



ECOLOGY PROJECT  
INTERNATIONAL

# BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

## DESERT & COASTAL ECOLOGY

STUDY DESERT ECOLOGY | SNORKEL WITH MARINE LIFE | EXPLORE URBAN SUSTAINABILITY



### WELCOME TO BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

The charming capital of Baja California Sur, La Paz, is the ideal basecamp to experience the desert and coastal ecology of the peninsula. On daily field excursions, you'll contribute to both marine and terrestrial studies and you'll see community sustainability in action through immersive cultural experiences.



### YOUR FIELD WORK

You'll explore the desert ecosystems around La Paz and the Sierra Cacachilas, observing the resilient flora and fauna that thrive in this arid region. In the aquamarine waters of the Gulf, you'll practice your snorkeling skills, conduct an underwater tropical fish survey, and contribute to a coral reef restoration project.



### A CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY

EPI's campus on the edge of the desert offers a hands-on setting to learn about sustainable living and community education. Local eco-club members will provide insights on urban green infrastructure initiatives in La Paz—preserving the incredible natural environment that envelops this dynamic coastal community.w

• INSPIRING STUDENTS WITH NATURE & EMPOWERING THEM WITH SCIENCE •



# BAJA DESERT & COASTAL ECOLOGY SAMPLE ITINERARY



## DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR

- Head north from the airport to La Paz, Baja California Sur
- Familiarize yourself with your instructors and discover EPI's campus

## DAY 2: EXPLORE LA PAZ AND ITS NATURAL HISTORY

- Explore a local hiking trail and spend time learning about Leave No Trace ethics
- Visit the Museum of Anthropology

## DAY 3: INVESTIGATE THE DESERT ECOSYSTEM

- Delve into the intricate world of permaculture at Rancho Cacachilas
- Explore how life has adapted to living in the desert
- Meet with a local youth eco-club to exchange ideas on how to make communities more sustainable

## DAY 4-5: GIVE BACK TO THE COAST

- Visit a local beach to implement the REEF.org protocol for marine biodiversity monitoring
- Participate in the Red de Observadores Ciudadanos (ROC) beach clean-up protocol to assess and mitigate coastal pollution

## DAYS 6: EXPLORE A CORAL REEF

- Work on a coral restoration project, contributing to marine conservation efforts
- Enjoy a city tour to explore the culture, history, and daily life of La Paz

## DAY 7: SEARCH FOR MARINE LIFE

- Explore one of the largest sea lion rookeries in the region, gaining insight into their behavior and habitat
- Conduct a second round of the ROC beach clean-up protocol at a different site to compare environmental factors

## DAY 8: DEPART FOR THE CABO SAN LUCAS AIRPORT

Length	Research & Service Hours	Coursework Hours	Focus
8 Days	6	30	Desert ecology, marine ecology, sustainable community practices



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