

From CCBC:Mexico to San Diego

Before you leave

U.S. Customs: Make sure you have your passport handy and know what's in your vehicle so you can declare it at the border. You'll need to declare anything (in general categories) that you obtained while outside the U.S. Failing to declare something is a crime. Don't try to bring back any fruits, pork, animals, or fireworks. If you brought your pet from the U.S. you may need vet's papers to get back in to the U.S.

Money: You'll need another \$7 to \$8 USD for the tolls.



Turn left out of the Bible College property. Follow the road you took in back out to the highway.

Turn left onto the highway.



As you approach the main highway, take the right fork out of three options.



You will reach the first tollbooth immediately. The second is near Rosarito. There is sometimes a military or law enforcement checkpoint at the tollbooths. If they wave you over to be inspected, it's no big deal. They're looking for drugs and weapons. If they don't, just drive through.





You never know how long the border wait will be, so a potty break is recommended at the third tollbooth or a gas station before the border.



Continue straight along the toll road. You'll pass a few exits and travel between two steep hills. As these hills open up into a valley you will approach another highway. The exit to San Diego is on the right after crossing over the highway. If you start going back uphill without exiting you are on your way to downtown Tijuana. If this happens, just follow the signs to San Diego and have someone read Galatians chapter 5 to you.



The exit to San Diego loops down to the highway that goes uphill and then runs parallel to the border. Some key hazards on this road are large puddles and people running across the road.

After several miles you will pass a fire station and then you will need to veer off to the right toward San Diego. There's a large sign. At the next major intersection, turn left and position yourself in the middle lanes.



The exit to the border will be on the right, but the far right lane (marked by concrete barricades) does not go to the border. Use the second-to-right lane. The exit to the border goes up and curves to the right. Get in line and wait.

Sometimes the entire ramp to the border area is blocked by police. When this happens you can play dumb and slowly approach the exit and hope the police will let you through. Usually this will not work, so in that case go straight on the highway. As you drive away from the exit you will go under an overpass, then under another small, pedestrian overpass. As you approach the next major overpass, take the exit to the right. [\*If this exit is also blocked, see instructions to the left.] Continue in the right lane until the intersection with the large turnabout and statue in the middle. Turn right but get into one of the left lanes as you turn right. The left two lanes go to the border.

\*If the second exit was also blocked, keep going straight and turn right on the first major street, then turn right again at the next major street. If you can get into the left lane, get in it and go straight to the border. If not, get into the right lane and turn right where there is a tall pointed monument in the middle of the intersection. Go across the overpass, go straight through the next turnabout and turn left at the next turnabout after that. Follow this road until you get to the border line. If you see a line of cars forming, get at the end of it.

If it's not possible to get into the left lanes because it's too crowded, make a U-turn around the turnabout, go across the overpass, go straight through the next turnabout and turn left at the next turnabout after that. Follow this road until you get to the border line. If you see a line of cars forming, get at the end of it.



In line for the border, aggressive driving is the rule. If you're in a fast-moving line, stay close to the car in front of you or people will try to get in front of you.

When the CBP agent talks to you, present your documents. If they ask what your citizenship is, say "U.S."



Follow the signs to the freeway. Once you get on the freeway and pass the entire border compound, it will split. 805 will exit to the right, 5 to the left.