

Eclipse Tours.com
Ring of Fire Expeditions

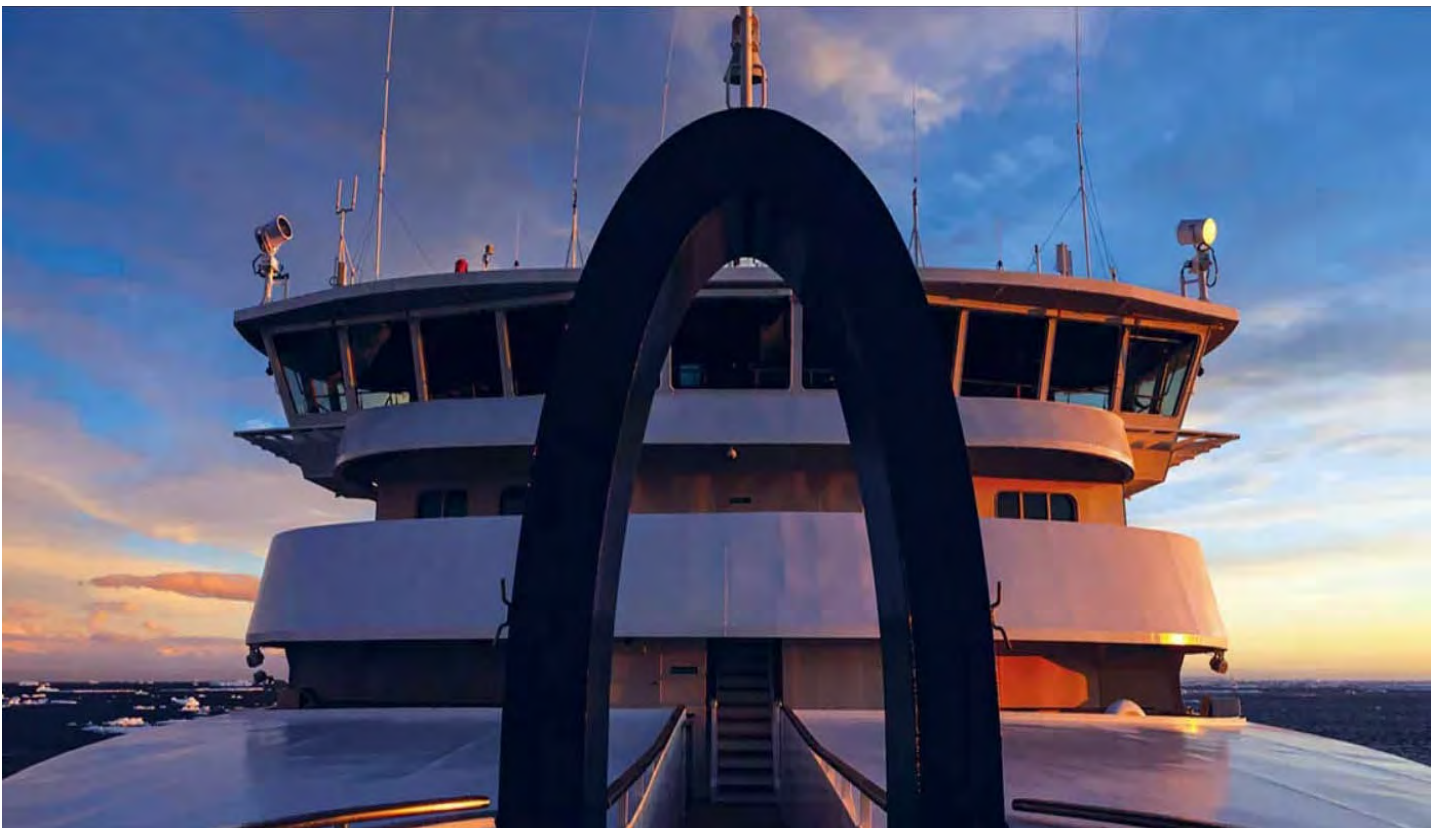


Baja California

Eclipse Tour #51 Total Solar Eclipse Cruise

Sailing the Sea of Cortez

April 1-10, 2024



There has been a change in our sailing vessel; we will now be sailing on the Swan Hellenic (SH) DIANA.

Introducing the extraordinary SH DIANA, a vessel crafted to embark on unforgettable global adventures and explore the most mesmerizing and remote corners of our planet. Inspired by the Ancient Roman goddess of light, the moon, hunting, and the wilderness, this remarkable ship offers an unparalleled experience.

Designed to surpass expectations, SH DIANA takes the exceptional amenities of her sister ships to new heights. Immerse yourself in the fascinating world of cards in the dedicated Card Room, located right next to the Observation Lounge.

To enhance your expedition landings, SH DIANA proudly presents two tenders astronomically named Castor and Pollux as a comfortable alternative to traditional Zodiacs. These tenders ensure that you can disembark and explore with ease, bringing you closer to untouched wonders that few have the privilege to witness.

Equipped with a Polar Class 6 ice-strengthened hull, SH DIANA is ready to navigate even the most challenging environments, ensuring your journey remains safe and secure. Additionally, the ship boasts extra-large stabilizers, guaranteeing a smooth and comfortable voyage, no matter the conditions.

Prepare to embark on a voyage like no other, where extraordinary destinations await your discovery. Join us aboard SH DIANA, where the spirit of exploration and the pursuit of awe-inspiring experiences come together in perfect harmony. Unlock the wonders of the world as you indulge in the utmost luxury and sophistication. Your adventure begins here.

Join Paul D. Maley of the NASA Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society on what will be his 84th trip to see an eclipse of the Sun! Dr. Michael Shara of the American Museum of Natural History, a veteran of 4 total solar eclipses and an outstanding scientific speaker will be the highlighted lecturer on this trip.

If the weather in the above zone cooperates, the Sun will be blacked out for approximately 4 minutes 25 seconds from our vantage point southeast of Baja, Mexico.

We at RING OF FIRE EXPEDITIONS have exclusively chartered a new ship introduced in 2023 by Swan Hellenic Cruises—the *SH DIANA*. This cruise ship will carry a maximum of 196 passengers in 96 staterooms to the Pacific Ocean for our solar eclipse. **Here are some clear advantages of cruising to the solar eclipse:**

- Unpack just once on the ship and repack 9 days later
- You don't have to drive to the eclipse location and fight the traffic
- You don't have to prepare any meals
- The observing location at sea experiences a long total eclipse, more than over the US
- You don't have to worry about overbooked hotels or crowds!
- You do not have to be concerned about security issues such as those going into Mexico proper
- You have free access to wi-fi onboard so if you want to maintain contact with friends you can do so without extra charge
- You get to sleep at night while your cruise ship takes you to destinations far and wide
- Access to free food and drinks, all day long including evenings and night bars
- Cruise takes away the burden of planning your vacation. All is set out for you to relax and enjoy the trip.
- No need to tip anyone onboard as gratuities are included
- Although the cruise is mostly all-inclusive with nominal charges for optional services such as full laundry and Spa, you don't need to deal with cash or credit cards since you will be given a cruise card which permits charging purchases made on the ship to your stateroom folio
- Cruise ships are inherently safe environments
- More than 80% of cruisers return for a second voyage – far higher than the percentage of people who choose to revisit a land-based resort or attraction

Are you new to eclipse watching and not sure which company has experience? Ring of Fire Expeditions has the longest track record of eclipse expeditions in the US—almost 50 years.

Price Includes:

- One pre-night at Dreams Acapulco All-inclusive Resort & SPA
- Arrival transfer from Acapulco airport to Dreams Acapulco Resort & SPA *
- Transfer from the Dreams Acapulco Resort & Spa to the cruise ship pier
- Transfer from the cruise ship pier in La Paz Baja California to the San Jose Del Cabo airport at end of cruise *
- Welcome dinner at the hotel the first night and breakfast/lunch the next day
- All meals + Open bar
- Free Wi-Fi
- Excursions, including paddle boarding and snorkeling**
- Included Gratuities

**Airport transfers are included when flights purchased with Eclipse Tours/Direct Travel. For guests booking their own air, transfers will be offered at cost closer to departure.*

*** Excursion options with details will be provided and made available closer to the departure date. Direct Travel may offer exclusive excursions for purchase.*

Price Excludes:

- Airfare of any kind
- Pre or post hotel expenses including any hotel services, meals not included, incidental expenses, etc. for which payment is required prior to checkout.
- Pre or post cruise packages (unless specified)
- Additional onboard services such as Spa, full-service laundry etc.
- Cost of passports and any visas (if required)
- Medical services and fees
- Use of jet skis, kayaking, scuba diving (for certified divers) on the ship will be offered at extra cost
- Passports / Visas
- Trip cancellation and delay, medical evacuation insurance which is mandatory (passengers are required to secure this from Direct Travel or Direct Travel must approve your own insurance (or international insurance if you are a foreign national)
- Anything else not mentioned in the PRICE INCLUDES section above.

There is limited inventory that is available on this departure:

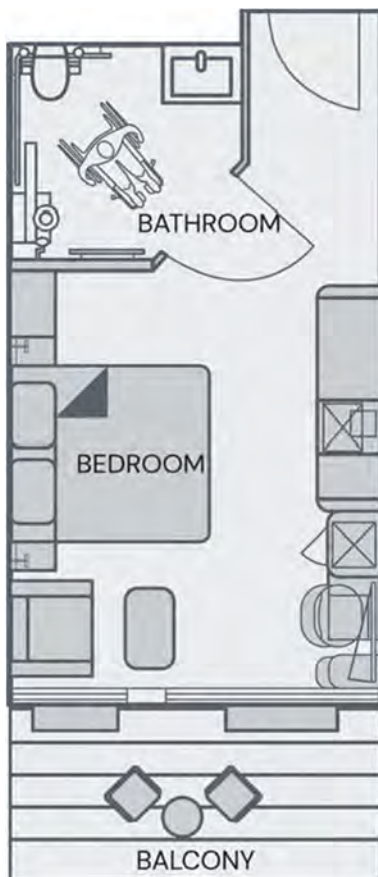
- 2 Ocean View Deck 4 Cabins
- 6 Balcony Deck 5 Cabins



OCEAN VIEW DECK 4 CABINS:

19m² (205ft²) | Sleeps 2

Oceanview staterooms feature 2 single beds or a double bed with living room area and a luxurious bathroom.



BALCONY DECK 5 CABINS:

28m² (302ft²) | Sleeps 2/3

Balcony staterooms feature 2 single beds or a double bed bedroom with living room area, a luxurious bathroom and your own private 6m² (65ft²) balcony.



FUEL ADJUSTMENT:

IMPORTANT NOTICE: *As is typical for every cruise charter in advance, Swan Hellenic Cruises has also provided a caveat to the cost. Should fuel prices increase beyond a specific index value by more than 5% up to 30 days prior to the start of the cruise, Swan Hellenic Cruises will increase prices to Direct Travel (and to you). Such a last-minute increase could be caused by such things as a huge spike in oil futures or an event such as closing of the Strait of Hormuz. We do not anticipate this will happen, but Swan Hellenic Cruises is protecting themselves in case it does. Direct Travel will be forced to notify all passengers of a cost increase should this happen.*

COST, REGISTRATION, PAYMENTS & CANCELATION PENALTIES:

Costs: As noted previously at this time we have two cabin categories remaining. As of May 28, 2023 there are 2 Ocean View Deck 4 Cabins at \$7,150.00 per person based on double occupancy and 6 Balcony Deck 5 Cabins \$8,750.00 per person based on double occupancy. We are no longer allowing single occupancy cabins.

Registration: You can register from our website or you can call Sandy Polley at Direct Travel Group Department 309-834-3739 and she will take your reservation in a few minutes over the phone. We cannot confirm you unless the registration form payment are all received.

Payments:

- From time of booking before April 1, 2022: \$2,500 per person
- April 1, 2022: 35% of cruise price
- November 1, 2022: 50% of cruise price
- June 30, 2023: 100% of the total cruise price

Cancellation Penalties:

25% penalty of total paid if cancelled by April 1, 2022

50% penalty of total paid if cancelled between April 1 and November 1, 2022

75% penalty of total paid if cancelled between November 1, 2022 and June 1, 2023

After June 30, 2023: 100% penalty

Please note that cancellation due to itinerary changes is not permitted a penalty will apply and it is not a covered reason for travel insurance.

Payment Methods: IF YOU LIVE OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES you may pay by one of these methods: 1) credit cards, or 2) wire transfer. A USD\$75 fee is charged if a wire transfer is used for each payment. No checks or money orders can be accepted! Please contact Sandy Polley spolley@dt.com to make arrangements.

SH DIANA

SH DIANA been specially designed for worldwide cruising to explore the most inspiring and inaccessible places on earth.

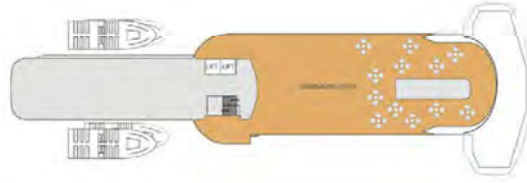
Building on the outstanding amenities of her sister ships, she adds a dedicated Events Room next to the Observation Lounge, a Private Dining Room for special occasions, and two tenders, which bring guests a comfortable alternative to Zodiacs for expedition landings. A Polar Class 6 ice-strengthened hull combines with extra-large stabilizers to make your journey as comfortable as possible.

Stateroom Category:

Oceanview D4:	6 (20m ²)	●
Oceanview M4:	14 (20m ²)	●
Balcony D5:	12 (28m ²)	●
Balcony M5:	25 (28m ²)	●
Balcony D6:	29 (28m ²)	●
Junior Suite:	4 (35m ²)	●
Suite:	4 (44m ²)	●
Premium Suite:	2 (47m ²)	●

Ship Specification:

Guest Capacity	192
Staff	140
No. of Decks	9
Staterooms	96
Length	411ft (125m)
Breadth	75ft (23m)
Tonnage	12,100
Cruising Speed	14.5 knots
3rd Guest Capacity	▲
Connecting Staterooms	→
Wheelchair Accessible Staterooms	♿ 419, 635
Propulsion	Hybrid Diesel Electric, Polar Class PC6
Registered	Panama
Lifeboats	2
Zodiacs	11 MK V 2 MK VI
Tenders	2



Deck 9
Stargazing Deck



Deck 8
Gym
Sauna
Jacuzzi
Spa
Beauty Salon
Bridge



Deck 7
Swimming Pool
Pool Bar & Grill
Club Lounge
Events Room
Observation Lounge



Deck 6
Premium Suites
Suites
Junior Suites
Balcony Staterooms D6
Swan's Nest



Deck 5
Balcony Staterooms D5, M5
Junior Suites
Suites



Deck 4
Swan Restaurant
Reception
Oceanview Staterooms D4, M4
Launderette






Deck 3
Marina Deck
Zodiac Boarding
Basecamp
Library
Expedition Lab
Clinic
Laundry

Boutique cruising at its finest



SH DIANA

-  141 crew
-  192 guest
-  9 deck

The SH DIANA is designed to navigate the most inspiring, inaccessible places on earth. All the while offering guests an immersive, 5-star experience.



The interiors are spacious and tasteful, with plush furnishing and floor-to-ceiling windows that give you unobstructed views of some of the most incredible landscapes in the world. On board, savor international cuisine imagined by renowned chefs, unwind in a sophisticated stateroom and make full use of state-of-the-art spa, fitness and expedition facilities.



The Swan Restaurant

As the main venue for breakfast, lunch and dinner, our 152-seat restaurant serves international and local cuisine focused on quality regional ingredients from the unique destinations we visit.

Club Lounge

Vibrant and welcoming, The Club Lounge acts as a hub, combining 24-hour tapas inspired dining with panoramic views of the ocean glittering below.



Sauna With A View

Head to Deck 8 for the best views in the world. After a workout in our state-of-the-art gym, relax in our sauna or Jacuzzi and take in those breathtaking vistas along the way.

Observation Lounge

After a day of exploration, where better to relax than in the Observation Lounge. Sit back, savor your favorite tipples whilst getting to know your fellow guests.

Alfresco Dining & Heated Outdoor Pool

On Deck 7, you'll find a heated outside pool along with pool side seating from where you can enjoy stunning scenery.

Perfectly paired with adventure

No travel experience is complete without unforgettable dining. Prepare for gastronomic excellence as our world-renowned chefs take you on an international culinary adventure.

At the Swan Restaurant, you can dine at your leisure from breakfast through to dinner and sample some incredible international fusion dishes. For a more casual atmosphere, enjoy a family-style platter in the Club Lounge, or a few late-night drinks in the Observation Lounge. Or take full advantage of our 24-hour room service and indulge in a tempting menu in your elegant stateroom.

Every taste adds to the story

No matter the time or day, you'll find unique culinary experiences, excellently designed and prepared by top chefs with personal service to match at our various dining venues onboard.



Swan Restaurant

Every evening, this stunning restaurant transforms into a gourmet venue serving the sublime creations of our award-winning consultant chefs, taking guests on a parallel voyage of extraordinary flavors and contrasts. Discover creative Asian and Italian fusion cuisine or enjoy inventive French and International classics.



Club Lounge

Vibrant and welcoming, the Club Lounge acts as a hub for relaxed get-togethers on board, 24 hours a day. Freshly baked pastries and coffee, tapas-style dining and freshly made pizza are the perfect accompaniment to a panoramic view of the ocean glittering below from the adjoining Pool Bar & Grill.



Afternoon Tea

Enjoy a British tradition on board. Our afternoon tea is a glamorous and contemporary progression of savory bites, finger sandwiches and scones followed by colorful tarts and desserts – all paired with a selection of international teas or a cold glass of champagne.



Room Service

No matter what time of day, our carefully curated in-room menu gives you a relaxing yet tasty experience in the comfort of your own stateroom. From healthy breakfasts, luscious lunches and divine dinners to late-night snacks, there's always something ready to tempt you.

Culinary Team

Our trio of top chefs have come together to create a unique gastronomic experience, with creative Italian and Asian fusion dishes and varied quality and diversity



Avhier Singh
Executive Chef

Avhier has extensive experience as an executive chef. He spent more than ten years working on board prestigious cruise ships, rising through the ranks mastering unique cuisines and cooking techniques from around the world.



Andrea Ribaldone
Consultant Chef

Andrea is an influential Italian chef with many achievements including earning 3 Michelin different restaurants, and launching of highly successful and innovative dining concepts and venues.



Sang Keun Oh
Consultant Chef

With unrivalled experience of Japanese and French cuisine, Chef Sang Keun Oh brings fresh perspective to the table. He has two AA Rosettes, and was Executive chef at many acclaimed restaurants including his Hibiki.

SEA OF CORTEZ

Baja California Peninsula

Sailing in paradise!

This captivating sailing adventure through the enchanting Sea of Cortez, where a mesmerizing world of wildlife awaits your discovery will be amazing! Immerse yourself in the breathtaking beauty of this marine paradise, where stunning whale sharks glide, friendly dolphins gracefully dance alongside the bow of your vessel, vibrant schools of tropical fish shimmer in the crystal-clear waters, and majestic humpback whales breach the surface in a magnificent display of power. Be awestruck as you encounter playful sea lions basking in the sun, elegant manta rays gliding through the depths, and the elusive blue-footed boobies proudly displaying their vibrant plumage. With every moment, the Sea of Cortez reveals its rich biodiversity, inviting you to witness firsthand the wonders of nature in all its glory.

Dear Friends,

We want to take a moment to express our sincerest gratitude for your understanding during this period of itinerary changes. We know that these changes can be difficult and inconvenient, and we greatly appreciate- ate your flexibility and willingness to adapt to the situation. We're excited to announce that we've finalized our new itinerary, which offers a unique and unforgettable adventure through the stunning natural beauty of the Sea of Cortez and the amazing opportunity to witness a total solar eclipse. We can't wait to share this incredible journey with you, and we're confident that it will be an experience that you'll cherish for a lifetime. Thank you once again for your patience and support, and we look forward to embarking on this incredible adventure together. Below is our itinerary at a glance.

Swan Hellenic SH DIANA Itinerary for Total Solar Eclipse Cruise of Mexico 2024:

DATE	LOCATION	AREA	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
1-Apr-24	Acapulco Overnight Hotel Stay	5 Star Resort	15:00	
2-Apr-24	Acapulco Group Transfer To Ship & Sailing	Pacific Coast	12:00	18:00
3-Apr-24	At Sea	Pacific Coast		
4-Apr-24	Maria Madre Island, Puerto Balleto	Pacific Coast	TBA	TBA
5-Apr-24	Cruising Cabo Pulmo	Baja California Peninsula	TBA	TBA
5-Apr-24	Isla Cerralvo	Sea of Cortez	TBA	TBA
6-Apr-24	Loreto	Sea of Cortez	TBA	TBA
7-Apr-24	Isla Catalina	Sea of Cortez	TBA	TBA
8-Apr-24	Eclipse 2024 Path	Sea of Cortez	TBA	TBA
9-Apr-24	Isla Partida	Sea of Cortez	TBA	TBA
9-Apr-24	Isla Espiritu Santo	Sea of Cortez	TBA	TBA
9-Apr-24	Pichilingue (La Paz)	Baja California Peninsula	TBA	TBA
10-Apr-24	Pichilingue (La Paz)	Baja California Peninsula	8:00	9:00
10-Apr-24	Group Transfer from La Paz to Cabo	Baja California Peninsula		9:30

Booking Your Flights:

If you are booking your own air, please be sure to arrange your flights so that you arrive in Acapulco on April 1, 2024. Airport transfers will be made available for purchase later this year. If you book your air with Direct Travel, then Airport Transfers in Acapulco are included.

When booking your return flights from Cabo do not schedule a departure sooner than 13:00 on April 10, 2024. Everyone flying out of Cabo will be provided with a group transfer from La Paz to Cabo Airport as part of their cruise package. If you choose to fly from La Paz Airport instead there is no refund provided for not using the Cabo Transfer service.

We kindly ask that everyone complete our air quote form to indicate if you need assistance or will be booking your own air arrangements. The first field on the form is a way to decline a quote or request assistance.

Arrival & Embarkation in Acapulco

Day 1: April 1, 2024

As the first stop on our Eclipse Cruise, Acapulco offers a vibrant mix of natural beauty and cultural charm. From the stunning beaches and crystalline waters of Acapulco Bay to the lush tropical forests that surround the city, here's no shortage of breathtaking scenery to take in. Wildlife enthusiasts will also love the opportunity to spot exotic birds and marine life in the bay, while history buffs can explore the fascinating colonial-era architecture and monuments scattered throughout the city.



To start your journey in style, we've arranged for you to stay at the luxurious 5-star Dreams Resort Acapulco for one night upon your arrival. This stunning resort offers breathtaking ocean views, world-class dining, and a wide range of amenities to help you relax and unwind before setting sail.



Day 2: April 2, 2024

The next day, you'll be transferred to the SH DIANA to begin your unforgettable journey through the Sea of Cortez.





PACIFIC COAST AT SEA: We will board the ship at approximately noon and will set sail at 18:00. There will be a safety briefing before we set sail followed by dinner.

Day 3: April 3, 2024

Experience pure bliss on a serene sea day as you sail from the vibrant city of Acapulco. Bask in the warm embrace of the sun as gentle ocean breezes caress your skin. Lounge on the spacious deck, immersing yourself in panoramic views of endless azure waters, while savoring refreshing cocktails and indulging in delectable culinary delights. Unwind and rejuvenate with soothing spa treatments, or simply find solace in the peaceful ambiance, allowing your worries to melt away. As the ship glides through the calm waters, a sense of tranquility washes over you, promising a day of pure relaxation and unforgettable moments of serenity.

Day 4: April 4, 2024

Maria Madre Island, Puerto Balleto

As we sail towards the Sea of Cortez, we'll make a stop at the remote and pristine Maria Madre Island. Here, you can discover a unique ecosystem teeming with rare wildlife and breathtaking natural scenery. From the lush green forests and towering cliffs to the stunning beaches and crystal-clear waters, Maria Madre Island offers a wealth of opportunities for hiking, birdwatching, snorkeling, and more. In 2010 the Islas Marias was designated as a UNESCO biosphere reserve, a specially protected biodiverse region.



In the last 12 years, researchers have found 21 species of sharks, 10 different rays, three species of sea turtles and healthy coral reefs. Whale sharks visit the waters off the Marías, and other species such as sardines, tuna, and red snapper, are thriving. The reserve is also an important nesting and feeding site for large colonies of sea birds.

First discovered by European seafarer Diego Hurtado de Mendoza (who gave the group of 4 islands the name Islas Magdalenas), the islands saw use as a penal colony (Islas Marías Madre Federal Prison) from 1905 until 2019 when President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador announced that the prison was to be closed and would be replaced with a cultural center that will be named after José Revueltas, the famous inmate.

Before it was closed the prison colony was mainly engaged in agriculture, some farming, and fishing. Far from the harsh reputation of places like Devil’s Island, in more recent times the Islas Marias had harbored mostly low-risk prisoners for whom the “prison without walls” was viewed as a step toward reintegration into society. Some prisoners were even allowed to live with their families.



The main prison complex on Isla Maria Madre is now in the process of being converted into an environmental education center, named after the prison’s, most famous inmate, José Revueltas - the Muros de Agua-Jose Revueltas Environmental and Cultural Education Center.

Visitors will be able to tour the remote island jail, specifically the area known as Puerto Balleto where boats will be required to anchor to take guests ashore by tenders.

The island is home to a diverse array of flora and fauna, including the Tres Marías Raccoon and the endemic Tres Marías Cottontail Rabbit. The landscape is composed of grasslands, scrub, deciduous and sub-deciduous tropical forest.

CABO PULMO CRUISING

Day 5: April 5, 2024

Cabo Pulmo National Park is a national marine park on the east coast of Mexico's Baja California Peninsula, spanning the distance between Pulmo Point and Los Frailes Cape, approximately 100 kilometers (62 mi) north of Cabo San Lucas in the Gulf of California. Bahía Pulmo is home to the oldest of only three coral reefs on the west coast of North America. Cabo Pulmo is estimated to be 20,000 years old. After organizing by local community groups, the area was designated a national park in 1995, a

UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2005, and a Ramsar Wetland of International Importance in 2008 as this 27 square mile national park is inhabited by 11 different species of coral. Not only is it the northernmost coral reef in the eastern Pacific Ocean, but it also features unique colonies of hard coral atop rock outcroppings that run parallel to the coast,[6] occurring in progressively deeper water offshore. The conservation of the park has been important for a local ecosystem recovery from overfishing as well as an improvement to the local economic wellbeing in the form of eco-tourism consistent of diving and whale watching. This area of the coast, due to its deep upswell with the reef along the coast is an ideal training ground for mother whales to teach their calves.



Bahia Agua Verde

This morning the SH DIANA will stop at Bahia Agua Verde on the Baja Peninsula where we will do some birdwatching on shore and then some snorkeling to see a whole host of fish and maybe even species such as green sea turtles before stepping back on board. The rest of the day is dedicated to watching the wonderful and abundant cetacean species found in the Sea of Cortez at this time of year.

Whale Shark Encounter

The whale shark is the largest fish on Earth and Today we hopefully have a chance to observe these marvelous denizens of the ocean. Snorkeling and scuba diving enthusiasts can explore vibrant coral reefs, encounter tropical fish, rays, sea turtles, and possibly even whale sharks during their visit. [Details about the opportunities and costs for snorkeling /scuba diving excursions will be provided closer to departure.](#) Direct Travel will send out an email when we have that information available and can make reservations.



Return to Islas del Golfo Biosphere Reserve & Visit Isla Cerralvo

We make our back to the Islas del Golfo Biosphere Reserve, but this time the SH DIANA will anchor off the coast of the scenic Isla Cerralvo. We start with a walk on the island to see its flora and fauna. The island's rugged terrain presents opportunities for rock climbing and hiking adventures. The cliffs and hills offer challenging routes for climbers, while hikers can enjoy scenic trails with panoramic views of the surrounding sea and landscapes.

The island's natural beauty and opportunities for outdoor activities make it a captivating destination for nature lovers and adventure seekers. After stretching our legs, we can enjoy a spot of snorkeling, our last chance to get in the water and see the life that lives beneath the waves. The island is renowned for its crystal-clear waters and diverse marine life. Besides marine life, Isla Cerralvo is also home to various land-based wildlife species. You might spot desert iguanas, coyotes, jackrabbits, and a variety of bird species while exploring the island's arid landscapes.

Mexico's Sea of Cortez is famed for its wealth of marine wildlife, a place that Jacques Cousteau called 'the world's aquarium'.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Sea of Cortez is one of the most diverse seas on the planet with the widest variety of whales and dolphins, and home to nearly 900 species of fish.

Separating the Baja California Peninsula from the Mexican mainland, this narrow sea (also known as The Gulf of California) is home to a unique and rich ecosystem and sustains a large number of marine mammals, many of which are rare and endangered. It hosts many migratory species including the blue whale. Furthermore, its more than 900 islands are nesting sites for thousands of seabirds, and its waters are primary breeding, feeding, and nursing grounds for a myriad of migratory and resident species.



"Isla Cerralvo" to "Isla Jacques Cousteau"

Isla Cerralvo is an island that is 18 miles (29 km) long with a land area of 136.498 square kilometers (52.702 sq mi) and is the ninth-largest island in Mexico. The island is adjacent to the towns of El Sargent and La Ventana and is part of the Municipality of La Paz. The island peak comes to 2,100 ft (640 m) and the ridge line runs north–south with many small streams draining east to Gulf of California and west to Cupalo Canal. There are many steep bluffs on the eastern side and many sandy beaches and points on the west side.

On November 17, 2009, Mexican government changed the island name from historical name "Isla Cerralvo" to "Isla Jacques Cousteau" in honor of French oceanographer Jacques-Yves Cousteau (1910–1997) who had led many expeditions in this area as there is abundant marine life surrounding this island. Due to the unique underwater topography and ocean currents, this island has become the traditional fishing grounds of the local Ejidos peoples and the island is dotted with temporary fish camps. Virtually all local marine life must migrate past the island and water visibility goes up to 30 meters making it a prime location for big game fishing. There are abundant yellowtail, golden grouper, marlin, sailfish, swordfish or broadbill, other game and bait fish in Cerralvo Canal waters.



Bay of Loreto National Marine Park

Day 6: April 6, 2024

Today we explore the Bay of Loreto National Marine Park and Isla Santa Catalina. Botany is one of the main focuses for our morning walk on Isla Santa Catalina, along with any reptiles or birds that we come across as we pass through the island's canyon. Some of the birds that we might encounter include Gila woodpeckers, verdin and cardinals. However, a wonderful highlight that we could have this morning is spotting the rare and endemic Santa Catalina rattleless rattlesnake.

Once again, we spend the rest of the day back on board the SH DIANA and out on deck trying to spot any whales or dolphins in the area.

Just like most of our afternoons in the Sea of Cortez, we spend our time looking for whales, dolphins and other marine life. Possible species that we may encounter include blue, fin, humpback and sperm whales, bottlenose dolphins, Guadeloupe fur seal, leaping mobula rays and a plethora of seabirds.





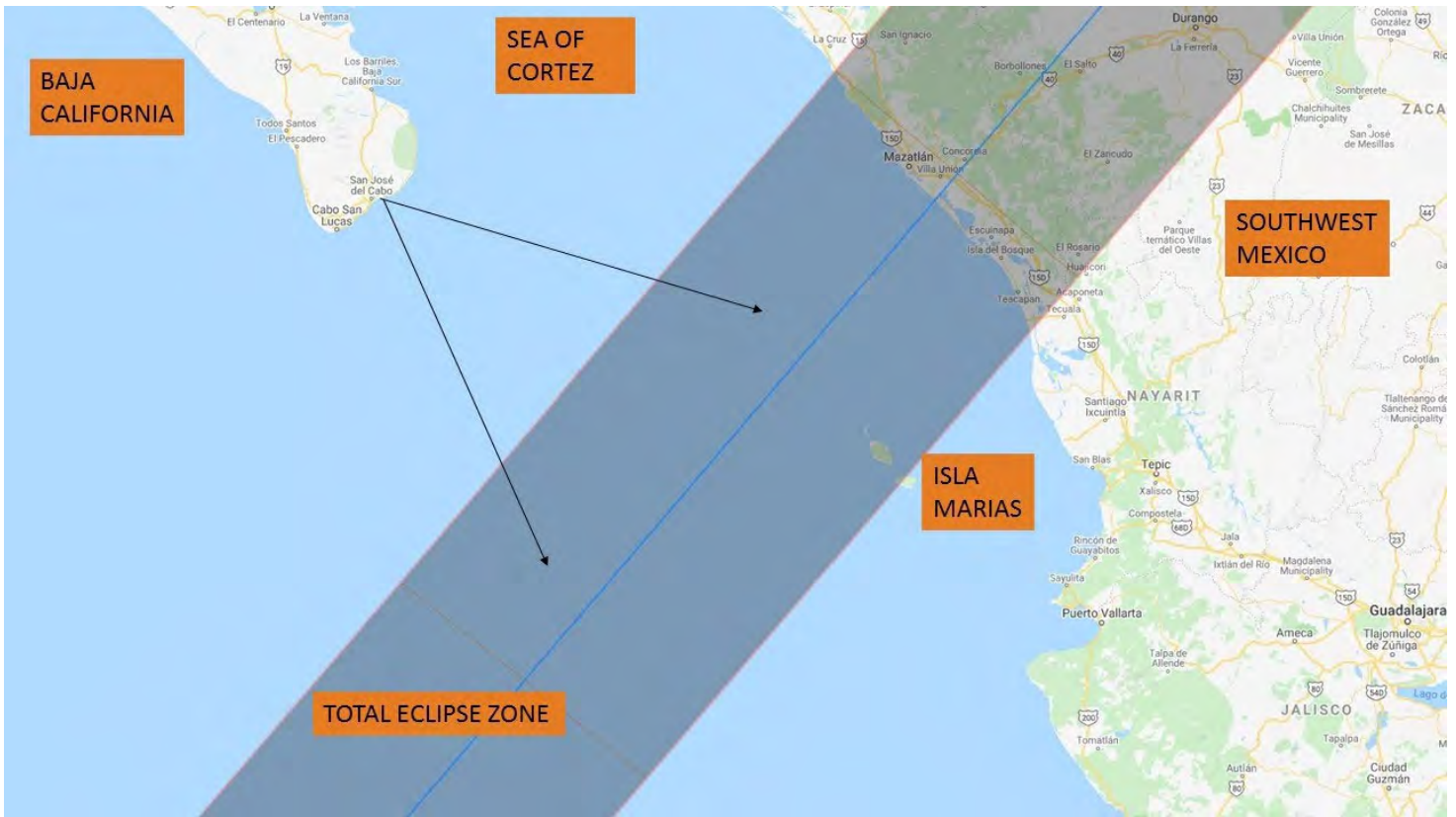
Isla San Jose & Islas del Golfo Biosphere Reserve

Day 7: April 7, 2024

Next on our itinerary is Isla San Jose, a picturesque island oasis located in the heart of the Sea of Cortez. Known for its rugged terrain, scenic bays, and turquoise waters, this idyllic island is a haven for outdoor adventurers and nature enthusiasts alike. Here, you can explore the island's many hidden coves and beaches, go snorkeling or diving to discover the diverse marine life, or simply relax and soak up the sun on the pristine sands.

This morning the SH DIANA will arrive at Islas San Jose in the Islas del Golfo Biosphere Reserve, where we take a walk through the island's arroyo (or gully) to admire the desert-adapted flora and birdlife that we come.

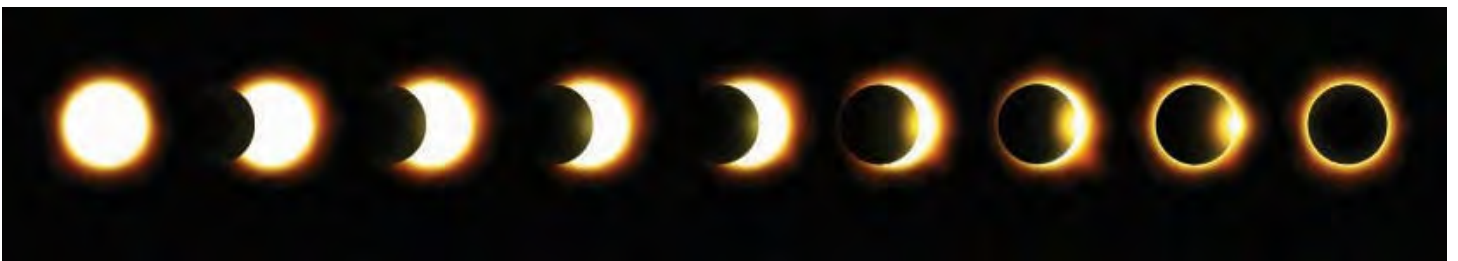




The Eclipse:

Day 8: April 8, 2024

The highlight of our cruise is the highly anticipated total solar eclipse that will take place at our precise location in the Sea of Cortez on April 8, 2024. This extraordinary celestial event offers a rare opportunity to witness the awe-inspiring beauty and power of the universe as the moon gracefully passes in front of the sun, casting an ethereal glow across the sky. As we gather together on this momentous occasion, surrounded by the breathtaking natural beauty of the sea and sky, we'll be reminded of the boundless wonders that exist beyond our everyday lives, igniting a profound sense of awe and wonder within us.



Isla Partida

Day 9: April 9, 2024

We'll continue our journey to the stunning Isla Partida, located just off the coast of La Paz. This tranquil island paradise is renowned for its pristine beaches, crystal-clear waters, and stunning coral reefs, making it the perfect destination for snorkeling, diving, and other water-based activities.

You can also explore the island's rugged interior, which is teeming with rare wildlife and fascinating geological formations.



Islas Los Islotes & Espiritu Santo

After breakfast, we begin the day's excursion to Islas Los Islotes and Espiritu Santo. Los Islotes comprises of underwater rocky reefs and two islets that are regularly used by colonies of California sea lions as haul-out sites. Skiff rides along the coastlines of the islets will provide excellent views of not only the sea lions, but also nesting brown and blue-footed boobies.

In the afternoon, we visit the stunning island of Espiritu Santo. We head ashore for a short walk to enjoy the island's plants, reptiles, and scenic vistas. Later, there is an opportunity to get in the sea and do some snorkeling to round off an exciting day.



We arrive in La Paz in the evening.

This is our final stop on this unforgettable charter cruise is the charming seaside town of Pichilingue, located just south of La Paz.

Disembarkation in La Paz

Day 10: April 10, 2024

We will disembark the ship and briefly we will have time to explore the town's charming streets and colonial-era architecture, sample the delicious local cuisine, or simply relax and soak up the warm Mexican sun on the stunning beaches. With its unique blend of natural beauty, cultural heritage, and warm hospitality, Pichilingue is the perfect destination to end our unforgettable adventure in the Sea of Cortez.

For those that are flying home from Cabo group transportation will be provided in the morning with arrival in Cabo by 11 AM you should not plan for a flight departure before 13:00.

Enjoy a scenic drive from La Paz to Cabo San Lucas airport. The road unfolds before us, revealing a picturesque landscape of rugged coastlines, golden sandy beaches, and dramatic cliffs that plunge into the azure waters. This beautiful drive is a chance to reflect on what an amazing trip it has been.

