

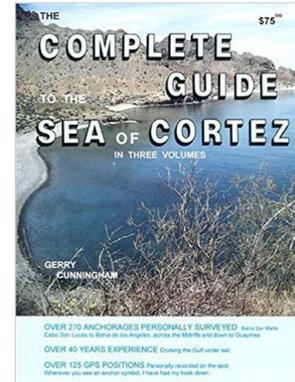
## ***A Few Suggested Cruising Guides and Books for the Sea of Cortez***

### ***The Complete Guide to the Sea of Cortez (3-Volume Set)* By Gerry Cunningham (originally published 1990s)**

- Vol. 1: The Lower Gulf
- Vol. 2: The Middle Gulf
- Vol. 3: San Carlos and the Midriff Islands

More than 280 protected anchorages are described, based on Gerry Cunningham's 49 years of experience cruising the Sea of Cortez under sail. There are 377 mostly colored photos, and 172 detail charts with many GPS coordinates.

These classic cruising guidebooks were out of print for a while, but have been made available by Paradise Cay Publications in 2020.



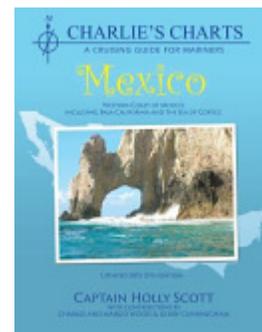
### ***Sea of Cortez: A Cruiser's Guidebook* By Shawn Breeding and Heather Bansmer (2015, Blue Latitude Press)**

This comprehensive guide details the remote and pristine anchorages of the Baja peninsula and Mexican mainland within the Sea of Cortez, including some information on San Carlos. Sample cruising itineraries based on different schedules give some planning options. Harbors and anchorages are illustrated with over 100 GPS accurate chartlets derived from satellite photography and first-hand exploration. GPS waypoints, along with prime anchorage locations, accompany each chartlet. The guide also includes important cruising information on weather patterns, HAM and SSB radio nets, customs and immigration information, marina locations and layouts, fuel availability, boat haul out facilities, and marine chandleries. City maps, grocery store locations, hiking trails, dive and snorkel sites and more are also provided. For those interested in venturing farther south, Blue Latitude Press has published *Pacific Mexico: A Cruiser's Guidebook*, which covers the Pacific Mexico mainland from Mazatlán to Zihuatanejo.



### ***Charlie's Charts: Western Coast of Mexico and Baja* By Holly Scott (updated 2015; Paradise Cay Publications)**

This updated cruising guide covers the entire Pacific coast of Mexico from the US border, down the Baja Peninsula and up into the Sea of Cortez all the way north to San Felipe, across to Puerto Peñasco and south to Puerto Madero/Chiapas. There are 61 additional charts with coverage of the Sea of Cortez, including Topolobampo and Altata on the mainland coast. The charts have valuable information on entrances, dinghy landings, marinas, dangers, ferry routes, anchorages, shore attractions and amenities, and GPS waypoints, etc.

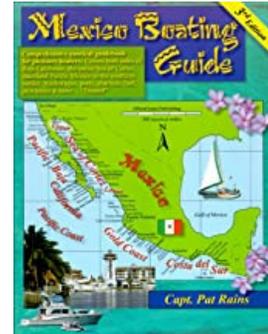


The introduction and appendices cover everything from entrance requirements, to sun protection, bug screens, radio frequencies, Spanish vocabulary, what to have onboard, fishing, how to deal with pets in paradise, and much more. There are also QR codes that are linked to videos, websites, marinas, city maps, and even whale watching information.

### ***Mexico Boating Guide***

**By Patricia Rains (Point Loma Publishing; updated January 2020)**

This cruising guide covers both coasts of Baja, the entire Sea of Cortez and all of mainland Pacific Mexico to the Guatemala border. It includes 450 photos, 300 GPS-accurate charts, and text covering safe approaches & anchorages and what's ashore. This guide runs mile by mile and the 2020 update includes paperwork websites, and a handy resource directory to contact marinas, boat yards, and docks.



### ***Baja Boaters Guide: Vol. 2 Sea of Cortez***

**By Jack Williams (2003; HJ Williams Publishing; out of print)**

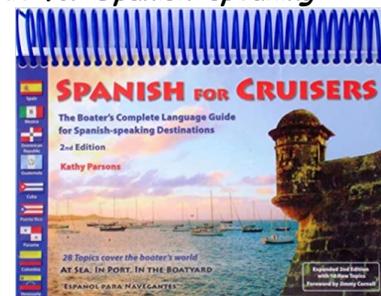
Volume 2 of this series includes information about Baja's Sea of Cortez coastline, sea conditions, and navigation, with aerial photos and charts of every bay, cover, promontory, island, and harbor.



### ***Spanish for Cruisers: The Boater's Complete Language Guide for Spanish-speaking Destinations***

**By Kathy Parsons (2008)**

This spiral-bound paperback provides the practical, specialized phrases cruisers need to communicate with port captains, dock attendants, marina and boatyard staff, mechanics, marine technicians, rescuers, fishermen and divers. Equally useful are its sections that cover food provisioning, shopping, dining, medical care, banking, phone, internet, transportation, and directions. It is indexed in English and Spanish, and features illustrations and diagrams of systems and boat parts.



***Latitude 38's First Timer's Guide to Mexico***  
([www.baja-haha.com](http://www.baja-haha.com))

Published by Latitude 38 for the Baja Ha-Ha rally from San Diego to Cabo San Lucas, this comprehensive guide is updated every year before the annual cruising event.

***Cruising Downwind***  
([www.c470.jerodisys.com/470Lib/downwind.pdf](http://www.c470.jerodisys.com/470Lib/downwind.pdf))

Although last updated in 2006, this handy guide is designed to "help you plan, provision and prepare for a safe and pleasant voyage. We don't expect you will want or need everything on the list. It is intended only to provoke your thoughts and jog your memory."

### ***Additional Information***

***What's Up San Carlos Newsletter***  
([www.whatsupsancarlos.com](http://www.whatsupsancarlos.com))

What's Up San Carlos is a weekly newsletter that covers a whole range of topics including, but not limited to a weekly calendar of events, local news and weather, fishing and birding reports, dive reports, restaurant and entertainment offerings, and movies. They also have a Facebook group.

***Viva San Carlos - Interactive Community Bulletin Board***  
([www.sancarlosboard.com](http://www.sancarlosboard.com))

This moderated and administered bulletin board covers current events in San Carlos under a host of categories (restaurant reviews, ride sharing, lost and found, pets, gardening, real estate, classified ads, Mexico news, birding, fishing, obituaries, etc.).

***San Carlos Cruisers Morning Net - VHF Channel 72***

Covering the marinas, anchorages, and dry storage yards in San Carlos and Guaymas, this net meets Mon-Sat at 0800. Topics include emergency assistance, weather, local assistance, community events, rides and crew, etc. A good resource for cruisers new to the area.

***Club Cruceros de La Paz***  
([www.clubcruceros.net](http://www.clubcruceros.net))

Based out of Marina de La Paz, Club Cruceros has a web site with lots of great information on many topics related to cruising in Baja, plus a comprehensive service directory. They also operate a very active morning cruiser's net on VHF Channel 22 (0800) that covers the marinas and anchorages in and around La Paz.

*Compiled by Jim and Teresa Pinter, 2020, for the Arizona Yacht Club Presentation: Cruising a Desert Sea*