



## Caravanas de Mexico Newsletter Oct 2018 Issue #1

**Unsubscribe:** Click this link <https://www.mexicorvbuddies.com/unsubscribe.php>

Hi there,

A lot of folks signed up for our newsletter at the Snowbird RV show in Abbotsford, BC. Many of the emails were somewhat enigmatic, so if you are receiving this and have no idea why, simply follow the unsubscribe link above and we will not bother you again.

The purpose of this newsletter is not to sell you a caravan, although we are happy if you do join one. We are here to promote the idea of taking your RV into Mexico. It is a very good idea to use a caravan for your first trip for a variety of reasons.

In this issue we will present tour trips for the 2018/2019 season, we will discuss safety concerns, and talk about ULSD diesel. Starting with the next issue we will feature a Mexican town. In the next issue, we feature San Carlos/Guyamos.

Our information and info on our caravans can be found at the end of the newsletter.

### **ULSD - Ultra low sulphur diesel:**

Mexico was mandated to be 100% ULSD (called DUBA in Mexico) by December 2018. It appears this has happened early, and Pemex is now stating it is complete by September. Please be aware that it may take a month or 2 for old stock to work through the system in some areas. Best to fuel up on main corridors for now. Fuel prices in Mexico are still higher than in the US and a bit cheaper than Canada. Prices will hopefully come down with competition. Toll rates have gone up slightly over last year. Here is the letter from Pemex. See the first paragraph:

<http://www.pemex.com/comercializacion/productos/Paginas/refinados/diesel.aspx>

## Obtaining vehicle permits on line:

In this issue, we will go over this, step by step with screen shots. Until we know if there are still issues with obtaining permits for 3/4 & 1 ton trucks, we advise those people to get their permits on line and try to use the Nogales crossing. Those in our caravans should not be concerned, we have ways of expediting things. You need to be at a fixed address in the US or Canada for at least 2 weeks in order to do your permit on-line, and **you cannot do this unless you are within 60 days of departure**. Here is step by step instructions to get your on-line permit:

<https://www.mexicorvbuddies.com/permits/onlineapplication.pdf>

For those with 3/4 & 1 ton pickups I suggest you check our border info page at <https://www.mexicorvbuddies.com/border.php> the issue is well explained in there. If you intend to obtain your permit at the border, I suggest printing out the complete SAT regulations so you have ammo along with the explanation of what weights mean in Spanish.

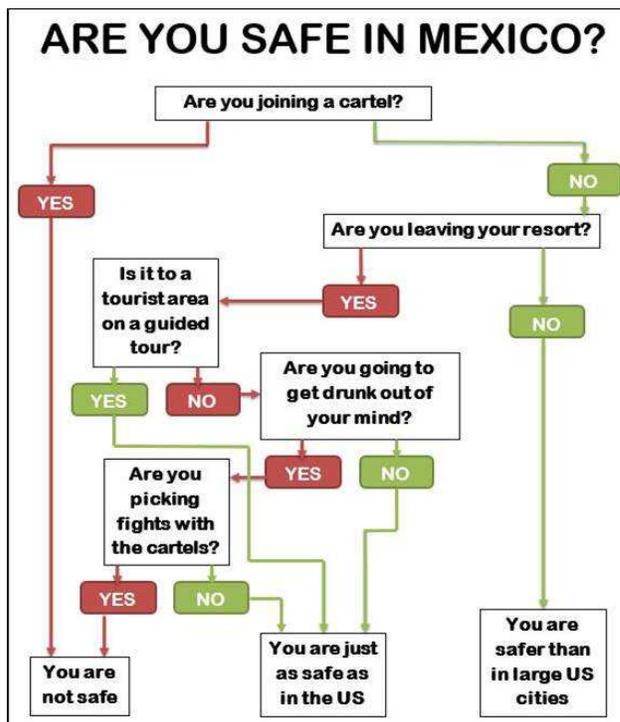
## Legalization of Marijuana in Canada

In October, Marijuana will be legal in Canada. Unlike the US, where legalization is on a State by State basis, this will be a federal law in Canada. This goes up against US federal law where the border is concerned. If a Canadian has any connection with a legal marijuana industry in Canada, they can be banned for life from the US. Do not admit to any connection or any previous usage of marijuana. It is still illegal in Mexico, BTW.



### Safety (not to scare you, just talk frankly about it):

In my opinion, Mexico is a safe place to RV. However, there is a lot of violence in some areas, and those are best avoided. These include the states of Guerrero & Veracruz, Hwy 200 from Maruata south to Lazarro Cardenas, the extreme NE, Ciudad Juarez, Tijuana, and Acapulco. Try to stay on toll roads wherever possible, stay away from drugs and people who associate with them. Avoid boondocking alone and driving at night. You are probably safer than in many areas of the US, and tourists are not a target of Drug Cartels. You do not see nut jobs shooting up movie theatres or shooting people at a country music concert from a hotel room. Tourists **are a target** in France, Germany, Belgium, Britain and a lot of European countries these days from terrorism. You are actually less safe there than in Mexico and most of us have no trepidation of traveling in Europe, so you have to keep things in perspective. I have driven all over Mexico for the last 10 years and have never seen a single incident. If you are nervous, consider a caravan. Most nervousness stems from being in country with a different language & laws. A caravan helps insulate you from these concerns.



### Heavy rains on west coast:

The area around Los Mochis received a 1/2 year rainfall in 24 hours in late September. This caused severe flooding and has cut highway 15 D between the border & Mazatlan. It is reported open with about a 2.5 hour detour. I would expect it to be more or less back to normal by the start of November, barring more rain. We will check with the Green Angels (like AAA) later in October, and report in our next issue.

## **Who are we?**

We are a Mexican registered RV Tour company running RV Caravan and bus tours exclusively in Mainland Mexico. We also run caravans for the Airstream club. For those, you have to be a member of the WBCCI.

We run caravans in both English and French. Our English website is [www.mexicocaravans.com](http://www.mexicocaravans.com). Our French site is [www.caravanemexique.com](http://www.caravanemexique.com)

## **Bus Tours:**

We have actually been running bus tours longer than caravans. Mainly we do them through our travel clubs inside Mexico. These usually are made up of ex-pats, seasonal RVers in Mexico and some Mexicans themselves. We have these based in locations like Puerto Vallarta and Oaxaca and hopefully soon, Guadalajara. We will be posting information on these later.

## **Drop in Tours:**

We do occasionally get requests from those already RVing in Mexico about joining a tour as drop-ins. We are open to this.

## **Our 2018/2019 season trips**

*Nov 14, 2018* - 24 day trip to Copper Canyon and Mazatlan

*Jan 22, 2019* - 30 day trip to Copper Canyon and Mazatlan

*Jan 22, 2019* - 37 day extension to above trip through Colonial Mexico and up the west coast

*Jan 12th, 2019* - Airstream Caravan - FULL

Descriptions of this seasons trips may be found at <https://www.mexicorvbuddies.com/2018-2019season.php>

Next season we will running most of the same trips, plus an 85 day Yucatan loop, and a possible LGBT trip, if we can get enough to run it.

All of the 2018/2019 season trips start and end in Nogales, Arizona.

## **2024 total solar eclipse:**

There is a total solar eclipse on April 8th, 2024 around noon in Mazatlan. The path of totality will include Teacapan to the south and Celestino to the north, both of which have RV Parks. It will also cover Durango, which is dry camping. The serious astronomer may prefer it, as it is at high altitude. We plan to run several caravans for this event, including running normal loops like Yucatan and Airstream later than usual to take this in. Since this occurs after the season normally ends, we hope to run a few trips, some including Copper Canyon and some more basic and shorter. It really depends on wagon masters. You may express interest in one of these trips by filling out the form at <https://www.mexicorvbuddies.com/eclipse1.php> . No deposit required right now, we will contact you in 2022.

**Have questions?** Email Paul at [beddows1@telus.net](mailto:beddows1@telus.net). I will try to answer them and put some of them in future issues.

**Submit articles:** Article submissions for future newsletters are always welcome. Send them to [beddows1@telus.net](mailto:beddows1@telus.net)

This newsletter was compiled by Paul Beddows on behalf of Caravanas de Mexico RV Tours SA de CV