



**ECOLOGY PROJECT**  
INTERNATIONAL

# BAJA WHALE ECOLOGY

STUDY GREY WHALES | SNORKEL IN THE BAY OF CALIFORNIA | VISIT A SEA LION ROOKERY



## THE WORLD OF WHALES

Thirty-three species of cetaceans can be found in the calm, nutrient-rich waters surrounding Baja California Sur, from mega-pods of dolphins to the largest creature ever to exist on earth—the blue whale. While in Baja, you'll actively participate in ongoing studies focused on the amiable and inquisitive grey whale.



## YOUR FIELD WORK

Your field work will take place in Bahia Almejas, the southernmost grey whale calving grounds in Baja California Sur. Alongside EPI instructors and our scientific partners, you'll conduct grey whale surveys to gather important baseline data about these gentle giants and help establish a photo-ID database.

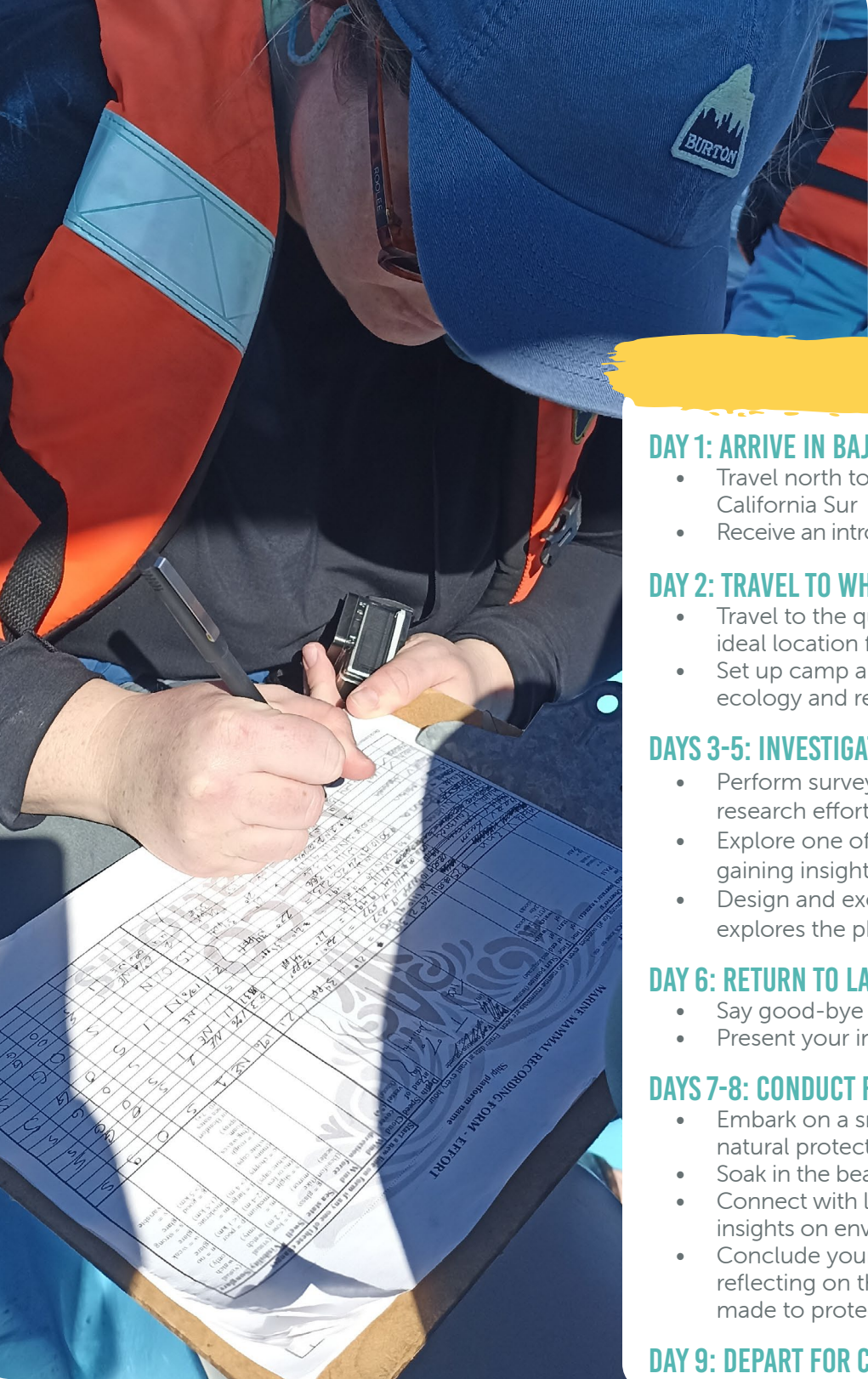


## COASTAL & CULTURAL ADVENTURES

While this field-based course involves rigorous effort, you'll enjoy a host of fun activities as well! Along with contributing to grey whale research, you will engage with local Eco Club students from EPI Mexico, venture to La Paz's popular waterfront promenade, or visit one of the largest sea lion rookeries in the region.

• INSPIRING STUDENTS WITH NATURE & EMPOWERING THEM WITH SCIENCE •





# BAJA WHALE ECOLOGY SAMPLE ITINERARY

## DAY 1: ARRIVE IN BAJA

- Travel north to the coastal city of La Paz, situated in Baja California Sur
- Receive an introduction to your course from your instructors

## DAY 2: TRAVEL TO WHALE CAMP

- Travel to the quiet fishing community of Puerto Chale, an ideal location for spotting and observing grey whales
- Set up camp and hear an introduction on grey whale ecology and research

## DAYS 3-5: INVESTIGATE GREY WHALES, SEA LIONS, & MORE

- Perform surveys on grey whales, contributing to ongoing research efforts
- Explore one of the largest sea lion rookeries in the region, gaining insight into their behavior and habitat
- Design and execute an individual research project that explores the phenomena that captivates your interest

## DAY 6: RETURN TO LA PAZ

- Say good-bye to Puerto Chale and head back to La Paz
- Present your individual research projects to the group

## DAYS 7-8: CONDUCT FISH & INVERTEBRATE SURVEYS

- Embark on a snorkeling expedition to explore a biodiverse natural protected area
- Soak in the beauty of coastal La Paz's iconic waterfront
- Connect with local Eco Club members, exchanging insights on environmental conservation efforts
- Conclude your journey with a celebratory farewell dinner, reflecting on the meaningful contributions you have made to protect the world's aquarium

## DAY 9: DEPART FOR CABO SAN LUCAS AIRPORT

Length	Research & Service Hours	Coursework Hours	Focus
9 Days	18	30	marine ecology, whale biology, sustainable living



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