

Directions to i6eight Base Camp

To Puerto Penasco from Phoenix

Address:

- Google Maps will almost always get you to i6eight.
- Address: i6eight, C. 31 Nte. & Av. 63, Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico
- Directions Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/4KkV5HDbqpyhduBf8>
- Plus Code: 8GP6+39 Puerto Peñasco, Sonora, Mexico
- GPS: 31.3351471, -113.4889475

Summary of Drive:

Phoenix > Gila Bend > Ajo > Why > Lukeville (US)/Sonoyta (MX) > Puerto Penasco (Rocky Point)

Directions:

- From Phoenix, turn off of **I-10 West** to **85 South** to Gila Bend/Yuma (can come up quick on the right if in traffic)
- Stay on **85 S** into Gila Bend (Rd becomes Pima St), you will turn right to continue onto **85 South** Mexico. Turn off is towards the end of town after CircleK and before McDonald's. The road will curve around the south.
- Stay on **85 S**, wind through **Ajo** (Slow down through town), and continue to **Why, AZ**. There are two Immigration checkpoints on this leg that may be open. Slow down, stop if open, roll down windows and answer questions; usually is everybody a US citizen, where are you going and where have you been.
- After **Why, AZ** you will continue on **85 S** until you approach **Lukeville** which is at the border. Slow down and follow signs and barricades into the line for the border. **AZ 85S** now becomes **MX 8**
- Once through border continue on **MX 8 south** (watch speed, kph) you will soon pass through an intersection where you must yield twice to traffic (do not turn right) keep straight through the intersection which will feel like a mild left turn as you merge into traffic south
- Soon after **MX 8** (to Puerto Penasco) merge right at a larger intersection. Stay in the 2nd rt lane (the first right lane will likely have cars blocking). Stay on **MX 8 Puerto Penasco** through town. Watch speed. Google maps may prompt you to turn right at Av. 16 de Septiembre before the intersection. This will work as well.
- As you leave **Sonoyta** on **MX 8** there is an overhead sign which usually has someone collecting money, you do not have to give, however, DO STOP. Usually, their sign is covering the stop sign, and the police wait here. (Watch this on the way home too)
- Stay on **MX 8 S** until you approach Rocky Point, Puerto Penasco. You will come upon a roundabout with a large bridge, continue south over the bridge. (Google maps may try to have you turn left soon after the bridge before Sam's club, you can but the road is often rough) stay straight on MX 8
- Stay on **MX 8** as you approach the town. You will see a **Sam's Club and Bodega** (Mx Walmart) on the Left. After Sam's Club, you will turn left on **Bldv. Jose Lopez Portillo**.
- You will stay on **Bldv. Jose Lopez Portillo** which will turn to dirt soon for about 10 minutes. Just under 3 miles.
- You will see **Case De Angie** (Angies House) on your right, the large 2 story yellow building. The base camp entrance is on the south side of the property. Park outside the fence line along the street or by angies. Check-in at the office, which is the small building in front of Angie's. Please do not unpack until you have checked in at the office.

Traveler Stops:

Gila Bend – Gas Stations, Convenience Stores, Fast Food, Local restaurants

1hr 20min to the border, 2hr 40min to i6eight Base

Ajo – Gas, convenience stores, local restaurants

40min to the border, 2hr to i6eight Base

Why – 1 Gas Station, convenience store, larger restroom, cute photo opportunity

30min to the border, 1hr 40min to i6eight Base

Lukeville – 1 Gas Station, small convenience store, small restroom (last U.S. restroom/gas)

@ the border, 1hr 20min to i6eight Base

*On a vehicle with good mileage, without much driving in Mexico, you MAY be able to make it in and out of Mexico without filling up in Mexico

Gas in Mexico:

- An attendant will pump your gas.
- At many major stations you can pay with a credit card, check 1st (ARCO, Pemex, BP, etc)
- Gas is sold by Liter (1 US Gallon is 3.78541 Liters)
- Usually - The Green handle is both Diesel and Regular Unleaded – watch to see what they fill up. . “MAGNA” Green is regular unleaded, Red is “Premium” unleaded, Diesel is “Diesel”
- Spanish for *full* is “Completo” or *fill up* “Lleno”

Crossing Border (into MX)

- Border currently Opens at 6 am, closes at 8 pm
- Absolutely NO firearms, ammo, or anything that resembles
- Approach border following indicators, can be two lanes of traffic often just one lane.
- They will likely ask you where you are going (Rocky Point) and if you have any firearms (Do not bring any! so the answer is NO)
- The officer may ask you to pull into a space usually to the left. They may ask you and passengers to step out of the vehicle. No reason to worry. Unlock the doors, and they may ask for the trunk to be opened. They will look around, open bags, check compartments, could ask to unwrap gifts, etc., Usually, just a nuisance, nothing to worry about, they are primarily looking for guns. When they wave you on you can pull forward around guards back into the right lane of travel.
 - Some agricultural goods are not permitted, they may ask you to throw them out, go back through the US border to get rid of them
 - Unlikely for just a traveler - If you have large quantities of what they would consider “import items” – they may send you to another spot where they would inspect and determine a value and possibly charge an import tax, which could be up to 20% of the value they determine.
- There may be a second guard just past the border that may wave you on or flag you to stop; similar routine. (Different branches of the government)
- Additional Suggestions
 - Pull up with windows down.
 - Everybody awake, sunglasses off
 - Only answer if spoken to
 - Considering Covid – Masks on if guards have masks

Driving in Mexico

- You must have Mexican Auto Insurance (By MX Law) on your vehicle and any trailer, camper boat, etc. You must carry proof of this insurance, print it out, and carry it with you.
- If it looks like a stop sign, or one should be there STOP, do a 3 count on stops
- Slow to a stop at speed bumps
- Speeds are in Kilometer/hour 40kph = 24 mph, 20kph = 12 mph
- “Sonoyta crawl” Drive the speed limit in town to avoid tickets, especially in Sonoyta; speed is usually 40kph drops to 20kph in some spots. Cars will line up behind you, just do the crawl. Others may pass if they want, just do the crawl. You will be out of Sonoyta before long, just do the crawl.
- Green lights will flash before turning red
- If you do not want your windshield washed, Wave them off and shake your head before you get to them, it may still get washed 😊

Road Assistance (in MX)

- Green Angels – this is state-sponsored free roadside assistance that patrols the highways. The 24-hour toll-free number for the Green Angels is 01-800-987-8224. In case of emergency, you can also dial 078
- Your Mexican Insurance may have a Roadside assistance # to call for service.

Crossing Border (into the US)

- Border currently opens at 6 am, closes at 8 pm - check details - <https://www.cbp.gov/contact/ports/lukeville>
- As you approach the US border proceed to open lanes.
- Pass all passports, passport cards, or birth certificates to the driver.
- Everybody awake and sitting up, glasses off
- Only speak if spoken to
- If you are in a large van, in a rare case the border agents request that each person in the vehicle get out of the van and walk through the pedestrian processing office which is the sidewalk to the right. Each person should have their documentation as they cross. (So, shoes on) they can walk through the office then across the sidewalk and meet the driver of the vehicle at Gas Station on the US side.
- Check border wait times <https://bwt.cbp.gov/> Crossing @ Lukeville
 - On holidays sometimes stopping for lunch in town may save you an hour or more inline

Any information in this packet is for reference only, accuracy is not guaranteed. Please refer to proper jurisdictional authorities for proper and current laws, policies, and procedures

US Department of State - <https://travel.state.gov/>

US Customs and Border Protection - <https://www.cbp.gov/contact/ports/lukeville>

Center for Disease Control - <https://www.cdc.gov/>

World Health Organization - <https://www.who.int/>

Health and Human Services - <https://www.hhs.gov/>

Visit Mexico - <https://www.visitmexico.com/en/>

US Embassy in Mexico - <https://mx.usembassy.gov/>

Puerto Penasco - <https://puertopenasco.gob.mx/>