Very high) · Up to 5 days above 35°
September	Good Good for watersports	32° / 35° Feels like 36°	26° / 24°	Oppressive humidity · Calm winds · UV 9 (Very high)
October	Great Great for watersports	32° / 35°	24° / 20°	25 sunny days · Oppressive humidity · Calm winds
November	Great Great for the beach	30° / 33°	20° / 17°	24 sunny days · Humid air · Calm winds
December	Great Great for the beach	27° / 30°	17° / 14°	22 sunny days · Calm winds

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

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

Top sights

- A Parroquia de San José is the mission church on the main plaza, with a tiled front and a pretty setting.
- B Plaza Mijares is the shaded town square, surrounded by cafes and restaurants.
- The art district around the plaza has many small galleries, open late on winter Thursday evenings.
- Estero San José is a wetland by the beach with many birds, good for a walk.
- C Palmilla Beach is a sheltered beach west of town, next to a resort area.



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What to experience

- Go whale watching from December to April on a small boat.
- Walk the gallery district on a winter Thursday evening.
- Eat at a farm-to-table restaurant, using local seafood and produce.
- Take a day trip to snorkel at Cabo Pulmo.

Day trips

- A Cabo San Lucas: about 40 minutes by car. Boat trips to the Arch, beaches and a busy marina.
- B Parque Nacional Cabo Pulmo: about 1.5 to 2 hours by car. A protected reef for snorkelling and diving.
- C La Paz: about 2.5 hours by car. A calm bay city with a seafront promenade.



Where to explore

- Cabo San Lucas for the marina, the Arch and boat trips.
- Parque Nacional Cabo Pulmo for one of the best reefs in the region.
- La Paz for a quieter Baja city on the Sea of Cortez.

Getting there

- **By air**: Los Cabos International Airport (SJD) is about 15 minutes north of town. It has flights from many cities in Mexico, the US and Canada. Shuttles and taxis serve the town.
- **By road**: The highway runs along the coast to Cabo San Lucas and north to La Paz. Buses go to both.

Getting around

- **On foot**: The old town is flat and walkable.
- **Taxi**: Taxis are the main way to reach beaches and the hotel zone. Agree the price first or use an app.
- **Rental car**: Useful for day trips to Cabo Pulmo or La Paz.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The historic centre is flat and compact. The hotel zone and beaches are a taxi ride away.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Low

Heat and highway traffic make cycling less practical.

Driving

- **Is a car worth it?**: Useful for Cabo Pulmo and La Paz, and for beaches away from town. Not needed for a stay in the centre.
- **Roads**: The main highway is in good condition. Dirt roads to remote beaches are rough, so check your rental terms.
- **Parking**: Street parking in the centre is easy. Hotels have their own parking.

Food & drink

Baja dishes use fresh seafood: fish tacos, ceviche, grilled lobster and shrimp. Many restaurants in town serve local produce from nearby farms. Baja wines and craft beer are widely available.

The streets around Plaza Mijares have a mix of casual taco places and more formal restaurants.

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 centre and hotel areas are generally safe. Take usual care with bags and phones at night.

- Ocean currents are strong on many beaches. Swim only where signs and lifeguards say it is safe.
- The sun is strong. Use sunscreen and drink plenty of water.
- Hurricane season is June to November. Follow weather news and your hotel's advice.
- Drink purified or bottled water.

History

A Jesuit mission was founded here in 1730 as a supply stop on the Baja peninsula. The town later grew on farming, and today on tourism.

Country facts

Quick practical facts for Mexico at a glance:

CURRENCY
MXN $

EMERGENCY
911

ELECTRICITY



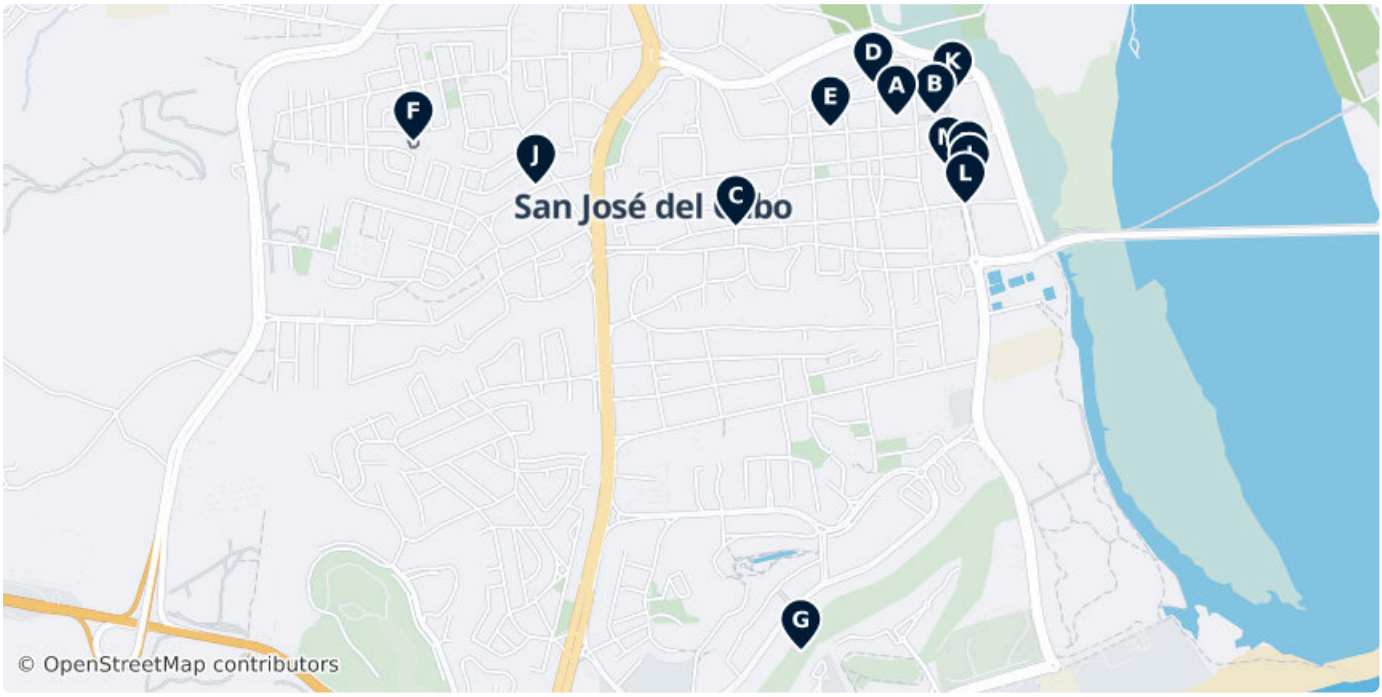
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LANGUAGES
Spanish

TAP WATER
Not safe to drink

San José del Cabo Essentials

San José del Cabo centers on the 18th-century Jesuit mission and the tree-lined Plaza Mijares. This collection spans the town's historic core, featuring colonial-style architecture, local craft markets, and a diverse culinary landscape. Dining options range from traditional Mexican BBQ at Las Guacamayas to upscale seafood at Mi Cocina. The list also includes the original Punta Sur golf course and wellness facilities at Six Senses Spa, reflecting the area's balance of historic preservation and modern resort amenities.





A San José del Cabo Mission

Mission San José del Cabo or San José del Cabo Cathedral was the southernmost of the Jesuit missions on the Baja California peninsula,...

Calle Ignacio Zaragoza, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.06213, -109.69585)

B Mijares Square

The town's picturesque square is lined with small cafés and shops and still retains a peaceful atmosphere.

Calle Ignacio Zaragoza, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.06216, -109.69481)

C Flea Market

Bargaining is the norm here, so step up, find something you fancy and try to get the best price. Great for souvenirs.

737 Calle Coronado, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.05936, -109.70024)

D Baja Brewing Company

This resort really does have its own brewery. You can stop for a dinner or just try one of their own brews.

19 Calle Álvaro Obregón, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.06296, -109.69649)

bajabrewingcompany.com, +52 624 146 9995

E Meson del Angel

An atmospheric restaurant situated in a beautiful courtyard. Try their blueberry mojito after dinner!

Zaragoza 222, San José del Cabo, Mexico (23.06185, -109.69766)

mesondelangelcabo.com, +52 624 142 2828

F Santuario De Nuestra Señora De Guadalupe

A Catholic sanctuary located several blocks from the main square, featuring a distinct modern architectural style compared to the town's historic mission.

130 Calle La Fragata, San José del Cabo 23443, Mexico (23.06148, -109.70904)

G Punta Sur Golf Course

The original course of Cabo San Lucas. Still fun to play and offers great prices for what you get.

Paseo Finisterra No. 1, 23400 San Jose del Cabo, Mexico (23.04872, -109.69846)

vidantagolf.com/pages_eng/los_cabos...., +52 624 142 0905

H Tropicana

A long-standing restaurant and bar specializing in traditional Mexican cuisine, often featuring live music and outdoor sidewalk seating.

Boulevard Antonio Mijares, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.06073, -109.69390)

I Don Sanchez Cantina Restaurante

A pleasant restaurant that double-serves as a bar in the evening. There is live music on some evenings.

Blvd. Mijares, San José del Cabo, Mexico (23.06039, -109.69386)

dsanchezcantina.com, +52 624 142 2444

J Las Guacamayas

A very casual and atmospheric place that serves several kinds of tacos and BBQ cuisine - all delicious.

635 Paseo de Los Marinos, San José del Cabo 23443, Mexico (23.06040, -109.70570)

lasguacamayas.com.mx

K Mi Cocina

Located within the Casa Natalia boutique hotel, this restaurant focuses on European-Mexican fusion with an emphasis on fresh local seafood and organic ingredients.

Boulevard Antonio Mijares, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.06273, -109.69432)

casanatalia.com

L Six Senses Spa

A superb spa offering the full portfolio of services - from traditional massages to cosmetics.

Boulevard Antonio Mijares, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.05992, -109.69398)

sixsenses.com.mx, +52 624 171 9211

M Casa Don Rodrigo

Housed in a historic 19th-century building, this restaurant is known for traditional Baja California Sur recipes and an on-site cheese cellar producing artisanal Queso del Rancho.

Boulevard Antonio Mijares, San José del Cabo 23400, Mexico (23.06084, -109.69445)

DATA SOURCES

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