



Celebrating over 20 years of 'once-in-a-lifetime' moments

BAJA SEA KAYAKING, WHALE WATCHING & MULTI SPORT – PACKING LIST

The packing list outlined below is meant to serve as a guide to help you plan, prepare and outfit yourself for your upcoming travels. Below, we have provided our best recommendations and suggestions. These suggestions are broken down by your tour type and are based on the outlined itinerary, the geographic region, our knowledge of Baja, and our personal experience. We hope you find this list helpful, use it as a guide and feel free to amend it with your favorite travel items too!

Gear Provided:

ROW Sea Kayak Adventures provides all necessary equipment for your selected tour, including: personal flotation devices (PFDs), snorkeling gear, all kayaking equipment, bikes, and paddle boards. ROW will also provide all necessary camping equipment for your tour, including: tent, cot (on whale camp & multi-sport tours), sleeping pad, sleeping bag, sleeping bag liner, and pillow with pillow case.

Luggage Recommendations:

ROW's adventures are best enjoyed if you travel light. We think it is wise to avoid checking any luggage under the plane. If you do check a bag, make sure that you have everything that is either essential or would be hard to replace, with you in your carry-on. Please see below for our specific luggage recommendations for your sea kayaking, whale watching, or multi-sport tour.

- 1. One roll-on (ideally a non-hard-sided version) or duffel luggage that meets carry-on requirements** – This will serve as your main piece of luggage for the trip. You can leave luggage behind in storage at your tour hotel during your kayaking or whale watching tour. If desired, you can pack an extra soft-sided duffel inside your main luggage for souvenirs on your return flight. Again, while we recommend using only carry-on luggage, checking baggage can be done at your discretion.
- 2. One small day pack (Non-Kayaking Tours)** – This dual purposed pack can serve as your personal item during your flights as well as your day pack during the tour (except on kayak tours, as explained in the dry bag section below). Outside zippered pockets are nice and allow you to organize your travel gear. Carry medications, travel documents, important personal items and other essentials or “hard to-replace” items in this on the plane.
- 3. Dry bags (Kayaking Tours Only):** At the orientation meeting on the evening before we start kayaking, we will provide each guest with 3 dry bags (two 20-Liter bags and one 10-Liter bag). Your kayaking guides will provide a full explanation of how to use and pack your dry bags. That evening you will pack all of your gear for your kayaking tour into your three dry bags. *The rest of your luggage can be checked into the locked hotel closet the following morning before departing for your tour.*



*This is an example of the dry bags that will be provided at your kayaking tour orientation meeting. While you will have a total of 50 Liters of space between your 3 dry bags, it is important to embrace “packing light.” This doesn’t mean that you have to pack light for your entire vacation, just think small and light for anything you plan to bring kayaking.

Packing List Essentials:

- Passport – must be valid for at least six (6) months after the date of your arrival
- A photocopy of your passport, inside a ziplock bag and stowed elsewhere in your luggage (*As an additional precautionary measure, consider leaving a photocopy with family or friends at home as well*)
- Copy of your air tickets with ticket numbers, placed elsewhere in your luggage
- Plan to use cash (pesos) for small purchases, taxis and gratuities
- Credit and/or Debit/ATM card that works internationally, ideally with chip technology (*Before leaving home, notify your bank of your travel to help prevent any fraud detection holds on your card*)
- Watch or small travel clock with alarm (*if you are taking a phone, this can serve as your alarm clock*)
- Money belt or concealed passport carrier to carry your passport, travel documents and money, hidden under your clothing
- TSA-accessible lock for luggage security when not on your person (*optional- can buy these at any travel or outdoor recreation store*)



Adventure Clothing:

- One - three pair long, lightweight, nylon pants with zipper pockets (*zip off legs give you more options*)
- One- two pair nylon shorts (*this can double as a swimsuit for the guys*)
- Swimsuit
- Sarong (*optional but super handy for changing clothes, laying on the ground, etc.*)
- One - three short sleeve button-up shirt(s) or t-shirt(s) (*synthetic is best*)
- One - three long sleeve shirts for sun protection (*tight-weave nylon shirts with SPF protection made by companies such as Columbia, Patagonia, Exofficio or REI etc. Sun protection is essential*)
- Underwear (*synthetic is best*)
- One wide-brim, tie-on hat (*the floppy nylon variety is ideal, as it packs well.*)
- One lightweight raincoat (*a windbreaker that has some waterproof qualities will work as well*)
- Three pair light synthetic or merino wool socks
- One pair sturdy trail shoes, or running shoes, to use for hiking and for casual camp time
- One pair sandals with ankle straps to wear while kayaking, on the beaches, walking around towns, etc. (*Chaco, Keens or Tevas are preferred but there are many other brands that are suitable*)
- Extra synthetic or wool layers (e.g. long underwear) for warmth during cool evenings

Casual Pre & Post Activity Clothing:

- One - two other comfortable pairs of pants/shorts/skirts/dresses
- One - two short sleeve, long sleeve and/or button up shirt(s)
- One light sweater or jacket for warmth in the evenings and mornings
- One pair pajamas
- Underwear and socks

Gear and Other Essentials:

- One pair of paddling gloves (*optional for all kayaking tours*)
- Small day pack or fanny pack for hikes (*optional*)
- One water bottle, 1 liter or larger (*A bottle that fits in a daypack pocket or clips to the outside is ideal*)
- One buff or bandana for sun protection and cooling off
- Camera/batteries/battery charger (*Mophie battery packs for all USB enabled devices are a great option*)
- Waterproof Camera Case (*For non-waterproof cameras you may want to bring a small dry box or bag to use while kayaking*)
- Binoculars (*Optional but nice for bird and wildlife watching*)
- Sunglasses, polarized are highly recommended for sun protection and enhanced clarity (*Extra pair of sunglasses and glasses/contacts*)
- Retaining strap for glasses and sunglasses (*Chums, Croakies or similar item*)
- Flashlight or Head Lamp
- Three to four kitchen garbage can liners – for wet clothes, dirty laundry, soiled shoes, etc.
- A few quart-size or 1-gallon ziplock bags for packing sunscreens, lotions or anything that might make a mess
- Books or E-reader, pen and note pad, iPod/small portable music player with headphones (*optional*) (*we recommend 1-2 books at most; keep games and “extras” small in size and to a minimum*)
- Towel (small lightweight towel, backpacking style works great)

Toilet Kit/First Aid:

- Standard toiletry kit including general hygiene products, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc. (*keep liquids under 3.38 oz.(100ml) for carry-on*)
- Insect Repellent Bug Spray or Bug Balm
- Sun Screen and Lip balm with SPF 15-30
- Pre-moistened toilette packets or disposable shower wipes to refresh
- Personal medicines and Prescriptions (*Dramamine-motion sickness, Benadryl -allergic reactions, Advil or Aspirin, etc.*)
- Heavy duty skin lotion for dry, sun-baked and salted skin
- Small squeeze bottle of hand-sanitizer gel
- Shampoo and soap (*we recommend biodegradable, multi-purpose options*)



Packing Tips for your Baja Adventure Tour

Whale Camp Travelers:

If you are visiting one of our Whale Camps, either Magdalena Bay or San Ignacio Lagoon, we would like to offer the following additional suggestions:

- **Use Soft Sided Luggage:**
We do not use dry bags for our Whale Camp tours. If you will be joining us at Whale Camp, we suggest using soft sided luggage for your main bag. Your bag will accompany you to our Whale Camp, where it will be transported by Van and Panga. Using soft sided luggage will make this transfer easier.
- **Pack An Extra Layer:**
The evenings and early mornings at Magdalena Bay and San Ignacio Lagoon can be chilly. We suggest packing a lightweight synthetic or down jacket, synthetic or merino wool long underwear, and a knit hat.
- **Pack Extra Batteries:**
You will likely take a lot of photos while whale watching. Packing extra batteries will ensure you don't miss any great shots. *(While we do have a solar charger available at our whale camps, please don't plan on this as your sole source of power)*
- **Pack A Book Or Small Games:**
Our Whale Camp tours offer free time in the afternoons and evenings. You can always go for a hike, stroll the beach or hang out with fellow guests; however if you think you may want to just relax, pack an e-reader or book, and some small travel games.

Kayaking Clothing Suggestions:

We highly suggest that all of your kayak clothing is synthetic or wool, **not cotton**. Synthetics are also ideal for activity, as they wick away moisture from the body and dry quickly. *(Added SPF protection in your clothing is always a great option for Baja)*

Re-Wear Your Clothes:

The suggested numbers of clothing items are based on a one week adventure tour. **We suggest using 1-2 kayaking or touring outfits, and 1-2 camp outfits that you will reuse throughout the trip.** You are welcome to bring extra clothing for before or after your trip. *(Note: If you are on a combo tour, and will be returning to the hotel in between activities, this is a great opportunity to wash some of your clothing in the hotel sink or bathroom.)*

Baja Temperatures:

Baja has a desert climate. The weather is typically dry, warm, and sunny, with temperatures ranging between 60 - 90 F. While it may be very warm during the day, temperatures can drop down to the 60's (50's at Whale Camp) during the evening hours. Please plan to pack appropriate layers for the evenings. If you are interested in more specific information regarding the weather in Baja, we highly suggest this website (<http://www.wunderground.com/history/>). If you put in the location you are traveling, and the date, it will provide you with historical weather data that you can use to plan for your upcoming adventure.

**If you have any questions, or need gear suggestions, please don't hesitate to call the office or shoot us an e-mail. We are happy help!*