Day 1

LaPaz Whale Shark Tour

What to Expect:

Many people describe <u>snorkeling with whale sharks</u> as exhilirating and humbling, but most of all memorable. There are few places in the world where you can observe whale sharks in the wild, even less where you can actually get in the water and experience them up close and personal. Our whale shark tours are based out of LaPaz where these gentle giants flock to the plankton rich waters of the Bay of LaPaz. We depart from Marina Singular in the morning for a 5-7 hour excursion. A light breakfast and lunch are included in your outing as well as the full services of our talented intreprative guides. (If you want to see what it's really like, check out this video of <u>snorkeling with whale sharks</u>)

Your Guides:

To share and guide you in this exhilirating experience you will be accompanied by our bilingual, professional, educated, fun, and experienced guides. Our guides are the best in the business and are committed to ensuring you have the time of your life on this incredilbe adventure. In addition they are trained in intreprative guiding and share educational information about whale sharks, LaPaz and other marine life in the Sea of Cortez.

What to Bring:

- Swim suit (It's efficient and convenient if you dress with your swim suit on or under your clothes)
- Clothing with sun protection. Rashguards work great to wear under your PFD if wet suits are not needed.
- Towel
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Waterbottle
- Rash guard
- Sunscreen

Conservation Partnership:

Please note that \$5 of your trip fee is donated to Whale Shark Mexico, a leading conservation and research organization focused on education and sustainable management of whale sharks.

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New Restrictions per Mexico:

Please note, there are newly enacted changes by the Mexican government to the rules and regulations governing all whale shark tour operators in La Paz. Historically, there have been no restrictions on the number of vessels that can visit the whale shark grounds. As this type of excursion has grown in popularity in La Paz, the government has stepped in with a management plan that limits the access to the whale shark grounds to a specific amount of vessels at any time. While we applaud these conservation efforts, it is not without some headaches and hiccups as the government works out the best management strategy for tour operators to work within.

The new rules require all vessels to be equipped with a GPS tracking system and communicate with a monitoring authority via radio before entering the whale shark grounds. If at that time there were already the quota limit of vessels in the grounds, then a one in/one out waiting list begins. Once entering the whale shark grounds, vessels have 2 hours to remain in the area before they must leave.

We have adjusted our departure time to meet earlier in hopes we can be ahead of any waitlist, but lately, we are finding that this isn't always enough. Therefore we want you to be prepared for the possibility of a delay, and therefore an extension of the time it takes to accomplish our goal of introducing you to these magnificent animals. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this causes on your trip with us.

Breakfast and further beverages will be served once aboard your boat.

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch

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