

# Gray Whale Caravan

March 13 - 19, 2011 • Seven Days/Six Nights



**Come witness one of the most amazing spectacles in the world!**

Join us! Experience the gathering of hundreds of gray whales in San Ignacio Lagoon where they mate, give birth and prepare their young for the arduous migration north to the Bering Sea.

On this trip, we'll caravan along the scenic Baja Peninsula in our own vehicles, maintaining radio contact along the way. We'll pass miles of beaches, bays, cinder cones, villages, rich agricultural valleys and towering cactus forests. Spend the night en route at a beautiful hotel resting on a pristine Pacific shoreline. The next day, we'll arrive in the oasis village of San Ignacio and explore this charming village with its 100,000 palms. Once at the lagoon, we'll venture in boats daily to see the whales as they spyhop, breach and bask in the lagoon.

The Kuyimá Ecolodge, which sits along the shore, will provide us with a comfortable retreat. Kuyimá provides cabins that are raised on platforms, each with a spectacular view of the lagoon. Inside each cabin are two beds with sleeping bags lined with freshly laundered linens, comfy pillows, and shelves to store your luggage. Kuyima also has a large dining palapa, solar showers and clean eco-friendly bathrooms.

Join us on this trip to see the amazing gray whales ~ an experience you'll savor for the rest of your life.

**INCLUDES:** Three nights hotel accommodations • Three nights at Kuyimá Ecolodge • All meals while at Kuyimá • Three excursions to see the whales\* • Kayaking • Welcome Fiesta Dinner

*\*Includes one trip daily to see the whales. Additional excursions will be offered for \$40 per person, per outing. Minimum of three people required.*

**COST:** \$995 per person (dbl. occ.)

**SINGLE SUPPLEMENT:** \$250

Trip participants must possess a valid passport.

**FEATURES NOT INCLUDED:** Roundtrip transportation from San Diego to San Ignacio Lagoon • Mexican vehicle insurance • Meals en route • Tourist Card • Tips to guides/waiters • Personal items • Trip Insurance

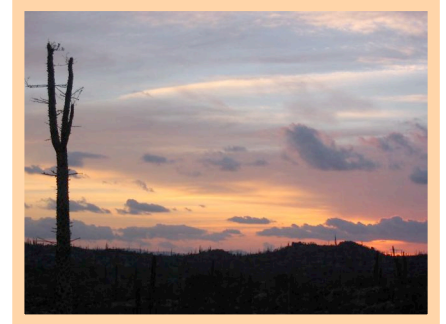
*Itineraries are subject to change according to the whims of nature and Baja and Beyond. A minimum of 18 people are required to conduct this trip.*



## ITINERARY

**MARCH 13: SAN DIEGO – SAN QUINTIN** ~ We'll cross the US/Mexico border and enjoy the scenic drive down the "Gold Coast" to Ensenada, then later stop for lunch in the rich agricultural valley of San Quintín. Arrive late afternoon at the Hotel Misión Santa María that rests among the dunes on a vast Pacific shoreline. Enjoy an afternoon stroll at your leisure.

**MARCH 14: SAN QUINTIN - SAN IGNACIO** ~ Today, enjoy some of the most spectacular scenery Baja has to offer.



Towering cacti and giant "jellybean" boulders create a stunning panorama as we drive through the Valle de los Cirios, a pristine desert protected by the Mexican Government. We'll stop for lunch in the salt manufacturing town of Guerrero Negro. Late afternoon, we'll arrive in the charming village of San Ignacio with its thousands of palm trees and 225-year-old mission. Explore, enjoy a "Welcome Fiesta Dinner," and get a good night's sleep in this tropical oasis.



**MARCH 15 – 16 -- 17: SAN IGNACIO - KUYIMA ECOLODGE** ~ Our drive this morning to San Ignacio Lagoon will take us past scattered ranches, salt flats and cactus, before arriving at the Kuyimá Ecolodge at the lagoon around mid-morning. After an orientation, we'll don our lifejackets and board the boats for our first whale-watching trip. We'll motor along the 17-mile-long lagoon to see the whales, some with their young. After whale watching, enjoy lunch and talk about our very first experience with these gentle giants.

Each morning, boats will take us out to see the whales. In the afternoons, we'll choose from activities including kayaking in the mangroves, bird watching, hiking, biking and exploring this pristine natural environment



**MARCH 18: KUYIMA ECOLODGE - CATAVINA** ~ Return to the village of San Ignacio and then head north to the Desert Inn Cataviña, our hotel nestled among the boulders.

**MARCH 19: CATAVINA-SAN DIEGO** ~ Head back to San Diego. Possible stop for lunch in Ensenada. Fish tacos anyone?

### BAJA AND BEYOND TOURS

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