# Traveling Green in Cabo



If you care about the environment, reducing your travel's footprint on the world is important to you. Luckily, Cabo offers plenty of opportunities for eco-conscious travelers.

For many modern travellers, ecotourism is a big factor in defining their holiday destination and activities. One of the great things about visiting Cabo is how easy it is to have an amazing time without having a big impact on the environment. In this article we'll be exploring some top travel tips as well as learning about some of the best green activities you can do when staying in Cabo.

### **General Rules**

#### 1. Choose a Green Hotel

Where many holiday destinations have been slow to reduce their environmental impact, Cabo has taken great steps to becoming a top green holiday destination. There are many luxury green hotels which travellers can choose from and relax in knowing they've made an eco-conscious choice. Some popular choices include Riu Palace, ME Cabo, and Riu Santa Fe.

#### 2. Travel in the Low Season

Travelling in off peak season means less overcrowding for the locals and the environment. One of the best things about Cabo is that due to its high temperatures and

wealth of activities on offer such as whale watching (more on that later), <u>snorkeling</u>, and cruising, fun really can be had all year round.

#### 3. Avoid Plastic Products and Dispose of Waste Responsibly

This should be given no matter the type of traveller you are, but is even more important in an area with such abundant marine life as Cabo. Plastic threatens the health of endangered species found there as well as helping to increase pollution rates. A great tip when hanging out in the heat of Cabo is to purchase a reusable water bottle.

#### 4. Shop and Eat Locally

Shopping and eating local helps support the local population of Cabo, allowing them to grow and giving the area an economic boost. Cabo is abundant in fine cuisine and local delicacies which will truly give you a flavour of the area. There's also a range of small shops and flea markets where you can purchase unique, handcrafted souvenirs.

#### 5. Use Reef/Ocean-Safe Sunscreen

Cabo is well known for its water activities such as snorkeling and <u>scuba diving</u>. However, while most tour operators will do all they can to keep marine life safe, customers using unsuitable beach products can make a large impact on the health of the reefs and oceans. Sunscreen which isn't ocean safe can contain microplastics, as well as ingredients that are harmful to marine life or can contaminate local ecosystems. Therefore, when travelling green in Cabo, using reef-safe sunscreen is a must!

#### 6. Follow the Rules

Rules surrounding the natural habitats and indigenous species of Cabo should always be followed. While you may want to explore, leaving designated trails and feeding animals will often cause more harm than good. You may interrupt an animal's sensitive rituals or damage local flora essential to feeding the fauna of the area. Pay attention to warning signs, as they are there for a reason, and avoid trespassing. Being a respectful traveller will help ensure you benefitting the overall health of the area your visiting and will keep you safe also!

## Eco-Friendly Things to Do

1. Whale Watching: This is probably the number one activity which draws travellers to Cabo between April and December. Visitors can take cruises to view these majestic creatures in their natural habitat as they visit the sea of Cortez to breed and raise their calves. Most common are humpback whales and gray whales but orcas, blue whales, sperm whales and bottlenose dolphins aren't unheard of either! Trips run morning, noon, afternoon, and sunset, meaning they perfectly fit around most itineraries.

In regards to travelling green, Cabo truly makes it easy! Many of the cruise providers have environmental concerns at the heart of the service they provide. 'Responsible Whale Watching' is commonly practiced, which involves intercepting the whales on their natural swimming and hunting patterns instead of chasing them and forcing interactions. Many services also support local conservation and sanctuaries too, meaning that you

can relax on your cruise knowing you're not contributing in anyway to the endangerment of Cabo's largest visitors.

- 2. San Jose Estuary: Back on land, the San Jose estuary is a great way to view a variety of rare or endangered birds in their natural environment as well as enjoy some breathtaking scenery. Ideal for early morning visits, common birds seen at the estuary include the critically endangered Belding's Yellowthroat, as well as a variety of heron species, bitterns, and gray thrashers.
- **3. Wild Canyon:** If you're a green traveller looking for a rush then you should visit the eco-park Wild Canyon. Spanning across a breathtaking canyon, it's great for those wanting to get outdoors and have some fun with 10 different ziplines on offer.
- **4. Conservation Programs:** Cabo has a range of conservation projects which you can visit and help out with during your stay for a rewarding and memorable experience. The Turtle Release Program, for example, allows visitors to adopt a baby turtle which ensures its safe release into the wild.

Because of Cabo's close relationship with nature and reliance on its beautiful surroundings for tourism, the area is very dedicated to keeping the plants and animals there safe and protected. With your help, Cabo can stay as beautiful as it's always been!