



# BAJA CALIFORNIA SUR REGIONAL MUSEUM OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND HISTORY

Baja California Sur

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Located on one of the corners of the downtown historic center of the city of La Paz, the first integral cultural project in Baja California Sur to house the Regional Museum of Anthropology and History and the Maestro Justo Sierra Public Library as a sort of agora was carried out in the early 1980s. The museum was built with a modernist design to preserve and spread awareness of the foremost heritage of peninsular culture, much of which is now recognized for its universal meaning. The museum galleries describe the ancient and recent history of this “home” that we call Baja California Sur, constructed through the effort of many generations: fishermen and sailors, ranchers, mine workers, tradesmen, farmers, men and women of different walks of life who bequeathed it to the new generations. Here they can continue to harbor their hopes for the future in it and to continue enhancing it by pooling efforts with other newcomers to the region.



### HOW TO GET THERE

From the boardwalk in La Paz, Baja California Sur, walk six blocks on Av. 5 de Mayo to Av. Altamirano. This intersection marks the exact location of the museum.

### SERVICES

Archeology workshops, history book presentations, lectures, the Jesuit Missions Festival, and the conference on culture and heritage take place in the museum.

### PHOTOGRAPHY

For the use of any device to make videos, visitors must pay a fee. Non-professional photography, without the use of tripods, is free of charge and must be done without a flash.

### HOURS

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### ADMISSION

According to the Federal Fees Act, admission is free for students, teachers, and seniors with a valid ID, children under 13 and disabled people. Sundays: free admission for Mexicans and foreign residents.

### TEXTS

Jesús Alejandro Zúñiga de la Toba

### PRODUCTION

Head of Promotion of the National Dissemination Office, INAH

### PHOTOS

Carlos Octavio Mendoza Ochoa

### TRANSLATION

Debra Emy Nagao Ogawa

### DESIGN

César Enríquez

CULTURA SECRETARÍA DE CULTURA



INAH

## MAIN ATTRACTIONS

### Kneeling Woman

Stone statue used in calendrical ceremonies by the ancient people of California. These religious objects utilized by shamans were destroyed by Jesuit missionaries during the colonial period. The statue was saved and now it bears witness to ancient magical beliefs. It is on display in the vestibule of the museum.



## COLLECTIONS

- 70 70 million years: the oldest piece
- 12 12 thousand years of human history
- 60 60 regional plants, many of them endemic
- 1200 1200 square meters (12,900 sq. ft.) of exhibition displays
- 2000 2000 paleontological, archaeological, historical, and ethnographic pieces

## HIGHLIGHTS

Its collections offer the visitor a complete journey through the Baja California peninsula: foundational (peninsular indigenous idols); geological formation and natural history (shark, toothed whale, and clam fossils, the latter specimen some 70 million years old); primitive societies (bone, wood, stone tools, textile, and shell for hunting, gathering, fishing, and ritual purposes); the development of regional society; colonial weapons and objects; maritime exploration; sacred art; Independence and Revolution; as well as ranching and maritime traditions. It also features an ample collection of regional plants—wild fig, jojoba, and date.



# /EXHIBITIONS

## ● Introductory Gallery

It welcomes visitors by introducing the foundational collections of the ancient cultures of Baja California Sur.

## ● Archaeology Gallery

An in-depth explanation of early cultures through eye-catching exhibition displays and objects of great importance for the ancient life in Northern Mexico.

## ● Gallery of Rock Painting

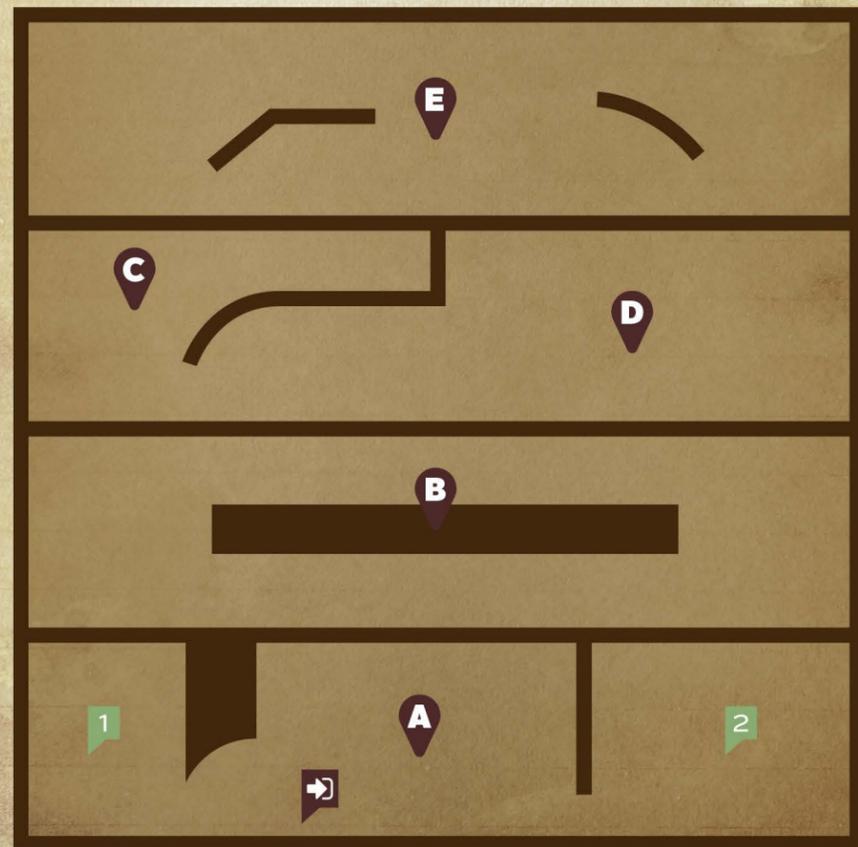
The sites on the peninsula that have been studied and dated are exhibited. San Borjita, the oldest in the America, dates to 9000 years before the present.

## ● Colonial Gallery

Early explorations and the discovery of California are explained, as well as the missionizing process and the establishment of Spanish towns.

## ● History Today Gallery

It emphasizes the processes of Independence, the Mexican Revolution, and the Twentieth Century, grounding the local society's sense of identity.



➔ ACCESS

## ESSENTIALS

- A** Introductory Gallery
- B** Archaeology Gallery
- C** Rock Painting Gallery
- D** Colonial Gallery
- E** History Today Gallery

- 1 Shop
- 2 Temporary Exhibitions



/ Almost forty years since its creation, the Baja California Sur Regional Museum is the emblematic center of regional culture. A visit to it transports us to a peninsula that was forged between the desert and two seas: the Pacific and the Gulf of California.

