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The Ultimate Cabo Travel Guide for a Long Weekend Away

Sarah Koller · May 25, 2018

When you're looking to swap the office for some sun, Cabo San Lucas is the ideal place for a quick <u>getaway</u>. Since it's situated on the beautiful Baja California Peninsula close by in Mexico, it's just a short flight to delicious food, stunning ocean views, and — most importantly — the R&R away from your desk you need.

Travelers say Cabo offers something for everyone. There are lively all-inclusive as well as ultra-luxe resorts, and a seemingly endless variety of things to do. Whether you're looking to sip on unlimited coladas, partake in a top-of-the-line <u>tequila</u> tasting, cruise through the ocean on a jet ski, or embark on a private sunset yacht cruise, <u>adventure</u> and excitement are not hard to come by. Here are a few must-dos when booking your ultimate <u>vacay</u>.

WHERE TO STAY



There are many accommodations along the Baja California Peninsula, but the Esperanza, Auberge Resorts Collection is a true standout for a deluxe stay. Most noteworthy are the grounds, which offer intimate casitastyle rooms overlooking two coves on Punta Ballena, the peninsula where the resort is located. The dramatic views are impressive (to say the least) and serve as the spectacular backdrop to one of the hotel's biggest highlights, the Cocina del Mar restaurant. Here, you'll nosh on fresh fish and seafood prepared by the internationally trained executive chef, Guillermo Gomez. The picturesque setting — an ocean-facing terrace illuminated by tiki torches — sets the tone for an unforgettable meal. In the morning, visitors can soak up the rays by one of the four pools, some of which are "infinity" style, for a truly Insta-worthy lounge day. Top it off with an authentic and informative mezcal tasting with the in-house tequila expert and you'll be able to experience everything you could possibly want to about the area in just a couple of days, all without leaving the hotel property. (Photo via Esperanza, Auberge Resorts Collection)

For lodging down the coast on the Pacific Ocean side, the <u>Pueblo Bonito Pacifica Golf & Spa Resort</u> is an elegant all-inclusive option that defies the traditional "spring break resort" stereotype. This posh, adults-only accommodation features five international restaurants, swim-up bars, and a private beachfront property to guarantee a stay of pure, relaxing bliss. If there ever was a hassle-free way to enjoy the Baja Peninsula, this is it.

WHAT TO SEE



Crystal blue water is a common sight in this Mexican slice of paradise, and lucky for you, there are plenty of ways to take advantage of it. The most prominent is the area where the Sea of Cortez comes together to meet the Pacific Ocean. Right at this juncture, you'll find the famous arching stone cliffs at Land's End, with Divorce Beach and Lover's Beach (ironically) stationed on either side. Whichever locale you decide to boat, swim, or snorkel up to, both promise to provide stunning views that'll remind you why you traveled to this gorgeous destination in the first place. (Photo via Getty)



Speaking of water, several companies offer private charters that let you set sail around this iconic point at Land's End. All Ways Cabo Boats is one, in particular, that will whisk you out on a private sunset cruise — complete with local nibbles and unlimited drinks — to take in the breathtaking scenery. For those with strong sea legs, snorkeling adventures around this point are always a big draw and offer a unique way to witness the arches, all below sea level. (Photo via Getty)



If you're planning on sticking to land, consider paying a visit to one of the scenic golf courses. For PGA-ers in the making, Cabo boasts superb greens with unparalleled views that both experts and amateurs alike can enjoy. In fact, decorated golfer Jack Nicklaus designed his own 18 holes at the <u>Cabo del Sol Golf Club</u>, which comes with the accolade of being rated as one of *Golf Magazine*'s <u>Top 100 Golf Courses in the World.</u> If you'd like to make an entire golf trip out of your stay, there are eight other world-class resorts offering several courses each to take the clubs for a spin on. (Photo via Getty)



Dreaming of the <u>beach</u> instead? <u>Chileno Beach</u> should be at the top of your list. Beyond being considered one of the cleanest beaches in Cabo, it's also one of the quietest. Additionally, <u>Medano Beach</u> is another local favorite that's deemed "the most swimmable." (In an area heavy with natural rock foundations, trust us when we say this is a gem to find!) You can enjoy water sports like kayaking, parasailing, and jet-skiing on those days when you're craving more action than relaxation. Of course, we'd be remiss if we didn't mention <u>Solmar Beach</u>. It's considered one of the most under-the-radar sandy areas since it's remotely situated on the Pacific Ocean side of the Peninsula. Be sure to have a stack of <u>books</u> on hand — and a to-go tropical drink — to fully enjoy your day of undisturbed relaxation. (Photo via Getty)

If all the golf, sun, and sand hasn't exhausted you, a visit to Cabo's downtown/Marina area is a great way to cap off the day. The Marina has a nautical vibe with sea lions squealing in the water and personal yachts and boats lining up photogenically nearby. Cabo Wabo Cantina — first put on the map by legendary rockstar Sammy Hagar — brings a taste of the beach life to locals in need of refreshment and post-sun cuisine. If you come in the earlier hours, you'll enjoy an '80s-inspired atmosphere and be surrounded by patrons sipping the restaurant's iconic margaritas on the patio. Then, once the five o'clock crowd rolls out, this spot transitions into a nightclub for folks of all ages who want to hit the dance floor late into the night.



WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

The seafood scene in Cabo San Lucas, which is surrounded by water, is worth traveling for. <u>El Farallon</u>, positioned on the cliffs at The Resort at Pedregal, is one of the best. Their ocean-to-table approach, combined with the oceanfront ambiance, makes for a scrumptious and scenic evening. Executive Chef Gustavo Pinet oversees the preparation of each fish, each freshly caught from local fishermen (of course), for a diverse and delicious menu. Beyond courses and side dishes that'll send your tastebuds into high gear, the soundtrack of cascading waves will remind you of the true paradise you're in. By the time the sun sinks below the horizon and your tres leches cake comes out, you may never want to leave. (Photo via Getty)



For something closer to downtown/Marina area, <u>Bar Esquina</u> is a tucked-away gem. While it's not necessarily on the "main drag," it's cozier for it. The layout of the restaurant includes indoor and outdoor areas, both of which are decorated with modern-meets-local accents. Sit at the bar and enjoy a carefully curated cocktail under a canopy of sophisticated lanterns, or indulge in the fusion of Mediterranean and Mexican fare alfresco on the terrace surrounded by charming open-flame lights. If you're lucky enough to come on the night of a live vocal performance, there's all the more to enjoy. (Photo via The Resort at Pedregal)

Sometimes after a long day in the sun, what you really want is a place where you can keep your flip-flops on. At <u>The Office</u>, you'll kick back at a table beachside while indulging in local drinks and eats. But just because the joint is casual in nature doesn't mean it skimps on flavor. In fact, locals say some of the best and most authentic Mexican food around can be found here, including menu options like Tampiqueña (flank steak), homemade fajitas, Baja-style sea bass, and more.

Whatever the reason for some time away, Cabo San Lucas offers the accommodations, activities, drinks, and cuisine to satisfy any traveler's needs. And late spring just so happens to be one of the best times to experience its truly dreamy scenery. Take this as your cue to grab your bikini and begin booking flights ASAP.