



# April 2015 Newsletter

## BAJA NEWS



For more Baja news, see:  
[www.discoverbaja.com/baja-california-information/baja-news/](http://www.discoverbaja.com/baja-california-information/baja-news/)

### San Quintin Strikes Are Over

Farm workers in San Quintin were on strike in March protesting poor working conditions and low wages. Protests are over and negotiations for more pay and better work conditions are underway. There are no more travel delays getting through San Quintin.

### FMM Checkpoints in Northern Baja

INM, Mexican Immigration, has had frequent checkpoints south of Ensenada (just past Las Cañadas) and heading out of Tecate to stop tourists to make sure they have an FMM tourist permit. As a reminder, you must have an FMM if you are going to be in Baja more than 72 hours and/or you will be traveling more than 20 km south of the border. The easiest way for Discover Baja members to get an FMM is to get a prepaid one directly through Discover Baja: [www.discoverbaja.com/go/fmm-tourist-permits/](http://www.discoverbaja.com/go/fmm-tourist-permits/)



### From the DBTC Office

If you're in the San Diego area, Discover Baja will be at Day at the Docks on Sunday April 19<sup>th</sup> at San Diego Sportfishing Landings. For more information see page 3.

For all of April and May, we're giving you extra rewards for referring your friends to Discover Baja. They get \$10 off of their new membership and you get \$10 to use toward your next membership renewal, insurance, books, maps, t-shirts, and more!

Mexican Immigration has been checking tourists in northern Baja to make sure they have their FMM tourist permits. Make sure to get yours before you head south. Please try to give us two weeks notice before you need your prepaid FMM.

Let's Baja!  
Hugh, Carol, Jen, Mayth  & Monica

## DBTC BAJA CAJA All of the Baja info you need in one box!

**PESO EXCHANGE RATE:** \$14.9 to \$1 U.S. dollar

**PEMEX PRICES: Northern Baja:** Magna: \$3.50/gal, Premium: \$3.72/gal, Diesel: \$3.75/gal

**Southern Baja:** Magna: \$3.49/gal, Premium: \$3.59/gal, Diesel: \$3.65/gal

**FISHING LICENSES:** Day: \$12.25, Week: \$31.20, Month: \$42.80, Year: \$54.40 for members.  
[www.discoverbaja.com/go/fishing-licenses](http://www.discoverbaja.com/go/fishing-licenses)

**PREPAID FMMs:** \$37 DBTC members only. [www.discoverbaja.com/go/fmm-tourist-permits](http://www.discoverbaja.com/go/fmm-tourist-permits)

**BOAT TEMPORARY IMPORT PERMITS (TIPs):** \$45 fee for DBTC to handle processing. Service for DBTC members only. [www.discoverbaja.com/go/temporary-boat-importation/](http://www.discoverbaja.com/go/temporary-boat-importation/)

**NAUTICAL FMMs:** \$10/person fee for DBTC to process. Service for DBTC members only.  
[www.discoverbaja.com/go/nautical-sportfishing-fmm/](http://www.discoverbaja.com/go/nautical-sportfishing-fmm/)

**MEXICAN AUTO INSURANCE:** [www.discoverbajaonline.com](http://www.discoverbajaonline.com)

# ON OUR RADAR FOR APRIL

For more information about the events below and to keep up on all of the latest Baja events, see [www.discoverbaja.com/events](http://www.discoverbaja.com/events)

**APRIL 5**

## Daylight Savings Begins in Baja California SUR



Baja California Sur finally joins Baja California norte on Daylight Savings (resuming the usual one-hour time difference between the two states). You've now got an extra hour of daylight to explore more of the peninsula!

**APRIL 16-19**

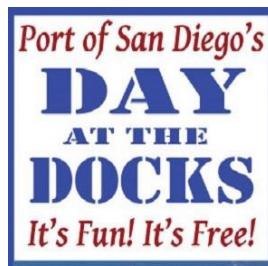
## SCORE Baja Sur 500



Marking the first time a SCORE Baja race has been held entirely in Baja California Sur, The Baja Sur 500 will be a point-to-point race starting in Cabo San and finishing in Loreto.  
<http://score-international.com/>

**APRIL 19**

## San Diego's Day at the Docks



Discover Baja will again be at Day at the Docks this year. Members who stop by to say hello will get a free gift! Read more on the next page.  
[www.sportfishing.org/DAD00/dad2015.html](http://www.sportfishing.org/DAD00/dad2015.html)

**APRIL 24-26**

## Todos Santos Gastrovino



This Gastrovino Baja food and wine festival will take place in Todos Santos with food, wine, music, live entertainment and special events.  
<http://gastrovino.mx/fest/>

**APRIL 24-26**

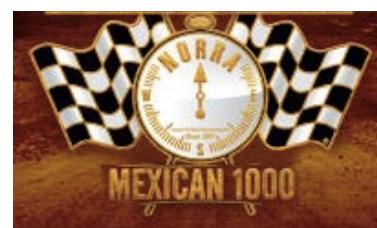
## Newport to Ensenada International Yacht Race



The 68<sup>th</sup> annual Newport to Ensenada Yacht Race is a 125 nautical mile sail from Newport, CA to Ensenada. Past participants include celebrities such as Humphrey Bogart and Walter Cronkite.  
[www.newporttoensenada.com](http://www.newporttoensenada.com)

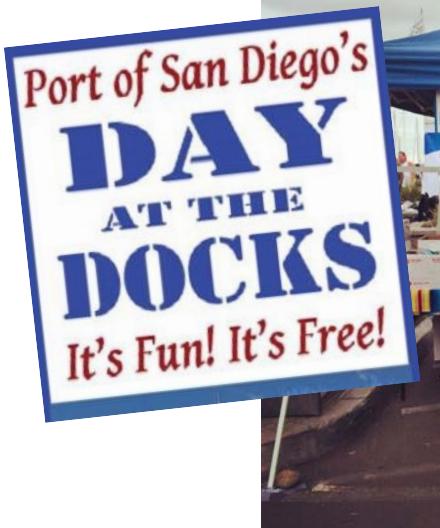
**APRIL 26-29**

## Norra Mexican 1000



The Norra Mexican 1000 Rally is a fully-supported on-road/off-road rally open to vintage and alternative fueled vehicles. It will begin in Ensenada and end in Los Cabos.  
[www.norra.com/mexican1000.php](http://www.norra.com/mexican1000.php)

## Discover Baja at Day at the Docks



Discover Baja will be at Day at the Docks again this year Sunday, April 19th from 9am to 5pm at San Diego Sportfishing Landings in Point Loma. It's a family-friendly event with free admission. Members who stop by the DBTC booth to say hello will get a free giveaway item.

A San Diego sportfishing tradition, The Port Of San Diego's Day At The Docks is the West Coast's largest public celebration of sportfishing and signals the official start of Southern California's spring saltwater fishing season.

The serious fisherman can explore the latest fishing tackle presented by the industry's leading manufacturers. Historical displays underscore how far saltwater tackle design has come.

How-to seminars by expert fishermen reveal secrets on improving both technique and results. Anglers can test their skills at casting contests held throughout the day. Action-packed videos capture the excitement of local and long range adventures. Sportfishing captains will showcase their vessels and stand ready to discuss plans for the upcoming season.

Boat rides on San Diego Bay, displays by marine artists and fishing tackle experts, great food, entertainment, fishing seminars, open house aboard sportfishing boats, kid's fishing, contests, prizes and more.

For more information: <http://www.sportfishing.org/DAD00/dad2015.html>



*Do you like free money? We thought so! For the months of April and May, we're running a special Discover Baja refer-a-friend promotion. Here's how it works:*

1. Refer a friend to become a new member of Discover Baja. They'll get \$10 off of their membership fee (this is a great deal for them too!).
2. They can email [ask@discoverbaja.com](mailto:ask@discoverbaja.com), call 800-727-2252 or come into the office to sign up as a new member. Make sure they give us your name so that you get the credit (and the money)!
3. You'll get \$10 worth of "Amigo Bucks" in the mail that can be used for your next DBTC membership renewal, toward your insurance or for any books, maps, t-shirts, etc that we have in the office.



## RO SARITO ENSENADA BIKE RIDE

The biannual Rosarito Ensenada Bike Ride will take place on May 2, 2015. The ride will start in Rosarito and end in Ensenada. The 50-mile bike ride winds along the Pacific coast and the rural inland roads. At the finish line in Ensenada, there will be a big fiesta with food, drinks and live music until dusk. The event costs 420 pesos to register for and you can do so on the website or on the morning of the event. For more information: [www.rosaritoensenada.org/](http://www.rosaritoensenada.org/)

# Las Cabañas de Loreto



If you're looking to experience a little slice of Baja paradise, Las Cabañas de Loreto is a wonderful spot for a long weekend or a two-week vacation. It provides all the comforts of home mixed with the special wonders of being on vacation.

The property is like a mini oasis with a beautiful pool and Jacuzzi area, a large communal outdoor kitchen and dining room, and palm trees and palapas aplenty. We were welcomed with two cold

beers (that we promptly enjoyed poolside) and a kitchenette stocked with yogurt, granola, milk, coffee and a basket overflowing with fruit for our breakfasts. The individual cabañas have kitchenettes with everything you may need (fridge, coffee maker, coffee grinder, blender, toaster, microwave, dishes, glasses, silverware, etc.). The rooms are spacious and have plenty of Mexican charm but are up to modern standards. There's air

conditioning in all of the rooms. They have thought of everything you may need to make your stay complete. Bikes, coolers, beach chairs, sun hats, wetsuits, snorkels, a library stocked with hundreds of DVDs and books - all free for guests to use and enjoy.

Rick and Jill Jackson who own the property (along with Jill's parents) are wonderful hosts. They are there to handle any needs you may have, but allow you lots of privacy while at the hotel to enjoy your vacation. Jill and Rick are wonderful ambassadors for Loreto and can recommend the best restaurants and bars around town and help you book excursions and activities (there's also a binder in the room with lots of information and recommendations for Loreto). Jill is also a realtor in town, ([www.misionloreto.com](http://www.misionloreto.com)) and Rick is a nature photographer ([www.soulcatchingimages.com](http://www.soulcatchingimages.com)). They have a gallery right on the main plaza in town, which is a popular spot for tourists and locals alike.



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Loreto was designated a "Pueblo Mágico" in 2012 (a recognition given to cities in Mexico that offer visitors a "magical" experience – by reason of their natural beauty, cultural riches, or historical relevance). Loreto is home to the first mission of Baja (and Alta) California and has a town plaza with cute restaurants, shops and bars (don't miss happy hour at any of the places along the plaza with giant 2-for-1 margaritas). There's a large new malecón where you can walk along the water's edge. A boat ride will take you out to any of the five islands (a designated National Marine Park) where you can see whales and other wildlife, and experience snorkeling, diving, kayaking, or just enjoying the beautiful views and crystal clear waters. Loreto is also a popular destination for fisherman who go to catch yellowtail, dorado, cabrilla, snapper and more.

The location of Las Cabañas is walking distance to everything in Loreto. It's just off of the Malecón and the Sea of Cortez, and just a short walk to the main plaza where there are plenty of delightful restaurants, bars and shops to enjoy.

Make sure to book in advance – this is a popular and beloved place with only four cabañas, you don't want to miss it on your next trip to Loreto.

## Las Cabañas de Loreto

Cabañas start at \$95 a night.  
Three-night minimum required.  
Closed from Aug. 15 - Oct. 1

To book or for more information:  
[www.lascabanasdeloreto.com](http://www.lascabanasdeloreto.com)



*ABOVE: The Dorado room at Las Cabañas de Loreto. RIGHT: Misión de Nuestra Señora de Loreto Conchó. BELOW: The Jackson's gallery on the plaza in town*



## Where do you Discover Baja?

Send us a photo of yourself in a Discover Baja t-shirt and we'll feature you in the DBTC newsletter! Please send photo and caption to [jen@discoverbaja.com](mailto:jen@discoverbaja.com).

Don't have a Discover Baja t-shirt? You can get yours at <https://squareup.com/market/discover-baja>

*Jen, in her Discover Baja t-shirt along the turquoise waters of Bahía Concepción*

# BAJA FISHING REPORT

*with Gary Graham*

As spring break comes and goes – and March winds diminish – April seems poised to once again be a transition month with some interesting possibilities already on the table.

Some anglers eagerly await the exotics while others are wisely going with the flow, capitalizing on the phenomenal yellowtail fishing that survived the mild Baja Norte winter ... now being joined by a similar strengthening bite in Baja Sur. This is second only to a sierra bite which seems to be gaining strength from San Felipe to Cabo San Lucas.

Coronado Islands, Ensenada, San Quintin, Cedros Island as well as Bahía de la Ascensión, La Bocana and Abreojos are all reporting



**Chuck "Carlos" Benge at Punta Chivato launch ramp with one of the several yellowtail caught off of the point.**

similar yellowtail runs of not only the school-sized fish in the 10- to 15-pound class, but also many in the mossback class from 30 pounds with one whopper caught from a kayak by Ross Zoerhof at Bahía de la Ascensión.

Zoerhof's story will resonate with many of you: During the past several years he had visited twice, spending 10 days fishing from his kayak, topping his personal best YT catch each trip with the largest being an impressive mossback of 42 pounds.

His successes convinced him that he would like to live in the area and he moved there earlier this year.

"After a couple of sessions I had

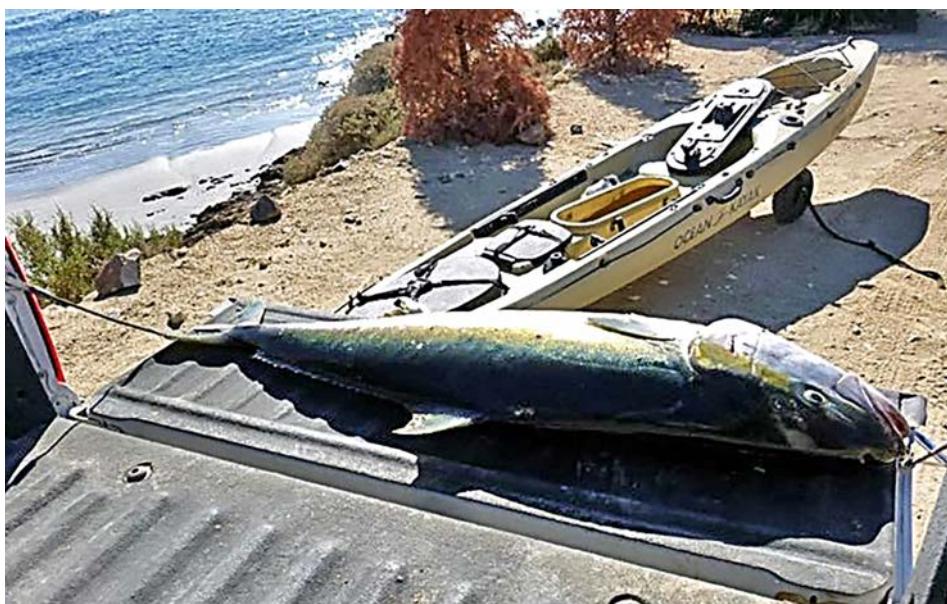
been able to find some yellows, but nothing of any real quality, except for one 35-pounder a couple of weeks ago," Zoerhof confided.

"Well, recently, I went out and stuck this beauty that came in at 50-inches to the fork and 47.8 pounds," Zoerhof continued. "He totally kicked my butt on the kayak! I had a couple of fishing-related goals upon moving here. One was to catch a 50-pound yellow. After the fight that this one gave me, I want no part of something bigger. *These bad boys are on steroids down here!*"

Over on the other side of Baja, in the Sea of Cortez, the long-awaited winter yellowtail bite finally exploded.

News came rumbling in, first from Punta Chivato. Gary Black texted, "Yellowtail are wide open and large ... most hitting the 30-pound mark!"

Then similar good news came from farther down the coast at Loreto. Rick Hill sent a report that the yellows had also begun biting there. "Our daily boats have been working the areas around Coronado Island with good success for both good-sized yellowtail and lately, cabrilla, while most yellows are 18- to 22-pounds with one out of six being in the 26- to 30-pound range."



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This bodes well for next month's yellowtail tournament to be held at The Hotel la Mision. They invite you to this year's annual April Yellowtail Tournament. It's open to the public and everyone is welcome.

So the litany continued all the way to the tip. Wherever the yellows have been hiding they are back and there are plenty big ones in the mix in all the usual places.



Live bait or Mega-Baits plus both surface and yoyo metal lures mentioned in the March report will get the job done.



The sierra mackerel are biting from shore down at Cabo. They are also biting inshore trolling with hootchies. In both cases, remember these fish have teeth that can cut a leader like a hot knife in butter.

One more thing: if you are trolling, keep the speed faster rather than slower, 6- to 8-mpm will produce more strikes. Also, one of the most common errors made is neglecting to circle around *after* you catch a fish. Chances are there was more than a single fish where you had the bite.

If fishing for sierra (or anything else bigger) from the beach, it's time to move on from your small, light tackle spinning outfits to longer and heavier rods loaded with 40-pound braid ... you won't be disappointed with the results!

For those who crave exotics, don't despair. In another month or two it will be your time.

Meanwhile, the roosterfish are making an early appearance at La Paz according to Jonathan Roldan, Tailhunter International Sportfishing.

Plus the striped marlin are the dominant catch at East Cape right now.

Questions or comments are welcome,  
[garyg@garycgraham.com](mailto:garyg@garycgraham.com)



*Photos courtesy of Keith Overholt.*



*Whooo-weee! This is why they call us the "Roosterfish Capital of the World!" Looke what Jeff Brown and our Captain Boli got today at the Island. Jeff says 60 pounds. I say bigger. Boli doesn't often struggle lifting a fish!*

# BUEN PROVECHO: Adobe Food Truck



By Jennifer Kramer  
[www.bajatheothercalifornia.com](http://www.bajatheothercalifornia.com)

While the beloved boutique bed & breakfast and winery Adobe Guadalupe has been a favorite of Valle de Guadalupe insiders for years, there was one always one drawback - its exclusivity. There was no public tasting room or restaurant, so anyone who wasn't staying at the hotel couldn't get farther than the front gates. Wine tastings were reserved for limited private groups and people staying at the intimate Bed & Breakfast. This made for a wonderfully special experience if you were one of the lucky ones allowed past the gates, but was such a shame for everyone else (especially because Adobe Guadalupe is known for having some of the best wines in the region). But all of that has changed recently since they've

opened the Adobe Food Truck and their new wine tasting room – both open to the public, no reservations needed.

While there are some places in the Valle de Guadalupe that manage to get by with mediocre food (relying on the beautiful setting and wine to make it a complete experience), that was luckily not the case with Adobe Food Truck. Everything that we ordered was exceptionally delicious - patatas bravas, champignones (mushrooms), croquettes and a ribeye sandwich with a side salad. It was all fresh, flavorful and filling. We washed it all down with some smooth Tempranillo and crisp Sauvignon Blanc.

The setting was serene. They've created a new seating area for the food truck outside of the new tasting room with sleek wooden

picnic benches, sun shades and the same stunning views of vineyards and olive trees that you get from the rest of the Adobe Guadalupe property. The adobe-style tasting room carries the same architectural beauty as the rest of the hotel and the food truck adds a splash of color and fun to the scene.

The new tasting room and food truck opened late last summer, and unlike many of the outdoor eateries in the valley, Adobe Food Truck is open nearly all year round (they did close for a few weeks in December/January for the holidays).

*Wine tastings are 10am-5pm every day and start at 100 pesos. Adobe Food Truck is open from 11:30-6pm every day.*

[facebook.com/foodtruckadobe](https://facebook.com/foodtruckadobe)



# **DISCOVER BAJA MEMBERS, WELCOME TO DON EDDIE'S Hotel, Restaurant, Bar, Sportsfishing, Kayaking, RV Park, Camping**

**Your home away from home on the bay of San Quintin, Baja**



**RV PARK:** We have 20 full hookup spaces, 10 facing the bay, 10 inside the hotel parking lot. We also offer bathrooms and hot showers to all RV and camping customers.

**\$15.00 dollars per day. Stay 5 days, get 2 free days! Stay 3 weeks, get 1 free week! (other discounts do not apply)**

**DISCOVER BAJA MEMBERS RECEIVE A 15% DISCOUNT ON RV SPACES AND 10% DISCOUNT ON MEALS!**



**RESERVATIONS: 1-866-989-6492 (US)**

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## **PARADISE FOR SALE IN MULEGE!**

Paradise is for sale by owner located in Mulege on the Sea of Cortez at the mouth of Conception Bay, 8 miles south of Mulege. Approximately 1/3 of acre with a fediocomiso (ownership). Dwelling for camping, 3500 gallon pils for water, extra large propane tank, solar. Asking US \$185,000 or best offer. Contact 760-889-4888 or [sherylkaonis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sherylkaonis@sbcglobal.net) or [slgordinier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slgordinier@sbcglobal.net)

## **PROPERTY FOR SALE IN SAN MIGUEL DE COMONDÚ:**

A lot with a producing avocado orchard, equipped with asequias (irrigation channels), approximately 1700 square meters in size. San Miguel de Comondú is located two hours on paved road from the port of Loreto. It is a quiet little town for vacationing and relaxing. The listing price is \$65,000 U.S., the first payment being \$30,000 U.S. and the remainder in two payments. Call or text Alberto Cota Murillo, 011-52-613-114-7751.

