



ATTA Post-Summit Adventure Tour: **Kayaking the Islands of Loreto Bay in the Sea of Cortez** *3-Day Sea Kayaking Experience with Aventuras Baja*



The islands of the Sea of Cortez contain striking natural beauty in a dramatic setting formed by rugged islands with high cliffs and sandy beaches, which contrast with the brilliant reflection from the desert and the surrounding turquoise waters. The area is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and offers the perfect blend of Baja kayaking, hiking and snorkeling. Abundant wildlife, massive whales, sunny weather and warm, crystalline waters make the Sea of Cortez in Loreto Bay National Marine Park one of the best winter sea kayaking and whale watching destinations in North America.

Imagine sea kayaking Baja in the warm, clear waters of Loreto Bay National Marine Park in Mexico's Sea of Cortez, paddling along a spectacular section of coastline and exploring desert islands which pierce the tranquil waters. The towering volcanic escarpments of the Sierra Giganta Mountains rising out of the sea create your backdrop. Red-hued desert colors, azure blue water and magical land formations give this area great aesthetic and photographic appeal.

These waters offer exceptional opportunities for viewing dolphins, sea lions and whales in the wild. High-flying frigate birds, blue-footed boobies and squadrons of pelicans are your companions as you kayak past manta rays and brightly colored fish. The warm, crystalline waters of the Sea of Cortez host a breathtaking array of tropical fish - perfect for snorkeling. Each winter endangered blue whales more than five times as long as your sea kayak migrate to these waters looking for tasty crustaceans. Encountering the largest animal on earth is a thrilling experience. Fin, Humpback and Sei whales also frequent the area.

Note that this kayak tour is supported by a full time motorboat (panga) that carries the bulk of our camping gear, thus making your kayaks lighter and more maneuverable. If we have six or more participants, our crew in the panga will reach camp ahead of the group and set up camp. With a smaller group the panga crew stays closer to the kayaks and doesn't arrive in camp as early, so will only do partial camp set up.

Day 1- December 2nd: Welcome to Loreto in Baja!

Upon your arrival in Loreto take a quick cab ride to the tour hotel and check into your pre-assigned room. Spend your afternoon exploring the beautiful town of Loreto. You can tour the historic Mission located in the center of town, stroll through the local market and dine on authentic Mexican cuisine before meeting your guides in the hotel lobby for an evening orientation meeting.

Meals Included: 0 (Travel Day)

Accommodations: [La Mision Hotel](#) or similar

Day 2 – December 3rd: Time to go kayaking

Please eat breakfast and be packed by the meeting time, where you will be shuttled to the kayak put-in site. After loading the boats, your guides will teach you the basics of paddling and thoroughly review safety procedures. The group won't leave shore until all participants feel comfortable. You'll make 50-minute, 2 to 3-mile crossings to the off-shore islands where you'll have a chance to snorkel and hike before lunch, and then kayak to your first night's campsite. Several campsites have desert arroyo hikes which offer spectacular views as well as some of the desert flora unique to Baja.

Accommodations: Camping

Meals Included: L, D

Paddling duration: 3-4 hours

Day 3 – December 4th: Kayaking in the Sea of Cortez

With the smell of coffee and hearty breakfast wafting through the air as you arise in the morning to get ready for a day of paddling. While paddling you will explore the scenic cliffs and coves of Isla Danzante and Isla Carmen. Opportunities for snorkeling, beachcombing, and hiking will be mixed into your day before you settle down at the next campsite for dinner and star gazing.

Accommodations: Camping

Meals Included: B, L, D

Paddling duration: 3-4 hours

Day 4 – December 5th: Return to Loreto

After a final breakfast, you will paddle to the take-out site and unpack your kayak while the guides prepare lunch. A van will return you to the hotel mid-afternoon to relax and clean up. In the evening, you are invited to join your group for an optional final farewell dinner (no host) to say good-bye and toast new found kayaking skills and friends.

Accommodations: [La Mision Hotel](#) or similar

Meals Included: B, L

Day 5 – December 6th: Departure Day

Say good-bye to lovely Loreto and head back to the airport to fly home or to your next travel destination.

Meals Included: 0 (Travel Day)

Cost for Non-Delegates: • \$490 + airfare

Trip Includes:

- Professional naturalist and bi-lingual guides
- All meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Hotel before and after the tour
- All transportation while on tour
- All kayaking, camping and snorkeling equipment

Trip Does Not Include:

- Airfare
- Transportation to and from the airport
- Gratuities
- Items of a personal nature