



Ríos
Associates LLC

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Our records indicate that you are interested / registered in our Intensive 8 day Spanish Medical and Cultural Workshop scheduled in **La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico**. La Paz is located approximately 2 hrs by car from Cabo San Lucas. It is a very peaceful, calm "pueblo", without a great number of tourists, and where many locals do not speak English. (Thus...much Spanish practice is involved.) La Paz has an international airport also and it would probably be best to check with your travel agent as to which carrier and location (La Paz or los Cabos) would offer you the best rates.



You will need your passport since it is now required to re-enter the US from most countries (Mexico being one). At times a \$15-\$25 visa or entry charge is requested when arriving in Mexico. It generally depends on the political climate at the moment, but, just in case, you may want to come prepared.

Once you arrive in La Paz, you can simply deplane, go through Mexican Customs, and catch a taxi or shuttle (sort of a limousine type service) and ask them to take you to **Hotel La Concha and Beach Resort** or to whichever hotel you will be staying at. This should cost approximately \$25 dollars from La Paz Airport and about \$8 from the La Paz Bus Depot.

If you wish to lodge at La Concha Hotel, you can reserve a room requesting any specific needs you may have by calling and request the Rios Associate's block rate, which is \$880 pesos. This includes a continental breakfast each morning. (If, for some reason, they are unaware of it at the U.S. number, it can be arranged for when arriving at the hotel in La Paz.

Classes will begin on Sat. morning (más o menos) at 8:00 am.

Daily Schedule

Classes begin every day at 8:00AM and end approximately at 2:00 PM, thereafter; you are free for lunch on your own. (Lunch is traditionally eaten between 2:00-4:00 pm in Mexico). You will have homework and "townwork" where you will meet and talk to the local population getting directions, acquiring pricing information and availability of medications, products, etc. You will also have the opportunity to observe and/or become involved with the local culture, habits and medical community. In addition, hospital tours will be arranged for the afternoons.

We will have 3 days of classes, one day off (Tuesday), and 4 more days of classes with many activities scheduled. Formal class sessions will end at approximately 1:30-2:00 p.m. each day and you will have "homework" assignments which include going into town to practice your newly acquired skills, as well as work from the textbook and CDs.

On your day off, you can either lounge on the beach, snorkel, scuba dive, visit surrounding areas, go shopping, etc.....or study!!! There are many commercial touring operations nearby where you can arrange for the activities you prefer.

Please be sure to bring the following:

- 1- CD player, depending on what you requested. (earphones highly recommended)
Needed for homework, not in class.
- 2- Spanish-English Pocket Dictionary - (optional – but extremely helpful)
- 3- Writing material for taking notes
- 4- Comfortable clothing in general, but at least one semi-formal or professional suit/outfit to be worn when visiting the hospital, residents and/or doctors (i.e. no shorts, sandals or T-shirts, etc. during hospital visits.)

-We will send the Text/Workbook and CDs to you before hand, but can only do so if you send out your assessment form, which allows us to place you in the proper level.

If you are a total beginner, please study the first chapter, as well as pgs. 31, 34-36 and 39-41 in Chapter 2, and pgs 45-57 in Chapter 3 (the more – the better) before coming to class. In this way, you will surely feel more comfortable the first day.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact us at your convenience. We are looking forward to seeing you and be prepared to learn a great deal while enjoying yourself as well. ¡HASTA PRONTO!

Sincerely,

Joanna Ríos, PhD

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