



Winter 2010 - 2011

SEA KAYAKING IN BAJA

Baja Quick Escape

Baja's Isla Espiritu Santo is a kayak wonderland in the Sea of Cortez near La Paz in Mexico. The island is a fabulous wilderness of deserted beaches, protected coves and rugged cliffs. Kayak along this spectacular and varied coastline, camp on pristine beaches, snorkel in the blue waters, swim with sea lion pups and bask in the warm Mexican sunshine. With four days of paddling and three nights camping, the Quick Escape is a perfect winter getaway. No kayak experience is required to have a great time. Skill level 1.



West coast - Isla Espiritu Santo - Mexico

We offer 2 types of Quick Escape trips:

Self-Contained Trips: We carry all our food and gear in our kayaks and everyone contributes to setting up camp and cooking wonderful meals with help from the exceptional local guides.

Dates:	Fees: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 24-27, 27-30, Nov 10-13	\$490.00 US
Nov 24-27	\$450.00 US
Jan 16-19 and 19-22	\$490.00 US
Feb 9-12	\$480.00 US
Feb 27-Mar 2	\$530.00 US
Mar 2-5, 13-16, 16-19 and 27-30	\$530.00 US
Mar 30 - Apr 2,	\$530.00 US
Apr 10-13, 13-16, 24-27, 27-30	\$530.00 US

Fully-Catered Trips: These trips have full time motorboat (called a Panga) support. The Panga carries all our food and gear to the next campsite while we paddle light kayaks. Coolers aboard the Panga allow for special food and drink throughout the trip. The Panga crew and guides take care of all the cooking and clean up.

Dates:	Fees: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 17-20, 20-23 and Oct 31 - Nov 3	\$590.00 US
Nov 3-6	\$590.00 US
Nov 14-17 and 17-20	\$620.00 US
Dec 12-15 and 15-18	\$590.00 US
Dec 20-23, 27-30 and 30 - Jan 2	\$620.00 US
Jan 2-5, 5-8, 9-12, 12-15, 23-26, 26-29	\$590.00 US
Jan 30 - Feb 2	\$590.00 US
Feb 2-5, 6-9, 16-19 and 23-26	\$590.00 US
Mar 6-9, 9-12, 20-23 and 23-26	\$640.00 US
April 3-6, 6-9, 17-20 and 20-23	\$640.00 US

Family Trips: Families with pre-teens may register for a Fully-Catered Trips only. Families with teens may register for either type of trip. We'll use tandem kayaks so kids can paddle with an adult. Children under 14 receive a 20% discount.

Circumnavigation of Isla Espiritu Santo

Baja's Isla Espiritu Santo is a kayak wonderland in the Sea of Cortez near La Paz in Mexico. The island is a fabulous wilderness of deserted beaches, protected coves and rugged cliffs. Kayak along this spectacular and varied coastline, camp on pristine beaches, snorkel in the blue waters, swim with sea lion pups and bask in the warm Mexican sunshine. We will paddle around the entire group of islands exploring both sides of this

Detailed Information Packages

A detailed information package with photos, itinerary, flight, travel info, maps, etc. is available by e-mail for each trip.

E-mail: info@blackfeather.com

or order the package from our website:

www.blackfeather.com

kayaking paradise. The trip includes 7 days paddling, 6 nights camping with two night's hotel in La Paz and a farewell dinner at an excellent La Paz restaurant. Skill level 1.

We offer 2 types of Circumnavigation trips:

Self-Contained Trips: We carry all our food and gear in our kayaks and everyone contributes to setting up camp and cooking wonderful meals with help from the exceptional local guides.

Dates:	Fees: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 23-31	\$790.00 US
Nov 6-14	\$790.00 US
Dec 18-26 and 25 - Jan 2	\$830.00 US
Jan 15-23	\$790.00 US
Feb 26 - Mar 6	\$850.00 US
Mar 12-20, 26 - April 3. Apr 9-17	\$850.00 US
Apr 23 - May 1 and May 7-15	\$790.00 US
Single supplement fee:	\$80 US

Fully-Catered Trips: These trips have full time motorboat (called a Panga) support. The Panga carries all our food and gear to the next campsite while we paddle light kayaks. Coolers aboard the Panga allow for special food and drink throughout the trip. The Panga crew and guides take care of all the cooking and clean up.

Dates:	Fees: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 16-24	\$990.00 US
Oct 30 - Nov 7, Nov 13-21	\$1040.00 US
Dec 11-19	\$990.00 US
Dec 19-27 and 26 - Jan 3	\$1040.00 US
Jan 1-9 and 8-16	\$990.00 US
Jan 3 29 - Feb 6, Feb 12-20	\$990.00 US
Feb 19-27	\$1040.00 US
Mar 5-13, 13-21, 19-27, 27-Apr 4	\$1040.00 US
Apr 2-10 and 16-24 (family trip)	\$1040.00 US
Single supplement fee:	\$110 US

Families with teenage children may register on either type of trip. We accept pre-teens on the Fully-Catered trips only. Children under 14 receive a 20% discount.

Sea Kayaking and Whale Watching

The absolute best of both seas! We spend 4 days sea-kayaking and snorkeling in the shimmering, turquoise Sea of Cortez camping out on Espiritu Santo Island. Then we have a mid week pause to relax and explore the enchanting seaside town of La Paz with its beautiful boardwalk and sensational dining. Finally we transfer to the tranquil lagoons in Magdalena Bay on the Pacific coast of Baja. Here we are hotel based and embark on 2 days of whale watching expeditions by motor skiff. Every year the Gray Whale makes its annual migration from the Chirikof Basin to Magdalena Bay, a round trip of some 12,400 miles making it the longest migration by any mammal. During the Gray's winter visit, they calve and nurse in the shallow lagoons. These amazing Gray Whale nursing grounds are protected by strict Mexican environmental and ecological legislation. We are careful to observe these regulations by exclusively working with licensed cooperatives that have trained boat drivers. This in turn helps support local fishermen and their families. This trip combines 4 days paddling and 3 nights camping with 2 days whale watching and a total of 5 night's hotel accommodation. Skill Level 1

Dates:	Fee: ex La Paz, Mexico
Jan 22 - 30	\$1,030.00 US
Feb 5-13, 12-20 and 19-27	\$1,030.00 US
Single supplement fee:	\$250.00 US



Beach campsite - Baja - Mexico

Baja - Sea Kayaking and Yoga

This trip offers the best of our Circumnavigation of Isla Espiritu Santo trip with the addition of daily yoga practice. Start your day on a serene white sand beach with a two hour pranayama and asana practice. Spend the day kayaking, snorkeling, hiking and relaxing, then take part in a restorative yoga session each evening. Both silent meditation and guided meditation practices are offered as well.

Your yoga instructor is Sophie Deschamps, a senior Blackfeather guide and very experienced yoga instructor. Her teaching style is intuitive, light hearted and flexible. Our sessions will explore our connection with nature as we follow the rhythms of sun and tide to experience the most profound yoga practice; yoga in the wilderness.



Gray whale - Magdalena Bay - Mexico



Evening Yoga on the Beach - Baja

The package includes 2 nights at a nice hotel in La Paz, 7 days paddling with 6 nights camping on pristine wilderness beaches and a farewell dinner at an excellent restaurant in La Paz. No previous kayaking or yoga experience required. Skill Level 1+.

Dates: Fee: ex La Paz ,Mexico

Oct 30 - Nov 7 - Self Contained \$990.00 US

Apr 9-27 - Fully Catered trip \$1,190.00 US

Single supplement fee: \$80.00 US / \$110.00 US

SEA KAYAKING IN CHILE

The Andean Fjords of Northern Patagonia

An unforgettable 6 day adventure in the magnificent fjords of Comau, Quintupeu and Cahuelmó, on the eastern side of the Gulf of Ancud, where wild mountain cliffs soar out of the dark waters to touch the sky. See spectacular glacial valleys, primeval temperate rainforests, and numerous kinds of marine wildlife, including dolphins, sea lions, penguins and other sea birds.

Smack your lips over fresh salmon steaks, or steamed shellfish gathered from the cliffs at low tide, all prepared by our cook in the miniature galley of our picturesque support vessel. Watch the sunset on the peaks as you relax in hot pools. Spread your sleeping bag under the diamond stars of the Southern Cross.

With mother ship support and calm, protected waters, anyone can enjoy the unique beauty and variety of this majestic land.



Kayaks and support ship - Patagonia, Chile

Skill Level 1.

Dates: Dec 29 - Jan 3, Jan 14-19, Jan 28 - Feb 2, Feb 9-14
Feb 21-26

Fee: \$1,250.00 US ex Puerto Montt, Chile

Additional Lake District Option

This option adds a hotel based 2 day exploration of the beautiful lake district to the 6 day kayaking adventure.

Dates: Dec 27 - Jan 3, Jan 12-19, Jan 26 - Feb 2, Feb 7-14,
Feb. 21-26

Fee: \$1,650.00 US ex Puerto Montt, Chile

EXPORING DESERT CANYONS

Canoe the San Juan River

Utah's San Juan River is born as snow on southern Colorado's Continental Divide. Meandering through sculpted, painted canyons, it eventually joins the Colorado River under what is now Lake Powell. Evidence of ancient inhabitants abounds in the San Juan River Basin. The basin was home to the Azanazi Culture, which flourished in the tributary canyons and in sheltered areas. They were a semi-nomadic people, who are best known for their rock art, found on canyon walls and in sheltered overhangs. The river flows swiftly with an average drop of over 2.65 m/km, a pace faster than you can jog! There are few rapids, though there are several class II and III to add some excitement. As well, sand waves, a relatively rare phenomenon, add surprises and excitement. Sand waves are caused by the water's movement against the silted river bottom. Our 84 mile (137 km) trip goes through an ever-changing landscape of canyons and flood plains. The San Juan is suitable for both the novice and the experienced boater. Skill Level 1+.

Dates: Apr 9-16, 2011

Fee: \$1,850.00 US ex Grand Junction, CO

Mexico's Copper Canyon - Bike the 'Silver Trail'

The dramatic terrain known as Copper Canyon is a perfect mountain bike adventure. Comprising more than 20 steep-sided canyons up to 5000' deep, it covers over 20,000 square miles. High up, at altitudes approaching 8000 feet, we encounter cooler temperatures, extensive pine forests, unusual rock



San Juan River - Wendy Grater

formations, lakes, rivers and waterfalls. Dropping down into the bed of the canyons, the vegetation is tropical and the temperatures much higher. We'll make a series of day rides, often between villages, taking the most interesting and routes following a mix of jeep roads and single track trails.

We will stay in a local hotel or guesthouse, enjoying the hospitality and cuisine of the local people. Baggage will be transferred for us so we will only carry our lunch and a light day bag with us. Quality mountain bikes, all hotel accommodation, meals and guides are included.

Dates: Oct 3-9, Nov 21-27, Dec 19-25, 2010
Jan 23-29, Mar 6-12, 2011

Fee: \$1,490.00 US ex Chihuahua, Mexico



Copper Canyon Mexico

Copper Canyon & Baja - Bike & Kayak Combo

Enjoy 5 days of mountain biking in the Copper Canyon, followed by a 4 day sea kayaking Quick Escape in Baja's Sea of Cortez! This is truly a fascinating, multi-faceted adventure bringing you the best of Mexico! After 5 days exploring the dramatic Copper Canyon, we will board the overnight Ferry (with sleeping bunk rooms) to La Paz. There, we will take to the water in our sea kayaks, enjoying the warm sun, sand and paddling in the Sea of Cortez.

Included is all biking equipment, sea kayaking equipment, food, accommodation and ferry transfer from Topolobampo, Mexico to La Paz, Baja.

Dates: Oct 11-20, Dec 27 -Jan 5, Jan 31-Feb 9, Mar 14-23
Fee: \$2,095.00 US

CANADIAN WINTER TRIPS

X-C Ski Holiday in the Rockies

A perfect cross country getaway for recreational and advanced skiers - and a wonderful winter retreat. Nipika Lodge, our base,

is nestled in the BC Rockies, between Kootenay National Park and Mt. Assiniboine Provincial Park. Nipika boasts over 50 km of groomed trails, suitable for both classic and skate techniques. The scenery is spectacular, with mountains rising up on all sides, and the Kootenay River flowing swiftly through the valley. Join Nipika director Lyle Wilson and BF director Wendy Grater for 5 days of friendly instruction and coaching, followed by participation in the fun 'Nipika Loppet' (with various distances and skill levels for both recreational and competitive skiers). Relax at the end of the day in the wood fired sauna or hot tub. Accommodation each night is in the comfortable lodge. Delicious, home-cooked meals and warm camaraderie make for a great winter escape.

Skill Level 1.

Dates: Jan 16 - 23 (arrive in the afternoon)

Fee: \$1595 CAD plus HST ex Radium Hotsprings, BC
add \$75 each way for transfer from Calgary Airport.



Chalets at Nipika Lodge - Wendy Grater

Dogsled in Algonquin

Mush a team of Alaskan sled dogs through the pristine winter Algonquin wilderness. Enjoy the crisp days on the trail with your trusty canine friends. Sleep in wood heated prospector tents amongst the howls of the dogs and the dancing of the stars, and perhaps the northern lights, in the winter sky. This is a trip designed for the beginner or intermediate winter camper who wants to enjoy the winter in a whole new way. Skill Level 1. Trip run in co-operation with Chocpaw Expeditions.

2 Days/1 Night

Dates: TBA
Fee: \$410.00 CAD plus HST, ex South River, ON

3 Days/2 Nights

Dates: TBA
Fee: \$565.00 CAD plus HST, ex South River, ON

5 Days/4 Nights

Dates: TBA
Fee: \$902.00 CAD plus HST, ex South River, ON