



BAJA

LIVE TO RIDE
RIDE TO EAT TACOS

Register at www.veloasia.com

BAJA BY BIKE

Impressions of Baja are often about Cabo resorts, margarita cantinas, and whale watching and kayaking on the Sea of Cortez. Of anything bike-related, it's usually about the annual Tecate to Ensenada fun bike ride. However, in recent years Baja has quietly become one of the best road cycling destinations in the world, featuring newly-paved roads, modern hotels, sublime landscapes, and light traffic, all away from the violence that plagues other areas of Mexico. We feel the three aspects that make a place really stand out are great cycling, friendly people, and good grub. Baja delivers on three of these, in spades, along with warm sunny weather.

Come ride easy miles through Baja's tranquil rugged beauty, of surprisingly green and verdant landscapes and magnificent beauty, before the secret gets out. Our journey takes in the ever-popular Guadalupe Wine Country, nature preserves, and blue coastal lagoons on the Sea of Cortez.





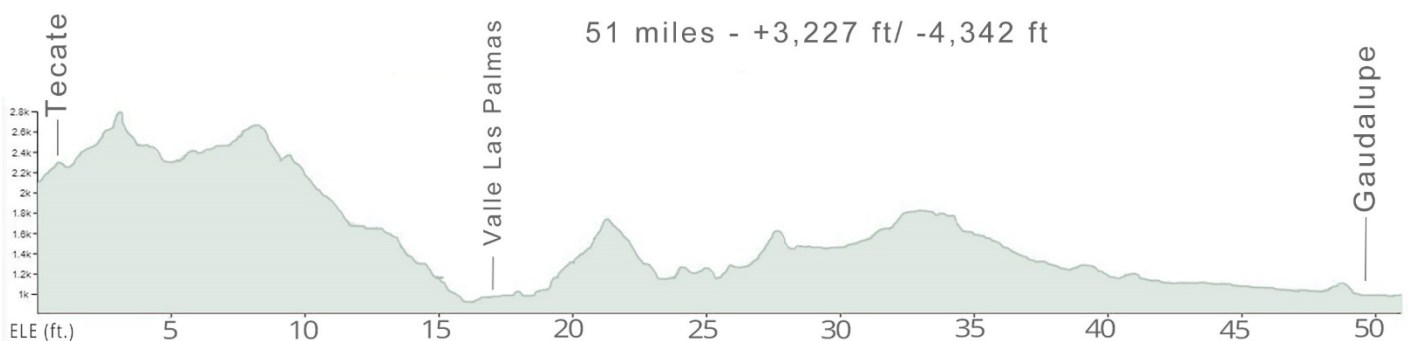
+ Click to open full size

DAY 1: TECATE TO GUADALUPE

RUTA VINO - GUADALUPE WINE COUNTRY

51 MILES +3,227 FEET

Following the classic Tecate to Ensenada annual fun ride route, along a new highway with wide shoulders and gentle grades. Our ride meanders through a green countryside, a few small towns, and during the latter part, through the *Valle de Gaudalupe*, Mexico's fast growing wine region with now over one hundred wineries, which we'll visit through the afternoon after arrival and lunching in Guadalupe. After, we'll enjoy a swim, dinner featuring regional specialties, and overnight in a villa overlooking the valley.

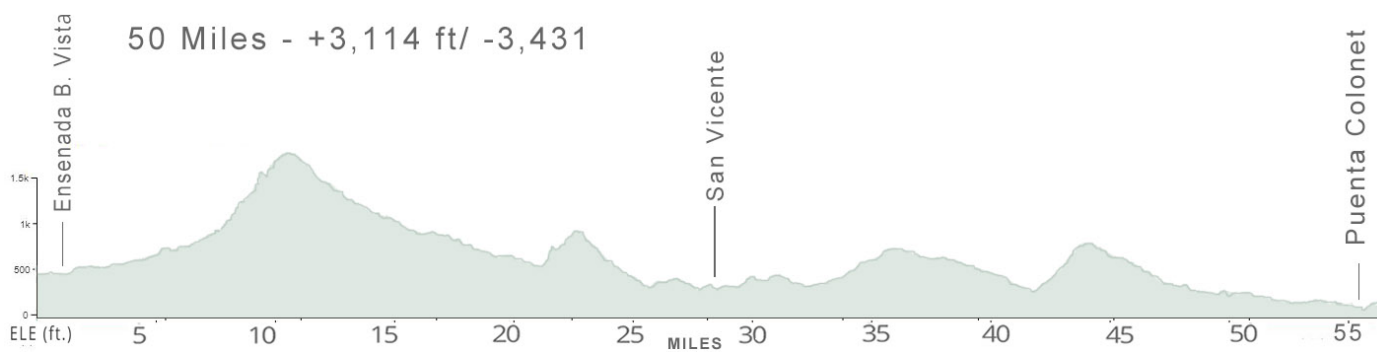


DAY 2: GAUDALUPE TO PUENTA COLONET

50 MILES +3,114 FEET

ARROYOS & EXPANSIVE VALLEYS

After a delicious breakfast of fresh flour tortillas, local huevos, queso, chilis, frijoles and fruit, we'll shuttle up the road for our day start in the sienna-colored mountains under expansive skies of Baja, rolling along the green pastures and through vast valley expanses and farms. As we crest hills, the landscapes open up and we'll enjoy breathtaking views over the expansive green valleys. In the afternoon, we reach our secluded beach resort with time to enjoy a walk on the sand before our dinner banquet.

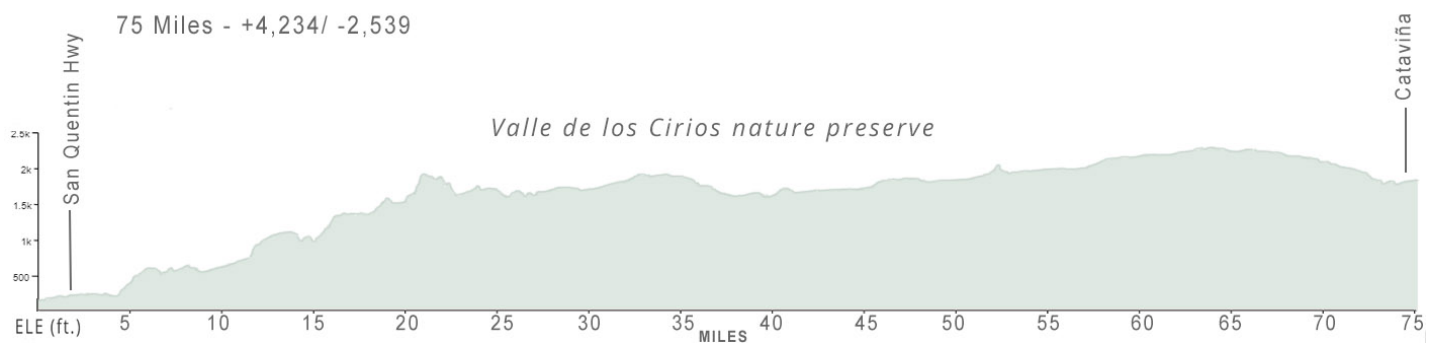


DAY 3: SAN QUINTÍN TO CATAVIÑA

VALLE DE LOS CIRIOS

75 MILES +4,234 FEET

This morning after the sunrises over the waves we'll be riding along the coast for a magnificent ride through a massive *Valle de los Cirios* nature preserve, with stunning landscapes resembling Joshua Tree, Moab and the Idaho flatirons as far as the eye can see. Along this desolate road without any towns, we'll marvel at our first glimpse of towering Cardón or Elephant Cactus, the world's largest cactus, which can reach up to 65 feet high. As we climb up onto the plateau, the sublime landscapes open up in dozens of miles in all directions, the only sounds are light breezes and very little traffic passes this way. As we reach our destination, a lonely outpost upon a spring, Cataviña, the giant rock boulder formations resemble something from Moab. Today will be our longest ride but there will plenty of cold cervezas waiting by the pool after we arrive.



DAY 4: CATAVIÑA TO SAN IGNACIO

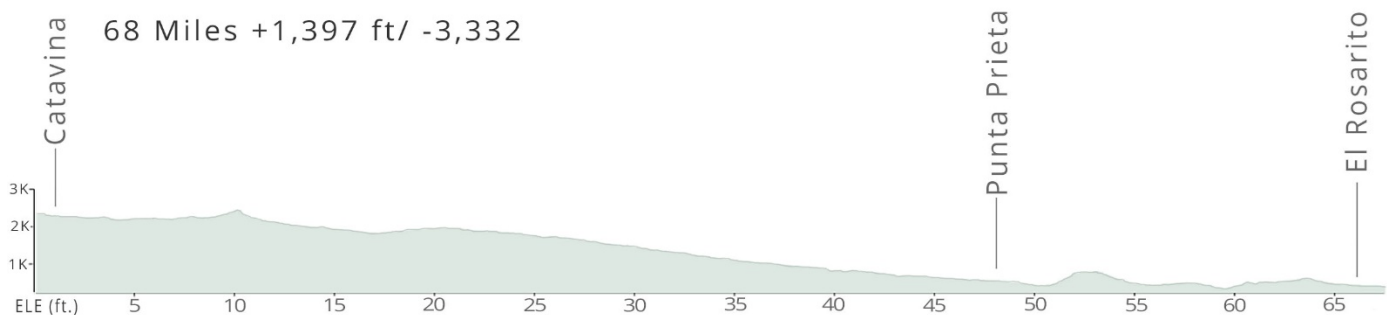
68 MILES +1,397 FT

THE CACTUS PLATEAU

If you're awake early, we'll have a short hike before breakfast watching the sun rise over the boulders as the colors change in the morning light. All around our route today is the bed of ancient ocean, now dotted with cactus and other desert plants as far as you can see. This day captures the wonderful solitude of Baja, with only a single town during our ride. Today is an easier flatter ride over newer pavement.



After stopping and loading up, we'll van to Guerrero Negro for a lunch of delicious fresh local lobster and seafood before moving on to San Ignacio, location of one of the first missions in Baja with a small colonial-era plaza that quant and untouristed.



DAY 5: SAN IGNACIO TO MULEGÉ

46 MILES +2,159 FT

ACROSS THE DIVIDE

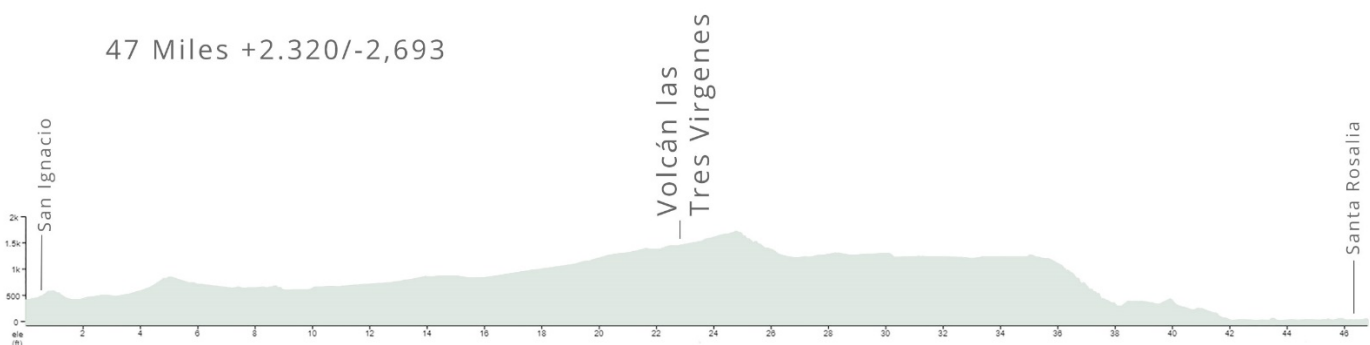
Wide colored canyons spread over the landscapes this morning, as we gradually climb a gentle grade of nearly two dozen miles, rewarded after the summit with panoramic views of massive valley of organ pipe and golden barrel cactus we will be dropping down into. After more rustic canyons and smaller ranges, we reach the blue waters of the Sea of Cortez.



After lunch along the coast, we'll shuttle to the small oasis town, Mulegé, at the mouth of the Río de Santa Rosalía. Settled by Jesuits in the mid-1700s and was location of the first mission built in Baja. In current years, it has become a bohemian enclave of artists.



47 Miles +2,320/-2,693

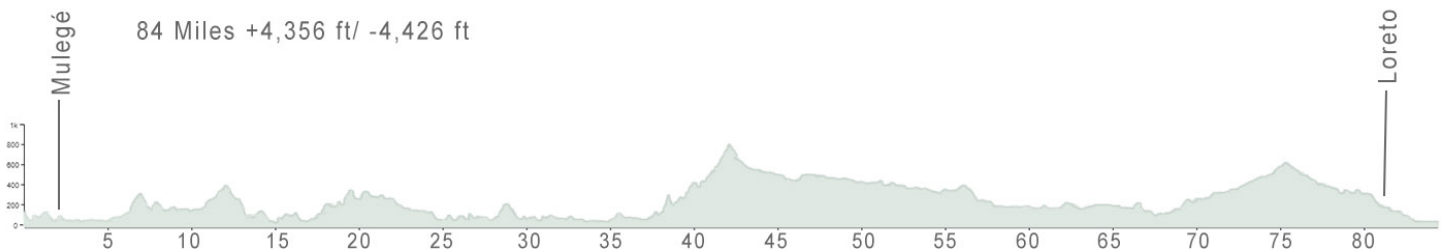


DAY 6: MULEGÉ TO LORETO

84 MILES +2,687 FT

BEACH COVES AND MOUNTAINS

Today's ride out of Mulegé is the most spectacular of the trip, meandering along the cliffs over postcard-perfect beach coves and lagoons set against the red cliffs rising to our right.



DAY 7: LORETO TO LA PAZ

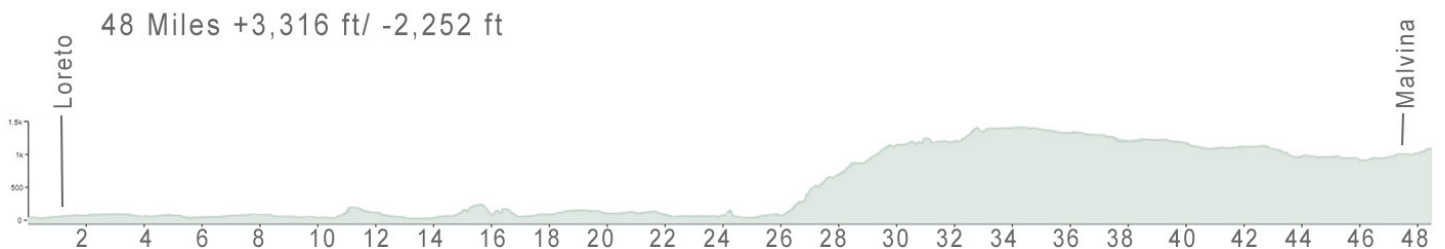
48 MILES +2,205 FT

THE LORETO BAY

After another delicious Mexican breakfast, we'll ride along the coast with sublime views of the Loreto Bay National Marine Park dotted with islands with a mix of stunning cliffs, wide sandy beaches and rock formations.



One the longest climbs of our trip appears as we turn inland, but it's a gentle grade of only two and half miles, followed by stunning canyon landscapes of red and green.

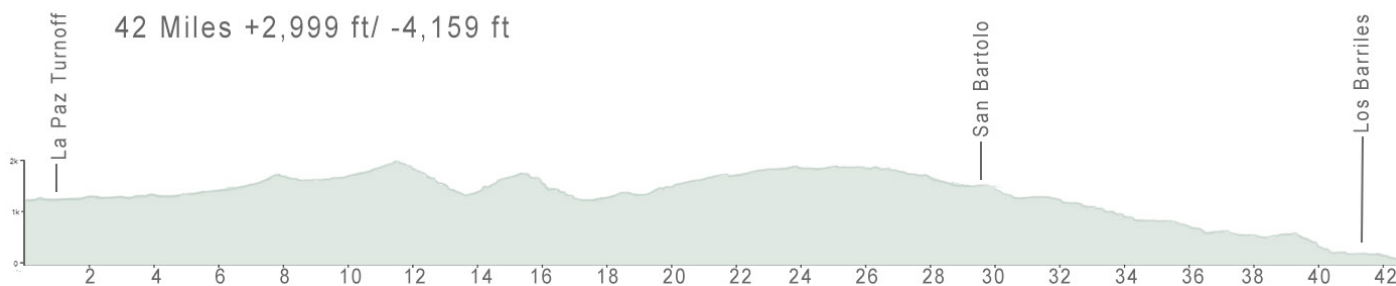


DAY 8: LA PAZ TO SAN JOSE DEL CABO

43 MILES +2,999 FT

WILD CANYONS & BLUE WATERS

After a morning stroll along the promenade and once last glimpse of the new central plaza, we'll shuttle outside of La Paz and begin our last day of riding through low mountains and scrub hills. Every hilltop features views of the surrounding canyons and twisting descents heading back towards the Sea of Cortez, where we'll break in kite-surfing mecca, Los Barriles, to pack it in. In the afternoon, we'll reach San Jose del Cabo, enjoying cold cervezas at the pool to celebrate the end of our journey. Tonight a seafood banquet has been arranged.



DAY 9: DEPARTURE HASTA LUEGO

Stay on for relaxing in Cabo, whale watching, sailing, cycling, or visiting nearby towns, such as Todos Santos.



DETAILS

2021 will mark our fourth season of cycling Baja, during which we've refined the trip to the best biking routes, places to stay, eating, and world-class support crew with over 20 years' experience. This eight-day journey is fully-supported. Riders can expect beautiful, safe rides, plenty of great Mexican grub, hot showers, and cultural activities on the side. **This 8-day trip is limited to 10 riders.** Register at veloasia.com

PRE-DEPARTURE

In addition to a pre-tour preparation packet for Baja, all riders are welcome to contact us in advance of the trip, for questions and information they may need.

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

Please contact us before arranging your flights for recommendations, or even booking a ticket. If flying, you'll want to arrive into San Diego or Tijuana Airports, with departure from Cabo San Lucas.

DAY-TO-DAY

Our Baja trips are designed for moderate to advanced riders **comfortable riding 2-5 hours at a steady pace**, though all riding is optional -- our Sag wagon is always nearby, even for a catching a quick lift up the longer climbs. We typically ride as a group, though faster riders may ride ahead if desired or add additional mileage. We typically depart mid-morning around 9 AM each day, with a break for lunch. Afternoons after arrival are free, or have schedule sightseeing, such as the Jesuit missions along our route. Mornings before we depart also provides some time to see local sights. **This trip may be booked as a private, custom tour for you and your friends or family**, but we recommend securing a trip at least 6-12 months in advance as hotels fill early.

WEATHER

The weather during the time of year we ride Baja is sunny and warm, with no rainfall, and typically in the 70s to 80s midday.

HOTELS

In places where there are choices, such as Guadalupe, La Paz and San Jose del Cabo, we stay at the finer properties, while in other places, such as Cataviña, we stay at the only accommodation available, which is rustic yet comfortable. Contact us for specific hotels by location.

DINING

All meals are included and feature the best of Baja, from delicious local taco stands, fresh seafood including lobster, grilled and rotisserie meats, heaping bowls of fresh guacamole with warm chips and some of the most delicious tortillas in all Mexico.

EMERGENCY & MEDICAL

For expediency, VeloAsia will arrange medical and evacuation coverage for your participation through a local service. The cost of this service is included in your trip cost.

TRIP LEADERS

Patrick Morris

"Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. "

Willard Ford

"Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco

laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur.”

John Brady

“Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. ”

TRIP COST

\$4,875 for a double room. Single rooms are limited, and are \$1,280 extra.

What's included

- Emergency medical and evacuation insurance
- Pre-trip packet
- All accommodations, all meals, snacks, bottled water
- Technical support and supplies (tools, tubes, tires, cables, etc.)

Not included

- Flight to and from Baja (can be arranged through us)
- Visa (about \$20, issued upon arrival)
- Bicycle and gear
- Alcoholic beverage
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Airport transfers (we may assist in arranging)

ABOUT

Since 1993, VeloAsia has organized bike tours to the most adventurous cycling destinations in the world, including Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Turkey, Myanmar, Sumatra, Albania, Bhutan, Chiapas, China, and more. See more about this and other trips at www.veloasia.com.

NEXT STEPS?

If you are ready to sign up, or if you have questions about this trip, other trips, or VeloAsia in general, give us a call at (415) 680-3788 between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Pacific Time). To secure your spot on this trip, please an non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person. Once we receive your deposit, we'll contact you about arrival and departure information and other details, and send you a pre-trip packet to you containing detailed information about the Baja trip.