



# Wildlife Research Institute presents: Baja Scammon's Lagoon Whale Expedition

Join us for an Expedition to one of the  
Most Unique Places on our Planet: **LAGUNA OJA DE LIEBRE**

## History of Laguna Oja de Liebre

It was in 1857 that an American whaling captain, Charles Melville Scammon, discovered the entrance to this lagoon which the Spaniards called Oja de Liebre, Eye of the Jack Rabbit. The warm, calm waters, shallow bays, and broad tidal flats served as a prolific whale breeding ground. But man's exploitation of these mammals for their precious oil almost led to their extinction. By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, only 2,000 California gray whales were in existence. In a conservation success story, the result of international treaties and extensive efforts of the Mexican government, the worldwide California gray whale population: Ballena Gris is now estimated at over 20,000.

Scammon's Lagoon is now a restricted sanctuary for marine mammals and migratory birds...and the whales have forgiven us. In fact they are called "friendlies" and the females bring their calves to our pangas for us to appreciate and commune with them. If this trip isn't on your bucket list...it should be. Forget whale watching from a cattle boat, where you might need binoculars IF you see a whale in the distance. This is a quiet panga, with thousands of whales all around you, looking at you, swimming all around your panga, and you might find yourself petting them or even stealing a kiss.

This expedition is a 6 night, 7 day trip from San Diego to Guerrero Negro in Baja California. Guerrero Negro is also home to over 100 pair of breeding Osprey.

Everyone has a window seat. Our expert lead guide is a biologist that has travelled extensively in Baja over the last 30 years. Our team biologist is also experienced in Baja whale expeditions, avian wildlife and the endemic plants of this remarkable peninsula.

Cost is \$2595 per person double occupancy, and \$2850 per person single occupancy. Cost includes transportation from San Diego, all lodging, 3 whale excursions, (most meals) 5 dinners and 3 lunches. \*does not include airfare to San Diego nor your \$28 travel visa purchased at border.

**To reserve your place or for more information**  
Call WRI at 760-765-1957 or email  
[leighbittner@gmail.com](mailto:leighbittner@gmail.com)



## Two Trips to choose from

- **March 6-March 12, 2016 Sun-Sat**
- **March 13-March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Sun-Sat**

Our touring expedition is the best way to truly discover Baja, and the unique plants, wildlife, culture, and beauty of the region. *We stop to smell the wildflowers!*

## Itinerary:

Day 1: Depart San Diego

- Hosted Lunch at Puerto Nuevo's Villa Ortega
- Visit Ensenada's Fish Market
- First night will be in Ensenada

Day 2:

- Breakfast in Hotel Corona, Ensenada early departure
- Visit La Bufadora, a natural wonder and a shopping gauntlet
- Continue to Hotel Mision Catavina in the midst of endemic desert plants in the Valle de los Cirios Preserve
- Hosted dinner at beautiful Catavina

Day 3:

- Morning in the desert, with many photo opportunities and a short hike
- Drive to Guerrero Negro to Hotel Las Caricoles
- Sunset Birding tour of marshes, old port, unique birding hot spot
- Hosted Dinner at Mallarimo restaurant

Day 4:

- Meet at Mallarimo for 7AM breakfast, bus to lagoon departs promptly at 8AM to our panga to visit whales 2 whale excursions AM & PM (lunches provided)
- Hosted Dinner & Evening celebration!

Day 5:

- After breakfast, drive out to Upper Bay of Scammon's for a different whale excursion experience.
- Hosted Dinner at the unique Upper Bay Cocina and see stars you forgot were in the sky
- Last night in Guerrero Negro

Day 6:

- After breakfast, drive to San Quintin and stay at beautiful beachfront Hotel Mision Santa Maria with free time on the beach and leisurely dinner

Day 7: Head to San Diego with your photos and your memories

