

About The Convention FAQ

What should I expect when I arrive?

The BEMA Registration/Information desk opens **Monday, June 18** at **1:00 p.m.** in the hotel lobby. BEMA staff will be available to review convention materials with you and answer questions.

What materials will I receive when I sign in?

You will receive a name badge (and guest badges), convention ribbons, and instructions on how to download the convention app. You may also receive special notices about specific activities in a packet.

Where do I get the convention attendee list?

A final list of convention attendees will be posted in the convention app. Additionally, we will have a limited number of printed copies of the attendees list available at the Registration/Information desk.

Who do I contact about the convention?

Before the convention starts, call the BEMA office at **913.338.1300**. Starting **June 16, 2018**, our staff will be on site in Cabo. Use the contact information below during the convention **(June 19–23, 2018)**:

General Convention Logistics: Jennifer Prusa

Cell phone: 816.916.9252

Operations & Human Resources: Emily Bowers

Cell phone: 816.805.9799

Member Services: Kelly Allen

Cell phone: 913.424.0210

Board of Directors & Past Chair: Melva Brownlee

Cell phone: 816.379.2506

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What should I wear to convention events?

Business Sessions: Business casual.

Theme Dinner: Celebrate Mexico! ¡Celebrar Mexico!: In keeping with our theme, please wear bright colors or pick up a Mexican-style shirt or skirt in one of the local shops. This event is casual and will be held around the pool. Sandals or flip flops are appropriate.

Chairman's Dinner: Resort casual is the attire for the chairman's dinner. Casual sundresses are appropriate for the ladies. Lightweight shirts and pants or even shorts, are appropriate for men. The event will be held on the sand, so flat shoes or flip flops are a good choice.

BEMA Gives Back-Service Event: Wear clothes that can get messy (you may be painting).

Activities/Tours: Dress as instructed by the booking company.

Where will speaker presentations be posted?

Speaker presentations for review will be uploaded to WWW.BEMA.ORG and available to attendees starting June 27, 2018. NOTE: Not all speakers will give BEMA permission to post their presentations.

Can I personally schedule a dinner with a baker?

No, we ask that BEMA Convention attendees or guests NOT schedule dinners with bakers on their own during BEMA events. BEMA will schedule dinners with speakers who make themselves available and will invite members to register for these dinners. **Registration to schedule baker dinners will be held via email from May 8–11, 2018.**

ABOUT MEXICO

Where exactly is Los Cabos?

The Los Cabos area consists of two towns, San Lucas and San Jose, connected by the "tourist corridor" or main highway. The Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort is located almost in the middle between the two towns.

Which international stores can I find in Los Cabos?

You will find Costco, Walmart, and La Comer (a large grocery chain store) in the area.

Where is the nearest hospital and pharmacy in Los Cabos?

The nearest hospital is Hospital H+ Los Cabos (approximately three miles from the Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort). Pharmacies are located near the hospital and inside the Mega Market in San José.

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Who needs a passport for travel to and from Mexico?

Passports are required to enter and leave Mexico by <u>ALL</u> members of your party.

All children regardless of age are required to have a passport to re-enter the U.S. from Mexico Visit the State Department website: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/

Mexico. Visit the State Department website: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports/apply-renew-passport/under-16.html for information on applying for passports. Plan ahead! Usually both parents need to be present to apply for a child's passport OR the absent parent must sign an affidavit. If you are travelling with a minor of whom you are NOT the legal guardian, please note that special paperwork showing that you have permission to travel with that child is required for your trip. More information can be found here.

What is the distance from the airport to the hotel?

The San Jose del Cabo Airport (SJD) serves the Los Cabos area and it is about a 20 minute drive to the hotel.

Is the tap water in Mexico drinkable?

As a general rule NO. It's advisable to stick to bottled water that is inexpensive at supermarkets and local shops. Always ask if the ice is safe to drink and if you are unsure, just go for bottles.

Will the locals speak English?

Anywhere near a tourist resort you will find a high number of English speakers. However, not everyone you encounter will speak English. It's worth keeping a notepad and your guide book with you and your hotel's business card to give to the taxi driver, so they know where you are going. A basic knowledge of Spanish will put you at an advantage, but there is usually someone around who can help out.

Will I need to tip?

Mexico has tipping customs similar to the US. A 15% tip is adequate for good service in a restaurant. However, it is often already included in the bill under "propina." Sackers in grocery markets do not get a wage, so it's customary to tip them around 10 pesos (approximatley \$0.50.) Other service providers such as tour guides and shuttle drivers should be tipped as you see fit. Musicians will often have a tip jar on stage or passed around, so don't forget to throw in a little if you are enjoying their music.