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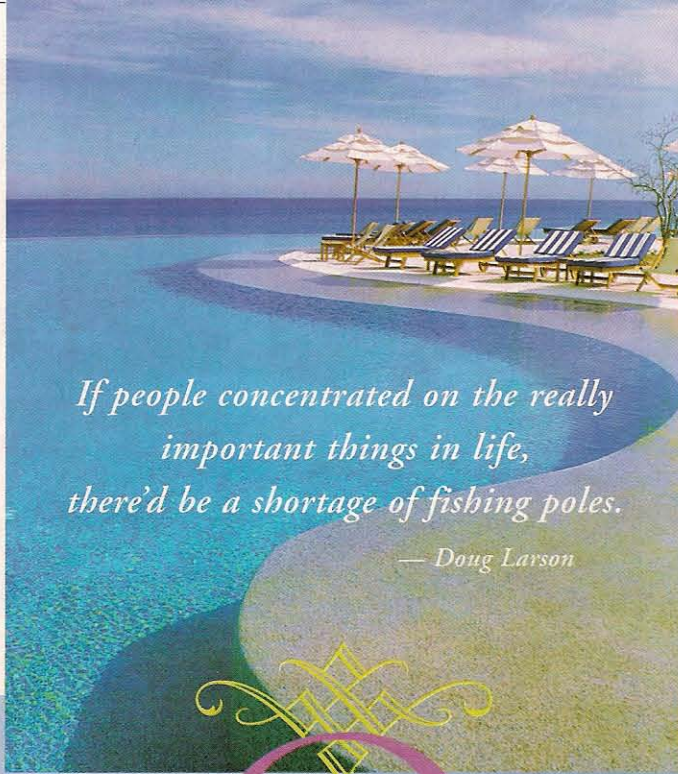
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Los Angeles-based fashion entrepreneur, peace activist, and health nut Fred Segal doesn't consider his home in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, a retreat, but rather a way of life. "This is the most naturally beautiful beachfront I've ever seen," he says. "Cabo has a wonderful spirit about it."

Located on the southern tip of Baja California, Mexico, Los Cabos offers visitors an exhilarating landscape, where stark desert meets sparkling blue sea. This once-sleepy shoreline has been transformed over



*If people concentrated on the really important things in life, there'd be a shortage of fishing poles.*

— Doug Larson

the past 15 years into one of the world's hotspots for luxury travel, relaxation, and premier real estate.

Those looking for the perfect resort getaway will find quite a few choices in the Los Cabos area, starting with One&Only Palmilla. Reopened in 2004 after a \$100-million renovation and expansion, One&Only Palmilla has long been one of Los Cabos' most renowned destinations. Originally opened in 1956, One&Only Palmilla became a preferred getaway for Hollywood celebrities such as Bing Crosby and

*Luxury and relaxation*

*meet at the Sea of Cortez*

# CABOS

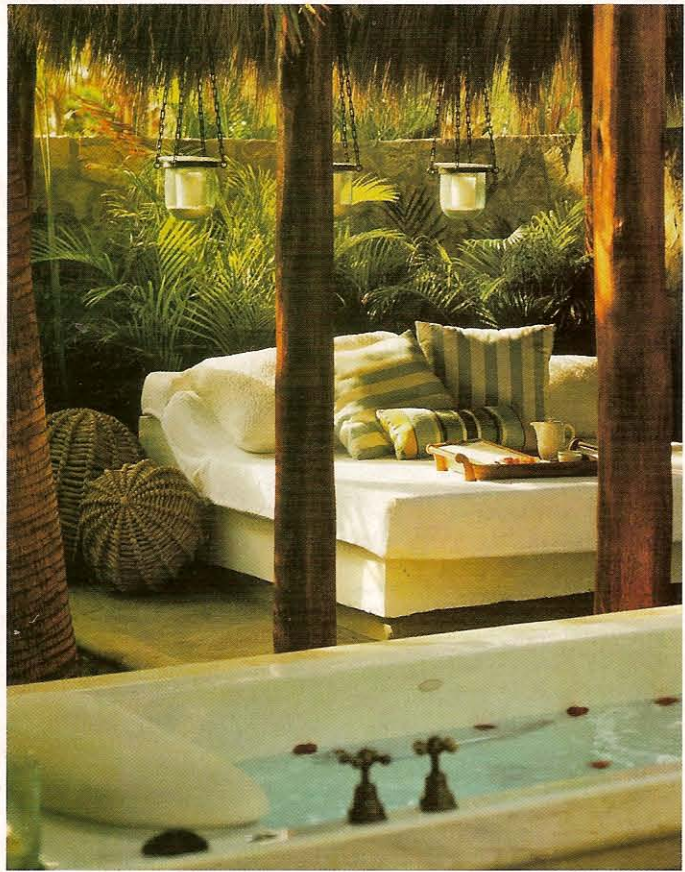


PHOTO CREDITS THIS PAGE: VILLAS DEL MAR, TOP: MARQUIS LOS CABOS

John Wayne. The hotel soon expanded to 115 rooms, and Los Cabos was put on the map.

Today, with such room amenities as personal butler service and flat-screen satellite televisions, One&Only Palmilla guests are discovering a modern hideaway with few equals. Dining at Charlie Trotter's signature restaurant, 'C,' is divine, and many guests return time and time again to be pampered at One&Only Spa. A 22,000-square-foot sanctuary set amidst lush tropical landscaping, 13 spa villas offer privacy and tranquility. Of these, six double villas feature rain showers, Mexican daybeds, and whirlpool baths. Treatments are primarily Asian-based, and include many types of massage, wraps, and facials, as well as exercise programs.

Marquis Los Cabos, a member of The Leading Hotels of the World, also offers deluxe pampering of all sorts. One of Los Cabos' newest and most luxurious properties, Marquis first opened its doors in 2003. Inside its 237 suites (including a 2,604-square-foot presidential suite and 28 casitas with private pools) guests find such luxurious amenities as hydro-massage tubs, Frette bed linens,



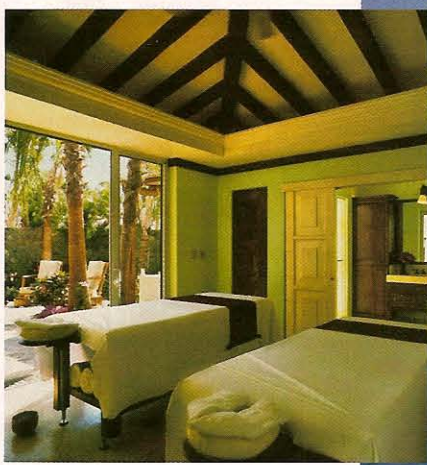
*"This is the most naturally beautiful beachfront I've ever seen...Cabo has a wonderful spirit about it."*

and down comforters. All suites include private balconies or terraces, and every room offers guests a spectacular ocean view.

One of Marquis' most popular retreats is an ocean-view spa, where guests find an extensive menu of treatments: everything from holistic massage to a Mexican-themed Quetzalcoat Oxygenating Experience, to several varieties of mud therapies. "Our philosophy is to take care of you with an approach that embraces exercise, nutrition, and rest," says spa manager Maria Elena Zayas.

Another resort with a renowned spa is Sheraton Hacienda del Mar Resort & Spa, located within the Cabo del Sol development. The resort offers 270 guestrooms and suites in old-Mexican-hacienda-style architecture, with a series of courtyards and gardens that lead to the beach. With relaxing views of the Sea of Cortez, one favorite guest choice is a massage treatment at the Cactus Spa, member of the

PHOTO CREDITS THIS PAGE: BOTTOM RIGHT: VILLAS DEL MAR; OTHERS: ONE AND ONLY PALMILLA



Starwood Spa Collection. Its treatments include a Soft-Pack-System body wrap, and the Vichy Shower hydromassage, which is said to result in skin that glows and feels like silk.

A more low-key vacation is found at Hotel Buena Vista Beach Resort in East Cape Los Cabos. A throwback to an earlier era in Baja, Hotel Buena Vista offers guests a place where time slows and relaxation sets in. Inviting hammocks sway between palm trees, and rooms are thankfully devoid of televisions and telephones.

"The East Cape is known for being what Cabo San Lucas was 25 years ago," says Hotel Buena Vista's Axel Valdez. Valdez goes on to describe how guests at his resort enjoy snorkeling, scuba diving, fishing, or just paddling around with the kids at the surf line. And, he points out, "We have a natural hot spring here that is very relaxing."

Those who find Los Cabos an appealing destination for a permanent or second home have many excellent options. Real estate at the far end of Baja has been in a decade-long skyrocket, and shows

few signs of slowing down.

Chris Snell of Snell Real Estate attributes much of the success that Los Cabos is experiencing to its close proximity to major U.S. cities. "Since the bulk of our owners are not retired, this proximity provides ease of access to and from Los Cabos," says Snell. "This convenience, coupled with high-speed internet and other technologies, allows our residents to not only stay connected, but also to fly home for a quick meeting and return a day or two later."

Opened in 1997, Snell represents a large number of luxury properties in Los Cabos, including Palmilla, Villas Del Mar, Cabo Del Sol, Punta Ballena Resorts, and Villas de Oro.

"We can't build homes quickly enough," says Juan Diaz Rivera of Pedregal, one of the original luxury communities in the area. Diaz Rivera's family also owns the Coldwell Banker franchise in Los Cabos. "Home sites are moving quickly, too."

They may not be able to outstrip demand, but Pedregal still has a number of premium home sites available, as well as an inventory of

single-family custom homes. Pedregal sprang from the vision of family patriarch Don Manuel Diaz Rivera, who acquired 360 prime acres just north of then-sleepy Cabo San Lucas in 1974. The development offers concierge service to attend to all homeowner needs and help coordinate activities. With views overlooking the marina at Cabo San Lucas and the Sea of Cortez, Pedregal continues to be, as Manuel Diaz Rivera said in 1974, "A place where peace and harmony sit on every corner and tranquility resides in every heart."

Another best bet if you're looking for a home-away-from-home is Grand Regina Los Cabos. Situated next door to the architecturally stunning Westin Resort & Spa, Grand Regina is a fractional ownership development with all the conveniences and amenities of a five-star hotel.

Cascading down an oceanfront hillside, the

water views from every unit at Grand Regina are spectacular. Two-, three-, five-, and 12-week fraction packages are offered. The first phase of development is now being offered for sale, with additional phases slated for completion soon. Terry Somers, Club Regina's project director says, "At Regina we heard what our members were saying, and while all agreed that visiting paradise every so often is great, many expressed a desire to own their own piece of heaven."

Nearby Misión La Serena is an exclusive, oceanfront, fractional-ownership residential community of 75 two- and three-bedroom residences on 7.4 acres of pristine beachfront, within the development of Puerto Los Cabos. Misión La Serena has been designed to reflect the feel and style of the 17th-century missions upon which Baja was founded. Scheduled for completion in mid-2007, all will offer unob-

structed Sea of Cortez views.

Built as a series of 12 low-rise buildings, prices at Misión La Serena range from under \$200,000 to around \$1.5 million.

Situated behind a guarded entry adjacent to the five-star One&Only Palmilla, Villas Del Mar is an ultra-exclusive, seaside residential development offering one of the world's finest collections of luxurious vacation homes. From oceanfront villas to mountainside casitas, the homes of Villas Del Mar offer

*"A place where peace and harmony  
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floor plans from two to five bedrooms—all designed with privacy and casual outdoor living in mind.

At Villas Del Mar, homeowners or guests of an exclusive vacation-rental program can enjoy a tranquil setting along with all of the services and amenities of the One&Only Palmilla Resort.

In 2006, Villas Del Mar will debut the homes of Las Haciendas, a neighborhood of 14 homes, built for a few discerning owners. Situated on a mountain-side high above the Sea of Cortez, these homes are fashioned around Colonial Mexican architecture. With over 10,000 square feet of combined indoor and outdoor living space, these homes will offer panoramic ocean views, privacy, and enough room for the largest of families. Interiors boast five spa-

acious bedrooms, seven bathrooms, three fireplaces, a six-person Otis elevator, a large gourmet kitchen, and a formal dining area with wine storage.

Popular with owners is Club Ninety Six, an \$8.5-million, private beach club which sits on a secluded, two-mile stretch of sand. Homeowners and guests can enjoy a realm of recreational activities including a 22-meter lap pool and state-of-the-art fitness center, as well as a poolside spa treatment beside one of two free-form ocean-side pools.

With something for every taste and budget, Los Cabos is a tantalizing destination. Whether you stay for a few days, or buy a place and stay for good—Los Cabos is a way of life that's hard to beat. □