

Vaquita Vacation

Vaquita-oriented Travel Itinerary



Location: Mexico (El Golfo de Santa Clara, Puerto Peñasco, San Felipe)

Length: 7 days

What to Bring: Vaquita brochures, long-distance camera, money, swimwear, and a Vaquita shirt to wear at least once to promote the Vaquita

[List of Vaquita-supporting Businesses](#)

Day 1: Arrive at the [Mexicali Airport](#) in Mexicali, Mexico. Rent a car and drive to El Golfo de Santa Clara. The drive should take around 2.5 hours. Arrive at one of the following hotels started by someone who gave up gillnetting to help the Vaquita:

Hotel	Owner	Phone Number
Cabañas Turísticas Sayarimar/Restaurante	Sr. Mario Mora	(653)-515-7190, -121-8245
Cabañas Las Palmas/Paseos Claudia	Sr. Andrés González	(653)-120-5070
Cabañas Familia Gonzalez	Sr. Alfredo González	(653)-112-4740
Cabañas Morales/Paseos Morales	Sr. Clemente Morales	(653)-515-7085
Hotel Los Angulo	Sr. Rosario Angulo	(653)-1199-5566

Day 2: Some, if not all of the hotels here have restaurants, so you can choose where, when, and how frequently you eat at your cabin. There are some great places to eat out in El Golfo de Santa Clara, but the most important thing to remember is that you talk to your waiters and managers about sustainable shrimp and fish. Ask if they get their seafood from gillnets or Vaquita-safe trawls. Also share your knowledge of the Vaquita and give them brochures. It is vital that the restaurants of the Gulf do not support unsustainable fishing a mere few miles away from their restaurant. If the restaurant uses sustainably caught seafood and promote Vaquita conservation, support and advertise the restaurant. If they don't, please try to convince them to support the new nets and the fishermen who use them.

Day 3: Today you are going on an Alto Golfo Ecotour, run by Sra. Jannette Valenzuela, (653)-107-1623. This business is run by an ex-fisherman, so it is very important to support it. Ecotours are tours of nature and pristine environments used as an alternative to mainstream tourism. It is a very great way to have people learning about and exploring the nature (and mainly the Vaquita), while giving money and support to people that change careers from exploiter to explorer of the Gulf. If you go on a tour of the Gulf, you will see some amazing creatures, such as Blue Whales, Whale Sharks, and if you are

extremely lucky, you could catch a glimpse of the elusive focus of your trip: the Vaquita. Bring a long-distance camera so you are ready for that amazing photo op. After dinner, get to bed early so you are ready for an early wake-up.

Day 4: Today you will wake up early to drive to Puerto Peñasco. The drive should take just over 2 hours. When you get there, you will take the day to relax on the beach. There are many beaches in Puerto Peñasco, so just find one near you. Swim in the same water as the Vaquitas that you are trying to help! If you would like to get the maximum amount of time in your final destination, make the almost 6-hour drive tonight to San Felipe, to one of the lodges or cabins below.

Hotel	Owner	Phone Number
Paseos Bajamar (Hospedaje y Pesca Deportiva)	Sr. Octavio Ascolani	(686)-163-5700
Cabañas Mavadu	Sra. Maria de Jesús	(686)-577-0148
Cabañas Del Puerto/Restaurant La Cabaña	Sra. Martina Sandez	(686)-188-2306

Day 5: Take the time to talk with some of the sustainable fishermen to show your support and learn a lot. Most of them will be very appreciative of your gratitude and interest. Tonight you will go out to eat at [La Vaquita Restaurant](#). The employees there have already learned a lot about the Vaquita from guests such as ¡Viva Vaquita! They have amazing food and a really great mascot (you can guess it by the name of the restaurant). Use this as another opportunity to hand out brochures or wear a Vaquita shirt.

Day 6: Today you can spend some more time at the beach, and maybe find something to rent like a sailboat to go onto the water (you almost definitely will need a permit to be in the Biosphere Reserve, so make sure you talk to an official about the laws). For your final dinner, you can go to [Mision 19](#), an amazing restaurant that participates in Vaquita-friendly fishing. In fact, they once held a six-course dinner of all-shrimp meals that were caught in Vaquita-safe trawls. Thank them for their efforts and let them know that you are supporting the Vaquita as well.

Day 7: Take the 2.5-hour drive back to Mexicali Airport and catch your flight with memories of a great, Vaquita-filled trip.