

# PADI DIVEMASTER



COURSE & INTERNSHIP



DIVENINJA  
EXPEDITIONS



PADI



5 STAR  
DIVE  
CENTER



2020  
Travellers' Choice



Tripadvisor

# PADI DIVEMASTER



## COURSE & INTERNSHIP



The Baja sun beams down where the rugged desert mountains meet the rich turquoise sea; a convergence of three essential elements that creates the endless opportunities for adventure on this rugged peninsula: Fire, Earth, and Water. Fire forges professionalism, earth builds ocean ambassadors, and water builds ninja-level skill proficiency. These three essential elements form the foundation of ninja PADI divemaster program.

When knowledge and experience are built upon this foundation by a dedicated team of mentors who have the tools to shape you into the best diver, ocean ambassador, and human you can be, the opportunities are endless. A diver who knows what it means to be a professional, and how to use their position to initiate positive change is a true asset to any dive operation or team.



# CHOOSE YOUR PATH: I WANT TO...



BUILD A CAREER IN SCUBA DIVING

## SHAPING PROFESSIONALS

Although the standard PADI Divemaster course is the most widely accepted pro-level training program in the world, without real world application and the right people to advise you, your training can be rather conventional in a consistently unconventional industry. Theory and skill training are just a small part of the transition from recreational diver to professional diver. Throughout our internship you will gain experience in all aspects of operating a dive business including sales, reservations, equipment maintenance, tour operations, logistics, filling tanks, designing eco-tours, and of course, diving. As a part of our team, you will learn to be an integral part of a dive team, build your resume, market yourself in the industry, and even develop additional skills such as photography and/or videography. You will be taught to the same standards that we hold our own Ninja Team to in our everyday operations, so that you will be an MVP wherever your career might take you.



BECOME AN

## OCEAN AMBASSADOR

As a leader in the ecotourism industry, this is our specialty. Based on our years of experience cultivating citizen-science experiences, working with local researchers, and helping communities transition to ecotourism, we have built a conservation-based program unlike any other PADI divemaster course out there. Join our collective of like-minded ocean conservationists to learn what it takes to be a true ecotourism operator from sourcing locally, to reducing waste, partnering with local operators, educating local communities, implementing sustainable regulations, supporting research, involving guests in conservation efforts, designing eco-tours, and so much more. Our conservation workshops will give you the tools to initiate positive change wherever you decide to go. Learning to work in diving while minimizing our impact on the environment we work in is crucial to the future of this industry and the health of our oceans. The more ambassadors who are impassioned by the captivating seas and equipped with the right tools, the better chance we have of saving this incredible underwater world that gives so many of us purpose and passion.



DEVELOP

## NINJA LEVEL DIVE SKILLS

Whatever your diving proficiency when you arrive, we will work with you to perfect it to ninja level standards. We don't mean just the skills outlined in the PADI curriculum either, we work to go beyond these base requirements and create true dive pros. Diving should become second nature, so natural in fact, that you can anticipate, respond, and fix problems before they even happen, like a ninja. We have a buoyancy workshop designed for technical divers, but geared towards professional candidates to fine tune buoyancy, and a fail-proof marine creature identification workshop for pros to quickly learn the fish of the area you are working in (a must for impressing your guests). Our deep pool is perfect for polishing skills until they are ninja-level performance quality, and our dive sites are varied to give you experience leading different types of dives in various conditions. After every dive/tour, you will follow-up with your mentor to discuss what to improve upon for the next dive, and how to anticipate scenarios. You won't be just a student, nor a shop slave, but a team member in training with a family of wise ninjas to guide you.



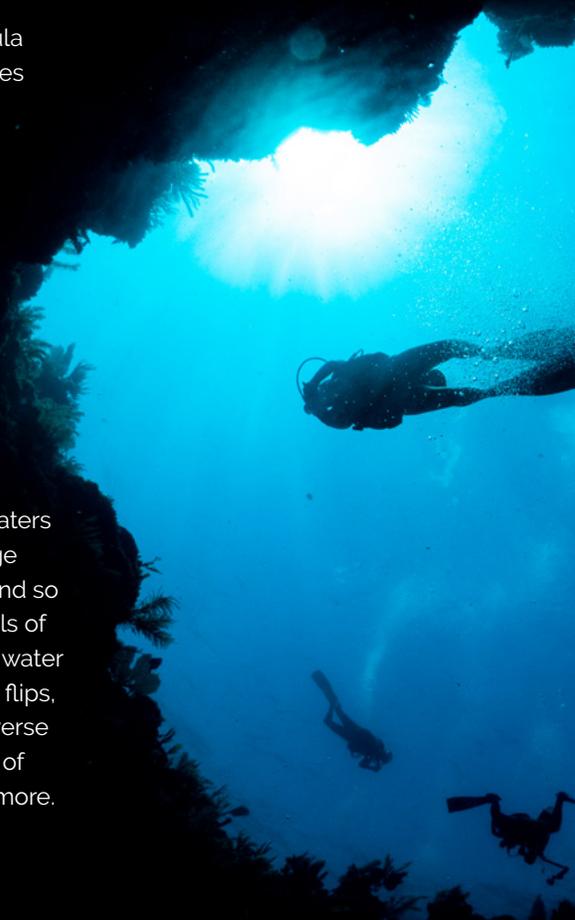
# WELCOME TO CABO SAN LUCAS



The Mexican city of Cabo San Lucas sits on the Southern tip of the Baja California Peninsula where the Pacific Ocean meets the Sea of Cortez. The coming together of these two bodies of water creates a magical scene below the surface resulting in one of the top, yet lesser known, scuba diving locations in the world. Here you can embrace an abundance of marine life in pristine waters and enjoy gorgeous beaches backdropped by some of the most incredible landscapes.

In 1973, the president of Mexico recognized the significance of this unique wildlife abode and declared the bay area of Cabo San Lucas a protected marine park. Making this a real wildlife aquarium. Then in 2005 UNESCO declared the bay of Cabo San Lucas a World Heritage Site. Dive sites range in depth from 8m (25ft) to 40m (130ft) for recreational divers, with many deep walls extending down below 100m (330ft) begging to be explored by avid technical divers.

The Cabo San Lucas Marine Park is just a 2 minute boat ride from the marina. The calm waters change throughout the year bringing a wealth of encounters. Here you can swim with large schools of tropical fish, enjoy the playfulness of sea lions, adventure out on a shark dive and so much more. One of the highlights of diving in Cabo San Lucas is to swim with large schools of Mobula Rays. Tens of thousands of Mobulas show up every summer and winter when the water begins to change temperatures. They can often be seen flying from the water doing back flips, showing off their acrobatic skills, as they search for mates. Divers can also swim with a diverse amount of other ocean creatures such as; schools of snapper, white tip sharks, tornadoes of sardines, turtles, eels, puffers, groupers, sea horses, tiny nudibranchs, frogfish and much more.



# TRAVEL INFO AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The Los Cabos International Airport is located in San José del Cabo, about 40 minutes away from Cabo San Lucas. Our shop is located in the heart of downtown Cabo San Lucas & only a few blocks from the marina.

There are plenty of hotels, hostels, resorts, and vacation rentals in the area. Our team can definitely recommend some places near the shop, just give us a shout. There are also lots of options on AirBnB too. For hotels we usually recommend Cabo Vista Hotel as all the rooms are studios and include a kitchen, great wifi, smart TVs with Netflix (and more) installed. Plus it's located only a few blocks from our shop and the main tourism hub, so tons of great options for restaurants and shops nearby.

You will also find it very easy to move around town as well as through Baja & Los Cabos with multiple transportation options ranging from the Ruta del Desierto bus, Uber, taxis, regional buses, rental car shops, and more.

## QUICK FACTS

**Airport:** Los Cabos International  
**Airport Code:** SJD  
**Currency:** Mexican Pesos  
US Dollars are also widely accepted  
**Power:** US style 110-127V  
**Timezone:** MST or MDT

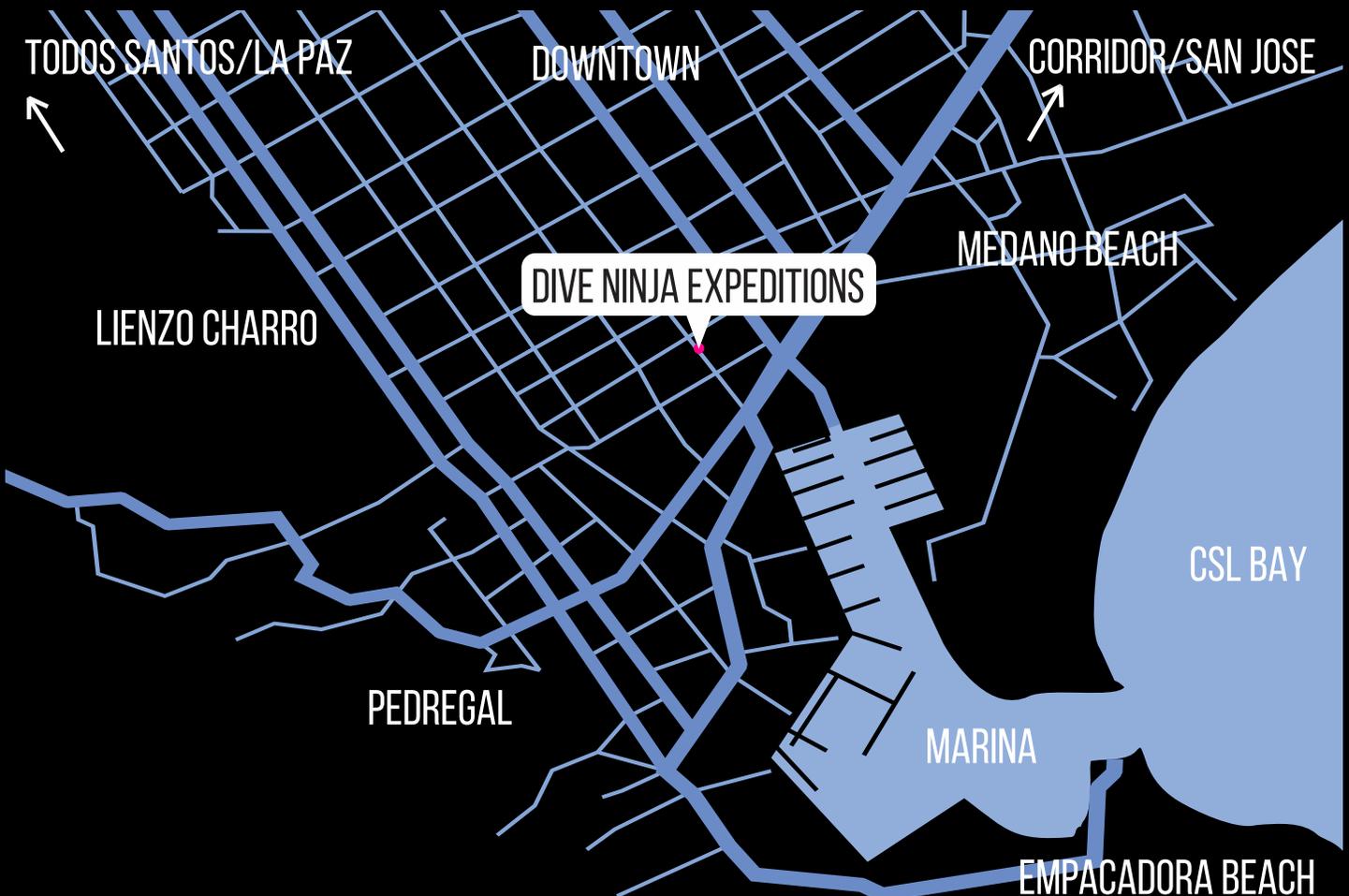
### Accommodation Suggestions:

**Cabo Vista Hotel**  
[www.CaboVistaHotel.com](http://www.CaboVistaHotel.com)  
Ph: +52 624 174 3257

**Baja's Cactus Hostel**  
Facebook: /BajasCactusHostel  
Ph: +52 624 143 5247

**Cabo Inn**  
[www.CaboInnHotel.com](http://www.CaboInnHotel.com)  
Ph: +52 624 143 0819

**AirBnB**  
[www.AirBnB.com](http://www.AirBnB.com)





## WHAT ELSE IS INCLUDED IN MY COURSE?

# WORKSHOPS & COURSES

### INTRODUCTION TO TRUE ECO TOURISM

This workshop centers around the foundations of sustainable operations that are actively working to preserve the ecosystem they are operating in with minimal impact. We will look at why ecotourism is important, how it can help the environment, and surrounding communities. This is the philosophy behind Dive Ninja Expeditions, and why we do what we do.

### DESIGNING ECO TOURS

This is an interactive, critical thinking workshop, where you will apply the skills you've learned to creating your own eco tour. You will identify what factors make an operation a true eco tour, learn tools and concepts for successful tours, and then work through designing your own conceptual eco tour in your home town or an area you'd like to work.

### FISH ID FOR DIVE PROS

This workshop will teach you how to quickly learn the marine life of new area you are working in to impress your guests and coworkers. The workshop has been built from years of experience of working in various marine environments and with multiple researchers. The course helps you develop a naturalist approach to be able to easily identify species through observing their physical attributes, location, and behavior.

### SUSTAINABLE DIVE OPERATIONS

No matter where your career takes you, you want to learn ways that you can make a positive impact on the area you are working in. We'll look at how simple changes in dive shop operations and procedures, can create tours with significantly less impact on the local environment and ecosystem to help create more sustainable dive operations wherever your professional dive career may take you.





## WHAT ELSE IS INCLUDED IN MY COURSE?

# WORKSHOPS & COURSES

### INTRO TO OCEAN CONSERVATION

This Project Aware course will discuss the root of conservation issues, ways that we can get involved in and out of the water, and how we can use the power of community to educate and inspire others to take action for our oceans now.

### NINJA UW PHOTOGRAPHY BASICS

For those interested in underwater photography, we offer our divemaster students our Ninja UW Photo basics course created by our in-house pro photographer.

### EMERGENCY O2 PROVIDER COURSE

This PADI certification course is required for working in some countries, and will teach you proper procedures, and techniques for the use of O2 for emergencies in various situations.

### EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

This PADI Equipment Specialist course is expanded to give you a better understanding of equipment maintenance, minor repairs, and common issues.

### WHALE DEFENDER COURSE

This PADI Distinctive Specialty was authored by Dive Ninjas and created from our work with Sea Shepherd to protect the whales of Baja. We'll learn about the challenges and successes of the conservation and protection of these gentle giants, as well as the evolution, migratory patterns, biology, threats, and incredible intelligence of these mammals.

### WORKING IN REMOTE AREAS / LEADING EXPEDITIONS WORKSHOP

In this workshop we look at the risks of working in remote areas and how to negate them as much as possible through proper planning, logistics, training, and protocols.

### NINJA BUOYANCY WORKSHOP

A workshop originally designed for buoyancy critical technical diving but modified to help professional candidates fine tune their buoyancy.

### AN INTRO TO SHARKS (BIO & CONSERVATION)

In this workshop you'll learn the basics of shark biology, evolution, anatomy, threats, conservation, info on the local species, shark & ray tourism guidelines, and how you can take actions to help them.

### RESUME & JOB INTERVIEW WORKSHOP

The dive industry is not like other industries, we want to make sure that you reach your full potential after the internship. In this workshop, you will learn how to build a resume, networking, and interviewing techniques to land your dream job in this niche community.

### NINJA GUIDING WORKSHOP

This workshop goes beyond what you learn in the PADI Divemaster and creates real life scenarios to work through while providing important information and tips.



HAVE QUESTIONS?

# WE'VE GOT ANSWERS

On the next pages you'll find answers to frequently asked questions. But no stress, feel free to contact our team any time if you have any questions or if anything is unclear. Our ninjas are happy to help in any way they can to make the entire process as easy as possible.

## ABOUT THE DIVEMASTER COURSE

### HOW MANY DIVES ARE INCLUDED?

There is not a set specific number of dives but our goal is to have you in the water training with our team as much as possible.

### WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE THE REQUIRED 40 DIVES TO START MY DIVEMASTER?

No worries! We can add on the dives before your internship for a special divemaster-in-training discount, just speak with one of our instructors!

### DO YOU INCLUDE RENTAL GEAR?

Professional divers should have and maintain their own gear, however, if you do not have your own gear yet, we can help you acquire it during your internship with us. We get industry discounts with our partner brands Cressi, Aqualung, Apeks, ScubaPro, 22 Degrees, and more. If you are still unsure about owning your own gear, we can also work out a long term rental discount for the entirety of your internship.

### HOW MANY INTERNS WILL THERE BE?

Group size depends on the time of year, but we limit our program to a max of 4 divemaster candidates at a time. We take pride in focusing on quality, not quantity here at Dive Ninjas, and we like to focus on the individual needs of our students.

### HOW LONG IS THE COURSE?

If you are only taking the Divemaster internship it will be for 4 to 6 weeks. You can let us know if you have a preference, such as 5 weeks and we will set your schedule to that time frame. If you are arriving without the required prerequisites for the Divemaster course then timing will depend on your current certification & experience level. For example, if you arrive as an open water diver, advanced diver, rescue diver, etc.

### WHAT IS THE WATER TEMPERATURE? WHAT WETSUIT SHOULD I BRING?

The water temperature can range from 30C/86F to 16C/60F depending on the time of year, therefore our staff wear either no wetsuits at all or just a 3mm wetsuits from August through January, and 5-7mm the rest of the year. It always depends on the person, but once you know which month you would be joining us our team can give you the best recommendations for that time of year.

### IS IT POSSIBLE TO WORK WITH DIVE NINJAS AFTER THE COURSE?

Although we train each one of our divemaster trainees to the same standards as our own Ninja staff, unfortunately we do not have the financial resources to hire every single one of our new divemasters, but we sure do wish we could! However, you will always be a part of this Ninja family, and we maintain a network of close friends and contacts in the industry here in Baja and all over the world that we would be happy to refer you to. Having the best training and recommendations, puts you at a huge advantage in this industry where it is all about who you know. We do all that we can, during and after to make sure that our divemasters achieve their potential in this close-knit community.

## WHAT IS THE BEST TIME OF YEAR TO DO MY DIVEMASTER INTERNSHIP IN CABO?

Our high season runs from about mid November into April, with a great variety of marine creatures. Late summer & autumn brings clear warm waters. In winter & spring the water begins to cool but brings the larger animals and whales. April & May are the coldest water, but also the beginning of mobula season. October & November are the warmest waters. We are fortunate enough to dive all year around here in Cabo. There's always something awesome to find so you can come any time. Contact our team to discuss when you want to come, and we can let you know all the details of that time of year.

## WHAT ADDITIONAL ITEMS/EQUIPMENT DO I NEED FOR THE DIVEMASTER COURSE?

In addition to the standard scuba equipment, PADI Standards state that each divemaster candidate must have in their personal possession the following items:

- PADI Divemaster Manual
- PADI Instructor Manual
- RDP — Table or eRDPml
- The Encyclopedia of Recreational Diving
- Divemaster Slates
- Log book

### Recommended

- PADI's Guide to Teaching
- Diving Knowledge Workbook or Dive Theory Online
- PADI Skill Practice and Dive Planning slate

But don't stress, most of these come in your Divemaster crew pack, which we can have waiting for you in the shop when you arrive. Anything you don't have we can help you get at a discount. These are considered "must have" items though, and are essential for professional divers, enabling you to do your job safely and effectively.



## ABOUT MEXICO/ ACCOMMODATION & COSTS

### IS IT SAFE TO LIVE AND WORK IN MEXICO?

Cabo San Lucas is a tourist hub, where it is safe to walk, take an Uber or drive around downtown and the neighboring towns of Los Cabos. We have a really low crime rate and many tourists & expats enjoy spending time here year after year. You will also find that violent crime rates in Cabo and most of Mexico is much lower than most US cities. Our staff walk to work everyday, and everything is within walking distance from our shop: restaurants, convenience stores, the marina and even the beaches.

### WHAT IS THE COST OF LIVING IN CABO?

Depending on your standard of living you can live very cheap here in Cabo, as it is Mexico after all. Accommodation can range from 300 to 500 USD for rent per month or more depending on what you are looking for. There are lots of different options. The cost of a meal out can vary from \$100 pesos (\$4 US dollars) at the taco stand, to \$600 pesos or more for a fancy dinner. Cooking for yourself is even cheaper!

### WHAT ABOUT MY VISA FOR A LONG TERM STAY?

Mexico grants US, Canada, and most European citizens an automatic 6 month visa upon arrival, no need to apply in advance or fill out any paperwork. If you are from other countries, or are not sure please check with your country's foreign affairs office or the Mexican embassy in your capital city to find out any requirements. You can look for your country in the following list: <https://www.inm.gob.mx/gobmx/word/index.php/paises-requieren-visa-para-mexico/>

### IS IT EASY TO GET MONEY IN CABO USING LOCAL BANKS AND ATM'S?

Bank ATM's are usually the best way to go. You can withdraw USD and MXN at the best possible rate, generally with just the same low transaction fee you pay at home. Please double check with your bank. Most stores here take credit and debit cards, but it is best to check with your card to make sure you are not



charged a high currency conversion fee on purchases. Additionally, you can get cash advances from your credit card at most banks. Western Union transfers are also available.

## WHAT OTHER OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN CABO BEFORE, DURING, OR AFTER MY INTERNSHIP?

You can immerse yourself in the culture here and take a Spanish language course, you can learn from some of the leading scientists in marine research in different local programs, or you can join one of our many citizen-science expeditions for Mobula Rays, Mako Sharks, Striped Marlins, or Whale Conservation, or you can volunteer in one of the many environmental initiatives happening right here in Cabo. Let us know what you are interested in and we can point you in the right direction.

## WHAT DO DIVEMASTER INTERNS DO FOR FUN IN THEIR DOWNTIME?

Cabo San Lucas is an amazing tourist town with restaurants, bars, beach clubs and lots of different things to do in town. You could also visit other nearby towns such as San José del Cabo and it's coffee shops and galleries, Cerritos to get some sun and catch some waves, Todos Santos for a different view, La Paz to check out the beautiful Malecón of the capital city of Baja California Sur and Cabo Pulmo for an amazing experience on the East Cape.

When you're not diving or training with our team, there is something for everyone here in Baja. A plethora of hiking trails some with waterfalls, natural hot springs, and stunning views of the Sea of Cortez and Pacific Ocean, miles of deserted coastline, surfing, bars and nightlife, salsa dancing, and of course incredible wildlife. Go for a free dive off the beach, or join in on one of the tours when space allows to go whale watching, swimming with whale sharks, getting up-close and personal with pelagic sharks and so much more.

## WILL I BE ABLE TO USE MY PHONE? WHAT ABOUT INTERNET AVAILABILITY?

Check with your carrier, some of them like AT&T will include Mexico in their plans without paying any further fees. Wi-Fi is readily available almost everywhere in Cabo, programs like Skype, Viber or WhatsApp are very popular. Local SIM cards can be purchased for very cheap and can cost less than 10 USD per month for an internet plan with international calling to the US and Canada. Telcel is the carrier most of the staff and locals here use on their personal phones. High speed, fiber optic internet is available in our shop and in most locations around Cabo, therefore, you should have no problem connecting to friends and family back home!

## WHAT SHOULD I BRING WITH ME?

We recommend bringing clothing appropriate for a warm, tropical environment. However, it is the desert and it does tend to get chilly in the mornings and evenings, therefore it is really good to have a warm hoodie or pullover - especially in February and early March. Sometimes it rains in the months of August to October, so a light rain jacket or umbrella is recommended during this time. Bring whatever makes you comfortable in addition to your clothes and toiletries. Laptops are a huge asset during training and for your social life. iPods, Tablets, cameras, phones and all the usual stuff you take with you on your travels.

## WHAT OTHER COSTS CAN I EXPECT BESIDES ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD?

PADI Divemaster crew-pak, transportation to and from the airport, transportation around town, as well as extracurricular activities are not included. For getting around town walking or Uber are the most popular options. You will also find other means of transportation like taxis and buses. It is generally about 50 pesos (\$2 USD) to get anywhere in downtown Cabo. All of your training dives, pool sessions, workshops and the occasional office pizza or donut party are included.

# NOW I WANT TO KNOW, WHAT'S THE COST?



Whatever your career goals, or future aspirations, we want to help you make it happen in a sustainable way. We know, once you arrive, the indescribable beauty of Baja will move you not only to share its beauty with others but to also protect it. From the tiniest of nudibranchs to the most charismatic megafauna, there is something here that stirs.

We want this place to inspire others the way it inspired us to create Dive Ninjas in the first place, and the whole reason this divemaster program was born: to shape more dive professionals working to protect our oceans. Learn from our experience, share our passion, and help us create a future where humans and nature can coexist through true ecotourism. Lets go diving!

## PRICE

\$1650 USD

## DURATION

4-6 weeks

## AVAILABILITY

All year starting on any date

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Full PADI Divemaster course, 10+ specialized ninja workshops, PADI O2 Provider & PADI Equipment specialty courses, all divemaster training (theory, pool, & ocean sessions), divemaster internship and more!

## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

Divemaster crew pack, PADI membership fee upon completion of course, rental gear & accommodation.

DIVE NINJA EXPEDITIONS IS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH:



WHAT ELSE DO YOU OFFER?

# ADD-ONS & MORE



Before, during, or after your course you can experience all that this incredible peninsula has to offer on land and in the sea. Check out what else you can do!

## TECHNICAL DIVING

We've got you covered from Sidemount to Technical Trimix training with access to depths of 100+ meters (330 ft) in our Marine Park bay just a 2 minute boat ride from the marina, which has created a tight knit community of experienced tec divers right here in Cabo.

## FREEDIVING

The conditions here couldn't be more perfect, and our instructors would be happy to introduce you to this increasingly popular activity. You can also join one of the active freediving groups here to go out and explore.

## SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES

Although most locals here speak english, they are always happy to help when someone shows interest in learning their language. We can help you find a spanish language school, or even private lessons while you are here.

## WHALE WATCHING

During winter, humpbacks, blue whales, grey whales, and even fin whales come to the waters along the Baja coastline. Join us on a whale defender tour in our own backyard or travel up the coast with us on our Gentle Giants expedition.

## SEASONAL WILDLIFE TOURS

From the Mobula Ray aggregations in the summer, to the Striped Marlins and Sardine Run in the fall, to whales & Mako Sharks in the winter, join us on one of our expeditions to explore the remote corners of the Baja peninsula.

## SHARK DIVING

Swim with Makos, smooth hammerheads, blues, and silky sharks year around with our pelagic shark diving experts right offshore from Cabo San Lucas.

## CABO PULMO

Experience one of the most successful marine UNESCO World Heritage sites in the world and dive with bull sharks and tornadoes of jacks on a day trip.

## LA PAZ

Jump on a day trip to La Paz to swim with whale sharks in the bay of La Paz, or take a boat out to Los Islotes Marine Park to swim with one of the largest colonies of California Sea Lions.

## CORAL RESTORATION

Volunteer with us on the new coral restoration project we have been developing with Sea Shepherd in Cabo.

