

Searcher Natural History Tours

12-day Itinerary: Gear Checklist

TIP: You'll spend little time in your cabin as we keep you busy with wildlife, but it's important to pack lightly. *Searcher* is a 95-foot sportfishing vessel--cabins are small and storage is limited.

Clothes Choose clothes and shoes that will dry easily and can be worn several times. There are no laundry facilities though you can rinse small items and dry them outside. Attire is very casual. Daytime air temperatures are 60-80° F.

- Long- and short-sleeved shirts--items that layer are best.
- Warm jacket with wind protection
- Rain/ wind gear: Lightweight pants and jacket with waterproof hat or hood (Even an inexpensive set is advised for whalewatching in pangas.)
- Pants and shorts (lightweight fabrics)
- Socks and underclothes
- Sleeping attire and /or sweats for lounging
- Water sandals, aqua socks, or booties for beach landings / wet conditions
- Comfortable walking /hiking shoes, with tread and a sturdy sole. (Walking trails are not manicured. There can be rocky / slippery sections.)
- Hat with wide brim or visor for sun protection

Personal Items It's helpful to have a toilet kit for transport to the bathrooms.

- Medications (Include a seasickness prevention such as Dramamine, Bonine, or Meclizine. Check with your doctor for prescribed remedies such as the Scopalamine patch.)
- Glasses and /or contact lenses
- Lip balm with sun block and sun block (SPF 30 or higher). You should apply this several times a day.
- Minor first aid items: aspirin, antihistamine, band aids, antiseptic
- Toothbrush and paste

- Shampoo, soap, shaving items--*Please consider using unscented products for the comfort of others who may be allergic.*

Equipment

- Snorkeling equipment: mask, snorkel, fins, wet suit or rash guard

NOTES: We recommend you bring your own snorkeling equipment and practice with any equipment before the trip. However we supply a variety of masks, snorkels, and fins for shared use. Water temperatures vary from high 60's to low 70's in snorkeling areas. We recommend a wetsuit for prolonged enjoyment and sun protection.

- Binoculars (You will use these every day.)
- Field guides/Baja map (*Searcher* carries a library of pertinent books.)
- Backpack--day pack or fanny pack style
- Sunglasses with straps (Polarized lenses are great on the water.)
- Camera/accessories (Cabins and salon have plugs for battery recharging.)
- Trekking poles, if you use them regularly at home

Miscellaneous

- US dollars for *Searcher* souvenirs and crew gratuity. (10% of the trip cost is an average tip.) Personal or traveller's checks are acceptable for this as well. Cash for airport shuttle (\$25 US per person) and a meal in Cabo San Lucas. Mexican pesos are not needed.
- Reading material, note pad or journal, pencil
- Laptop/smart phone (If you use them for photography. There is no reliable internet connection until trip's end. Please don't use your phone for calls or texting-- keep the remote nature of the trip intact!
- Ear plugs and possibly a sleep-aid if you are sensitive to noise (Engines and/or generators run at night during travel.)
- Ziplock plastic bags or a dry sack (to protect your gear from salt water)
- Passport and air travel documents (You will receive a Mexican tourist visa from us which is valid for duration of your stay in the country.)

Cabin Notes

Your cabin will be small, but adequate for sleeping and storing your gear if you pack reasonably. If possible, use soft luggage as it stores easier. In each cabin there are storage shelves, a mirror, and a sink. Most people choose to relax or read in the indoor salon or outdoors on deck, and use their cabin for just sleeping and changing.

Bedding (pillow, case, sheets, and blanket) is provided. There is an electrical outlet (conventional US style) in each cabin for recharging batteries, cameras, laptops, and other electrical devices. Two medium-sized towels and a re-usable water bottle is provided for each passenger.