

LOS CABOS & SOUTH BAJA

by Michelle Monroy

Los Cabos (the capes) is in the southern most tip of the State of Baja California Sur and consists of three main areas: **Cabo San Lucas, San José del Cabo** and the **East Cape**. In between, along the coast as well as inland, you will find smaller towns and points of interest such as **Santiago** and **Miraflores**.

THE BAJA SUR LOOP

If you look at the Baja Sur map you can see that the highways and towns form a **loop**. There are ongoing road improvements and new highway constructions, so getting from one place to another will only get easier. The new highway from Cabo San Lucas to Todos Santos is impressively well done, making it only 45 minutes away.

Cabo San Lucas

Also just known as “Cabo”, is a tourist friendly town located on the tip of the Baja California peninsula that’s **full of entertainment** for every age and liking. You will find the Sea of Cortez and the Pacific Ocean meeting at **land’s end** and the beautiful rock formations that create the famous **Cabo arch**. Cabo San Lucas has the liveliest beach in the Los Cabos area, an impressive marina and countless restaurants and bars that keep the town **alive day and night**.

The Corridor

A 40 Km highway that **connects Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo** (about a 25 minute drive). Along this road you can find various hotels, luxury ocean front homes, championship golf courses and beautiful views. Have your camera ready to snap some photos of the beautiful beaches and make a roadside stop at the Cabo Real arroyo for a refreshing *coco frío* (cold coconut).

San José del Cabo

Walking around San José will be more of a **traditional Mexican town** experience than Cabo San Lucas. You will find yourself surrounded by colorful buildings and quaint cobblestone streets that lead to the town’s picturesque *zócalo* (main plaza). Over the years, San José has become an artistic and cultural centre with numerous fine art galleries in its downtown **art district**. From November through June the popular “Art Walk” takes place every Thursday evening where the galleries welcome guests to view their exhibits, sip wine and dine at one of the five star restaurants. San José has a beautiful beach where you can take a horseback ride and explore the **estuary** that is home to many different bird species.

Todos Santos

Located on the Pacific Ocean side, Todos Santos is an oasis where **artists and surfers** flock to enjoy the culture and excellent surf. Home to the famous **Hotel California**, this charming town offers great restaurants and a **cooler climate** than Cabo San Lucas and San José due to the Pacific’s breezes.

La Paz

La Paz is the **capital of the state of Baja California Sur** and is known for its warm people and beautiful beaches. This authentic Mexican city (as well as the general south Baja region) has been rated as one of the safest in Mexico and still maintains the small town feel that is very welcoming for tourists. La Paz is a departure point for tours and charters to the stunning **Espiritu Santo Island** as well as whale watching excursions. Stroll down the colorful malecón (boardwalk), walk hundreds of feet in waist high water at Balandra beach or have a fine dining experience; La Paz has a lot to offer.

East Cape

People often call it “**the old Cabo**” because of its **pristine beaches** and small **fishing towns** such as Buena Vista and Los Barriles. The East Cape begins just east of San José and extends about 100 miles up the Sea of Cortez coast. 60 miles outside of San José is the **Cabo Pulmo National Marine Park**, an eight fingered coral reef that offers outstanding snorkelling and scuba diving. Very popular for fishing and surfing, the East Cape also attracts kite surfers and **folks who just want to get away from it all**. *

