**Ensenada**

Located just 68 miles south of the border, Ensenada is an ideal vacation spot for anyone in the Southwest looking for a convenient Spring Break destination.

Not only are there multiple beaches and party spots, but there’s also great food, shopping, museums, history, outdoor adventures, and more. You probably can’t see and do it all in one week.

The best place to go shopping and eating in Ensenada is on Avenida Lopez Mateos (AKA Paseo Calle Primera or First Street), in la zona centro (or downtown) near Highway 3. It's home to an array of restaurants, clubs, specialty shops, and more. And they are just a short distance from the waterfront boardwalk so you can walk off the food with a sunset stroll on the boardwalk.

On the ”[El Malecón Ventana Al Mar](https://bajacalifornia.travel/feel-the-briny-ocean-breeze-with-this-360-view-of-ensenadas-waterfront-boardwalk/#:~:text=Harbors%20like%20the%20stunning%20waterfront,both%20locals%20and%20tourists%20alike.)” or boardwalk you’ll find incredible seafood street tacos, seafood, fruit, raspados (Mexican shaved ice), beach merch, and more. Make sure you visit the famous “Mercado Negro” fish market and then wander a half-mile to the other end of the boardwalk to El Parque de la Bandera. At this park and playground, you can sit back and enjoy the ocean and sometimes even listen to live bands. Bonus…the water fountain that changes colors!

Near the Malecon are two museums worth visiting. The first is the [Museum of History](http://museoens.com/), with beautiful green grounds across from the Malecon it is hard to miss. There you will find the history of the area, the indigenous peoples, and how Ensenada came to be what it is today. It is very interesting and well preserved in this old Casino, purportedly from the days of Al Capone. Just a block away is the State Center for the Arts (Centro Estatal de las Artes, 1430 Lázaro Cárdenas Blvd). There you can usually find works from local and Mexican artisans. Make sure to check the hours of operation before you visit.

Only 15 miles south of Ensenada, is the opportunity to view the second largest natural marine geyser in world, known as La Bufadora. Below this deep narrow corridor above the ocean, waves swish back and forth until enough air and water pressure build to create a massive geyser that can shoot up to 60 feet in the air.

One of the biggest Spring Break attractions is the [Ensenada Beer Fest](http://www.ensenadabeerfest.com/), one of the largest craft beer festivals in Mexico. The event features more than 100 breweries, 30 restaurants, and five music stages (this year) and takes places over two days. If you like beer, you won’t want to miss this main event!

And if you don’t like beer, the wine capital of Mexico is just 30 minutes away in Valle de Guadalupe.

You’ll never get bored in Ensenada and there’s so much more to see!

**Things to do:**

Beach Play

Shopping

Ensenada Beer Fest

La Bufadora geyser

Museums

Food