

C A C T U S CHRONICLE

M A R C H 2 0 2 1

VOL. 89 ISSUE 3

The Cacti and Succulents of **NEW MEXICO** WITH WOODY MINNICH

PHOTO CREDIT: WOODY MINNICH

LACSS ZOOM MEETING, EVERY FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH
NEW MEETING START TIME: 7PM, HOST WILL OPEN ROOM AT 6:30PM

MARCH 4TH, 2021

Echinocereus dasyacanthus near the Conchas dam, the northern most locality.

B O A R D OF DIRECTORS

2 0 2 1

LACSS MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society (LACSS) cultivates the study & enjoyment of cacti & succulent plants through educational programs & activities that promote the hobby within a community of fellow enthusiasts & among the greater public.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Hey folks! I had a little extra time and wanted to make sure LACSS still had the best monthly newsletter 😊
Let me know what you think of the facelift!

Next month's Plant of the Month is

Echinocereus + Conophytum

Please send photos of these from your collection to me at newsletter@lacactus.com

Don't forget to also submit photos of what's happening in your yard! Or anything cacti or succulent related, I could always use more content in the Chronicle.

I hope you are all healthy and doing well!

See you at our Zoom meeting March 4th!

-

- Kimberly

IN THIS ISSUE

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

MONTHLY PROGRAM:
THE CACTI AND SUCCULENTS OF
NEW MEXICO - WOODY MINNICH

PLANT OF THE MONTH

NEW MEMBER SHOUT OUT!

SATURDAY PROGRAM

CSSA WEBINAR

PLANT EXPEDITION 2021 UPDATES

FROM THE M E S S A G E PRESIDENT

A year has passed since the first “lock down” took place. Some of us thought it was the end of the world. Some saw it as a challenge to try something new and move forward. I will admit I wasn’t always in the second category. But the others dragged me forward into a new and exciting way to stay in touch with everyone, to continue the mission of the club and I thank them for that. I also thank those who stood in for me when I needed help. One of the many reasons that we miss the physical meetings is that the LACSS members are the greatest!! Always willing to lend a hand and offer a kind word.

In the last year LACSS has continued to offer first rate speakers, offer a “Show & Tell” feature for POM, keep the monthly newsletter full of interesting articles and information, and we could do a whole program on the “problem plants and other member generated questions” as we did with the January “Ask the Expert” program.

But enough reminiscing. What does the future hold for us? The short answer is “more of the same.” We have set a new high standard for speakers and have returned to the competitive portion of POM. (For our new members – that stands for Plant of the Month.) And we continue to gain new members thanks to our exposure on social media. We encourage everyone to welcome our new members at the Zoom meetings. I will try to introduce them as time allows. As a new member, if you are feeling brave, introduce yourself. Doesn’t need to be fancy – wave at the screen and offer your name and maybe how you found out about LACSS. We thank you in advance for your participation in the club activities.

As for our plants – well, who knows. Is it winter? Spring? Summer? Santa Ana Wind? Our plants can withstand almost everything Mother Nature can throw at them except too much water on a very cold day (that would be 40° F or colder. I’m from Iowa so my point of reference is a bit lower.) Knowing the natural habitat of your plant is helpful. Some naturally grow in cooler climates (high elevations) and some don’t (on the beach). Frost bite can be mitigated with coverings of a sheet, frost cloth or something similar. But don’t let it touch the plant. That will allow a direct route for the frost to settle on the plant rather than the covering.

Some of you have inquired about our Library books. They continue to be stored at the ONEGeneration but not available to us at the moment. A few new books are still in storage at my home but it is not the priority to get new books as they come off the press. I’m making a list of possible purchases when the ONEGeneration is open for us again. If you hear of any books that you think we should consider, please let me know.

See you soon. Stay safe and healthy!!
Joyce

THE CACTI AND SUCCULENTS OF NEW MEXICO

W O O D Y M I N N I C H



Echinocereus triglochidiatus near Cedar Grove NM, with 104 flowers and buds, wow!



Opuntia violaceae To the west of Deming where it grows with many other cacti and succulents.

New Mexico is an unusual state in comparison to its neighbors. To the west is the warm, often very hot, Arizona which is heavily influenced by the Sonoran, Coloradoan and Mojave deserts. To the east is the giant of our states. Texas can also be very hot and dry to its west, as well as extremely wet and humid in its south. Texas has probably the greatest number of cactus species of any state due to it being strongly influenced by the Chihuahuan and Tamaulipan deserts. To the north of New Mexico is the generally higher elevation and mostly cooler state of Colorado. With these three distinct adjacent states, New Mexico has a unique combination of all three. It has some Chihuahuan influence in its south and more Coloradoan relationships through its central and northern regions.

From the warmer and milder southern New Mexico, there are many wonderful genera. These range from: Agave, Coryphantha, Dasylirion, Echeveria, Echinocactus, Echinocereus, Echinomastus, Epithelantha, Escobaria, Ferocactus, Fouquieria, Mammillaria,

Thelocactus, and Yucca. These genera are usually found growing in low elevations on rugged alluvial hills and smaller mountains. The moisture in these regions is from both western influenced winter rainfall and summer monsoonal flows from the south. Temperatures in these areas can be very cold to very hot, often ranging from 20F to 110F.

In the greater central and northern regions of New Mexico, there are fewer of the cacti and other succulents. These genera range from: Agave, Echinocereus, Escobaria, Mammillaria, Neobesseya, Pediocactus, Sclerocactus and Yucca. These genera are mostly found in the Pinon, Juniper mountains or higher grasslands from elevations of 4,000 ft. to 10,000 ft. The rains in these areas can also come at any time of the year. Many of these plants are often under snow during the winter months. The temperatures are much cooler and vary from a -20F to a moderate high of 95F.



Sand Hill cranes at the Bosque Del Apache, south of Albuquerque.

Some of the prize species found in New Mexico, mostly not endemic, include: *Echinocereus rigidissimus*, *triglochidiatus*, *viridiflora*, *dasyacanthus* and *coccineus*, *Mammillaria denudata*, *heyderi*, *mieacantha* and *wrightii*, *Escobaria vivipara*, *sneedii*, *organensis*, and *missouriensis*, *Echinomastus intertextus*, *Pediocactus simpsonii* and *knowltonii*, *Sclerocactus wrightii*, *parvaflorus* and *papyracanthus*, *Agave neomexicana* and *parryi*, *Yucca elata*, *baileyi* and *baccata*.

Most of the New Mexican cacti and succulents make great garden plants but can also be very handsome potted specimens. Allowing these genera to have a cool to cold winter is advised. They generally flower and grow better after a winter dormancy. We will not see all the New Mexican species of cacti or succulents in this presentation but we will visit the great majority and the most impressive. Come travel with me to the succulent territory of the beautiful, scenic and historic state of New Mexico.



Woody with a Gila Monster, which is found in the south west corner of New Mexico.

B R I E F B I O G R A P H Y O F WOODY MINNICH



Woody, as he is commonly known, grew up in the Mojave Desert and has had an attraction to desert plants & animals since the early 1950's. He has been involved with the cactus & succulent world for over 52 years, as a grower, field explorer, club & organization leader, writer, photographer, lecturer & presenter.

Having been a speaker all over the world, Woody is most often associated with giving presentations on his field work from the places he has traveled, such as: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Madagascar, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Peru, Socotra, South Africa, the United States & Yemen. To date, this makes 128 major trips. He is also recognized for having operated the nursery Cactus Data Plants since 1975.

Woody's show quality plants were often considered one of the standards for staging and horticultural achievement. His favorite genera include: Adenium, Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Copiapoa, Cyphostemma, Fouquieria, Gymnocalycium, Lithops, Mammillaria, Melocactus, Pachypodium, Turbinicarpus, Uebelmannia, & Pachycauls in general.

He has published numerous articles & reviews in various journals (CSSA) & his photography is featured in many books including; "The Copiapoa" by Schulz, "The Mammillaria Handbook" by Pilbeam, "The Cactus Lexicon" By Hunt & Charles, as well as many others. As of November 2017, he is featured as the primary photographer in the sold out book "The Xerophile." This book specializes in what the authors call, The Obsessed Field workers from around the world. He is also featured in electronic articles about conservation from "MNN Mother Nature Network" & "The Guardian Newspaper."

Woody & his wife, Kathy, live in Cedar Grove, New Mexico. He is a retired secondary school teacher of 32 years where he taught Graphics, Art & Architecture. In the cactus & succulent hobby, Woody is recognized for his high energy & creative spirit. As an educator, he has become an important part of the hobby & thus is an honorary life member of 13 C&S societies across the country. He has been president, show & sale chair, newsletter editor, program chair, & plant of the month coordinator. Woody has also served on the CSSA board & numerous societies in many other leadership positions. He is a co-creator, & currently the president, of the Santa Fe Cactus & Succulent Club. With 52 years in the hobby and 64 years in the field (old fart), he has many experiences to share and thousands of photos to show.



PLANT ^{Of the} MONTH

2 0 2 1

JANUARY

Columnar cactus
Sedum & Sempervivum

FEBRUARY

Mammillaria straight spines
Pelargonium

MARCH

Copiapoa
Bulb

APRIL

Echinocereus
Conophytum

MAY

Cacti staged as miniature
Succulent staged as miniature
(Diameter of pot
NO LARGER THAN 2")

JUNE

Favorites

JULY

Echinofossulocactus
(aka Stenocactus)
Adenium

AUGUST

Echinopsis
Euphorbia with caudex

SEPTEMBER

Ariocarpus
Cyphostemma & Cissus

OCTOBER

Grafted
Grafted

NOVEMBER

Variegated
Variegated

DECEMBER

Holiday Awards Party

POM Online Policies

AS LACSS CONTINUES ITS ONLINE MEETING FORMAT FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, SOME SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS IN THE PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH (POM) COMPETITION HAVE BEEN ADOPTED BEGINNING FEBRUARY, 2021. WE HOPE THESE CHANGES WILL MOTIVATE MORE MEMBERS TO COMPETE IN THIS LONG-STANDING EDUCATIONAL TRADITION. BESIDES, IT'S REALLY FUN TO GET YOUR PLANTS READY FOR THEIR CLOSE-UPS.

- SUBMISSIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF 2 CACTUS AND 2 SUCCULENT SUBMISSIONS PER PERSON.
- WINNING POINTS WILL BE RECORDED AND ACCUMULATED FOR PRIZES AWARDED AT OUR YEAR-END HOLIDAY PARTY IN 2021.
- COMPETITION DIVISIONS (ROOKIE, NOVICE, ADVANCED, AND OPEN) WILL BE JUDGED TOGETHER, AS THERE AREN'T ENOUGH PLANTS FOR A COMPETITION IN EACH DIVISION.
- ONE POINT WILL BE AWARDED FOR EACH ENTRY, AND WINNERS IN THE CACTUS AND THE SUCCULENT AREAS WILL BE AWARDED 3 POINTS FOR 3 RD PLACE, 4 POINTS FOR 2ND PLACE, AND 5 POINTS FOR 1ST PLACE.
- PHOTOS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO OUR CACTUS CHRONICLE EDITOR : NEWSLETTER@LACACTUS.COM BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE COMPETITION IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE JUDGING.
- MANNY RIVERA WILL SELECT THE WINNING CACTUS AND SUCCULENT BASED ON THE PHOTOS, TO BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE MEETING.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS PARTICIPATED IN THIS ACTIVITY!

F E B R U A R Y

PLANT Of the MONTH

W I N N E R S



F I R S T

BARBARA HALL

MAMMILLARIA SPINOSISSIMA F. RUBISPRINA



S E C O N D

JOHN VAN UNEN

MAMMILLARIA SP. STRAIGHT SPINE

C A C T U S



S E C O N D

RON COOPER

MAMMILLARIA MUEHLENPFORDITTI



T H I R D

KENT & BARBARA BUTTERWORTH

MAMMILLARIA GRACILIS FRAGILIS



T H I R D

JIM & ROXIE ESTERLE

MAMMILLARIA MAGNIMAMMA



F I R S T

BARBARA HALL

PELARGONIUM ALTERNANS



S E C O N D

KENT & BARBARA BUTTERWORTH

PELARGONIUM XEROHYTUM

S U C C U L E N T



S E C O N D

MANNY RIVERA

PELARGONIUM MIRABILE



T H I R D

JIM & ROXIE ESTERLE

PELARGONIUM ACRAEUM

PLANT Of the MONTH

M A R C H



E V A N W A L S H

COIAPOA KRAINZIANA

N I C K S T E I N H A R D T

COIAPOA MONTANA



D A V I D V A L E R A

COIAPOA DURA
STAGED IN JOHNNY POTHEAD POTTERY



**E M I L Y A K E R S +
J O H N G I E S I N G**

COIAPOA HYPOGAEA



PLANT Of the MONTH

M A R C H



DAVID VALERA

VELTHEIMIA CAPENSIS
STAGED IN PEETY POT BY PABLO

SANDY MASUO

LEDEBOURIA PAUCIFLORA



SANDY MASUO

BOWIEA VOLUBILIS



KENT + BARBARA
BUTTERWORTH

HIPPEASTRUM PAPILIO



COPIAPOA

B Y K Y L E W I L L I A M S

Copiapoa is a genus of spectacular cacti from the Atacama Desert along the north coast of Chile. Copiapoa were first collected in the 1840s, and described as Echinocactus, then the home to any of the more or less globular cacti. The genus Copiapoa was named by Britton and Rose in 1922 in their great work *The Cactaceae*. The name derives from Chilean province of Copiapo, home of many of the species. Currently 26 species of Copiapoa are generally recognized. Species of this genus are relatively small, though they can form large clumps. The largest species rarely surpass three feet in height, while the smallest species, *C. laui*, rivals Blossfeldia for the title of world's smallest cactus.

*Copiapoa laui*

The habitat of Copiapoa is incredibly dry, even by desert standards. They occur in the Atacama, the world's driest desert. The average rainfall in the region is 1mm/year (0.04 inches). Many areas get rainfall only once every four years and some weather stations have never recorded a single drop of rain! Interestingly Copiapoa thrives in these extreme conditions to the extent that the genus peters out at the northern and southern ends of its range because these areas are where rainfall starts to become more regular and predictable.

How can any plant, even a cactus, survive in a climate where years can go by without rain? They do it by living off the fog that regularly covers the coastal regions of northern Chile. Anyone living in coastal California in June knows this gloomy fog all too well. Surely we've all noticed our plants, and pretty much any outside surface, covered in moisture condensed from the fog on overcast mornings. Without this fog, even Copiapoa could not survive in the Atacama Desert.

Copiapoa live along the coast and through the river valleys cut through the coastal mountains. The hills and valleys of Northern Chile are still not well explored from a botanical point of view. When these areas have been explored new species have been found, and it is likely more will be found in the future.

*Copiapoa lembeckei*

Given these extremely dry conditions, one would expect cultivation to be difficult in our comparatively wet Southern California winters. Fortunately, this is not so, and Copiapoa are relatively easy to grow. They respond happily to the same potting mix, watering, and fertilization as most cacti. When given favorable growing conditions these plants develop many times faster than they would in their native habitat. Some species can even be grown in the open ground in the Los Angeles area, as long as the soil is well drained. They do tend to grow slower than some other cacti of similar size.

Copiapoa are easily propagated from cuttings or division of clumps. Seed is available from the CSSA seed bank, and most cactus seed nurseries. These seeds germinate quickly in the spring. They should be started in a moist potting mix, and moved to drier media after germination. They do very well in a mineral potting mix with almost no organic matter.

*Copiapoa hypogaea*

P L A N T O F T H E M O N T H

S U C C U L E N T **BULBS**

B Y K Y L E W I L L I A M S

When we think of succulents, we usually think of a plant with fat stems or thick fleshy leaves. But that isn't the only way to be a succulent or xeric plant. Some plants produce a fleshy bulb to get them through times of drought. Most of them are native to South Africa and neighboring regions.

Most of us have grown bulbs at one time or another. Plants like Tulips, Lilies, and Daffodils are some of the classic bulbs everyone knows. Those plants come from cold winter regions. They grow from spring to fall then die back to the bulb to survive the winter. Water availability generally isn't an issue for these plants. In South Africa the situation is different. Frost is rare to non-existent, so there is no reason to hide under the soil to avoid the cold. A different problem faces these plants, seasonal drought. The vast majority of succulent bulbs are members of the lily family (or other very closely related ones). So, they didn't invent the bulb when they arrived in Southern Africa. Instead, they adapted a life strategy they already had, going dormant when conditions are bad, to the dry climate they arrived in. Of course, it is equally possible that this sort of bulb evolved in southern Africa then moved north and adapted to cold. No one was around to see this millions of years ago so we can only guess!



Albuca concordina



Ledebouria socialis 'variegata'


Why do succulent collectors have interest in bulbs? Because they have a great diversity of leaf forms and beautiful flowers, but require the same growing conditions as more "normal" succulents in our collection. The greatest diversity of bulbs is seen in the winter as most are winter growers well adapted to our climate. They start growing in the fall and die back to the bulb in late spring. Some, like many species of *Albuca* have twisted or contorted leaves that are both cute and bizarre at the same time. Others like *Lachenalia* have spotted leaves and gorgeous flowers. *Bulbine* has everything from straight grass like leaves to short fat leaves that look like a mesemb or *Haworthia*. If you want bulbs that are up and growing year-round look no further than *Ledebouria* with its

mottled leaves or *Bowiea* with large above ground bulbs and contorted vine-like leaves.

A question worth asking is "what is a bulb?". You've probably heard terms like corms, tubers, and rhizomes which get lumped under "bulbs". Botanically, bulbs are modified leaves, corms and rhizomes are types of modified stems, and tubers are modified roots. Don't worry about that though. A true bulb is easy to recognize as they consist of fleshy scales which are modified leaves that overlap each other. Think of an onion. When you cut through it you see multiple layers. Each layer is a leaf. Compare that to a potato, which is a tuber and is just a solid mass of starchy tissue.



Lachenalia aloides



W E L C O M E
NEW MEMBERS

Rachel Ballard

Sam Garza

Michelle Bisciegli

Simone Bonelli

Michelle Cloud-Hughes

Donna Sepe

Kyle Medina

Shauna Summers

Kate Eplboim

L A C S S A T U R D A Y PROGRAM

**SATURDAY, MARCH 13TH 2021
HOST WILL OPEN MEETING ROOM
AT 10:00AM**

A BLAST WILL BE SENT OUT AGAIN!



CREATING NEW PLANTS FOR FUN & PROFIT SEED RAISING FOR EXPERTS & THE UNINITIATED

WITH RUSSELL WAGNER

Raising succulents from seed is not only the fastest and least expensive way to grow a succulent collection, but it also affords collectors an opportunity entirely missed by those who merely buy plants, or who do asexual propagation: seedlings are unique individuals, and seedling cohorts can exhibit a wide range of variation, from spine length and color in cacti, to patterning on lithops. And the interest extend further, with variegates, runts, superclones and the endless possibilities of hybrids. Once you get good at raising seedlings, whole new layers of plant passion emerges.

Fortunately, getting started with seed raising is easy, and many many succulent and cactus varieties are readily available commercially. Russell will spend an hour with us discussing every aspect of growing from seed, including:

- the best nurseries to obtain seeds
- preparing soils and top dressings
- sowing, watering, and light for germination
- early seedlings care
- the first transplant
- pollinating flowers to obtain seeds on your own plants
- hybridization

U P C O M I N G CSSA WEBINAR

THE SPLENDOR OF ORCHID CACTI WITH FRANK SÜPPLIE



Join us Saturday, March 6th
at 10:00AM PST
for the next in our series of
webinars featuring Cactus and
Succulent experts from around
the world.

**(an individual blast will be sent,
along with registration info)**

With over 7,000 registered names, Epiphytic cactus hybrids, commonly known as Epiphyllums, Orchid Cacti, or Epis for short, have been a fascinating and growing hobby for many years. Join us as we explore this wonderful, evolving world. See the latest advances and trends, and get cultural tips from one of the world experts in the field.

BIOGRAPHY:

Frank Süplie's parents were already collecting epiphyllum hybrids when Frank was a little boy. At the age of 6, he came in contact with many, now famous, Epiphyllum growers such as Walther Haage, Kurt Petersen, and many more. At the age of 15, he wrote his first article about an Epiphyllum for the Dutch Cactus Society.

Frank has written more than 300 articles and books about epiphytic cacti hybrids. He is a prolific grower of new hybrids and has made some stunning crosses. Due to his never-ending work with these plants and his worldwide contacts, his collection has thousands of different hybrids.

Frank resides in Nijmegen, Netherlands and is member of several cactus societies. He has won international awards with many of his plants.



P L A N T
EXPEDITION
T O U R U P D A T E S

Dear Friends:

Firstly, I would like to send you all my best wishes during this difficult time and hope that you, your family and friends are keeping safe and well.

What a crazy year 2020 has been for all of us. As you can imagine, it has hit me hard, as no trips or tours could be planned during that time. No tours = no income! Luckily, most participants that booked for 2020, agreed to postpone their booked tours until 2021. So no, I am not going bankrupt!!

I think that maybe this strange year, ironically, you will be hearing more from me with more newsletters. Proposed tours, availability, and news are changing all the time, so maybe more updates will be necessary. I still promise, no more than 4-5 newsletters! This email is basically a new update of what is planned for 2021 (and 2022).

I have previously stated that everyone would have to be vaccinated in order to participate on future tours. My guess is that everyone that is over the age of 65 years old, would be by April. Also, multiple rumors about the variants, and effectiveness of vaccines against these. No sufficient data. Let's back off a bit from news, and let's stick to facts and science for now! We are getting some good news, that cases are dropping but let's not become complacent!

Anyway, keeping options open for now, and even with hotels, I am trying to keep reservations in place until the last minute, when possible.

All things considered, I am optimistic and here is a sum-up of what is being planned for 2021. Due to some cancellations, some places have become open, and please do not hesitate to ask regarding places left (and maybe share information on availability with friends, family and or your club/society please).

If you are interested in Baja California for April 2021, please contact me ASAP.

If you are interested in Namibia for April 2021, please contact me ASAP.

Keep safe, we will be traveling again soon!
All the best!

Guillermo Rivera
Plant Expeditions

A	BAJA (cactus)	APRIL 13 - 27, 2021	Confirmed with 5 participants
B	NAMIBIA (succulents)	MAY 9 -23, 2021	On Standby (5 participants)
C	ECUADOR (bromeliads - orchid)	JUNE 18 - JULY 3, 2021	Waiting (6 participants)
D	RED SEA (diving)	JULY 15 - 22, 2021	2 places left
E	SOUTH AFRICA (succulents - flowers)	AUGUST 14 - 27, 2021	SOLD OUT
F	MADAGASCAR (succulents)	OCTOBER 14 - 30, 2021	1 place remaining
G	ARGENTINA / CHILE (cactus)	NOV 19 - DEC 5, 2021	Confirming soon, MAX 12



BAJA

Dates: April 13-27, 2021

Mode: All inclusive, starts in Tijuana, ends in Cabo

Duration: 14 days

Price: \$ 4250 all-inclusive except air fare. (Single occupancy, add \$ 550)

It is a long time from now, but people who are not traveling in 2021, might be interested to know

A	SOCOTRA	March 2022
B	BAJA, CALIFORNIA	April 2022
C	NAMIBIA	May 2022
D	RED SEA (diving)	July 2022
E	PERU	September 2022
F	MADAGASCAR (NORTH)	October 2022
G	ARGENTINA	November 2022

P L A N T
EXPEDITION

2 0 2 1 S C H E D U L E

BAJA CALIFORNIA: "From San Diego to Cabo" APRIL 2021 (best weather), 3 islands: Carmen, Magdalena, & Cerralvo

The Baja Peninsula is one of Mexico's richest areas for plants. Cactus species are abundant, Ferocactus, Echinocereus, Mammillaria, Stenocereus, Lophocereus and of course choyas! Because of its isolation, the peninsula includes quite a few endemics, like Pachycereus pringlei, Echinocereus lindseyi, Lophocereus schottii, among others. Many other interesting plants grow in Baja: Dudleya, Agave, Fouquieria, Euphorbia, Beaucarnea, etc. The scenery is spectacular, clear water, beaches, and of course, the visit to a few islands complete this magic trip!
<http://www.plantexpeditions.com/baja>

Dates: **April 13-27, 2021 – CONFIRMED DATES**

Duration: 14 days

Mode: All inclusive, starts in Tijuana, ends in Cabo

Price: \$4250 all-inclusive except air fare
(Single occupancy, add \$550) – **SOLD OUT**

NAMIBIA: MAY 2021 Best time for plants and Etosha wildlife safari!

This trip will now include a visit to world famous Sossusvlei dunes. The itinerary will continue to offer a visit several populations of Welwitschia mirabilis and Cyphostemma and all the way north to the border of Angola to Epupa falls to see Adansonia digitata in a spectacular setting. We will spend two full days in Etosha National Park for a GREAT safari experience. Tours will be co-guided by Sean Braine, probably the best natural history guide in Namibia with excellent knowledge on plants, birds, geology, and country's natural history. We will visit 3 Welwitschia renowned populations, plus we will see Aloe, Cyphostema, Commiphora, Adansonia, Adenium, Hoodia, and of course many Acacias. Promise you will not be disappointed!

As previously we will be doing this tour in 4x4 with pop up roof ideal for game watching and photography. Accommodations in mostly luxury lodges! <http://www.plantexpeditions.com/namibia>

Dates: **May 9-23, 2021 - CONFIRMED DATES**

Duration: 15 days

Mode: All inclusive, starting and ending in Windhoek

Price: \$4900. All-inclusive except air fare
(Single occupancy, add \$600) – **2 PLACES LEFT**

ECUADOR: JUNE-JULY 2021 Over 150 species of Bromeliads in habitat!

This trip will combine the best of Southern and Northern Ecuador. A must for anyone into Bromeliads. I have traveled in Ecuador on 8 different occasions. I am planning to add and explore a few new places on this trip (hence more days).
<http://www.plantexpeditions.com/ecuador>

Dates: **June 18 - July 3, 2021**
(after Bromeliad World Conference in Sarasota)

Duration: 17 days

Mode: starting in Guayaquil, ending in Quito.
(Minimum number of participants 8).

Price: \$4250 all-inclusive except air fare
(Single occupancy, add \$580) – **4 PLACES LEFT**

RED SEA (DIVING TOUR) JULY 2021

Explore the dreamy Brothers, Daedalus and Elphinstone, which offer a breathtaking underwater world consisting of steep walls, wreck diving and an abundance of marine animals. An ideal tour for those who want to experience world famous wrecks and reefs. Brother Islands, Daedalus and Elphinstone is a must for all die-hard Red Sea divers!
<https://www.plantexpeditions.com/redsea>

Dates: **July 15-22, 2021**

Duration: 8 days

Mode: All inclusive, departure and arrival are from Port Ghalib

Price: \$1574. All-inclusive except air fare
2 PLACES LEFT

19

P L A N T
EXPEDITION

2 0 2 1 S C H E D U L E

SOUTH AFRICA Namaqualand AUGUST 2021 (Mesembs in bloom, flowering desert)

We have done the trip four times but never putting so much emphasis in the Richtersveld! We can still see the desert in flower, with warmer temperatures in September. Many Aloes and Mesembs: Crassula, Lithops, Tylecodon, Hoodia, Conophytum, Argyroderma, and others!! <http://www.plantexpeditions.com/southafrica>

Dates: **August 14-27, 2021**

Duration: 14 days

Mode: All inclusive, starting and ending in Cape Town

Price: \$4800. All-inclusive except air fare (Minimum 8)
(Single occupancy, add \$580) – **SOLD OUT**

MADAGASCAR: OCTOBER 2021 Succulents and wildlife: Lemurs, chameleons, and more!

"The island of the big trees". After two trips to the island I am ready to go back! Journey to the western and southern part of the Island of Madagascar. The island is not only rich in plant endemisms (plants that are only found in this place), but also unusual animals: Lemurs and Chameleons are almost exclusively found in Madagascar. Among the plants, the genus Adansonia is perhaps the most common, but plenty of Aloe, Euphorbia, Didierea, Alluaudia, and Pachypodium. <http://www.plantexpeditions.com/madagascar>

Dates: **October 14-30, 2021**

Duration: 17 days

Mode: All inclusive, starting and ending in Antananarivo.
(Number of participants 10-11).

Price: \$4750, all-inclusive except air fare
(Single occupancy, add \$580) – **3 PLACES LEFT**

ARGENTINA NOVEMBER 2020 (all cactus in bloom)

We will start in central Argentina, visiting the provinces of Cordoba, Salta, Jujuy, for their Gymnocalycium, Echinopsis, Parodia. <http://www.plantexpeditions.com/argentina>

Dates: **November 2020 (exact dates to be announced)**

Duration: 17 days

Mode: All inclusive, starting and ending in Cordoba,
Argentina. (Minimum number of participants 8)

Price: \$4250 all-inclusive except air fare
(Single occupancy, \$550)

ARGENTINA AND CHILE NOVEMBER 2020 Cactus tour

CROSSING THE ANDES: Argentina and Chile combined in one trip. <https://www.plantexpeditions.com/argentina-chile>

Dates: **November 2020 (exact dates to be announced)**

Duration: 17 days

Mode: All inclusive, starting and ending in Cordoba,
Argentina. (Minimum number of participants 8)

Price: \$4550 all-inclusive except air fare
(Single occupancy, \$550)

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