

CULTURAL GUIDES

A cultural guide to *Los Cabos*

By Martina Sheehan

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Cool Pacific waters rich in marine life, adventure sports, and a lively art district make these two Baja towns one of Mexico's most dynamic destinations

Your essential guide to the best things to see and do in Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo. Find more travel inspiration for more amazing cities [here](#).

Los Cabos' setting at the tip of [Baja California](#) is as dramatic as they come, with breathtaking views of the Sea of Cortez meeting the Pacific Ocean. Made up of two towns—Cabo San Lucas and San José del Cabo—each offers a dazzling coast, dotted with craggy rock formations and pristine white beaches that serve as a playground for surfers, kayakers, and whale watchers.

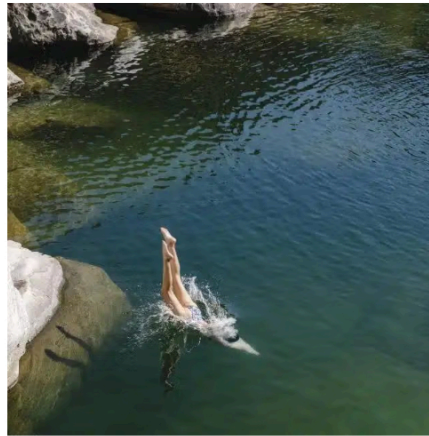
Cabo San Lucas, often shortened to Cabo, is the larger and livelier of the two destinations that make up Los Cabos. It's a classic Mexican resort town with plenty of nightlife and a huge range of hotels, a hit with everyone from spring breakers to families. Meanwhile, San José del Cabo, an 18-mile drive up the four-

lane coastal highway known as the Tourist Corridor, is its more laid-back, bohemian sister village where you'll find intriguing art galleries and some of the region's best restaurants.

Both Cabos boast brightly painted Spanish colonial architecture and a striking desert-meets-beach landscape, and each has much to offer on the cultural front: Visit San José del Cabo in June for surf and music fest [Los Cabos Open of Surf](#), or hit Cabo San Lucas in early December for the [Sabor a Cabo](#) food and wine festival (the [Los Cabos International Film Festival](#), which is arguably the area's biggest event, was cancelled in 2023 but is returning for 2024).



● Handcrafted angels make for a pretty souvenir



● Dive head first into Cabo's beach scene

Art & architecture

When it comes to culture, San José del Cabo is the favored sibling, with its lively [Arts District](#) a major draw. Head to the area behind the church in the historic center to browse the many galleries, including [Frank Arnold](#) for paintings and cast bronze sculptures; the always-welcoming [Patricia Mendoza Art Gallery](#) for contemporary art that embodies Mexican “feelings and visions”; and [Ivan Guaderrama](#), where colorful, interactive, spiritually themed art often incorporates technology.

Meanwhile, the [San José Art Walk](#) is one of Los Cabos' most popular events, even for those who wouldn't normally seek out galleries or museums on a beach vacation. Every Thursday evening, November through June, the cobble streets of the district are closed to traffic, bands play in the streets, new exhibitions are unveiled, and dinners are enjoyed al fresco.

Also consider a day trip to the artists' colony of [Todos Santos](#), about an hour from Cabo San Lucas. The town—designated an official “*Pueblo Mágico*” by Mexico's government for its beauty, and historical and cultural relevance—is just starting to hit the radar of savvy, culture-loving travelers, thanks to its quiet, easygoing village vibes. Browse shops like [Nomad Chic](#) or [Pronto Muy Pronto](#) for clothing and housewares, and [La Sonrisa de la Muerte](#) for hip graphic prints and artist-designed T-shirts. And be sure to pop into some of the galleries—[Galería Logan](#) and [Galería de Todos Santos](#) are two favorites. Also worth a peek: the [Profesor Néstor Agúndez Martínez Cultural Center](#), housed in a former school, which features exhibitions on local history, photography, paintings, and

indigenous pottery.

[Hotel](#)

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Where to?

Cabo San Lucas, B...



Dates

Mar 30 - Apr 6



Travelers

2 travelers, 1 room

Search



● [Book a food tour to sample local cuisine](#)

Food & drink

In Cabo San Lucas, head to [La Lupita](#) for classic and modern tacos; colorful [Edith's](#) for upscale Mexican, steak, and seafood; or [Nicksan](#) for award-winning Japanese with a Mexican twist. A [local food tour](#) is a great way to sample Cabo specialties, too. Or, for something upscale, a new wave of luxury hotels has elevated the dining scene: We particularly love El Farallon at the [Waldorf Astoria Los Cabos Pedregal](#) and La Roca at [Grand Solmar Lands End Resort And Spa](#).



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Meanwhile, San José del Cabo cements its reputation as a bastion of good eats by offering everything from the savory sizzle of streetside tacos to chef-driven fine dining and trendy farm-to-table outposts. Among the highlights are the casual, family-run [Tacos Rossy](#) for a seafood-forward taco menu; and [Los Tres Gallos](#), a charming courtyard restaurant serving Mexican classics. For a dinner that's more of an experience than just a meal, visit one of the two local farm-set restaurants: Both [Flora's Field Kitchen](#) and [Acre](#) are set on 25-acre farms and serve hyper-locally sourced, contemporary Mexican fare in elegant garden settings. Both also offer accommodations, and Acre includes an animal

settings. Both also offer [accommodations](#), and Acre includes an animal sanctuary.

Shopping

Souvenir seekers can treat friends and family to some fantastic *hecho en Mexico* gifts they'll truly appreciate, thanks to Los Cabos' many boutiques and artisan shops: Think folk-art masks from [Zen-Mar](#), handmade pottery from [Cobalto](#), and art and sculpture from [La Sacristia Art & History](#). Cabo is also home to several glass studios where you can watch artists at work, including [Vitrofundición y Arte Glass Factory](#) and [The Glass Factory](#). Meanwhile, find traditional Mexican silverwork at [Silver Exposure](#) and [Ayla](#). Not sure what you're looking for? [Flora Farms'](#) shops offer well-curated collections of everything from bespoke fragrances and Mexican wines to handmade soaps, fair-trade housewares, and more.

Key neighborhoods

[Medano Beach](#) [Downtown San José del Cabo](#) [Pedregal](#)

Overview

At the heart of Cabo San Lucas, [Medano Beach](#) is close to everything from downtown's restaurants and vibrant nightlife to excursions and a variety of hotels. Plus, it's one of Cabo San Lucas's few beaches that are safe for swimming. You'll also find that famously buzzy beach party atmosphere, as well as watersports.

Try parasailing, boogie boarding, or paddleboarding, or just kick back for some people-watching at one of the many beachside bars. Whale-watching tours pick up here, too—time your trip between December and April to spot eight species.

What's Nearby

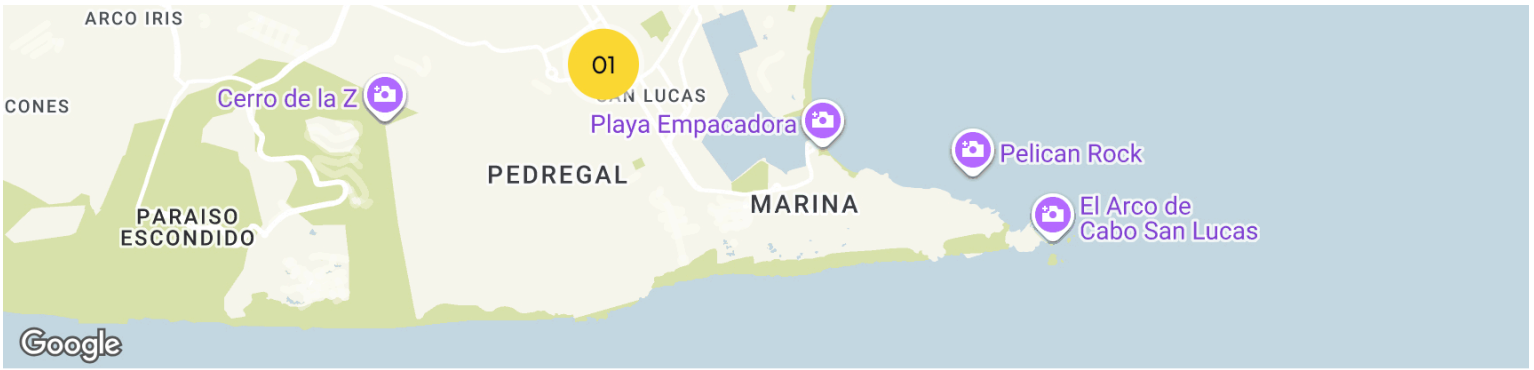


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Martina Sheehan
Writer



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