

Recommendations

- Observe the codes of conduct. Hire a local guide. Even though you have your own boat, remember that local tour operators know the species and its habits, they know how to locate them, also take into account that it is an economically important activity to the community.
- Remember to perform the fee in the CONANP office at Bahía de los Angeles, this fee helps to conservation of natural resources.



- When making sure to swim with sharks do not use sunscreen
- Put all waste (organic and inorganic) into plastic bags inside the trash container on board..
- If you navigate within the area of observation "whale shark" observed the marked speed limit of 5 miles per hour and drive your boat with care.

Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas

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Comisión Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas



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Whale Shark

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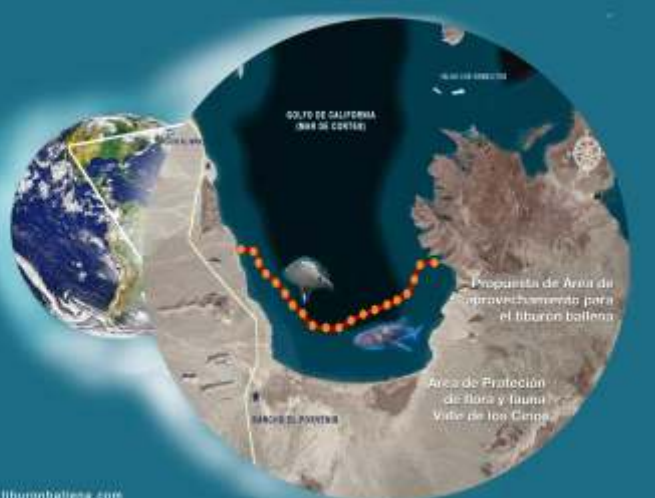
Vivir Mejor

Whale Shark

Is the largest living fish species. The waters of Bahía de los Angeles, Baja California, is one of the few places in the world where whale sharks are a frequent visitor, staying until 6 months of the year, from June to December.



The whale shark is most likely the planktivorous most important of the bay and its presence seems to be an indicator of ecosystem health, hence the importance of keeping it.



Specifications for activities with Whale Sharks

Why is it important to follow the code of conduct?

The code of conduct is designed to avoid any potential harm or disturbance to the sharks, and to ensure their continued presence in the bay as well as regulating Whale shark eco-tourism by making safe and sustainable

Code of conduct for boat operators

- When approaching a whale shark you must bring the boat by one side, at a distance from the animal at least as long as 5 mts.
- Do not restrict or interfere with the free movement of the shark while using the boat.
- No more than one boat and 4 swimmers at a time per shark.
- The speed limit is 5mph within the marked whale shark area with orange buoys.
- Power off the boat in neutral or maintain the motor at a distance from the animal at least as long as 5 meters. Allow tourists to enter the water and swim to the animal.



<http://islasgc.conanp.gob.mx/islas/>

- If there is more than one craft with a shark, the second arriving boat will have to wait for the first to get finished with a maximum of 15 minutes for this, during this waiting time the minimum distance of 50 meters should be kept, or go look for another shark
- Fishing activities while observing whale sharks is not allowed.



Code of conduct for swimming with Whale Sharks

- Do not touch the animal. Maintain a minimum distance of one meter from the head and body of it and four meters from the tail.
- The immersion should be the least disruption possible not to scare the animal and must be at least 5 meters from them.
- To swim with the whale shark a life jacket or wetsuit is required.
- No more than 4 swimmers at a time per shark.

<http://sanlorenzo.conanp.gob.mx>