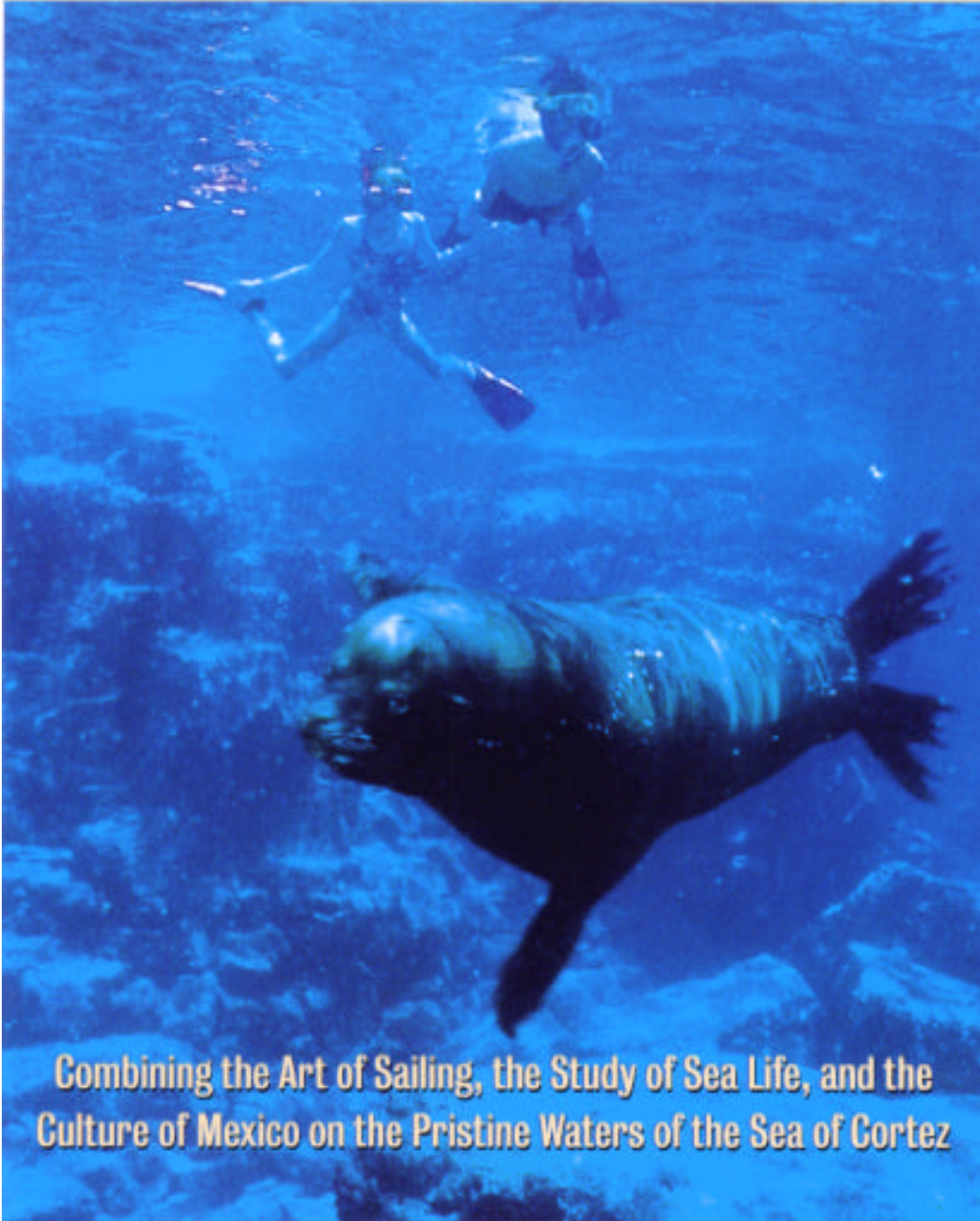


MARINE BIOLOGY SAILING EXPEDITIONS

ExploraMar



Combining the Art of Sailing, the Study of Sea Life, and the Culture of Mexico on the Pristine Waters of the Sea of Cortez

THE LOCALE

The sailing waters of Mexico's Gulf of California are nothing short of amazing. Also known as the Sea of Cortez, it is the body of water between the Mexican mainland and the Baja Peninsula. The scenery is truly spectacular – white, sandy beaches leading up to towering mountains, the sea studded with beautiful islands, home to singular fishing villages. The aquamarine water has visibility extending 75 – 100 feet, ideal for observing the area's abundant sea life.

Staying inside the protected waters between near-shore



islands and the Baja Peninsula, our journey begins at La Paz and heads north toward Loreto before doubling back. ExploraMar will take you to this area's most beautiful sites in a marine biology and sailing adventure that is awe-inspiring.

A GLIMPSE OF THE SEA LIFE

Unique oceanographic and geologic features help make the Sea of Cortez one of the most diverse and prolific seas in the world, where thousands of tropical and temperate animal species are well represented. There is a wide variety of habitats, ranging from coral reefs and mangrove lagoons to shallow basins and numerous types of shoreline.

Here you will find fish and other marine animals in abundance – invertebrates, rays, sailfish, marlin, tuna, sea turtles, sea lions and whales. Dolphins and



pilot whales commonly play at the bow of the boat while we are under sail.

One of the keys to appreciating and understanding any natural system is the knowledge of the organisms that are present and the ecological roles they play. It is ExploraMar's hope that introducing young people to the Sea of Cortez will inspire a discipline of conservation, and a love of the ocean and the life it supports.

THE YACHT

The new Beneteau sailing yachts are managed by The Moorings, the most

prominent charter boat company in the world. With reputations as safe, stable, high-performance vessels, they are impeccably maintained and fully equipped.

CRUISING CUISINE

Recognizing that sailing and snorkeling generate a healthy appetite, we specifically design meals for young sailors. Besides grilling freshly caught fish, we always offer chicken, steak, or vegetarian meals as alternatives. We purchase local organic fruits and vegetables at the public market, and healthy snacks are available throughout the day.

AHHH...THE WEATHER

With dry, hot days on the teeming waters at the edge of the desert, the average air temperature in the summer is in the mid 80s to low 90s. The very low humidity makes the days comfortable should temperatures reach 100 degrees. At night under clear, starry skies, cool breezes prevail, with temperatures dropping to the mid 70s.

The water temperature is a pleasant 80-85 degrees.





TOM AND BONNI FUNKHOUSER

Tom has taught math and science for 20 years at the middle school and high school levels. He earned a B.S. in Biology at Stanford University and a Master's Degree in Marine Biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Bonni has been a charter skipper and sailing instructor for 25 years. She received her U.S. Coast Guard License at the age of 21, and she currently has a 100-ton certification.

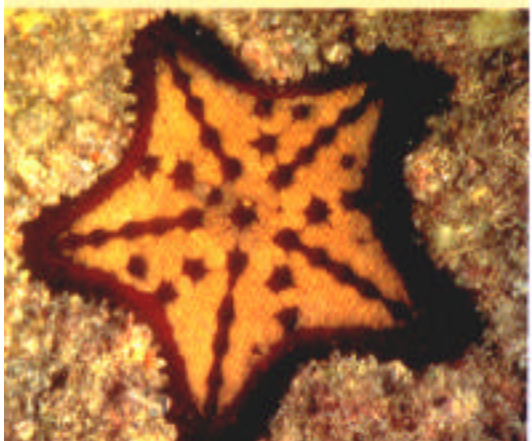
For 10 years, Tom and Bonni lived aboard their 36-foot sailing yacht in the U.S. Virgin Islands. They moved to California in 1985, where they live with their 16-year-old twins, Scott and Heather, who serve as crew members on each session. The Funkhousers currently own a Hinckley Pilot 35-foot sloop, available for sailing lessons on San Francisco Bay.

References are available upon request.

SUPERVISION AND SAFETY

This coeducational program is designed for 13 to 17 year-old students. Our two yachts accommodate sixteen students per session. They learn to sail the boat, operate the dinghy and snorkel, becoming reliable members of the crew. With ExploraMar's owners aboard – skilled, experienced professionals who serve as teachers and skippers – they will get the maximum fun and adventure from their educational journey.

Tom and Bonni are certified by the American Red Cross in both first aid and CPR. Constant daytime radio monitoring assures us of professional service when necessary. Additionally, The Moorings operates a 23-foot, high-speed chase boat that will be dispatched should an unforeseen problem occur while cruising. Confidence in safe sailing and snorkeling techniques is a primary objective.



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