

# Know Before You Go



## Socorro Islands / Archipelago de Revillagigedo

January 11, 2022

### WELCOME TO THE SOCORRO ISLANDS ABOARD QUINO EL GUARDIAN

We are very excited to have you travel with us. Our destinations are magical, and our reputation is world-class. Because of this, many of our guests come back year after year. Our entire staff is here to ensure that you have a fantastic experience. In this package, you will find information to help you prepare for your upcoming adventure. If you have any questions or special requests, please contact us. We look forward to seeing you!

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### QUINO EL GUARDIAN LIVEBOARD

c/o Carmina Nephew  
3796 E. Boise Ave  
Boise, ID 83706-3796  
M (602)558-9580  
F (602)926-8360  
www.MexicoLiveaboards.com  
Info@MexicoLiveaboards.com

24 Hours Emergency Phone Numbers  
(602)558-9580

Boat Satellite Phone  
881 6326 54109

#### DORA SIERRA

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#### VALERIE VISKAS

Guest Services (Passenger Documents)  
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## ABOUT SOCORRO ISLANDS

Our Socorro season is the beginning of November through the end of May. Our trips are typically ten days, nine nights, and six days of diving unless otherwise stated.

The Revillagigedo Islands (also Revillagigedo Archipelago) are a group of four volcanic islands in the Pacific Ocean, known for their unique ecosystem. The islands are home to many endemic plant and animal species. Socorro island is the most diverse in flora, fauna, and topography.

The islands lie 250 miles off Baja Mexico's southern shore. When embarking on a trip to the Socorro Islands, we plan to dive the islands of San Benedicto, Socorro, and Roca Partida. Due to the distance to Clarion, this is only dived on more extended expeditions.

These islands are a spectacular magnet for the largest ocean pelagic animals in the world. Animals include schooling hammerhead sharks, tiger sharks, friendly bottlenose dolphins, silky sharks, Galapagos sharks, clouds of jacks and barracuda, tuna, wahoo, oceanic white tip sharks, whale sharks, and manta rays.

Manta Rays are the claim to fame for Socorro Islands. The island where they predominately congregate is San Benedicto. The magical dive site called "The Boiler" is a submerged sea mount and cleaning station. More than a half dozen mantas frequent this pinnacle regularly. The mantas in the Revillagigedo Islands are friendly and enjoy the presence of humans. This is truly an exceptional place to experience the manta magic.

Humpback whales visit during the winter months of mid-February through mid-April. We often hear the sounds of the singing mating males as they provide escort underwater. Surface sightings are common during this time.

Whale sharks can be seen during November, December, and May. May is also a time when we can see giant bait balls and pods of false orcas.

This destination can only be dived by a liveaboard dive vessel. It takes approximately 26-28 hours one-way to reach the islands. This is an excellent dive destination for large pelagic animals due to the islands' open ocean nature, which sometimes includes currents and choppy conditions. The underwater topography consists of rocky outcroppings, boulders, and some incredible walls. There is not much in the way of coral, as this is a cooler water destination.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Socorro Park rules prohibit the wearing of gloves or knives and use of flashlights. It also prohibits night dives. Lights that are attached to a camera are allowed.

## DIVING

The crew of Quino el Guardian is here to help you in any way possible to make your visit to the Socorro Islands an unforgettable experience.



We provide 80 cubic ft. aluminum tanks that are both DIN & yoke compatible as well as weights.

The passengers will be divided into three groups. Each group will have its own divemaster to help guests and lead the dives. Dives will be made from two 18' Achilles inflatables, each with a driver vigilantly looking for bubbles. The inflatables have very sturdy divers. Upon surfacing, the inflatable will come to you. Divers will remove their BCD and the driver will lift it into the boat. Once at the ladder, divers remove their fins and climb in the boat. When the inflatable get back to the boat, the crew will put your gear away for you.

## **ABOUT THE BOAT**

Quino el Guardian is of the utmost seaworthiness and is approved by both the U.S. Coast Guard and the Mexican Coast Guard. It is equipped with state-of-the-art electronics and all safety equipment required.

Quino el Guardian is 90' long with a 23' beam.

The number of guests Quino el Guardian accommodates is 16.

There are four air-conditioned cabins that sleep four guests each. There are two bunks on each side, two upper bunks and two lower bunks. Each bunk has a privacy curtain. Each cabin is outfitted with four large drawers, one for each guest. There is also storage space under the bottom bunks and clothing/towel hooks in the main cabin area. Cabins are typically assigned by gender.

There is one cabin with 2 bunks that sleeps 2 with one upper and one lower bunk. This cabin is generally reserved for a couple.

Our guests enjoy comfortable mattresses and quality bed linens. Our steward cleans all rooms, bunks, and bathrooms during the first dives of the day. We provide bath towels and dive deck towels, and these are changed mid-trip.

Quino has four, air-conditioned bathrooms with a full-size shower in each bathroom on the dive deck. Each cabin is assigned to a bathroom so guests can leave their personal items and towels in the bathroom. Shampoo and soap dispensers are in each shower. There are two lavatories on the dive deck that are shared by all passengers.

The galley comfortably accommodates all 16 passengers. The galley also has a projector, and a large drop-down screen should your group want to do presentations.

The comfortable salon has sofas, a TV, and a computer table.

The dive deck is large and well organized with a spacious camera table. There is a dive platform for ease of boarding the inflatables. Quino has two 18' Achilles inflatables for the safety and ease of our divers with very sturdy ladders.

On the second deck, there is a large, shaded sundeck with lawn chairs for relaxing between dives. All voltage aboard Quino el Guardian is 110 just like the USA.

For photos and more details, please visit our website: [www.MexicoLiveaboards.com](http://www.MexicoLiveaboards.com).

Quino el Guardian reserves the right to allocate room assignments as needed.

## ONLINE PASSENGER INFORMATION & LIABILITY RELEASE

No later than 30 days prior to your trip, all passengers are to complete an online passenger registration and liability release form. This can now be done completely online and can be found at [HERE](#) or go to [www.MexicoLiveaboards.com](http://www.MexicoLiveaboards.com) and scroll to the bottom of the home page. The link is under *General Information*.

To make this process as easy as possible, gather all pertinent information such as dive certifications, medical and dive insurance information, etc. before you start. Read the instructions provided at the beginning of the form. Once you start, you will have a 4-hour window to complete the form otherwise you will need to restart the process. You can always update your travel information closer to the trip date.

The more information we have about you, the better we can accommodate your needs including dietary restrictions if any.

Once you complete this form, you can download and print your own copy for your records.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Valerie in Guest Services at [Documents@MexicoLiveaboards.com](mailto:Documents@MexicoLiveaboards.com).

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Quino el Guardian maintains daily contact with our US office via radio communications. We are ready for constant communication in the event of an emergency. Your family and friends are welcome to contact our office at (602)558-9580 in case of an emergency. Our office staff will immediately assist your family and friends in getting messages to you. We also have a satellite phone onboard for your use and emergency needs. The phone number is 011 881 6326 54109 and the rate for using the phone is \$2 per minute.

We do not have Wi-Fi on the boat.

## GETTING TO THE BOAT

Quino el Guardian is located at Marina Puerto Los Cabos in San Jose del Cabo. Guests fly into San Jose del Cabo (airport code SJD). Guests are responsible for their own transportation to and from the boat. The marina is about 25 minutes from the airport.

After you collect your bags and leave customs, you will enter a lobby. Before you exit the lobby to go outside, you will see a counter to the left that says TAXI. You can book a taxi and pay for it there via cash or credit card. The cost is approximately \$60 for two people.

Boarding begins at 5pm. Please do not board early as the crew is busy getting the boat ready for you. If you arrive early and want to walk around the lovely town of San Jose del Cabo, you can take a taxi to the El Encanto Inn. The El Encanto Inn is in the heart of the Art District of the historic center of San Jose del Cabo. They are happy to store your luggage for you for \$7. The hotel has a restaurant and bar and is centrally located with plenty of shops and restaurants in the area.

When you are ready to go to the boat, the staff at El Encanto Inn can call a taxi for you.

If you prefer to go directly to the marina, the La Marina Inn is located across the street. They are a quaint hotel and has a bar/restaurant and would be happy for you to stop by while you wait for the time to board.

### **DIRECTIONS TO QUINO EL GUARDIAN FROM THE AIRPORT AND DOWNTOWN SAN JOSE DEL CABO**

Marina Puerto Los Cabos is about a 25-minute taxi ride from the airport and 15 minutes from downtown San Jose del Cabo. Please drive toward the small fishing town of "La Playita" and El Ganzo Hotel. Once you are in the marina area you will be driving on a long, winding road with roundabouts. To your right, you will see a tall, beige building called MARINE GROUP and on the other corner an OXXO store. Turn right at the Marine Group building and OXXO store. Keep driving toward El Ganzo Hotel. Quino el Guardian is often docked about 100 yards before El Ganzo hotel. If it is not there, it is at another berth within the marina. The taxi driver can take you to the other berth or you can wait outside of El Ganzo, and we will come and pick you up.

### **RETURN**

The boat will return to the marina during the night and passengers need to be ready to depart by 8:30 am on the last day of your trip. Continental breakfast will be served. Our crew will call taxis to get everyone to the airport or their hotel.

### **ITINERARY**

*Below is our scheduled diving itinerary. Weather and sea conditions may require changes to this itinerary. If unique animal sighting opportunities arise, we may suggest alternative options to divers.*

Proof of diving certification and dive insurance is required. Without proof, you will not be able to dive.  
NO EXCEPTIONS!

Day 1 - Board the boat at 5 pm/ Dinner is served at 7 pm/ Boat departs shortly thereafter

Day 2 - At Sea

Day 3 - San Benedicto - 4 dives scheduled

Day 4 - Roca Partida - 3 dives scheduled

Day 5 - Roca Partida - 3 dives scheduled

Day 6 - Socorro Island - 3 dives scheduled (check-in with naval station)

Day 7 - Socorro Island - 4 dives scheduled

Day 8 - San Benedicto - 4 dives scheduled - at the end of the day we will start our return to San Jose del Cabo

Day 9 - At Sea

Day 10 - Arrive at San Jose del Cabo in the early morning hours - disembark at 8:30 am

## SUGGESTED GEAR & CLOTHING

Besides your normal dive gear, every diver is required to have the following: dive computer, safety sausage (SMB) and a whistle.

Every diver is required to have a dive computer, safety sausage (SMB) and a whistle.

We absolutely recommend exposure protection (wetsuits/light drysuits) on our trips. Water temperatures range from 75°-82°F (24°-28°C) depending on the time of year.

December 80°

February 75°

April 75°

January 75°

March 75°

May 80°

The dress is casual. Bring a light jacket. Do not forget your hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen.

## RENTAL DIVE EQUIPMENT

We have a limited number of regulators, BCDs, dive computers and HP steel 100cft/12L steel tanks available for rental at \$50 each, per trip. Please let us know as early as possible prior to your trip if you want to rent equipment so we have it onboard for you. We do not rent exposure suits, hood, fins, masks, safety sausages (SMB's), whistles or lights. As we have a limited number of these items available to rent, they are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please contact Valerie in Guest Services to reserve your equipment at [Documents@MexicoLiveaboards.com](mailto:Documents@MexicoLiveaboards.com).

If you need wetsuits, fins, masks, booties, etc., we recommend Manta Scuba at [www.caboscuba.com](http://www.caboscuba.com). You can reach them at [mantascuba@gmail.com](mailto:mantascuba@gmail.com).

## ENTERTAINMENT

Feel free to bring your own books, CD's, and DVDs. We have a collection of these onboard and the crew especially appreciate new entertainment.

## SPECIAL OCCASIONS

If you are celebrating any special occasion while onboard such as a birthday, engagement, anniversary, or honeymoon, please let us know on your passenger document in the comment section so we can be prepared to celebrate with you!

## WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TRIP

- 🔗 All taxes & port fees
- 🔗 All meals, snacks, and beverages including canned soft drinks
- 🔗 Complimentary local beer and wine
- 🔗 Tanks, weights, and weight belts

Guests are welcome to bring along their own beverages, including alcoholic beverages, if there is something special they would like.

## WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TRIP

- 🔗 National Park Fee - \$80 per person, per day of diving (\$480 for 6 days of diving)
- 🔗 Nitrox Fee - \$120 per person
- 🔗 Transfers to and from the boat
- 🔗 Crew Gratuity (10%-15% of the trip price is customary)
- 🔗 Fuel Surcharge\*\* if applicable

Fees and gratuity can be paid in advance or on the boat. Mexico Liveboards accepts US dollars, Euros, and Pesos as well as Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover Credit Cards. Mexico Liveboards does not charge a fee for use of credit cards.

### PARK FEE AS OF JANUARY 11, 2022

#### SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

The park fee for Socorro is 1,611 pesos (\$80) per day of diving. For a typical Socorro trip with six days of diving, it is \$480. This fee does not apply to travel days. This fee can be paid in cash or credit card at the end of the trip.

#### PARK FEE EXCEPTIONS

CONANP, the park authorities, have changed their two exceptions for the park fee with the main exception for over 60/retired persons:

For people who are over 60 and can provide documentation that they are retired or pensioned, the park fee will be waived. According to the CONANP, any official document with the words "RETIRED" or "PENSIONED" will be accepted along with a photo of a current passport. Any other documentation will NOT be accepted.

For students and teachers: A 50% discount is available for ACTIVE/CURRENT students and teachers. To get this discount, a photocopy of an identification card showing a current date is required.

To apply for this exception, the above documentation is to be sent to Guest Services at Documents@MexicoLiveboards.com no later than two weeks prior to boarding. Please note that CONANP has the final word if a document is accepted or not. If it is not accepted, the applicant will be required to pay the full park fees.



**\*\*Fuel Surcharge:** Rocio del Mar has the right to implement a fuel surcharge on all trips in the event the cost of fuel surpasses 20 Pesos per liter. Should this occur, all guests will be notified prior to boarding.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Proof of diving certification and dive insurance is required. Without proof, you will not be able to dive.  
**NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Quino el Guardian reserves the right to assign all cabins.

All guests are required to have dive insurance. Dive insurance can be purchased at [www.DiversAlertNetwork.org](http://www.DiversAlertNetwork.org). If you have private health insurance coverage for dive accidents, provide **only** the page that states coverage for a scuba diving accident, evacuation, and the declaration page showing you are the owner of the policy and policy number.

We recommend you purchase trip insurance.

The crossing from San Jose del Cabo to the Socorro Islands takes approximately 26-28 hours. It is open sea, therefore, please be prepared in case we are faced with rough seas. There are several over-the-counter remedies that can help you. In case you have a propensity to motion sickness or are concerned that you might develop symptoms, please prepare yourself with preventive measures before departure.

## UNFORESEEN EVENTS / TRIP INSURANCE / TRIP INTERRUPTION

Quino el Guardian Liveaboard is of the utmost seaworthiness and is approved by the U.S. Coast Guard and Mexican Coast Guard. Quino el Guardian is equipped with state-of-the-art electronics and all required safety equipment.

Passenger safety is paramount and therefore the captain has the sole discretion to change, delay, return early or cancel the cruise if necessary. These reasons include but are not limited to bad weather, perils of the sea, acts of God, political incidents, or force majeure.

Trip insurance is suggested as it provides you with reimbursement for unused, non-refundable, pre-paid trip costs if you are prevented from taking your trip due to a covered reason. All trip insurance is not the same so it is important to make sure that you purchase travel insurance that includes travel interruption.

Trip insurance can be purchased at [www.DiversAlertNetwork.com](http://www.DiversAlertNetwork.com).



## DEPOSITS & CANCELLATIONS / INDIVIDUALS

### DEPOSITS

- ↪ 25% deposit is due to hold the reservation
- ↪ 25% is due six months prior to the scheduled trip date
- ↪ The remaining balance is due three months prior to the scheduled trip date

### CANCELLATIONS

- ↪ There is no penalty for cancellations made 9 months or more prior to the scheduled trip date
- ↪ 25% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 91 days to 9 months prior to the scheduled trip date
- ↪ 50% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 61 to 90 days prior to the scheduled trip date
- ↪ No refunds for cancellations made 60 days prior or less to the scheduled trip date

## DEPOSITS & CANCELLATIONS / GROUPS

### DEPOSITS

- ↪ A \$5,000 non-refundable deposit is due to hold the reservation
- ↪ 25% of the trip price is due one year prior to the scheduled trip date (the \$5000 deposit can be used to make up the 25% deposit)
- ↪ 25% is due six months prior to the scheduled trip date
- ↪ The balance less your commission is due three months prior to the scheduled trip date

### CANCELLATIONS

- ↪ There is no penalty for cancellations made 12 months or more prior to the scheduled trip date however the \$5000 deposit is non-refundable
- ↪ 25% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made 12 months to six months prior to the scheduled trip date
- ↪ 50% of the full rate will be forfeited for cancellations made six months to 91 days prior to the scheduled trip date
- ↪ No refunds for cancellations made 90 days or less prior to the scheduled trip date

## SUGGESTED HOTELS IN SAN JOSE DEL CABO

### LA MARINA INN

**Located across the street from the boat**

Calle S/N, Mantarraya  
La Playa, San Jose del Cabo  
BCS 23403  
USA +1 616-548-2681  
Mexico +52-624-142-4166  
www.lamarinainn.com

### HOTEL EL GANZO

**Located next to the boat**

Blvd. Tiburon S/N Fracc. La Playita  
San Jose del Cabo, B.C.S CP 23403  
+52 624 104 9000  
1-855-835-4269  
www.elganzo.com  
*Mention our name and receive a 10% discount*

### MARISOL BOUTIQUE HOTEL

Plaza Garuffi Paseo San Jose s/n esq  
Bahia de las Palmas sn  
Zona Hotelera  
23400 San Jose del Cabo, B.C.S., Mexico  
+52 624 142 4040  
www.marisolboutiquehotel.com

### BEL AIR COLLECTION RESORT & SPA LOS CABOS

Carretera Transpeninsular Km. 29,  
23400 San José del Cabo, B.C.S., Mexico  
+52 800 400 2040  
www.belaircabos.com

### BARCELO GRAND FARO LOS CABOS

Blvd. San Jose s/n, Seccion Hotelera 1 Zona Fonatur,  
San Jose del Cabo 23400, B.C.S. Mexico  
011 52 624 142 9292  
www.barcelo.com

### EL ENCANTO INN & SUITES

**You can store your luggage for \$7 while you walk around downtown if you arrive early**

Calle Morelos #133  
San Jose del Cabo  
Baja California Sur, Mexico  
011-52 (624) 142-0388  
From USA (210) 858-6649  
www.elencantoinn.com  
reservations@elencantoinn.com  
Facebook: facebook.com/elencantoinn  
*Mention our name and receive a 10% discount*

### CABO AZUL RESORT

Paseo Malecon SN Lote 11 Fonatur  
23400 San Jose Del Cabo, Mexico  
+52 800 438 2929  
www.caboazulresort.com

### HOTEL POSADA TERRANOVA

Degollado s.n entre Manuel Doblado e i. Zaragoza  
23400 San Jose del Cabo  
+52 624 142 0534  
www.hotelposadaterranova.mxhotel.site  
This is a less expensive option (often \$50-\$70) and just a 5-minute walk from central San Jose del Cabo

### POSADA REAL LOS CABOS

Malecon San Jose S/N  
Zona Hotelera,  
San Jose del Cabo 23400  
Mexico: +52 624 142 0155  
www.posadareal-hotels.com/loscabos/  
loscabos@posadareal.com.mx