



Black Feather
the wilderness adventure company

Winter 2011 - 2012

SEA KAYAKING IN BAJA

Baja Quick Escape

Baja's Isla Espiritu Santo is a kayak wonderland in the Sea of Cortez near La Paz in Mexico. The island is a fabulous wilderness of deserted beaches, protected coves and rugged cliffs. Kayak along this spectacular and varied coastline, camp on pristine beaches, snorkel in the blue waters, swim with sea lion pups and bask in the warm Mexican sunshine. With four days of paddling and three nights camping, the Quick Escape is a perfect winter getaway. No kayak experience is required to have a great time. Skill level 1.



West coast - Isla Espiritu Santo - Mexico

We offer 2 types of Quick Escape trips:

Self-Contained Trips: We carry all our food and gear in our kayaks and everyone contributes to setting up camp and cooking wonderful meals with help from the exceptional local guides.

Dates:	Fees: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 23-26, 26-29, Nov 6-9 and 9-12	\$490.00 US
Nov 20-23 and 23-26	\$450.00 US
Jan 8-11, 11-14, 22-25 and 25-28	\$490.00 US
Mar 11-14, 14-17, 25-28 and 28-31	\$530.00 US
April 29 - May 2 and May 2-5	\$490.00 US

Fully-Catered Trips: These trips have full time motorboat (called a Panga) support. The Panga carries all our food and gear to the next campsite while we paddle light kayaks. Coolers aboard the Panga allow for special food and drink throughout the trip. The Panga crew and guides take care of all the cooking and clean up.

Dates:	Fees: ex: La Paz, Mexico
Oct 16-19, 19-22, 30 - Nov 2, Nov 2-5	\$590.00 US
Nov 13-16 and 16-19	\$620.00 US
Dec 11-14 and 14-17	\$500.00 US
Dec 21-24, 26-29 and Dec 29 - Jan 1	\$620.00 US
Jan 1-4, 4-7, 15-18 and Feb 1-4	\$590.00 US
Feb 5-8, 8-11 and 16-19,	\$640.00 US
Feb 23-26 and Feb 29 - Mar 3	\$640.00 US
Mar 4-7, 7-10, 19-22 and 22-25	\$640.00 US
April 1-4, 4-7, 8-11, 11-14, 22-25, 25-28	\$640.00 US
May 6-9 and 9-12	\$640.00 US

Family Trips: Families with preteens may register for a Fully-Catered Trips only. Families with teens may register for either type of trip. We'll use tandem kayaks so kids can paddle with an adult. Children under 14 receive a 20% discount.

Circumnavigation of Isla Espiritu Santo

Baja's Isla Espiritu Santo is a kayak wonderland in the Sea of Cortez near La Paz in Mexico. The island is a fabulous wilderness of deserted beaches, protected coves and rugged cliffs. Kayak along this spectacular and varied coastline, camp on pristine beaches, snorkel in the blue waters, swim with sea lion pups and bask in the warm Mexican sunshine. We will paddle around the entire group of islands exploring both sides of this kayaking paradise. The trip includes 7 days paddling, 6 nights camping with two night's hotel in La Paz and a farewell dinner at an excellent La Paz restaurant. Skill level 1+.

We offer 2 types of Circumnavigation trips:

Self-Contained Trips: We carry all our food and gear in our kayaks and everyone contributes to setting up camp and cooking wonderful meals with help from the exceptional local guides.

Detailed Information Packages

A detailed information package with photos, itinerary, flight, travel info, maps, etc. is available by e-mail for each trip.

E-mail: info@blackfeather.com

or order the package from our website:

www.blackfeather.com

Dates:	Fees: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 23-31, Nov 5-13 and 19-27	\$790.00 US
Dec 17-25 and 25 - Jan 2	\$830.00 US
Jan 7-15 and 21-29	\$790.00 US
Feb 26 - Mar 5	\$850.00 US
Mar 10-18 and Mar 24 - April 1	\$850.00 US
Apr 14-22	\$850.00 US
Apr 28 - May 6	\$790.00 US
Single supplement fee:	\$80 US

Fully-Catered Trips: These trips have full time motorboat (called a Panga) support. The Panga carries all our food and gear to the next campsite while we paddle light kayaks. Coolers aboard the Panga allow for special food and drink throughout the trip. The Panga crew and guides take care of all the cooking and clean up.

Dates:	Fees: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 29 - Nov 6,	\$990.00 US
Nov 12-20, 20-28	\$1040.00 US
Dec 10-18	\$950.00 US
Dec 17-25 and 25 - Jan 2	\$1040.00 US
Dec 31 - Jan 8	\$990.00 US
Jan 14-22 and Jan 28 - Feb 5	\$990.00 US
Feb 12-20 and 19-27	\$1040.00 US
Mar 3-11, 11-19 and 18-26	\$1040.00 US
Mar 25 - Apr 2	\$1040.00 US
Mar 31 - Apr 8 (family trip)	\$1040.00 US
Apr 7-15, 21-29 and May 5-13	\$1040.00 US
Single supplement fee:	\$110 US

Families with teenage children may register on either type of trip. We accept preteens on the Fully-Catered trips only. Children under 14 receive a 20% discount.



Evening Yoga on the Beach - Baja

Finally we transfer to the tranquil lagoons in Magdalena Bay on the Pacific coast of Baja. Here we are hotel based and embark on 2 days of whale watching expeditions by motor skiff. Every year the Gray Whale makes its annual migration from the Chirikof Basin to Magdalena Bay, a round trip of some 12,400 miles making it the longest migration by any mammal. During the Gray's winter visit, they calve and nurse in the shallow lagoons. These amazing Gray Whale nursing grounds are protected by strict Mexican environmental and ecological legislation. We are careful to observe these regulations by exclusively working with licensed cooperatives that have trained boat drivers. This in turn helps support local fishermen and their families. This trip combines 4 days paddling and 3 nights camping with 2 days whale watching and a total of 5 night's hotel accommodation. Skill Level 1

Dates:	Fee: ex La Paz, Mexico
Feb 4-12, 11-19 and 18-26	\$1,080.00 US
Feb 25 - Mar 4	\$1,080.00 US
Single supplement fee:	\$250.00 US

Baja - Sea Kayaking and Yoga

This trip offers the best of our Circumnavigation of Isla Espiritu Santo trip with the addition of daily yoga practice. Start your day on a serene white sand beach with a two hour pranayama and asana practice. Spend the day kayaking, snorkeling, hiking and relaxing, then take part in a restorative yoga session each evening. Both silent meditation and guided meditation practices are offered as well.

Your yoga instructor is Tina Haskim a very experienced yoga instructor and personal trainer. Her teaching style is intuitive, light hearted and flexible. Our sessions will explore our connection with nature as we follow the rhythms of sun and tide to experience the most profound yoga practice; yoga in the wilderness.

The package includes 2 nights at a nice hotel in La Paz, 7 days paddling with 6 nights camping on pristine wilderness beaches and a farewell dinner at an excellent restaurant in La Paz. No previous kayaking or yoga experience required. Skill Level 1+.



Gray whale - Magdalena Bay - Mexico

Sea Kayak and Whale Watching

The absolute best of both seas! We spend 4 days sea-kayaking and snorkeling in the shimmering, turquoise Sea of Cortez camping out on Espiritu Santo Island. Then we have a mid week pause to relax and explore the enchanting seaside town of La Paz with its beautiful boardwalk and sensational dining.

Dates:	Fee: ex La Paz, Mexico
Oct 22-30	\$990.00 US
April 14-22	\$990.00 US
Single supplement fee:	\$80.00 US



Kayaks and support ship - Patagonia, Chile

SEA KAYAKING IN CHILE

The Andean Fjords of Northern Patagonia

An unforgettable adventure in the magnificent fjords of Comau, Quintupeu and Cahuelmó, on the eastern side of the Gulf of Ancud, where wild mountain cliffs soar out of the dark waters to touch the sky. See spectacular glacial valleys, primeval temperate rainforests, and numerous kinds of marine wildlife, including dolphins, sea lions, penguins and other sea birds. Smack your lips over fresh salmon steaks, or steamed shellfish gathered from the cliffs at low tide, all prepared by our cook in the miniature galley of our picturesque support vessel. Watch the sunset on the peaks as you relax in hot pools. Spread your sleeping bag under the diamond stars of the Southern Cross. With mother ship support and calm, protected waters, anyone can enjoy the unique beauty and variety of this majestic land. Skill Level 1.

Dates: Dec 28 - Jan 4, Jan 13-20, Jan 27 - Feb 3, Feb 8-15
Feb 29 - March 7

Fee: \$1,680.00 US ex Puerto Montt, Chile

Additional Lake District Option

This option adds a hotel based 1 day exploration of the beautiful lake district to the 8 day kayaking adventure.

Dates: Dec 27 - Jan 4, Jan 12-20, Jan 26 - Feb 3, Feb 11-19,
Feb. 28 - March 7

Fee: \$1,980.00 US ex Puerto Montt, Chile

EXPLORING DESERT CANYONS

Canoe the San Juan River

Utah's San Juan River is born as snow on southern Colorado's Continental Divide. Meandering through sculpted, painted canyons, it eventually joins the Colorado River under what is now Lake Powell. Evidence of ancient inhabitants abounds in the San Juan River Basin. The basin was home to the Azanazi Culture, which flourished in the tributary canyons and in sheltered areas. They were a semi-nomadic people, who are



San Juan River - Wendy Grater

best known for their rock art, found on canyon walls and in sheltered overhangs. The river flows swiftly with an average drop of over 2.65 m/km, a pace faster than you can jog! There are few rapids, though there are several class II and III to add some excitement. As well, sand waves, a relatively rare phenomenon, add surprises and excitement. Sand waves are caused by the water's movement against the silted river bottom. Our 84 mile (137 km) trip goes through an ever-changing landscape of canyons and flood plains. The San Juan is suitable for both the novice and the experienced boater. Skill Level 1+.

Dates: Apr 9-16, 2011

Fee: \$1,850.00 US ex Grand Junction, CO

Mexico's Copper Canyon - Bike the 'Silver Trail'

The dramatic terrain known as Copper Canyon is a perfect mountain bike adventure. Comprising more than 20 steep-sided canyons up to 5000' deep, it covers over 20,000 square miles. High up, at altitudes approaching 8000 feet, we encounter cooler temperatures, extensive pine forests, unusual rock formations, lakes, rivers and waterfalls. Dropping down into the bed of the canyons, the vegetation is tropical and the



Copper Canyon Mexico

temperatures much higher. We'll make a series of day rides, often between villages, taking the most interesting routes, following a mix of jeep roads and single track trails.

We will stay in a local hotel or guesthouse, enjoying the hospitality and cuisine of the local people. Baggage will be transferred for us so we will only carry our lunch and a light day bag with us. Quality mountain bikes, all hotel accommodation, meals and guides are included. Skill Level 2+

Trip run in cooperation with Katun Tours.

Dates: Dec 18-24, 2011, Jan 1-7 and Feb 5-11, 2012

Fee: \$1,490.00 US ex Chihuahua, Mexico

PADDLE CENTRAL AMERICA

Nicaragua - Paddling back in time

Nicaragua is being discovered as the 'new destination' in Central America. After years of economic and political oppression the country has enjoyed almost 20 years of peace. The people are open and warm. The tourist infrastructure is minimal - lodgings are simple yet comfortable, hot water is rare, and roads, where they exist at all, are bumpy. This is what Costa Rica would have been like 50 or more years ago. Butterflies, birds and wildlife are everywhere. You will hear the roars of howler monkeys nearly every day.

We'll explore the San Juan River and its tributaries in our forgiving inflatable SOAR canoes, overnighting at rainforest lodges and country inns. Then we'll cross Lake Nicaragua and discover the dual volcanoed island of Ometepe. Skill Level 1+

Trip run in cooperation with SOAR.

Dates: Jan 6 -15 and Feb 13-22, 2012

Fee: \$2395.00 US from San Jose, Costa Rica

Costa Rica - Paddling, hiking and outdoor adventure

Costa Rica is world renowned for its breathtaking flat water wilderness paddling, with amazing birds and wildlife. The abundant rainfall, warm water and a wide variety of ecosystems and river scapes make it a Mecca for paddlers and adventurers. This unique paddling, hiking and outdoor adventure trip features the best of Costa Rica's rainforests, national parks and rivers. Our small group will travel through the countryside in a luxury bus, staying at unique rainforest lodges and country inns. Each day we'll experience a new adventure - whitewater paddling, hiking to a volcano, rappelling a waterfall, investigating indigenous tribal art, touring the rainforest canopy, riding a zip line, wildlife viewing, hot springs, bird watching Skill Level 1+

Trip run in cooperation with SOAR.

Dates: Jan 2 -12, Jan 29 - Feb 8 and Feb 26 - Mar 7, 2012

Fee: \$2595.00 US from San Jose, Costa Rica



Chalets at Nipika Lodge - Wendy Grater

CANADIAN WINTER TRIPS

X-C Ski Holiday in the Rockies

A perfect cross country getaway for recreational and advanced skiers - and a wonderful winter retreat. Nipika Lodge, our base, is nestled in the BC Rockies, between Kootenay National Park and Mt. Assiniboine Provincial Park. Nipika boasts over 50 km of groomed trails, suitable for both classic and skate techniques. The scenery is spectacular, with mountains rising up on all sides, and the Kootenay River flowing swiftly through the valley. Join Nipika director Lyle Wilson and BF director Wendy Grater for 5 days of friendly instruction and coaching. Relax at the end of the day in the wood fired sauna or hot tub. Accommodation each night is in the comfortable lodge. Delicious, home-cooked meals and warm camaraderie make for a great winter escape. Skill Level 1.

Dates: Jan 8 - 13 (arrive in the afternoon)

Fee: \$1,150 CAD plus HST ex Radium Hot Springs, BC
add \$100 each way for transfer from Calgary Airport.

Dogsled in Algonquin

Mush a team of Alaskan sled dogs through the pristine winter Algonquin wilderness. Enjoy the crisp days on the trail with your trusty canine friends. Sleep in wood heated prospector tents amongst the howls of the dogs and the dancing of the stars, and perhaps the northern lights, in the winter sky. This is a trip designed for the beginner or intermediate winter camper who wants to enjoy the winter in a whole new way. Skill Level 1. Trip run in co-operation with Chocpaw Expeditions.

2 Days/1 Night

Dates: TBA

Fee: \$450.00 CAD plus HST, ex South River, ON

3 Days/2 Nights

Dates: TBA

Fee: \$620.00 CAD plus HST, ex South River, ON

5 Days/4 Nights

Dates: TBA

Fee: \$992.00 CAD plus HST, ex South River, ON

info@blackfeather.com

www.blackfeather.com

888 849 7668 toll free