

Suggested Itinerary for CCA Sea of Cortez Cruise

The following itinerary was developed by Dan Gribble based on a wealth of local knowledge gained from his extensive cruising in the area. It's a flexible itinerary with a couple open days and four planned get-togethers for the flotilla. A week doesn't do this area justice, so we'll discuss and adjust as weather and whims dictate.

Friday May 3, 2024 – Puerto Escondido Welcome Fiesta

- Arrive in Puerto Escondido and med-tie boats
- If time permits, go to large supermarkets in town to buy provisions
- Cruise Check-In at the marina 1500-1800 hours
- Welcome Fiesta at La Brisa restaurant at the marina in Puerto Escondido – 1800-2100 hours – Taco bar, beer, wine, margaritas, music – casual dress
- Spend night aboard vessels in Puerto Escondido

Saturday May 4, 2024 – Depart Puerto Escondido for Isla Danzante or Isla Carmen

- Provision boats if not accomplished on Friday May 3
- **OPTION 1:** Sail 3 nm across to Isla Danzante to anchor for the first night. There are three coves at the north end of the island between Honeymoon Cove and Divorce Cove (!!)
- **OPTION 2:** Sail 10-15 nm to various coves on Isla Carmen
 - Activities include snorkeling and hiking ashore
 - Both islands uninhabited so no services

Sunday May 5, 2024 – Sail to Isla Coronado

- Hike the extinct volcano for breathtaking views, snorkel or lounge on the beach
- Uninhabited so no services

Monday May 6, 2024 – Begin the Sail South

- **OPTION 1:** Sail from Isla Coronado to Isla Carmen and anchor at Puerto Balandra (about 10 nm). This is a very well protected bay which could accommodate the entire fleet.
- **OPTION 2:** Sail from Isla Coronado to Bahia Salinas or Punta Perico on the back side of Isla Carmen
 - Activities include snorkeling and hiking ashore
 - Uninhabited so no services

Tuesday May 7, 2024 – Continue South to Bahia Candeleros or Bahia Agua Verde

- **OPTION 1:** Sail to Bahia Candeleros (about 25 nm depending on your departure point). This is a large bay that could hold the entire cruise fleet. It offers good protection except from north winds and swell and occasionally experiences westerly winds (Coromuels).
- **OPTION 2:** Sail to Bahia Agua Verde (about 40 nm depending on your departure point). There are three anchorages around the bay so we would spread out the fleet, but all are

within a dinghy ride of each other. Personally, while a longer passage, it is a more interesting anchorage than Bahia Candeleros.

- Activities include snorkeling and hiking ashore
- There is a small village there with a very small market and a small taco place on the beach.

Wednesday May 8, 2024 – Bahia Agua Verde – Fiesta aboard *Peter B*

- Sail to Bahia Agua Verde. There are three anchorages around the bay so we would spread out the fleet, but all are within a dinghy ride of each other.
- Mid-way get together aboard *Peter B* – BYO cocktails & appetizers – 1500-1800 hours (tentative)

Thursday May 9, 2024 – Continue South to Los Gatos or Bahia Amortajada

- **OPTION 1:** Sail to Puerto Los Gatos (18 nm)
- **OPTION 2:** Sail to Bahia Amortajada on Isla San Jose (46 nm) This is a large and well protected bay that could hold the entire cruise fleet. The white sand beach there is several miles long.
 - Activities include snorkeling and hiking ashore
 - Uninhabited so no services
 - There is a lagoon there accessible by dinghy through the surf. It is lined with mangroves and loaded with birds - a fun adventure!
 - At the northwest end of the bay there is an abandoned salt mine that is interesting to explore.
 - We may have a group lunch or cocktail party ashore on the beach. While I have not experienced them, word is there are no-see-ums after dark on the beach so back to the boats for dinner!

Friday May 10, 2024 – Continue South to Isla San Francisco, Isla Espiritu Santo or Isla Partida

- Sail south. Could stop at Isla San Francisco for a lunch stop and hike (about 5 nm) or could stop at Los Islotes, some pinnacle rocks off the north end of Isla Partida, and swim with the sea lions before continuing on to your anchorage.
- Continue on to anchor at any of several anchorages on the west side of either Isla Partida or Isla Espiritu Santo (about 20 - 30 nm depending on your choice of anchorage).
 - Activities include snorkeling and hiking ashore
 - Uninhabited so no services

Saturday May 11, 2024 – Back to La Paz

- Depart to sail to La Paz (about 10 - 20 nm depending on where you anchored for the night)
- Could stop at Bahia Balandra at the north end of La Paz peninsula for a lunch stop on the way. This is one of the most photographed bays in the Sea of Cortez with a long white sand beach and snorkeling.
- Arrive Costa Baja Marina in the afternoon

- Farewell Fiesta at Hotel Indigo at Marina Costa Baja – 1800-2100 hours – Mexican dinner, beer, wine, margaritas, music – casual dress

Sunday May 12, 2024 – Adios!

- Disembark charter vessels by 10 AM
- Depart for airport to fly home – private vessels sail on!