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COSTA PALMAS, MEXICO

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Almost all of the ever-increasing volume of tourists that come in via the San José del Cabo airport near the tip of the Baja California peninsula (3.86 million in 2023) inevitably wind up on the Los Cabos Corridor. But roughly 60 miles away on the East Cape of the peninsula, a more exclusive alternative is emerging in Costa Palmas.

The 1,500-acre private beachfront community was first put on the map by <u>Four Seasons</u> in 2019 with a meandering complex of white-on-white villas and an acclaimed golf course designed by Robert Trent Jones II. In 2025 the luxury will reach a fever pitch as several more resorts and restaurants open within Costa Palmas' gates, led by an all-star cast of design- and food-world luminaries.

Athens-based Elastic Architects is behind an Aman Group resort called Amanvari: Its boxy bungalows will have retractable glass walls and stairs plunging into the sea. The interiors at the forthcoming Casa Blake, whose residences can be rented by vacationers, are by maximalist Martin Brudnizki of London. Brudnizki, who plays masterfully with colors, textures and florals, was also tapped to create an enchanting nightclub at the Four Seasons, where painted alebrijes—mythical folk art creatures—climb the hot pink walls. The lineup of chefs descending on Costa Palmas includes Ludo Lefebvre and Nancy Silverton, both from Los Angeles, and there's also an outpost of global Greek favorite Estiatorio Milos.

The <u>Costa Palmas Foundation</u>, funded by the resorts, is meant to appeal to travelers' desire to have a positive impact on the places they visit. It organizes beach cleanups, sea turtle release parties, toy drives and other volunteer opportunities to connect guests and residents with nearby villages—and it has also worked with locals to enhance parks and build schools and medical facilities. It adds up to a new model for Mexican tourism that's simultaneously more rarefied and more interconnected with local communities.

→ When to go

November and April are two especially great months, as you'll avoid the biggest crowds and blustery storms.

→ When not to go

September and October are great for surfers, but they're the least optimal months for everyone else, given the relatively high probability of hurricanes and tropical storms.

→ Whom to call

Journey Mexico

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