



We're off to Baja California!

Description



Hi everyone! We are back out on the road for a couple of months.

Ever since sometime in the 90's, we dreamt about visiting Baja California. The peninsula is 1000 miles long, with remote deserts, lonely beaches, Pacific views, Sea of Cortez kayaking in crystal clear waters, whales, and more.

We planned to go around a business trip Hector had to San Diego while we lived in Miami but something came up and that trip never happened.



So when we started fulltime RVing in 2012, I tried to add a trip to Baja California to our plans, but Hector was right. I had to buy a Class A motorhome down there. It turns out he was right, more on that



After selling Island Girl

two years ago, we bought a nice Winnebago View on a Sprinter chassis from some friends of a friend. One key selling point was that it was “Baja ready” and could take the “dirty” diesel that is still sold in parts of Mexico which more modern diesel engines cannot.

In fact, this rig had already been down to Baja and to other parts of Mexico. She is also a “skinny Winnie”, the nickname referring to this class C RV being narrower than most which would prove helpful on the narrow Baja roads.

We named her Island Time.

We went on some long and fun shakedown cruises which we did not blog about and then we planned our trip to Baja, Now we were finally ready.

And we were off!



Our route plan was pretty simple, first an overnight boon docking stop in the Agua Caliente BLM area outside Phoenix, enjoying the always entertaining desert SW and Route 66 stuff along the way. Check out our review of the BLM area [here](#).



And then down to Tecate, California to cross the border into Mexico. It is a bit out of the way down a pretty windy road which makes it one of least busy crossing points. It is also a convenient place to take care of getting our tourist visas.



When you fly to Mexico your fee is included in the airfare and you fill out the

little immigration paper on the plane. If you drive in, you need to go inside the immigration office at the border to fill out the FMM form and pay a small fee (\$32pp). Parking is very limited at the border crossing and doing this transaction in an RV can be complicated. So we camped on the US side, drove our car to the border and parked on the US side, walked across, got our papers in order and walked back that afternoon. The US border agent asked how long we had been in Mexico, answer = about 6 minutes :-).

We had a fun dinner that night with friends who live in the mountains outside San Diego close to

Tecate and stayed at Potrero County Park which is just a few miles from the border. Check out our review of the park [here](#). One last systems check and dropping off of produce with the park ranger the next morning and ...



With our paperwork in order, crossing the border was pretty easy. We

had one other RV in front of us, which the border patrol officer waved on. This made me think that they would stop the next one (us), and I was right. She boarded Island Time briefly, looked in a couple of cabinets and asked where we were going and where we came from. Then she poked around in the car and asked what was in our five gallon jug – water. That was it. She then waved us on.

My first experience in Mexico was some friendly construction workers waving and smiling at me.



And just like that we

are back in Mexico and off on our next adventure!

Stay tuned.

Hector and Brenda

Category

1. Campgrounds
2. Mexico
3. RV fulltimers
4. RV Stuff

Tags

1. Baja
2. boondocking
3. friends
4. mexico
5. Roads
6. RV stuff
7. State Parks

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