

Califia's Golden Isle -
Wanderings through the Other California
documentary film, 45 min, mini-dv
languages: English, German
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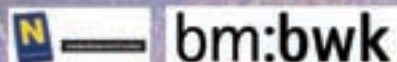
Califia's Golden Isle

Wanderings through the Other California

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A film by
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"Baja California is like a blossoming desert that drifts on the sea."

Victor Clark Alfaro

■ A young Austrian woman explores Baja California, the third longest peninsula in the world. Between the tourist hotspot Los Cabos at the southern tip, and Tijuana, the cosmopolitan city on the US border to the north, she finds a young people searching for its identity, striving to reconcile the legacy of indigenous ancestors and Spanish conquerors with proximity to the lone superpower. She discovers a fascinating two thousand year old history and has daring adventures in the untouched wilderness.

Blows to ecological balance - Grey whales and salt.



The search for a new identity. Tijuana - border metropolis with a world record.



Flora and fauna. First ascent of Cerro Ulrica.



Prehistory. Native peoples' lifestyle. Cave paintings of the Cochimi - UNESCO World Cultural Heritage.

Medieval legends. The Spanish Conquest. Missions. Uprisings of the indigenous peoples.



Forests above the desert - climbing Picacho del Diablo.



Classical European music, performed by the Vienna Chamber Orchestra, as well as historical recordings of the native peoples, accompany the exciting journey between the cultures.

Interwoven quotes from John Steinbeck's "The Pearl" and interviews with authoritative personalities underline the explosiveness of the current political situation between the neighbouring countries as well as its global relevance.



"It is not good to want a thing too much. It sometimes drives the luck away. You must want it just enough, and you must be very tactful with god or the gods."

John Steinbeck