

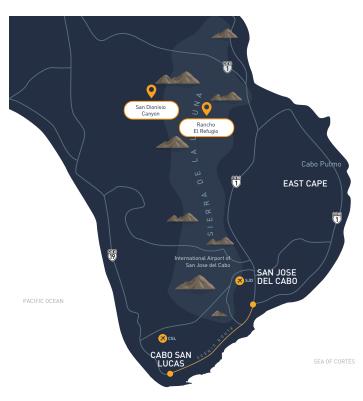


## RANCHO EL REFUGIO PRESERVING TRADITION, EMBRACING SUSTAINABILITY

*Rancho El Refugio*, situated in the lush canyons of *San Dionisio*, is a sanctuary where the unique identity and culture of the *Rancho Sudcaliforniano* thrive, preserving traditions that are at risk of disappearing. This extraordinary destination, where every visit contributes to the sustainable development of the region, offers a rare opportunity to experience the profound connection between nature and heritage. The ranch is more than just a place to visit; it is a living testament to the vibrant yet fragile cultural heritage of *Baja California Sur*.

At *Rancho El Refugio*, indigenous practices and sustainable methods coexist, inviting guests to engage deeply with the local environment and community. Whether exploring ancient cave paintings hidden in the magical *Cañón de San Dionisio*, experiencing the freedom of the canyon's water pools, participating in a traditional leathercraft workshop, or enjoying a farmto-table meal prepared with fresh, local ingredients, visitors become part of a larger story—one that honors the past while nurturing a sustainable future.

From guided nature hikes and medicinal plant workshops to cultural exchanges with the family who have called this land home for generations, *Rancho El Refugio* offers an experience that goes beyond sightseeing. It is a place where the landscapes of *Baja*  *California Sur* come alive, inviting visitors to reconnect with the land, the people, and the enduring spirit of this extraordinary place.





# DAY TRIP ITINERARY FOR RANCHO EL REFUGIO

### 7:30 AM - DEPARTURE FROM LOS CABOS:

Begin your journey as you leave the coastal landscapes and desert behind, heading into the lush mountains of *Baja California Sur*. The scenery gradually transforms from arid expanses to a vibrant, green landscape, especially after the rains, making the drive a beautiful transition into the heart of the *Sierra de la Laguna*.



#### 9:00 AM - ARRIVAL AT RANCHO EL REFUGIO & INTRODUCTION:

Arrive at *Rancho El Refugio*, a family-owned eco-ranch nestled in *San Dionisio*. Begin your visit with a warm welcome from the family and enjoy a refreshing drink made from local fruits. You'll receive a brief introduction to the ranch's history and the various activities planned for the day.



#### 9:30 AM - GUIDED HIKE AND CULTURAL EXPLORATION:

Embark on a guided hike through the picturesque *Cañón de San Dionisio*. Discover the ancient cave paintings hidden in the canyon and learn about their historical and cultural importance. Experience the unique opportunity to handle a meteorite that landed nearby, a fascinating piece of natural history. Rogelio, your guide, will share his insights into the indigenous heritage and the significance of these natural and cultural features.



#### 11:00 AM - TALABARTERÍA AND LEATHERCRAFT WORKSHOP:

Join a hands-on leathercraft workshop where you'll learn traditional techniques to create your own bracelet or small leather accessory. This workshop, led by skilled local artisans, offers a unique opportunity to engage with the craftsmanship that has been passed down through generations. Take your handmade piece home as a souvenir of your visit.



Explore the *Huerto* (organic garden) of *Rancho El Refugio*. Learn about the ranch's sustainable farming practices and get an introduction to ancestral herbalism and medicinal plants used in the region. Visit the animal farm, where you can interact with goats, cows, and chickens, and learn about the ranch's approach to sustainable livestock management.





#### 1:00 PM - TRADITIONAL COOKING WORKSHOP AND LUNCH:

Participate in a traditional cooking workshop where you can learn how to make regional dishes such as machaca de pescado or res, tamales, and flour tortillas. The workshop is led by the family members who have perfected these recipes over generations. Enjoy a lunch under the mango trees in the rustic dining area, savoring the dishes you helped prepare.

### 2:30 PM - REST AND RELAXATION BY THE POZA:

After lunch, take some time to relax by the tranquil pozo (natural pool) of the arroyo. Enjoy the serene surroundings or take a refreshing dip in the cool, clear waters. This peaceful setting is perfect for unwinding and appreciating the natural beauty of the region.

### 3:30 PM - FAREWELL GATHERING AND DEPARTURE:

Before departing, visit the ranch's small store to purchase seasonal traditional sweets made from fruits grown on the ranch, such as *jamoncillo*, *cocadas*, and preserves of *papaya*, *mango*, grapefruit, and guava. These treats make for perfect souvenirs. Say your goodbyes to the family and enjoy a leisurely drive back to Los Cabos.

#### 5:00 PM - RETURN TO LOS CABOS:

After a fulfilling day of cultural immersion, hands-on workshops, and natural exploration, return to *Los Cabos* with a deeper connection to the people and traditions of Rancho El Refugio. You'll leave with a handcrafted leather bracelet, delicious regional sweets, and lasting memories of this unique and enriching experience.

### LODGING RECOMMENDATIONS:

RANCHO EL REFUGIO: Cozy eco-cabins in San Dionisio Canyon, ideal for a peaceful nature retreat.











## **COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES:**

- HIKING AT SAN DIONISIO CANYON: Discover ancient cave paintings and explore natural pools.
- 🔝 LEATHERCRAFT WORKSHOPS: Learn traditional leatherworking techniques from skilled local artisans.
- BERBALISM SESSIONS: Dive into ancestral knowledge of medicinal plants.
- Grain Farm-to-table DINING: Enjoy delicious meals prepared with fresh, local ingredients.
- **ANIMAL FARM:** Meet the animals and explore sustainable livestock practices.

## PROVIDERS AND CONTACTS:

- RANCHO EL REFUGIO
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