

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

BAJA CALIFORNIA CRUISE: AMONG THE GREAT WHALES

Each year California gray whales pause during their migrations to birth and nurse their calves in the lagoons on the Pacific side of Baja California. In the morning, head out in local pangas with naturalists and local guides for rare opportunities to observe them at water level. Not only are we often rewarded with a close encounter of calves and watchful mothers, mere feet away, but often we'll experience heart-touching eye contact with playful calves surfacing to interact with us. In the evening, hang out on deck under the stars, or depending on the calendar, a full moon, and listen to the whales breathing and moving around the ship. Encounters with these marvelous creatures don't end there as we head into the Sea of Cortez, where magical moments continue with possible sightings of other whale species and dolphins. Discover some of the wild Sea of Cortez islands we've been exploring for 30+ years, mapping out biodiverse hotspots that teem with life on land and under the sea.



ITINERARY

DAY 1: Loreto / San Carlos / Embark

Upon arrival in Loreto, transfer to San Carlos and embark National Geographic Venture. Tonight, we'll anchor off the coast of Isla Santa Margarita. (D)

DAY 2: Bahía Almejas / Rehusa Channel / Isla Magdalena

Awake anchored in Bahía Almejas, the southernmost part of the bay. We'll observe a large frigatebird colony en route to the spectacular whale grounds of Bahía Almejas. Whales in this part of the bay tend to be very active, seemingly oblivious to our presence, so settle in for some great experiences. During lunch, the ship will reposition to Isla Magdalena, where we'll head to shore to explore the ever-shifting sand dunes on a cross-island walk to one of the most pristine beaches in the Pacific. Bird watching can be excellent here with

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | wildearth-travel.com



abundant seabirds in action and shorebirds patrolling the beaches as they fatten up and prepare for long journeys to Arctic breeding grounds. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: Boca de Soledad

Each winter, during their long migration, gray whales travel south from their Arctic feeding grounds to breed and give birth and raise their calves in these sheltered waters. We'll transfer by motorcoach to Lopez Mateos and spend the full day observing, and with luck, interacting with these majestic creatures. Together with savvy local Mexican fishermen we've known for years, we'll board local boats to view the numerous mother-calf pairs that thrive in this sheltering region. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before heading back to the ship in late afternoon. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: Magdalena Bay / Cruising

Kickstart your day with morning stretch hosted by our onboard wellness specialist on the sun deck. After breakfast, if conditions permit, we'll explore the bay's vast mangrove system via kayak, standup paddleboard, and Zodiac, and learn how these ecosystems support their surroundings. This afternoon, we'll sail out through "La Entrada" as we leave Magdalena Bay behind. Traveling south along the coast of the peninsula, there is a chance of seeing a wide variety of marine life, including the largest animal on Earth, the blue whale. Hear naturalist talks and learn photography basics. (B,L,D)

DAY 5: Gorda Banks and Cabo Pulmo

Ease into the day with a majestic sunrise over the iconic Friars Rocks at Land's End. We'll spend the rest of the morning searching the seas of Gorda Banks seamount, a renowned gathering place for whales, especially humpbacks, dolphins, and other sea life. Following lunch, we'll set out to snorkel the pristine reefs of Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park, one of the most successful national marine parks in the world, and chat with locals about their advocacy to protect this unique place. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: Los Islotes and La Paz

Awake this morning off the rocky island of Los Islotes, where we'll don flippers,

a mask, and snorkel (which we provide) and swim with curious sea lions. Then we'll reposition to the colorful city of La Paz to garner insight into the culture of Mexico, soak in the vibrant street art, and stroll the lively "Malecon." Dinner will be an unforgettable cultural experience, complete with local cuisine, dancing, and folklore. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: Exploring the Sea of Cortez

Our plan is flexible as we explore some of the Sea's many uninhabited islands. Our captain and Expedition Leader will choose the perfect combination of activities for the day. We may go ashore at Isla San Francisco, where a sweeping arc of white sand beach beckons you to kayak or stand-up paddleboard. Or hike with your naturalist to the nearby ridge for unparalleled views over Isla Danzante. You may also visit the abandoned salt works on Isla Carmen. You'll get a chance to see the great diversity offered in the Sea of Cortez, and with some luck, spot the amazing wildlife. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: Loreto / Disembark

Disembark in Loreto after breakfast and transfer to the city center. Here you can choose to visit the first mission in Baja California, as well as the nearby museum to learn more about what makes this town so special. Enjoy free time to explore the quaint shops and vibrant side streets. After lunch, transfer to Loreto Airport for flights home. (B,L)

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC VENTURE

YOUR SHIP: National Geographic Venture

VESSEL TYPE: Expedition Ship

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 100

BUILT/REFURBISHED: 2017

National Geographic Venture is the perfect ship to explore Alaska's Inside Passage and beyond.

Cabins & Suites

The luxury of comfort on expedition

National Geographic Venture comfortably accommodates 100 guests in 50 outside-facing cabins. Cabins are efficiently designed, with sizes range from the 136-square-foot category 1 to the 185-square-foot category 5 suite. Twenty-two of the 50 cabins will feature small balconies with floor-to-ceiling sliding doors that bring in the spectacular views and ample natural light. Twelve cabins will connect via internal doorway access allowing families to combine their rooms. Plus, all category 5 suite cabins can accommodate a third person on a convertible sofa bed.

Comfort & convenience in every room

Every cabin has two portholes, a large window or balcony, Wi-Fi access, and temperature controls. Bathrooms are modern and stocked with botanically inspired hair products, soap, and shower gel, plus a hairdryer. Every room has outlets and USB outlets for charging your camera gear or electronics, and space for luggage storage.

Life Aboard

Dining

Food served aboard is fresh, local, and delicious, and sourced from suppliers who share our values of sustainable use whenever possible. Meals aboard are almost always served in the dining room, located aft of the lounge deck. When weather conditions allow, lighter fare may be served on the observation deck. There is no assigned seating and our dining room accommodates the entire expedition community in a single seating. During meals your expedition leader, naturalists, and any guest speakers aboard will join you.

Public spaces

National Geographic Venture was designed with 50 years of expedition heritage. The ship features a specially-designed, open bow and an observation deck for gathering to watch for wildlife or enjoy an evening cocktail with friends in the open air. An elevator access all decks, and public restrooms are available on every deck.

Bridge: You're invited to the ship's bridge to see the calm business of navigation unfold. Ask the watch officer Ventureions about navigation. Or, help yourself to the ever-ready binoculars to scan the horizon for whale spouts. There may occasionally be times when the bridge must be restricted to shipboard personnel only.

Lounge: The lounge is the heart of our expedition community, where we hold cocktail hour and Recap each evening. It's also where you'll gather for presentations, photography talks, and guest speaker presentations. Seating design takes advantage of



Wild Earth Travel
Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | wildearth-travel.com



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

the wraparound windows for an optimal view, and boasts multiple high-definition screens for slideshows and videos. Forward lounge doors provide direct access to the bow. There's also a small reference library and board games and cards are also available.

Bar: The bar is typically open from 11 a.m. until one hour after lunch begins and from 5 p.m. until closing. A variety of beverages are available for purchase including wine by the glass or bottle, cocktails, specialty drinks, and spirits. There is also a 24-hour self-service beverage station with coffee, tea, soft drinks, beer, water, ice, and snacks. The drinking age aboard the ship is 21.

Sundeck: Morning stretch classes are held in the open air of the sundeck, located aft on the observation deck. After stretch class the deck is set with tables and chairs, and lounge chairs.

Bow: National Geographic Venture's specially-designed bow observation area accommodates the entire expedition community at once for a shared wildlife viewing experience.

Mud room: Located aft on the main deck where you will embark and disembark expedition landing craft, the mud room has lockers that provide convenient gear and boot storage.

Wellness aboard

Making daily discoveries and exploring the wild world is naturally uplifting. Add to that a variety of wellness treatments available aboard, as well as outings led by your wellness specialist, and you'll find your expedition relaxing as well as revitalizing. Massages, body treatments, natural facial treatments, and hand and foot treatments are all available in the LEXspa. You will have the opportunity to sign up for a treatment once on board.

Fitness Center: Conveniently located on the lounge deck, the fitness center is outfitted with two treadmills, exercise bikes, elliptical machines, exercise bands, and sets of small hand

weights to use as well.

The global gallery: a window on regional talent

Discover the talent of local artisans in the places National Geographic Venture ventures in the ship's global market. The global market is a collection of items made by local residents in the places we explore. It is conveniently located on the ship's lounge deck. You may find silver jewelry crafted in Alaska, woven baskets from Panama, paintings and books by your naturalist staff, plus expedition clothing and other essentials. Every item purchased in the global market contributes to the Lindblad Artisan Fund, which supports artisans in communities around the world to develop their potential more effectively and successfully. Five percent of all National Geographic Venture's global market sales will be earmarked for this fund, and the Lindblad-National Geographic Fund will match dollar for dollar what is raised through these earmarks.

Tools for Exploration

Expedition Landing Craft

Key to our operation is our fleet of expedition landing craft, which we use to land in places that would otherwise be inaccessible. With 8 of these boats and two loading stations used every time we disembark, we're able to transfer guests off the ship quickly, so you can be out on adventures, not idly waiting. The expedition landing craft we use are 19 feet long, powered by four-stroke outboard engines, and are capable of comfortably carrying 10-12 people. They are widely recognized as the safest and most versatile small boats afloat.

Remotely Operated Vehicle

Capable of reaching 1,000 feet, far beyond the range of any Scuba diver, the ROV allows you to literally view parts of the undersea that are as unexplored as the moon. Chances are you, like many of our guests, will be struck by how surprisingly

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | **1800 107 715** (within Australia)

info@wildearth-travel.com | wildearth-travel.com

Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures



wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

colorful undersea life is in these unlikely places. And this glimpse may fundamentally change how you view the ocean.

Kayaks

National Geographic Venture is equipped with 24 two-person kayaks--a fleet large enough to ensure everyone who wants to can paddle at every opportunity.

Consequently, prior kayaking experience isn't necessary--many of our guests have their first kayaking experience in extraordinary locations. Our custom-designed floating platform lets us deploy kayaks from the ship, or any location we want--including far from shore. Kayakers are usually free to explore where they want within boundaries set by the undersea specialist and officer of the watch.

Underwater camera

Our undersea specialist will dive often during your expedition, even in Alaska, with cold-water gear, to shoot high-definition, Cousteau-like footage of the deep. Colorful nudibranchs, swimming, plant-like crinoids, and mysterious fish with antifreeze blood that thrive in the frigid sea will give you an entirely new appreciation of the marine environment.

Video microscope

Naturalists will use the video microscope to help explain all elements of the environment, including tiny organisms that are the building block of the marine ecosystem. Spellbinding live views of krill at 80x magnification fills the high-definition screens in the lounge with vivid detail, and fills every onlooker with a sense of wonder at the importance of otherwise unobservable creatures.

Hydrophone

This underwater microphone is deployed to listen to the vocalizations of marine mammals. Real time transmissions of their eerie, haunting sounds can be broadcast through the ship

or recorded for later playback. Few experiences in nature are as captivating as watching humpback whales feed close to the ship as their vocalizations play through the ship's PA system.

Electronic charts

An electronic chart showing the ship's location, course, and speed is almost always on display in the lounge.

Open bridge

You'll find our captains are engaged, knowledgeable members of your expedition who are eager to share their passion with you. Venture's open bridge features comfortable spaces to sit, enjoy the view, drink your morning coffee, or simply chat with the officers.

Snorkeling gear & wetsuits

On warm weather itineraries where there will be snorkeling, you'll select a mask, snorkel, fins, and wetsuit that remain yours for the duration of the expedition. There's no need to pack and tote your own gear, although guests who prefer to are welcome to bring their own.



their own.

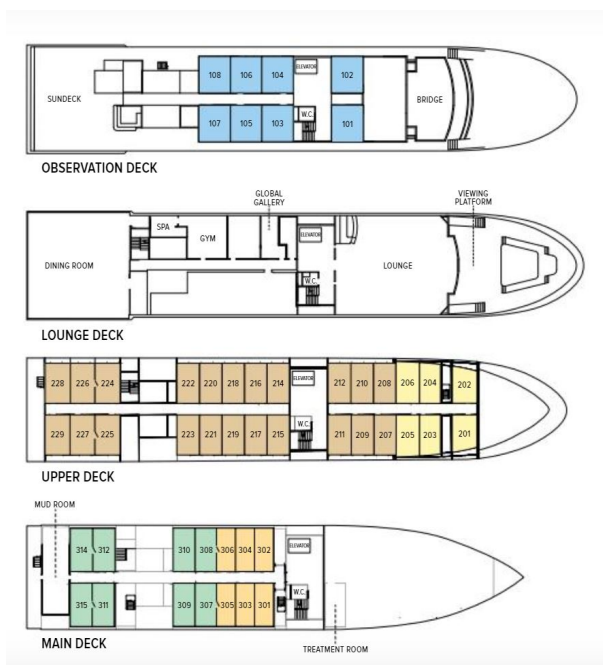
Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

INSIDE YOUR SHIP



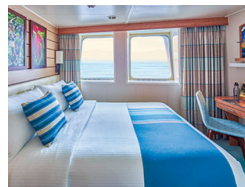
Category 1



Category 2



Category 3



Category 4



Category 5 Suite



Wild Earth Travel

Small Ships, Big Adventures

wildearth-travel.com

info@wildearth-travel.com

PRICING

03-Jan-2026 to 10-Jan-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 10700 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 12370 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 13400 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 14780 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 16400 AUD pp |

10-Jan-2026 to 17-Jan-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 10300 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 11920 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 12900 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 14240 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 15800 AUD pp |

17-Jan-2026 to 24-Jan-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 10300 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 11920 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 12900 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 14240 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 15800 AUD pp |

24-Jan-2026 to 31-Jan-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 10520 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 12170 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 13170 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 14540 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 16130 AUD pp |

31-Jan-2026 to 07-Feb-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 10000 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 11560 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 12520 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 13810 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 15330 AUD pp |

07-Feb-2026 to 14-Feb-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 10730 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 12430 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 13450 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 14840 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 16470 AUD pp |

14-Feb-2026 to 21-Feb-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 11320 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 13100 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 14170 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 15650 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 17360 AUD pp |



PRICING

21-Feb-2026 to 28-Feb-2026

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Category 1 | 10730 AUD pp |
| Category 2 | 12430 AUD pp |
| Category 3 | 13450 AUD pp |
| Category 4 | 14840 AUD pp |
| Category 5 Suite | 16470 AUD pp |



SPECIAL OFFERS

****SUITE EXCLUSIVES****

Spacious living areas and incredible views immerse you in the beauty of your marine surroundings. Our new Suite Exclusives package helps make your voyage all the more memorable.

****10% OFF BACK-TO-BACK VOYAGES****

Save 10% on consecutive departures, applicable on voyage fares only and not valid on extensions or airfare. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

****SAVE 5% TRAVELING AS A GROUP****

Save 5% when traveling as a group of eight or more people. Valid on voyage fares only and not applicable on extensions or airfare. Deposit, final payments, and cancellation policies for group travel vary from our regular policies. Valid for new bookings only, subject to availability, and may not be combined with other offers. Call for details.

****BRINGING THE KIDS****

We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So take \$715 off for each child under the age of 18.

****COMBINING OFFERS****

Combine now and save!

Certain offers may be combinable, up to two savings opportunities, except where noted otherwise. For example, travel with a group of 8 or more on back-to-back expeditions, and take advantage of both savings.

Optional extras & upgrades

Two-Night Blue and Fin Whale Loreto Extension. From 1600 AUD