



RUN FOR THE BORDER

From west-coast wildlife to Caribbean keepsakes, there's a vacation for everyone in Mexico, the world's 14th largest country.

1

DISAPPEAR

On *Isla Holbox*, there are no crowds, no cars and no worries. Here it's just you and the beach. Linger in plentiful plunge pools at *Las Nubes de Holbox* (above), a resort so remote you'll likely be the only guest. (Yes, really.) Even better, the island is home to the protected *Isla Pajaros*, a bird sanctuary where few even get to set foot. Don't miss *Isla Holbox's* second claim to fame: lobster pizza at *Restaurant Edelyn*. — *Cami Miller*

2

GO WILD

Cabo Adventures gets thrill-seekers up close and personal with whale sharks, the largest fish in the world. Speaking of big, from December to April, you'll spot humpback whales breaching, often just a few feet from the boat. Then head inland to *Wild Canyon* for night zip-lining, bungee jumping over cactus-spiked ravines, and wild ATV rides over the longest wooden suspension bridge on earth. — *Vicky Hodges*

3

DRINK UP

Cancun's hotel zone is lined with all-incs, but *Hyatt Ziva Cancun* is the first to boast its own microbrewery. Order a flight to sample the house-made brews such as wheat, stout and amber, along with a side of chicken wings in flavors like sweet bourbon or tamarind sour-and-sharp chipotle. If agave is more your speed, the property's *Juana Margarita?* bar serves up *reposado*, *mezcal* and tequila-based martinis. — *Rebecca Kinnear*

4

GET PAMPERED

Two *Punta Mita* resorts sport spas that use the healing properties of local spirits. At *Four Seasons Resort Punta Mita*, inhale the distinctive aromas of tequila and sage oils during the *Punta Mita Massage*. At *The St. Regis Punta Mita Resort*, the *Brew & Renew Massage* exfoliates skin with agave essential oil and the hotel's own craft lager, while natural B vitamins help hydrate and rejuvenate. — *Holly V. Kapherr*

5

MAX YOUR CREDIT CARD

Playa del Carmen's *Quinta Avenida* has plenty to please both bargain hunters and big spenders. Peruse this pedestrian-only stretch of stores selling local souvenirs, artwork and crafts, like one-of-a-kind hand-beaded pieces of art at *Tierra Huichol*. Stay nearby at *Mahekal Beach Resort*; at the *Artisan Palapa*, sip watermelon margaritas while painting your own pottery to bring home. — *Kim Kuhn*