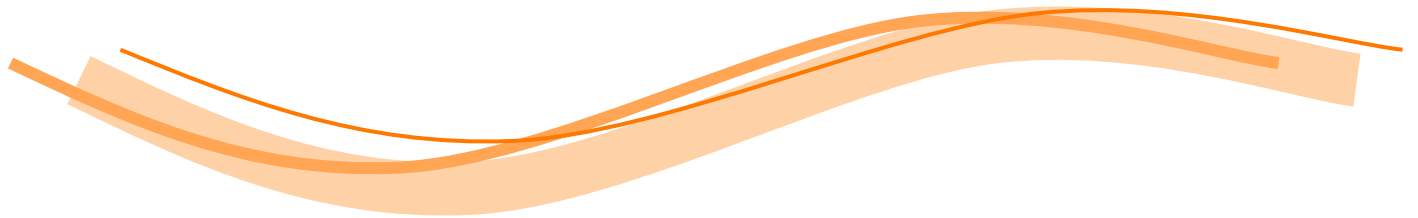




HOTELS.COM & LOS CABOS, MEXICO





<p>HOTELS.COM</p>	<p>Hotels.com - finding you the perfect place</p> <p>Hotels.com are one of the leading online booking websites with over 20 years of knowledge and experience to help you find the perfect place. And if that place is Mexico - Hotels.com have one of the most extensive range of accommodation choices that you'll find anywhere! Discover all-inclusive resorts, adults-only retreats, family friendly hotspots, boutique hotels and more.</p> <p>Hotels.com gets you the very best rates and frequent special offers with over 200,000 properties worldwide. Hotels.com gives you very detailed information for each property, there are millions of guest reviews, PLUS a price match guarantee. And it is so easy to book!</p> <p>Hotels.com has you covered in Mexico from city stays to the well-known tourist resorts to one-of-a-kind destinations in this diverse country. They have literally thousands of accommodation choices.</p> <p>Los Cabos</p> <p>Los Cabos is at the tip of Baja California Peninsula in Western Mexico, where the sapphire Sea of Cortez meets desert and mountains. Part of the fun of Los Cabos comes from its two dramatically distinct personas. Tranquil San Jose del Cabo retains the look and vibe of a genuine Mexican town. Cobblestone streets, intimate restaurants and boutiques radiate from the central main square and mission church. Colourful colonial buildings, small art galleries, boutiques and alfresco restaurants create an authentic atmosphere that manages to be both laid-back and sophisticated Mexican.</p> <p>Rambunctious Cabo San Lucas, on the other end of the highway called the Corridor, is party central. There are funky bars and the slick Luxury Avenue Mall centred around the marina.</p> <p>Along the Corridor between these two towns you will find most of the luxurious resorts, impressive spas and championship golf courses for which Los Cabos has become famous. The Corridor is also home to some of the area's best beaches for water sports.</p>
<p>Booking</p>	<p>It's easy to book</p> <p>It's easy! You can book online, by calling the multi-lingual Hotels.com reservation centre or on the go via the mobile app. The Hotels.com reservation centre is there for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and once you create an account with Hotels.com you can also access your</p>

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	reservation and hotel details online. Many hotels allow you to make changes and cancellations online.
Guarantees	<p>Book with Confidence In business for over 20 years and with one of the largest, most experienced hotel contracting teams in the industry, Hotels.com gets you the very best rates and frequent special offers. Choose the Canadian flag icon on Hotels.com for the Canadian site with prices displayed in Canadian dollars. Book with confidence as Hotels.com gives detailed information about each property and there are more than seven million verified guest reviews on the site from users who have actually stayed in the hotels.</p> <p>The website is super easy to use - and it will also compare hotels side by side, facility by facility, to help you make the right choice for you. Hotels.com does not charge you an additional fee for the reservation, or a change or cancellation fee - so only the stated hotel charges and terms and conditions apply to your booking.</p> <p>With Hotels.com you have peace of mind because of the price match guarantee. Avoid the hassle of long searches with little (if any) reward! If there is a lower rate publicly available (including on Hotels.com) for the same dates, hotel or vacation rental, room type, and cancellation policy, just let Hotels.com know before check-in.</p> <p>And if you are a Silver or Gold Member of the Welcome Rewards program, you also benefit from a Hassle-Free Travel Guarantee. It's simple. If you need to change your reservation for any reason, or if you have any problem with your stay, Hotels.com agents will help you make new travel plans right away.</p> <p>Hotels.com is an affiliate of Expedia</p>
Deals	<p>Get the Best Deals Sign up at Hotels.com to get regular online newsletters with exclusive offers and advance notice of upcoming sales.</p> <p>Just in time for summer travel, right now Hotels.com has several great destination sales underway like a "deal of the day", special summer sales, exclusive city sales, and bonus offers (book a stay and receive vouchers for excursions, tours and extras).</p> <p>Currently (July 2013) they have their Summer of Savings promotion. Save on weekend getaways, road trips, family vacations, and more. Book by 12 Aug, 2013 for travel between 1 July, 2013 – 19 Aug, 2013.</p>
Hotels.com in numbers	<p>15 million Hotels.com mobile apps downloaded</p> <p>7 million Customer reviews from guests staying in the hotels</p> <p>6 million Welcome Rewards members</p> <p>200, 000 Bookable properties available on the site</p> <p>85+ Localised Hotels.com websites around the world</p> <p>35 Languages</p>

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<p>Loyalty Program</p>	<p>Make your Hotel stay more rewarding</p> <p>Every booking adds up with the Hotels.com Welcome Rewards program. For every ten nights stayed you earn one free** night at more than 85,000 participating hotels. There are no date restrictions and you accumulate nights across every hotel booking that you make from one night stays on business to longer vacations. It's a simplified loyalty program that makes earning credits easy - and you are not tied to any one particular brand of hotel. Here's how it works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sign up for a Hotels.com account and join Welcome Rewards™. Then make sure you sign in to your account every time you book. - Once you complete 10 nights staying at any qualifying Welcome Rewards™ hotel, you will automatically get a free night that you can use towards your next booking. - And the more you book and stay, the bigger the benefits like the Hassle-Free Travel Guarantee, Priority Customer Service and more. After 30 or more nights in a year you will enjoy Welcome Rewards™ Gold access to the most exclusive deals like special offers to top destinations and opportunities to win free vacations. <p>Welcome Rewards™ Nights/Year</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="483 1129 1485 1497"> <thead> <tr> <th>Welcome Rewards™ Nights/Year</th> <th>< 10</th> <th>10-29</th> <th>> 30</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>For every 10 nights get 1 free</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Priority Customer Service</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hassle-Free Travel Guarantee</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Early access to promotions and deals</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Exclusive deals and promos</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Welcome Rewards™ Nights/Year	< 10	10-29	> 30	For every 10 nights get 1 free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Priority Customer Service		Yes	Yes	Hassle-Free Travel Guarantee		Yes	Yes	Early access to promotions and deals		Yes	Yes	Exclusive deals and promos			Yes
Welcome Rewards™ Nights/Year	< 10	10-29	> 30																						
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Hassle-Free Travel Guarantee		Yes	Yes																						
Early access to promotions and deals		Yes	Yes																						
Exclusive deals and promos			Yes																						
<p>Mobile App</p>	<p>Book On The Go</p> <p>Hotels.com has a mobile website and a Hotels.com mobile booking app is available on web-enabled mobile devices and tablets - you can download the apps from the Hotels.com website and at mobile app stores.</p> <p>This means that you can choose to book on the go with access to 20,000 last minute deals. You can also access your reservations even when offline and save hotels to your shortlist for viewing later. Plus the mobile GPS functionality allows the app to find the closest hotels with</p>																								

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	<p>the best deals, based on the user's current location. No wonder it is the winner of "Best hotel booking app" by About.com users.</p>
Cancellation Policies	<p>Hotels.com does not charge fees for changes or cancellations. However, each hotel has its own change and cancellation policy which they are required to pass on. Hotels.com provide the policy for each hotel in several places throughout the site. While booking, the easiest way to find the cancellation policy is to click on your preferred hotel in the search results. Once the hotel description displays, scroll down to the room types available. Hover over "Free Cancellation" and the hotel cancellation policy will be displayed. You can also find the change and cancellation policy while making your reservation and in your email confirmation.</p> <p>In order to offer the most competitive rates, some bookings are non-refundable. If you have booked a non-refundable rate, then you will not be eligible for a refund in the event of cancellation.</p> <p>To cancel without incurring hotel penalties, you need to complete your hotel cancellation prior to the hotel's cancellation deadline, which is listed in your itinerary. Cancellations made after the deadline will be charged the hotel penalty to change or cancel, regardless of when you booked the reservation.</p> <p>If you need to make a change after you have booked a reservation, you can view your hotel's change and cancellation policy in your confirmation email or in your online reservation confirmation. You can find the policy at the bottom of the page.</p>
Reviews	<p>Qualified guest reviews</p> <p>Only guests who have booked with Hotels.com and completed their stay may post reviews to the site. People viewing guest content on Hotels.com therefore know they are reading relevant, qualified feedback that can help them make a more informed property choice. The site now features over 7 million reviews.</p>
Travel Guides	<p>The Hotels.com website has a rich library of Travel Guides to most of the destinations that they feature. Everything from the practicalities of getting around to a series of Top Ten's...just like the Travel Show website! http://www.hotels.com/articles</p>
Timeline	<p>Hotels.com Timeline</p> <p>1991: Hotel Reservations Network (the predecessor to hotels.com) is founded by David Litman and Robert Deiner. Company focuses on offering discount prices for hotels in major U.S. cities via a toll-free phone service.</p> <p>1996 HRN begins offering booking services on the Internet.</p> <p>1999 HRN is acquired by USA Networks, Inc. (USAI).</p>

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2001 HRN acquires TravelNow, an online travel service based in Springfield, Missouri. The company offers hotel, car, air and cruise booking services. HRN purchases TravelNow for its extensive affiliate network and cutting-edge affiliate technology platform.

2002 USAI acquires a controlling interest in Expedia.
HRN launches the hotels.com brand and website, and changes the company name to hotels.com.

hotels.com announces call centre alliance with Continental Airlines, enabling Continental reservations agents to transfer customers requesting lodging to hotels.com call centres. The company offers accommodations at more than 5,300 properties.

2003 USAI company is renamed InterActiveCorp.

hotels.com offers its first gas rebate program, offering customers up to \$20 to fill their tank to help them reduce their travel expenses for spring travel. The company notes that gas prices “are at their highest levels, even topping \$2 in some states.”

hotels.com announces call centre alliance with US Airways.
The number of properties offered increases to 7,700.

2004 hotels.com launches its new “experts” brand advertising campaign, featuring staff traveling to various properties to test the food, try out the beds, inspect the bathtub and more. The campaign drives home the point that hotels.com does the research and offers the details customers need to book the right property for their stay.

hotels.com announces call centre alliance with American Airlines.

hotels.com announces affiliate partnership with Amtrak, offering Amtrak customers the full hotels.com property selection.

The number of properties offered increases to 15,000.

2005 IAC/InterActiveCorp completes the spin-off of its travel businesses under the name Expedia, Inc. hotels.com becomes an operating company of Expedia, Inc.

hotels.com enhances its site with the industry’s first side-by-side property comparison tool, as well as virtual tours, guest ratings, and expanded details on hotel amenities.

hotels.com receives its first qualified guest review. In writing about his experience at an Atlanta property, the hotels.com guest notes, “my only complaint was the high speed internet... they charge \$10/day and it’s not very high speed... The bed was extremely comfortable.”

hotels.com adds the tagline, “we know hotels inside and out” to reflect its industry leading expertise.

hotels.com announces affiliate partnership with Entertainment.com,

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offering the full hotels.com property selection on the entertainment.com site.

The Partner Services Group is formed, providing a centralized organization for hoteliers and other suppliers to work with hotels.com and other brands within the Expedia, Inc. family.

The number of properties offered increases to 20,000.

2006 hotels.com enhances group travel planning process by updating its site to enable a more streamlined booking experience for anyone needing more than nine rooms. The number of properties offered increases to 70,000.

2007 hotels.com institutes Flexible Booking, eliminating hotels.com fees for changes and cancellations.

hotels.com launches hotels.com en espanol, a new site designed for Spanish-speaking individuals in the United States. The site offers all the functionality of the hotels.com site, along with dedicated phone service in Spanish.

hotels.com launches its online rate calendar, enabling travelers to view and compare price ranges and actual rates for thousands of properties, up to six months in advance.

hotels.com continues to build its specialty lodging offerings, adding its 1,000th bed and breakfast to the site.

2008 hotels.com relaunches its brand with a new logo and new advertising focusing on the guest experience and hotels.com advocating for guests before, during and after the stay.

Conde Nast Traveler names hotels.com the best site for booking hotels in the United States and Europe.

hotels.com launches its iPhone application, enabling travelers to plan, research and book their travel using the popular Apple device.

hotels.com introduces welcome rewards, an industry-leading loyalty program offering unrivaled flexibility, ease of use and a simple way to earn free nights quickly: book 10 rooms, get one free.

Budget Travel magazine names hotels.com an Extra Mile Award Winner for 2008 for the welcome rewards program.

hotels.com signs agreement with Air Canada, enabling Air Canada customers to access the full hotel.property selection on aircanada.com, and earn Aeroplan miles for qualified bookings.

The number of properties offered increases to nearly 80,000.

2009 hotels.com surpasses one million reviews on the site. All reviews are authentic, posted by travelers who have actually booked and stayed with hotels.com.

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	<p>The company launches its 24 hour sale on a weekly basis. Every Tuesday, hundreds of partner properties are deeply discounted to encourage more travelers to plan and book their stays during this limited time.</p> <p>hotels.com introduces the first U.S. edition of the Hotel Price Index. The global report, now published in 11 countries, tracks prices paid by hotels.com guests in more than 12,500 destinations. According to the study, released in March, hotel prices around the world fell an average of 12 percent in the fourth quarter of 2008.</p> <p>A new advertising campaign launches introducing SMART, a claymation character who demonstrates why hotels.com provides a smarter way for guests to book.</p> <p>The number of properties offered exceeds 85,000.</p> <p>2010 The SMART campaign earns the coveted bronze marketing communications award from The EFFIE Worldwide Organization in the Travel, Tourism and Destination category.</p> <p>hotels.com launches the welcome rewards program in Canada. The number of properties offered exceeds 130,000.</p> <p>2011 hotels.com is named “Best Overall Customer Experience” according to a study by Keynote Competitive Research, which examines nine of the top online travel sites in the U.S. The company is also considered most “convenient” and “friendly” and named most “flexible & accommodating to customer requests” based on responses from 1,800 real users.</p> <p>The company launches an interactive “Clay Yourself” contest and micro site, allowing users to create a digital clay avatar of themselves. The grand prize winner’s avatar is made into an actual clay figurine and stars along-side the hotels.com spokesperson, SMART, in an ad.</p> <p>The number of properties offered reaches nearly 145,000.</p>
<p>Hotel Price Index</p>	<p>The Hotels.com Hotel Price Index (HPI) is a regular survey of hotel prices in major city destinations across the world. The HPI is based on bookings made on hotels.com and prices shown are those actually paid by customers per room night (rather than advertised rates) in 2012. Now in its ninth year, the HPI is respected as the definitive report on hotel prices paid around the world and is increasingly used as a reference tool by media, analysts, tourism bodies and academics. The HPI report focuses on two main sources of data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first section (Chapter 1) shows the global and regional Hotel Price Index for 2012 comparing it with previous years. <p>The Index is compiled from all relevant transactions on Hotels.com during this period, weighted to reflect the size of each market. By representing hotel price movements in an index, Hotels.com can</p>

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	<p>illustrate the actual price movements as paid by consumers, without foreign exchange fluctuations distorting the picture. The Index was started in 2004 at 100 and includes all bookings across all star ratings from 1- to 5-star.</p> <p>- The second section (Chapters 2-7) shows hotel prices across the world per room per night as paid by travellers from Canada in 2012 compared with 2011. This shows the changes in real prices paid by Canadian consumers, reflecting both movements in exchange rates and hotel pricing. This section also highlights price increases and decreases throughout Canada with specific data relating to domestic and international travel. The final chapter focuses on some additional, more light-hearted travel facts identified by Hotels.com.</p> <p>Prices are rounded to the nearest dollar and percentage figures to the nearest percentage point.</p> <p>http://www.hotel-price-index.com/2013/spring</p>
<p>Connect with Hotels.com</p>	<p>Website: www.hotels.com</p> <p>Tel: 1-800-CA-Hotel (1-800-224-6835)</p> <p>Ask for more information: http://service.hotels.com/app/ask</p> <p>Welcome Rewards: https://ssl.hotels.com/profile/summary.html</p> <p>Mobile App: http://www.hotels.com/deals/mobile_ca</p> <p>Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Hotels.comCA</p>
<p>HOTELS.COM TRIP SHOWCASE</p>	<p>Hotels.com offers such a range of properties in Mexico you will be sure to find your perfect place. Here is a sample of just three of the properties on offer from Hotels.com in Cabo San Lucas.</p> <p>The Pueblo Bonito Sunset Beach Resort & Spa - All Inclusive</p> <p>Pueblo Bonito Sunset Beach overlooks a private Pacific Coast beach in Cabo San Lucas. This secluded resort features a contemporary blend of Spanish and Mexican architecture. Set within hacienda-style villas, 588 beautiful suites offer luxury accommodations and ocean views from every room.</p> <p>Delightful flowering gardens are home to flamingos and swans. There are numerous restaurants and bars offering gourmet Mexican and Latin American cuisine, informal family fare, all-day dining, festive theme nights, cocktail and snack bars plus a Cigar bar.</p> <p>Lounge chairs, cabanas, and umbrellas dot a private beach. Pools and spa tubs are terraced into the mountainside and all pools offer swim-up bars. One pool features a shaded hydrotherapy section that encircles a</p>

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garden. There are lighted tennis courts and a fitness facility. The full-service European-style spa offers international massage therapies, massages on the beach, and beauty services.

Sandos Finisterra Los Cabos All Inclusive Resort

Nestled on a private beach in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, Sandos Finisterra Los Cabos All Inclusive Resort is within walking distance of downtown and the marina. It is a 35-minute drive from Los Cabos International Airport and there are two golf courses nearby. All the guest rooms in this property were renovated in 2011.

Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones was married at this property. It is close to the distinctive landmark of Cabo San Lucas - the rugged taffy-colored El Arco (The Arch) rock formation that erupts from the sea. Playa del Amour (Lover's Beach) is at the base of the rock formations. The resort offers daily activities including cooking, bar tending and Spanish classes as well as supervised child care/activities. The concierge can arrange offsite activities like golf, fishing and boat excursions.

The property features 3 pools and 4 outdoor hot tubs. Dining options include seafood specialties at Blue Marlin and poolside dining at Palapa Beach Club Bar & Grill. The Whale Watcher Bar offers a spectacular view and is an excellent area for informal gatherings.

Barcelo Los Cabos Palace Deluxe All Inclusive

This luxury, all suites hotel offers a distinguished all inclusive vacation. The Barcelo Los Cabos Palace Deluxe All Inclusive features a total of eight on-site gourmet and casual dining options. Six specialty restaurants include: Coral Grill (Sea Food) El Cortijo (Spanish) Capri (Italian) Bon Vivant (French) Lotus (Japanese) La Hacienda (Steak House) and 2 buffet restaurants with theme nights El Mexicano and El International.

619 brand new junior, one and two bedroom suites are equipped with exquisite and sleek modern interior design and beautifully furnished with dark woods, art glass and touches of Mexican pottery. Signature beds with the finest mattresses, 400 thread Egyptian sheets and cozy duvets will guarantee nightly relaxation and comfort.

Guest will be able to enjoy a different show every night with professional performances and live music played by The Barcelo Band. A daily activities program is also available for all ages. Kids can enjoy of their own Barcy Club (ages 4-12) with a Water Park, dedicated mini-pool, movies, sand castle building and puppet shows.

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<p>LOS CABOS, MEXICO</p>	<p>Discover the Pacific Coast destination of Los Cabos in Mexico!</p> <p>The area of Los Cabos is made up of two small and very different towns - San José del Cabo to the northeast, Cabo San Lucas at the southern tip. Between the two cities lies a thirty kilometre seacoast with splendid countryside, breathtaking scenery and a range of elegant hotels. Along with nice beaches, Los Cabos is known for its championship golf courses, whale watching (from January to April) and deep sea fishing.</p> <p>Here are some of the attractions and things to do in the Cabo San Lucas Area:</p> <p>Explore the Mission Route More than 28 missions were established in Baja California South, dating as far back as the late 1600s. Many of them were built by Father Junipero Serra as part of a mission route that extends into Northern California. With San Jose del Cabo as your starting point, you can trace the Mission Route throughout Baja California.</p> <p>Go to Land’s End The distinctive landmark of Cabo San Lucas is the rugged taffy-colored El Arco (The Arch) rock formation that erupts from the sea at the tip of the Baja Peninsula. It’s called Land’s End because, if you followed a line south from here, you would not touch land again until you reached the South Pole. Playa del Amour (Lover’s Beach) at the base of the rock formations is a perfect spot for a leisurely stroll, some sunbathing, snorkeling, swimming and a picnic. While the Baja Peninsula today is a major migration route for whales, Cabo San Lucas was once an important trade route for Spanish galleons in the 1500s. Pirates would hide behind the protection of El Arco as they waited for Spanish fleets loaded with treasure.</p> <p>Seek Adventure Ecotourism enthusiasts and adventure seekers will find no lack of things to do. Hike, mountain bike or horseback ride above rock canyons and along deserted beaches. ATV through the desert, whale watch in season, fish, dive, snorkel, golf – and lot’s more!</p>
<p>Location</p>	<p>Los Cabos is located at the tip of the Baja Peninsula on Mexico’s northwest coast and comprises two towns, San Jose del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas, that are linked by a 33 km Corridor lined with world-class resort properties and championship golf.</p>

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Geography	From an astronaut's perspective, the tip of Baja is one of the most striking geological features on earth, even though its mountains are not exceptionally tall. A series of mountain ranges runs south along Baja Sur to the vicinity just north of Los Cabos. Here are found two rugged mountain ranges, the Sierra de la Victoria and the Sierra de la Laguna.
Name	Los Cabos means "The Capes" in Spanish.
Population	Mexico has a population of around 115 million (2013), making it the most populous Spanish-speaking country in the world. Los Cabos has a population of 204,000 across all the communities.
Language	Spanish – but English is widely spoken in this region. There are 10.1 million Mexicans who speak an indigenous language and claim indigenous heritage, representing 9.8% of the total population
Currency	The Mexican Pesos – although the US Dollar is also widely accepted too, especially in Los Cabos. Currently (July 2013) \$1 Cdn = 12.3 Mexican Pesos.
Tippling	The average tip for service is 10-15% and one or two dollars per suitcase carried. Always check your bill first as tips may already be included.
Government	Democracy: Mexico is a Federal presidential constitutional republic.
Documentation	Passports are needed for Canadian citizens, but no Visa is necessary. Unaccompanied minors traveling to Mexico no longer need a notarized letter from their parent or guardian authorizing the trip as of February 2013. The regulation has been suspended for a year by the Ministry of Tourism and National Institute of Migration. Prior to the temporary suspension, anyone under 18 traveling alone or accompanied by a single parent or legal guardian had to carry a notarized letter signed by both parents or by the one not travelling with the minor granting permission to enter/exit the country.
Time zone	The states of Baja California Sur, Chihuahua, Nayarit, Sinaloa, and Sonora fall in the Mountain Time Zone, two hours behind Montreal and Toronto.
Health	There are no special health problems here. Many hospitals have walk-in clinics for emergency cases that are not life-threatening; you may not get immediate attention, but you won't pay emergency room prices. The quality varies, but is often quite high, especially in resort towns.
Safety tips	Despite concerns about safety in Mexico which have been largely created by lurid media reporting, Mexican tourist destinations remain as safe as most other major destinations. 80% of all murders take place in just 6% of the country...and a part that Canadians are unlikely to go anywhere near. About 50,000 Canadian ex-pats live in Mexico. Mexico's former President Felipe Calderon told the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) summit in Las Vegas in 2011 that the murder rate in Mexico was lower than in much of the US. "The rate of homicide

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	<p>is 15-16 per 1,000 – lower than in Washington DC, in Pittsburgh or in New Orleans,” he said. “It is lower than in Puerto Rico. Yucatan has a rate of less than two per 1,000 – similar to places in Europe.” The president also suggested the US bore a responsibility for the increasing violence. He said: “There are 8,000 gun shops along the US side of the border with Mexico. We seized more than 100,000 guns from criminals and 85% were bought in the US.” A sobering thought...</p> <p>Here is a link to an excellent article on the subject from a travel insider that I know well and respect for her balanced judgment: http://travelindustrytoday.com/web/index.php?option=com_k2&view=item&id=14175:mexico-gets-a-bad-rap-time-to-give-it-a-rest&Itemid=64</p> <p>On a more general level – check out my Top Ten Safety Tips: http://www.chrisrobinsontravelshow.ca/Planning/ChrisTop10Lists/Top10VacationSafetyTips.aspx</p>
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CLIMATE	
General climate	Subtropical desert. During the summer, highs can be in the 30s C with occasional showers. Winter evenings may drop to the teens, with daytime highs near 25 C.
Today’s weather	Today is 33 Centigrade and sunny in Los Cabos (20 July 2013)
Best time to visit	The winter season between December and April is perfect for Canadians – almost no rains and warm temperatures from its southerly location. But don’t overlook the summer season too – less Canadian tourists and the weather is generally excellent!

GETTING AROUND	
Getting There	A number of Canadian and US airlines fly from Canada to this destination. Air Canada has direct flights to Cabo in the winter season. The San José del Cabo International Airport (SJD) has recently enjoyed a number of upgrades and expansions that ensure travellers’ added comfort and safety. It is located just 20 minutes north of San José and welcomes domestic, international and private or charter flights year-round. After passing through the customs and immigration area, you might be greeted by time-share salespeople eager to get your attention. Unless you’ve arranged pickup by your hotel, yellow and white mini shuttles are the best way to reach your destination. They won’t depart unless they’re full, so you might have to wait a few minutes. Fares range from \$8 to \$15 per person, depending on your hotel destination.
Cities	The two towns of Cabo San Lucas and San Jose del Cabo are separated by “The Corridor”. Together they are known collectively as Los Cabos.

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Distances	Distances in Mexico can be huge – for instance, it’s a 24 hour drive and 1,760 kms from the US border near San Diego to Cabo at the tip of Baja California.
Ferries	There is a ferry to Mazatlan from La Paz further north on the Baja Peninsula that departs daily at 3:00 p.m. and arrives in Mazatlan at approximately 8:00 a.m. The ferry departs Mazatlan at 3:00 p.m. daily and arrives in La Paz at approximately 8:00 a.m. The duration of the trip is about 15 to 17 hours depending upon wind, weather and currents.
Trains	There are no passenger train services in this region of Mexico.
Car Rental	Some will tell you the best way to see the sights of Los Cabos is by foot, but no matter where you choose to stay, a car is a must if you want to experience both Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo or take a side trip. Car rental agencies can be found at most hotels, in the airport and downtown. The smooth four-lane Corridor highway connecting San José del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas has been improved, now with more safety features. The drive is a breeze from the airport to either town, but surrounding areas are still under development. A government-funded highway patrol — the Green Angels — patrols the Corridor, providing emergency service for people encountering car trouble
Buses	For those who like to do as the locals do, live the adventure of public buses, which run as shuttles between the two towns of San Jose del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas. The ride takes about an hour with highway stops at major hotels along the Corridor. The cost is less than \$2 one way.
Taxis	To get from one town to the other, you can expect to pay about \$36. Red and yellow taxi vans operate in San José; blue and green vans cruise Cabo San Lucas. These vans are available 24 hours a day and are never far away.

ACCOMMODATION TYPES	<p>You will find a wide variety of accommodations from rooms for rent, small economy hotels, luxury oceanfront villas, vacation condominiums, bed and breakfasts, along with luxury resorts.</p> <p>This is where Hotels.com comes in so useful! Just review their wide variety of accommodation options in Cabo and choose the one that best fits your needs, secure in the knowledge that you have got the best rate with a check-out accommodation.</p> <p>Hotels.com offers such a range of properties in Mexico you will be sure to find your perfect place. Here is a sample of just three of the properties on offer from Hotels.com in Cabo San Lucas.</p> <p>The Pueblo Bonito Sunset Beach Resort & Spa - All Inclusive Pueblo Bonito Sunset Beach overlooks a private Pacific Coast beach in Cabo San Lucas. This secluded resort features a contemporary blend of</p>
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Spanish and Mexican architecture. Set within hacienda-style villas, 588 beautiful suites offer luxury accommodations and ocean views from every room.

Delightful flowering gardens are home to flamingos and swans. There are numerous restaurants and bars offering gourmet Mexican and Latin American cuisine, informal family fare, all-day dining, festive theme nights, cocktail and snack bars plus a Cigar bar.

Lounge chairs, cabanas, and umbrellas dot a private beach. Pools and spa tubs are terraced into the mountainside and all pools offer swim-up bars. One pool features a shaded hydrotherapy section that encircles a garden. There are lighted tennis courts and a fitness facility. The full-service European-style spa offers international massage therapies, massages on the beach, and beauty services.

Sandos Finisterra Los Cabos All Inclusive Resort

Nestled on a private beach in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, Sandos Finisterra Los Cabos All Inclusive Resort is within walking distance of downtown and the marina. It is a 35-minute drive from Los Cabos International Airport and there are two golf courses nearby. All the guest rooms in this property were renovated in 2011.

Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones was married at this property. It is close to the distinctive landmark of Cabo San Lucas - the rugged taffy-colored El Arco (The Arch) rock formation that erupts from the sea. Playa del Amour (Lover's Beach) is at the base of the rock formations. The resort offers daily activities including cooking, bar tending and Spanish classes as well as supervised child care/activities. The concierge can arrange offsite activities like golf, fishing and boat excursions.

The property features 3 pools and 4 outdoor hot tubs. Dining options include seafood specialties at Blue Marlin and poolside dining at Palapa Beach Club Bar & Grill. The Whale Watcher Bar offers a spectacular view and is an excellent area for informal gatherings.

Barcelo Los Cabos Palace Deluxe All Inclusive

This luxury, all suites hotel offers a distinguished all inclusive vacation. The Barcelo Los Cabos Palace Deluxe All Inclusive features a total of eight on-site gourmet and casual dining options. Six specialty restaurants include: Coral Grill (Sea Food) El Cortijo (Spanish) Capri (Italian) Bon Vivant (French) Lotus (Japanese) La Hacienda (Steak House) and 2 buffet restaurants with theme nights El Mexicano and El International.

619 brand new junior, one and two bedroom suites are equipped with exquisite and sleek modern interior design and beautifully furnished with dark woods, art glass and touches of Mexican pottery. Signature

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	<p>beds with the finest mattresses, 400 thread Egyptian sheets and cozy duvets will guarantee nightly relaxation and comfort.</p> <p>Guest will be able to enjoy a different show every night with professional performances and live music played by The Barcelo Band. A daily activities program is also available for all ages. Kids can enjoy of their own Barcy Club (ages 4-12) with a Water Park, dedicated mini-pool, movies, sand castle building and puppet shows.</p>
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LIFESTYLES	
Kids	<p>Swim with the Dolphins</p> <p>There are few experiences in life that compare to swimming with dolphins, so make sure to place a visit to Cabo Dolphins at the top of your vacation wish list. They have conveniently located dolphin centres in San Jose del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas; experience the magic you can only feel by swimming with dolphins. They offer a wide selection of fun and interactive programs, so you are sure to find a dolphin swim that is perfect for you and your children.</p> <p>http://www.cabo-adventures.com/tours/dolphins</p>
Teens	<p>Carisuva is an eco-adventure company, provider of unforgettable activity experiences in Los Cabos Area. They offer tours in Baja that are perfect for teens and older families, from ATV Beach & Desert Tour, Side by Side 4x4 Safari, Pacific Beach Horseback riding, Hiking Burro and Sunset horseback riding Tour, all through private trails that run along the desert lunges, virgin pacific beaches, and amazing ocean side cliffs.</p> <p>Based in Playa Migrino just 12 kms north of Cabo San Lucas, Carisuva Ranch is a typical Baja Californian ranch with 43 horses, a fresh water well, farm animals including goats, chickens, friendly donkeys and cows as well and a traditionally built desert hut. The setting is one of peace and tranquility, where the shade of the mystical mesquites and desert palm trees, alongside the gentle Pacific breeze and soothing ocean-side atmosphere, transports anyone to a complete state of relaxation.</p> <p>The support of a highly trained and committed team guarantees safe learning experiences that have been designed for anyone who wants to have fun exploring the natural environment found in Baja California.</p> <p>Website: http://www.ranchocarisuva.com</p>
Adventure	<p>Skydive El Sol</p> <p>Here's your chance to skydive from 13,000 feet with a 1-minute free fall, then a 5-minute canopy ride to a soft landing on the beach, tandem jumping with USPA certified instructors.</p> <p>Address: Camino Viejo a San José, Cabo San Lucas</p> <p>Sierra Buggies</p> <p>Explore Baja on board a 650 cc Sand Spider within the stunning</p>

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	<p>surroundings of the UNESCO protected biosphere reserve, driving through mountain trails and dry river beds, then swimming in one of the sierra's hidden fresh water ponds.</p> <p>http://sierrabuggies.com</p>
Romance	<p>Pamper yourself in the glow of a romantic Mexican sunset on a luxury yacht. There is nothing more peaceful and romantic than sailing across one of the Bays of the Pacific as the crimson sun dips into the deep blue waters of the Pacific.</p>
Honeymoons & Weddings	<p>From a beautiful, well decorated occasion at a luxury resort to a small beach ceremony overlooking the arch, Los Cabos has stunning locations for any style of wedding. The day should be grand, emotional and unforgettable, one that will come to mind for decades to come. And don't forget the activities and amenities that abound for family and friends to play, to dine, dance, party and be pampered like never before.</p>
Seniors	<p>Mexico is a favourite retirement destination for many Canadians and is ideal for longer stay vacations in the cold winter months up north. In this region the pretty town of Todos Santos (see below) is fast becoming a retirement favourite for Americans and Canadians.</p>

UNIQUES	<p>The little town of Todos Santos is 73 kms north of Cabo San Lucas and is one of Mexico's designated "Magical Towns". It's an oasis in a desert peninsula where mango, papaya avocado and sugar cane are grown. It is an artistic town with many galleries and authentic shopping opportunities. The nearby beaches are gorgeous and great for surfing. The restaurants serve up the best Mexican fare. And you can visit the Hotel California of Eagles fame.</p>
Surprising	<p>You can take an Outback & Camel Safari eco-adventure just north of Cabo with Cabo Adventures. In small groups, their off-road Unimogs trucks take you deep into the heart of the Baja outback. Spectacular views, knowledgeable guides, delicious cuisine and an exciting beach camel ride in Rancho San Cristobal make this an exclusive adventure in Baja. During the winter months, keep an eye out for humpback whales as they swim past the ranch.</p>
History	<p>Although the sea of Cortez bears his name, it was not Hernan Cortez, but his navigator, Francisco de Ulloa that was credited with first discovering Cabo San Lucas in 1537.</p> <p>The area was on the sailing route between Acapulco and Asia, however, and therefore made a prime hang out for Dutch and English pirates hoping to intercept the ships of "New Spain" laden with riches. The coves and harbours around the cape provided ideal hideouts for the ones who preyed on the fruitful spoils of passing galleons. Sir Francis Drake came to the area in 1587, and Thomas Cavendish raided the "invincible" galleon Santa Ana off Cabo San Lucas in November 1587, laden with so much gold that its capture depressed the London</p>

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	<p>bullion markets for some time, prompting King Phillip II of Spain to establish a small fortress at Cabo San Lucas to try to rid the waters of "undesirables."</p> <p>With the establishment of a fort, the area was opened up to exploration. Settlements along the Baja began to spring up as pearls were discovered in the Sea of Cortez. In 1730, Nicolás Tamaral, a Jesuit missionary, founded Mission San José del Cabo in an attempt to convert indigenous Pericue tribes and thus end frequent uprisings. The nearby San José estuary was useful to the Spanish as a source of fresh water for galleons traveling en route to and from the Philippines. Those who arrived from the "Old World" suffered from tropical disease, hunger and the wrath of the native Indians. In fact, the church in San Jose del Cabo has a mural above its entrance that shows a Jesuit priest being killed by the Pericues, their hair adorned with pearls and white feathers. The Indian population which was about 75,000 at the time of Cortez arrival dwindled to below 1,000 during the period of Spanish colonization. Somehow, amidst bloody pirate battles, epidemics, hurricanes and famine, Cabo San Lucas managed to survive. Still quite primitive, this coastal area remains as beautiful as it was in the days of Hernan Cortez.</p> <p>Today Los Cabos has evolved from a sleepy hideaway for recluse fishermen and yacht owners into one of Mexico's premier resort destinations.</p>
Books	<p>The Log From the Sea of Cortez by John Steinbeck is a travel classic and is a perfect holiday read for this region of Mexico.</p> <p>Frommer's Mexico 2013 is the bible for travellers to Mexico.</p>
1000 Places to See Before You Die	<p>Whale watching in Baja at the San Ignacio Lagoon, halfway down the long Baja California peninsula. From late January to end March several thousand gray whales come to the safety of these warm, shallow waters to breed.</p>
Must Sees	<p>There are two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in this region of Mexico:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Islands and Protected Areas of the Gulf of California - The Whale Sanctuary of El Vizcaíno

SPORTS ACTIVITIES	
Golf	<p>Golf on the Baja Peninsula is most identified with a wide selection of world-class courses located in Los Cabos. And over the past few years the area has become known as one of the world's premier golf destinations, with increasingly more and more golfers coming here to play.</p> <p>While Cabo's natural terrain is comparable to that found in the Arizona and California desert courses, what sets this destination apart is the Sea of Cortes, which many of the holes on these courses run adjacent to. Here are some suggestions:</p>

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	<p>Puerto Los Cabos Golf Club Nowhere can you play 18-holes of championship golf with each of the nine holes from two great designers Jack Nicklaus and Greg Norman. When completed, Puerto Los Cabos will boast two championship courses designed by Jack Nicklaus and Greg Norman. Today, the course consists of an initial opening 18 holes which is a composite design consisting of 9 holes from the Jack Nicklaus design and 9 holes from the Greg Norman design. This unique opportunity will allow golfers to experience the difference in design philosophies and enjoy a “sneak-peek” of the future work to come.</p> <p>Querencia Golf Club Designed to take its place among the world’s most prestigious private golf communities, Querencia offers a Tom Fazio designed championship golf course nestled within an exclusive 880-acre community along the Sea of Cortes in the Los Cabos Corridor. The landscape is reminiscent of a desert setting but with bold topography and long-range ocean views. Its unsurpassed natural beauty is accented with contoured fairways and imported bullseye Bermuda grasses.</p> <p>Palmilla Golf Resort Any discussion of golf in Los Cabos must include Palmilla. Designed by Jack Nicklaus, and set upon a landscape with a unique blending of desert and sea, it is the only 27-hole course in Los Cabos. The Arroyo Nine, the back Mountain Nine, and the Ocean Nine are traditionally Mexican in flavor. Discussing the Ocean course, Nicklaus said it was like “designing mountains by the sea” with nearly every hole having its own view of the Sea of Cortes.</p>
Fishing	<p>In Los Cabos, sport fishing is an activity that attracts tourists from all over the world. There are over 500 fishing vessels waiting to take you where the Sea of Cortés meets the Pacific, where these two bodies of water join in a tumult of marlin and swordfish, wahoo, dorado and yellowtail, snapper, cabrilla, corvina and roosterfish, and where 12,000 of these creatures of the deep are caught every year, with most released to fight another day.</p> <p>Picante Sportfishing Picante Sportfishing has 18 fully equipped yachts available for sportfishing and cruising. They come with experienced crews and range in size from 24-ft. to 78-ft., accommodating 4-12 guests. Address: Plaza Puerto Paraiso Local 39-A Marina Cabo, Cabo San Lucas http://picantesportfishing.com</p>

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	<p>The Little Beach in San Jose del Cabo is the home of La Playa Sportfishing, the local Panga Fishing Fleet. Although this area is not recommended for swimming, it's a great place to watch the local fishermen land their catch and the entertainment will be in clear view all day long.</p>
Horse riding	<p>The desert landscape behind the coastal strip is wonderful terrain for horseback riding...</p> <p>Red Rose Riding Stables have a stable of healthy, well trained horses for beach and private trail rides that are suitable for beginners or experts. You have a choice of Western or English saddles, and lessons are also available.</p> <p>Address: Km. 4 Carretera Transpeninsular, Cabo San Lucas</p> <p>Cuadra San Francisco Equestrian Center</p> <p>They accommodate riders of all levels of experience at Los Cabos' premiere riding stable and Equestrian Centre, located very close to Cabo San Lucas.</p> <p>Address: Km. 19.5 Carretera Transpeninsular, The Corridor,</p> <p>Cabo San Lucas Tours can also arrange for you to experience the bliss of riding horseback on the beaches of Cabo San Lucas; feel the wind blowing in your hair as the ocean breeze cools your skin.</p> <p>Tel: (866) 348-6286</p>
Hiking	<p>There are two types of hiking opportunities here. There are the gentle strolls along many of the expansive beaches, some with whale watching opportunities in season. And then there's the rugged hikes in the desert hinterland of Los Cabos where you need to make serious preparations for any longer hike.</p>
Cycling	<p>Whether you are an experienced cyclist or a first-time mountain biker, Cabo Adventures' Mountain Bike Adventure is an enjoyable way to experience the outback of Cabo. With expert guides, you will be set-up on modern, all-terrain bikes, fitted just for you, and taken on an enjoyable ride down cactus-lined tracks to a stunning hidden beach overlooking the Pacific. Your ride ends with an authentic Mexican feast and celebratory drink.</p> <p>http://www.cabo-adventures.com</p> <p>Vela Baja</p> <p>Los Barriles has long sandy beaches, nice hotels, great restaurants, world-class mountain biking with over 70 kms of single and double track trails for all levels, and of course, unbelievably fun windsurfing and kitesurfing.</p> <p>Address: Playa del Sol Los Barriles, East Cape</p> <p>http://velawindsurf.com</p>
Canopy Tours	<p>A popular adventure activity from most of the coastal resorts in Mexico is canopy tours. You glide from perch to perch, getting an up-close-and-personal look at a tropical rainforest canopy or the desert</p>

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	<p>scenery and the trails far below. Expert guides assist you to the special platforms, and you move from one to another using pulleys on horizontal traverse cables, while the guides explain the natural world surrounding you. They also offer assistance - and moral support - as you rappel back down to the floor.</p> <p>Canopy Costa Azul</p> <p>At the Costa Azul canyon you can take part in an exciting cable ride high above the canyon. While suspended safely in a harness, you'll fly across the trails and over the river of this incredible eco park. The fun starts as you get connected to the cable by the instructors then you are off the platform and above the cliffs and canyons, at over 300 feet in the air and at 80 kilometers per hour across several kilometers of cables with only the wind at your side and nothing above you but clear sky, you won't get any closer to flying than this!</p> <p>Address: Playa Costa Azul Km 28.5 Carretera Transpeninsular, San José del Cabo</p> <p>http://www.costaazulziplines.com</p>
<p>Diving</p>	<p>Cabo Adventures – PADI Scuba Diving</p> <p>Cabo Adventures is the only PADI 5 Star Gold palm resort in Los Cabos, offering world class diving experiences. Their 47ft Scuba Adventure boat, complete with bathroom and showers takes you to the best diving spots close to the famous arch of Los Cabos. If you are a first time diver or an experienced underwater expert, their highly qualified dive staff will make sure that your adventure is unforgettable.</p> <p>Address: Av. Paseo de la marina, Lote 7 Col. Centro, Cabo San Lucas</p> <p>http://www.cabo-adventures.com</p>
<p>Surfing</p>	<p>Mike Doyle Surf School</p> <p>Mike Doyle Surf School offers professional surfing instruction with focus on Fun, Fitness, Team Work, Morale Building and Surf Parties! They have private lessons as well as group lessons. If you are a surf enthusiast, you will appreciate the Cabo Surf Shop on the premises of the Cabo Surf Hotel, with its large rental fleet of Surftech boards that include: long boards, short boards, soft boards, boogie boards and Stand Up Paddleboards. No need to fly the boards down and risk damages or mishandling.</p> <p>Address: Cabo Surf Hotel Beachside Playa Acapulquito, Km. 28, San José del Cabo</p> <p>http://mikedoylesurfschool.com</p>

<p>CULTURE</p>	
<p>Arts</p>	<p>Missionaries who were familiar with the cave paintings found in the Sierra de la Laguna mountains above Los Cabos asked the native Cochimi about them and were told they were done by a race of giant people long ago. If you visit these rugged hills set against a backdrop of light, sea, sky, mountains and desert, you will begin to understand how</p>

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	<p>the creative psyche can be awakened, and why Los Cabos has become a mecca for artists and art galleries, such as....</p> <p>Galería- La Grande This is Baja's largest art gallery, with more than 2,000 original paintings from every region of Mexico. It is a perfect place to find art portraying the spectacular beauty of Mexican scenery as well as the warmth of the Mexican people and their culture. Address; Plaza Nautica Local D1, Cabo San Lucas</p> <p>Golden Cactus Gallery As the oldest gallery in Los Cabos, the focus here is on the Romance of Mexico. It continues to be one of its most visited galleries in all of Los Cabos and still functions as an active artist studio. Address: Guerrero y Madero STS, Cabo San Lucas,</p>
Music	Ranchera, Mariachi and Sones are the traditional forms of music that can be heard throughout this part of Mexico.
Films	<p>Films starring Mexico –</p> <p>Elia Kazan's 1952 classic, Viva Zapata!, written by John Steinbeck, stars Marlon Brando as revolutionary Emiliano Zapata. Orson Welles's 1958 film noir Touch of Evil looks at drugs and corruption in Tijuana</p> <p>The adaptation of Carlos Fuentes' novel The Old Gringo (1989), a love triangle set during the Mexican Revolution, was filmed with Gregory Peck, Jane Fonda, and a young Jimmy Smits in numerous locations in five Mexican states.</p> <p>HBO's 2003 flick And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself, with Antonio Banderas, is the true story of how revolutionaries allowed Hollywood to film Pancho Villa in battle.</p> <p>Man on Fire (2004), with Denzel Washington as a bodyguard hired to protect a little girl, is full of great Mexico City scenes.</p> <p>Stephen Soderbergh's Academy Award-winning Traffic (2000), with Benicio del Toro, has powerful scenes focusing on Tijuana's drug war.</p> <p>Mel Gibson's controversial Apocalypto (2006) cast indigenous Maya to depict the Maya empire's waning days; the rainforests of Veracruz state stand in for the lush jungles that must have covered the Yucatán centuries ago.</p>
Museums	<p>Museo de las Californias, Cabo San Lucas</p> <p>This tiny museum has an endearing yet fascinating collection of historical artifacts, including maps, tools and journals going back to the 16th-century expeditions of the legendary conquistador Hernán Cortés. Its main focus, though, is on fossils from the local Sierra de la Laguna range. Look for the huge whale skeleton outside its entrance.</p>
Festivals	<p>Carnival in Mexico</p> <p>In Mexico, thanks to the deeply-ingrained religious tradition, there are colourful carnivals taking place all year long for you to join in with, though above all around Easter week, between March and April.</p>

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	<p>For one week each year, the streets of many towns and cities explode with merry-making. For the duration of the Carnival, the town or city crowns a king and queen, who lead the festivities. Generally the Carnival queen is a beautiful local lady, or an actress or singer, while the king, who is called the “Ugly king” or “King of joy”, is a representation of Momus, the Greek god of madness and mockery. The Carnivals are full of music, food and drinking. The symbolism is made clear from the start, with many Carnivals commencing with the “burning of the bad mood”, in the form of a figure that is set on fire to declare the party has begun.</p> <p>Then there are the celebrations for the Day of the Dead, in November, where the festival, colorful as it is, also shows signs of the syncretism between the different cultures that give Mexico its identity.</p> <p>San José del Cabo celebrates the feast of its patron saint on March 19. The patron saint of San Bartolo, a village 100km north is feted June 19, and the patron of Santiago, 55km north, July 25. They're all occasions for a rip-roaring Mexican country good time, with music, dancing, horse races, rodeos, rides, religious processions, and lots and lots of sweets for sale from streetside booths. San José's fiesta, in particular, is a reason in itself to make the trip, together with thousands of others from all over southern Baja who come to town for a whole week of partying.</p>
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ATTRACTIONS	
Beaches	<p>Dramatic rock formations and crashing waves join forces with wide stretches of soft sand and rolling surf breaks. Start at Playa Palmilla and work your way down the Tourist Corridor to the famed Lover's Beach at Land's End. Some beaches are more appropriate for contemplation than for swimming.</p> <p>In San Jose del Cabo, the Ganzo de Playa is located in the Marina of Puerto Los Cabos. The beach is safe to swim and offers non-motorized activities such as SUP, canoe or kayak. Ganzo de Playa Restaurant offers casual grill fare.</p> <p>Playa San Pedrito on the Pacific coast in the west of the destination is a popular surfing beach now called El Pescadero after the fishing village nearby. In season, whales spout near the shore.</p> <p>Lover's Beach in Cabo San Lucas is a must do, particularly for couples, as it is tucked away on San Lucas Bay, partially secluded, just before El Arco at the Tip of Baja. To reach the shores of Lover's Beach, you'll need to come by way of the sea. Hire a water taxi at the marina, and the captain will take you there, along the way touring the diving areas around El Arco, Neptune's Fingers and Sand Falls.</p>
Wildlife	<p>The waters along Los Cabos' Pacific coast are characterized by ocean swells and upwellings of deep water, and because of the ocean's</p>

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	<p>distant weather patterns, heavy surf can arise for weeks at a time. The California Current keeps water temperatures lower than would be expected, typically between 50 and 75 degrees, gradually warming as the water moves south. Tropical storms called chubascos can bring torrential rains and heavy winds from mid-May to mid-November, peaking in August and September.</p> <p>Plants in the Cape region of Los Cabos consist of cacti, yuccas, and various shrubs and, at low elevations, trees like palo blanco and palo verde. Just south, many familiar desert plants like ocotillo, ironwood, creosote bush, mesquite, agave, and various cacti, including the infamous jumping cholla can be found. While this is a desert environment, there are relatively well-watered areas that support distinctly non-desert vegetation, especially in the mountains where forests of pine, cedar, fir, aspen, and oak can be found.</p> <p>Encounters with coyotes and roadrunners are common here, as well as the not-so-common sightings of mule deer, mountain lion, bighorn sheep, antelope, and smaller animals such as fox, rabbit, bobcat, skunk, badger, raccoon, and a host of others.</p> <p>Many reptile species also inhabit Los Cabos' desert surroundings, including various species of rattlesnake and whiptail, king, and gopher snakes, and numerous iguanids, geckos, and lizards. And with an abundance of deserts, bays, mangrove lagoons, and forested peaks, a diverse mixture of bird life exists.</p>
<p>Parks</p>	<p>Parque Nacional Cabo Pulmo</p> <p>Cabo Pulmo Park is located just 100 kms north of Baja's tourism epicenter, Los Cabos. This jewel of the East Cape region of Baja California Sur stretches five miles from the northernmost tip, Pulmo Point to the southernmost tip, Los Frailes. Surrounded by undeveloped desert and a stunning mountain range, the pristine beaches of Cabo Pulmo Park give way to a shallow bay that cradles one of three living reefs (the only hard coral reef) in North America.</p> <p>For many years, this precious place went unprotected. But through the tenacious efforts of the Cabo Pulmo community, in 1995, the waters offshore from Cabo Pulmo were designated a National Marine Park by the Mexican government.</p> <p>Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park attracts many visitors for several reasons, it offers clear water and coral reefs below the surface that provide outstanding scuba diving and snorkelling views. Kayakers regularly arrive here and enjoy close sightings of the sea lion colony nearby. Several resorts are in this area if you choose to stay nearby and many watersport guides and tours are available. This is a good spot for whale viewing in January through March.</p>
<p>Historical Sites</p>	<p>Centro Histórico de San José del Cabo</p> <p>Take a walk around San José del Cabo and note the old facades that</p>

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	have been renovated to their original splendour and most restaurants maintain the tradition of colonial courtyards. Recent additions to Historic San José include a newly restored plaza.
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OTHER ACTIVITIES	
Shopping	<p>Whether it's handcrafted goods made by locals using centuries-old methods, chic boutiques offering well-known brand names, fine art, tee-shirts, sombreros, silver, ceramics and more, shoppers are welcome anywhere throughout Land's End.</p> <p>Necri For gorgeous hand-painted pieces, visit Necri, where you will find authentic Talavera, not imitations as may be found in other shops and markets. This type of pottery is a proud inheritance from the country's Spanish roots. The store showcases the craftsmanship and beauty of Mexican handicrafts while reflecting the warmth of Mexico and an expert knowledge of the stories behind the art. Shipping is available back to Canada. http://necri.com.mx</p>
Markets	If you fancy a lively bargaining session, visit the Flea Market at the Marina on the marina in Cabo San Lucas.
Nightlife	<p>As the song goes, "night life is the right life" And in Los Cabos, the locals put those lyrics into practice. As the sun slips into the horizon, the sizzle you hear is the sound of the nightlife heating up in Cabo San Lucas... at Billygan's Island, Las Palmas, Mango Deck or The Office. Later, it's Cabo Wabo Cantina, The Giggling Marlin, The Hard Rock Cafe, or El Squid Roe, then the Body Shot Night Club, Mambo Cafe, Nikki Beach or Zoo Bar & Dance. Down the road in San Jose del Cabo head to Tropicana and the Iguana Bar & Grill.</p> <p>Also new to Cabo's long list of fantastic dining and nightlife options, KISS rock legends Paul Stanley and co-founder Gene Simmons joined forces to open the first international location of Simmons restaurant venture, Rock & Brews, in Los Cabos. The restaurant will feature a unique, concert-themed atmosphere and offer al fresco dining, taking advantage of Cabo's near perfect, year-round weather.</p>

CUISINE	
Food	<p>Mexican cuisine is known for its intense and varied flavors, colorful decoration, and variety of spices. Most of today's Mexican food is based on pre-Columbian traditions, including the Aztecs and Maya, combined with culinary trends introduced by Spanish colonists.</p> <p>The conquistadores eventually combined their imported diet of rice, beef, pork, chicken, wine, garlic and onions with the native pre-Columbian food, including maize, tomato, vanilla, avocado, guava, papaya, pineapple, chili pepper, beans, squash, sweet potato, peanut,</p>

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	<p>and turkey.</p> <p>Mexican food varies by region, because of local climate and geography and ethnic differences among the indigenous inhabitants.</p> <p>In modern times, other cuisines of the world have become very popular in Mexico, thus adopting a Mexican fusion. For example, sushi in Mexico is often made with a variety of sauces based on mango or tamarind, and very often served with serrano-chili-blended soy sauce, or complemented with vinegar, habanero and chipotle peppers</p> <p>The most internationally recognized dishes include chocolate, tacos, quesadillas, enchiladas, burritos, tamales and mole among others.</p> <p>Regional dishes include mole poblano, chiles en nogada and chalupas from Puebla; cabrito and machaca from Monterrey, cochinita pibil from Yucatán, Tlayudas from Oaxaca, as well as barbacoa, chilaquiles, milanesas, and many others.</p>
Mescal	<p>Mezcal, or mescal, is a distilled alcoholic beverage made from the maguey or agave plant that is native to Mexico. The word “mezcal” comes from Nahuatl “mexcalmetl,” which means agave or maguey. This plant grows in many parts of Mexico but most mezcal is made in Oaxaca. There is a saying attributed to Oaxaca regarding the drink: "para todo mal, mezcal y para todo bien también" (for everything bad, mezcal, and for everything good, too.)</p>
Wine	<p>Although relatively unknown in Canada, there is a thriving wine industry in northern Baja California.</p> <p>The Guadalupe Valley just northeast of Ensenada is at the forefront of the Baja wine movement and has over 50 wineries – artisan, boutique, and commercial, both large and small who are producing some remarkable wines.</p> <p>The wine producing regions of Baja, like wine itself, have gotten better with age. In the past few years there has been an explosion of creative juices flowing south of the border as new and exciting wineries and wines are popping up seemingly overnight. Some have called it the “renaissance of Baja’s wine country” and the excitement is growing. You should definitely sample some of these local wines while in Cabo.</p>
Restaurants	<p>Don Emiliano (San José del Cabo; www.donemiliano.com.mx): Don Emiliano wields farm-fresh ingredients laced with Mexican tradition and emerges from the kitchen with modern delights such as stepped-up chile en nogada for Día de Independencia and lemon atole with candied pumpkin for Day of the Dead. Don't miss the regular menu, which combines the likes of locally made cheeses with roasted tomatillos and dried hibiscus flowers with beef tenderloin.</p> <p>Don Sanchez Restaurant</p> <p>Don Sanchez can best be described as “Contemporary Baja Fusion” offering a vast selection of steaks and local seafood complemented by farm fresh organic produce coupled with a fine wine selection of over</p>

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	<p>300 labels. Address: Blvd. Mijares s/n Edificio Eclipse Int 3, San José del Cabo, Baja California Sur, Mexico, San Jose del Cabo http://www.donsanchezrestaurant.com Mi Casa de Mariscos As the name suggests, this is very much a “seafood home” and the warm Mexican decor goes well with a long menu of savory dishes, from a whole fried red snapper to a special shrimp steak with bacon over fried onions. Address: Camino Viejo a San José s/n Col. El Medano, Cabo San Lucas</p>
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MORE INFO	
Website	<p>Websites: www.visitmexico.com http://visitloscabos.travel Mexico on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/WeVisitMexico Follow Mexico on Twitter: https://twitter.com/%21/WeVisitMexico For my Pinterest photos on Mexico: http://pinterest.com/travelshow</p>

HOTEL PRIZE PARTNER	<p>The Pueblo Bonito Sunset Beach Resort & Spa - All Inclusive Address: Predio Paraiso Escondido S/N, Cabo San Lucas, 23450 Mexico Tel: 1-866-299-2910</p>
Location	<p>The Pueblo Bonito Sunset Beach Resort & Spa - All Inclusive is located on the western tip of the Baja California Peninsula that overlooks a private Pacific Coast beach in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico.</p>
Facilities	<p>This secluded resort features a contemporary blend of Spanish and Mexican architecture. The lobby is adorned with dark wood beam ceilings, marble floors, antiques and wrought iron and glass chandeliers. Flowering gardens, flamingos and swans occupy the terraced grounds.</p>
Accommodation	<p>This all-suite resort features Junior, Master and Penthouse Suites. Many accommodations offer private balconies or terraces with ocean views. All suites feature minibars, coffeemakers, refrigerators, blenders and a dining area with tables and chairs for four. Marble bathrooms are equipped with bathrobes. Beds feature pillow-top mattresses. Suites have satellite television with premium channels. Connecting rooms are available.</p>
Activities	<p>Outdoor freeform pools and spa tubs are terraced into the mountainside at three locations. All pools are constructed with swim-up bars while one pool features a shaded hydrotherapy section that encircles a garden. Lounge chairs, cabanas, and umbrellas dot a private beach. Lighted tennis courts allow night matches (surcharge applies for court use). A fitness facility contains cardiovascular and strength-training equipment.</p>

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	A full-service European-style spa offers international massage therapies, massages on the beach, and beauty services.
Restaurants	This resort houses numerous restaurants and bars. Frida restaurant features gourmet Mexican and Latin American cuisine. Informal family fare is served at The Bistro . La Nao offers all-day dining and festive theme nights. Manila Bar serves light fare, wine and spirits. The poolside Aquabar features snacks and cocktails. Premium handmade cigars and wine by the glass are available in the Cigar Bar . The Lobby Bar offers espresso drinks and specialty martinis. Catering is available for special events.
Spa	There is a full service spa at this resort offering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ayurvedic treatments - Beauty services - Body scrubs - Body treatments and Body wraps - Facial treatments - Manicures and pedicures - Massages (including on the beach)
Activities	The following activities are available at this resort or close to it: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fitness facilities - Health club - Sauna - Spa tub - Steam room - Swimming pool - children's - Swimming pool- outdoor (6) - Tennis courts on site - Aerobics (onsite) - Basketball (onsite) - Hiking/biking trails (nearby) - Horse riding/rental (nearby) - Mountain biking (nearby) - Volleyball (onsite) - Yoga classes/instruction (onsite) - Skydiving (nearby) - Fishing (nearby) - Parasailing (nearby) - Personal motorized watercraft (onsite) - Sailing (nearby) - Scuba diving and Snorkeling (nearby) - Surfing/boogie boarding (nearby) - Waterskiing (nearby) - Helicopter/airplane sightseeing (nearby) - Whale-watching (nearby)

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	- Golfing (nearby)
Kids	<p>The is a kids club here for ages 4 – 11 that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arts and crafts - Beach activities - Lunch/buffet - Movies - Playground - Pool activities - Snack area - Video games
Awards	<p>Among the many awards bestowed on this resort are:</p> <p>Conde Nast Traveler's Gold List 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2013 -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Ranked as one of the best places to stay <p>Trip Advisor Travelers' Choice 2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ranked among the Top 25 Luxury Hotels in Mexico - Ranked among the Top 25 Relaxation/Spa Hotels in Mexico

PERSONAL EXPERIENCES	<p>I will broadcasting live and on-location from Cabo for the Travel Shows on July 20th, 2013 so look out for the travel blog and Pinterest board on this destination in the following days:</p> <p>Travel Blog: www.chrisrobinsontravelshow.ca/Blog.aspx</p> <p>Pinterest: http://pinterest.com/travelshow</p>
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