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at the One&Only Palmilla

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FROM  
MEXICO"**

**BT**  
SWEEPSTAKES

*Roselyn  
Loves Baja!*

LOS CABOS  
#UNSTOPPABLE



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Today we are ready as always.

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# BAJA MAP



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## BEACH

Life has a tidal rhythm here, whether it's a meditative moment at dawn, an off-road bike trek midday or a gallop on horseback in the surf at sunset. The gulls, the panga boats, the mist and the salt air merge. Artisan shops, galleries and restaurants infuse the vibrant spaces with color and combine with sophisticated design and modern conveniences in an intimate beachfront colony of new homes that will be just three miles from the historic town of Todos Santos.

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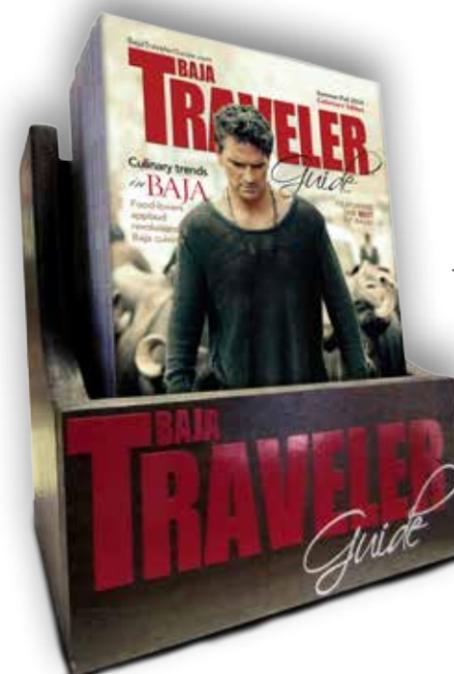


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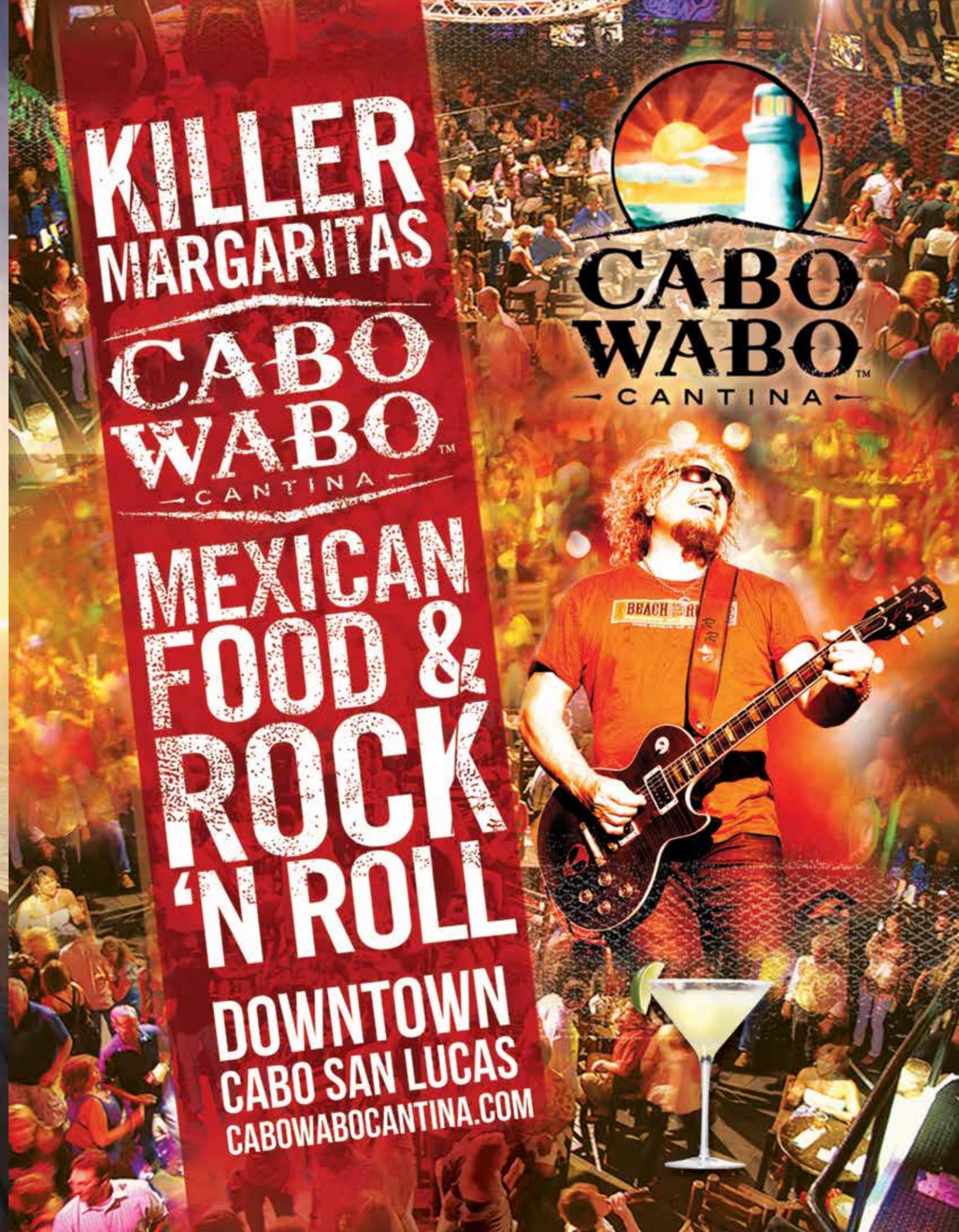
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## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Travel is a gift we give ourselves...

To see the world beyond our doorstep, to understand different cultures, to see how society and the planet is changing... Travel opens our eyes and gives us greater insight into the world – into other cultures; I know it has made me a wiser, more understanding human being... and yes – it also makes us more appreciative of what we have.

As editor of this publication, I hope you share with me the desire for travel – especially to Mexico. Mexico is a very rich travel destination with a lot to offer... Although the country has gone through a lot in the past decade, nothing compares to what the state of Baja California Sur went through this past September 14th, when hurricane Odile swept half the town away... Being outside the state at the time, we did what we know how to do best – spread the word of what had happened and collect as many donations as we could.

We succeeded in our goal via United4Baja – you may read more about it on page 36... It was astonishing to see how people – everywhere, just wanted to help. Our team was working 20-hour days; we were exhausted, but to see everyone pulling together for the same cause gave us the energy to keep going. Many people continue working for this cause – as Los Cabos recuperates... The Tourism Board launched the “Unstoppable” campaign... Our dear friend, Sammy Hagar is working on a big music festival this coming Spring – and we’re certain a lot more is in the works.

As we celebrate our 16th Anniversary, we hope you will – once again, enjoy learning about the beautiful settings, as well as meeting Mexico’s Movers and Shakers, and feel the same glimmer of optimism that we have about the future for Mexico, but most importantly for both Baja California and Baja California Sur.

I am so pleased over our cover – Roselyn Sanchez is not only gorgeous on the outside – but inside as well! And lately we are seeing her adorn many covers – this is truly her year!!! She was most recently voted the “sexiest” Latina on TV... Thank you, Roselyn... (and Joe) for granting us an award winning cover!

We also celebrate the amazing Laura Pausini... She is truly breathtaking – soooo down to earth and so friendly. Do read her article on her latest world tour. We are so thankful that Greg Norman recuperated from his accident and are delighted to continue having him edit our Golf section. Please read his article on the Best of Mexican Golf on page 78. We’re also featuring Esai Morales – who loves Cabo... we had the privilege of spend some time with him in his recent trip... his article is on page 176.

For those of you planning a wedding soon... please keep Baja in your radar, our article on page 102 will give you a lot of information on saying “I do” across the border. Food-lovers continue applauding the revolutionary cuisine in Baja, do read the article starting on page 106. Furthermore, for those looking for an affordable retirement home, there are incredible opportunities in the real estate market. Baja has much to offer, including areas where the purchasing power of the dollar buys more than ever before. Do read the Real Estate editorials of Leticia Díaz Rivera and Rudy Valdes starting on page 84.

Finally, I wish to thank my wonderful staff – writers, photographers, assistants and designers, and a very special thanks to Kim and Mario, who put their heart and soul into the design of this issue – and the website. This magazine would not be possible without all of your truly top-notch talents. And, a special thanks to the advertisers and readers of Baja Traveler®. Your endorsements and support have been heart-warming and comforting during these past sixteen years.

The Warmth and Beauty of Mexico Await You!  
Mayté Rodríguez Cedillo

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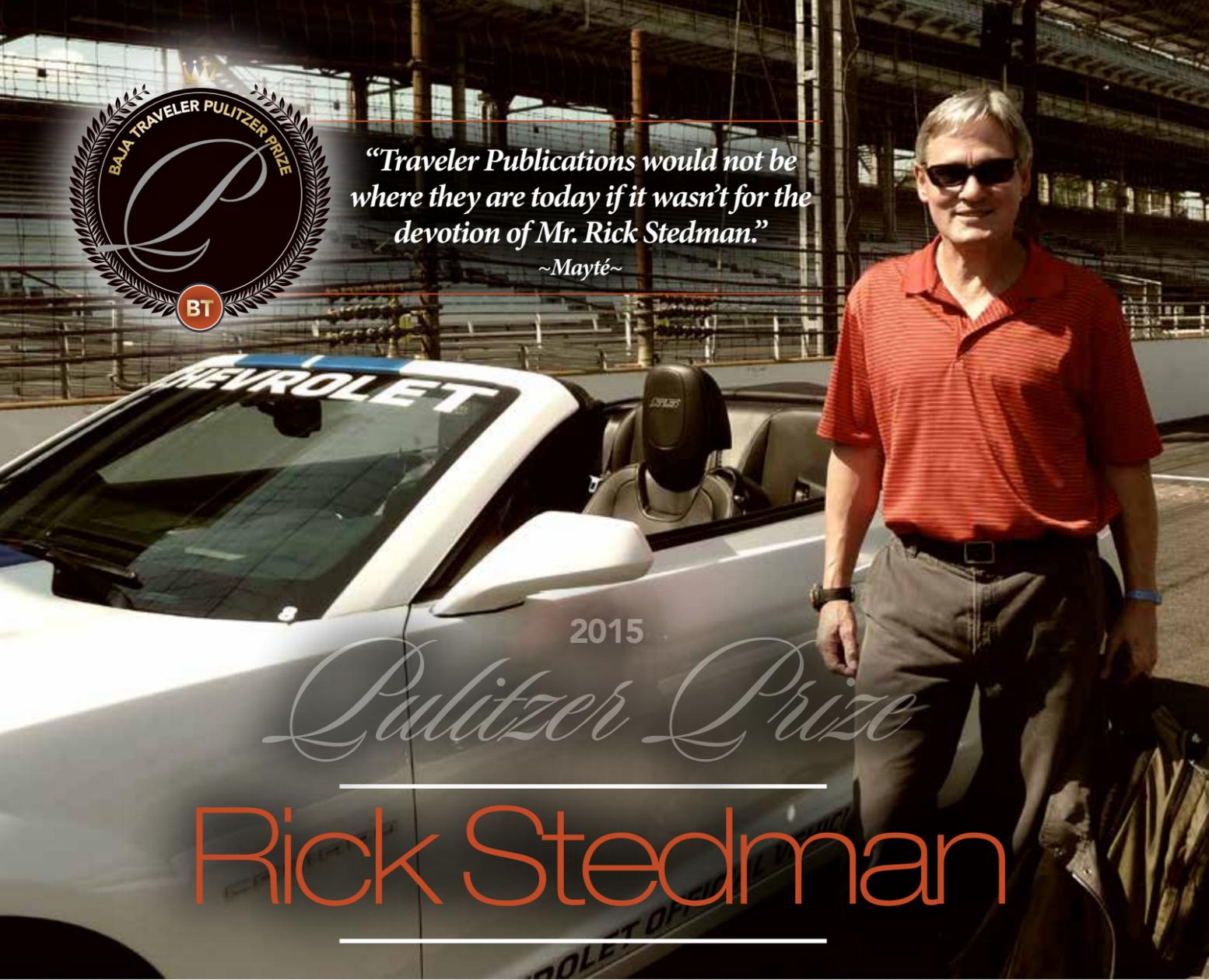
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*“Traveler Publications would not be where they are today if it wasn’t for the devotion of Mr. Rick Stedman.”*

*~Mayté~*



# Rick Stedman

Our very own “Pulitzer” prize is presented to Rick Stedman for his dedication to Traveler Publications. Traveler Publications has been promoting the Best of Mexico in its annual glossy presentations and distributing them all over the world for the past 16 years.

Rick has served as Senior Travel editor for Traveler Publications for the past 8 years. An award-winning writer, Rick has been a travel writer for 15 years, Rick has written extensively about Mexico over the last decade to include business profiles and golf course reviews. His golf features and travel articles about Mexico have also appeared in MexicoTraveler®, Alaska Airlines inflight magazine and Visit Los Cabos. An avid golfer, Rick keeps a constant pulse on the golf scene in the Baja Peninsula. He’s also teed it up in several countries including numerous venues in Mexico, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, Israel, and most recently, Iceland. “In addition to Hawaii, Mexico offers some of the most stunning courses on the planet,” says Rick. “I tell my friends that I’ve played some of my worst golf on some of the best courses in the world; many of those in Mexico.” A graduate of Washington State University in Pullman, Wash., Rick’s alma mater features the best golf course in the Pacific 12 Conference: Palouse Ridge Golf Club. Shortly after graduation – less than 12 hours in fact – Rick was on a plane headed to Africa where he

served a stint in the Peace Corps, teaching English in the Central African Republic.

A consummate fan of Hemingway, Steinbeck, and Mark Twain, Rick joined the Army and traveled extensively throughout Europe while stationed in Germany for more than two years. “I thought the wanderlust would subside after two years of non-stop traveling, but that experience only fueled the fire,” he reflects.

A few of his favorite travel adventures include running on the Great Wall of China; golfing the northernmost U.S. golf course in Fairbanks, Alaska on the summer solstice; and while in Jerusalem, standing in awe before the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site of Jesus’ crucifixion, burial, and Resurrection. **BT**

*“We applaud Ricks’ outstanding contributions in support to Mexico’s tourism and to Traveler Publications. It is with sincere appreciation that we thank Rick Stedman for his years of friendship and service in promoting the Best of Mexico – to the world,”* concluded Mayté.



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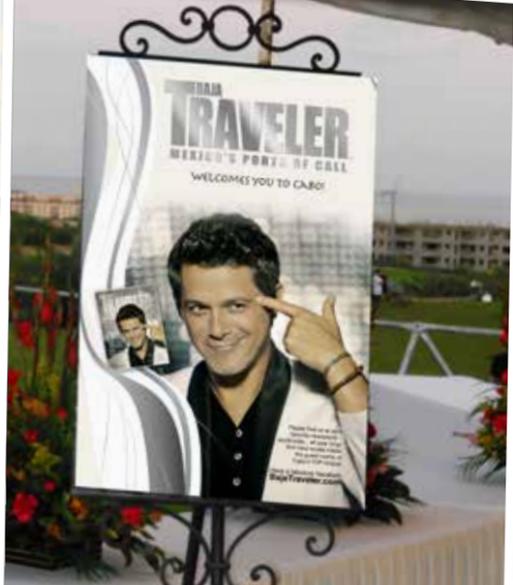
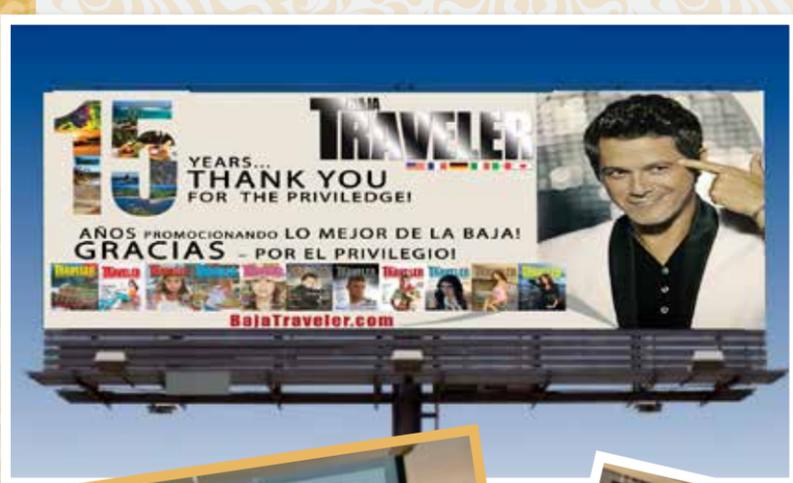
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Nina Ornstein ...is our model on this page and one of our newest contributors!



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# Mexico Traveler

## CONTRIBUTORS I



### Pat Tyson

Born and educated in England, Pat Tyson traveled around Europe, lived for a year in Lausanne, Switzerland, perfecting her French. In search of a new life, she moved to the United States in the early 60s. Landing in Chicago, she worked for two large advertising agencies, then later moved to San Diego where again academia called and she earned a master's in telecom and film at SDSU. She taught college journalism 10 years, as well as joining San Diego Home/Garden magazine when it was first published in 1979. As Executive Editor, Pat has written for Traveler Publications since the beginning in 1998, traveling to many wondrous spots in Mexico to write about them. The journey by train through the spectacular Copper Canyon was unforgettable; the dolphins cavorting around the boat in the Sea of Cortés – thrilling! She has never ceased to be enchanted by the people, cuisine and scenic beauty of Mexico. She is now living in Texas... and enjoying her kids and grandchildren.

Pat was awarded the B.T. Pulitzer prize in 2011.



### Karin Leperi

Karin Leperi is an award-winning writer and photographer with an admitted passion for diverse cultures and the natural environment. With specialties ranging from travel, cuisine and culture to entertainment, natural resources and the environment, she enjoys crafting her words and articles around images of people and places. Karin has been a Traveler Publications Associate Executive Editor for almost twelve years now and is excited about the growth and diffusion the magazines have attained.

Karin was awarded the B.T. Pulitzer prize in 2012.



### Beth Purcell Cordasco

Beth Purcell Cordasco has a Masters degree in Latin American Studies, and delights in both reading about and traveling to all parts of the region. She has traveled extensively in Mexico, from summer-long stays to study Spanish in Guadalajara, to long weekends in Los Cabos – she loves it all. Oaxaca, Tulum, and Zihuatanejo are three of her favorite spots, and a month-long Mexican yoga retreat is about the best thing she can imagine. Beth is the editorial director of a medical publishing company, and has written various health and lifestyle pieces for travel magazines and websites such as Travel Hat, Mexico Traveler, Baja Traveler and more. Mexico is a subject that Beth loves to write about, as its beauty and slower pace of life are two things she greatly values. Additionally, the warmth of the Mexican people cannot

be matched, and, well, who doesn't love a perfect margarita?

Beth was awarded the BT Pulitzer prize in 2013. Beth is pictured here with her beautiful daughters; Anneke, Merrell & Capri.

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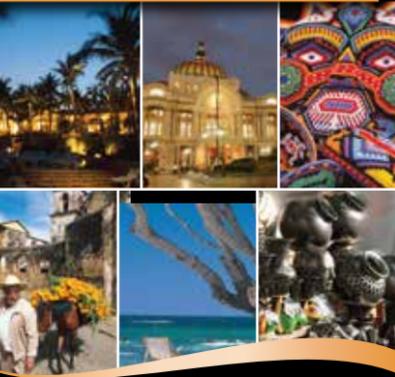
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## CONTRIBUTORS II



### Rick Stedman

Rick Stedman is an experienced freelance writer and editor from Yakima, Washington. He's traveled extensively throughout North America and Europe, and has lived in Africa and the Middle East. A regular visitor to the Baja region, Rick has written numerous golf and travel features for a variety of publications, including RV Life magazine, The Oregonian, Golf Online, Marine Digest, Snowshoe Magazine, Visit Los Cabos, Best Places Northwest, iGolf.com and Your Health. When not traveling or writing, Rick

loves to read, golf, and snowshoe. Rick enjoys writing for Traveler Publications!

Rick is this year's proud recipient of the B.T. Pulitzer.



### Sylvia Mendoza

Growing up a Navy brat, Sylvia Mendoza lived in Hawaii, Guam and later, Puerto Rico – and had the opportunity to vacation in different countries. Even though she loves coming home to San Diego, she has always been intrigued with different cultures, traveling, and storytelling...

As an award-winning journalist for a variety of publications, Sylvia believes in the power of the written word and that every person has a story to tell. For magazines like Mexico Traveler and Baja Traveler, her passion is writing feature stories and profiles that bring out the best of people. The

best part of her job is learning something new from every person she interviews and every topic she researches. Sylvia has also authored several books. Her nonfiction *The Book of Latina Women: 150 Vidas of Passion, Strength & Success* was the 2014 first place winner in the International Latino Book Awards, "Best Women's Issues" category.



### Stacie Gottsegen

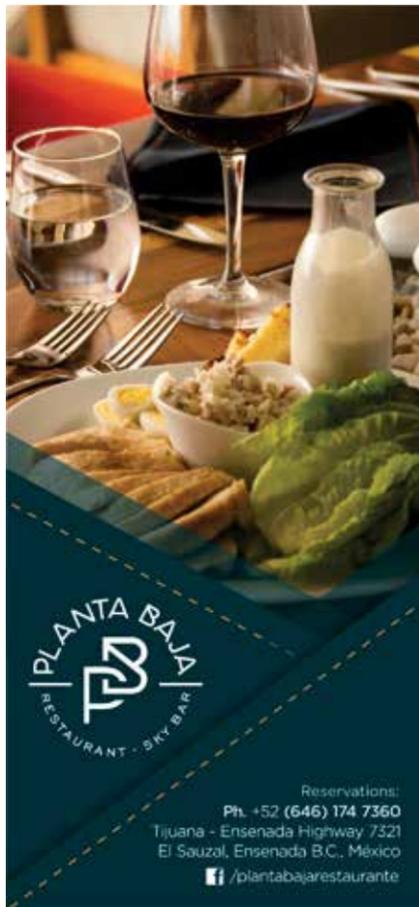
Stacie Gottsegen is a television producer, writer and culinary junkie. She began her career at NBC Burbank with "Baja Traveler" publisher Mayté Rodríguez Cedillo... Their bond was sealed the day they put on their navy blue page uniforms. Stacie is also a senior news and talent producer for entertainment and news magazine programs. A native "Angeleno" known for her calm demeanor and her sense of humor, Stacie lives in Brentwood, California with her fiancé Gregory Gieras and their adopted cat, Esme. Stacie is thrilled to be contributing to both BajaTraveler and MexicoTraveler as the "Celebrity" Correspondent – and soon World Traveler.



### Jeanie Casison

Born in San Diego, California and raised in the suburbs of Washington, D.C., Jeanie Casison was on the move starting at an early age when family trips brought her everywhere from the provinces of the Far East to the amusement parks of Florida. After graduating from New York University, Casison was fortunate to find a writing job that allowed her to pursue her passion for foreign places and reveling in new experiences. Over the years she has traveled extensively throughout Europe, Asia, North America, South America, the Middle East and the Caribbean to cover destination developments. During a brief stint as senior writer for NYC

& Company, the official tourism marketing of New York City, Casison worked behind the scenes to bring more visitors to the Big Apple, where she currently resides. Casison considers watching the whales of Cabo, visiting Petra in Jordan, and shopping in Hong Kong and São Paulo, Brazil among her favorite pursuits on her growing list of travel adventures. Jeanie enjoys writing for Traveler Publications as she is a frequent traveler to Mexico.



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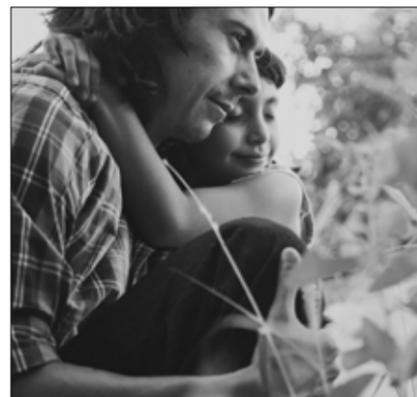
### Mario Gabriel Rodríguez

Mario is currently studying at San Diego State University and working for his undergraduate degree... As if this wasn't enough, he is working part time at Traveler Publications and helping out in every aspect of the business – primarily in the accounting, art and editorial departments... How he manages to get so much work done – is impressive! We are extremely grateful for all the long hours he contributes and we can't wait for him to be with us full time. His latest passion – is his newest acquisition – his F800R BMW.



### Nina Ornstein

Nina is a long time fan of B.C.S. She moved to Todos Santos with her family from Seattle 22 years ago, calling both the U.S. and Mexico home. Her love for Baja is deeply rooted in the community, nature and culture. Three years ago, Nina's passion for Baja blossomed into her business, Paraiso Adventures. Nina now resides in NYC, visits Baja frequently, and curates wellness travel around the world. Nina enjoyed writing two articles for this current edition – Baja Travelin' and Baja Bounces Back. You can find Nina's company at [www.ParaisoAdventures.com](http://www.ParaisoAdventures.com)



### Josafat de la Toba

Josafat is originally from the island of Cedros in B.C.- he started his studies in La Paz and finalized them in Cabo San Lucas... He holds a degree in Graphic Design. Years after working in advertising agencies he discovered that photography was his passion. In 2009 he bought his first camera and the rest is history... His magnificent photographs can be found throughout the pages of this issue... His latest discovery is the love for wedding photography – and we're certain he'll master it. You can find his work at [www.josafatdelatoba.com](http://www.josafatdelatoba.com)

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# Baja Travelin'

BY NINA ORNSTEIN | PHOTO BY JOSAFAT DE LA TOBA

Keeping your mind, body and soul aligned while traveling is the best way to optimize any holiday. Preparing for travel in Baja may seem tricky, but armed with a little knowledge, it's actually quite simple. Creating a wellness plan is encouraged prior to any vacation. After all, your time away is valuable, and maintaining health provides enjoyment and substance to your journey. Reshaping a vacation into an enriched exploration can change more than your physique; it can alter your mindset, resulting in a new perspective on life.

## PACK SMART.

Luggage en route to Baja should always include light, airy layers to protect skin from the sun, while still allowing it to breathe. A large hat, or sombrero, shields the face, neck, chest and upper back from the intense desert sun. We advise this for beach bums and excursion enthusiasts alike. Always pack sunscreen of at least 30 SPF for the body and 50 for the face, neck, and chest – waterproof is ideal! Remember to reapply sunscreen often, especially following water activities. Preventing sun damage should be a huge priority for anyone traveling to this region.

## STAY HYDRATED.

Drinking filtered water frequently and consuming fresh fruits and vegetables is advantageous for maintaining a healthy, hydrated body. Another perk of this subtropical climate is the ample coconut supply. Sipping

on this tropical treat provides high levels of potassium, an electrolyte that regulates the fluids and nutrients in the body.

## GET MOVING.

Increasing circulation detoxifies the body while toning things up. Baja boasts several opportunities to sweat, so take your pick! Surfing, diving, hiking, walking, SUP, and kayaking are fun, effective forms of exercise. Local group fitness classes are also a fantastic solution for those more inclined to explore. Search online or ask a local about facilities offering yoga, Pilates, or dance. Connecting with the local culture through wellness is a magical experience. Through this unity, more than just your muscles will be engaged, an immersive experience will fine-tune the mind, body, and soul.

## EAT MINDFULLY.

One of the most satisfying aspects of visit-

ing Mexico is the fresh, zesty flavor. When dining out, order with careful consideration of how your body responds to certain foods. If fried foods typically cause discomfort, request for your fish tacos a la plancha, or grilled. Consult with locals for restaurant recommendations; they know where the hidden gems are! When it comes to alcohol consumption, moderation is key, as is staying hydrated. Implementing good hygiene can prevent serious digestive ailments. We advise washing your hands with soap frequently, especially prior to eating.

As in all travel, awareness of your surroundings is extremely important to your safety and health. Be good to your body and it will certainly return the favor. Keep these wellness practices in mind while visiting beautiful Baja for an enhanced travel experience that will leave you feeling rejuvenated and satisfied. Happy exploring, adventurers! **BT**



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# BAJA'S TOP TEN

BY BETH PURCELL CORDASCO  
PHOTO BY JOSAFAT DE LA TOBA

## 01 WHALE WATCHING

**See Gray Whales up-close in their natural habitat at San Ignacio Lagoon,** January through April. Did you know that Gray Whales have migrated to San Ignacio Lagoon for thousands of generations, and that San Ignacio Lagoon is the only Gray Whale birthing lagoon in the world that has been left untouched by man? Plus, it has a local community working to keep it a protected sanctuary. What could be more incredible that a giant gray whale approaching your small panga (boat)? Awe-inspiring!

## 02 CAÑÓN DE GUADALUPE

Truly an extraordinary setting, one of the most beautiful in Mexico, is **Cañón de Guadalupe**, and it's so close to the United States border! The thermal water oasis is only 50 miles from Mexicali, off the Mexicali - Tijuana highway, at kilometer 28. After the highway turnoff the rest of the way is dirt road, with the last 5 miles or so much easier to navigate in higher-clearance vehicles.

## 03 SURFING TODOS SANTOS

**The Surfing off of Isla Todos Santos**, actually a pair of islands about 19.3km (12mi) off Ensenada, is some of the best in the world. The waves off the smaller island are among the biggest in North America. The break here is one of largest and most powerful you'll find anywhere in the Pacific, in fact, with the potential to produce 50 foot faces during the peak season - winter. On June 22, 2014 Bahía de Todos Santos was commemorated as the sixth World Surfing Reserve,

underscoring the importance of this designation for both Mexican and international surfing communities alike.

## 04 LOS CABOS' SPAS

Spas of Los Cabos. Don't miss your opportunity to enjoy some of the world's finest spas when visiting Los Cabos. There are myriad top-quality spas to choose from, but these two are not to be missed: **The Spa at Esperanza** (An Auberge spa) is a relaxing and rejuvenating sanctuary, with its signature water passage, and is celebrated for its hand-crafted botanical treatments using natural, indigenous healing agents. **The Spa at One&Only Palmilla** is a full service spa themed around the tenants of *unwind, restore and elevate*, and offers signature experiences for each, with the Unwind Experience including a soothing and foaming exfoliation followed by a relaxing massage using long strokes, gentle rocking and warmed stones.

## 05 BAJA'S CRAFT BEER

**Baja's craft beer movement is really picking up steam...** especially in the north, with vibrant craft beer scenes in Ensenada, Tijuana and Mexicali. There are now beers being produced in this region that compete well internationally; for instance, Astillero, an imperial India pale ale out of Cervceria Agua Mala in Ensenada, took the silver at the 2014 World Beer Cup. In addition to micro breweries, you'll find more and more craft beer tasting bars, like the well known BCB Tasting Room in Tijuana, as well as a growing beer festival scene. Please read our article on page 130.

## 06 SIERRA DE SAN FRANCISCO

**Cave paintings of the Sierra de San Francisco.** Few people realize that the murals here are larger and more numerous than those found at the world-renowned European sites of Altamira and Lascaux. The paintings were thought to be created approximately 1,500 years ago, but recent carbon dating tests suggest that some may have been painted as many as 7,500 years ago. Primarily found on the ceilings of rock shelters, these murals commonly depict hunting and religious content. Various animal species can be seen, including deer, rabbits, sheep, whales, turtles, and eagles. Due to the rough terrain and isolation of the paintings they remain in an excellent state of preservation, and they have been designated for special protection by UNESCO due to their importance as a historical cultural heritage site.

## 07 LA COCINA QUE CANTA

**La Cocina Que Canta (the kitchen that sings) Cooking School** is set in the middle of six-acre organic farm (Tres Estrellas) adjacent to Rancho La Puerta, beneath the gorgeous Mount Kuchumaa mountain in Tecate. La Cocina Que Canta offers hands-on classes and regularly hosts internationally renowned guest chefs. Executive, in-house chef Denise Roa is a delight and passionate about the importance of using only the freshest organic ingredients.

## 08 CABO PULMO PARK

**Cabo Pulmo Park**, just 60 miles north of Los Cabos, is located in the East Cape region of Baja Sur. It shelters the only coral reef system in the Sea of Cortés (and the only hard coral reef in North America). This national marine park, designated so by the Mexican Government in 1995, teems with fish, eels, manta rays, and giant coral heads, providing a home and safe haven for as many as 800 species of marine animals. Several sea turtle species visit the shores here to reproduce and look for food. Unsurprisingly, the snorkeling and scuba diving opportunities here are amazing.

## 09 HACIENDA COCINA Y CANTINA

**Good eats! Hacienda Cocina y Cantina.** Yes, it's true, excellent dining options abound in Baja, but this spot is worth an individual mention. Hacienda Cocina y Cantina is the restaurant at the Hacienda Beach Club & Residences at Medano Beach, overlooking the iconic rock formations of Land's End, with open air indoor dining, outdoor patio dining, as well as sought after tables right in the sand. Hacienda Cocina y Cantina just may have the best churros you've ever tasted, arriving as they do with warm caramel and chocolate dipping sauces. In addition, there is top notch ceviche and seafood pozole, great guacamole, numerous michelada options and an extensive tequila menu. They even have tequila ice cream!

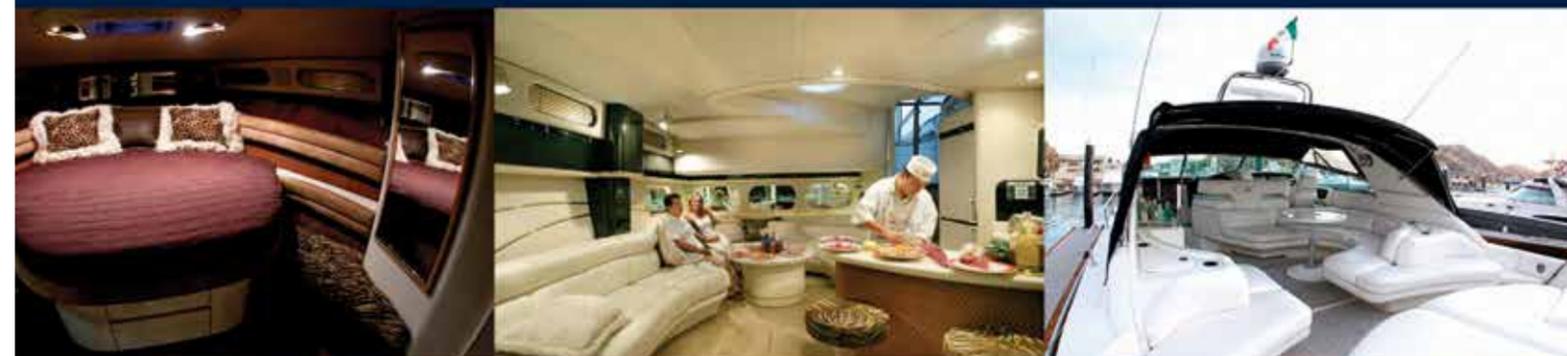
## 10 SEA SHELLS AT MULEGE

**The sea shells of Mulege are famous for the wide variety and plenitude.** Serious collectors come from all over the world to view them. The local museum, which is housed in the old prison, has an extensive display. So get out there, roll up those pants legs, and start beachcombing - you never know what beauties you'll uncover. **BT**



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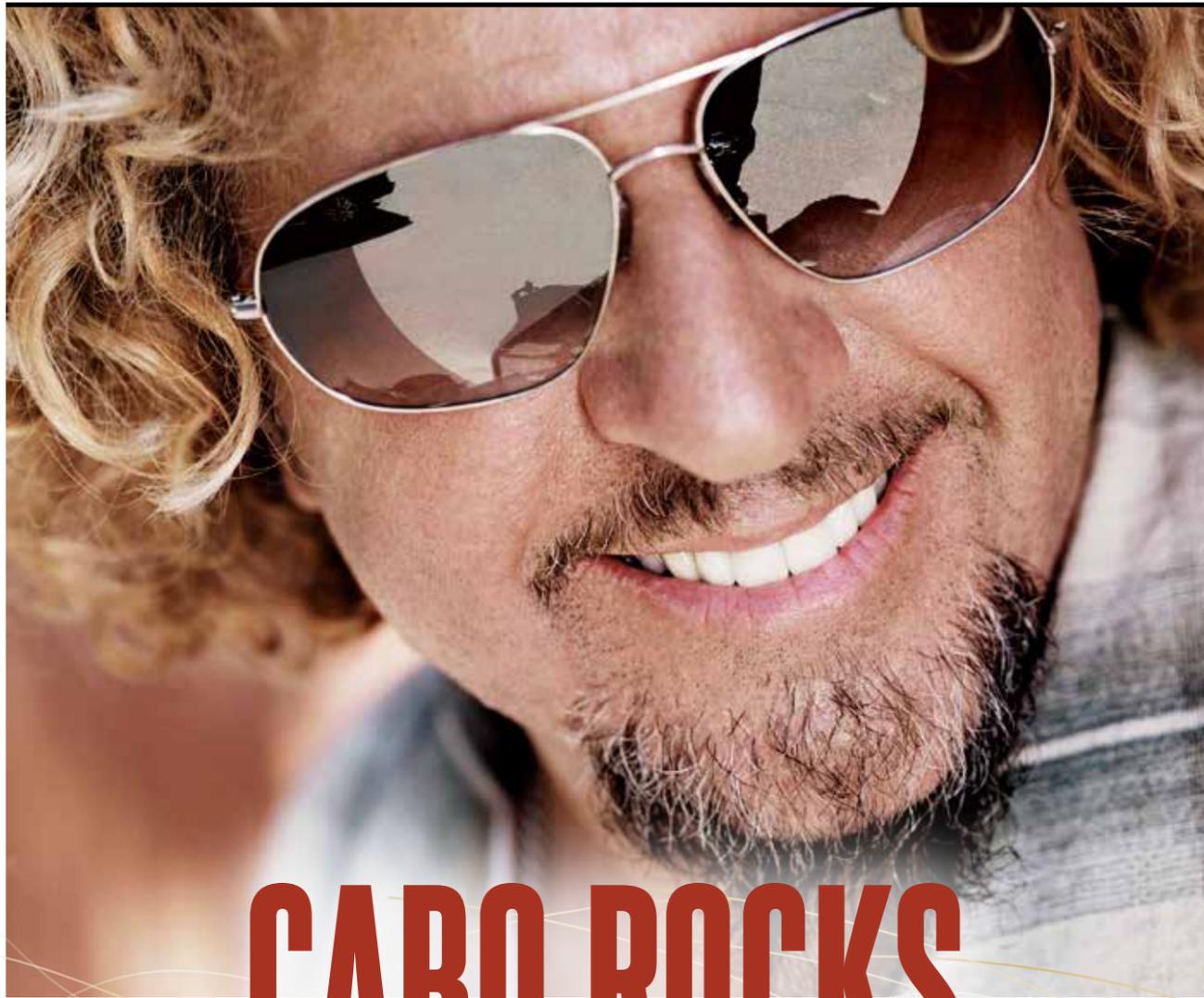
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# CABO ROCKS

BY SAMMY HAGAR

## NIGHTLIFE

I guess it's true when said time goes by fast!

It seems like yesterday that I came to Cabo over thirty years ago and fell in love with this place and its people. Also hard to believe it's going to be 25 years in April that Cabo Wabo opened its doors. At that time there were only a handful of bars and restaurants in town. I can still count them with my fingers. Never imagined Cabo would be what it is now. WOW!!!

Cabo has become one of the topmost places to eat and party in Mexico and the world and in many dreams of partiers, Cabo holds a distinguished status among the world's greatest fiesta-goers. Every time I come

back I discover new places to eat and party. I truly like the energy of the area. There is something for everyone to enjoy.

My favorite "to go" places list has gotten much larger in the last thirty years, most of the early ones are still on the list but it now seems like I never have enough time to finish my "to do" list when I come down. I dig being here going out for dinner and then deciding that I want to go play some music. I do it often and without a set list or any kind of plans. I just go get on stage and Jam.

It honors me that many of my fellow musician friends and people from all walks of life have also fallen in love with this special place and now call Cabo their second home.

I am now working closely with Ruben Reachi – Secretary of tourism for Baja California Sur and government agencies on putting together a big music festival to happen early this spring and celebrate the fact that Cabo recovered so quickly from hurricane Odile. This as a result of the community coming together and working hard and the government acting fast and in such an efficient way. It is really cool to look back and see how quickly things moved.

Come experience the Cabo way of life and its people.

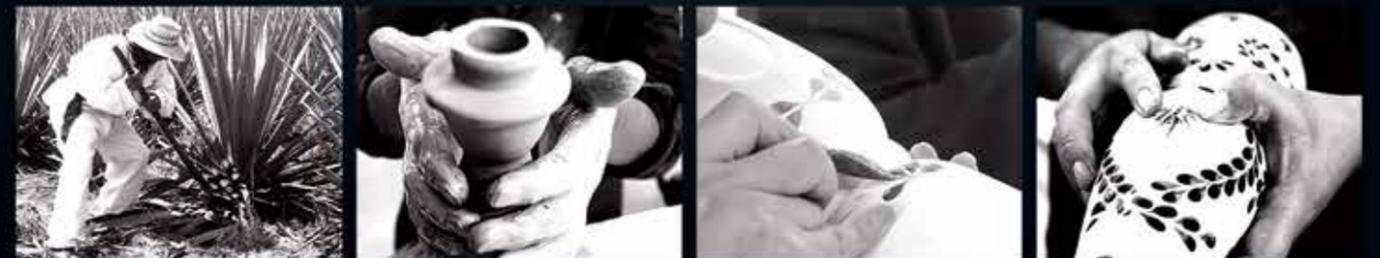
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# United4Baja

By the Editors of BajaTraveler®

When hurricane Odile struck Cabo San Lucas on September 14, 2014, taking down trees, power lines, roof tiles, windows, complete hotels, homes and the San José airport, 26,000 foreign tourists and approximately 4,000 nationals were stranded there.

The category three storm, on the five-level Saffir-Simpson scale, packed 205-kilometer-(125-mile) – per-hour winds as it made landfall near Cabo San Lucas. More than 7,000 residents were evacuated from low-lying areas. This was the information we were getting late Sunday night from Mexican news bureaus, nothing was coming through from the U.S. side.

“OMG –! What can we do to help?” was the first thing that came to our minds,” said Mayté Rodríguez Cedillo. ...and so UNITED4BAJA.org was born

with the following goals: to create awareness, and to collect donations.

We immediately started contacting all TV stations in the U.S. asking them to run our SOS and notify the world of the disaster in Baja Sur. Using our connections, NBC and Univision were those who continuously covered our message. We then sent tweets to the celebrities that we know visit the peninsula – and many of them re-tweeted about the disaster. Lastly, we contacted companies for donations of food and products. We succeeded in

all of this with the help of a few angels, namely Vanessa Jayne Olsen, Danielle Lauren Roel, Andrómeda Alighieri, Jennifer Tracy and Ricardo Rico.

We created a logo, then the website United4Baja.org, as well as the Face-Book page and, within days, we had four thousand followers. Within weeks it was close to seven thousand; it was truly amazing to see how the world was concerned – all eager to help!

Calls were coming in at all hours of the day and night – from people asking where they could take donations and what they could do to assist. Monetary donations were directed to the International Community Foundation. It was astonishing to see how people just wanted to help. Our team was working 20-hour days; we were exhausted, but to see everyone pulling together for the same cause gave us the energy to keep going.

Monica Page Logistics and Columbia Export joined in our cause to take these donations across the border; many people came to the rescue. Private airplane and yacht owners offered to take donations down; Vildosola Racing together with Baja Strong had their own mission of taking donations back and forth. Many local residents, such as Modu Seye and Rick Antillon, united and set up food delivery services for the less fortunate. This continued on for weeks.

The Mexican government acted quickly in aiding those stranded. Within four days they were flying them back home. U.S. and Mexican airlines were doing the same – taking water and food on their way down and returning with passengers. The airport was pretty much destroyed, but the runways were intact.

San José del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas were the hardest hit – but now, a couple of months after the disaster, hotels and homes are being re-built, the spirit of the residents is high, and their message is that they’ll be back stronger than before. We can only pray for a quick recovery and for those who lost everything.

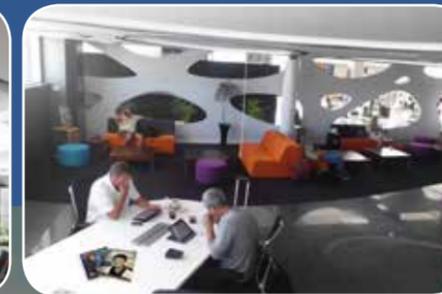
Become a fan of United4Baja on Face-Book, if you’re not already. We’ll keep you posted on updates of the recovery efforts. United we’ll prevail.

#United4Baja  
#BajaTraveler **BT**



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# BAJA BOUNCES BACK

The flavor, the spice, and all things nice are back as they should be in Baja

BY NINA ORNSTEIN | PHOTO BY AUSTIN LIGGETT

Not long ago, this little piece of paradise was worlds away from the land of relaxation and gorgeous landscape with which we've come to associate it. On September 14, 2014 Southern Baja took a massive bruising from the furious Hurricane Odile. This terrible storm caused extreme destruction, but Baja and its inhabitants have proven immensely resilient and we're happy to report it has officially bounced back – and in the near future will be stronger than before.

Not much can be done to prevent natural disasters; but reacting with positive attitudes is ultimately advantageous when Mother Nature strikes. With severely limited resources the towns of Southern Baja united amidst the darkness. From complete chaos, community morale was fiercely ignited in the wake of this storm. It is apparent that one thing cannot be torn down by natural disasters; community spirit.

The aftermath was grim only at first. In the weeks following Odile, Baja regained its strength and poise. The local economy has been positively stimulated by the high demand for manual labor. Citizens are working hard with smiles on their faces, reconstructing paradise *poco a poco*, one day at a time. What we now have is a community that sincerely knows what it means to be left with almost nothing, only to have remembered just how much actually remains. Of course it takes far more than positive thought to rebuild an Odile sized aftermath. Key players span the globe with ambitious commitment to sending emergency relief.

» **THE COMMUNITY:** In the days immediately following the storm, locals ventured out to begin clearing debris. Those left with nothing congregated to revive one another. Families have since rebuilt homes and businesses with admirable grace, a truly authentic display of generosity and fortitude.

» **THE CONNECTORS:** Local organizations have served as community platforms for hurricane relief to be channeled. The movers and shakers not present in Baja have facilitated donations worldwide. **United4Baja**, The Palapa Society and Cabo Strong are only a few of numerous support organizations available.

» **THE GOVERNMENT:** CFE, Mexico's electricity provider, shipped in vehicles and experts by ferry as soon as the port in La Paz was accessible. With rigor, the infrastructure of Southern Baja was restored swiftly. Government aid also provided substantial military aid for local police force for an expedited clean up of public spaces.

Reinforcing love came pouring in from all over the world to assist a population in need. With ample supplies, a community bound by hardship and empathy is once again able to thrive. Baja's most captivating characteristic, it's traditional, deeply rooted culture, restored the heart and soul of this community. The scenery is more picturesque than ever, a heavenly painting of vitality and allure. More so now than ever, a place I am so proud to call home.



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**P**etite, Puerto-Rican powerhouse, Roselyn Sanchez was born in beautiful San Juan, Puerto Rico. She was blessed with a big family with 3 brothers and the Sanchez home was lively and filled with love.

Like her father and brothers, Roselyn studied marketing at the University of Puerto Rico, so she could take over the family business. After three years; however, she decided to pursue her passion and her dreams. She studied acting, singing and dancing.

The rest is a Hollywood Dream.

When the public first came to know Roselyn, it was as a co-host of the popular Puerto Rican comedy-variety show, *Qué Vacilón*. Roselyn won the Miss Puerto Rico Petite pageant in 1993, and then the Miss America Petite crown in 1994, she left Puerto Rico and made the big move to New York.

It was in the Big Apple that she cut her teeth in theater and dance. She wrote and performed in her one-woman show, *Out Here On My Own*. She was bitten by comedy bug with a small part as an Island Girl in the 1992 comedy, *Captain Ron* – starring Martin Short and Kurt Russell.



# ROSELYN SANCHEZ

A True Hollywood Dream...

*By Stacie Gottsegen and Mayté Rodríguez Cedillo*

PHOTOS BY LatinVasion



Then came television series where Roselyn joined the cast of *Without a Trace* playing the part of Elena Delgado - which aired 7 seasons on CBS.

Most recently, Roselyn was cast as Carmen Luna in the comedy *Devious Maids* - produced by ABC Studios, which this past September the show was renewed for a third season! The series centers on four Latina maids working in the homes of Beverly Hills' wealthiest and most powerful families. Roselyn is also currently starring in the Spanish comedy show, *Familia en Venta* - Roselyn plays the part of a woman who's been married for 15 years where the routine finished with the passion and one day she decides to get divorced with the hope of starting a new life... you can find it in Mundo Fox.

Roselyn Sanchez may have competed in the "Petite" category as a beauty pageant participant but there is nothing about her that is diminutive. She is a woman who is BIG with talent, passion and life. The sexy soap siren turned comedic movie actress has it all. A successful career, an adoring husband and it seems like nothing is out of her reach. How does Roselyn Sanchez keep it all in check?

**BajaTraveler® spoke to her and found out what keeps her grounded and flourishing.**

**BT:** You started your career on the soaps (As The World Turns) and as a dancer in the TV show *Fame*. Were you a fan of As The World Turns?

**RS:** No, I had never seen the soap before I got the job. I never watched English soap operas prior to my gig on As The World Turns. I did watch

a lot of Spanish telenovelas growing up. I loved Thalia's soaps and every soap coming out of Brazil.

**BT:** ATWT was your first English speaking role. How did you get the part?

**RS:** I had to audition and then chemistry test with one of the regular cast members that was going to play my love interest. Yes, it was my first English speaking role. I got it auditioning from the bottom up. I auditioned with Shawn Moore. We became really great friends. I loved him from the beginning.

**BT:** Can you do an American accent?

**RS:** No I can't. I can get close with a lot of work but I can't do it perfect.

**BT:** FAME LA was also a groundbreaking role for you. Did you see the movie as a teenager?



**RS:** Yes, I saw the FAME movie a million times. It was and still is one of my favorites. Honestly I loved every role. Growing up dancing and loving the arts to be able to have a movie that showcased so much great talent and having them have the same desired as me growing up meant a lot.

**BT:** You often talk about how much you loved working on the show. How singing and dancing are second nature to you.. Would you ever do a BROADWAY SHOW?

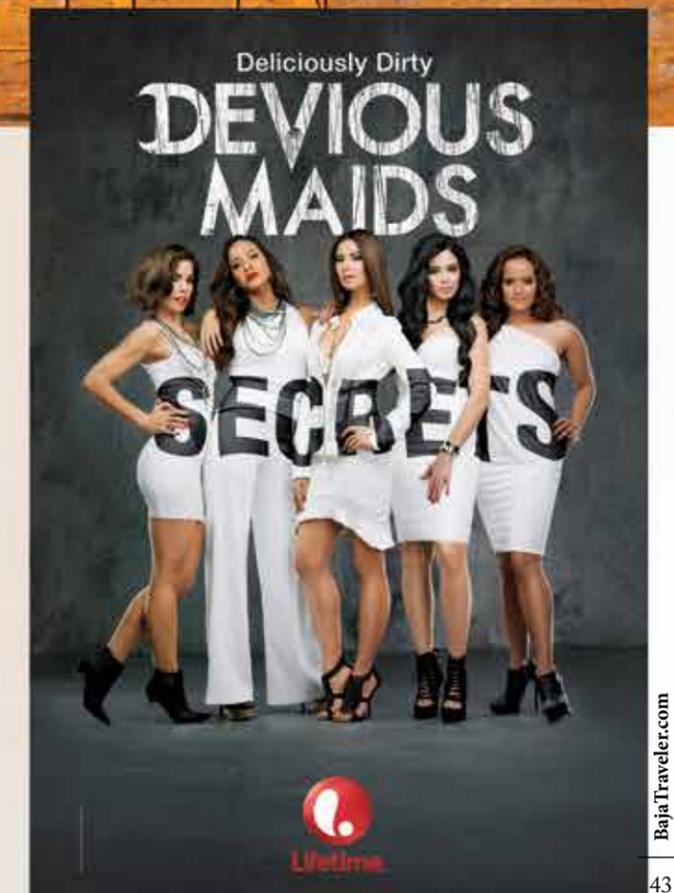
**RS:** Doing a Broadway show is one of my dreams. The first Broadway show I saw was Cats...I was 15 years old and it was my Quinceañera present from my parents. I would love to do "In The Heights," "West Side Story" or "Chicago."

**BT:** You worked with Flo-Rida on the "Pick up your game" video.... How did you meet?

**RS:** We were performing together at the Alma Awards last year. I am a big fan of Flo-Rida. We performed his single *I Cry* at the Alma Awards.

**BT:** Are you a fan of Rap Music?

**RS:** Some of it... I like a lot of reggae and artists from Latin America. My iPod has all kinds of music, too difficult to name them all.



Her first English-speaking role, as the first-ever Latina character on the daytime drama, *As The World Turns*, during its 1996-1997 season. It was her role on this soap which led her to the short-lived series *Fame L.A.*

In 2001, she starred as an undercover secret service agent in the hugely successful comedy *Rush Hour 2*, opposite stars Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker. That led her to the big-budget film, *Basic*, with John Travolta and Samuel L. Jackson. Then came *Boat Trip* (2002), *The Game Plan* (2007) and *Act of Valor* (2012). Roselyn has started in over 20 films since including two Spanish speaking film releases: *Chasing Papi* starring our past cover girls, Sofia Vergara and Maria Conchita Alonso and Angel.

She released her first musical recording, *Borinqueña* which included "Amor Amor" which gained a lot of attention as well as a Latin Grammy® nomination for the Best Music Video.

**BT:** You have also enjoyed a huge career as a comedic actress. Is doing comedy hard?

**RS:** It is hard but a lot of fun when you get it right.

**BT:** How was it working with Chris Tucker? Do you have a favorite moment or funny Story

**RS:** I loved working with Chris Tucker. He's a great comedian.

**BT:** Let's talk about "Familia En Venta"...What made you want to do a sit com?

**RS:** I wanted to do something in Spanish for a long time, once I read the pilot script for *Familia En Venta* I knew I had to do it. I laughed the entire time I was reading it.

**BT:** What is a typical day like on set?

**RS:** Long hours and a lot of fun. We average seven scenes a day.

**BT:** What was your family like growing up?

**RS:** I grew up in Puerto Rico and it was wonderful. I do have a big family. Three brothers and I'm the only girl and the youngest one. I'd say I had Middle-class upbringing in Puerto Rico. My dad was an accountant and business owner and my mom was a school teacher.

## Ensalada de Bacalao (Codfish Salad) – Serves 6

2 lbs., dry/salted bacalao, desalted  
4 white potatoes, boiled and cubed  
1 large red onion, peeled and sliced into rings  
3 tomatoes, sliced  
½ green bell pepper, thinly sliced  
½ red bell pepper, thinly sliced  
½ cup Spanish olives  
Powdered garlic  
2 avocados, sliced  
Salt and pepper to taste  
½ cup olive oil  
1 tbsp. of white vinegar  
3 hard boiled eggs, shelled cooled and sliced  
1 small jar of red pimientos, sliced

Rinse codfish under warm running water to rinse off excess salt. Then add to a pot of boiling water, let it boil for about 20 minutes or so. Drain the water, add fresh water and boil again. Drain and let it cool. Shred or pull apart into bite size pieces using your fingers. Set aside to let drain and cool.

Boil the potatoes (do not overcook), cool & cut in large cubes. Boil the eggs.

Place the fish in the salad bowl as the first layer. Add the other ingredients except for the olive oil, vinegar & hard boiled eggs. Make other layers with the codfish and all the ingredients until all is used up. Season with garlic powder, salt, and pepper. Combine vinegar & olive and drizzle over the salad. Gently toss until all ingredients are well coated with the dressing. Add sliced boiled eggs, & garnish with red pimientos.

**BT:** What is a Typical night like at the Sanchez/Winter house?

**RS:** Our house is filled with lots of love, music and bed time stories for Sebella. We read to Sebella a lot. We are lucky that she loves her books. We have story time in English and Spanish every time before going to bed. We read all kinds of books but she loves her princess books... that's for sure.

**BT:** Are you a good cook?

**RS:** Not at all.

**BT:** What is your "go-to" dinner

**RS:** Mantee Restaurant near our house! Mediterranean cuisine...

**BT:** Any Puerto Rican specialties that come from your family roots

**RS:** Serenata de Bacalo' – Salted Cod Fish Salad!

**BT:** How did you meet your husband, Eric Winter?

**RS:** At an event here in Los Angeles...

**BT:** What makes a man attractive to you?

**RS:** Sense of humor and his respect for his mother. Plus he needs to have a job!

**BT:** You have been called one of the world's most beautiful women ...What REALLY makes you feel beautiful?

**RS:** When I'm happy and when I see my husband looking at me impressed.

**BT:** Best thing about being a mother?

**RS:** How much you grow to be completely not selfish.

**BT:** You recently celebrated a big birthday. Is 40 the new 30?

**RS:** YES! 40 is the new 30 for sure. I don't know what it is but I truly believe now-a-days when women hit their 40's they know exactly who they are and what are her real needs. You are more confident you have learned from your lessons, you don't have time to tolerate bulls\*&t and because you are so overwhelmed that you are getting close to your 50's, you take extra care of yourself.

**BT:** What did you do to celebrate?

**RS:** I was working...

**BT:** You have been quoted as saying, "My mother always gives the best advice. When I left Puerto Rico to pursue my dreams, she always supported me and said to me, 'I'm never going to cut your wings, so don't let anyone else do that to you.' That has been my philosophy through life. I want to share that valuable lesson with my little girl (Sebella Rose) someday."

**RS:** To visualize clearly what they want for their lives and to not allow anybody to take that away from them or make them doubt. Clear vision and undivided perseverance will get you there.



**BT:** What advice would you give to young actresses starting their career?

**RS:** To get used to rejection and to not take it personal.

**BT:** You have said, "I've been blessed because every single role I've done has been an educated person. I've never done the stereotypical Latina, even though I have an accent - I've always been able to play educated people. That's a good thing! Do you feel like there are latina/Puerto Rican "stereo-types"? What do you do to break that mindset?

**RS:** Of course...I like to play tri-dimensional characters. Real people.

**BT:** Do you ever want to go back to school?

**RS:** I will go back to school to learn Italian and Portuguese! Or maybe finish my degree on business Administration and marketing.

**BT:** What is the most fun about "Devious Maids." What was it like working with Marc Cherry? Any funny stories or anecdotes from the set ?

**RS:** I love *Devious Maids* and I'm madly in love with my character Carmen Luna. We are a big cast and everybody truly respects each others' work. That's important.

**BT:** Let's talk about BAJA...When was your first time there?

**RS:** I'm obsessed with the Esperanza resort. That's one of my favorite places in the world. Have stayed there four times.

**BT:** If you were talking to someone who had never been there, what do they HAVE to do?

**RS:** Stay at Esperanza! LOL! They have to go to Mexico City, Acapulco, Guadalajara and Tlacotalpa - in the state of Veracruz.

**BT:** What is YOUR perfect BAJA DAY and Evening...?

**RS:** Just relaxing at the beach and snorkeling.

**BT:** You have a huge career and family yet you still have a passion for charities and giving back... How did you get involved with PETA?

**RS:** I love animals and detest any kind of abuse towards them. They knew about my work in Puerto Rico with dogs and got me to do one of their campaigns. I'm part of a foundation called PETSOS in Puerto Rico. The island has a severe problem of stray dogs all over. We have more than 300,000 stray dogs walking around that for the most part are malnourished, sick and terribly suffering. The lack of education when it comes to the importance of neutering and sterilization has to end. If we don't start fixing our dogs, not abandoning them, abusing them and simply having no respect for them the island is going to continue to suffer with this epidemic. I'm trying my best to help with the situation by doing educational campaigns via PETSOS, organizing food drives to help the 13 shelters we have and

the few rescue organizations, doing a massive sterilization event to fix dogs from shelters and low income communities, etc... And most important... People need to stop buying pets and they should all go to a local shelter and ADOPT.

**BT:** You are also the spokesperson of the *Fundación de Niños San Jorge*, which assists sick children from poor families. How did you become involved with the organization?

**RS:** My passion when it comes to philanthropy are children and animals. A friend of mine told me about San Jorge Children's Foundation and I loved their work. They invited me to be the Spokesperson/Godmother and I accepted.

Roselyn splits her time between New York, Los Angeles and the occasional return to Puerto Rico. So what is in her future?? She plans to release a record in the foreseeable future and she's in the process of composing a musical about a singer/dancer/actor who leaves Puerto Rico to hit the big time in New York. Who will play the lead role? Roselyn -- of course. Her star continues to shine brightly! BT



MARC ANTHONY



ENRIQUE IGLESIAS



CAMILA



JORGE DREXLER



GABRIEL ABAROA & RICKY MARTIN



MARIANA VEGA

# THE 15TH ANNUAL LATIN GRAMMY AWARDS®

BY MAYTÉ RODRÍGUEZ CEDILLO  
PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE LATIN RECORDING ACADEMY@/ WIREIMAGE.COM

This year marks the fifteenth anniversary of the Latin GRAMMY Awards® and the first time from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas. The famed event aired live throughout the U.S. on November 20th on the Univision Network.

Our most sincere Congratulations to The Latin Recording Academy® for entertaining the Latin World for these past 15 years!

"For the past 14 years we have showcased some of the greatest talent in Latin music, and now that we are entering our 15th

anniversary celebration, we are delighted to commemorate this new milestone with more amazing musical segments," said Gabriel Abaroa Jr., President/CEO of The Latin Recording Academy®. "The night was full of amazing surprises from the unique pairing of Marc Anthony and Magic to Carlos Santana with Pitbull to the talented musicians who took home the Latin GRAMMY. Congratulations to all and let's continue with the celebration."

Enrique Iglesias was one of the biggest winners of the evening taking home three Latin Grammy® for Song Of The Year, Best

Urban Performance and Best Urban Song for his successful theme, "Bailando."

Without doubt, this continues to be the year of Enrique Iglesias after the success of his latest work, "Sex and Love" and his single, "Bailando" – the global phenomenon in both Spanish and English. "I still can't believe it. We are in the middle of a tour and this a big present to all of us. An incentive to continue doing what we love - music and more music for all our fans. We're grateful to all the media that has promoted us and to the member of the academy," said Iglesias. **BT**

The stars were out in celebration as many actors, actresses and celebrities attended the highly anticipated gala... and the Latin GRAMMY went to...

**Record Of The Year**  
Jorge Drexler featuring Ana Tijoux, Carles Campi Campón, Mario Galeano & Sebastián Merlín  
"Universos Paralelos"

**Album Of The Year**  
Paco Lucía & Bori Alarcón  
"Canción Andaluza"

**Song Of The Year**  
Enrique Iglesias, Descemer Bueno & Gente de Zona  
"Bailando"

**Best New Artist**  
Mariana Vega

**Best Contemporary Pop Vocal Album**  
Camila / "Elypse"

**Best Traditional Pop Vocal Album**  
Fonseca / "Fonseca Sinfónico"

**Best Urban Performance**  
Enrique Iglesias, Descemer Bueno & Gente de Zona / "Bailando"

**Best Urban Music Album**  
Calle 13 / "BultiViral"

**Best Urban Song**  
Enrique Iglesias, Descemer Bueno & Gente de Zona  
"Bailando"

**Best Rock Album**  
Molotov / "Agua Maldita"

**Best Pop/Rock Album**  
Juanes / "Loco de Amor"

**Best Rock Song**  
Andres Calamaro / "Cuando No Estas"

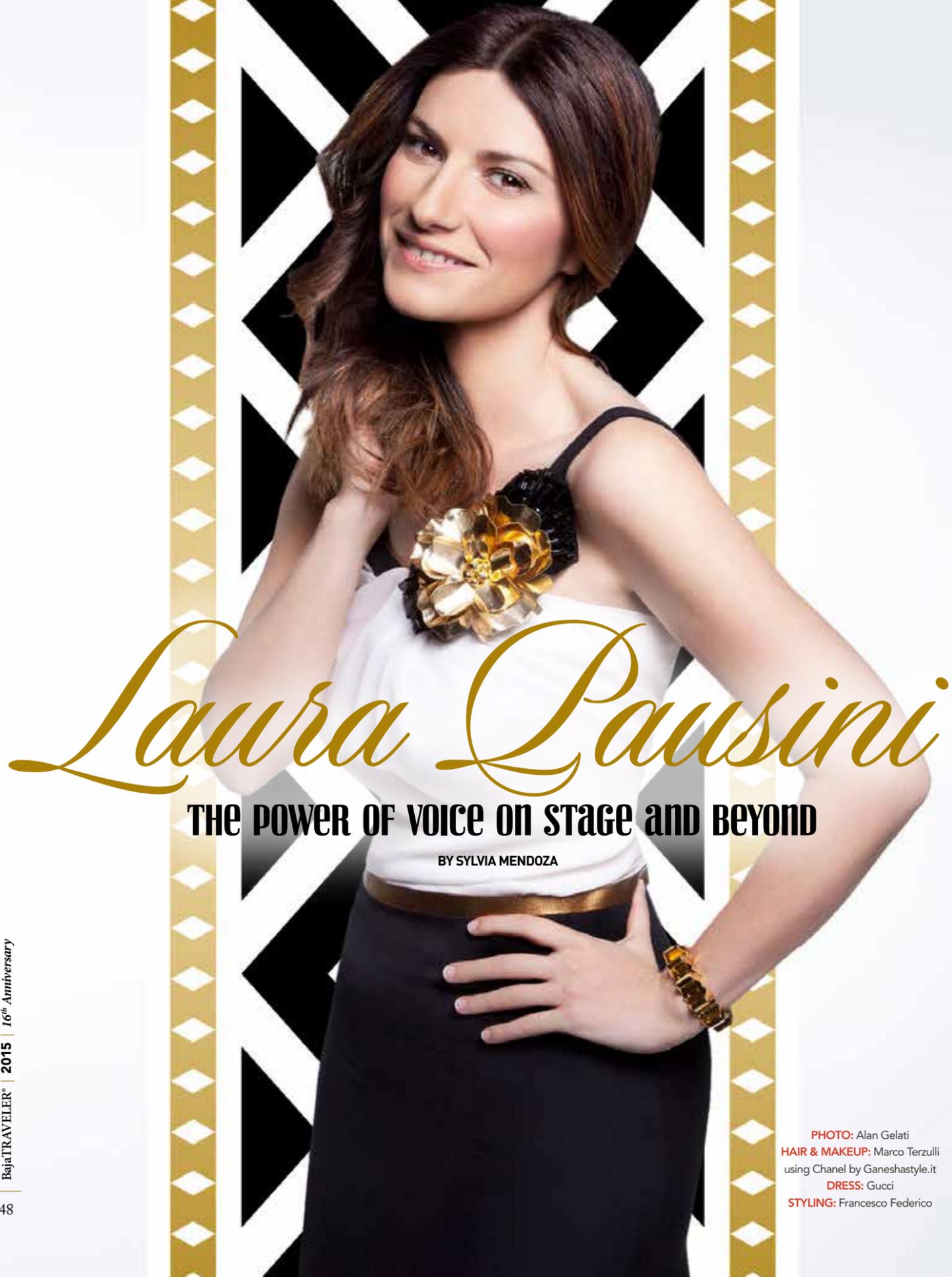
**Best Alternative Music Album**  
Babasónicos / "Romantísimo"

**Best Alternative Song**  
Calle 13 / "El Aguante"

**Best Salsa Album**  
Marc Anthony / "3.0"



...for the rest of the winners – please visit [LatinGrammy.com](http://LatinGrammy.com)



# Laura Pausini

THE POWER OF VOICE ON STAGE AND BEYOND

BY SYLVIA MENDOZA

**PHOTO:** Alan Gelati  
**HAIR & MAKEUP:** Marco Terzulli  
 using Chanel by Ganesastyle.it  
**DRESS:** Gucci  
**STYLING:** Francesco Federico



LAURA AT  
LA VOZ MEXICO

**PHOTO:** Courtesy of La Voz México  
**SKIRT:** Alberta Ferretti  
**NECKLACE:** Shourouk  
**SHOES:** Christian Louboutin  
**DENIM SHIRT:** Novemb3r  
**STYLING:** Nicolò Cerioni

**T**he voice is at once, sexy and romantic, bringing to life lyrics that speak to true love and longing. Watching the music video of Italian Laura Pausini singing a rendition of “You’ll Never Find” with Michael Bublé strikes a chord. Her voice resonates with sentiment that seems to come from deep within, where emotion runs free. It’s the voice that has made her renowned the world over. Her music speaks to fans, comes from her heart and gives her opportunity to make a difference far beyond any sound recording studio, far beyond any dreams she had as a child.

“My life is full of emotions and to perform this way is a privilege of my life and job,” says Pausini, our past cover girl and an international sensation as singer and songwriter.

It is her voice that has launched a 20-year career she is now celebrating with a worldwide tour – 20: The Greatest Hits. It is her voice that has landed her on La Voz Mexico – the Spanish version of America’s The Voice as a judge and coach. It is her voice – and speaking seven languages – that has earned her fans of all ages and all backgrounds. It is her voice that has allowed her to not only entertain the masses, but to be a goodwill ambassador in charitable, nonprofit organizations or campaigns including Violence Against Women, HIV-AIDs, Hunger and Women’s Empowerment, and International Adoption.



LAURA AND  
RICKY MARTIN

**DRESS:** AvaroFiglio  
**BELT:** Eles-Italia  
**JEWELS:** YvoneChrista  
**STYLING:** Nicolò Cerioni  
**HAIR & MAKEUP:**  
 Andres Manosalva

The power of Pausini’s voice started at a young age, in Sorlarolo, Italy, where she was born.

“I decided I wanted to be a singer when I was eight, but I never dreamt of being a famous person,” she says. “I wanted to be a piano bar singer, a club singer.”

She wanted to follow in her father’s footsteps. A pianist for Abba’s Frida Lyngstad, he gave Pausini voice lessons and they often performed together as she grew up. Entering the Sanremo Music Festival contest at age eighteen – with her own music – changed that direction. “Everything changed,” Pausini says.

It launched her career. Over the years, she has been recognized as the Best-selling Female Italian Artist at the World Music Awards, received an award at the Institute of Italian Culture in Madrid, and from the Italian ambassador in Spain, was honoured for her “contribution to spreading Italian popular culture in Spain.” She has won Latin Grammy®, Billboard Latin Music and World Music awards. In 2006, she became the first Italian female artist to win a Grammy®.

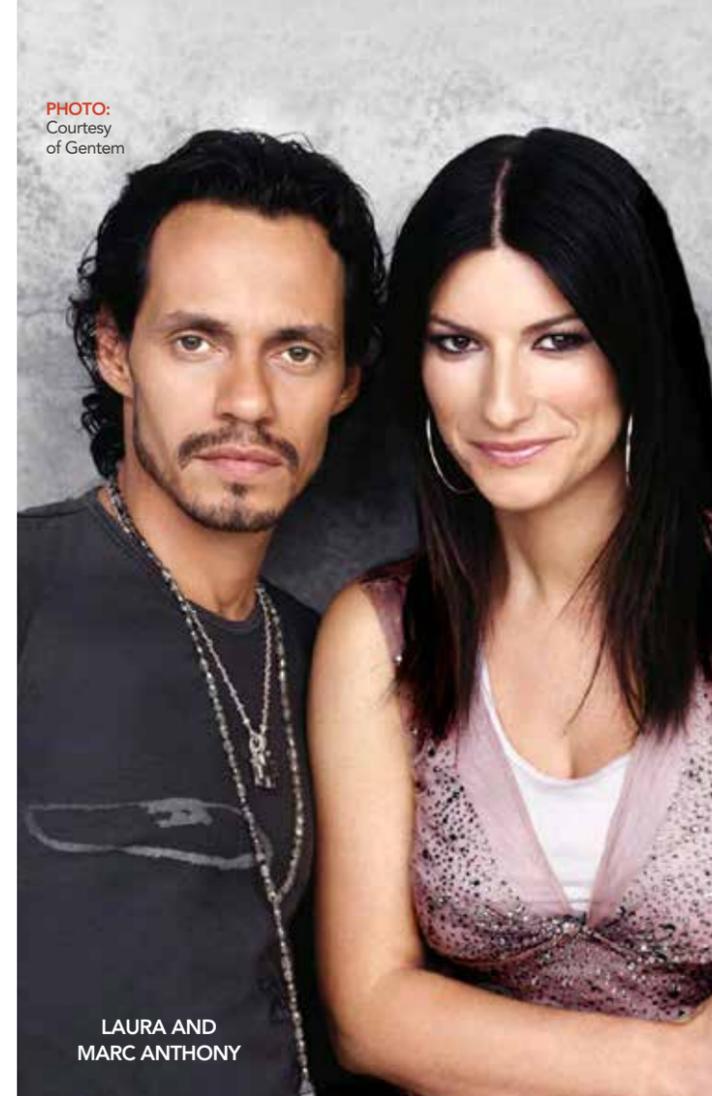
Pausini’s appeal might start on the stage, but at times she has been more an international goodwill ambassador than an entertainer. She joins other artists in global efforts that can effect social justice change. Although she is doing what she loves in performing, she still remains grounded on what is important. “A beautiful car is not a beautiful heart,” she believes.

PHOTO: Gaetano Morbioli  
 DRESS: Giorgio Armani  
 HAIR & MAKEUP: Rebeca Trillo



LAURA AND  
 ALEJANDRO SANZ

PHOTO:  
 Courtesy  
 of Gentem



LAURA AND  
 MARC ANTHONY

Her love of the Spanish language has been supported through Warner Music Spain, which started when they first asked her to translate her work "La Solitudine". When she began traveling to Latin America, it changed her life. "It's an opportunity of life. It's another world."

Another world she has jumped into is as coach at La Voz Mexico, where she seeks natural talent from the young singers starting their careers and advises them to dig deep. "It is that emotion that will connect a singer to audiences around the world," she says. "I think it is very important to understand that everything that is art cannot be studied. Improvement is important, being technically perfect does not mean to be good."

Her international touring and work can be exhausting. Although she doesn't have much time to herself, her family grounds her and refills her emotional well. "I always try to find some space for me and my family, especially now that I'm a mom of my little Paola (20 months old). The thing I love most is to stay in bed with her, or go for walks with her and her father."

Pausini has had a powerful voice on stage and beyond, and will continue to treasure the opportunities it brings her. "To sing my own music all over the world, especially in Spanish, which is my favourite language, is to continue believing in this amazing dream that I have had since I was a girl." **BT**



She sang at the Chime for Change concert which benefited Chime for Change. Founded by Gucci and cofounders Beyoncé Knowles-Carter, Frida Giannini and Salma Hayek, the organization's mission is "Education. Health. Justice. For every girl. Every woman. Everywhere. Because none of us can move forward if half of us are held back."

The concert featured Beyoncé, Jennifer Lopez, Ellie Goulding, Florence + the Machine, Haim, Iggy Azalea, John Legend, Rita Ora, Timbaland and many others. Donations exceeded \$1 million in one year, funding more than 80 projects in 33 countries. This included free primary education and complete nutrition in Peru, materials to increase access to education in Afghanistan, nurse training to prevent newborn asphyxiation in Uganda, treatments to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV in India, staff support to care for women and children in need in Spain, and advocating to end sex trafficking and the exploitation of women in sub-Saharan Africa.

In the United States, she performed a benefit concert for the families of fire fighters who died in New York on 9-11. Singing "Todo Para Ti", a song written and performed by Michael Jackson, she joined Céline Dion, Mariah Carey, Gloria Estefan, Ricky Martin, Alejandro Sanz, Shakira and others.

On all levels, Pausini's outreach is vast. She inspires and is inspired in many ways.

Even though she grew up around music, she also found her creativity in other ways that also seemed to bring out emotional connection. "I am a teacher of art," she explains. "I studied ceramics and plastics and can teach in school, did you know?"

Because of her artistic background, while touring in Mexico, she finds great inspiration. "Everything about the art of Maya or Frida is a real attraction for me."

Yet, it is her voice that brings her back to Mexico, time and again. Selling more than 25 million records in her 20 years in the music business, her new album 20: The Greatest Hits – 20 Grandes Exitos, is one of the most important records in Pausini's career because it demonstrates her world-



LAURA  
 AND THALIA

PHOTO: Leandro Manuel Emede  
 DRESS: Avaro Figlio  
 JEWELS: Stroilli Oro  
 SHOES: Le Silla  
 STYLING: Nicolò Cerioni

wide appeal and staying power. It contains duets with international superstars like Michael Bublé, Ray Charles, Kylie Minogue, James Blunt, Charles Aznavour, Miguel Bosé, Andrea Bocelli, and others, and features new tracks as well as famous hits from over the years.

"So now I'm having a very big tour around the world including Russia and Australia for the first time, Italy, then back in North America. I'll be singing in Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, French, and some songs in English, so I'm very proud of it."

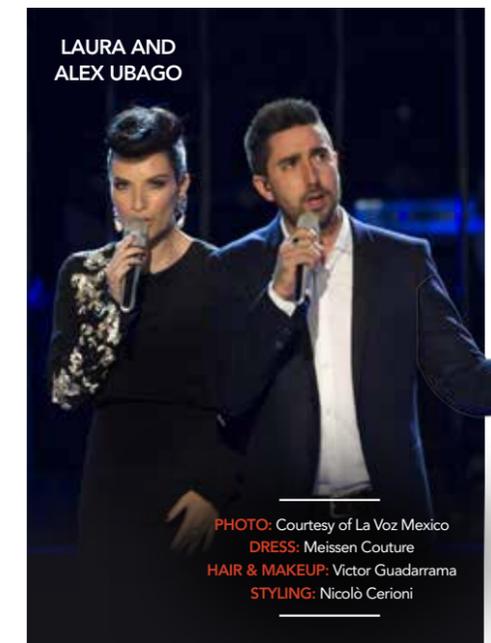
The 20 Greatest Hits Tour will take her from Milan to Paris, from New York to Sao Paulo, and from Bruxelles to Las Vegas and many international hot spots along the way.

Mexico is one of those hot spots, and she is performing in Tijuana, Mexicali, Monterrey, San Luis Potosi, Guadalajara, Merida and Mexico City. She has found a voice and presence in Mexico.

"What I love most about Mexico is the people," she says. "I am proud to say that even though I'm Italian, I feel Latina."

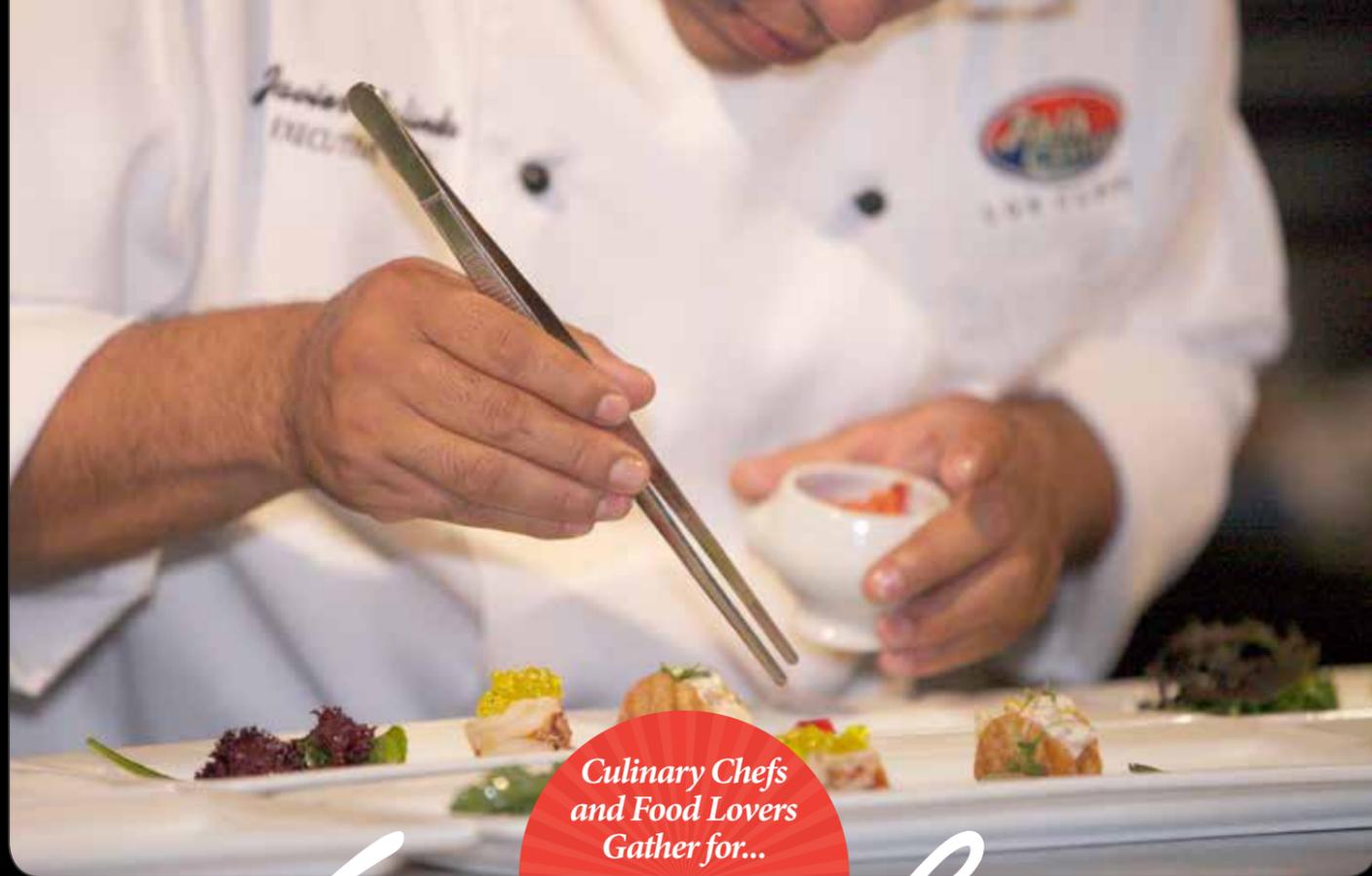


← The beautiful Laura Pausini featured on the cover of our 10th Anniversary Issue.



LAURA AND  
 ALEX UBAGO

PHOTO: Courtesy of La Voz Mexico  
 DRESS: Meissen Couture  
 HAIR & MAKEUP: Victor Guadarrama  
 STYLING: Nicolò Cerioni



Culinary Chefs  
and Food Lovers  
Gather for...

# Sabor a Cabo FESTIVAL

BY KARIN LEPERI | PHOTOS BY MARIANO LEMUS



*“Sabor a Cabo was the unforgettable experience where culinary art and the pleasure of good wine came together in the paradise of Los Cabos...”*

It happened again... Los Cabos celebrated the culinary wonders of the lower Baja Peninsula with their famed themed food event, Sabor A Cabo. This celebration has taken place since 2006 and every year the event exceeds expectations. For this past event, over 2,000 people from many different parts of the world, enjoyed the gastronomy of Baja Sur as well as international cuisine of restaurants local to the Baja Sur area. This was the 8th annual Sabor A Cabo (The Flavors of Cabo) food and wine festival.

Hosted by CANIRAC, the restaurant industry chamber of Los Cabos, the festival featured 32 restaurants in Los Cabos and 14 purveyors of Mexican wines and tequila. Guests enjoyed an evening of culinary art and entertainment at the magnificent Campestre San José del Cabo golf course. The event raised over \$120,000 to benefit local institutions like the Los Cabos volunteer fire department.

“And what an event it was!!! Everything single detail was carefully planned- the result was amazing... my congratulations- again to my dear friends Ms. Carmen Carbajal and Mr. Giammarco Vela! I must also mention that what made the event truly magnificent was the presence of the special VIP guest, Mr. Fernando Allende and his dear wife Mari... We had the pleasure of dining with them and I was so impressed with Fernando – a true artist... actor, singer, painter, sculptor and as if that wasn’t enough- he just launched his own tequila line – Valle Sagrado which comes in three presentations, white, añejo

and reposado - and they’re all delicious,” said our editor-in-chief, Mayté Rodríguez Cedillo.

“Sabor A Cabo was the unforgettable experience where culinary art and the pleasure of good wine came together in the paradise of Los Cabos – all this in the most beautiful atmosphere where jointly the community donated two brand new fire trucks to the city. Long Live Sabor A Cabo,” expressed Fernando Allende.

Here’s what the event organizers had to say... “Sabor a Cabo offers visitors and residents alike an opportunity to experience the very best in food and wine offered anywhere in all of Mexico, I am so please at this year’s event – it exceeded all of our expectations – I thank all those that were involved,” said Carmen Carbajal. “It was a magical night in cabo with music and amazing food, said Giammarco Vela... “Rhythm, Colors and Flavors – all came together in one night.”

Other notable guests at Sabor A Cabo included Chef Makoto Okamoto of La Bombance restaurant, which has been awarded with one Michelin star. Additionally, Manuel Arredondo and Masayuki Niikura from Los Angeles joined the event while sharing their experience with local chefs in preparing a special gourmet menu for 30 VIP tables. Live Mexican mariachi music was provided by international singing star Fernando Allende... he delighted the crowd with his romantic lyrics. Contributing to the party atmosphere between sets was French DJ sensation Roman Rosati.

Festivities took place at the golf Club Campestre San José del Cabo and included restaurants such as: Sunset da Mona Lisa, De Cortez, Nick San, Pan di Bacco, 7 Seas, La Panga, Il Forno di Gio, Edith’s, The Office and Pitahayas. Some of Mexico’s best wineries were also present, including many from Valle de Guadalupe.

### The upcoming 9th annual Sabor A Cabo...

The 9th annual Sabor a Cabo will feature a top-tier selection of the culinary world’s finest chefs and some of the best wines Mexico has to offer. According to Giammarco Vela, Chairman of Sabor A Cabo 2014, “Every year Sabor A Cabo is different and has new features and surprises for its guests.” From this year onward Sabor A Cabo will feature a full week of events in different parts of Cabo. **Events include:** Country Side Taste, Sunset Taittinger Cruise, Sabor A Cabo Beer Fest, Wine & Art Walk, Celebrity Chef Dine Around, and Sabor a Cabo 2014. Prestigious hotels participating include Las Ventanas al Paraíso, One&Only Palmilla and Esperanza Los Cabos. Music will be everywhere, with three different groups playing opera, jazz and dancing tunes. **BT**

BajaTraveler® is the official media sponsor for Sabor A Cabo – stay tuned for our continued coverage...

For more information, please go to:  
[www.saboracabo.mx](http://www.saboracabo.mx)





PREMIERING IN LOS CABOS

# Cabo Comedy Festival

FUNNY THINGS HAPPEN IN CABO

BY KARIN LEPERI | PHOTOS BY MARIA AMPUDIA AND LAUREN GRZYBOWSKI

A 5-day Cabo Comedy Festival premiered in Los Cabos to fanfare from locals, expats, and tourists visiting, under the slogan "Where the Land Ends and the Fun Begins." The first-time event featured performances at the Hard Rock Café, Desperados, Pink Kitty Nightclub and Cabo Wabo by some of the entertainment industry's top stand-up headliners. The event also included panel discussions on the business of comedy, a celebrity golf tournament for charity; and of course, the after-parties. The festival ended with an awards ceremony where legendary Improv founder Budd Friedman was honored with the Giant Comedy Award.



01

"We worked on this festival for over two years and our goal was to fill up the hotels in Cabo," said the festival's creator and producer, John Zaring. "All shows were sold out and we exceeded everybody's expectations, producing a festival that was interesting to locals and tourists, to people in comedy, and relevant to Hollywood. Actually, it proved to be relevant to everyone." According to Zaring, "The festival was only possible due to the support of the Los Cabos Tourism Board and the Mexican Tourism Board, along with the 14 hotels that provided rooms for the comedians."

The Zaring Group in conjunction with Wind Entertainment featured performances by over 85 of the entertainment industry's top stand-up comedians including notables such as Kevin Pollak, Ben Gleib, Hal Sparks, Kevin Meaney, Bobby Slayton, Cisco Saldana, Jim Florentine, Heather McDonald and Annie Lederman.

The highlight was the winner of the Jack Rollins Breakthrough Talent Competition, where twenty hand-chosen finalists from the U.S., Canada and Mexico performed over 3 nights at the Hard Rock Café before a panel of expert judges. Mike Wysocki from Pittsburgh, PA was the victor, with a grand prize of making a stand-up debut on *The Arsenio Hall Show*.

Additionally, NUVOtv, the English-language TV Network focused on modern Latinos, aired ten episodes of *Stand Up & Deliver: Cabo San Lucas*. The series of shows were produced by Levity Entertainment.

For more laughs, be sure to mark your calendar for the return of the Cabo Comedy Festival from February 4th – 8th, 2015, where it is expected that things will be funnier than ever before. Additional information and ticket sales details can be found at: [CaboComedyFestival.com](http://CaboComedyFestival.com). BT



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OPPOSITE PAGE Heather McDonald on stage.

THIS PAGE 01 Kevin Meaney. 02 Kevin Pollak and Budd Friedman. 03 Alfonso Bravo, Maria Ampudia and Matt Wind. 04 Matt Wind, Budd Friedman, Kevin Pollak and John Zaring. 06 Walter Salguero, Lynn Cahill, Jorge Viaña and Maria Ampudia.

HIGH PROFILES

# TRAVELER *Mexico's* MOVERS & SHAKERS

Once again, BajaTRAVELER® profiles a group of talented, successful men who have materially contributed to the betterment of Baja – its people, local economy, or community infrastructure. Though their contributions and backgrounds are diverse, they are bound together by a common objective – to continue bringing prosperity to the Baja area. The five honorees are as follows...

The first is not only a famous professional golfer – but an incredible entrepreneur who pushes himself to be “number one” in all he does... whether it’s business, golf or simply working out in the gym.

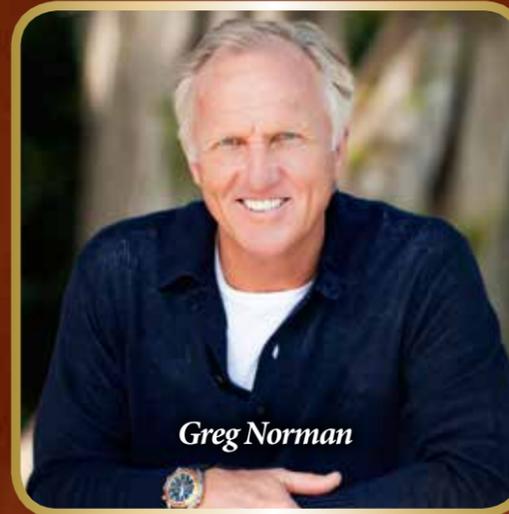
Next is an amazing singer and composer whose day job has been to promote Mexico to the entire world – a man who has dedicated his entire life to promoting the unique and diverse touristic wealth Mexico has to offer... and he has loved every minute of it.

Third is a man with a passion for vehicles, off-road racing and the Baja1000... Together with his two sons, wife and daughter, they have conquered this legendary challenge of racing and winning the Baja1000 – the most famous race in the off-road world.

Fourth is the President for the Los Cabos Restaurant Chamber Association in charge of the most famed culinary festival in Los Cabos - Sabor A Cabo - an annual international food festival that showcases the best in cuisine and culinary trends in Los Cabos.

The last is a man – who is the President of the Mexican Association of Travel Agencies – and who is passionate about paying attention to travel details for clients – he wants visitors to truly enjoy what Los Cabos has to offer.

*BajaTraveler® salutes this amazing group of accomplished men and wishes you continued success in all your endeavors and in the betterment of Baja.*



*Greg Norman*



*Jorge Gamboa Patrón*



*Gustavo Vildósola*



*Giammarco Vela*



*Alejandro Garza*

2015  
HIGH PROFILE  
TRAVELER

# Greg Norman

## STILL ATTACKING LIFE

BY RICK STEDMAN

To say Greg Norman has had an incredibly successful life would be a complete understatement. The former professional golfer who topped the world rankings for 331 weeks during the 1980s and 90s, has since designed golf courses, created his own clothing line, and put his name on wine labels. With every new venture in life, The Shark, as he's been affectionately known over the years, employs his lifelong mantra: Attack Life.

"In everything I do, I use this to push myself to achieve my very best," he says. "Whether it's business, golf, or simply working out in the gym, I like to attack everything I do. Life is too short to sit back and stroll through life. I figure I can sleep when I am dead."

Greg is also fond of the phrase, "Your dreams are the blueprint to reality." I believe in this wholeheartedly," he contends. "My dream was to become the best golfer I could be. As it turned out, the best was number one in the world. I set goals for myself, worked hard, and made my dreams a reality."

During his formative years, golf was never really on Greg's radar. It only became a passionate pursuit when his mother was playing in a local golf tournament and needed a caddy. "I offered to help out and while walking those 18-holes with her, I thought the game looked easy. I figured if my mother can play, so could I. Within 18 months I was a scratch handicap and completely hooked. Later when I knew I wanted to pursue a career in golf, my education involved working as an apprentice, making clubs from scratch, and learning the rules of the game." The result: A total of 90 professional wins worldwide.

Born in Queensland, Australia, Greg was also strongly influenced by his father. Whether it's learning to be dedicated, focused, and driven in life, or simply the basic fact of having to work hard to get what you want, he's a big believer in listening and trusting in yourself. "I have always believed that my dreams are the blueprint to my future, and with that, hard work and dedication from my father, I have been able to pursue such dreams and achieve all that I could hope for."

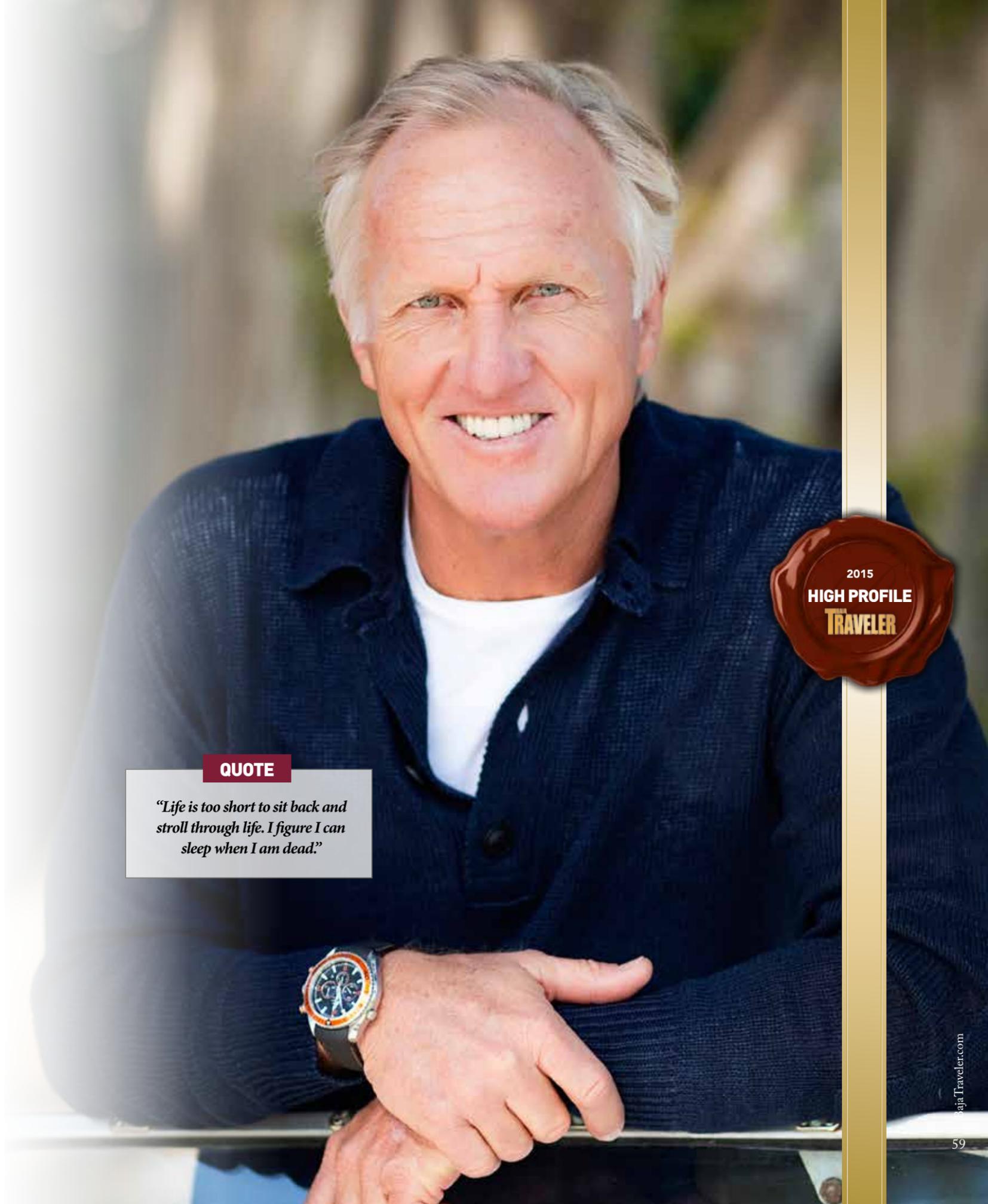
### Fondness for Mexico

Having designed a few golf courses in Mexico, including the front nine holes of the Puerto Los Cabos Golf Club in Los Cabos, Greg is a big proponent of Mexico and all of its natural splendor. "Now that the country has found the passion for golf, the key is to share that natural beauty and splendor with visitors and locals alike," says Greg. "It's also important to share this great game with children. The game of golf teaches a person so many life lessons, like dedication and patience to name a few. When children have the opportunity to learn the game at a young age, they become the sport's best advocates and help grow the game from the ground up. We need younger players to get out on the course, learn the game, and share that enjoyment with others. It doesn't matter what language you speak when playing golf. As Ben Franklin once said: 'Well done is better than well said.' This is certainly true in golf."

A frequent visitor to Mexico, Greg shares that he's always impressed with how the Mexican government dedicates itself to growing the game of golf by developing more golf destinations. He's pleased to be part of that process. Of his golf course designs, Greg says, "I want to create something that people will thoroughly enjoy playing, visiting, and perhaps even becoming a resident at for not just years but decades to come. By developing world-class golf courses and real estate properties, I feel that we are providing solid investments for tourists and locals alike."

Greg has been traveling to Mexico since the early eighties. Prior to designing golf courses and pursuing other business endeavors, he visited for the simple joys of fishing and scuba diving, while enjoying the warmth of the climate and the people. "My first visit to Mexico was to Isla Mujeres off the Yucatán Peninsula. I fell in love with the place and the people. Then, after the hurricane hit and devastated the island back in 1990s, I was so moved to action that I loaded up my boat with clothes, dryers, washing machines, shoes, and other items I felt could help in the recovery efforts. It was from that point on that I felt a kinship to Mexico, and that feeling has not changed over the years."

Isla Mujeres, Cabo San Lucas, and Puerto Vallarta are at the top of Greg's list of favorite places to visit in Mexico. "Whether for business or pleasure, I always look forward to returning to these beautiful locations." **BT**



### QUOTE

*"Life is too short to sit back and stroll through life. I figure I can sleep when I am dead."*

# Jorge Gamboa Patrón

## PROMOTES HIS LOVE OF MEXICO

BY KARIN LEPERI

Jorge Gamboa Patrón works in what he considers as, "one of the most important industries in the world." As Director of the Mexico Tourism Board for the Los Angeles Regional Office, he welcomes the opportunity to promote and share his love of Mexico. "I have been very fortunate for many years to have the great honor of working for the Mexico Tourism Board, helping to promote the unique and diverse touristic wealth Mexico has to offer," says Gamboa Patrón. "This industry offers me the opportunity to share and embrace the many vibrant and beautiful humanitarian and cultural heritages that exist in my country with the rest of the world."

Gamboa Patrón explains that his job entails developing initiatives for the many destinations that Mexico offers and in doing so he works with travel agents, airlines, tour operators, hoteliers, meeting planners, wedding planners, travel and tourism specialists, and state governments in Mexico so as to showcase the best that Mexico has to offer. He does this by helping entities establish goals and to accomplish them through strategic promotion, marketing, consulting, event organizing and communications. At the end of the day, it is all about increasing the number of visitors to Mexico's many destinations.

Originally from Yucatán, Gamboa Patrón completed his studies at the Escuela Internacional de Turismo in Mexico City. He then moved back to his hometown of Merida where he became Director of Tourism for the state of Yucatán. His next job was as the Federal Coordinator, where he represented the Minister of Mexico Tourism for the states of Quintana Roo, Campeche, Yucatán and Tabasco. Then, in 1984, the undersecretary of SECTUR, Guillermo Grimm, asked him to be Director of the Mexican government Tourism office in Houston, Texas. From there he has had the opportunity to live in Miami, London, Toronto and now California.

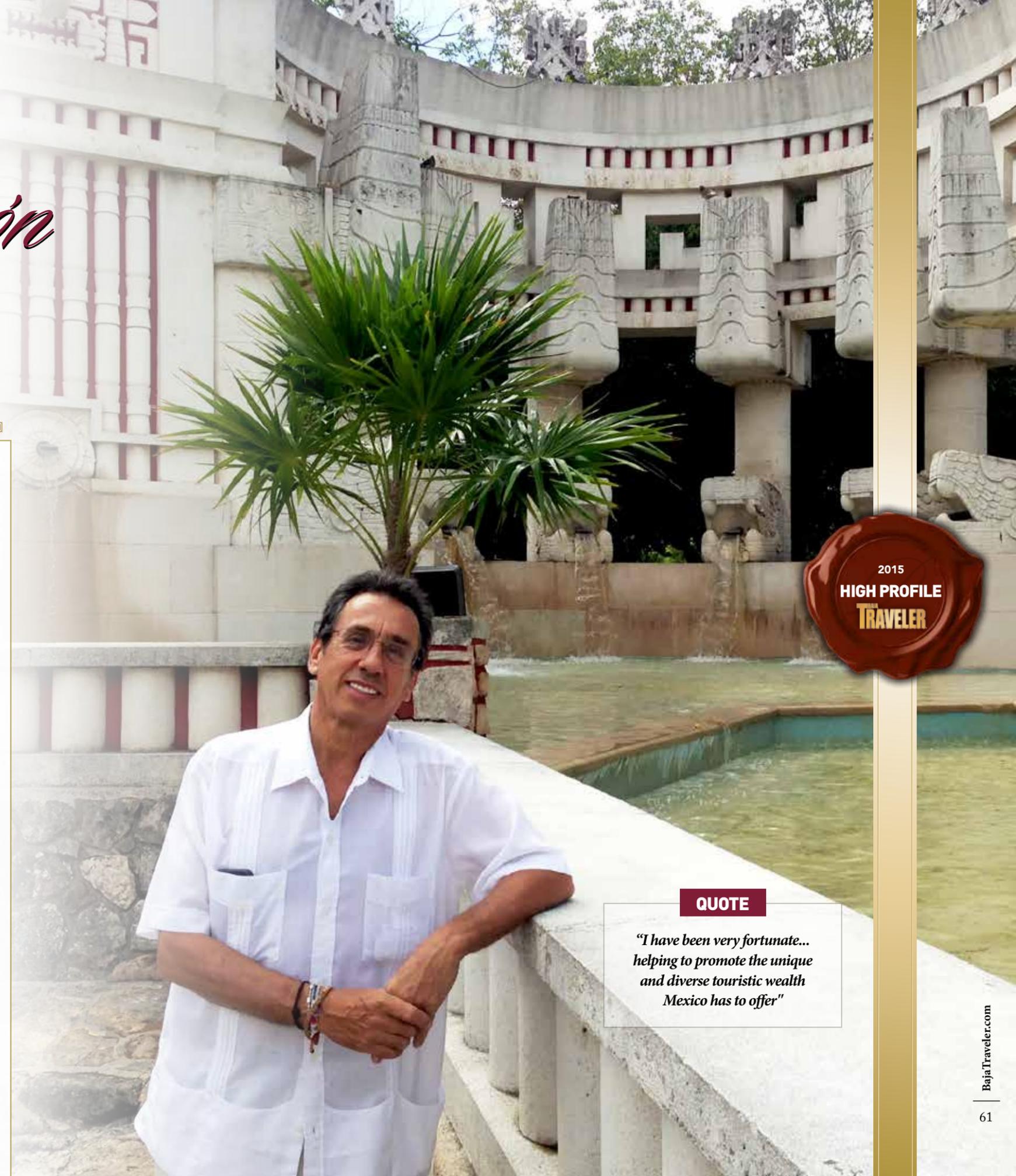
While Gamboa Patrón admits there have been challenges to the tourism industry such as the recession and nega-

tive press towards Mexico, he positively focuses on all the strengths and advantages that Mexico has to offer. "Mexico has an incredible advantage from other competitive destinations. Its proximity, its beauty, its first class service, its 300 years of culture, thousands of miles of white sand and sunny beaches and it's a good value among other amenities and attractions," notes Gamboa Patrón. With over 23 million visitors to Mexico per year, he is confident it will continue to grow as people experience the warmth and friendliness of his country.

Gamboa Patrón acknowledges that several individuals have been influential in his life. Antonio Enriquez Savicnac, a pioneer in developing world destinations such as Cancun, Ixtapa, Loreto, and Cabos San Lucas, inspired him to think big. Rabindranath Tagore inspired him to always be positive and kind in his dealings with people. Among others are Guillermo Grimm, Carlos Hampe, Javier Vega Camargo, Jaime Camil Garza, Rodney Hagenbuch, Rodolfo Lopez Negrete, Miguel Torruco, Raul Lomeli and his family. In particular, he continues to be inspired by his children, Gavin, Ivan and Carlota. He also notes that his faith has greatly shaped who he is and has allowed him to find strength and resilience during difficult periods in his life.

Though Gamboa Patrón is extremely dedicated to his profession, he also finds time to pursue outside passions. In particular, he loves music and says, "I can dream with my eyes open when I listen to Bach or Beethoven. I love and admire the philosophy of the great master Joan Manuel Serrat, the romanticism of Armando Manzanero, the simplicity of Agustin Lara and the folklore of Jose Alfredo Jimenez." As a composer, he has over 300 songs and several records to his name – and he sings beautifully!

Besides music, Gamboa Patrón loves to eat Mexican cuisine, visit museums and galleries, meet with his friends, play golf with his brother Mario, and sing songs while playing his guitar. Most of all, he loves to be with people and share his love of Mexico. **BT**



### QUOTE

*"I have been very fortunate... helping to promote the unique and diverse touristic wealth Mexico has to offer"*

# Gustavo Vildósola

## MAKING HIS MARK IN MEXICO

BY RICK STEDMAN

The Vildósola Racing team has been kicking up the dirt in off road racing for the last four decades. The patriarch of the team, Gustavo Vildósola, has always had a passion for vehicles, especially off road vehicles. "My fascination for racing started when at 15 years old I read a magazine article about the first Baja 1000 in 1967," Gus recalls. "I was very intrigued by how racers would travel along unknown, deserted terrain, and I wanted to experience my own Baja adventure in the same way, and began building my very own VW race bug."

Born and raised in Mexicali, Gus attended school across the border in the U.S. until the 8th grade, then returned to Mexicali for Middle, High School and University – he attended Cety's which is amongst the top universities in Mexico.

His family has always been involved in the automotive industry. "My father founded Kenworth Mexicana, and the plant is still located in Mexicali. I had the privilege of working there for the first 25 years of my career. I later formed "Mexicana Logistics," a company dedicated to the transportation of new heavy duty trucks and automobiles which are manufactured throughout Mexico. We currently employ more than 1,200 workers, and serve the industry's largest customers such as Kenworth, Freightliner, Navistar, Toyota, Volkswagen and Ford."

Though off road racing was always a passion, Gus took a break from the sport to focus on raising a family and running his business. It wasn't until 1984 that he had the opportunity to participate in his first Baja 1000, the granddaddy of off-roading races.

### Growing the team

Over the years, the Vildósola team and family grew. Gus' oldest son Tavo followed in his father's footsteps as an off-road racing enthusiast. Soon after, his younger son, JP, fell in love with the hobby as well. "My race team has become a family affair, my whole family is involved starting with my wife Fernanda who has supported me in every way throughout 37 years, my daughter Fernanda helping with accounting and public relations, and my two sons; Tavo and JP, having the same passion that I do for the sport."

The Baja 1000 is the most famous race in the off-road world and it didn't take Gus and Tavo long to set their sights on conquering this legendary challenge. In 2010, on the Bicentennial of Mexico's Independence and Centennial of the Mexican Revolution, Vildósola Racing won First Place, making them the first Mexican National team to bring home the

overall winning trophy. Again in 2012, Vildósola Racing won the Baja 1000 for a second time. During the 45th edition of the Baja 1000, the team completed the race in 19 hours and 44 minutes, while winning the hearts of Mexicans all over the world.

Of course, a racing team would not be a racing team without their crew. Vildósola Racing credits each and any of their successes to their hard working and invaluable crew members who work on a daily basis to achieve the finest preparation and logistics possible.

### Giving back to the community

When Hurricane Odile slammed the Baja Peninsula a few months ago, Gus and his team were quick to respond. "It's all about empathy," he says. "If I were in that situation, I would also love to receive the help that many demonstrated." Shortly after the hurricane, Gus, along with fellow racers, friends, and supporters started a relief effort called Baja Strong. The idea was first to send a few trucks to Baja with relief items, but thankfully the movement got bigger and stronger by the day. In a period of six weeks, Baja Strong collectively sent more than 220 tons of supplies.

### Chasing the dream

When the team geared up for the 47th annual Baja 1000 off-road race held this past mid-November, they were hoping to capture their third Baja 1000 championship and also be the first Mexican National team to win the overall points championship for 2014. Despite Team Vildósola's impressive 2014 season with four top-three finishes, their intense preparation took a sour turn after the team's trophy truck rolled during the race, which caused damage to the engine and forced the team to withdraw from the race. "There are good days and there are bad days, but that's how racing works," said a disappointed Tavo Vildósola.

On a positive note, Vildósola Racing's teammates Galindo Motorsports with Trophy Truck No.7 driven by Steven Eugenio, Gustavo Vildósola, Adam Pfankuch, and Tj Flores arrived at the La Paz finish line in a time of 24:46:26, awarding them the Sixth Place, and the first place in points championship for 2014. Favorite vacation getaways – in Mexico

"Among my favorite places in Mexico, I have to mention San Felipe, Mulege, Loreto, La Paz, Cabo San Lucas, Mexico City, Guadalajara and Cozumel," said Gus. "Each place I go to, whether a big city or a small town has its own beauty and attractions. I love my country, I am a big fan of Mexico, its traditions, beautiful sights and excellent gastronomical adventures."



### QUOTE

*"I was very intrigued by how racers would travel along unknown, deserted terrain, and I wanted to experience my own Baja adventure in the same way."*

# BAJA TRAVELER Giammarco Vela

## SEES LOS CABOS AS PARADISE

BY KARIN LEPERI

Giammarco Vela may have been born in Naples, Italy, but his heart resides in Los Cabos, a place he views as paradise on earth. His connection with Los Cabos started back in 2001, when he and a group of European investors he represented decided to invest in Los Cabos. The reason? "Because we thought that not only was it a prime destination but also was at the beginning of a long term economic growth that would attract tourists and investors from all over the world for its position, natural wonders and great sense of belonging and community..." says Vela. It was the beginning of his love affair with Los Cabos.

Vela is particularly honored to be the first foreign President of the influential restaurant chamber in Los Cabos. As a result, he is responsible for organizing Sabor A Cabo – an annual international food festival that showcases the best in cuisine and culinary trends in Los Cabos. This has given him the opportunity to work with many groups, associations and personalities to help promote tourism.

Vela spent 12 years in London working in the financial sector as Vice President at Morgan Stanley and five years as Executive Director at Lehman Brothers. He then moved to Mexico as the acting CEO and major shareholder of Sail Group. He is also the owner of Sunset da Mona Lisa, a recognized Cabo landmark and restaurant on a hillside overlooking the new Thompson Hotel (of which he is an investor). Plus, Vela has a new restaurant called Pan di Bacco (Bread of Bacchus).

Though Vela began his studies in Italy, he then became a high school exchange student in New Jersey, an experience that changed his way to see the world. He then worked in a Mexican Restaurant, eventually becoming a cook. He continued his university studies in Italy, majoring in Business Administration followed by a year at the University of York in England. Today, he lives in Los Cabos with his family and brother Valerio, who has Down

syndrome. Despite the challenges, Vela feels that living in Los Cabos has proven to be very beneficial for his brother in achieving a normal and independent life.

Vela's father impressed upon him the importance of experiencing different cultures and learning to embrace the nuances. As a result, he feels each experience has helped him become a better person. "Learning about new cultures can actually become the spice of life rather than something intimidating. Everywhere I have lived has given me a lot: great memories, good friends, and understanding new cultures. And each experience has become very influential on the person I am today."

Vela spends a lot of his free time in the water. Spearfishing and surfing are sports he loves. "I can surf early in the morning and be in the office at work by 9:30 with a smile that goes all the way to my ears!" Vela says. He also enjoys jazz and notes how he has been playing the piano and keyboards since high school.

Besides music, Vela loves good food. "I have lots of favorite Mexican dishes including the different types of mole but I particularly enjoy the creative cuisine of top Mexican restaurants like Pujol, Biko and Sud 777 in Mexico City," says Vela.

It is a great time for investing as Mexico realizes the importance of tourism. "It's an incredible country with wonderful natural and unique historical sites many of which are just starting to be discovered by the international traveler," Vela adds. "I have chosen Mexico because I believe it is a culture I can identify with... like family values, warmth and caring people. I also believe it is a country that offers some of the best opportunities of growth given its very young population and its great resources. But most of all, I have chosen Los Cabos which I feel is one of the best places I have visited because you can raise a family and live a healthy life in contact with nature while growing your business." **BT**

### QUOTE

*"I have chosen Mexico because I believe it is a culture I can identify with... like family values, warmth and caring people..."*



# BAJA TRAVELER Alejandro Garza

## DREAM TRAVEL WITH TRANSCABO: THE DETAIL EXPERTS

BY SYLVIA MENDOZA

For travelers – novices as well as seasoned experts – Los Cabos can be a dream getaway for business or pleasure. Sometimes, however, getting a group to the dream destination can become a nightmare when trying to take care of details. Searching for hotel and transportation options, recreational outlets and business venues takes time and begins to take a toll. But for a destination management company like Transcabo DMC, paying attention to travel details for clients is not only a business, it's a passion.

"From one destination to another, we go the extra mile to find what a customer needs," says Alejandro Garza, owner of Transcabo. Dedicated to exceptional services, Transcabo takes care of the details so that visitors can truly enjoy what Los Cabos has to offer. "Our vision and philosophy is to offer and maintain the highest standards of quality with all our services."

Garza seems to live for making tourists happy and sharing the beauty and wealth of Los Cabos. Garza also serves as president of AMAV, the Mexican Association of Travel Agencies. "Each year we receive 500,000 visitors. To be successful, we're responsible to guarantee that their trips are unforgettable so they return to this marvelous destination, that which is Los Cabos."

As much as he loves working in the tourism industry, it can be a very demanding and sensitive job. It is important that agencies and destination management companies – and other tourism related companies – work together to ensure a tourist has a positive experience. For example, the AMAV has important functions, but mostly members must go out and "sell" the destination and convince wholesale agencies and corporations offering incentives that Los Cabos is the best tourism destination in all of Mexico.

"The goal is to convince them that our mutual clients will be taken care of by our representatives, who recommend to them, in the most professional manner, their options as far as activities, restaurants and general attractions available in the area."

Even though there is no denying negative media coverage in Mexico, Garza believes that, "In reality, those are isolated events. In Los Cabos, one can experience a quality of life that is incredible. Once you get to know the locals, they are respectful and friendly. There's no better advertising than word of mouth commentary from visitors and we have that in abundance."

Originally from Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, Garza also lived in Monterrey where he graduated from Universidad Region-

montana, earning his Master's Degree in Taxes at the Institute of Specialties for Executives. He worked for a while for an accounting firm, but something was missing.

"I got married and came to find this piece of heaven 18 years ago," explains Garza.

Once he saw and experienced Los Cabos, he knew what his next step would be – working with the tourism sector. "My wife, Claudia, and I shared this vision we had since we'd met as students. We decided to start Transcabo DMC."

It was easy to sell Los Cabos as a premium destination, he says, with its large resorts and quaint hotels, its golf courses and its natural beauty, centuries-old missions and artistic avenues, daily outdoor activities and restaurants that serve local delicacies as well as exquisite cuisine.

There is something for everyone, all ages, all walks of life. "Every day I am thankful to Cabo for allowing me to develop professionally in what I enjoy doing the most – serving tourists and promoting this heavenly locale."

Garza is his own best customer. His favorite foods are from Baja and include lobster and fresh fish while a good steak is always welcome. His "must see" recommendation is the missions that run from Santa Rosalia to Los Cabos. For relaxing, he gets his dose of instrumental music in different venues and takes advantage of outdoor activities.

"We live in a paradise where the combination of desert and sea make eco-tourism that much more attractive for those who love the outdoors – any ocean sport or mountain sport can be done in Cabo."

Excited about the future of tourism in Los Cabos, Garza believes the most relevant change in the industry will be the investment in the development of an underground electric-wiring infrastructure that will improve a global image of Los Cabos.

Even with such possible changes, the core of Transcabo will remain the same – taking care of details to make dream vacations possible.

"We want to ensure that there is 100 percent total satisfaction for all visitors," he says. "For all those who don't know where to spend incredible holidays, for incentive houses looking to book their trips, for travel agencies, for those who haven't decided where to buy their second home or for those that visit us year after year – wherever you are coming from – we will be waiting for you with open arms." **BT**



### QUOTE

*"We want to ensure that there is 100 percent total satisfaction for all visitors."*

2015  
HIGH PROFILE  
TRAVELER

# Ivan Guaderrama

CREATING WHAT HE SEES IN HIS MIND...

BY STACIE GOTTSEGEN  
PHOTOS BY ELY DE LA PEÑA AND DANIELLE NUNGARAY

You can be just 30 years of age and have the heart and passion of an "old soul." Ivan Guaderrama is an amazing soul!

Guaderrama was born in 1984 in Chihuahua, Mexico. He first discovered his passion for art while attending High School in New Mexico.

From an airbrush to developing his skills as a painter and sculptor, he has studied with Henry Paul Ally at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center where he later obtained his degree in plastic arts.

In 2003, Guaderrama held his first individual exhibition titled "Liquid Dreams" and he has not stopped.

In the past 11 years he has participated in fifteen individual exhibitions and twelve group exhibitions within Mexico and abroad as well as opening two Galleries in the beautiful San José del Cabo Art district and Laguna Beach, California.

Guaderrama welcomes all to his galleries. He aspires to turn everyone into an art lover and loves to share his personal passion and journey with others.



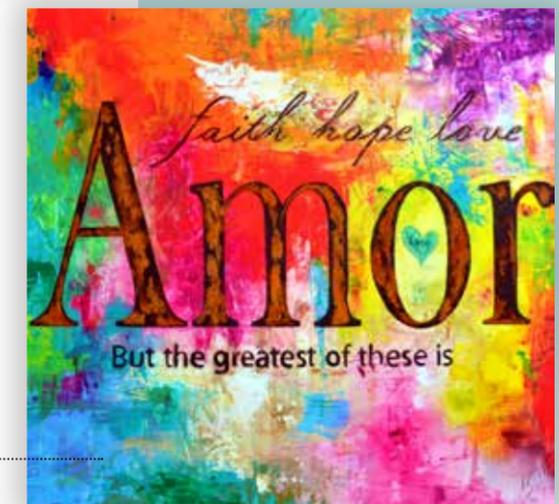
*BajaTraveler* had an opportunity to interview Ivan on his work and what drives his artistic adventures.

**BT:** You have said that your "intimacy" with art started when you were 12 years old through music. How does music inspire your Art?

**IG:** When I was 12 years old I took piano lessons, I really enjoyed taking them and I became passionate about it. Those piano lessons motivated me to start drawing and right after that I enrolled in a ceramics class... then carpentry. I took those classes because they go hand in hand with art. Today a great part of the sculptures and paintings that I create are related to music or musical instruments. Even though I don't know how to play any other instrument, I purchased a saxophone; however, and it has become one of my favorite instruments. I know that in the near future I will learn how to play it!

**BT:** What made you want to do drawings, paintings, and ceramics?

**IG:** When I was little, I always thought I had a super power that made me create things. I was always active and always creating. As I was growing up, I noticed that "my powers" were the ability to create. When I studied art, I noticed there were some things I was not that good at. I knew that because my fellow students were better than me. But that also made me realize that there were classes or projects that I was so good at... That made it so easy for me to excel.



**BT:** You also do some carpentry... Are you Handy?

**IG:** When I opened my first gallery I noticed that I couldn't trust other people to do my frames or canvas because the carpenters I used to hire were not very efficient. That made me feel like I was obligated to learn everything about making frames and canvas. I had to learn everything necessary to run a gallery from start to finish, but about 8 years ago I hired a full time carpenter and between the two of us, we have designed and learned new techniques.

**BT:** Can you fix things?

**IG:** When I was young I had a passion for electronics, what I used to do is open them to see how they operate, then I started buying old and cheap electronic devices at yard sales to try to open them to repair them. The truth is that they never worked. I was never able to make them work, even when I opened them... and when I tried to close them, there were always extra parts. Now I have become more efficient, not only at fixing but also at inventing electronic circuits to use with many of the art pieces I create... It is because some pieces are interactive and require it.

For example, I have an art piece that is voice activated! When you speak to it a light turns on and you can dim it with a voice command. I have another art piece which reads music by plugging a USB drive. My most recent project is a painting of a Piano which plays and sounds like a real piano when you touch the keys.

**BT:** Let's talk about God and Art. How has your relationship with God and faith developed your artistic growth and capabilities?

**IG:** Remember how I mentioned that when I was little I used to think that I had superpowers? When I grew up I noticed that those super powers were actually abilities. When I let God enter in my heart he showed me that I had gifts. Those abilities are gifts from God. Thanks to this and thanks to developing my own relationship with God, my faith has grown. Now a great part of the message that I use in my art speaks about the love that God has for us. You know the words "Starving Artist"... I believe the concept to be wrong. Whoever says that is because they have no faith in the gifts that God has given them. Others simply don't want to do what it takes to develop their gifts. For me, it is "10% inspiration and 90% work"... many people do the opposite. God has shown me that we are capable of creating what you can see in your mind. There is nothing in this world that you can't accomplish if you have the certainty that God is with you. There is nothing that fills me more or gives me more tranquility and gives me all the strength that I need more than knowing that God is with me. I know that he can be with all the people that look for him in their heart.

**BT:** You are a man constantly looking for knowledge. What is on your Bucket list?

**IG:** Play the saxophone at a concert. Skydive with my wife. Adopt a kid. Live a month in Cambodia.

**BT:** What do you want to do—accomplish that you haven't done?

**IG:** I want to have my own brand of souvenirs and to have them distributed all over America.

**BT:** What is your most memorable Art-Life experience?

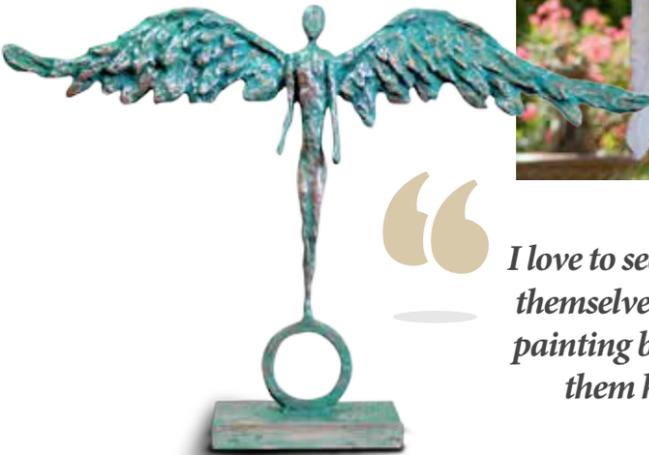
**IG:** My wedding day was the most memorable, I enjoyed every minute with my wife. Before my wedding, the day was very stressful... but without doubt that night was the most memorable experience in my life.

**BT:** You have said that your motivation often

comes from real life moments or dreams. Tell me about one piece of work that comes from your life inspiration.

**IG:** I will talk about my most recent sculpture, which is actually still in progress. As you know, we recently had a hurricane hit Cabo - Odile... which left a lot of damage. There were many people that helped after this disaster... This includes the authorities and many volunteers.

I want for people in Los Cabos to remember the hard work of all the people who helped to rebuild, so I started collecting fingerprints on clay from all of the people that helped and these fingerprints will be attached to a giant heart sculpture... with a big base that will explain why this sculpture was created. It will be in bronze and exhibited in Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo.



“ I love to see clients identify themselves with a specific painting because it brings them happiness... ”

**BT:** You have said that you rarely repeat creations since each piece of art expresses the instant of your life and how you are living at that particular moment. How do you keep your work fresh and authentic?

**IG:** When I travel I always find things I like and sometimes things I don't like. As inspiration for future projects, I use what I like. A good example is my last trip to Cuba. When I was there with my wife we noticed the way of life... it's a place where people make an average of 12 dollars per month regardless if they are construction workers or have doctors degree... No matter what the circumstances the people there have a great spirit of happiness. Their happiness helped me to create a new painting series called "gardens." It is portraits of their happiness.

**BT:** You are inspired mostly by the challenge of creating something that does

not yet exist or is deemed as "cannot be done." What has been YOUR greatest challenge?

**IG:** To try to create interactive art pieces where people not only see the art but they have to interact with it. Currently I'm working on art pieces that will constantly change colors, if it's winter it will display a set of colors and if it's summer it will have a different set also if you turn on your air conditioning it will change colors according to the temperature.

**BT:** Cabo had a huge amount of damage from the recent hurricane. How did the damage impact your work and creative process?

**IG:** On the contrary, the damage was material and that can be replaced, there has been great support from all over and that has helped me create new projects like the sculpture I'm creating to commemorate those who are helping to rebuild.

## Art AND BAJA

**BT:** What it is about the BAJA region that makes an artist flourish?

**IG:** Los Cabos is a tranquil place, you rarely see traffic, it's a paradise surrounded by gorgeous beaches where you really have the chance to relax and this is helpful for inspiration. That tranquility attracts tourist and people who love art.

**BT:** How do YOU define beauty and art?

**IG:** Take a look at this magazine, your shoes, your cell phone, your car, your clothes, your desk or even the building where you live. They were all designed by an art department in different areas. Now imagine if there was no art... I think it will be a very monotonous life. I feel that art plays a big role in our lives no matter what you do for a living. Here is my favorite quote "Art is anything of the ordinary that provokes the imagination to come alive."

**BT:** How important is it for you to bring Art into people's lives

**IG:** It's very important, God has given me a gift and the gift is not for me to keep. I use it to show others what God has done and to benefit them. During the last 2 years I have seen... and people have commented how they buy my art mainly because of the messages or phrases I use in my art. Other people who purchase the angels I paint have mentioned that they inspire tranquility. I have seen people cry from happiness when they see my art. One client even shared that they have been protected and survived accidents and they believe it's a Guardian Angel that protects them. All those stories bring me happiness and confirm that God wants me to continue doing what I'm doing.

**BT:** How does your work feed your soul?

**IG:** It is motivating to see my clients sharing stories about how someone that was having a bad day changed their mood when they saw my painting at their house... I love to see clients identify themselves with a specific painting because it brings them happiness... because of the colors or words I used on the paintings motivates them.

**BT:** Tell me about YOUR perfect Baja Day and Evening...Where do you go?

**IG:** Cabo Surf

**BT:** What do you do?

**IG:** Surf a few hours and eat a nice dinner.

**BT:** Who are you with?

**IG:** With dear friends and my wife!

**BT:** Where-What do you eat?

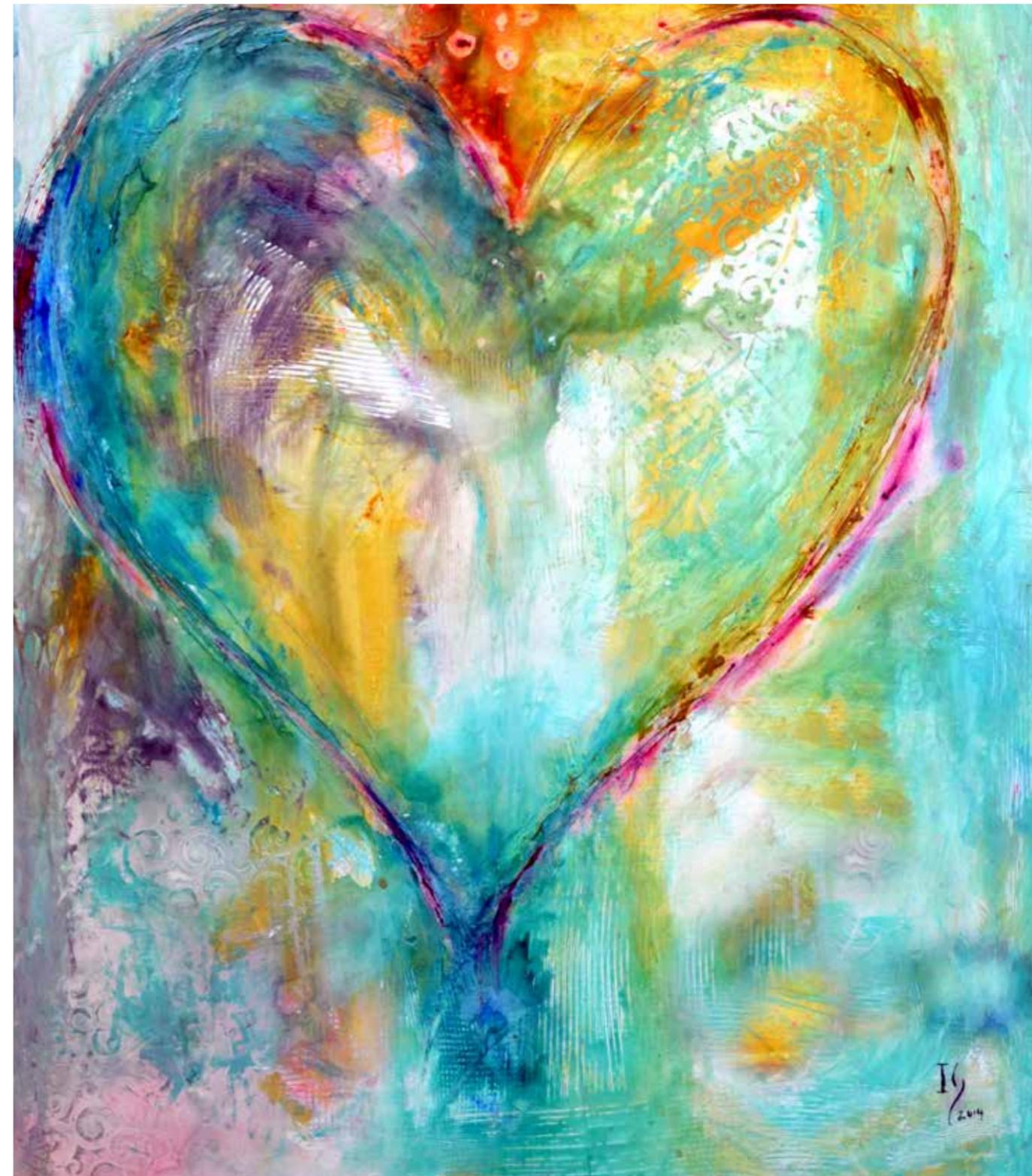
**IG:** I love Invita Bistro, a great Italian Restaurant and I order Salmon and pasta.

**BT:** Full moon or Harvest moon?

**IG:** Harvest moon BT

# Ivan Guaderrama

[www.IvanGuaderrama.com](http://www.IvanGuaderrama.com)



IG  
2014



# Beyond Beauty

Robert Puleo Design delivers chic interiors with careful planning at La Hacienda at Punta Pescadero

BY JEANIE CASISON  
PHOTOS BY SCOTT RHINEHART & CARLOS ABOYO

Inside La Hacienda at Punta Pescadero, inviting interiors provide the perfect setting to bask in the gorgeous surroundings of the Baja California Peninsula. Spanning 7,000 square feet, the elegant residence overlooks the stunning Sea of Cortés and serves as a splendid retreat for the families who vacation there several times a year. Behind the distinctive details is Robert Puleo Design, a full-service firm that specializes in providing turn-key solutions to residential clients through an array of services that include space planning, material and color selections, custom furniture design, procurement and complete installation services, among others.

According to Robert Puleo, designer and principal of the eponymous firm, La Hacienda at Punta Pescadero conveys a feeling of 'Relaxed Luxury,' an understated yet sophisticated look that he was able to achieve through collaboration with the architect and client. Given that Puleo possesses more than 30 years of experience, his expertise was instrumental in executing the overall vision for the home.

...mission of providing a  
"Dream Delivered"



"each project is unique and is a response to several conditions. The first is the architecture of the building, in which the interior is going to be developed. Being trained as an architect, I believe that there should be a strong cohesion between the building architecture and the interiors," Puleo says. "The second, are the different influences which might guide the project, be it a beach house in Mexico or a home in the Hollywood Hills, and not just in terms of looks. For example, how will the salt air impact the upholstery or wall materials? Unique locations require a unique design response. The third and most important thing to remember is that every client is different. Each has their own tastes and requirements. Not one design style fits all. It should be a discovery process with the client. Following these steps leads to a design project which is unique to each client. The overall look for each project may change but the process never does."

Harmony prevails at La Hacienda at Punta Pescadero. However, creating such an ambiance and aesthetic always requires careful planning from the start. While the location lends itself for picturesque moments with the nearby sand and surf, the natural elements can result in wear and tear over time. Puleo took these factors into consideration during the initial design process.

"I wanted to create an environment for the extended families, for children and grandchildren that includes all the comforts of home while remaining highly durable for large gatherings. Being right on the water also had to be taken into consideration. For instance, we incorporated white upholstery predominantly throughout the project to contrast with the deeply colored walls. White upholstery can be beautiful but it is difficult to maintain. So I researched and found fabric that was super soft and treated with Nanotex so you can sit anywhere in a bathing suit and not

have to worry. Any liquid spilled on the upholstery will simply bead up and can be easily wiped clean. This is the only reason I was able to use white upholstery. As a designer, you have to think about functional solutions that also look good."

Equally important as looking good is having workable logistics for projects like La Hacienda. To address the remote location of the property, Puleo created custom furniture to ensure ease of placement of the different pieces.

"At the time, the project was accessible only by a dirt road. We had to go up and down arroyos to get there. This was factored in when bringing the products for installation. This project is large scale and 90 percent of the furnishings were custom designed and fabricated. I had to think about how everything would be created, boxed, handled on arrival, staged and brought into the property. This required good planning and strategic use of our resources," he says. "The home features switchback stairs, so I designed the furniture into sections so they could easily be brought up the stairs. Not everyone thinks about those specifics. They think about the beauty and not how you get from Point A to Point B. That's why clients depend on me."

Ultimately, Robert Puleo Design strives to fulfill the mission of providing a "Dream Delivered" for all his clients. At La Hacienda at Punta Pescadero, this is evident at every turn from the eye-catching seating and the curated art work and accessories, to Four Seasons mattresses and the Frette bedding and towels.

As to what brings Puleo the most satisfaction, he says "I love working with clients on a project that never existed before; completing their vision and hearing their response when they see it for the first time. This is all part of the dream delivered." **BT**

"I wanted to create an environment for the extended families, for children and grandchildren that includes all the comforts of home while remaining highly durable for large gatherings..."





# CLASE AZUL AÑEJO

Since the very beginning, the essence of Clase Azul has been inspired to reveal the beauty and wonder of Mexican traditions. This has been unveiled in each and every artisanal, one-of-a-kind presentation.

Now, in honor of the work of the natives that have produced these stunning pieces... the Mazahuas' – Tequila Clase Azul

introduces, Clase Azul Añejo, "Edición Indígena – Mazahua." Mazahua is one of the oldest native, indigenous communities which settled in Mexico in pre-hispanic times. Clase Azul has adopted their unique skills of working with clay as an art form for their distinguished decanters.

Clase Azul Añejo "Edición In-

dígena - Mazahua" is a one-of-a-kind piece which represents the fruits of two worlds coming together: The unfired clay symbolizes authentic - indigenous Mexican roots meeting up with the European glazing techniques. The result is an extraordinary piece which they are proud to introduce to the world as they launch their very first ultra-premium Añejo tequila.

## TEQUILA PRODUCTION PROCESS

- Agave:** Hand-selected, organic Weber Blue Agaves that have matured for at least 9 years.
- Cooking:** Slow cooking of the agave pineapple for 72 hours in traditional stone ovens.
- Fermentation:** Using Clase Azul's proprietary strain of yeast.
- Distillation:** Careful attention to pot still distillation ensures the highest quality spirit.
- Filtration:** Triple micron filtration ensures the highest quality spirit without compromising its integrity or flavor profile.
- Aging:** Clase Azul Añejo is aged for 25 months in barrels of the highest quality selected by their master distiller.

## CLASE AZUL AÑEJO

Clase Azul Añejo "Edición Indígena-Mazahua" is an ultra-premium añejo tequila made from organic, Tequilana Weber Blue Agave in the highlands of Jalisco. Its intense amber color and exquisite aroma are the result of twenty-five months aging in used American, white oak barrels. The nose is layered with aromas of Mexican vanilla, cinnamon, apples and almonds and surrounded by caramel aromas from the slow-cooked agave. The viscous body shows off a delicate, yet balanced mouth-feel that enhances the cooked agave flavors through the finish.

The decanter for Clase Azul Añejo is hand-made and hand-painted in a ceramic facility in a remote village of México called Santa María de Canchisdá. The artisans in this community pay special attention to creating the finest quality ceramic in the regional, Mazahua traditions. For the Añejo offering, the mold represents the iconic Clase Azul design, while the ornamentation represents the evolution of tequila from the earth.

This combines history, art and the highest quality tequila in an exemplary expression for Clase Azul.

COLLECTIBLE  
PIECE OF ART

Producing each Clase Azul Añejo bottle will benefit more than 60 Mazahua families and takes two weeks to be made.

Each piece is signed by the master distiller and the individual Mazahuan artisan

Each Clase Azul Añejo decanter is painted and numbered by hand and is a one-of-a-kind piece.

ADVERTORIAL



Additionally, Oscar Fraustro also ended up earning his PGA TOUR membership during the Web.com Tour Finals events, earning enough money in a four-tournament stretch to claim his card for the 2014-2015 season and guaranteeing his participation in the OHL Classic. Prior to this year, only four Mexicans had held PGA TOUR memberships in the 46-year history of the organization.

Both golfers were front and center at Mayakoba, making the cut and taking T9 honors, the best finish by a Mexican since the tournament's inception in 2007. With the success Carlos and Oscar displayed, it is clear the level of golf among Mexican professionals is improving tremendously. These gentlemen are products of the Mexican Golf Federation and the country's own grass roots golf system, which indicates that the game is growing exponentially from within.

It is worthy to note that following the opening of the new headquarters of my golf academy in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina a significant number of the juniors entering into the program are Mexican Nationals. Roberto Díaz, a student of Greg Norman Champions Golf Academy and member of the Web.com Tour, is another shining example of the future of golf in Mexico.

Since its founding, one of the main goals of the OHL Classic has been to foster the development of top-level competitive golfers in Mexico. In partnership with OHL, we are proud to continue supporting this goal and we look forward to seeing more Mexican golfers on Tour.

Creating the next generation of golfers in Mexico calls for more quality courses in the country. Greg Norman Golf Course Design is thrilled to be a part of this development. We have recently opened or are currently working on a myriad of designs across the country that are sure to impress both resort guests and nationals alike.

Over the last decade, Cabo San Lucas has exploded onto the golf scene with a bevy of tracks designed by the world's most lauded names in golf course architecture, such as our own Puerto Los Cabos. Stretching along miles of coastline overlooking the Sea of Cortez, this magnificent desert terrain is defined by nature's infinite presence. Golf at Puerto Los Cabos currently presents a unique opportunity in that the opening 18 holes are a composite design consisting of 9 holes from Jack Nicklaus and 9 holes from Greg Norman Golf Course Design. The final layout will include an 18-hole Jack Nicklaus resort course and the 18-hole Greg Norman Signature Course that will be private, reserved solely for the homeowners of the community.

Another course that I am extremely fond of is Litibu Golf Course, located very close to Punta Mita, one of the most exclusive areas in Riviera Nayarit. We opened this challenging course in 2010, taking advantage of the stunning natural landscape including unique terrain where we created 7 "links" style holes, eight holes surrounded by virgin jungle, and three holes that run along the Pacific Coast. Mexico's western coastline provides a backdrop of intense skies, emerald mountains, golden beaches and tropical vegetation. It is not to be missed.

We are currently in the final stages of construction on our Rancho San Lucas course, which will be a premier amenity of the Grand Solmar Rancho San Lucas. Located on the west side of the Cabo coast amidst rolling dunes and the beautiful waters of the Pacific, we plan to finish construction on this tour de force in early 2015.

We are thrilled to add yet another Greg Norman Signature Design to Mexico's collection with Nuevo Nayarit, also under construction with plans to open in the spring of 2015. We have partnered with Grupo Vidanta, Mexico's leading resort developer, to bring this stunning design to Puerto Vallarta. We are thrilled with the caliber of golf courses we have designed thus far and we look forward to continuing to enhance the playing aesthetic for golfers throughout this beautiful country. **BT**

# THE BEST OF MEXICAN GOLF

BY GREG NORMAN

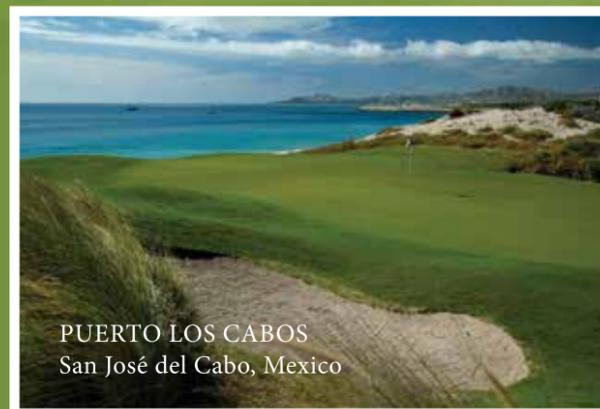
This year's OHL Classic at Mayakoba showcased the best of Mexico. Not only the beautiful region of the Riviera Maya, but the incredible talent of emerging Mexican golfers. Among the seven Mexican players in the field was 23-year-old rookie, Carlos Ortíz of Guadalajara, Jalisco, who recently became the first Mexican to officially earn a PGA TOUR card since 2004. His impressive year included three victories on the Web.com Tour and the Player of the Year accolade which cemented his position as the tour's leading money winner for the season, assuring his PGA TOUR card for the upcoming season.

This was important to the OHL Classic as Carlos was the first Mexican to qualify for the event based on his status as a TOUR member in the eight-year history of the tournament. All previous Mexican participants had been recipients of special exemptions from tournament organizers or had qualified through the PGA TOUR's Monday Open Qualifying Tournament.

LITIBU GOLF COURSE Riviera Nayarit, Mexico

*You have to begin with the end in mind.*

— Greg Norman



PUERTO LOS CABOS  
San José del Cabo, Mexico



PUERTO LOS CABOS  
San José del Cabo, Mexico



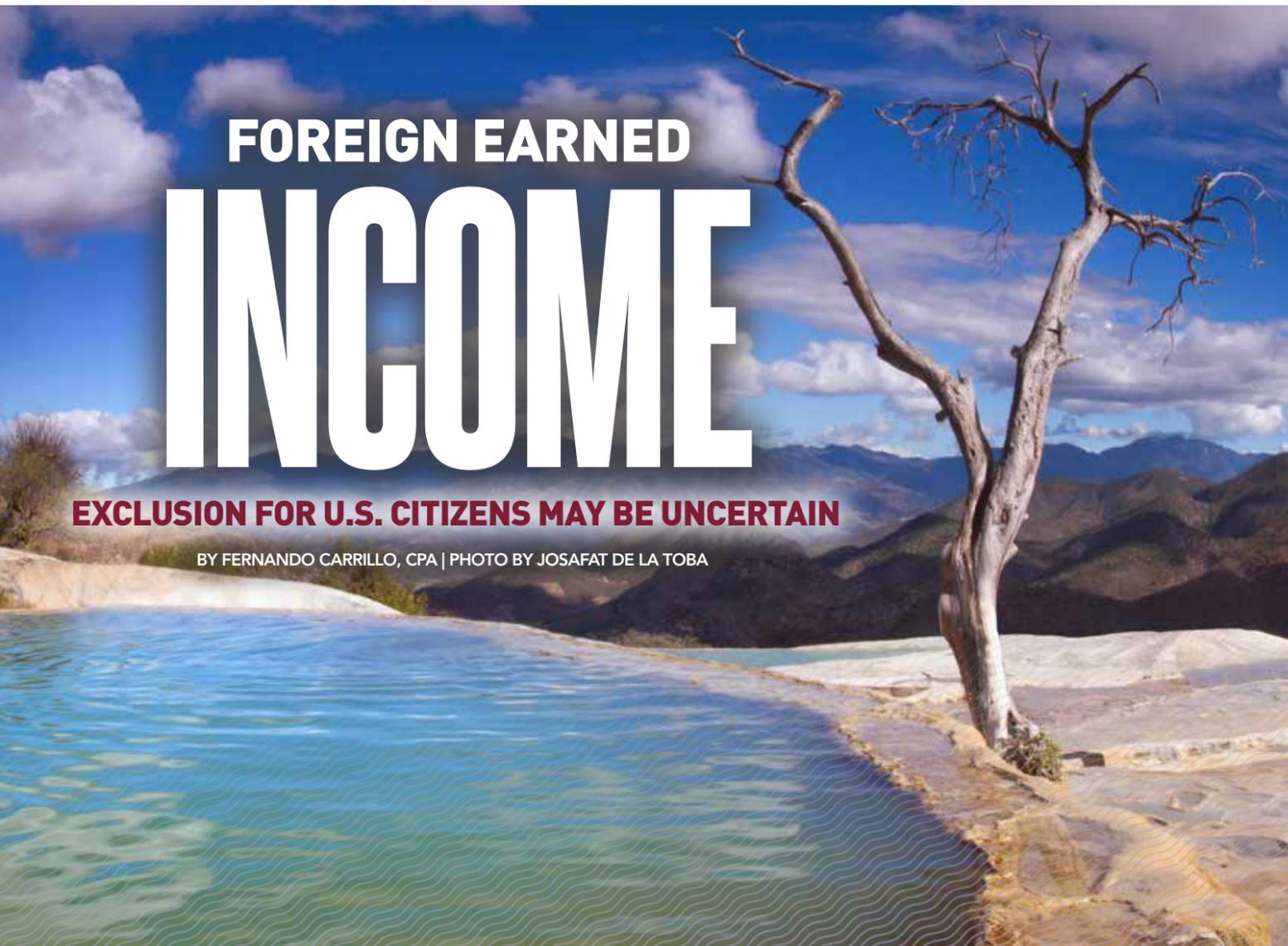
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# FOREIGN EARNED INCOME

## EXCLUSION FOR U.S. CITIZENS MAY BE UNCERTAIN

BY FERNANDO CARRILLO, CPA | PHOTO BY JOSAFAT DE LA TOBA

Are the tax benefits of those U.S. citizens working abroad uncertain? Since 1926 special tax benefits have been available to U.S. citizens working and living abroad. Under the Internal Revenue Code Section 911- these benefits also known as the Foreign Earned Income Exclusion ("FEIE") which allow U.S. individuals working outside the U.S. an exclusion of up to \$99,200 (limit for 2014) for income earned while living and working abroad. These tax benefits cost the U.S. an estimated \$4.4 billion in 2013 and the amount is expect to rise in the given years.

In general, U.S. citizens whether they reside in the U.S. or abroad, are generally subject to U.S. income tax on their income from sources within and outside the U.S., with exemptions for foreign earned income and housing costs income. For any tax year in which an individual is a qualified individual the taxpayer may elect to exclude from gross income his or her foreign earned income up to the inflation adjusted exclusion amount. An individual's foreign earned income is earned income from foreign sources attributable to services he or she performed during the period that individual was a qualified individual under IRS Section 911. Earned income means wages and other amounts received as compensation (i.e., not as distribution of profits) for personal services actually rendered, including the fair market value of compensation paid with property. For married couples, the amount of the exclusion is computed separately for each spouse.

In a recent Government Accountability Office ("GAO") report , an estimated 445,000 tax returns claimed the FEIE, according to the report it is approximately 0.3% of all individual tax returns filed that year. Of those claiming the FEIE more than half work for a foreign employer and less than one-third report working for a U. S. company.

In 2001, the year of this report, taxpayers were able to exclude from taxable income approximately about \$30 billion in foreign earned income and housing costs with about 45 percent excluding all or most of their foreign earned income. The FEIE reduces the tax liability of U.S. taxpayers even if they paid no foreign income taxes to another country. Additionally, U.S. taxpayers in higher taxed countries can eliminate their U.S. tax liability using the foreign tax credit, which allows and prevents double taxation when foreign income is taxes by both the United States and a foreign country. With this bringing their tax liability to almost nothing.

As more and more companies move their operations outside the U.S., as we have seen lately. The costs could influence employment for some U.S. workers overseas and there is little evidence the tax expenditure affects exports. Experts and stakeholders interviewed by the GAO expressed differing views on the emphasis employers place on specific overseas hiring factors. While about half of those GAO interviewed said that employer's make overseas hiring decisions based first on the candidates' qualifications, of that the cost of prospective employees was not a primary consideration.

The GAO reported noted that repealing the tax expenditure would reduce the tax inducement for U.S. citizens to relocate to lower-tax countries, but would also make U.S citizens more costly for any employer to hire than citizens of most other countries, which do not tax foreign earned income.

Removing the FEIE would eliminate the tax cost differential with other countries, including Mexico, but would allow high-income individuals to avoid U.S. taxes on foreign earned income. Targeted tax relief may be justified for extreme cost of living areas, and the design of any alternative would affect the complexity for taxpayers and the Internal Revenue Service, as well as the federal tax cost.

The reports states, "there is still room for debate regarding how potential revisions to the current tax expenditure may affect choices about where to work and who to hire and the current tax expenditure may have positive and negative effects on both the efficient allocation of labor resources and on equity." It also states, that "these uncertainties also make it difficult to draw definite conclusions about certain policy alternatives".

As for now U.S. citizens living abroad will have wait to see what the IRS and the U.S. Treasury recommend based on this report. We will also have to wait and see if they incorporate any issues such as the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FACTA"), which is having a major impact on Americans living abroad as well. **BT**

<sup>1</sup> 2011 GAO report

### About the Author

*Fernando Carrillo is a Certified Public Accountant with the firm of Armando C. Ibarra, APC in San Diego, CA. He received his Bachelor's from the University of San Diego and his Master's from Duke University.*



**Certified Public Accountant  
A Professional Corporation**

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PICTURED: Kevin James, Eduardo Verastegui and Emily Watson



# BAJA SEEKS TO RECLAIM THE MOVIE SPOTLIGHT

BY KARIE J. BOYD, ATTORNEY AND CEO | PHOTO BY CLAUDIA TALAVERA

The reactivation of the film and commercial production industry in Baja California hinges on the success of the much-anticipated feature film, *Little Boy*. The inspirational family film, set for release in February 2015, is the first major production to take advantage of a new tax incentive program for foreign filmmakers.

Baja's film and production industry was made famous in 1996 when Twentieth Century Fox constructed a 46 acre studio to film James Cameron's *Titanic*, just a few miles south of the border in the coastal resort city of Rosarito. The studio, which boasts four of the world's largest water tanks, quickly became a premier destination for expansive water shoots and underwater productions.

However, by 2008 Mexico's insecurity problem was flaring up, and Hollywood withdrew from the region entire-

ly. The Mexican government responded in 2010 with the announcement of The Program for the High Impact Film and Audiovisual Industry, a financial incentive program designed to lure foreign productions back to Baja.

Eleven weeks of filming *Little Boy* at the Baja Studios in Baja concluded without a hitch, and executives stated that by filming in Mexico instead of the United States, the film's production costs were cut in half. Mexican officials estimated that the film generated \$14 million in revenue for the Baja economy, including the creation of nearly 1,500 jobs. If *Little Boy* is a hit at the box-office, the international attention garnered from the film will likely draw filmmakers back to the region. Below is a summary of the Mexico's new tax incentive program, and what filmmakers need to know in order to take advantage of the program.

### What are the program's incentives?

The new program is shaped by two key financial benefits. Filmmakers are granted an Added Value Tax (VAT) exemption of up to 10 percent. As a compliment to the VAT exemption, the program's ProAudiovisual Fund (ProAV Fund) provides for a reimbursement of up to 7.5 percent of all production and post-production expenses incurred in Mexico. Together, the VAT exemption and the ProAV Fund allow foreign producers to save as much as 17.5 percent.

Some states and cities also offer smaller incentives for projects filmed in their jurisdiction, including lodging discounts, transportation during location scouting, security, and expedited visa services.

### What is required in order to qualify for the program?

All film or audio visual projects shot in Mexico and whose primary commercial exploitation is to be done outside of the country are considered an "export product" and are eligible for the program. In 2012, the Mexican government reduced the minimum spending amount required under the program from \$5.5 million to \$3.1 million, and allowed filmmakers to "bundle" several projects together to meet the new minimum. This allows lower budget projects, such as independent films, television shows, and commercials, to also take advantage of the program.

The program specifically requires that a minimum of 70 percent of filming take place in Mexico, and the footage must present the country in a positive and favorable way. There is also a minimum percentage of Mexican citizens that must be used as both key talent and production crew.

The program further requires filmmakers to register with for the program through a company legally established in Mexico. Thus, filmmakers are required to either partner with a local production company or form a new production company in Mexico.

### What steps must be taken by a filmmaker prior to filming?

The first step for a filmmaker is to contact the Mexican Film Commission (COMEFILM). COMEFILM will determine whether the project qualifies for the program, as well as inform the filmmaker of the basic benefits offered by the program and the paperwork required by other agencies of the government. Next, the filmmaker must file tax information with the System of Tributary Administration, and duly notify ProMexico, the government agency in charge of promoting foreign investment and exports. ProMexico will then assign an agent to your project. The agent will be available to assist with all specific problems that may arise during the production, and ensure that all documentation required for the VAT exemption and the ProAV Fund reimbursement is prompt and clear.



The cast of *Little Boy* with director Alejandro Monteverde

Along with the new financial incentives, Baja's state-of-the-art production facilities and relatively inexpensive yet talented workforce give it a competitive edge. Throw in first class accommodations, great beaches, and beautiful weather, and it will be only a matter of time before a new generation of Hollywood filmmakers return to Baja. **BT**

### About the Author

*At Boyd Law, with offices throughout Southern California, we provide legal representation to our clients in international negotiations, entertainment law, talent contract negotiations, distribution agreements and cross-border litigation issues.*

*Disclaimer: This article has been prepared and published for educational purposes only and is not offered, nor should be construed, as legal or tax advice.*

## EXPERIENCE



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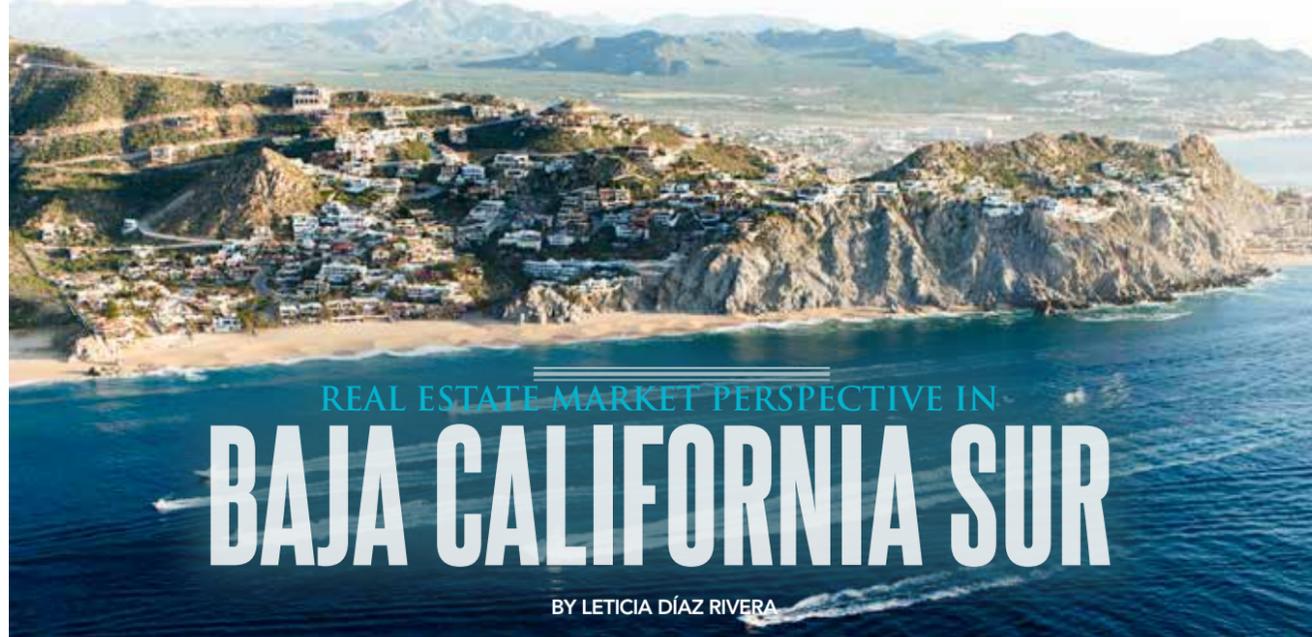
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REAL ESTATE MARKET PERSPECTIVE IN  
**BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR**

BY LETICIA DÍAZ RIVERA

For many years, Southern Baja (particularly the Los Cabos area) has been the hot spot for savvy real estate investors. With a perfect climate for indoor and outdoor activities, miles of sandy beaches and the convenience of daily international and national flights, Baja California Sur is the perfect getaway for nationals and foreigners alike.

With an average appreciation on real estate investment of 17% per year over the past decade, developers and investors are reaping the rewards. Although for a short time in 2011 and 2012 it was a buyer's market (into which the demand for properties was lower than the offer) we can all benefit from it as the demand and offer is becoming equal with a lower gap between the asking price and the selling price.

Add to the narrowing of the bid/ask on a residential level the preponderance of investors from all over the world buying and developing all-inclusive resorts, exquisite five-star retreats, championship golf courses and amenities that live up to the expected services and beyond, everyone is commenting on the beauty and quality of living in the area. The growth and diversity of the residential communities fitted to all budgets, offer a choice of lifestyle as it translates into the caliber of homes found in the Southern Baja area that represent over 5 Billion dollars in declared value, nearly all owned and debt free!

The demand of additional amenities within a residential community is always increasing, any buyer looking for a condo, a house or even a lot to develop, must consider location, rental potential (especially for those looking for a vacation/investment property), property management options and further amenities that can contribute in increasing the value of their investment no matter if they are looking into a mid-range to a higher end community.

Real estate professionals, as well as buyers and sellers, have felt firsthand the results of this interesting period on which the demand has created newer and fresher options for buyers to choose from and asking prices are in accordance with the current market analysis. It all comes to the un-denying fact that buyers and seller have everything they need to make a good decision for a smart investment.

**Where to invest?**

It all depends on what you are looking for – if it is a beachfront land on a laid back, worry free area, you could consider the East Cape with the fisherman villages of La Ribera & Los Barriles and the miles of unspoiled beaches. If what you favor is an artistic bohemian community or a farming land adequate to the local climate, Todos Santos and its nearby areas could be the right choice. But if what you want is to be right in the middle of the action, with all the international up-and-coming events, Cabo San Lucas, La Paz, and San José are your best option. Remember that all these areas represent an incredible option whether you consider living full time or as a vacation getaway.

*To make it simpler, here are the Top Five Reasons to invest in the real estate market in Baja California Sur:*

**1. SECURITY OF INVESTMENT**

Through the Fideicomiso, thousands of foreigners (and even Mexicans) are finding the benefits of living in the area with the peace of mind of an investment portfolio they can enjoy on a daily basis.

**2. CONVENIENCE**

Pack your bags and in a matter of a couple of hours of flight you will be in mainland Mexico or some of the principal cities within the American and Canadian West Coast.

**3. SERVICES**

Good medical care, quality education, impressive dining, fine artisanal shopping, organic markets with local producers, international sporting and cultural events... should I go on?

**4. CLIMATE**

An average of 360 sunny days a year with perfect summer days and enjoyable winter nights.

**5. LIFESTYLE**

No mess no fuss. When if not now is the best time to watch your children grow? When if not now will you start living your dream?

**If what I've told you is not enough, take a look at the hundreds of people that on a daily basis decide to make Baja their second home or retirement paradise. The best time to invest in Baja California Sur is now!**

Leticia is a Real Estate Developer and Broker of Coldwell Banker Riveras; she leads a team of real estate advisors that have been awarded as the # 1 Coldwell Banker office in Mexico for the past 10 years. [leticia@pedregal.com](mailto:leticia@pedregal.com) | [www.cbriveras.com](http://www.cbriveras.com)



REAL ESTATE MARKET PERSPECTIVE IN  
**BAJA CALIFORNIA**

*Baja's Bloom after the Boom...*

BY RUDY VALDES

More than five years removed from one of the worst real estate crashes in history, Baja, California may not quite be booming again where real estate is concerned; however the state is in full bloom—and that might be just what the doctor ordered for a real estate market left for dead not more than a few years ago.

Few markets have ever undergone the kind of turmoil Baja suffered after the crash in 2008, and even fewer have survived. If the proverbial deck was ever stacked against a once promising market, it was here in Baja. Economies maligned and security deteriorated in a perfect storm that left Baja beaten and battered. Projects stalled and the once grandiose dreams of a tourism corridor lined with high rises and luxury towers gallivanting names like *Trump* were abandoned. Baja was left for dead by just about everyone who didn't already live here, but apparently someone forgot to tell the locals because life in Baja has NEVER BEEN BETTER!

Baja has always had natural attractions; the breathtaking beauty of this paradise is undeniable: from the rocky *Rumorosa*, to valleys peppered with thousands of oak trees in a wine country competing internationally with Napa and Bordeaux, to the sandy virgin beaches that lead into the world's aquarium, the magical Sea of Cortez. These natural attractions amongst others, along with a mellow Mediterranean climate to enjoy,

creates a gateway into Mexico that is unique and simultaneously authentically Mexican in its setting.

What is so interesting about the real estate offering in Baja California today in comparison to the booming real estate days a few years back is this idea of authenticity. During the boom, Baja was a destination propped up as something conceived, planned and developed for Americans, a little piece of Southern California just south of the border. Everyone from the developers of mega real estate projects to the vendors of curios on the streets were driven by the idea that Baja's tourism was dependent on our neighbors to the north, and it was! When Baja lost this market; its golden goose, at least for a time after the crisis of 2008, it was a long, hard, and dramatic fall from grace. But from tragedy comes triumph, and from the ashes of the crash, Baja has transformed itself into something truly special with much more to offer than ever before.

Not only does Baja provide prime real estate investment opportunities along the coast and in the wine valleys, but also the culinary scene in Baja is now among the hottest in the world. Baja's chefs are invited to New York and Paris to showcase for world-renowned critics a cuisine that has been coined internationally as *Baja-Med*. Baja's rock star chefs are opening new establishments at break neck speeds all over the state, primarily in Tijuana, Tecate and the Valle Guadalupe.

Nothing pairs better with world-renowned food than world class and awarding winning wine. Baja's wine valley is responsible for more than 90% of all the wine produced in Mexico. Many people are surprised when they discover Mexico produces great wines, but Mexican wineries are winning gold, silver, and bronze medals competing against the very best wines in the world at tastings from Napa to France. For the wine aficionado, Rancho Tecate Resort—a 650-acre master planned community—offers buyers the opportunity not only to live in a community set amongst vineyards, but also the chance to plant and produce their very own wine. Buyers can participate in as much or as little of the wine making process as they desire, from planting their very own vineyard to designing their own private label for their bottles.

Baja California is coming into its own in a way never before imagined. Left alone and deserted by real estate investors for the better part of the last decade, Baja is on the cusp of blossoming into a worldwide real estate contender once again; this time; however, it is about much more than just the real estate. It is now about the lifestyle and quality of life authentic to Baja, true to its own identity, and full of a richness that cannot be replicated. Now is as good a time as ever to invest in Baja because once it does blossom, the next real estate boom and the prices that go along with it will not be far behind. **BT**

*5 reasons to invest in Baja California Real Estate*

- LIFESTYLE
- LOW COST OF LIVING
- MEDITERRANEAN CLIMATE
- PROXIMITY TO YOUR LOVED ONES
- INVEST WITH CONFIDENCE

*Baja California is the second state in Mexico to pass a law to regulate the activity of all real estate agents. Consumers are protected and can invest with confidence knowing that all agents and companies providing real estate services must be licensed.*



Rudy Valdes is Vice President at Group Valcas - who is currently developing Rancho Tecate Resort "Live in a Wine Country" ... For more information- please visit: [www.RanchoTecate.mx](http://www.RanchoTecate.mx) or [info@ranchotecate.mx](mailto:info@ranchotecate.mx)



# MEDICAL NEWS

## From Mexico

In 2011, the Mexican Federal Government modified the General Health Law and established that Plastic Surgery **MUST BE** performed by **SPECIALISTS** in the Field.



THE STAFF AT GENESIS CLINIC

A surgeon performing plastic and aesthetic surgery must have displayed in his medical certificates that he specializes in plastic esthetic & reconstructive surgery, "CIRUGIA PLASTICA ESTETICA Y RECONSTRUCTIVA" and must be certified by the Federal Government.

In addition; it was established that in the state of Baja California, the specialist must be certified by the Mexican Council of "Plastic, Esthetic & Reconstructive Surgery" and said procedures must be conducted in clinics or hospitals which have the sanitary licence for these procedures which in turn will offer the patient the assurance and security required.

With this goal in mind, the School of Plastic, Esthetic & Reconstructive Surgeons of Baja California "Colegio de Cirujanos Plasticos, Esteticos y Reconstructivos de Baja California" along with Dr. Eduardo Góngora Alejandre and the support of the Governor of the State, Francisco Arturo Vega de la Madrid, turned it into law in order to protect all patients and prevent them from being operated by a non-certified alleged surgeon.

"What we offer at Clinica Genesis is a world-class facility, official certifications and more than twenty years of successful experience," explains Dr. Góngora Alejandre.

Anyone needing to verify if a plastic surgeon has the above qualifications in order to perform an aesthetic and/or reconstructive surgery may do so by visiting the following page: [www.cirurgiaplastica.org.mx](http://www.cirurgiaplastica.org.mx) and Access the "miembros" tab (members) and you'll be able to confirm if the surgeon is accredited.

Don't take risks, undergo surgery with a Certified Surgeon and enjoy your "new look" for a very long time.



# Refresh

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# Successful Women OF BAJA

In every edition of BajaTRAVELER®, we honor successful women who have made an impact on Baja through their leadership, skills, passion and commitment. This year we have a stellar lineup of six exceptional women with backgrounds ranging from communication specialists to an attorney to a chef to an entrepreneur to an amazing artist. We introduce them to you in alphabetical order...

One is a very successful attorney who chose to open her own practice in order to further the conscious practice of law and to help people as well as celebrities, with the challenges they face when entering into litigation.

Next is a marketing and communications' specialist from Spain, who loves

Mexico and has recently opened up her own agency in Cabo San Lucas specializing in brand, demand and digital communications.

Third is an amazing chef, who in order to fulfill her passion for cooking decided to open up a Restaurant in Baja's Wine Country...and as if that wasn't enough she then opened a hotel as well... and the combination is breathtaking.

Fourth is the Director of the Gallery District Association in San José del Cabo who has always been passionate about Mexican culture, she believes its magic extends not only to painting, sculpture and photography, but to architecture, the culinary arts, fashion design, literature and music.

Fifth is a Sales and Public Relations' specialist who loves the hospitality industry and is passionate about making the impossible possible.

And Sixth is an artist... an amazing artist who knew her calling at the tender age of nine... She has since followed her passion and is currently the proud owner of an Art School/Gallery in San José del Cabo.

We know you will enjoy reading the profiles on these six accomplished women as much as we enjoyed interviewing these amazing ladies. Should you happen to encounter someone you feel deserves recognition, please send us your nomination – they just might be featured in our next issue.



*Karie*



*Marian*



*Gabriela*



*Patricia*



*Lizette*



*Tanya*

# Karie J. Boyd

## REPRESENTING CELEBRITIES IN DIVORCES & CLIENTS IN COMPLEX CROSS-BORDER LITIGATION

BY PAT TYSON

Chief Executive Officer, Karie J. Boyd, of Boyd Law delivers case-winning results for her clients in trial, as well as obtaining for them attractive out-of-court settlements. Boyd Law, APC is a top Southern California law firm with state of the art offices in Century City Los Angeles, Orange County and Downtown San Diego.

"We represent both individual and business clients in complex and interrelated legal matters, such as cross-border litigation, high net worth dissolutions, entertainment law, reorganizations, real estate litigation, and business litigation," she explains. Our philosophy is to provide our clients with dedicated counsel, effective and efficient services, and the results they expect when hiring a law firm."

Besides conducting business in Baja, the firm's vision for investing there is to continue to provide excellent services to its clients in need of cross-border litigation. In this increasingly complex environment, Boyd Law strives to bridge the gap in domestic representation and expand clients' awareness of the legal system and its benefits.

Despite all the challenges to tourism, such as the recession, negative press toward Mexico and state advisories from the United States, Boyd Law is able to positively focus on the outcome for conducting business across the border.

"Our clients are well-traveled and sophisticated, as is our legal staff and attorneys," Boyd says. "We are aware of the sensationalism in the media and strive to unravel the bad press by highlighting the positive developments in Baja, and the amazing investment opportunities for our clients."

Boyd Law provides representation to its clients involved in cross-border litigation, complex international estate planning, divorce and family law matters, reorganizations, real estate and business litigation, and entertainment law. Boyd shares her reasons for choosing law as a career.

Born in the Bay Area in Northern California, she attended the University of California, San Diego, received a bachelor of arts degree there and moved on to law school. She decided upon this career path at a very young age. Her father was a police officer and her mother worked for a prominent international law firm.

"Becoming a lawyer seemed like the natural choice," she states. "I chose to open my own practice in order to further the conscious practice of law and to help people with the challenges they face when entering into litigation." Boyd describes the women who have influenced her life.

"Many strong women have been the most influential for me, including my great-grandmother who, at age 57, went to college to obtain her degree and become a well respected teacher, after having four children. Many of the women in my family have taught me independence, and life perspective, giving me the courage to follow my dreams and intuition rather than settle for someone else's path. My younger sister is an amazing influence in my life and one of my best friends. My two daughters teach me more and more about love everyday; they are a guiding light for me. My closest friends are also women who have inspired my free spirit, laughter, and loyalty. I am fortunate to have such amazing female influences in my life."

And what is Karie Boyd's work ethic? "My strongest work satisfaction is helping my clients resolve their legal disputes in a way that allows them to move forward in their lives and businesses, and focus on the things that matter most to them," she says. "I enjoy protecting my clients' interests and advocating on their behalf in court or in settlement. It is exciting being in front of a jury and judge and providing my client with the voice and representation that they deserve. My clients are highly educated and sophisticated individuals who feel confident knowing that I understand their position and am very capable of articulating and producing the results they expect."

Boyd also loves seeing the result for those who are interested in investing, traveling and retiring in Mexico. These people need an attorney in the U.S. who can help them accomplish their goals, while they continue to engage in cross-border lifestyles and investments. And she happily listed some of her favorite aspects of Mexico.

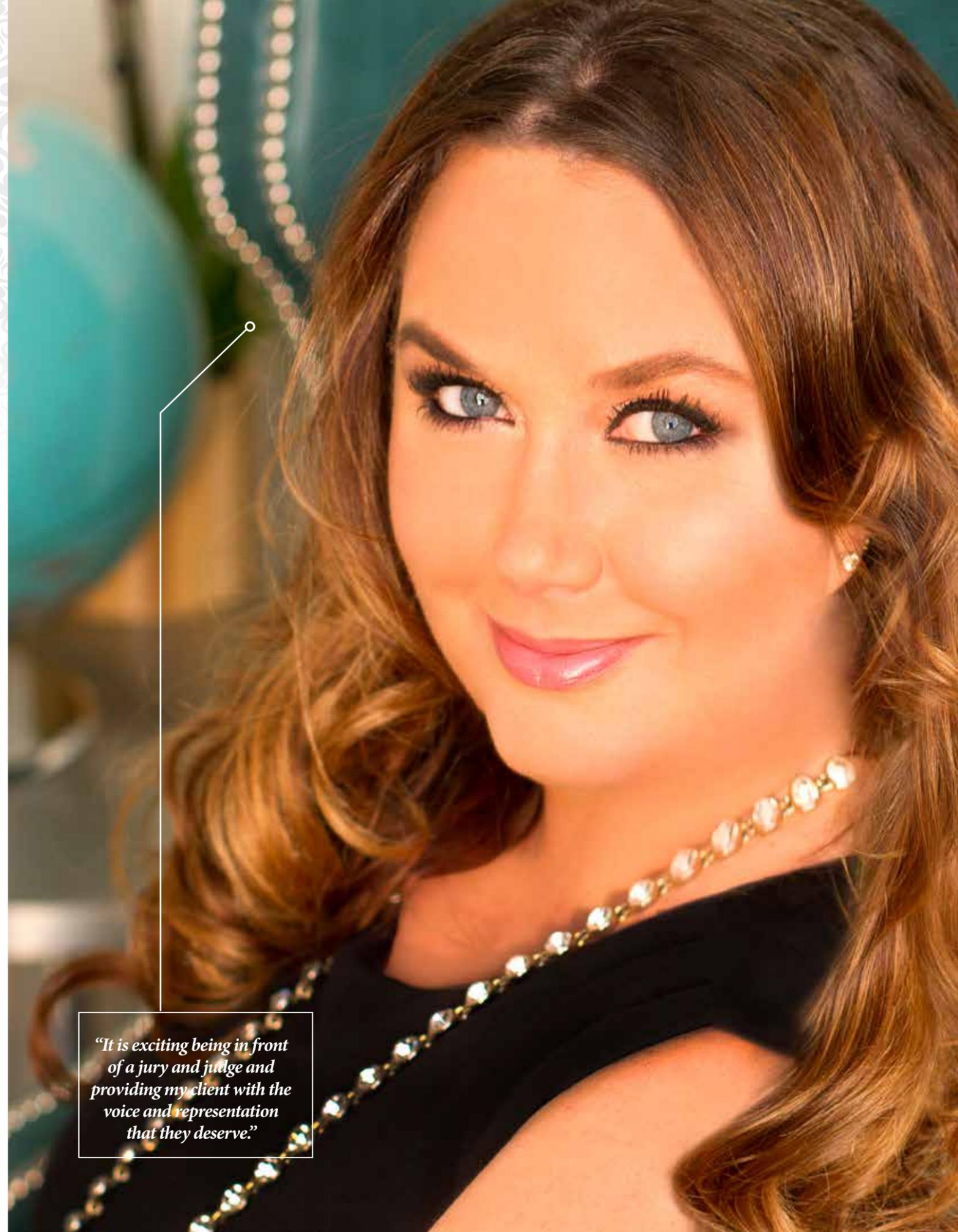
"I love Mexican food and culture. Living in San Diego for thirteen years allowed me to indulge in many of the best Mexican restaurants locally." Her favorite location is Puerto Vallarta, "but I would love to go to Mexico City some day." Favorite activities? "I love to travel, spend time with people that I love, dance, hang out by the beach, and eat the delicious cuisine!" she exclaims.

When asked what she considers the most important reasons why our readers should select Boyd Law, APC to represent them, her reply was straightforward.

"We are loyal to our clients, dedicated, prepared, experienced, compassionate, educated – and the best at what we do. We have a strong reputation for results, and care very much about our clients' needs and outcome."

Boyd's favorite saying doesn't come as a surprise; it is "Reach for the high apples first, you can get the lower ones any time!" **BT**

*"It is exciting being in front of a jury and judge and providing my client with the voice and representation that they deserve."*



# Marian Gómez

## SHE BELIEVES IN QUALITY RESPONSIBLE TOURISM FOR CABO

BY PAT TYSON

The moment she arrived in Cabo on vacation five years ago, Marian Gómez decided this was the place she wanted to live. Now, as Chief Executive Officer of GM Advertising, based in Cabo San Lucas, she knows beyond a doubt that this is the ideal spot she calls "home."

"Sun, beach, good ambiance, good people – I never imagined I'd find paradise on that trip!" she exclaims. She then returned to her native Spain, set her affairs in order there and, in three months, was back in Cabo.

GM Advertising is a full service marketing and creative agency specializing in brand, demand and digital communications. Its objective is to offer companies the most profitable committed, precise, measurable and innovative strategies, bringing its clients to the latest marketing tendencies in the world in order to reach potential clients. GM works like an external department within their company, with support to their marketing departments, as well as for those that don't have an in-house marketing department.

"I believe in responsible tourism," Gómez says of her philosophy and vision for the industry. "I know that a lot of people would love to see Cabo inundated with tons of people – but I don't. I prefer quality tourism to massive tourism." In other words, quality over quantity. She thinks that campaigns are needed in hospitality industry schools in order to create a conscience for respecting our universe. She dislikes streets and beaches that are unclean, giving visitors a bad impression.

"I would like to see Cabo, in the future, where every month there is a sport or cultural event, such as the Ironman, Bisbees, or the Baja Film Festival," she explains. "I think this is the type of tourism Cabo needs to attract. We have the hotel capacity transportation, restaurants and various activities in order to accomplish this. Those of us in promotion say, 'good or bad publicity doesn't exist – it's just publicity!'" She points out that nowadays a great deal of information is more accessible from various media.

"To know what are our weaknesses, what is being said, helps us to not only know what worries our potential clients, but to elaborate strategies more precisely, to know what to change and what to offer." One of the issues that is of great concern to foreign tourism is that of security, Gómez admits.

"But the reality is that Los Cabos can brag about being among the highest world-class resorts with no problem of security. There is no

delinquency, no terrorist threats; it is not a conflict zone or potentially dangerous. The only danger that Los Cabos could offer tourists is that they return home weighing eight pounds more – and not want to return home – as happened to me!" she jokes.

Born and educated in Madrid, she majored in Advertising and Public Relations. During her final year of school she studied in Leuven, Belgium, specializing in Strategic Marketing and Communications. It was then she decided that she'd only stay in Spain for a few years more and, after that, she would take off in search of a location that offered sunshine all year round. Many influences guided her path on her journey to her present situation.

Her mother, she feels, was the greatest of the many, from whom she learned to give the best of herself, to transform fear into a challenge and not allow it to prevent her from moving on. Her grandfather, who had lived in Mexico some twenty years, also influenced her; he gave her photographs from Mexico which, when she was twelve years old, she pasted on an entire wall of her room.

"Without a doubt, my love for Mexico evolved long before my ever stepping in it!" she claims. Professionally, she says that, among others, she is obsessed with Kothler, the father of marketing. Although she no longer lives in Spain, she does get excited about Spanish food, as well as carrying on conversations for hours with Spanish friends on such topics as politics, philosophy, art, flamenco, and how to solve the world's problems!

As for Mexican cuisine, she loves mole, fish tacos and green chilaquiles – which cause her to drool when she talks about them! "And the michelada, what an invention," she declares, and brags about it all to her friends in Spain. In Cabo she enjoys open-air sports, a boat trip at sunset, a good massage and a good glass of wine in a quiet place and, of course, the climate. When it comes to some of the exciting developments in Cabo, she believes that Hurricane Odile served to be more of an opportunity than a negative.

"I think it has been the "push" that we all needed in order to improve some aspects in the city and to re-awaken the human quality in each one of us." In her favorite axiom, Gómez expresses her feelings about life:

"When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive, to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love."

— Marcus Aurelius **BT**



"When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive, to breathe, to think, to enjoy, to love."

# Gabriela Melchum

## SHE ENHANCES HER REGIONAL COOKING WITH MEDITERRANEAN TOUCHES

BY PAT TYSON

To fulfill her passion for cooking, Executive Chef Gabriela Melchum returned to her native Ensenada in 2008 to open Hotel Hacienda Guadalupe. Her success story there began with a small kitchen that offered fare for hotel guests only. Two years later she broadened her horizons with Restaurante Hacienda Guadalupe, offering fine dining for all of their guests.

Earlier, with her family, she had moved to Orange County, California, in 1989 where, for nineteen years, they owned a gift store. In search of rest and relaxation, for vacations they traveled to the Valle de Guadalupe and it was here, during these trips, that the idea of creating a new project in the Ruta del Vino (the wine route) was born. In discovering her joy in cooking and wine, Chef Gabriela decided to prepare for a new lifestyle and enrolled in Orange County Culinary Art Institute, where she perfected her cooking expertise.

She also enrolled in Orange County Coast College, where she studied business administration in the hotel and restaurant industry. By 2008, the construction for their development was finalized and, together with her husband, Daniel, and daughters, Carolina and Paulina, she returned to Ensenada to begin the new adventure in Hotel Hacienda Guadalupe, as well as a winery in the Valle de Guadalupe.

In 2010, Restaurante Hacienda Guadalupe threw open its doors to the general public. Chef Gabriela took over her kitchen and began to guide aspiring cooks, many of whom were graduates of the School of Enology and Gastronomy from the university (UABC) in Ensenada.

"I love to use local and regional ingredients; Baja has it all," she claims. "We have great sea products, small farms that supply quail, lamb and cheese, fresh vegetables, among a large variety of other products. I gather herbs from my own gardens and use all of these components to make magic happen in my kitchen." She describes her cooking as "regional, with Mediterranean touches" that reflects the wonderful bounty that the Baja Peninsula has to offer, to the delight of her guests.

From the outset, Hacienda Guadalupe has earned the reputation of being one of the top restaurants in the region. Having participated in prestigious events during the harvest season (Fiestas de

la Vendimia), it has gained many awards. Besides being recognized for its excellent cuisine, it also offers one of the complete cellars of Mexican wines, which includes its own label, MELCHUM.

Beyond the main glass door entrance lies one of the most extensive wine cellars in Baja, featuring more than 150 wine labels, all from the Guadalupe Valley. Chef Gabriela, with her husband, Daniel, have created elegant wines, designed to complement the vast selection of dishes she serves. Four of wines offered are monovarietals: Tempranillo, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon and Nebbiolo. The wines MELCHUM 1, Tempranillo 2011 and MELCHUM III Nebbiola 2009, obtained the Gold Medal in the "International Contests of Ensenada – Land of the Wine," and the Silver Medal was awarded to MELCHUM II Merlot 2011 in the same contest.

Merely steps from the wine cellar, you can glimpse through a window that overlooks the kitchen where Chef Gabriela and her team, mostly culinary school graduates, create the sumptuous dishes that will shortly be served to eager guests. The restaurant itself features an indoor dining area, where its tall glass windows enable diners to enjoy the panorama. To appreciate the full experience of the valley and its essence, dining in the eighty-seat restaurant is a must. Here, visitors can feel closer to nature and experience the ethereal tranquility of the valley.

Situated on a hill at the end of a private road, Hacienda Guadalupe Restaurant overlooks the magnificent Guadalupe Valley. The stunning natural beauty of this location is enhanced by breathtaking views of spectacular golden sunsets, with the wine country stretching out far below.

A short walk from the restaurant takes you to the twelve-room Hacienda boutique-style hotel, catering to guests who enjoy comfortable surroundings and privacy. The hotel's design was inspired by the affection Chef Gabriela and Daniel have for the magical haciendas of Mexico's heartland, yet incorporated with a contemporary flair. The high ceilings in the lobby, graceful archways and Spanish tile convey a sense of serenity and romance.

Yes, Chef Gabriela has enjoyed a rewarding and fascinating journey that has fulfilled the dream long nurtured since her life in California. **BT**



*"We have great sea products, small farms that supply quail, lamb and cheese, fresh vegetables, among a large variety of other products"*

# Patricia Mendoza

## BEING SURROUNDED BY ARTISTS AND ART HELPS HER MAINTAIN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE

BY PAT TYSON

As Director of the Gallery District Association of San José del Cabo, Patricia Mendoza works in conjunction with the sixteen official member galleries to promote the popular "Art Walk," which is held every Thursday evening between November and June in the Gallery District.

"The diversity of works in the various galleries provides visitors with a window into Mexican art and culture, and a glimpse into the international contemporary art world as well," she explains. "I feel that this is what the sophisticated traveler is looking for."

This season, more events will be added to the Gallery District calendar. A number of the local artists have been invited to create whale sculptures to be displayed as public art, with a cocktail party to celebrate the unveiling. When the exhibit is over, the whale sculptures will be on display in downtown San José del Cabo for visitors to enjoy and purchase to take home.

Events of this nature are certain to lend vibrance and an added draw to the downtown business district. In spite of the challenges that tourism has had to face, such as the recession, negative press and state advisories from the United States, Mendoza is able to sustain a optimistic outlook.

"Surrounding myself with art and artistic people helps me maintain a positive attitude, no matter what is going on in the socio-political world," she declares. "I present young emerging artists to the general public, and art of quality at attractive prices; this is my way of contributing something positive and productive to the community." Mendoza finds it impossible to name a favorite artist.

"Each artist that I represent has a unique personal style," she says. "Some days I'm more drawn to one painting, or the work of one artist more than another, but I always choose paintings and artists that really move me. I love them all; and I try to collect one piece from each of my artists for my own personal collection."

It is for this reason she finds great pleasure in being in the gallery. Many of her artists, including Jorge Marin, Luis Filcer, Xavier Esqueda and Sergio Garval, to name a few, are recognized internationally.

Born in La Paz, as a native of Baja California Sur she has always been passionate about Mexican culture. Since childhood, she has been drawn to art and always wanted to learn more about the paintings, sculptures and photographs that attracted her. As a young woman, her dream was to open her own gallery.

"I have been fortunate to have had the opportunity to live in other states, including Mexico City where, combined with my work as a mother of four children, I studied art history, colonial art, Aztec codices and different painting techniques. My children have always been the most important thing in my life, of which I am most proud, but the natural progression of my life, to having a gallery of my own, is a close second!" she claims joyfully.

When she lived in Mexico City, she began to earnestly study some of the great contemporary Mexican artists, including Diego Rivera. She was also greatly influenced by gallery owner, Inés Amor, who founded Arte Mexicano in 1935. Mendoza realized that this woman's support, representation and nurturing of these superb artists of their time, on the threshold of their careers, truly made a significant difference in their lives, changing the fabric of society as they were discovered by the community.

As a proud Mexican, she feels the richness of her country is in the unique blending of pre-Colombian and European colonial influences. She is delighted that artists in Mexico have always been allowed to freely express themselves, which is apparent in contemporary art. Mendoza also believes that the magic in the culture extends not only to painting, sculpture and photography, but to architecture, the culinary arts, fashion design, literature and music. She loves "almost everything!" she replies to the question of her "favorite things."

"I love discovering new music, artists, food, people – and am open to all cultures and international events." Although she can't name her preferences, she loves classical jazz but, on the other hand, when it comes to culinary choices, they do NOT include grasshoppers! As for traveling, she enjoys locations that offer a combination of culture, history and natural beauty.

"I like a blend of Old World and modern living," she states. "In Mexico there are thousands of interesting, magical destinations that combine all of those. Oaxaca, Puebla, Merida and Chichen Itza are a few of my favorites"

Despite a tremendous setback due to the hurricane Odile on September 14, the Gallery District is ready to receive visitors this season, with all scheduled events continuing as planned. The spirit of cooperation established in the rebuilding of neighborhoods adds a layer community pride that enriches the Gallery District.

"This season promises to offer visitors a very pleasant experience as they explore the beautiful, safe and romantic streets of San José del Cabo," concludes Mendoza. **BT**



*"I love discovering new music, artists, food, people – and am open to all cultures and international events."*

# Lizette Sánchez

## ASPIRES TO MAKE THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE!

BY PAT TYSON

"I love the hospitality industry and am passionate of what I do!" declares Lizette Sánchez. As head of the Public Relations and Sales department for the Hotel Coral and Marina in Ensenada, B.C. She summarizes her simple philosophy as being always looking for the positive side of how to make things happen – and trying to make the impossible – possible.

Born in Mazatlán, Sinaloa, Lizette started working in the tourism industry against her will because, in her rebellious youth, she didn't wish to follow in her father's footsteps, who was himself a provider of travel services for many years. Against his wishes she attended college where she followed the path toward media and communication, a field which she had found fascinating, majoring in Public Relations.

Later, she began her career in the tourism industry in her home town of Mazatlán, working with companies that provided tourist services there. Her company moved her to Los Cabos, where she remained for five years. Finally, she discovered her true calling and developed a passion for tourism and public relations.

"I realized I was born with this passion," she admits, "and working with this company gave me the chance to learn a lot – about myself and what I am passionate about – in the service and hospitality industry." Today, Lizette lives in Ensenada, "the capital of the finest Mexican wine industry," she asserts.

"Currently, I have the honor of collaborating in a solid company considered the number one choice in Northern Baja California: Hotel Coral & Marina," she says. "My training has always been in Sales, Marketing and Public Relations, which I love. It is in this area that I have the chance to develop as a professional in a one hundred percent Mexican company. Here, every day our main concern is to continue to bring smiles and good experiences to our customers."

Ensenada offers a unique combination of dramatic scenery and excellent quality of life, making her feel privileged to be in such a beautiful place. Regarding tourism there, Lizette believes it is full of opportunities, calling this beautiful location "the best kept secret," which is increasingly shared by many people, enabling them to discover Ensenada.

Besides delicious cuisine and excellent wines, the city has a new boom of representative craft beers in the area. The challenge is to offer the best quality and service at the most competitive prices, while offering visitors a wide variety of choices.

Unfortunately, such problems as the recession, negative press and

state advisories from the United States have all had a negative effect on the tourism industry in Mexico, especially Ensenada.

"Definitely speaking, specifically in Ensenada, we missed our American tourists," explains Lizette. "Due to situations beyond our control, we suffered a drop in foreign visitors, which affected us a great deal. In trying to change the situation, we have worked hard on improving our facilities and offer added value for our customers." In addition, she must try to handle the media, where sometimes small details are magnified, causing collateral damage.

"Negative comments about security have made tourists afraid to visit Mexico, but I think people must give us a chance. After many of our visitors have tested Ensenada, they've always said they will return soon. The only risk they face is that they might not want to return home!" she says jokingly.

"We have always emphasized how quiet and pleasant our destination is," she affirms. "The family-oriented atmosphere and safe environment is always important to highlight, as well as the many natural attractions Ensenada has to offer. Our best advertising is all the endless wonderful memories experienced by our visitors."

Many people have influenced her along the way, at both a personal and a professional level, but her main impetus, she declares, is the love of her family.

"They give me the extra push to keep moving forward, to be better every day – especially for my son, Salvador." And she is proud to be a Mexican – for her country's passion in its culture, traditions, warmth and family. Through her work she is delighted to promote its wonderful natural scenery.

"We are so lucky to have the great cultural diversity that makes our country a unique and magical place," she emphasizes. As for Mexican food, Lizette loves seafood, especially ceviche. In fact, she insists she loves it all, from the traditional snacks to mole tamales.

When it comes to music, Lizette enjoys a wide variety, from traditional Mexican to modern. Depending upon her mood, she likes to listen to Mariachi, pop and Banda although, after the birth of her son, she finds she now tunes in to kids' songs, too!

Lizette finds it hard to choose one favorite place or pastime, but says there are thousands of interesting points she might mention. "But the best of Mexico is its people," she feels. For her, it is being with her family, especially her son. Her viewpoint is: "Do what you love." **BT**



"We are so lucky to have the great cultural diversity that makes our country a unique and magical place"

# Tanya Talamante

## ...AND HER CREATIVE SPIRIT

BY SYLVIA MENDOZA

With a mother who is an interior designer and a father who is an engineer, Tanya Talamante's path could have followed in either of those footsteps. But when her mother hired one of her illustrators to teach a 9-year old Talamante art and painting, the magic of it filled her spirit.

"That's when my love story with art began," says Talamante. That love story inspired Talamante to follow her passion. Now she owns the Tanya Talamante Art School and Gallery in the beautiful Villa Valentina in San José del Cabo and another studio at the One&Only Palmilla resort. Her slogan is: "Meet Your Creative Self in Baja!"

"I love to be creative and Cabo has given me the opportunity to grow as an artist and as a teacher." Talamante designs tailored art classes in Spanish or English for guests and their families, for tourists and local residents alike. There are one-on-one, art and wine, and mixed media classes. The studios are a place where artists and audiences with similar interests can meet and talk about art. Her gallery showcases not only her work, but exhibits of other artists. She also curates monthly art shows and coordinates the artist-in-residence program. There are film screenings, lecture series and music performances.

"I am very fortunate to work in such a beautiful environment and interact with people from all over the world," she says. "I love teaching children from Japan about the Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) and having them make an art project, for example. We also have family projects with as many as ten family members working together learning about our culture."

As a resident of the quaint Los Cabos for over 20 years, Talamante has seen first-hand how dirt roads became two-lane highways and how property values went sky high. Despite the tourist boom that includes celebrity weddings and new developments like Maravilla, she still finds a respite here.

Because of Talamante's day-to-day interactions with people who visit Mexico for the first time and fall in love with it, she could be considered an ambassador of sorts. "We give our best, we treat our visitors with respect, and we welcome them knowing that they will tell friends about Mexico and their experiences."

She attended school in Tijuana and San Diego and studied at Bellas Artes School of Art in San Miguel de Allende. "There I met my mentor,

Antonio Vega. I learned so much from him. He gave me the courage to experiment and create."

After she earned her bachelor's degree in Guadalajara, she lived in the United States for nine years, in cities like Phoenix and San Francisco, and in the states of Maine and Vermont. "These were my creative hot spots. I painted, showed and sold work in many galleries."

Yet, Baja called her home. "I've been selling my art here for 19 years. I can say I grew up with Cabo." Her children, Diego and Sofi, have been her latest teachers and inspiration. "I have evolved with them. They have given me direction on who I want to become. To be an example to them – to teach them about work, relationships, love and respect – is my objective in life."

Those values come back to her foundation, where creativity came from her parents, strengthening a family bond that included a brother who is a product designer and her sister, who is an architect. Family continues to make her proud of her roots. "My culture, my skin, my mixture of ethnicities, and most importantly, creativity. We Mexicans are so creative, it comes in our DNA."

She devours her culture – from food to museums and everything in between. Favorite foods include a Torta Ahogada, which she likens to a Mexican Sloppy Joe. She also enjoys ceviche, raw oysters, a wine from el Valle de Guadalupe and simple churros. She loves music by Ely Guerra, Chavela Vargas and Nortec, and reads Alberto Chimal and Angeles Mastretta.

When she can find time to relax and recharge, it's at Rancho Pescadero, Oaxaca, or in San Miguel de Allende, with all its little restaurants and cafés. "The best is to have three hour lunches that turn into dinner that turn into dancing," she says.

Her latest venture is her own company, Tanya Talamante, offering global lifestyle brand products ranging from limited edition prints to tote bags and jewelry. It will also feature fun handmade products created by different indigenous groups in Baja.

It is a sweet and full life that lets her creative spirit soar with no limits at all – as long as she follows her philosophy: to live a simple and meaningful life, help out as much as you can and give thanks for each new day. "I am very grateful to be where I am and doing what I love." **BT**



*"I love to be creative and Cabo has given me the opportunity to grow as an artist and as a teacher."*

# Your Wedding IN BAJA



BY LIZETTE SÁNCHEZ | PHOTOS BY ALEJANDRA CASTRO & VICTOR ALTAMIRANO

Without a doubt, planning a wedding is not as easy as saying: "I do." Here are some helpful tips, we think you'll find useful...

## 1. The Wedding Date

Determining the date of your wedding is super important, in order to work on the concept and coloring of your wedding.

## 2. Duration

Deciding on the length of time you'd like it to run is also very important... this will depend on the concept you'll want to develop, type of guests you're going to invite; for example, there are weddings that last over 12 hours (traditionally some weddings lasted up to three days.)

## 3. Style & Concept

Will your concept be vintage,

romantic, spring or rustic? Which is your favorite, defining this will be essential in order to find the perfect place for your wedding.

## 4. Scout the Venue

Once you decide on the concept, visit different places and request references, don't settle for simply looking at photos – not when it's going to be the venue of your dreams, it is very important to make a previous visit and experience – personally the services they have to offer.

## 5. Timing is Everything

Once you've determined all of the above, the challenge now will be to set the times for the

religious and civil ceremonies, as well as to synchronize when the guests and wedding suppliers should arrive – and for this we truly suggest for you to allow the experts to help you with these details in order to guarantee your wedding will be just as you imagined. Don't fall under the misconception that these services are very expensive or un-attainable, remember that there are always great choices for every budget.

## 6. Don't Procrastinate

Book your ideal place, just as soon as you can, remember that it is very important to secure it for your special day...



### Other essential details for the planning of your event are:

Define the guest list

Select the menu

Decide on a band or DJ

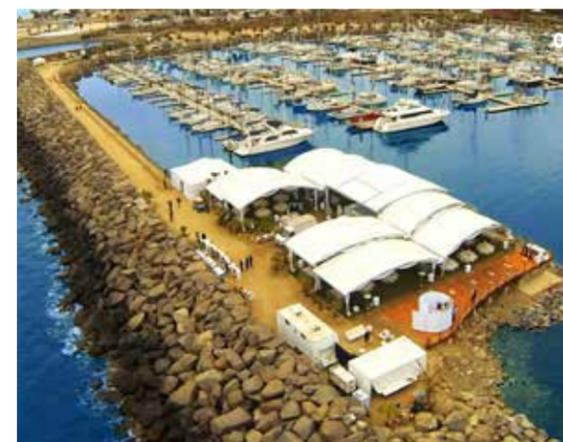
Look for decorating ideas and styles; choose your favorite centerpieces and the overall decor options.

Review lodging options for your guests



A super special tip, as you will remember this moment forever, keep in mind to be very selective when choosing your photographer and explain with detail your idea, we suggest something classic and elegant, as these pictures will be with you forever. Furthermore, it is important to look and decide what type of scenery you would like for the pictures to take place, Baja has a lot to offer from beautiful and dramatic scenes such as gardens, sea, vineyards - the options are endless.

Should you decide for Ensenada – we highly recommend "La Isla" at the Coral & Marina Hotel and we are ready to help you to make your special moment - unforgettable. An exclusive and unique sea surrounded by unparalleled views. As for the banquet, we have great options for your dining pleasure and that of your guests. At the Coral & Marina Hotel, we are leaders in the field, so you don't have to worry, leave your event in our hands – the hands of experts.



### Don't forget to make sure that your event is remembered by all your guests

Pay attention to small details that will make the difference, here are some suggestions:

- If you have guests traveling to your wedding destination, create an itinerary with tourist attractions so they have things to do.
- Make a welcome kit for your guests which includes the schedule of your event, important contact information and you can even add a personalized note.
- Consider to give your guests a representative souvenir of the destination you have chosen for your special day.
- To select your wedding dance choose your favorite song as well as a funny song too, you can add your personalized touch, try to rehearse a small and simple choreography.
- Create an area for "chill out"; your guests will surely appreciate a place to relax after hours of dancing, with comfortable seating, lots of cushions and everything they need to enjoy this special evening.
- Set a table for good wishes, either in a tree, a photo or a collage of the happy couple, do not miss the opportunity to capture small thoughts and good wishes from your guests – this detail is always a good memory.



Most importantly, a wedding is about the love that exists between you and your special someone, the rest are ornaments to enhance your very special moment.

Our main recommendation is that you enjoy your wedding to the fullest with your family and loved ones, relax And don't invest any time in coordinating details, leave this in the hands of the experts – they'll take care of it all. **BT**

For more information, please contact your wedding team at [HotelCoral.com](http://HotelCoral.com)



THE 18TH ANNUAL

# Pan American Les Clefs d'Or Congress in Los Cabos



BY MAYTÉ RODRÍGUEZ CEDILLO | PHOTOS BY MARIANO LEMUS

Les Clefs d'Or... (keys of gold – in French) is the only international organization of hotel lobby concierges. The crossed gold keys are the international symbol of the organization which confirms you are dealing with an experienced concierge who is ready to give you the best personalized service and open any door in your travel destination...

Les Clefs d'Or members have dedicated many years of hard work and training to the concierge profession. They are pleasant and welcoming in appearance, they remain calm in a hectic environment, and they always display integrity. Indeed, discretion is the hallmark of a Clefs d'Or concierge.

Angelina Garcia is just that – and more! Garcia is currently the Concierge Director of Baja California and she loves her job! "I love to promote the beauty of our country to all our guests," she said. As a Concierge, Garcia is passionate about her high profile job and all that it entails.

This past April, Los Cabos was the host of the 18th Pan American Congress where close to 400 concierges from various parts of the world, met to celebrate friendship and to participate on educational programs and it was an enormous success! "I am

very proud that we had a spectacular congress," said Garcia. "It was a huge effort and a lot of work, but with the help of local and international sponsors coupled with the valuable contribution of the entire concierges from the region – it turned out to be perfect," she added. The Congress consisted of many activities and events savoring the very best of Cabo!

The closing ceremony was a Mexican Gala White dinner celebration hosted at Tortugas Beach at the beautiful Hacienda del Mar hotel... The dinner was hosted by NickSan Restaurant... there were fireworks... music by Cuban star, Rosalia de Cuba, and a great ambiance...

"The excellent organization and the commitment of President Alberto Monzon, Angelina Garcia and the Los Cabos concierge team, made this meeting wonderful and successful," commented Emmanuel Vrettos, President of the Union Internationale des Concierges d'Hotels (UICH).

We at BajaTraveler® love the relationship we have with Angelina and the entire Concierge staff of Baja California and we are thrilled that they selected both the Guide and the Collectors' Annual edition to be their official publications! **BT**

PICTURED ABOVE: Oscar Gutierrez, Mario Alfaro, Francisco Flores, Rhea Galindo, Miguel Pablos, Ricardo Rico, Angelina Garcia, Mario Cortes & Lupita Barocio



# CULINARY TRENDS

BY KARIN LEPERI AND MAYTÉ RODRÍGUEZ CEDILLO  
PHOTOS BY DAVID JOSUÉ

# in BAJA

Food-lovers applaud revolutionary Baja cuisine ...from Tijuana to Los Cabos

The culinary movement in the Baja peninsula continues to garnish accolades from chefs, food aficionados, gourmards, and travelers alike for its boldness, freshness, and above all, its ability to explore and mine the full range of flavors from the sea and land.

Think just-off-the-hook or vine, organic, sustainable, and creative and you capture some of the basic concepts that help define what is sometimes known as Baja Med. (Even Baja Med is a misnomer as it is not uncommon to see Mediterranean plus Asian ingredients done in a distinctively Mexican way.) Add



phrases like farm-to-table, slow food, and informal-style dining, and you get a fuller understanding why Baja cuisine is pushing boundaries in redefining the table.

The idea of using ingredients from your neighborhood in ways that capture the ethnic heritage of the region are what truly sets the Baja culinary scene apart. Nowadays, it is all about a finesse and flair with wholesome regional foods used in creative and yet unexpected ways. Cuisine reflects the land and sea and often times pleasantly surprises diners with novel cooking techniques and artistic plating appeal worthy of a canvas.

Sometimes the biggest proponents of Mexican cuisine come from unexpected places such as outside the borders of Mexico. Two people in particular who have elevated the status of Baja cuisine to a star-like status – in the U.S. are – Anthony Bourdain; host of the popular Travel Channel series “No Reservations” and the famous restaurateur and chef, Rick Bayless. Based in Chicago, Bayless is a

passionate advocate of authentic Mexican dishes and has even devoted the eighth season of his PBS series to Mexican cuisine. Called “Mexico – One Plate at a Time,” the series celebrates the cuisine of the Baja California peninsula, from Tijuana all the way down to Cabo San Lucas.

Many pioneer chefs within the Baja peninsula have elevated the status of Baja cuisine to a rock star-like status. Reinterpreted dishes of the area based on farm-fresh ingredients and the catch of the day paired with their very own wines combined with the spectacular climate and views of the peninsula – make a meal in Baja a memorable experience.

Baja is a melting pot and mingling of ingredients representing several ethnicities such as Chinese, Japanese, French, Spanish and Italian immigrants who have made Baja their home. This richness in culinary traditions in large part is what has contributed to the proliferation of innovative cuisine to be found in the peninsula.

## FOR A SAMPLING OF SOME OF THE BEST IN BAJA CULINARY TRENDS

be sure to try the following...

### TIJUANA/ENSENADA/MEXICALI:

**Belio Cocina de Autor** –  
Chef Miguel Angel Nava Valdez

With an emphasis on seafood and freshness, try the signature dish of blue tuna medallions sealed with sesame and spicy peanut butter vinaigrette as you admire breathtaking ocean views of the coast of Ensenada.

### Casa Magnolia

Offering international cuisine and signature dishes such as swordfish in crab sauce, is one of the favorites here – as you enjoy peaceful ocean views of Ensenada.

### El Rey Sol

Known as the oldest French restaurant in Mexico – located in Ensenada, featuring authentic French menu with fusion cuisine – including traditional Mexican and seafood dishes.

### Hacienda Guadalupe

Located in the Valle de Guadalupe, the emphasis here is on sustainable-style fare with Mediterranean touch and quality wines.

### Mr. Pampas

Churrascaria de Brasil Brazilian-style barbecued cuisine with exceptional service. A favorite is the Espadas Brasileñas, select cuts of rotisserie meats on a skewer. You can find a Mr. Pampas in Tijuana, Ensenada and Mexicali.

### Planta Baja & SkyBar

Chef Maria Esperanza Vega The newest gourmet Restaurant to hit the northern Baja peninsula! Chef Maria just arrived from Europe and brings with her amazing Culinary experience – A must when visiting Ensenada!

### UVE

Chef Abraham Vizcarra In Ensenada, with focus is on the best of regional ingredients and seafood with excellent wine-pairing.

### TECATE:

**Puerta Norte at Rancho Tecate** –  
Chef Hugo Enrique Juarez Lira

Cuisine highlights the traditions of Mexican dishes with a contemporary and avant-garde touch.

### LORETO:

**Agave** – Chef Carlos Ibarra

This Latin fusion restaurant puts a strong emphasis on using the best of native Baja ingredients – previously in Nopolo, they now have a downtown Loreto location.

### CABO:

**Agua by Larbi at One&Only Palmilla** –  
Chef Larbi Dahrouch

For some of the best in “Mediterranean,” try this favorite for a rich, flavorful hybrid of Mediterranean cuisine that artfully blends native Mexican and Indian influences.

### Bar Esquina Restaurant

Chef Rogelio Garcia A unique twist on international creative cuisine: Mexican influenced Mediterranean flavors using locally-grown organic produce, fresh fish and top quality meats cooked on a mesquite grill.

### Casa Don Rodrigo

The newest wine bar/restaurant in San José – offering international Mexican fusion cuisine “pescado al tequila” and “pulpo al ajillo” are a must!

### Chamuyo

Chef Marcelo Romby Traditional Argentine cooking from empanadas to slow-grilled meals over low-flame coals.

### De Cortez at Sheraton Hacienda del Mar

Chef Manuel de Luca Emphasis is on international cuisine with a focus on local freshness and quality.

### Don Manuel

Chef Yvan Mucharras Serving cuisine based on local organic produce grown specifically for the restaurant and prepared using old world techniques in a modern setting.

### El Farallon

Chef Yvan Mucharras Offers cliff-side dining, serving fresh seafood caught daily in the Sea of Cortés and the Pacific Ocean.

### Hacienda Cocina y Cantina

Chef Octavio Hernandez Restaurant features different regions and flavors of Mexico with only the finest of ingredients. Try Pescado a la Talla, an adobo marinated snapper.

### Nick San

Chef Angel Carbajal Offers unique Japanese-style cuisine combined with occidental touches that tantalize the most demanding of palates.

### Pan di Bacco

Chef Salvatore Meesina It's all about “Pasta Fresca,” bringing flavors of traditional Southern Italian cuisine while paying special attention to original flavors and following the traditional method of preparation.

### Sunset Da Monalisa

Chef Paolo Della Corte Fresh seafood and homemade pasta are two of the trademarks here – located at the tip of the Bay of Cabo San Lucas, where its magical atmosphere inspires the chef to create beautiful – delicious dishes.

### Templo

Chef Mariano Takinami Featuring organic, locally sourced ingredients with dishes ranging from South American grill to Asian-style wok with a seafood raw bar.

### TODOS SANTOS:

#### El Mirador at Guaycura Hotel

Chef Rogelio Dominguez Cuisine is Mediterranean focused. Try chef's favorite local dish of Deer Machaca, a shredded beef-style plate served with hand-made flour tortillas.

#### La Coronela at Hotel California

Chef Dany Lamonte While dishes are international in origin, they have Mexican touches. Try duck breast with mango and ginger. **BT**



MORE ALIVE THAN EVER BEFORE

# Tijuana

1,800,000  
Population

Located along  
the International  
Border

66°  
Avg. Temp.

Experience the delights of Tijuana, the most visited border town in the world, where centuries of tradition and modern technology come together. Located along the Baja California coastline, Tijuana offers great weather, luscious cuisine, and first class night clubs.

Tourists will find an amazing selection of merchandise from around the world, along with arts and crafts of México. Internationally known as the "free zone," Tijuana offers numerous bargains in

the city's shopping centers. Tourists can acquire numerous artifacts, rustic furniture, wines, liquors and clothing.

The city offers an extensive variety of activities that include golf courses and bullfights. Tourists can also spend a day at the planetarium or at the numerous museums. Tijuana offers the opportunity to visit nearby tourist sites like Rosarito and Ensenada to enjoy the beautiful beaches and peaceful settings.

PHOTO BY ABELARDO NIKI RODRÍGUEZ



 **SPANISH**

Descubra los encantos de Tijuana, la ciudad más visitada en el mundo, donde siglos de tradiciones y tecnología moderna se reúnen. Situada en la costa de Baja California, Tijuana ofrece fabuloso clima, deliciosa gastronomía y centros nocturnos de primera clase.

Turistas encontrarán una gran selección de mercancía de todo el mundo, así como también artesanía de México. Conocida internacionalmente como zona libre, Tijuana ofrece numerosas oportunidades de obtener estos artículos a muy buenos precios.

La ciudad ofrece una extensa variedad de actividades que incluye campos de golf, toros, centros culturales, museos y bellas playas cercanas en Rosarito y Ensenada.

 **GERMAN**

Erleben Sie die Freuden Tijuanas, der am meisten besuchten Grenzstadt der Welt, wo Jahrhunderte von Tradition und moderne Technik zusammentreffen. An der Küste von Baja California (Niederkalifornien) liegend, bietet Tijuana großartiges Wetter, eine köstliche Küche und erstklassige Night Clubs.

Besucher finden hier eine überraschende Auswahl von Waren aus aller Welt, zusammen mit kunsthandwerklichen Gegenständen aus Mexiko. Tijuana ist international bekannt als Freizone und man kann dadurch in ihren Einkaufszentren zahlreiche günstige Angebote finden. Touristen können eine Vielfalt von Kunsthandwerk, Rustikalmöbeln, Weinen, Spirituosen und Kleidung erstatten.

Die Stadt bietet viele verschiedene Aktivitäten an, einschließlich Golf und Stierkämpfe. Die Besucher können auch den Tag im Planetarium verbringen oder in einem der vielen Museen. Von Tijuana aus kann man auch leicht Ausflüge nach Rosarito oder Ensenada machen, um die schönen Strände und friedliche Landschaft zu genießen.

 **ITALIAN**

Sperimenta il piacere di Tijuana, la città della frontiera più visitata nel mondo, dove l'insieme della tecnologia moderna e i secoli di tradizioni contribuisce ad offrire ai visitatori questa bella realtà. Localizzata nella costiera di Baja California Tijuana offre un clima meraviglioso, un'ottima cucina e anche una vita notturna di prima classe.

I visitatori troveranno una selezione meravigliosa di prodotti di tutto il mondo e artigianato Messicano. Conosciuta internazionalmente come la "free zone", Tijuana offre numerosi articoli a buon mercato nei negozi. I visitatori possono acquistare numerosi articoli, mobili rustici, vini, liquori ed abbigliamento.

La città offre una vasta scelta di attività come corsi di golf e anche una tauromachia. I visitatori possono spendere un giorno nel planetario o nei numerosi musei. La sua posizione rende agevole la visita di posti turistici vicini come Rosarito ed Ensenada per godere le meravigliose spiagge e tranquilli panorami.

 **FRENCH**

Découvre les plaisirs de Tijuana, la ville frontalière la plus visitée du monde, où des siècles de tradition s'unissent à la technologie moderne. Située sur la côte de Baja California, Tijuana offre un climat merveilleux, une cuisine bien approvisionnée ainsi que des boîtes de nuit de première classe.

Les visiteurs y trouveront une incroyable sélection de produits de partout dans le monde ainsi que de belles pièces d'artisanat mexicain. Bien connue comme la "free zone", Tijuana offre dans ses centres commerciaux toute une variété d'articles bon marché. Les visiteurs peuvent acheter de nombreux objets, des meubles rustiques, du vin, des liqueurs et des vêtements.

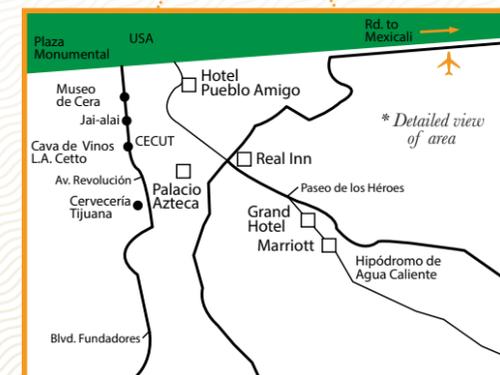
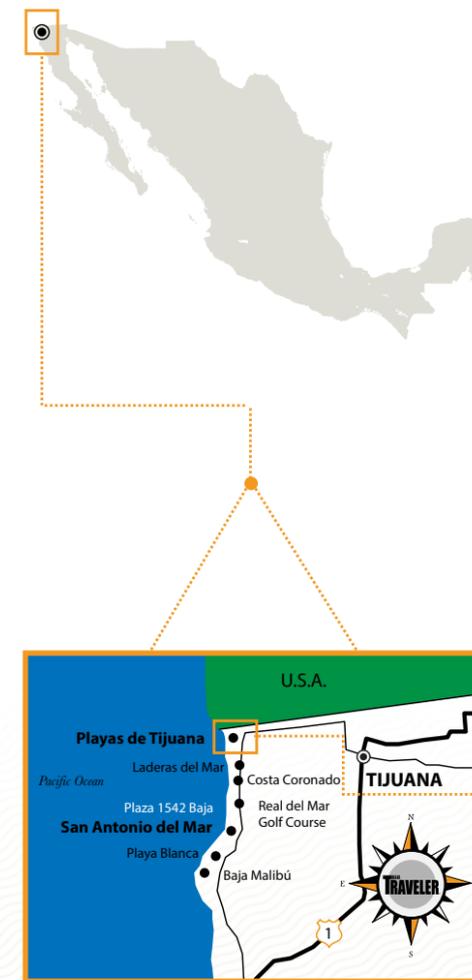
La ville offre de nombreuses possibilités d'activités sportives comme des cours de golf et ainsi que des corridas de taureaux. Les visiteurs peuvent passer un jour dans le planétarium et dans les différents musées. Tijuana offre la possibilité d'aller d'un endroit à l'autre comme à Rosarito et à Ensenada pour s'amuser sur les plages et contempler des paysages splendides.

 **JAPANESE**

何世紀もの伝統と近代的なテクノロジーを兼ね備えているティファナは、世界で最も観光客が訪れる国境の町です。南カリフォルニア半島に位置するティファナでは素晴らしい気候、美味しい食事やファーストクラスのナイトクラブを満喫できます。

ティファナではメキシコの芸術品、民芸品だけではなく、世界中から集まる物品を見つけることができます。世界でも“フリーゾーン”として知られているこの町のショッピングセンターでは工芸品、田舎風の家具、ワイン/酒類、衣類など沢山のバーゲンを提供しています。

ティファナではゴルフを始め、ハイアライや闘牛などのスポーツも盛んです。観光客はプラネタリウムや色々な美術館などで時間を過ごすのも良いでしょう。ティファナからはロザリートやエンサナダなどの美しいビーチへも簡単に足を延ばせます。



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- Gourmet Market
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- Farmers' Market
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- Performances
- Workshops
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- Seminars
- Open Mic
- Dancing
- Yoga
- Pilates

**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Red Cross	066
Fire Department	068
Municipal Police	060
Tourist Assistance	(664) 688-0555

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# Tijuana

THRIVING METROPOLITAN CITY...

BY BETH PURCELL CORDASCO



Tijuana, the largest city on the Baja California Peninsula, and it's the world's most visited border city. It's a dynamic and growing urban center that has close socio-economic ties to the United States, especially to San Diego, its immediate neighbor to the north. The city is a bastion of culture and commerce, and is currently witnessing a revival in arts and tourism.

Be sure to check out the Tijuana Cultural Center and the numerous independent art galleries while you're there. Shopping in Tijuana is notable, and the city is also the epicenter of the relatively new Bajamed cuisine – a fusion of Mexican food with Mediterranean and Asian influences that relies heavily on locally sourced vegetables, cheeses and sea foods – typically paired with Baja-produced beer and wine.

#### Where to Eat:

Tijuana has many five-star restaurants, and the variety of food choices in the city is astounding. You'll find everything from the most modern-fusion cuisine to modest but unbelievably delicious street tacos. To many people's surprise, the Cesar salad was created in Tijuana, so don't be surprised to see it on many menus.

#### Culture:

Tijuana has myriad cultural activities from which to choose. The most well known spot for art, and a perfect place to start, is at the Tijuana Cultural Center (CECUT) – the only institution of the National Council for Culture and the Arts outside of Mexico City. CECUT has in fact become the primary symbol of the city of Tijuana. It hosts fine arts, literature, music, dance, theater, folk, and visual arts exhibits and festivals, and has an Omnimax theater and planetarium. The Museo de las Californias and the Cubo Gallery, both housed inside, are not to be missed.

#### Shopping:

Tijuana is a shopper's mecca, with offerings ranging from handmade Mexican folk art to designer clothing housed in modern, high-end department stores. Worth checking out are Plaza Río Tijuana and Pueblo Amigo. Mercado el Popo and Mercado Municipal are two worthwhile stops for enjoying Mexican popular culture.

#### Medical Tourism:

Tijuana is a popular destination for health care services. Many Americans cross the border to frequent the city's professional and well-priced pharmacies, physicians and dentists.

#### Activities:

Tijuana offers spectator sporting opportunities that you'll not find in many other cities. You can watch live greyhound racing at the Hipódromo Caliente, or traditional bull fights at the Toreo de Playas de Tijuana (Bullring by the Sea). In addition, the Jai Alai Fronton Palace, which housed live Jai Alai (Basque ball) for many decades, and which is now a cultural events forum, provides striking architecture and the possibility of viewing the old courts. You also have the opportunity to take in a game at the new Toros baseball stadium, the Estadio Gasmart, or to join 20,000 locals going to cheer for Tijuana's Xoloizcuintles (Xolos) as they play soccer at Estadio Caliente. **BT**

#### Night Life:

Tijuana is renowned for its nightlife, with many discos and nightclubs to choose from. You'll find late-night dancing and clubbing in the Zona Río and Plaza Fiesta regions, whereas Calle 6 (Calle Sexta) is home to numerous hip bars and restaurants. You'll also find karaoke and sports bars throughout the city as well as wine bars that feature the excellent local varietals of Baja California.



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KNOWN FOR ITS BEAUTIFUL WIDE BEACHES

# Rosarito

101,500  
Population

18 Miles from  
the International  
Border

63°  
Avg. Temp.

# R

Rosarito is located about 15 miles south of Tijuana. This port is known for its beautiful wide beaches, lively night clubs, international cuisine and the famous Puerto Nuevo style lobster.

The Rosarito County area encompasses 20 miles of magnificent coastline: white sandy beaches, incredible cliff-top views, powerful surf and quiet bays. The nearby private communities offer breathtaking secluded beaches. The area also has rugged mountains and peaceful valleys to explore.

PHOTO BY ALEJANDRA ORTIZ



 **SPANISH**

Rosarito se encuentra a 15 millas al sur de Tijuana. Este puerto es conocido por sus bellas y amplias playas, exitosos centros nocturnos, cocina internacional y la famosa langosta estilo "Puerto Nuevo."

El municipio de Rosarito abarca 20 millas de magnífica costa, playas, increíbles vistas, poderoso surf y bonitas bahías. Existen fraccionamientos privados que cuentan con unas playas maravillosas. La zona también tiene montañas y valles tranquilos para explorar.

 **ITALIAN**

Rosarito si trova a circa 25 chilometri a sud di Tijuana. Questa città portuale è nota per le sue bellissime ed ampie spiagge, la vita notturna movimentata, la cucina internazionale, e le aragoste cotte in stile "Puerto Nuevo".

L'area della Contea di Rosarito vanta oltre 30 chilometri di costa con spiagge di sabbia bianca, scogliere di una bellezza mozzafiato, onde altissime e baie calme. Le comunità vicine offrono spiagge private di una bellezza senza pari. La regione vanta anche montagne aspre e tranquille valli da esplorare.

 **JAPANESE**

ロザリートはティファナから約15マイル南に位置します。この港は幅広く美しいビーチ、活気あるナイトクラブ、そしてプエルトヌエボスタイルのロブスターなど、国際的な食事で知られています。

ロザリート地区は20マイルにも及ぶ海岸、白砂のビーチ、巨大な断崖からの美しい眺め、力強い波、そして静かな湾を取り囲んでいます。近くにあるプライベートコミュニティには、他からは少し離れた美しいビーチ、山や静かな谷を散策することも出来ます。

 **GERMAN**

Rosarito liegt ungefähr 24 km südlich von Tijuana. Diese Hafenstadt ist für ihre bildschönen breiten Strände, lebhaften Nachtclubs, ihre internationale Küche und den berühmten Hummer auf "Puerto Nuevo"-Art bekannt.

Der Landkreis Rosarito umfaßt mehr als 30 km großartige Küstenlandschaft mit weißen Sandstränden, unglaublicher Aussicht hoch von den Klippen, kräftigem Wellengang fürs Surfen und auch stille Buchten. In der Nähe bieten private Siedlungen atemberaubende, einsame Strände. In diesem Gebiet gibt es außerdem zerklüftete Berge und friedliche Täler zum Auskundschaften.

 **FRENCH**

Rosarito se trouve à 24 kilomètres au sud de Tijuana. Cette ville portuaire est réputée pour ses vastes plages magnifiques, ses boîtes de nuits animées, sa cuisine internationale et son fameux homard à la Puerto Nuevo.

Le comté de Rosarito s'étale sur un littoral grandiose d'une trentaine de kilomètres, alternant plages de sable blanc, falaises saisissantes, vagues déferlantes et baies tranquilles. Les communautés privées, non loin de là, cachent des plages solitaires à couper le souffle. La région révèle également des montagnes escarpées et de paisibles vallées qui valent la randonnée.



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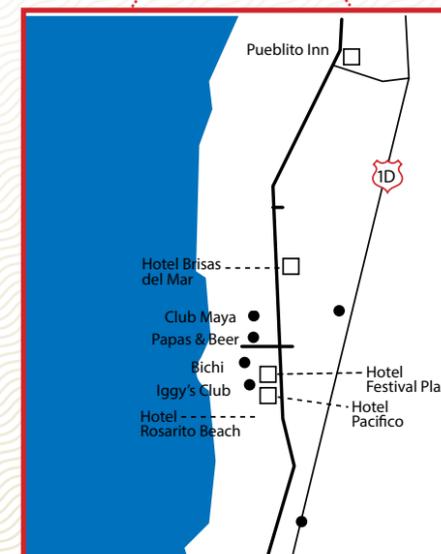
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LOOKING FOR A NEARBY

# Vacation Spot

ACROSS THE BORDER?

## Baja Vacation Oceanfront Villas in Rosarito Beach

BY PAT TYSON

For a vacation that would please those who are in search of peace and privacy, Baja Vacation Oceanfront Villas in the San Antonio del Mar complex offer a perfect alternative to staying at a hotel. This remarkable rental in a private community of Rosarito, Baja California, is just twenty miles south of the border.

If you're looking for the perfect hideaway, but don't want to go too far, Rosarito is an ideal destination. After you cross the border into Tijuana, the well-maintained toll road will take you there in about half-an-hour. Security guards are on duty 24/7; no one is allowed access unless the person is a homeowner or a guest. Passes are given out and must be displayed on the cars at all times.

You may wish to either take provisions with you, or shop for them after you get there at the nearby supermarkets, such as Calimax or Comercial Mexicana, just seven miles away in downtown Rosarito. For those who prefer to prepare their own meals "at home," Villa Mayté boasts a well-equipped kitchen, a wet bar, dining room, living room and two large patios with barbecues. Ten people may sleep here; there are four private bedrooms, two with private bathrooms, and one additional bedroom that is not closed off.

Two smaller homes cascade down the hillside below the main house. Villa Delfin is an extremely attractive villa with two master bedrooms – each with a private bathroom. There's also a living room, kitchen, and patio with a barbecue. Villa Sirena, also very attractive, has three bedrooms; a private balcony on the master bedroom and a private bath in each; a living room, dining room, kitchen and patio. All three villas have a breathtaking view of the ocean and private steps down to the sandy beach.

There are many places of interest nearby. The Real del Mar resort is just across the street. This resort includes an 18-hole golf course, a beautiful spa, a gym and massage services, which are available for renters at Baja Vacation Villas.

Shopping aficionados will enjoy visiting downtown Rosarito... there are lots of great stores and galleries within walking distance. There's also lots of nice restaurants and bars – to sit, relax and enjoy breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean.

You'll find a variety of restaurants nearby. Within the same complex is Gusto where you'll find delicious food in a nice ambiance. There is also a bar overlooking the ocean. And next door is WOW Pizzeria. Plaza 1542 Baja is just opening – within the same complex and there'll be a lot of things to do such as shopping, art exhibits, live music, cinema nights, workshops, as well as a farmers' market... Of course, we must not forget to mention Puerto Nuevo, just a ten-minute drive away, where great lobster meals are served.

Staying at the Villas is ideal for families who like lots of activities during the day. The complex contains swimming pools and tennis courts, and there's a semi-private beach where you can swim, fish, surf or sunbathe. For anyone who enjoys riding along the edge of the surf, you can rent horses in Rosarito. You may even spot frisky dolphins swimming a short distance from the shore. And when you're tired of playing, there's the comfort of going back to your own villa to rest or watch television.

Perhaps you might prefer to simply sit back and watch the evening horizon as you soak in the lovely sight of the golden sun setting over the ocean. Through the window of your serene living room, or from the patio, you can relax and gaze at the beautiful view while you sip a long, cool drink. At night, you'll be able to settle into bed and fall asleep to the soothing sound of waves caressing the beach.

So, if you are ready to "stop the world and get off" for a while, the Baja Vacation Oceanfront Villas could just be the place you've been looking for. **BT**



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BAJA'S WINE COUNTRY

# Ensenada

494,500  
Population

70 Miles from  
the International  
Border

65°  
Avg. Temp.

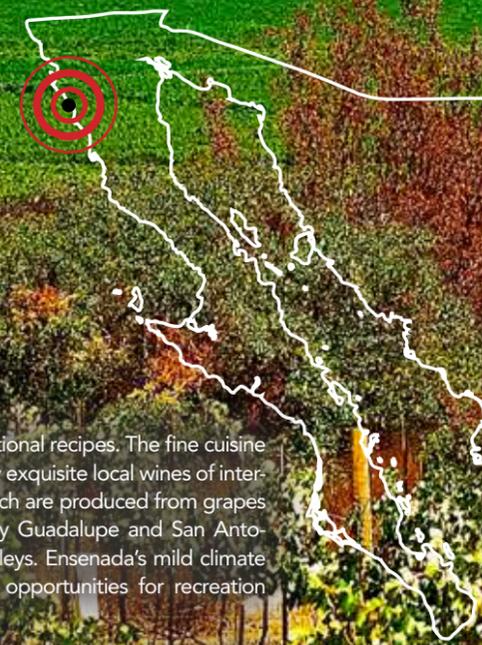
Known as the "Cinderella of the Pacific," Ensenada is located 70 miles south of the international border. Its warm Mediterranean-like climate, friendly atmosphere and accessibility to land, air and sea have made Ensenada a favorite tourist spot any time of the year.

Located on the beautiful Todos Santos Bay, Ensenada features incomparable international dining including some of the best seafood in the region. Fresh fish, lobster and abalone are some of the specialties, as are authentic Mexican dishes

prepared from traditional recipes. The fine cuisine is complemented by exquisite local wines of international acclaim which are produced from grapes grown in the nearby Guadalupe and San Antonio de las Minas valleys. Ensenada's mild climate provides numerous opportunities for recreation throughout the year.

Outdoor aficionados can enjoy golf, tennis, hiking, auto racing, bike and horseback riding as well as aquatic sports like surfing, sailing, sport fishing, kayaking, jet skiing and scuba diving.

PHOTO BY JORGE MANUEL PEON



 SPANISH

Conocida como la "Cenicienta del Pacifico", Ensenada se encuentra a 70 millas al sur de la linea internacional. Su clima cálido como el mediterraneo, la atmósfera amable y la accesibilidad por tierra, aire y mar, han hecho a Ensenada un destino predilecto para el turista en cualquier temporada del año.

Situada en la preciosa Bahía de Todos Santos, Ensenada cuenta con una gastronomía internacional incomparable, incluyendo uno de los mejores mariscos de la región. Pescado fresco, langosta y abulón, son algunas de sus especialidades. Así como auténticos platillos mexicanos, preparados con recetas tradicionales. Estos platillos están complementados por exquisitos vinos locales de fama internacional que son producidos con uvas de los Valles de Guadalupe y San Antonio de las Minas.

El clima cálido de Ensenada ofrece numerosas oportunidades para recreación en el transcurso del año. Golf, tenis, excursionismo, carreras de carro, bicicleta y equitación, así como el surf, navegar, pesca deportiva, kayak, ski acuático y buseo.

 GERMAN

Bekannt als das "Aschenputtel des Pazifiks", liegt Ensenada 120 km südlich der internationalen Grenze. Mit seinem warmen Mittelmeerklima, der freundlichen Atmosphäre und aufgrund seiner Erreichbarkeit zu Land, Luft und Wasser wurde Ensenada zu einem beliebten Urlaubsort für jede Jahreszeit.

An der landschaftlich schönen Bucht Todos Santos liegend, bietet Ensenada unvergleichbare internationale Küche, unter anderem, manche der besten

Meeresfrüchtegerichte der Gegend. Frischer Fisch, Hummer und Seeohr sind nur einige der Spezialitäten, wie auch die mexikanischen Gerichte, die nach altüberlieferten Rezepten zubereitet werden. Zur feinen Küche gesellen sich die ausgezeichneten heimischen Weine von internationalem Ruf, die aus Trauben der nahegelegenen Täler Guadalupe und San Antonio de las Minas gepreßt werden.

Das milde Klima von Ensenada macht Freizeitaktivitäten das ganze Jahr über möglich. Liebhaber von Aktivitäten im Freien können Golf oder Tennis spielen, Wandern, Autorennfahren, Fahrradfahren oder Reiten, sowie verschiedene Wassersportarten betreiben, wie Surfen, Segeln, Sportangeln, Kajakfahren, Jet-Skifahren und Tauchen.

 ITALIAN

Nota come la "Cenerentola del Pacifico", Ensenada si trova a circa 110 chilometri a sud del confine. Il suo clima mediterraneo, la sua atmosfera ospitale e la sua accessibilità per via terra, via aerea e via mare hanno fatto di Ensenada il centro di vacanza preferito dai turisti in qualsiasi stagione dell'anno.

Situata nella splendida baia Todos Santos, Ensenada si caratterizza per la sua incomparabile cucina internazionale, che include alcuni dei migliori frutti di mare della regione. Pesce fresco, aragoste e orecchie di mare sono solo alcune delle specialità, così come i piatti tipici messicani preparati con le ricette tradizionali. A questa cucina raffinata si accompagnano i prelibati vini locali di livello internazionale, prodotti con uve coltivate nelle valli di Guadalupe e San Antonio de las Minas.

La temperatura mite di Ensenada offre numerose opportunità di divertimento nell'arco di tutto l'anno. Gli amanti dell'aria aperta possono giocare a golf o a tennis, fare lunghe passeggiate, assistere alle corse automobilistiche, fare lunghi giri in bicicletta o praticare l'equitazione, e anche attività sportive acquatiche come il surf, la vela, la pesca sportiva, fare kayak, ski d'acqua e immersioni subacquee.

 FRENCH

Appelée la « Cendrillon de l'océan Pacifique », Ensenada est située à 112 kilomètres au sud de la frontière. Son climat méditerranéen, son ambiance chaleureuse, son accessibilité par route, air et mer en ont fait une destination touristique privilégiée en toute saison.

Située dans la superbe baie Todos los Santos, Ensenada se distingue par son incomparable cuisine internationale, dont des fruits de mer parmi les meilleurs de la région. Les poissons frais, le homard et les ormeaux font partie de ses spécialités, sans oublier les plats mexicains préparés selon les recettes traditionnelles. Cette fine cuisine est rehaussée par les vins locaux d'appellation mondialement connue, produits à partir du raisin provenant des proches vallées de Guadalupe et de San Antonio de las Minas.

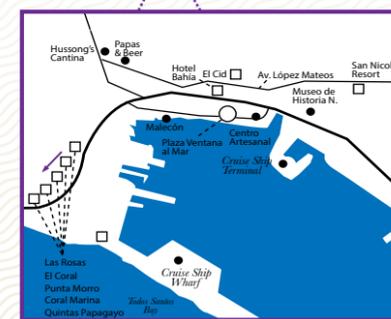
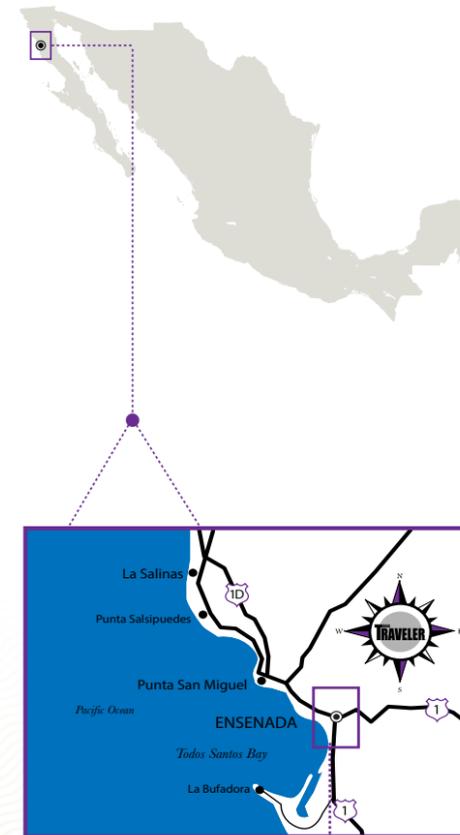
Le climat tempéré d'Ensenada permet aux visiteurs de s'adonner à une multitude de loisirs tout au long de l'année. Les amoureux du plein air peuvent pratiquer le golf, le tennis, la randonnée pédestre ou équestre, la course automobile, le vélo, ainsi que tous les sports aquatiques comme le surf, la voile, la pêche sportive, le kayak, le jet-ski et la plongée sous-marine.

 JAPANESE

アメリカとの国境から南に70マイルに位置するエンサナダは太平洋のシンデレラとして知られています。その暖かい地中海のような気候、親しみやすい環境、内陸への便利なアクセス、綺麗な空気と海によりエンサナダは1年中を通して人気の観光場所となりました。

美しいトラスサントス湾に面したエンサナダは、シーフードなどの他とは比べることが出来ないほどの国際的な食事を楽しむことが出来ます。伝統的なメキシコ料理を始め、新鮮な魚、ロブスター、あわびなどが売り物です。そんな繊細な料理は近くのグアダルーペとサンアントニオデラスミナスの丘の葡萄から育て上げられた、国際的にも認められた地元のワインと味わうのも良いでしょう。

エンサナダの温暖な気候は1年中を通して多数のレクリエーションを楽しむことが出来ます。中でもゴルフ、テニス、ハイキング、カーレーシング、自転車、乗馬などのアウトドアスポーツ。サーフィン、セーリング、スポーツフィッシング、カイヤッキング、ジェットスキー、スキューバダイビングなどのマリンスポーツが盛んです。



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<b>Fire Department</b>	(646) 172-2222, 1325
<b>Municipal Police</b>	(646) 176-4343, 3636, 0140
<b>Highway Patrol</b>	(646) 122-0369
<b>Tourist Assistance</b>	(646) 178-2411, 3675
<b>U.S. Consulate in Tijuana</b>	(664) 681-7400
<b>U.S.A. Consulate 24 hr. line U.S.</b>	(619) 692-2650

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# Festival de Conchas y Vino Nuevo

A Seaside Celebration of Seafood, Wine and Local Pride

BY SYLVIA MENDOZA | PHOTOS BY SERGIO CRESPO AND ELIZABETH SÁNCHEZ

**F**or fans of shellfish and wine, the annual Festival de Conchas y Vino Nuevo is an outdoor celebration of tastings and interactive events that promise more than a culinary delight. Held in Ensenada, which is known for its freshest of seafood, the festival shows another noteworthy side to the region – with many wineries and vineyards, it has become a bountiful wine country.

Held every April in magical locations such as the Hotel Coral & Marina and Hotel Quintas Papagayo, the three-day Festival de las Conchas y Vino Nuevo is celebrating its 15th year. It is the perfect backdrop to showcase the significant products of the region: aquaculture, food and wineries.

“Shellfish is to Baja California what pyramids are to the rest of the country,” says Alma González, spokesperson for ProVino, an organization that promotes the wines of Baja California, the work of its members and educates the public at events and forums. “Ensenada is link to the sea, and one way to link winemaking with the sea is through seafood.”

The festival's continued success stems from offering locals and tourists alike an unparalleled appreciation of not only the natural beauty of the ocean but of all the region has to offer beyond a tourist attraction. At the festival, the ocean air can blow softly, palm

trees sway, sailboats fill the nearby marinas. Dozens and dozens of white-tented booths are manned by world renowned chefs cooking up culinary delights with a variety of shellfish – mussels, clams, oysters and crabs. Interspersed among them are representatives of local, national and international wineries.

Wine sellers showcase the newest of red and white wines, the rosés and the sparkling champagne. Grapes, both red and green, decorate tables where bottles of the unreleased labels stand, ready to be poured. There are samples of shellfish delights from oysters on the half shell to barbecued crabmeat.

With more than fifty participants, it's not just about eating and drinking, says Hugo D'Acosta, an award winning participant of the Festival. “It's also about learning about seafood and wines in practical, educational workshops.”

Beyond tastings, visitors get to know the beauty and benefits of the land, the region, and the people through interactive events that provide a behind-the-scenes look at these industries. Visitors can be educated on shellfish and wine-making through conferences, workshops, cocktail parties, themed dinners at local restaurants, culinary demonstrations, cooking classes, shellfish barbecues and day-trips to mussel, oyster, and abalone farms in Ensenada to see how they are cultivated.



“We are one of the few cities in the world who have mussel farming,” says González. “Also it's a fun way to learn how to prepare and cook them with local products, and to pair them with the best wines of the region.”

The event started as a way to introduce culinary experts to each other and offer a way to tie in winemaking with other representative activities and products from Ensenada, namely aquaculture and food.

In 2014, 25 restaurants participated, offering tastings of shellfish samples by nationally and internationally-recognized chefs. Twenty were local restaurants from Ensenada, Tijuana and San Felipe. Five guest restaurants represented Mexico City and Guadalajara. Some of the chefs and restaurants participating have come every year to showcase their culinary expertise, including Javier Plascencia from Casa Plascencia, Diego Hernández from Corazón de Tierra, and Benito Molina and Solange Murrís from Manzanilla Restaurant.

During the closing ceremony, shellfish producers hold demonstrations and visitors can learn to cook mussels, oysters and clams in a variety of new ways.

All participating wineries are from Baja California. They educate visitors to the fact that they produce more than 90 percent of Mexican

wine production in this region.

“It's an event where two to three thousand people come, where numerous wineries participate to showcase new wines,” says Alvaro Ptacnik, ProVino president. “It's a chance to show all the cultural elements we're able to work with.”

Several thousand people of all ages attend the Festival. Over the last few years the Festival has drawn more people from California as well as nationally, mostly from Mexico City, Monterrey and Guadalajara.

Some enterprises like Nissan, Banamex, and Exa have sponsored the Festival for numerous years. BajaTraveler® has most recently joined the cause. In addition, other vendors round out the artistic side of the festival, selling jewelry, art, handiwork and more.

Bringing together the best culinary elements of the region in the most stunning natural surroundings of Ensenada which makes the Festival de Las Conchas y Vino Nuevo an unforgettable getaway weekend, stimulating the senses with ocean views, savory scents and delectable seafood and wines.

The 2015 Festival de Las Conchas y Vino Nuevo will be held April 10, 11 and 12th. **BT**

For more information on Baja's Wine Country, please visit [www.provinoac.org](http://www.provinoac.org).

THE GATEWAY TO THE ALLURING SEA OF CORTÉS

# San Felipe

25,000  
Population

119 Miles from  
the International  
Border

76°  
Avg. Temp.



If you haven't visited the eastern coast of the Baja Peninsula you are missing out on secluded beaches, mountain ranges and tranquil waters. Located 120 miles east of Ensenada, San Felipe offers natural beauty and a picturesque fishing village.

This fishing village is known for its natural beauty that offers clear blue skies, white sandy beaches and warm waters.

San Felipe is a friendly community of about 25,000 residents. This village has gradually evolved into a popular resort. Within recent years, it has become a popular spot among U.S. college students during their annual Spring Break.

 SPANISH

Si no ha visitado la costa oriental de la Península de Baja California, se está perdiendo de sus playas aisladas, montañas extendidas y aguas tranquilas. Situada a 120 millas al este de Ensenada, San Felipe ofrece belleza natural y un puerto pesquero pintoresco.

El puerto pesquero es conocido por su belleza natural que consiste de un cielo azul claro, playas con arena blanca y agua cálida.

San Felipe es una comunidad amistosa con aproximadamente 25,000 habitantes. En poco tiempo, éste pueblito se ha convertido en el lugar predilecto de estudiantes norteamericanos durante Semana Santa.

 GERMAN

Falls Sie die Ostküste der Baja-Halbinsel noch nicht besucht haben, verpassen Sie abgelegene Strände, Bergketten und ruhige Wasser. Etwa 195 km östlich von Ensenada gelegen, bietet San Felipe schönste Natur und ein malerisches Fischerdorf.

Dieses Dorf ist für seine Naturschönheiten bekannt: wolkenloser blauer Himmel, weiße Sandstrände und warmes Meerwasser.

San Felipe ist eine freundliche Gemeinde mit ca. 25,000 Einwohnern. Das Dorf hat sich mit der Zeit zu einem vielbesuchten Seebad entwickelt. Seit ein paar Jahren ist es ein beliebtes Urlaubsziel für amerikanische Universitätsstudenten während der Frühjahrsferien (Spring Break).

 ITALIAN

Chi non ha mai visitato la costa orientale della penisola Baja California, perde l'opportunità di ammirare le sue spiagge nascoste, le catene montuose e le sue acque tranquille. Situata a oltre 190 chilometri ad est di Ensenada, San Felipe offre bellezze naturali e un pittoresco villaggio di pescatori.

Questo villaggio di pescatori è noto per le sue bellezze naturali: un cielo limpido, spiagge di sabbia bianca e acque tiepide.

San Felipe conta circa 25,000 abitanti, ed è gradualmente diventato un centro di vacanze molto popolare. Negli ultimi anni, è meta preferita degli studenti universitari statunitensi durante le vacanze di Pasqua.

 FRENCH

Si vous n'êtes pas encore allé sur la côte est de la péninsule Baja, vous n'avez pas eu la chance d'admirer ses plages retirées, ses chaînes de montagnes et sa mer sereine. Située à 193 kilomètres à l'est d'Ensenada, San Felipe abrite un village de pêcheurs pittoresque et offre un cadre naturel magnifique.

Cette ville, connu pour sa beauté naturelle, possède des plages de sable blanc et des eaux tièdes dans un décor de ciel bleu.

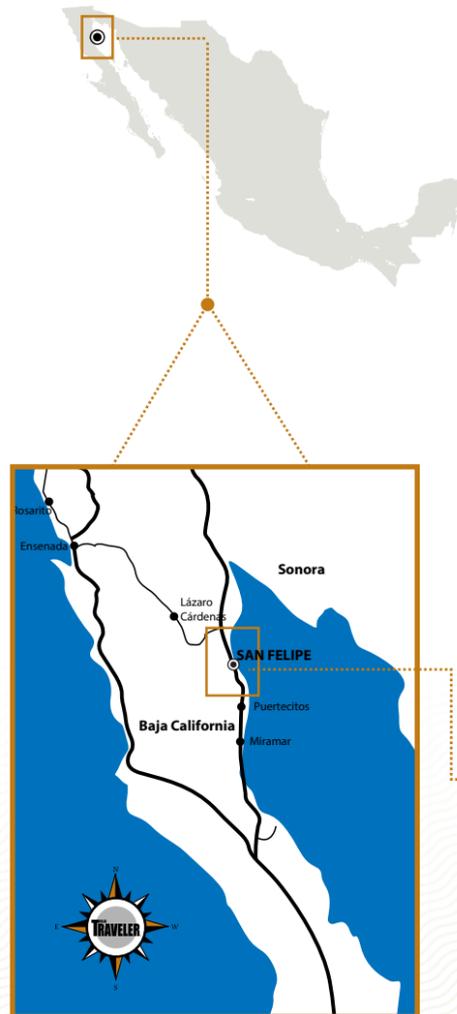
San Felipe, communauté chaleureuse de quelque 25,000 habitants, s'est transformée petit à petit en un lieu de villégiature très prisé et est rapidement devenue la destination favorite des étudiants américains, en particulier lors des vacances de Pâques.

 JAPANESE

もしバハカリフォルニア半島の東海岸をまだ訪れていない人は、隔離されたビーチ、美しい山脈、そして静かな海岸を見落としています。エンサナダの120マイル東に位置するサンフェリッペには美しい絵に描いた様なフィッシングビレッジもあります。

サンフェリッペのフィッシングビレッジは澄んだ青い空、白砂のビーチ、暖かい水で知られています。

サンフェリッペは人口約15,000人の親しみやすいコミュニティです。この小さな町は近年とても人気のあるリゾート地になってきています。特にアメリカの大学生が春休みに訪れる人気の場

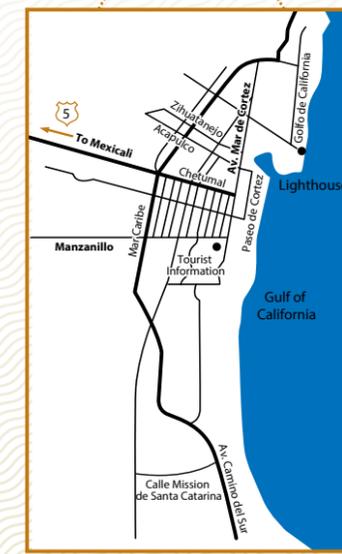



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# BAJA'S CRAFT BEER

## Business is Alive and Well

BY RICK STEDMAN

Something is brewing south of the border, and it tastes like hops. In Baja California, the craft beer industry has exploded over the last several years, and there's no end in sight for this burgeoning industry, much to the appreciation of beer drinkers worldwide. Over the last decade alone, dozens of micro breweries have opened in Tijuana, Ensenada and Mexicali - and the interest keeps growing.

According to Carlos Chong of the Mexicali Tourism Board, "All over Mexico, there has been an increase in the craft beer movement with more festivals taking place and more interest in the quality of beers being offered. Baja California has excelled greatly due to the influence of California coupled with the access of U.S. supplies and brewing technology."

In addition to the increased public interest, smaller breweries in Mexico received a huge boost from the federal government last summer when authorities changed the rules governing exclusivity rights for sales and distribution of beer in Mexico. For decades, Grupo Modelo, makers of Corona, Modelo, and Pacifico beers, along with Cerveceria Cuahatemoc Moctezuma, which distributes Dos Equis and Tecate, maintained nearly 100 percent of the Mexican beer market. However, the new ruling requires these companies to reduce their exclusivity contracts to 20 percent over the next five years. That edict has allowed small breweries to sell their beers at local stores and bars.



### Mexicali Craft Breweries

In Mexicali, Carlos Chong reports that along with the growing number of craft breweries there's also great camaraderie coupled with friendly competition. "One of the main traits of Mexicali residents is their love of local beer," he says. To that end, here is a sample of what you can expect when visiting Mexicali.

#### Big Bad Brewing Company (Tres B)

Considered one of the first craft beers from Mexicali and in becoming quite popular in the surrounding area. Its founders, Rafael Gonzalez, Rogelio Valenzuela, Rodrigo Hernandez and Gustavo Villa are the team that provides a fresh take on European-style beers.

#### Peninsula Brewery

Founders Moises Sanchez and Carlos Teran provide a variety of beers that appeal to beer drinkers everywhere!

#### Amante Brew Company

Also one of Mexicali's initial craft beer makers, Amante was founded by Hector Corella and offers beers for every occasion including European and American styles. A few of their favorites include rye IPA and honey ale.

#### Puerco Salvaje

Provides a variety of seasonal and refreshing beers. These quality beers are produced by founders Manuel Salazar, Oscar Galindo and Roberto Quintero.

#### Cerveceria Fauna

Founders—brothers Luis and Alejandro Larios have been brewing quality beers in Mexicali since opening their doors in 2011. During that short time frame, their beers have been noticed and acknowledged with the following awards: A First Place in the "Top Five Breweries" in the 2012 Ensenada Beer Fest; a First Place "People's Choice" award at the 2013 Mexicali Beer Fest; along with a Third Place in the 2013 Mexicali Beer Fest in the "Evaluation of Thursday" category.



#### Cucapa Brewing

Already recognized internationally, Cucapa is regarded as the founder of the craft beer concept in Mexicali.



### Ensenada Craft Breweries

In Ensenada, for example, **Cerveceria Media Perra** has been making micro brews since 2008. General Manager, Carolina Armijo shares that, "The growing demand for craft beer was the trigger to get into this business, and we enjoy it." Carolina and partner Lewis McAnally Salas feature four types of beer, including American Pale Ale, English Pale Ale, Russian Imperial Stout and India Pale Ale. Early next year, the owners plan to open a tasting room in the Valle de Guadalupe, a predominantly wine growing region just outside of Ensenada.

#### Cerveceria Wendlandt

Another craft beer enthusiast is Cerveceria Wendlandt – founder Eugenio Romero, who started his commercial brewery three years ago. He offers several core beers, including Vaquita Marina, a Pale Ale; Veraniega, an American wheat; Perro del Mar, an IPA; Foca Parlante, a stout; and Harry Polanco, a red ale. "We started as a brew pub in downtown Ensenada, selling most of our beer in that area. We then expanded our operation and now sell bottles and kegs not only at our pub but to other bars and restaurants in the area."

#### Old Mission Brewery

Operating in Ensenada for the past five years, Old Mission Brewery got its start as a home brew operation about 20 years ago. Paul Woronicz and his wife Karla currently offer 13 different types of beer that's produced and sold locally as well as distributed throughout Mexico. In the U.S., Old Mission craft beers are distributed under the Ensenada Brewing Company label and feature Red Agave IPA, Horchata Porte, and the Smoked Piloncillo Stout. Other specialty beers produced at Old Mission Brewery include Raspberry Chipotle Milk Stout, Whiskey Pumpkin Ale, Noche Roja (spiced Christmas beer), Tamarindo and Mango wheat beer, and a guava beer.

#### Agua Mala

A small microbrewery that's on the move, located within 100 yards of the Pacific Ocean in Ensenada. There are seven craft beers currently offered at Agua Mala. Inspired by Mexico's originally fine beers and the burgeoning craft beer industry north of the border, Agua Mala's craft beer line-up includes fine, original beers true to their various styles, including Sirena (Pilsner), Mantis (a traditional Belgium white), Astillero (IPA), Mako (Pale Ale) and more.

### Tijuana Craft Breweries

Not to be left out of the craft beer craze south of the border, Tijuana offers a stellar line-up of quality micro breweries, including the following...



#### Border Psycho Brewery

A three-year-old operation is owned by brothers Roberto and Javier Albaran. Border Psycho Brewery produces an array of beers to appeal to every palate. Their line-up includes an Imperial Psycho Ale; a dark roasty porter; an English Brown Ale; La Perversa (The Wicked One), a double IPA with long hops; Brutal Imperial Stout that smells of coffee, chocolate, and anise; and La Belgica Sicitica (The Belgian Psycho).

#### Cerveceria Insurgente

Producers of Mexico's first commercially-available Black IPA Nocturna. Nocturna's west coast influences were inspired by the work of breweries like Stone and Deschutes. Strong notes of chocolate, coffee, and roasted barley

play beautifully resulting in this bold hop profile. Other beers featured include Tiniebla, a Witbier brewed with wheat and pilsner malt with accents of orange peel and coriander to give it a complex and citrusy aroma. Insurgente Brown is an American Brown Ale that has a delicious malt backbone with hints of caramel and roastiness. Generous late hop additions, give it fantastic hop flavor and aroma without any harsh bitterness, making it a very drinkable, malty, yet hoppy beer. La Lupulosa – its name says it all, translated as "The Hoppy One." This IPA uses five different types of hops in different stages of the brew, as well as two separate dry hop additions.

#### Ramuri Brewery

Featuring Mexican beer with influences of old world styles and a diversity of flavors. White Devil is a premium lager, a hearty pilsner style of Czech origin. Broken Board is a Hefeweizen style Pale Ale that contains delicate touches of orange, cultivated in northern Mexico, and coriander seeds. In its flavor and aroma, the hops lose prominence. The Imperial Stout, Black Tears Oatmeal Stout, and Batari Chonami London Brown Ale round out the Ramuri line-up.

With Baja clearly the center of the craft beer movement in Mexico, visitors can sample lots of these micro brews during a beer fest, which brings many of these samples together in one place. Look for these beer festivals in 2015: EnsenadaBeerFest.com and BajaBeerFest.mx, a celebration of craft beer in Mexicali. **BT**

#### Cheers!



10TH ANNUAL

# DORADO SHOOT OUT

## AT PALMAS DE CORTEZ, EASTCAPE

*Like nothing else in Los Cabos*

BY RICK STEDMAN | PHOTOS BY DANNY MATHEWS

One of the most exciting events in greater Los Cabos is the ever-popular annual one-day fishing tournament: The Dorado Shoot Out in East Cape. With its tournament headquarters at the Van Wormer Resorts in Los Barriles less than an hour from the international airport, the Dorado Shoot Out just completed its 10th year. And oh what a year it was!

"We offer this one-day fishing tournament every year in mid-July, and its popularity just continues to grow," said tournament director Kit McNear. The best part about the tournament is the simplistic rules: Catch the heaviest Dorado on the one-day tournament and you win! The winner each of the last five years received a fully loaded Toyota Tacoma 4X4 pick-up truck! The entry fee is \$500 per team.

Kit explains the concept and format of the tournament. "The plan was to create a fun-filled, low-cost, one day event with a big prize for catching the winning fish. I decided on Dorado because they are usually very abundant at the East Cape in the summer, they grow quickly, and basically any boat can get the big fish! Unlike Marlin tournaments where the top boats and crews have a sizeable advantage, that's not so when fishing for Dorado. It's impossible to target a big Dorado, which is one of the main

reasons why the event continues to attract a huge turnout in terms of the number of boats participating. This year, we had 125 boats participate, which is about the average for each of the previous years." Dorado, also called mahi-mahi, are distinguished by their dazzling colors: Golden on the sides, and bright blues and greens on the sides and back. Their mouth-watering appeal makes them a favorite menu item throughout Los Cabos restaurants.

The concept for the Dorado Shoot Out was the brainchild of Chucky and Kevin Van Wormer, owners of three resorts in Los Barriles, including the tournament headquarters Hotel Palmas de Cortez. "I came up with the format, and the Van Wormers provided the hotels and the main prize," explained Kit. "The event is unique in that it is resort based with the main emphasis on filling the Van Wormer hotel rooms, and hopefully creating a lot of positive publicity for the hotels."

Where larger fishing events are profit driven, the Dorado Shoot Out is more user friendly. Kit explained that there are no restrictions or boundaries since that would be impossible to enforce. Without a host of rules, you alleviate all sorts of potential problems.



Morning of the tournament...

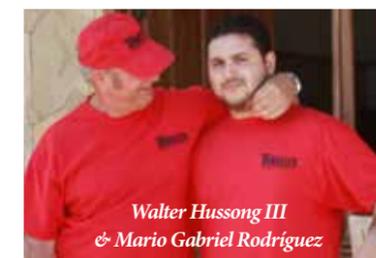


The Van Wormers are no stranger to fishing. In addition to their quality hotels that include the Hotel Palmas de Cortez, Playa del Sol, Punta Colorada, and Villas de Cortez, they have a sport fishing fleet that includes more than 50 boats, which is the largest in Mexico.

When the fishing is done for the day, the festive awards party begins that night. All anglers participating in the Shoot Out receive a quality hat, shirt, awards meal, goody bag, and the option to participate in a variety of cash jackpots. "This year, we gave away \$80,000 in cash prizes," said Kit. "We also awarded a Suzuki outboard motor worth \$15,000. No other tournament gives the amount of top prizes that we do!"

If you've never participated in a fishing tournament, this is a great one to start with. The Dorado Shoot Out features

a low entry fee, offers big prizes, and has a straight forward format: Catch a Dorado, weigh a Dorado, and then have a beer. For more information on next year's 11th annual East Cape Van Wormer Resorts' Dorado Shoot Out, visit [DoradoShootOut.com](http://DoradoShootOut.com) or call 877-777-8862. Better yet, put it on your calendar: **July 18, 2015 - The Dorado Shoot Out.** Don't miss the fun! For more information on the Van Wormer Resorts, please visit [VanWormerResorts.com](http://VanWormerResorts.com). **BT**



Walter Hussong III & Mario Gabriel Rodriguez



WINNERS CIRCLE



FIRST PLACE WINNERS

Patricia Morrison & Lavo Castro Rosa



SECOND PLACE WINNER

Pedro Mejia



ENGINE WINNER

Erick Estevez



Diego & Chris Erickson, Walter Hussong III, Mayté, Mario Gabriel & Mario Alberto Rodriguez



Matias Arjona, Ricardo Osuna, Arturo de la Rosa, Kiko Vega; Governor of B.C., Chucky & Yayo Van Wormer

DISCOVER THIS AMAZING DESTINATION

# Loreto

11,847  
Population

687 Miles from  
the International  
Border

80°  
Avg. Temp.

The city of Loreto was founded on an extraordinary bay of islands by Jesuit priest, Juan María de Salvatierra, on October 25, 1697. Here he founded the first mission Nuestra Señora de Loreto, as well as the Capital of the Californias.

Loreto is a natural playground for anyone who loves the outdoor life. Its azure, clear waters and tranquil coves provide scuba divers and snorkelers unparalleled underwater beauty and an explosion of marine life. Around the island, sportsmen will find

perhaps the greatest fishing in the world, with record catches of sailfish, tuna and dorado.

Sea kayakers glide across Loreto's bays to camp at remote beaches and sleep under the stars. For people with more land-bound interests, the Sierra provides many opportunities for mountain biking, horseback trail rides and hiking over ancient trails used for hundreds of years. Whether land or sea, Loreto offers visitors a diverse range of things to do and see.

PHOTO BY JOSAFAT DE LA TOBA



**SPANISH**

La ciudad de Loreto fué fundada en una extraordinaria bahía de islas por el Padre Jesuita, Juan María Salvatierra, el 25 de Octubre de 1697. Aquí fué donde fundó la primera misión, Nuestra Señora de Loreto, así como también la primera Capital de las Californias.

Loreto es un paraíso para todo el aficionado al aire libre, incluyendo posiblemente el mejor buceo, snorkel, y pesca.

El kayak se practica e incluso los aficionados utilizan las bellas playas para dormir debajo de las estrellas. Excursionismo y equitación son excelentes para la Sierra. Ya sea tierra o mar, Loreto le ofrece al visitante una variedad de cosas para ver y hacer.

**GERMAN**

Die Stadt Loreto wurde vom Jesuitenpfarrrer Juan Maria de Salvatierra an einer außergewöhnlichen Bucht voller Inseln am 25. Oktober 1697 gegründet. Er erbaute hier auch die erste Missionskirche Niederkaliforniens "Nuestra Señora de Loreto", und eine zeitlang war Loreto auch Hauptstadt der beiden Kalifornien.

Loreto ist ein natürlicher Tummelplatz für all jene, die sich gerne im Freien vergnügen. Seine klaren Wasser und kleinen Buchten bieten Sport- wie auch Schnorcheltauchern unvergleichbare Unterwasserlandschaften und eine unglaubliche Vielfalt an Meereslebewesen. Um die Insel herum gibt es für den Angelsportler das vielleicht beste Angeln der Welt mit Rekordfängen von Arten wie Fliegende Fische, Thunfische und Dorados.

Wer gerne im Meereskajak fährt, kann durch Loretos Buchten gleiten, um an abgelegenen Stränden unter dem Sternenhimmel zu übernachten. Wen aber mehr die Festlandaktivitäten reizen, der findet in der Sierra (Hügelkette) viele Möglichkeiten zum Mountain Biking, Reitwandern und Wandern auf Pfaden, die schon seit Hunderten von Jahren benutzt werden.

**ITALIAN**

La città di Loreto fu fondata su una straordinaria baia d'isole il 25 ottobre 1697 da un padre gesuita, Juan Maria de Salvatierra. In questa città egli fondò la prima Missione, Nuestra Señora de Loreto, così come la città capoluogo delle californie.

Loreto è un luogo ideale per chi ama la vita all'aperto. Le azzurre acque chiare e le insenature tranquille offrono agli amanti delle immersioni una bellezza subacquea incomparabile e flora e fauna marine abbondanti. Attorno all'isola, gli appassionati della pesca troveranno forse la miglior pesca al mondo con pescate record di pesce volante, tonno e pesce dorato.

Gli amanti del kayak attraversano con le loro imbarcazioni la baia di Loreto e vanno a campeggiare su spiagge fuori mano, per dormire sotto le stelle. Per coloro che invece preferiscono restare a terra, la Sierra offre molte opportunità di fare lunghi giri in bicicletta, a cavallo o passeggiate in montagna. Sia sulla terra che sul mare, Loreto offre ai visitatori una varietà di cose da fare e da vedere.

**FRENCH**

La ville de Loreto fut construite sur l'extraordinaire baie des îles le 25 Octobre 1697 par Juan Maria de Salvatierra, père jésuite. C'est là qu'il fonda la première mission Nuestra Señora de Loreto ainsi que la capitale des Californies.

Loreto est une région naturelle pour les amateurs de la vie en plein air. Son ciel azur, sa mer sereine et ses anses tranquilles offrent aux plongeurs sous-marins un spectacle sub-aquatique unique au coeur d'une vie marine fabuleuse. Dans l'île, les sportifs trouveront probablement les meilleurs endroits de pêche au monde, avec des prises records de voilier, thon et grande coryphène.

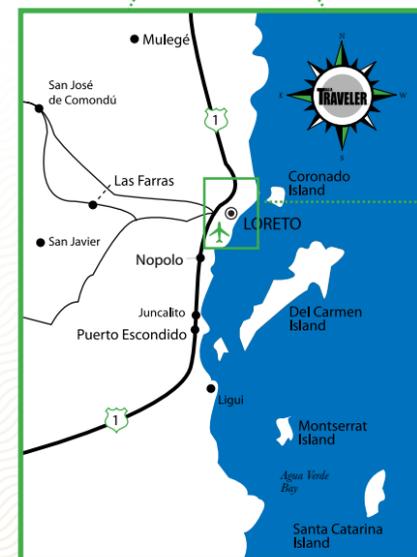
Les amateurs de kayak en mer peuvent glisser le long de la baie de Loreto et camper à la belle étoile sur les plages solitaires. Pour les personnes préférant la campagne, la Sierra offre tout un éventail d'activités telles vélo tout terrain et randonnée équestre ou pédestre sur des sentiers vieux de plusieurs siècles. A la montagne ou au bord de la mer, Loreto ne manque pas de divertissement et de points touristiques.

**JAPANESE**

ロレトの町は1697年10月25日、ファンマリア デサルバティエラというイエズス 霧 により発見されました。彼はここに初めてのヌ エストラ セニョーラ デ ロレト伝道所とカリフォル ニア州都を設立しました。

ロレトはアウトドア好きな人にとって自然を満喫 できる場所です。その真っ青に澄んだ水、静かな入 り江はダイバーやスノーケルをする人にとって匹敵 するものがない水中の美しさ、マリナライフが楽し めます。島の回りには世界中でも最も素晴らしい釣り 体験が出来ます。

海でカヤックをする人にはロレト湾を滑り渡り、 人里離れたビーチでキャンプを張り星空の下で眠る のも良いでしょうし、陸上ではマウンテンバイク、 乗馬、何百年も昔に使われていた道跡をハイキング するのも良いでしょう。



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<b>Municipal Police</b>	135-0035	<b>Tourist Assistance</b>	(612) 124-0100

BEAUTIFUL SERENE BEACHES

# La Paz

230,078  
Population

800 Miles from  
the International  
Border

82°  
Avg. Temp.



La Paz was founded by Hernán Cortés in 1535. It has been the capital of the State Baja California Sur since 1829, and is lately becoming a favorite spot for tourists. This is due to its beautiful serene beaches, wonderful restaurants, great shops offering duty-free items and excellent diving and sportfishing activities.

With the longest history of any settlement in the Californias, La Paz has probably had the most turbulent one. But in spite of its challenges, it has managed to evolve from a "sleepy" little port into

a vigorous, modern state capital.

This port is located between cactus-covered foothills and the cactus-covered shore of beautiful Bahia de la Plaza - largest bay on the west side of the Gulf of California. Although its current population is just over 176,000, there is a small-town atmosphere here. The architecture is charming and very typical, but perhaps the most valuable asset this port has for a tourist is the tranquility that is acquired just by being in La Paz.

**SPANISH**

La Paz fue fundada por Hernán Cortés en 1535. Ha sido la capital del estado de Baja California Sur desde 1829, y recién ha sido convertida en un destino favorito por el turismo. Esto ha sido por sus bonitas playas, exquisitos restaurantes, buenas compras que ofrecen precios sin impuestos y excelentes actividades de buceo y pesca deportiva.

Con la larga historia de Baja California, La Paz tal vez ha tenido los mas grandes retos. Pero a pesar de estos, ha logrado evolucionar de un pueblito dormido a una vibrante, capital de estado.

Este puerto está situado entre montañas cubiertas de cactus y la bella Bahía de La Paz con sus costas cubiertas de lo mismo en el lado oriental del Golfo de Baja California. Aún cuando su actual población supera 176,000, hay una sensación de un pueblito pequeño. La arquitectura es simpática y muy típica, pero tal vez lo mejor que éste pueblo tenga para ofrecerle al turismo, es la tranquilidad que se siente al estar en La Paz.

**GERMAN**

La Paz wurde 1535 von Hernán Cortés gegründet. Es ist seit 1829 die Hauptstadt des Bundesstaates Baja California Sur (Südliches Niederkalifornien) und wird in letzter Zeit immer mehr zu einem Lieblingsurlaubsort für Touristen. Der Grund dafür sind seine schönen, ruhigen Strände, seine wunderbaren Restaurants, großartigen Läden, die zollfreie Waren verkaufen, und ausgezeichneten Tauch- und Sportangelangebote.

La Paz hat die längste und wahrscheinlich stürmischste geschichtliche Vergangeneit aller Ansiedlungen der beiden Kalifornien. Doch trotz dieser Herausforderungen, konnte es sich von einem verschlafenen kleinen Hafenstädtchen zu einer kraftvollen, modernen Hauptstadt eines Bundesstaates entwickeln.

Diese Hafenstadt liegt zwischen Hügeln voller Kakteen und der auch von Kakteen bewachsenen, landschaftlich zauberhaften Bucht "Bahía de la Plaza", der größten Bucht der westlichen Seite des Golf von Kalifornien. Obwohl hier zur Zeit etwas mehr als 176 000 Menschen leben, spürt man noch die Kleinstadtatmosphäre. Die Architektur ist charmant und sehr typisch, jedoch der Hauptreiz dieser Hafenstadt liegt für den Urlauber in der inneren Ruhe, die er in La Paz (auf Deutsch: der Friede) findet.

**ITALIAN**

La Paz fu fondata da Hernán Cortés nel 1535; dal 1829 è il capoluogo dello stato della Baja California e recentemente è diventata un'importante meta turistica, grazie alle sue belle spiagge tranquille, agli ottimi ristoranti, agli eleganti negozi che offrono articoli duty-free e alle numerose possibilità di praticare le immersioni subacquee e la pesca sportiva.

Oltre ad essere il più antico insediamento delle Californie, La Paz ha anche avuto probabilmente la storia più turbolenta. Ma nonostante molte difficoltà, è riuscita a trasformarsi da un piccolo porto in una città moderna e vivace.

Questa città portuale è situata tra falde collinari ricoperte di piante di cactus e le rive, anch'esse ricoperte di cactus, della bellissima Bahía de la Plaza, la baia più grande sul lato occidentale del Golfo della California. Nonostante i suoi 176.000 abitanti, si respira un'atmosfera da piccola città. La sua architettura è incantevole e molto tipica, ma forse la cosa più preziosa che questa città portuale può offrire ai visitatori, è la tranquillità che si prova stando semplicemente a La Paz. Mexico

**FRENCH**

La Paz fut fondée par Hernán Cortés en 1535. Elue capitale de l'état de Baja California Sur dès 1829, elle est récemment devenue une région touristique prisée pour ses belles plages, ses merveilleux restaurants, ses grandes boutiques hors taxe, ainsi que ses zones de plongée sous-marine et de pêche sportive.

Non contente de posséder la plus longue histoire des Californies, La Paz a sans doute connu la plus turbulente. En dépit de ces conflits, elle a réussi à évoluer du stade de petit port paisible à celui de capitale moderne et dynamique.

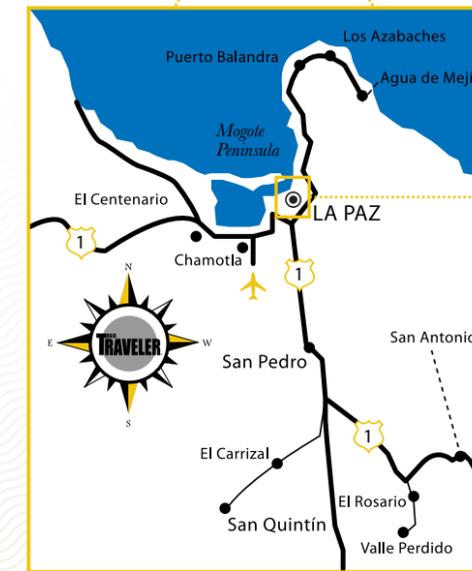
Le port se devine dans un paysage de cactus, entre des collines et le superbe littoral Bahía de la Plaza, la baie la plus grande à l'ouest du golfe de Californie. Bien que sa population dépasse désormais les 176 000 habitants, elle a su garder un charme campagnard. Son architecture typique révèle un caractère pittoresque, mais plus marquant encore aux yeux du touriste est sans doute le sentiment de paix qu'elle inspire.

**JAPANESE**

ラパスは1535年ヘルナン コルテスによって発見されました。1829年以来バハカリフォルニア州の州都であり最近では観光客が多く訪れる人気の場所になってきています。美しいビーチ、素晴らしいレストラン、免税のショッピング、ダイビングやスポーツフィッシングが楽しめます。

カリフォルニアでも最も歴史のあるラパスは激しい動乱が過去にありました。幾度もの動乱があったにもかかわらず、ゆっくりとした小さな港町から現代的な州都として発展しました。

この港はサボテンの丘とサボテンに覆われた、美しくカリフォルニア湾で一番大きいバハ デラ プラザ湾との間に位置します。この町の人口は約76、000人、小さな町の環境を残している建築物もとても典型的で魅力があるが、観光客にとって一番の価値は静かな港ラパスにただ居ることかもしれない。



**EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

<b>Red Cross</b>	135-1111
<b>Fire Department</b>	122-0054, 6807
<b>Municipal Police</b>	122-9700
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FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD

# Los Cabos

204,711  
Population

1,139 Miles from  
the International  
Border

75°  
Avg. Temp.

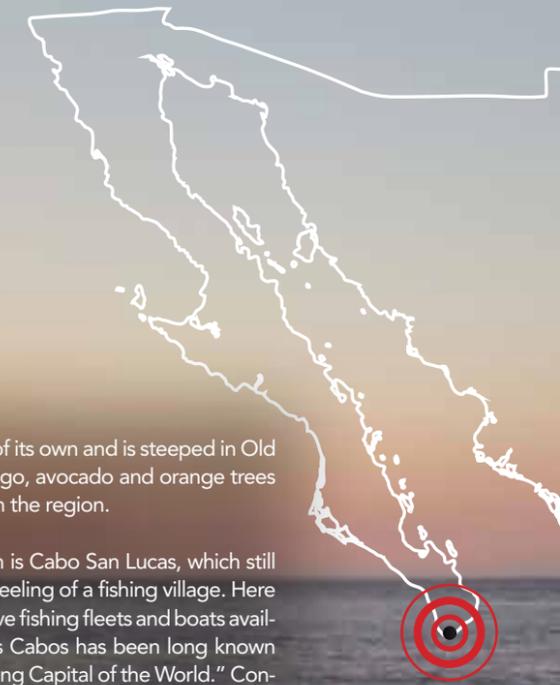
Located at the tip of the Baja California Peninsula, Los Cabos (the capes) has been one of Mexico's fastest growing resort areas for the past 10 years, attracting tourists from all over the world! A flourishing resort area with strong combination appeal as a leisure, beach, ecotourism, diving and sport-fishing destination, Los Cabos hosts more than 150 flights a week totaling approximately 42,000 visitors per month.

Los Cabos is essentially divided into three different regions. The colonial town of San José del

Cabo has a flavor of its own and is steeped in Old World charm. Mango, avocado and orange trees grow abundantly in the region.

Twenty miles south is Cabo San Lucas, which still retains its original feeling of a fishing village. Here you'll find impressive fishing fleets and boats available for rental. Los Cabos has been long known as the "Marlin Fishing Capital of the World." Connecting these two towns is "The Corridor," home of gorgeous beaches, championship golf courses and world-class five-star resorts.

PHOTO BY JOSAFAT DE LA TOBA



 **SPANISH**

Situado en la punta de la península de Baja California, Los Cabos ha sido el destino con mayor crecimiento en México en los últimos diez años, atrayendo turismo de todas partes del mundo. Una zona con cantidad de hoteles de lujo y alimentando una fuerte combinación de diferentes gustos como los que buscan descanso, playa, eco-turismo, buceo y pesca deportiva. Los Cabos recibe más de 150 vuelos por semana que equivalen a aproximadamente 42,000 visitantes por mes.

Los Cabos está dividido en tres partes. El pueblo colonial de San José del Cabo tiene un sabor único de un pueblo antiguo. Ahi el mango, aguacate y las naranjas crecen en abundancia. A veinte millas hacia el sur se encuentra Cabo San Lucas, que aún conserva su original sabor de un pueblito de pescadores. Los Cabos se ha dado a conocer cómo la capital de pesca de Marlin, a nivel mundial. Conectando a estos dos pueblos se encuentra el corredor, donde encontrará preciosas playas, campos de golf de campeonato y hoteles de lujo.

 **GERMAN**

An der Spitze der Baja-Halbinsel gelegen, ist Los Cabos (die Kaps) seit nunmehr zehn Jahren eines der am schnellsten wachsenden Urlaubsgebiete Mexikos, das Touristen aus aller Welt anzieht. Ein blühendes Feriengiel mit einem starken Reiz zum Kombinieren verschiedener Urlaubsvergnügen, wie Ausruhen, Strand, Ökotourismus, Tauchen und Sportangeln. Los Cabos wird über 150 Mal pro Woche angefliegen und heißt ca. 42,000 Besucher pro Monat willkommen.

Das Gebiet von Los Cabos lässt sich grundsätzlich in drei verschiedene Gegend-en einteilen. San Jose del Cabo, eine Stadt aus der Kolonialzeit, hat ihren eigenen Stil, voll des Zaubers der Vergangenheit. In der Gegend wachsen reichlich Mango-, Avocado- und Orangenbäume.

Zwanzig Kilometer weiter südlich kommt man nach Cabo San Lucas, das noch immer das Gefühl eines Fischerdorfes vermittelt. Hier werden Sie beeindruckende Fischereiflotten und Boote zum Mieten finden. Los Cabos ist schon seit langem als "Welthauptstadt des Marlinfischens" bekannt. Im Verbindungskorridor zwischen diesen beiden Städten befinden sich sagenhafte Strände, Golfplätze von Meisterschaftsqualität und Fünf-Sterne Hotels und -Seebäder von Weltklasse.

 **ITALIAN**

Situata sulla punta della penisola di Baja California, Los Cabos è ormai da dieci anni uno dei centri turistici in più rapida espansione del Messico, e attrae visitatori provenienti da tutto il mondo. È una regione prospera che si presenta come un luogo di divertimento, ricco di spiagge, perfetto per praticare l'ecoturismo, le immersioni e la pesca sportiva. A Los Cabos giungono ogni settimana oltre 150 voli, per un totale di circa 42.000 visitatori al mese.

Los Cabos si suddivide essenzialmente in tre regioni diverse. La città coloniale di San José del Cabo ha un'atmosfera particolare, imbevuta del fascino del vecchio mondo. La regione abbonda di alberi di mango, avocado e arance.

A circa 30 chilometri più a sud si trova Cabo San Lucas, che ancora mantiene la sua caratteristica originale di villaggio di pescatori. Qui si possono noleggiare molti tipi di imbarcazioni da pesca. Los Cabos è nota come "la capitale mondiale della pesca al marlin". Queste due località sono unite da spiagge impareggiabili, campi da golf di fama internazionale e complessi turistici a cinque stelle.

 **FRENCH**

Située à la pointe de la péninsule de Baja California, Los Cabos (les caps) est depuis une dizaine d'années l'une des régions touristiques les plus dynamiques du Mexique et attire les visiteurs des quatre coins du globe ! Destination touristique prospère et rendue attrayante par ses divertissements, ses plages, son écotourisme, ses zones de pêche sportive et de plongée, Los Cabos accueille plus de 150 vols par semaine et compte près de 42,000 visiteurs par mois.

Los Cabos se divise en trois grandes régions. La ville coloniale de San José del Cabo a un cachet unique et respire le charme du vieux continent. Les mangues, les avocats et les oranges y poussent en abondance.

A 32 kilomètres au sud se trouve Cabo San Lucas, fidèle à l'ambiance caractéristique d'un village portuaire. Flottilles de pêche et bateaux impressionnants sont disponibles à la location. Los Cabos est connue comme étant « la capitale mondiale de la pêche au macaire ». Le couloir reliant ces deux villes dévoile de magnifiques plages, des terrains de golf de compétition et des lieux de villégiature cinq étoiles.

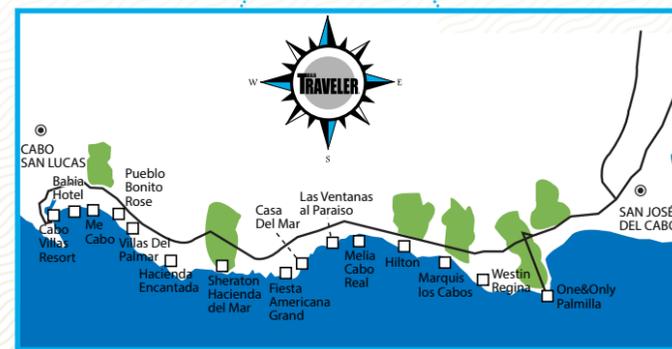
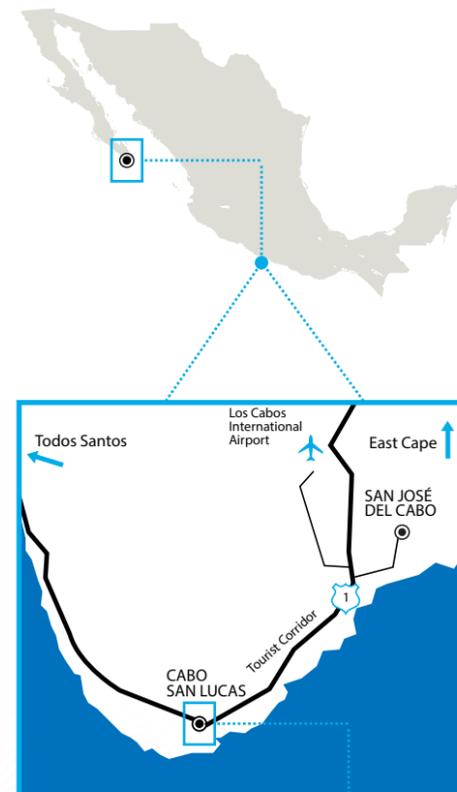
 **JAPANESE**

バハカリフォルニア半島の先端に位置するロスカボスはメキシコでもここ10年で急成長を成し遂げたりゾート地として世界中から観光客を引き寄せています。とても栄えているこのリゾートはレジャー、ビーチ、生態観察、ダイビング、スポーツフィッシングが楽しめます。ロスカボスは毎週150便の運行、一ヵ月約30,000人が訪れます。

ロスカボスは基本的に3つの地区に分けられます。コロニアルな町のサンホゼデルカボは昔ながらの特有な魅力があります。マンゴ、アボカド、オレンジの木が地区全体にあります。

20マイル南のカボサンルーカスでは昔ながらの漁村を維持しています。ここでは釣の出来る入り江でレンタルボートを借りることも出来ます。ロスカボスは「世界で一番のマルリンが釣れる所」として長年知られています。

これらの2つの町は素晴らしいビーチチャンピオンシップゴルフコース、そしてワールドクラスの五つ星ホテルでつながっています。



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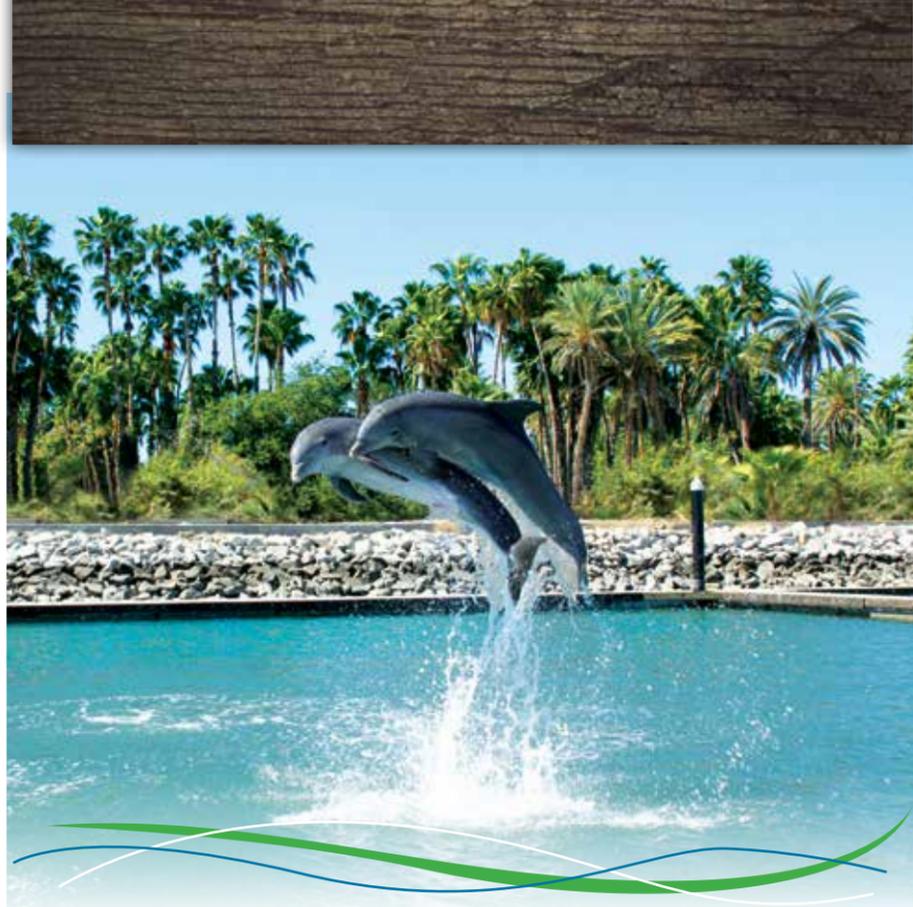
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**DOLPHIN DISCOVERY**

CELEBRATES ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY  
*...and accounts for more than 5 million guests*

BY MARIO GABRIEL RODRÍGUEZ

Established in 1994, Dolphin Discovery Group, (DDG) with 16 natural habitats throughout Mexico, Cayman Islands and the Caribbean, is celebrating its 20th anniversary. The company aims to make swimming with dolphins a life changing experience that is not only fun, but educational – by teaching the importance of respecting sea life, from these marvelous marine mammals to the beaches that surround the homes of these beloved creatures.

There is no doubt that dolphins are one of the most iconic and lovable species of the marine world. With their playful behavior and high degree of intelligence, few people can resist their charm let alone forego an intimate encounter with these friendly swimmers of the ocean.

“Highlighting these specific accomplishments makes 20 years seem so easy, but each is a direct result of the commitment our associates make to the group coupled with the creatures in our care as well as the satisfaction of our over 5 million guests we have

received throughout the years,” said Eduardo Albor, CEO of the group.

Since the start, DDG has become the leader in the industry due to the organizations’ dedication to the dolphins. In 2002, the group created the “Miracle” program, in which their veterinarians study and understand the reproductive process of marine mammals. The “Miracle” program has resulted in eighty four first and second hand generation dolphins which have been born under human care.

DDG has 10 of its 16 natural habitats accredited; so far, by the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks & Aquariums (AMMPA), and 9 by the International Marine Animal Trainer’s Association (IMATA.) These facilities are located in Cancun, Cozumel, Puerto Vallarta and Los Cabos – in Mexico; as well as in the Cayman Islands and in the Caribbean.

The group accounts for more than 1,200 associates and 110 trainers, one in-house veterinarian per facility and 26 corporate-level educators who specialize and are pioneers in the field. **BT**

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# Lifestyle Villas... Setting the Standard for Quality in Los Cabos

*After you spend some time at a Lifestyle Villas retreat in Los Cabos, you won't want to go home!*

When travelers visit Los Cabos and expect a quality stay, they usually look no further than Lifestyle Los Cabos, the area's premier property & destination management company (DMC) that features high-end properties and unmatched hospitality. The other arm of the company is Lifestyle Villas, which is the turnkey concierge villa rental company.

Lifestyle Villas is owned and operated by managing partners, the husband and wife team Alejandro (Ali) and Sheri Ordoñez. Ali explains their business set up. "Sheri is the backbone of our company; she is the COO and CFO, while I focus on our PR, marketing, sales, and business development. Both of us are involved in the daily operations, but it's the collective efforts of our entire team who provides the seamless personalized service that's our hallmark."

BY RICK STEDMAN





Ali Ordñez

### Details, Details, Details

There are no details too large or small. For example, Lifestyle Villas ensures you comfortable arrival by picking you up at airport, providing transportation for up to six passengers. "We have our own private transportation company that includes suburbans and vans to get you to your villa in style," says Ali.

Upon your arrival in Los Cabos, all of the details of your stay will be handled by an experienced Lifestyle concierge, who will welcome you at the villa with cocktails and appetizers. The concierge will explain all the amenities in the house and ensure you have everything you need. In addition, your Lifestyle concierge will be on-call during your stay, visiting you daily at the desired time you set during your check in. He is also available to make reservations, or last minute shopping trips, as well as ensuring you get to the destination of your choice, like a fishing trip at the marina or a golf outing. Your personalized concierge is your go-to guy during your stay in Cabo.

"We have also clustered our rental homes, so we can host large groups or families that come for milestone celebrations, wedding parties, corporate retreats, or quick getaways," says Ali. "Thankfully, we have

Involved with the destination club industry since its inception in 2001, the couple formed Lifestyle Los Cabos in 2006, and then created their own concierge villa rental company. "We perfected the art of service and then got into the rental business afterwards, focusing on providing standardized rentals complimented with added value," Ali explains.

*Lifestyle Villas ensures you comfortable arrival by picking you up at airport... all of the details of your stay will be handled by an experienced Lifestyle concierge...*

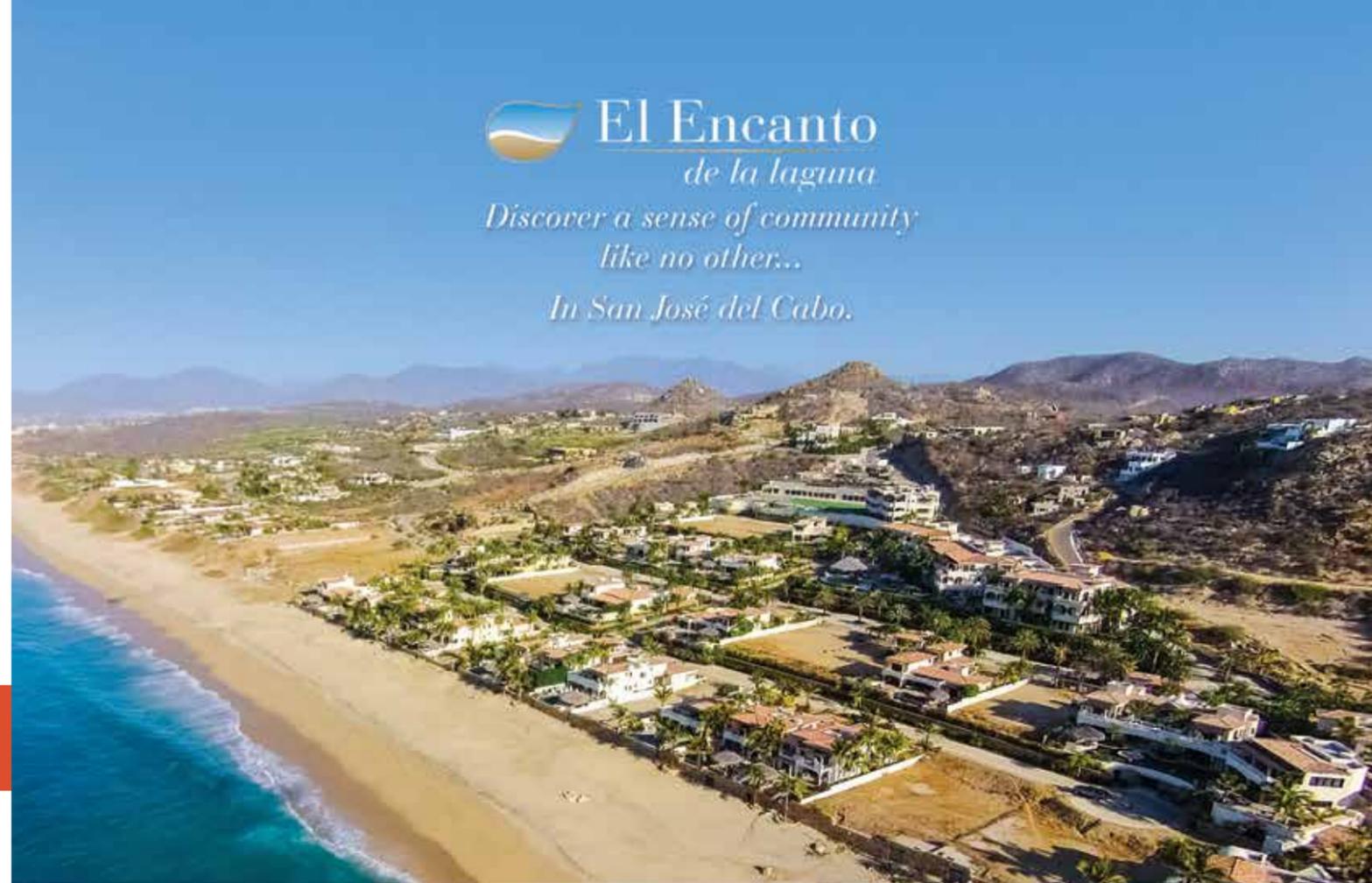
### Company Portfolio

The Lifestyle Villas portfolio includes a collection of single family private homes and condos located in Los Cabos' most exquisite communities. Carefully selected and standardized, each property includes detailed amenities, like having a fully stocked kitchen that has things like spices, napkins, to go cups, foil, saran wrap, etc.; bathrooms that have consistent terry, bath amenities, hair dryers, floor mats; or closets with luggage caddies, wooden hangers, and safes. "It sounds petty, but you would be surprised at the number of rentals that don't include these little details," says Ali. "We believe that little details make a big difference."

Ali further explains that Lifestyle Villas is the only DMC that provides turnkey rentals, thanks to their large internal workforce that provides seamless and consistent services. "Something that also makes our product stand out is our insistence on providing a turnkey experience," shares Ali. Thus, in addition to providing high standards of service, Lifestyle Villas also promises personalized services on rentals of four nights or more. Visitors will be able to pre-plan their vacation with a personal Lifestyle specialist up to a year in advance.

seen an increase in interest for Los Cabos and Mexico in general, so hotel and villa rental occupancy is higher this year." Ali also notes that he is seeing that short visits are the new way to travel, as evident by the repeat visits year after year. "We are also noticing that group travel is up - finally they are realizing that corporate group travel has a more profound effect on their employees if they send them in smaller more intimate groups. Look for our industry to explode in the next five years as hotels will want to brand villas in the future."

On a final note, Lifestyle Villas' next phase will include a shift that includes a more ecological and sustainable presence, eliminating harsh pesticides in and around the homes. Collectively, Los Cabos lives and breathes tourism, but none more so than Lifestyle Villas. [www.lifestylevillas.net](http://www.lifestylevillas.net) **BT**



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Larbi with Peter Bowling, Paola Reachi, Cathy Bowling, Cecilia Aragon & Ruben Reachi



Ron Hatfield & Larbi



Larbi with wife Sylvania



Chefs Jean-Georges Vongerichten, Larbi Dahrouh, Enrique Olvera & Thomas Keller

# Fresh Take

Executive Chef Larbi Dahrouh shares the inspiration behind stellar restaurant Agua by Larbi at the One&Only Palmilla

BY JEANIE CASISON | PHOTOS BY SERGIO REYES

## Big things are happening

at the One&Only Palmilla. In celebration of the 10-year anniversary in 2014, the luxury resort has entered a new era by honoring one special individual who welcomed travelers to the elegant oasis from the start. Executive Chef Larbi Dahrouh is known for elevating the guest experience for so many people, and it is only fitting that his talent, dedication and success are celebrated with a special tribute of its own – the re-launching of the highly regarded restaurant Agua as “Agua by Larbi.” Here are some of the photos from that amazing night – and the birth of Agua by Larbi...

Since the One&Only Palmilla unveiled Agua by Larbi with a grand opening featuring culinary masters by his side, Dahrouh has created quite the destination for dining, delivering incredible dishes with his own signature style that features ingredients from local markets, fresh fish from the Sea of Cortés and other influences from Mexico.

“Traveling has helped me realize how similar the cuisine of Mexico is to that from my hometown in Tangiers, Morocco,” says Dahrouh. “To experience the Mole for the first time in Oaxaca, the Chiles Rellenos in Puebla, and all of the different spices, was quite impressive. My inspiration was to combine my Mediterranean style with the Mexican touch, and for this reason named the cuisine “Mediterranean.”

Interesting flavors provide nice contrast and balance on the menu, enticing diners with signature creations such as the Chicken Tortilla Soup,

the Roasted Pork Chop “Pibil Style”, the Lamb Tajine Stew and the Roasted Sea Bass Fish with Charmoula Sauce, among other selections.

These days, the seasoned chef doesn’t have to travel too far for high quality ingredients with Baja fishermen offering a bounty of seafood such as tuna, cabrilla and dorado, as well as produce from local suppliers like Los Tamarindos and Flora Farms. “I love to work with fresh fish and seafood using saffron, cumin, mint, cilantro, and Mexican fresh and dry chiles. There is even an herb garden at the resort where I am able to grow my own spices and use them in our cuisine and cooking classes.”

As for his favorite part of the job, Dahrouh reveals that he thoroughly enjoys spending time in the kitchen with his team and welcoming guests and friends – some of whom just happen to be top chefs. “One of the best moments while opening Agua by Larbi was to have the company of three of the best chefs in the world joining me for the celebrations and cooking together – Thomas Keller, Jean-Georges Vongerichten and Enrique Olvera. They are personal friends of mine and also regular guests of the hotel, so they know and appreciate the connection and the importance to me to open Agua by Larbi.”

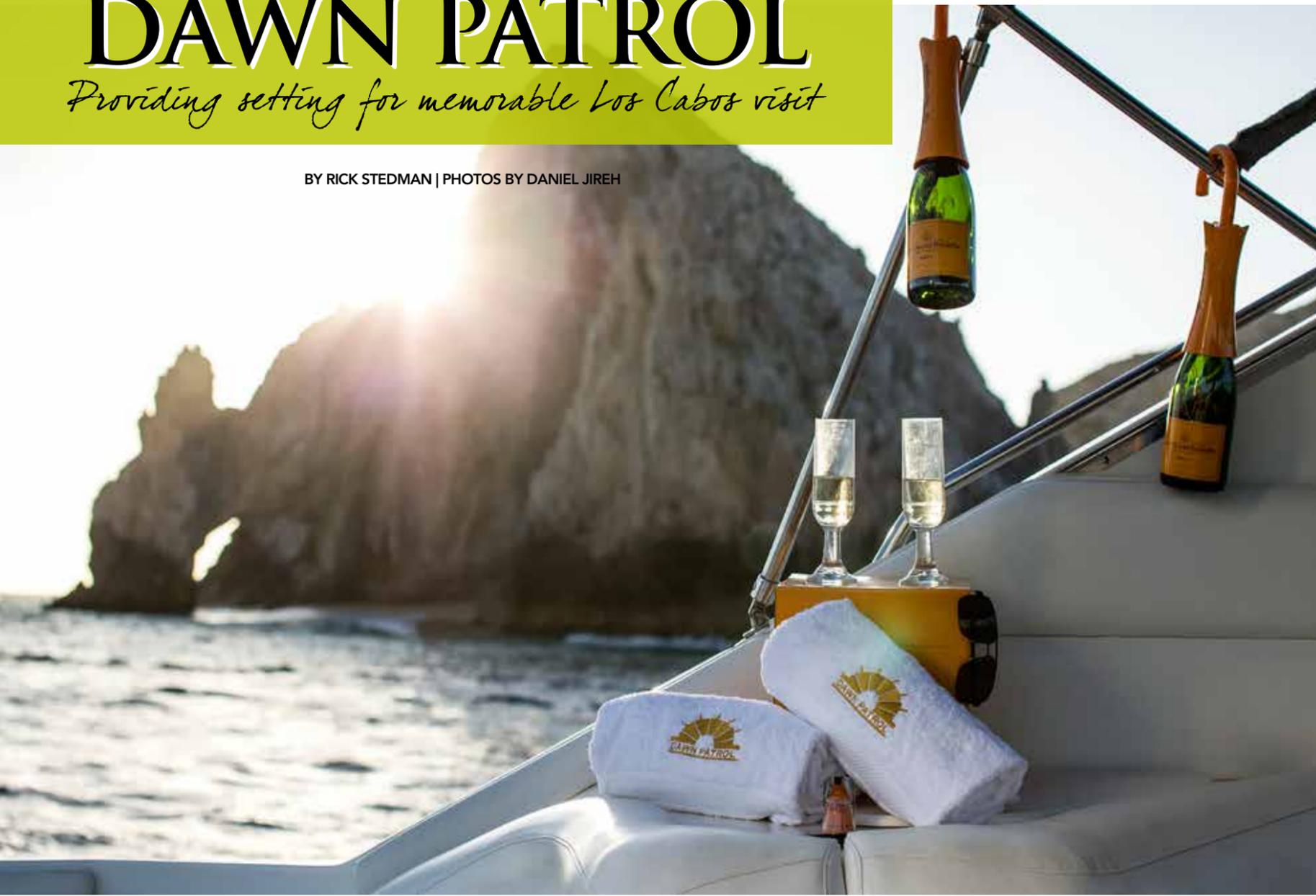
With the success of Agua by Larbi, Dahrouh plans to continue testing the culinary waters and constantly create an exciting environment for everyone. He says, “I want to make our guests feel like home, and for them to enjoy the best culinary journey and magical moments with their family and friends.” **BT**



# DAWN PATROL

*Providing setting for memorable Los Cabos visit*

BY RICK STEDMAN | PHOTOS BY DANIEL JIREH



## A SAMPLE TRIP

Velásquez shares a sampling of a Dawn Patrol cruise on the azure waters around Los Cabos. Departing from the Cabo San Lucas Main Dock, the Dawn Patrol heads towards the picturesque arch of Land's End. Shortly thereafter, you cruise past the always-entertaining pelican's colony, then pass the Underwater Sand Falls, where you can see first-hand a natural rock formation called Neptune's Fingers. A few minutes later at the pinnacle where the Sea of Cortés and Pacific Ocean converge, is the popular Lover's Beach, which is reachable only by boat. Admiring the great rock formations, the Dawn Patrol cruises past the sea lion colony, which is located directly in front of the Arch.

If on a snorkeling or sport fishing tour, we'll head towards nearby Chileno Bay or Santa Maria Bay, about a half-hour trip. Once there, the crew will set up snorkel gear in preparation for an adventure underwater in and around coral reef. Throughout the day, meals will be served, the bar will be open, and refreshments will include bottled water, beer, red and white wine, as well as domestic and international drinks. On the return visit, you'll enjoy magnificent panoramic views of luxury hotels, pristine residential areas, and lush golf courses, all highlighted by an unforgettable sunset as you arrive back at the main dock.

## DAWN PATROL LUXURY

Step aboard the Dawn Patrol and you are immediately surrounded by luxury. "From the comfortable confines of the living room to the luxurious master bedroom, we guarantee that you will find all that you are looking for in creature comforts in order to create that special moment with your loved ones," says Velásquez. Some of the amenities throughout this exquisite yacht include: Queen size bed, plenty of storage throughout the vessel, stereo, VCR, Fugitsu Plasma TV, AM-FM stereo DVD combo, numerous speakers, air conditioning, showers, vacuflush toilet, guest stateroom and crew quarters, large custom-designed sofa, carpeting, accent mirrors throughout, CD player, Corian countertops, skylight hatch, stairway to cockpit, stylish wall décor, and much more.

According to Velásquez, the Dawn Patrol conducts about 100 private trips annually. "The majority of our trips are for snorkeling, sunset tours, and birthdays or other celebrations." One of the unique memorable trips that Velásquez recalls was a man who proposed to his girlfriend. "He not only gave her a ring, they had a private chef prepare a meal while the happy couple sipped champagne and watched as the chef celebrated their moment with a fireworks display off the bow of the boat!"

Other special occasions aboard the Dawn Patrol have included a Mariachi band, private photographer to capture the moment, and a celebrity DJ on board. **BT**



When visitors come to Los Cabos, they want their vacation to be memorable. And if it involves the ocean or sea in any way, Dawn Patrol probably plays a role in defining the outcome of the vacation. The Dawn Patrol features two boats in its fleet, and provides services like whale watching, sunset viewing, fishing, snorkeling, or as a venue for any special event like weddings or birthdays.

Managed by Atma Velásquez, the nine-year old company features a 63-foot Sea Ray Sun Sport yacht, dubbed the Dawn Patrol, which can accommodate up to 30 guests. The other vessel in the company's fleet is the Triple Hook Up, a comfortable boat that accommodates up to a dozen passengers.

"Our clients are sophisticated guests who are accustomed to excellent customer service," says Velásquez. "Many of our guests have traveled extensively around the world and they expect quality. That is why we always strive to exceed their expectations. Since we adapt to the customer's desired schedule, each trip is customized according to their preferences. We, on the other hand, strive to ensure that each tour is an unforgettable experience for each and every client."

[www.yachtincabo.com](http://www.yachtincabo.com)



AN ARTISTS COLONY IN BAJA

# Todos Santos

4,078  
Population

950 Miles from  
the International  
Border

80°  
Avg. Temp.

Todos Santos is one of the most flourishing oases in southern Baja California. With its red brick buildings and wide streets, Todos Santos is still a quiet, charming and picturesque town.

Directly on the Tropic of Cancer, this town of about 4,000 residents is laid out in a small, rolling coastal plain called the Valle del Pilar, 64 kilometers from the Pacific Ocean shore.

This small, colonial village is centered around Nuestra Señora del Pilar, a beautiful church, and a town square. There is also a museum, Casa de la Cultura, which contains materials on the history of Southern Baja California, as well as items that reveal the town's civic pride. Several buildings bear plaques honoring noted residents who fought in various struggles for Mexican independence.

Todos Santos is a beautiful virgin paradise that tourists, especially artists, won't want to miss.

PHOTO BY JOSAFAT DE LA TOBA

 **SPANISH**

Todos Santos es uno de los oasis en el Sur de Baja California. Con sus edificios de ladrillo rojo y sus calles anchas, Todos Santos aún es un pueblito callado, bonito y pintoresco.

Exactamente en el Trópico de Cancer, con aproximadamente 4,000 habitantes y 64 kilometros de costa en el Oceano Pacifico. Este pequeño, pueblito colonial se concentra alrededor de Nuestra Señora del Pilar, una bonita Iglesia y un parquecito. También hay un museo, Casa de la Cultura, que contiene artículos de la historia del Sur de Baja California así como también objetos simbólicos para el orgullo de sus habitantes. Varios edificios en el pueblo tienen placas honrando a sus antiguos residentes que pelearon en varias ocasiones para la independencia Mexicana.

Todos Santos es un precioso paraíso virgen, que el turismo, especialmente los artistas, no deben dejar de visitar.

 **GERMAN**

Das östliche Kap (Los Barriles), das am Ufer der Bucht "Bahía de Palmas", nur 104 km südlich von La Paz und 80 km von San José del Cabo entfernt liegt, entwickelt sich schnell zum beliebtesten Kap für Sportangler aus der ganzen Welt. Die einzige Sprache, die Sie beherrschen müssen, heißt "Sportfishing" (Sportangeln) und "Catch and Release" (Fangen und Wiederfreilassen).

Dieses Kap ist leicht mit dem Auto, dem Boot oder dem Privatflugzeug erreichbar. Wenn Sie nach La Paz fliegen, brauchen Sie ungefähr 1\_ Stunden mit dem Auto, und von San Jose del Cabo aus sind es ca. 1\_ Stunden. Falls Sie mit dem Privatflugzeug kommen, können Sie direkt die örtliche Landebahn benutzen. Mit seinen 3000 Einwohnern ist das östliche Kap ein Fischerdorf, mit hübschen Hotels, Restaurants, Cafes, Märkten, einem Autoersatzteilladen, einer Start- und Landebahn für Privatflugzeuge, einem kleinen Krankenhaus, Schulen und vielen Booten zum Sportangeln.

Falls Sie ein Sportangelabenteuer in einer nicht überlaufenen Atmosphäre suchen, müssen Sie Ihre Buchung bei einem der vielen Hotels des Urlaubsgebietes am östlichen Kap vornehmen.

 **ITALIAN**

Todos Santos è una delle oasi più sviluppate della Baja California meridionale. Con i suoi edifici di mattoni rossi e strade ampie, Todos Santos è ancora un paese calmo, incantevole e pittoresco.

Direttamente sopra il Tropico di Cancro, questa località di circa 4.000 abitanti è situata sulla piccola pianura costiera appena ondulata, chiamata Valle del Pilar, ad 64 di chilometri dalle sponde dell'Oceano Pacifico.

Questa piccola località coloniale si raccoglie intorno alla bella chiesa della Nuestra Señora del Pilar, e alla piazza del paese. C'è anche un museo, Casa de la Cultura, che ospita testimonianze della storia della Baja California meridionale, così come oggetti che riflettono l'orgoglio di questa città. Su molti palazzi sono affisse placche in onore di notabili del luogo che parteciparono alle varie lotte per l'indipendenza del Messico.

Todos Santos è un paradiso incontaminato che i visitatori, ed in particolare gli artisti, dovrebbero assolutamente visitare.

 **FRENCH**

Todos Santos est un des oasis les plus prospères du sud de Baja California. Avec ses bâtiments de briques rouges et ses larges rues, Todos Santos reste une ville tranquille, charmante et pittoresque.

Située sur le tropique du Cancer, cette ville de près de 4,000 habitants se niche dans une petite plaine ondulée appelée Valle del Pilar, 64 kilomètres de la côte Pacifique.

Cette petite ville coloniale s'articule autour de la superbe église Nuestra Señora del Pilar et d'une place centrale. Elle abrite aussi un musée, La Casa de la Cultura, exposant des vestiges de l'histoire du sud de Baja California ainsi que des objets faisant l'orgueil de ses citoyens. Beaucoup de bâtiments sont ornés de plaques commémoratives en honneur à des notables présidents ayant lutté lors des diverses batailles pour l'indépendance du Mexique.

Todos Santos est un paradis encore vierge qu'aucun touriste, encore plus artiste, ne doit manquer d'explorer.

 **JAPANESE**

トドサントスは南バハカリフォルニアで最も栄えたオアシスである。赤レンガの建物と広い道、トドサントスは未だ静かで絵に描いた様な魅力的な町です。

北回帰線にあるこの町は6,000人の住民が太平洋からほんの2マイル程度の海岸平地、ヴァエデルピラールと言う所に住んでいます。

この小さなコロニアル村は美しい教会「ヌエストラセニョーラデルピラール」とタウンスクエアを中心とする。南バハカリフォルニアの史物や市民が誇りを持つ芸術品などを取りそろえた美術館「カサデラルクチュラ」がある。いくつかの建物にはメキシコ独立に戦った勇士たちの名前が彫られている。

トドサントスは美しいバージンパラダイスで観光客、特に芸術家には見逃せない所である。



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TODOS SANTOS  
BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR, MEXICO

# FESTIVAL DE CINE

Todos Santos • La Paz • El Pescadero

BY MARIO GABRIEL RODRÍGUEZ

The 11th anniversary of the Todos Santos Festival de Cine took place this past February 20th – 28th in Todos Santos – and the special country invited was Spain.

The Embassy of Spain in Mexico, through its Cultural Council and in conjunction with Spanish Acción Cultural (ACE), and “Women in Film” featured a selection of the best and latest films in Spanish cinema.

In a joint effort with ACE, there was a retrospective of Luis Buñuel, the great Spanish-Mexican director whose house in Mexico City has recently been transformed into a Latin American Film Studies Center.

The ambitious and growing Todos Santos Festival de Cine was originally an offshoot of San Francisco’s Latino Festival, which Sylvia Perel, the founder and director of the Todos Santos Festival de Cine, founded and directed for 12 years. However, the Todos Santos festival has long since come into its own. It is now a highly anticipated event in Baja California Sur that is only bound to grow in

stature and reputation as the years pass.

Leonardo Perel, the recently departed husband of Sylvia, founded the “Youth in Video” program in Todos Santos some six years ago, and from its inception until his untimely recent death, he spent countless, dedicated hours educating the local Todos Santos youth in filmmaking.

“We invited prominent film professionals from Mexico and the U.S. to Todos Santos, this past summer, to run a number of workshops, and along with the support of many volunteers, more than 80 kids participated in these programs,” said Sylvia. The results of which are the production of the first fiction film featured in this past festival, “Trapiches de Todos Santos,” a documentary called Behind the Camera and four Clay-animations. “We are so very proud of the acclaim that our Youth in Video production “La Ahorcadita” has received. It has won a number of national prizes and currently is being shown in film festivals in Mexico and Spain. Leonardo Perel’s legacy continues with the success

of “La Ahorcadita,” exclaimed Sylvia.

Leonardos’ presence is strongly felt in Todos Santos. It was announced in the festival of the upcoming opening of the first Film School in Baja California which will bear his name, and will be based in the Teatro Marquez de León. “This will give more young people the opportunity to explore the magic of film, and broaden their possibilities for the future,” said Sylvia. The school will be open to all those who are interested in learning filmmaking, film appreciation, talking and thinking about films, local or foreign – of all ages. “This was Leonardos’ dream and, day by day, it is becoming a reality,” Sylvia concluded.

The festival was not without its star appearances either. The following actors were present in this past festival; Gonzalo Vega, Esther Regina, Javier Espada, Rafael Amargo, Francesco Taboada Tabone, Fernanda Robinson, Rob Mermin, Eréndira Valle, Arturo Martinelli, Luis Sandoval and Esteban Costero. **BT**

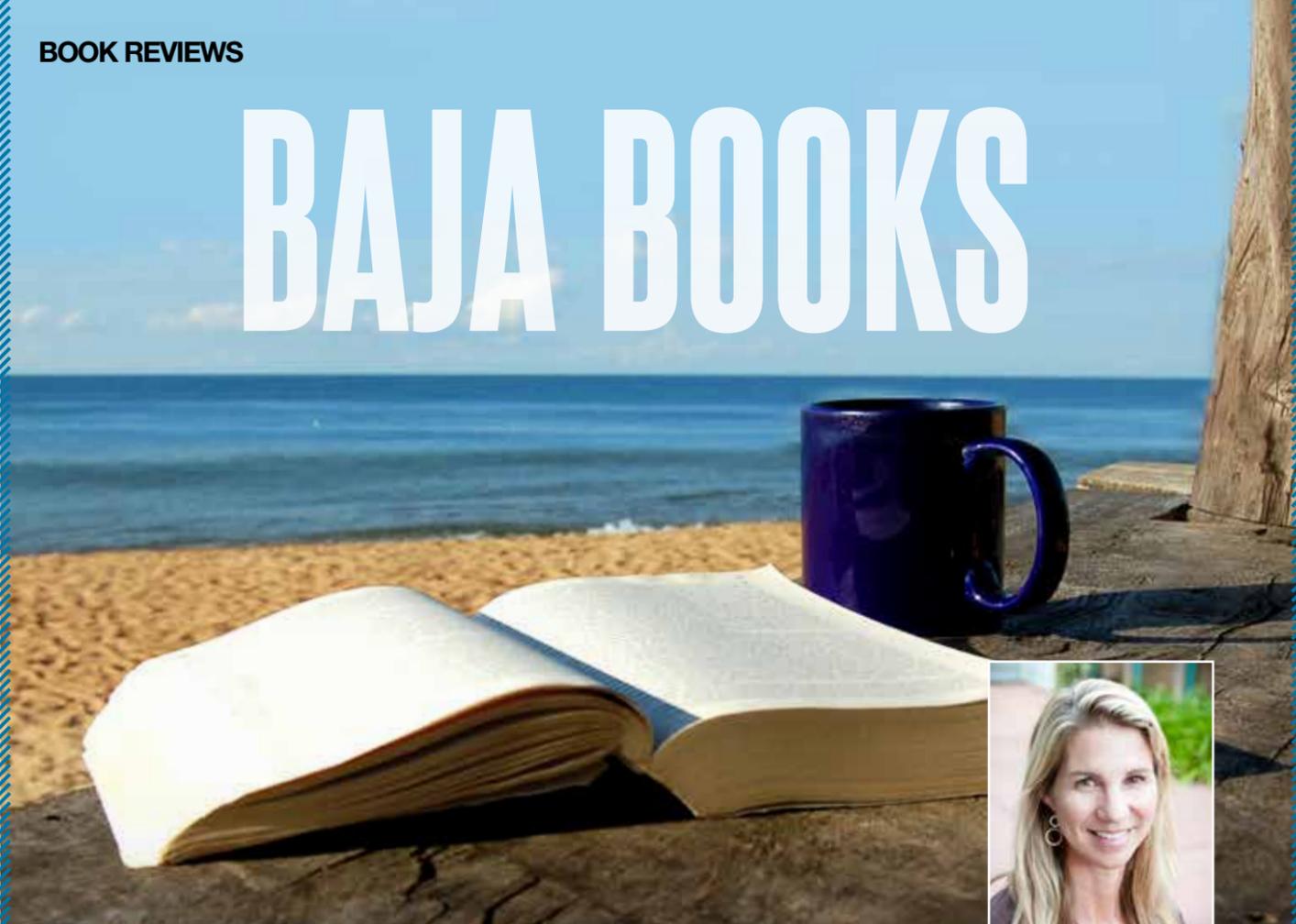
For more information on the Festival, please visit [TodosSantosCine.org](http://TodosSantosCine.org)



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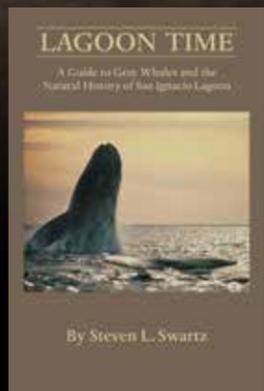
# BAJA BOOKS



BY BETH PURCELL CORDASCO

## LAGOON TIME

BY STEVEN L. SWARTZ



"Lagoon Time" covers a lot of ground; as the name suggests, it's a field guide to the gray whales and the natural history of San Ignacio Lagoon, but it also includes the author's personal experiences in the region for some 35-plus years – a field guide meets memoir, if you will. Swartz and his partner Mary Lou Jones first visited the San Ignacio Lagoon in the winter of 1977 as graduate students, and then returned for five successive winters to continue to conduct their scientific research. Since that time they have played various roles in both scientific data procurement and political protection of the lagoon.

The book is divided into two parts, the first of which details the author's involvement with the gray whales of San Ignacio in more or less chronological order. The second part is a guide to the flora and fauna of the San Ignacio Lagoon region. The book ends with a brief listing of both printed and Internet resources for those who'd like to deepen their knowledge and/or involvement with the gray whales, including links to eco and whale watching tours.

Unlike many biology and natural history books, and as previously mentioned, this book includes personal stories that keep it interesting and memorable – for example Jones' unintended lagoon bath with a Hammerhead shark, which fortunately ended well, but initiated the practice of bathing in pairs. In addition, the decades' old photos of the research team and locals give it an

intimate feel, and take you back to a time long past.

Although written with a sense of humor, and sometimes nostalgia, the book is full of scientific information. It includes more than 250 color photographs, as well as graphs, maps and other illustrations. During the winters spent at the lagoon an amazing amount of data was collected, all of which is summarized for you: gray whale migration patterns and timetables; whale behavior patterns, including breeding and parenting practices; whale movements in and out of the lagoon specifically; the charting of the lagoons, shoreline interior channels and sand bars, as well as tidal changes; and perhaps most impressive, the creation of a of a catalogue, with photos, of more than 500 different whales.

If that weren't enough, historical information about the original indigenous peoples, the arrival and role of the missionaries and the 19th century whalers is also included.

The book can feel a bit disorganized, but for the most part this is due to Swartz' effort to include as much as possible into one publication, from his first encounter in the late 1970s to his current and ongoing involvement and interest in environmental protection and scientific endeavors in the region.

The book is a must read for anyone planning to visit the gray whales in Baja California. It gives myriad physical and behavioral facts about gray whales that you won't find elsewhere. You'd be remiss to not to read it prior to your departure and take it with you for onsite reference. Who knows, it might even inspire you to start your own catalogue of the "friendly whales" and their behaviors.

## Cabo Revenge

BY ROBERT WISEHART



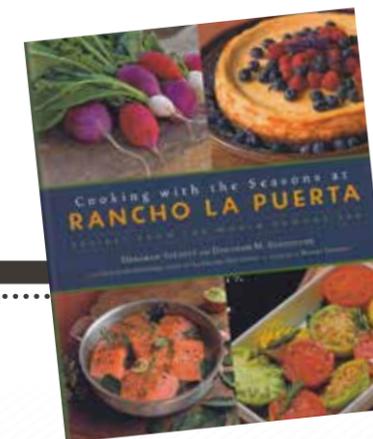
"Cabo Revenge" is one of three books in Robert Wisheart's Cabo series. "Cabo Revenge" was the second book released in the series, but the first in chronological order, a 'prequel', if you will, to the first-released "Cabo." The Cabo series focus on private investigator Ethan Cruickshank, a quirky yet likeable character who's deal-

ing with his own inner demons. In fact, he relocates from the United States to Los Cabos in response to work-related complications and stress. He moves south with his devoted wife, Dina, and giant dog, Brewster, to step away from the emotional pressures that the Southern California crime scene presented, but, after almost a year of laying low and living the good life in Cabo, Cruickshank reluctantly agrees to take on a job presented by a bounty hunter friend he knew well in the States. His task is to bring a multi-millionaire, bond-jumping, sex-offender back to the U.S., without alerting the Mexican authorities. That is, if the fugitive is even in Cabo. Cruickshank first needs to locate the renegade, then somehow get him into his custody and transport him north on the sly.

He ends up, by need and happenstance, putting together a team of four to carry out the task: the son of one of his longtime cop friends joins him in Cabo first; the burly bounty hunter who initially hired him joins in next, disregarding his prior legal problems in Mexico to be a part of the action; and lastly, he persuades a reluctant Mexican cop to help with the cause. Their plan seems solid, but doesn't go exactly as planned. Luckily, Cruickshank comes through it all okay, which is fortunate, so that he can go on to provide more antics in the other books in the Cabo series.

I must admit, I seldom read books in this genre, and was a bit skeptical at first, but by the second chapter I was hooked – "Cabo Revenge" is a page turner. The book is full of action and suspense; and even though you're reading about murder, drug cartels and sex offenders the tone is light and Cruickshank's character is self-deprecating and funny. It's a very easy and entertaining read that has true mass appeal. It's the perfect 'beach' read, or, even better, stick it in your pool bag during your next visit to Cabo and you can appreciate in real time the beauty of the book's location as you read along.

In addition to the three books in his Cabo series, Robert Wisheart is also the author of two Sam Houston novels. He is a former award-winning reporter and journalist whose work has appeared in more than 30 magazines and 200 newspapers. He currently lives with his wife in Santa Fe, New Mexico.



## Cooking with the Seasons at Rancho La Puerta

Recipes from the Word-Famous Spa

BY DEBORAH SZEKELY AND DEBORAH M. SCHNEIDER  
WITH CHEF JESÚS GONZÁLEZ

Although published in 2008, the recipes in Rancho La Puerta's "Cooking with the Seasons" are essentially timeless. This statement from the book jacket, "Food is the very force of life, and eating simply and healthfully is one of life's most profound pleasures," resonates off the pages written by Rancho La Puerta founder and owner, Deborah Szekely, chef and food writer, Deborah M Schneider and former La Cocina Que Canta chef, Jesús Gnozález.

The cookbook's focus is on creating healthy meals from fresh, simple ingredients; it is in no way a "diet" book. It is instead a guidebook for incorporating more fresh fruits, vegetables, grains and legumes into your diet. There are 120 recipes in all, organized into 4 seasonal menus, which include: Spring: the miracle, Summer: the dance, Fall: the gift, and Winter: rebirth.

Want a highlight from each? How about shrimp and red peppers on rosemary springs in spring, grilled yellowtail tuna on Asian edamame bean salad in summer, carrot and ginger soup with pears in fall and potato-kohlrabi gratin with garlic and white truffle oil in winter? If that's not enough to get you salivating, here's a dessert teaser: ricotta cheesecake with berries and lavender, guava creme brulee, roasted banana-rum sorbet and vanilla bean flan with agave syrup and caramelized walnuts – just to name a few!

Throughout the book you'll also find interesting and informative sidebars on various subjects, ranging from making paletas (Mexican popsicles), to toasting and grinding spices, to roasting peppers. And don't think the cookbook doesn't include drinks, because it does. How about sangria La Puerta, cucumber mint agua fresca and herbed lemon ice cubes to spice up most any drink?

In addition, following the seasonal menu sections, there is a "Basics" section that provides an everyday reference guide of ingredients, cooking tips and general information to boost your cooking confidence. Grains, rice, legumes, culinary herbs and cooking techniques all have their own subsections. Do you know the difference between brown, caramelize and braise? If not, this section has you covered.

A final short section, entitled "Spa," even provides you with spa treatment recipes. A soothing avocado mask, a brown-sugar-honey-flower scrub and a eucalyptus-rosemary bath infusion? Yes, please! This section instructs you on how to combine simple, natural ingredients at home for some spa-like luxuriating.

The book itself is gorgeous; the photos, all taken by the well-known travel photographer, Robert Holmes, are crisp and luscious and visually reinforce the cookbook's seasonal theme. From a still life of a single pear, to an overflowing pan of seafood paella, to fully plated meals, to shots of farmers harvesting organic vegetables, Holmes' images leap off the page and call forth both aesthetic reverence and gastronomic desire.

"Cooking with the Seasons" is a cookbook that can complement every kitchen. It's beautiful, has an interesting organization and layout and is full of healthy recipes that will never go out of vogue. **BT**



Emmanuel Vrettos, Angelina Garcia & Alberto Monzón



Genievue Guay & friends



Burak Ipekci, Maria Wittrop-DeJonge, Frederick Bigler, Sussane & Tom Carter, Melody Williamson, Eros Andeliz & friends



Friends

# Les Clefs d'Or

Celebrating the 18th Panamerican Congress in Baja!



Emmanuel Vrettos, Michael Romei, Virginia Casale, Roberta Nedry, Michael Platner, Shujaat Khan, Linda Khan, Gary Parent, James Grundy & Amy Johnson



Friends



Friends



Mariel Gomez, Giovanni Guerrero & a friend



Brenda Currie & friends



Hooper Carol & friends



Korey Rorison & friends



Linda & Shujaat Khan



# BAJAMAR GOLF RESORT

## 40th Anniversary



Roberto Mendoza & Oscar Kawanishi



Lorena Garcia, Mario Garcia, Mariana Recines & Leonor Medina



Rodolfo Mellado & Natalia Armenta



Walter Hussong III, Mayté Rodriguez Cedillo & Mayor Gilberto Hirata Chico



Mayté Rodriguez Cedillo, Mayor Gilberto Hirata Chico & wife Maria del Consuelo, Patricia Puga, Mario Garcia, Hector Rosas & wife Mary Cabuto.



Bajamar residents...



Bajamar residents...



Alejandro Florez Zúñiga, Walter Hussong III & Mayté Rodriguez Cedillo



The Bajamar Team... Rosa Villalvazo, Monica Vargas, Diana Arcila & Natalia Armenta



# COUNTRY IN CABO

with Patrick Davis & Friends



Patrick Davis



Corey Crowder & Patrick Davis



Country aficionados



Patrick Davis, James T. Slater, Lee Vosburgh, James Otto & Corey Crowder



James Otto



James T. Slater & friend



4

Country aficionados



Patrick Davis & Lee Vosburgh



Patrick Davis



The ambiance...



Korey Riggs, Vanessa Castillo, Justin Safir, Derrick Nelson & friend



Derrick Nelson & Lee Vosburgh



Felipe Acosta with LCHS adoptable dog



Golf Registration Volunteers - Margarita Partridge and Sheila Vaananen with golfing guest



Dog Handling Volunteers - Marcie Schwieterman and Caroline Johnson

# Paws N' Claws 2014

...for the Los Cabos Humane Society



Pamilla Golf - Ocean Course



Trish Dougan



Cindy & Terri Stanford, Gordan Kobylanski & Val Gordan



Carl Swenson, Ray Ramach, Guillermo Fimbres & Felipe Acosta



Carrie & Peter Walsh



Marcie Schwieterman, Caroline Johnson, Jim Person, Ron Daley, Ron Weber & Gavan Keep



Carrie Walsh & Modu Seye



Dog Handling Volunteers - Aida Trujillo, Roberto Gonzalez Sigrun Agustsson, Vincent Chatlani & Roshan Chatlani



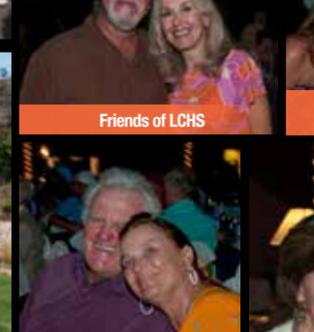
Mark Carter, Scott Leier, Richard Hewitt & Larry Hendrickson



Daniel Sanchez Rezendiz & wife



Winning team - Erwin Potts, Jesse Aven, Martin Wauldbaum & Jim Kassis



Linda & Jesse Aven



Celina Hrbanek, Sheila Vaananen, Robbie Zolezzi & Kathy Sherry



Kathy Sherry, Sarah & Isabelle Zamora



*Dyna's*

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Aquí Nadie Se Rinde A.C.  
helping to cure girls with cancer



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Lorena Felix, Karen Camacho & Marcela del Toro



Dyna in the dance circle



Lourdes Kennedy & Enrique Silva



Eduardo Segura, Roy Martin & Rebeca Perez



Gabriel Larrea, Lynn Gutiérrez de Larrea  
Brenda Álvarez de Nazer & Arturo Nazer



Sebastien Arnaud & Cecilia Aragon



Daniela Mondaca, Alejandro Rodríguez, Rocío de la Cruz, Juan Manuel Pomares & Regina Pamanes



Dyna Lomeli



Sebastien Arnaud, Cecilia Aragon, Mariela Galindo  
Yazmin del Moral, Dyna Lomeli & Jesus Corral



Yasmin Blyth, Pepe Fernandez, Julian Ponton, Yvonne Bauer, Laura Xainic,  
Joss Burgos, Marcela del Toro, Veronica Fuentes & Lorena Felix



The boys living in...

**CASA HOGAR**



Baseball Equipment



Technology Class



Mini Moy



Surf For Kids



UFC Visit



Chuy



Jonathan



Reading Class



Cesar



Marlin Donation



Moises



Yoga Time



Luis Fernando



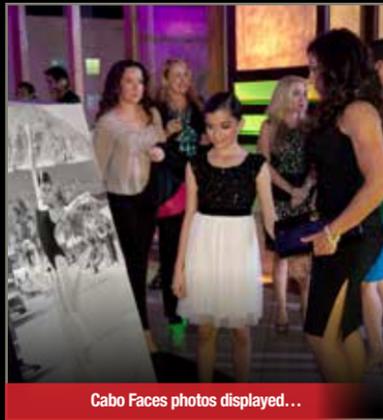
Hockey Class



Basketball



Fastball COBACH



Cabo Faces photos displayed...



Analia Cintado, Euridice Aretos & Sara Flores



Jai Padilla & Miriano Lemus



Beatriz Castro & Mauricio Saenz

# Cabo Faces

celebrates its fourth anniversary — with a Ballet Gala



Inky Cortez, Bradley Miranda & Maritza Hernandez



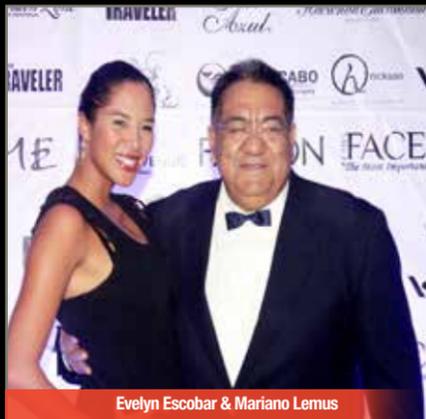
Rosa Luz Treviño, LEMONIA Aretos y Elva Castillo



Valentina Andrade & Euridice Aretos



Maitreya Moitto, Oliver Flores & Daira Saenz



Evelyn Escobar & Mariano Lemus



Paola Compean & Sabina Rode



Ruben Reachí and wife Paola, Mariano Lemus, Eduardo Segura & Rebeca Perez



Monica Donis & Martha Rios



Hector Santiesteban & Valentina Andrade



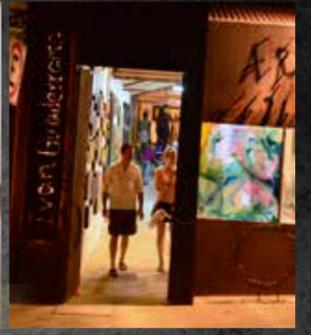
Mariano Lemus and his fans



Art lovers...



Art lovers...



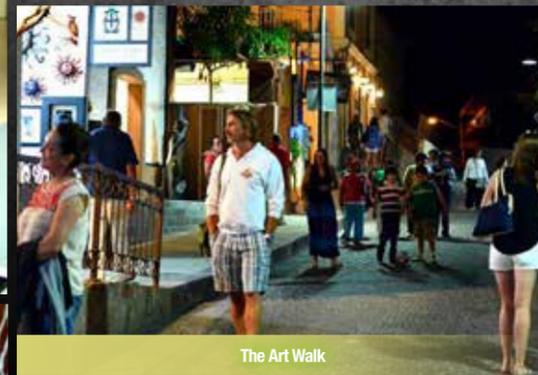
# ART WALK *in* SAN JOSE DEL CABO



More art lovers...



Ivan Guaderrama with some fans



The Art Walk



Ivan Guaderrama with more fans



gallerydistrict SAN JOSE DEL CABO



PATRICIA MENDOZA ART GALLERY



Art Lovers at the Art Walk



More art Lovers at the Art Walk

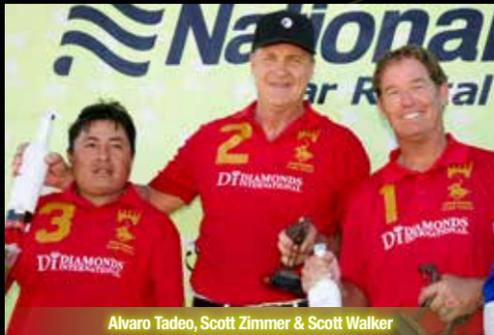


Alejandro Garza with wife Claudia & Luis Tirado



# THE 5TH ANNUAL CLUB POLO BAJA

*gold cup*



Alvaro Tadeo, Scott Zimmer & Scott Walker



The socializing...



Tony Yahyai with friends...



Pursuing the win



Gabriel Larrea and friend



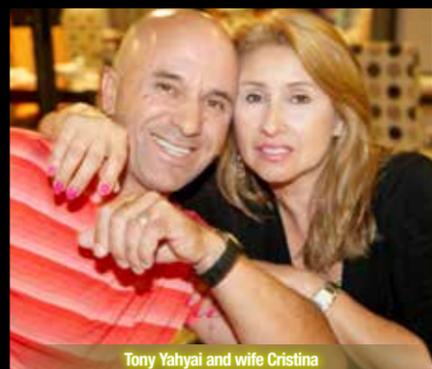
...girls enjoying the event



Ernesto Luna, Tony Yahyai, Antonio Aycinena & Diego Aycinena



Scott Zimmer, Saul Flores & Tony Yahyai



Tony Yahyai and wife Cristina

MÉXICO

Claudia Ruiz Massieu, Secretary of Tourism

#MiMÉXICO



Mayté Rodríguez Cedillo, Scott Serven, Agustín Garza, Jorge Gamboa Patrón & María Garza

Celebrating

# Mexico

at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel...



Jorge Gamboa Patrón & Deborah Peters



Elena Sotomayor & Susie Albin-Najera



Rhoda Jimenez



Mark Boyd



Shelly Nicole, Nico & Niki Saad



Gabriel Juarez, Lizzette Padilla, Susie Albin-Najera & Alejandro Santander

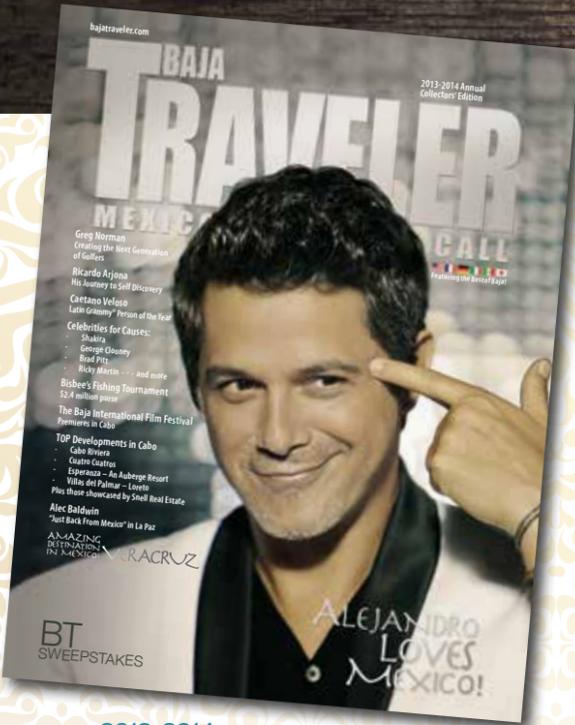


Mark & Karie Boyd

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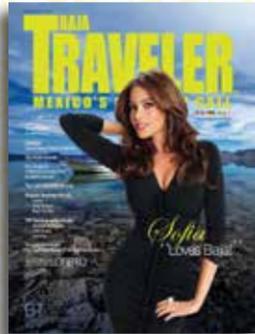
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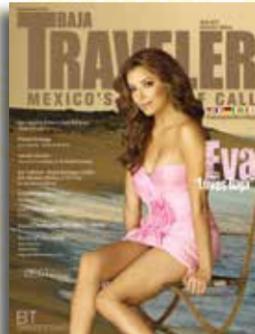


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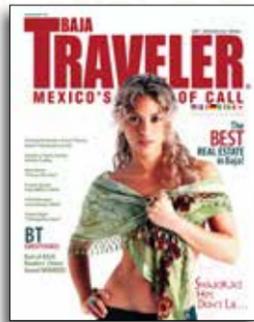
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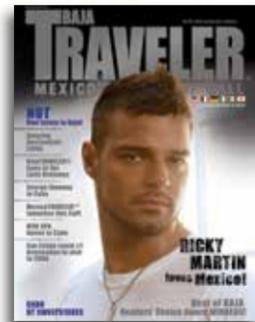
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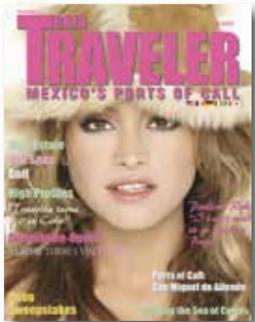
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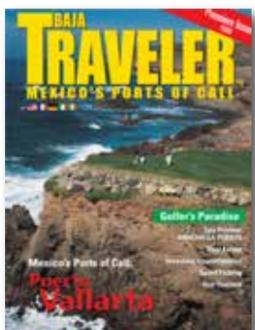
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# BAJA TRAVELER

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BACK FROM MEXICO

Esai

Morales

BY PAT TYSON | PHOTO BY GIULIANO BEKKOR

Award-winning Esai Morales, has won the hearts and minds of audiences everywhere. Born in New York to Puerto Rican parents, he is a graduate of the New York High School for The Performing Arts. His acting career began on the stage in "El Hermano" at the Ensemble Theatre Studio and at New York's Shakespeare Festival In The Park in "The Tempest" with Raul Julia.

Some of his most memorable theater performances include Oscar Wild's "Salome," with Al Pacino on Broadway; "Tamer of Horses" for the Los Angeles Theater Center, for which he gained the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award, and "The Exonerated," directed by Bob Balaban. The San Francisco run of "The Mambo Kings" marked his musical theater debut.

His breakthrough role in *La Bamba*, the highly successful Latino-themed Rock and Roll biopic, led him to stardom. His many film credits include "Rapa Nui" produced by Kevin Costner; the award-winning HBO film "The Burning Season; Gregory Nava's film "Ma Familia" and Richard Linklater's "Fast Food Nation."

Morales became a familiar face on the small screen in numerous prime-time shows. In 2002, he won The Alma Award as "Best Actor in a Television Series," and was honored as "Entertainer of the Year" at the 17th Annual Imagen Awards for his work on the award winning series *NYPD Blue*. In 2013 he joined the cast of CBS' *The Advocates*. However, when his busy schedule allows, he enjoys visiting Baja California.

"My favorite city there is Cabo San Lucas," he says. "I love its natural beauty, especially El Arco. I was there for the launch of The Baja Film Festival in 2012, and stayed at the beautiful Hacienda Hotel, also visited the Gran Faro and Palmillas' One&Only." The first time Morales ever visited Baja was in the early nineties.

"It was for a friend's wedding. That's all I can remember," he jokes. "Needless to say, I think I had a great time!" He also enjoys visiting Mexico City, Acapulco, Saltillo, Coahuila, Tijuana and Catemaco. And what does he like best about Mexico?

"The genuine warmth and spiritual hospitality of its people," he explains. "You feel there is more than what you see on the surface. Also, because of the role I played in *La Bamba* - I am an "Honorary Latino!" Morales considers Mexico to be a safe destination.

"From the moment we landed, my friends and I were pleasantly surprised at how safe, well developed and clean San José and Cabo San Lucas are. A far cry from the stereotype."

A self-described "actorvist," Morales has combined his passion of the human condition to build bridges across and beyond ethnic lines. Throughout his career, he has been an advocate for countless charities and causes that include literacy, environment, health, immigration, arts funding and social justice issues, as well as his consistent evolutionary message inspiring our youth to strive toward a higher purpose and meaningful life. **BT**



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