

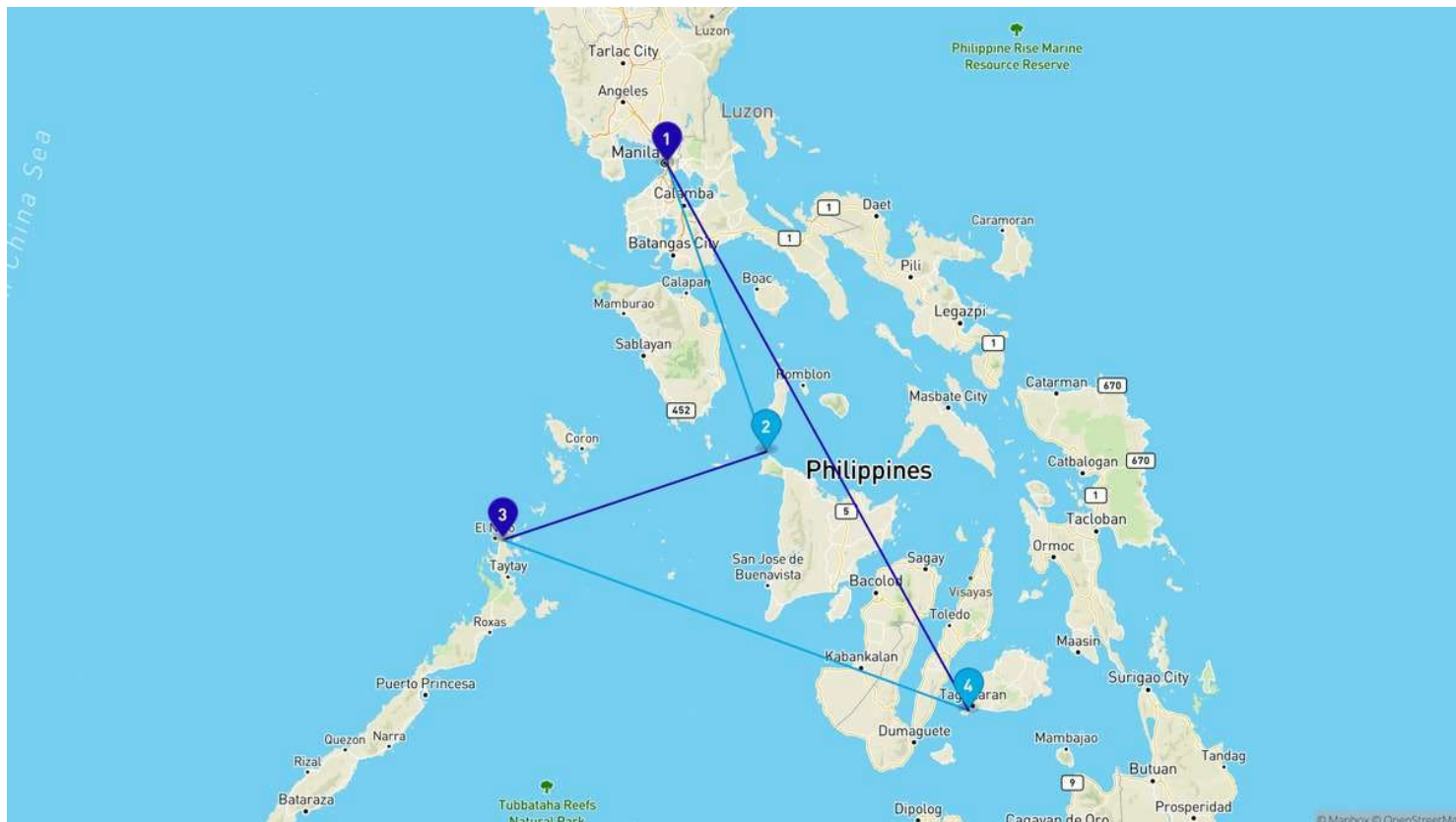


PHILIPPINES
BAREFOOT ON PHILIPPINE BEACHES
2025 Program
Price Based on 2 Adults : CAD\$ 3,311 / Person

delighted to be of assistance should you have any questions during your stay.

Your emergency contact in Canada

Tourcan Emergency Contact: Dinesh Sapra: + 1 647 534 1942 / Air Only - + 1 416 301 9328
Email: dinesh@tourcanvacations.com



Day by Day Itinerary

DAY 1: 10 Apr 2025 MANILA ARRIVAL

Arrival flight details: TBA

Upon arrival, you will be transferred from Manila, Ninoy Aquino International Airport - Manila City Center without a guide. You will be welcomed by the airport representative.



Accommodation: Seda BGC – breakfast included
01– Executive Deluxe Room

Check in: 10 Apr 2025
Check out: 12 Apr 2025

Address: 30th Street cor. 11th Avenue Bonifacio Global City

Day 2: 11 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 3: 12 Apr 2025 MANILA - BORACAY (Breakfast)

Today, you will be picked up from your hotel in Manila City Center and transfer to Manila, Ninoy Aquino International Airport without a guide.



Cebu Pacific - 5J909

12:45 PM - Manila, Ninoy Aquino Intl (MNL)

1:55 PM - Caticlan, Godofredo P (MPH)

1h 10m

Upon your arrival, you will travel from Godofredo P. Ramos Airport to Boracay Island Hotel without a guide. You will be welcomed by the airport representative.



**Accommodation: Feliz Hotel Boracay managed by Enderun Hotels – breakfast included
01- Deluxe King Room**

Check in: 12 Apr 2025
Check out: 16 Apr 2025

Address: D'Mall de Boracay, Boracay Island, Malay Aklan, Philippines

DAY 4: 13 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 5: 14 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 6: 15 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 7: 16 Apr 2025 BORACAY - EL NIDO (Breakfast)

Today, you will be picked up from your hotel in Boracay Island and transfer to Godofredo P. Ramos Airport without a

guide for your flight to El Nido.



Airswift Transport - T6411

3:50 PM - Caticlan, Godofredo P (MPH)

4:55 PM - El Nido, El Nido Airport (ENI)

1h 5m

Upon your arrival, you will travel from El Nido Airport to your hotel in El Nido City Center without a guide. You will be welcomed by the airport representative.



Accommodation:

**El Nido Moringa Resort – breakfast included
01- Deluxe Room with Balcony**

Check in: 16 Apr 2025

Check out: 19 Apr 2025

Address: Brgy. Corong-Corong, El Nido, Palawan

DAY 8: 17 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 9: 18 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 10: 19 Apr 2025 EL NIDO - PANGLAO (Breakfast)

Today, you will be picked up from your hotel in Boracay Island and transfer to Godofredo P. Ramos Airport without a guide for your flight to El Nido.



Airswift Transport - T6610

12:25 PM - El Nido, El Nido Airport (ENI)

2:05 PM - Bohol, Bohol-Panglao International Airport (TAG)

1h 40m

Upon your arrival, you will travel from Panglao Bohol International Airport to your hotel in Panglao City Center without a guide. You will be welcomed by the airport representative.



Accommodation: **Amarela Resort – breakfast included
01– Superior Room**

Check in: 19 Apr 2025
Check out: 23 Apr 2025

Address: Barangay Lourdes - Libaong, Panglao Island, Bohol, 6340 Panglao, Philippines

DAY 11: 20 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 12: 21 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 13: 22 Apr 2025 Free Day (Breakfast)

Free day for your own leisure.

DAY 14: 23 Apr 2025 PANGLAO - MANILA (Breakfast)

Our driver will pick you up at your designated hotel (Panglao City Area) and drive you to Panglao Bohol International Airport.



Cebu Pacific - 5J618

12:30 PM - Bohol, Bohol–Panglao International Airport (TAG)
2:10 PM - Manila, Ninoy Aquino Intl (MNL)
1h 40m

END OF SERVICE.

INCLUSIONS:

- ❖ Airport transfer services as mentioned
- ❖ English-speaking guide for included tours
- ❖ Transfer in tours
- ❖ Entrance fees where mentioned
- ❖ Meals as mentioned
- ❖ Accommodation with daily breakfast
- ❖ Internal Flights

EXCLUSIONS:

- ❖ Tips and gratuities
- ❖ Tours and activities that are mentioned as [OPTIONAL TOUR]
- ❖ Travel insurance (**Highly Recommended**)

- ❖ Beverages
- ❖ Personal expenses
- ❖ All services and activities not mentioned in the itinerary.
- ❖ International Flights
- ❖ Visa fee

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. LAND PACKAGE PRICE INCLUDES (where booked):

- Meeting/Assistance/Transfers: Airport / Hotel round-trip transfers at all destinations and includes one suitcase per person (*at some destinations, like Europe & Japan, the transfers are provided with drivers only, unless a guide service is booked separately. These drivers may only speak little or no English*).
- Accommodation: In twin/double rooms with en-suite facilities.
- Meals: Meals as per itinerary.
- Guide: Professional English-speaking local guide(s), where quoted.
- Sightseeing & Entrance Fees: Vehicle size depends on number of travelers. Entrance fees as per itinerary, unless indicated otherwise.
- Services Charges & Taxes: All taxes charged by local governments on services, which are part of the program (*City taxes, Resort fee, Tourism fee, where applicable, are charged by the hotels directly from the guests upon check-in /check-out*).

2. PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Personal expenses: Telephone and data port charges at some hotels, meals and drinks, unless otherwise specified in the itinerary.
- Tips: To guides, drivers and hotel personnel.
- Insurance: Travel insurance is highly recommended and may be purchased at the time of deposit.
- Room service (meals at hotel, as applicable, are at the dining outlet only)
- Laundry, unless offered complimentary by the hotel(s)

• **3. PAYMENT CONDITIONS:** A non-refundable deposit of \$300 per person, is required at time of booking towards the land package cost. *Luxury trains & cruise bookings require a fixed percentage of the total cost as deposit, which may be in addition to the deposit for land package. Some destinations also require a higher deposit (for e.g. Japan), due to a high demand for land services, which shall be communicated in the quote. Airfare is always paid in full at the time of making a firm booking, if getting issued through us.* Tourcan Vacations office must receive final payment 60 days prior to departure. For bookings made within 60 days of departure, full payment is due. Some suppliers may require additional deposits. You will be advised at time of confirmation. The additional amount is non-refundable. If final payment is not received 60 days prior to departure the booking will be cancelled.

4. TERMS & CONDITIONS : The purchase of packages, air only or tours (hereinafter referred to as the “Travel Services”) offered by Tourcan Vacations constitutes a contractual agreement between Tourcan Vacations and the customer and implies your acceptance of Tourcan Vacations terms and conditions. Please ensure you read carefully and understand these terms and conditions prior to booking.

5. PRICES INDICATED: Prices quoted in our website or by reservations staff are based on double occupancy and in Canadian dollars (\$CAN), unless otherwise indicated, and are based upon the prices of service providers, exchange rate, cost of fuel, taxes and other fees in force at time of preparation of the present brochure. All prices are valid upon date of publication and are subject to change without notice. Unless the customer has paid in full, all prices may be increased at any time and for any reason. Where there is an increase in the total price of the Travel Services after a deposit has been paid and the cumulative increase, except any increase resulting from an increase in retail sales tax or federal goods and services tax, is more 7 per cent the customer has the right to cancel the contract and obtain full refund.

6. RESERVATIONS/DEPOSIT/CONFIRMATION: Reservations must be accompanied by a deposit or payment in full before they can be considered confirmed.

7. FINAL PAYMENT: Final payment must be received by Tourcan Vacations 60 days prior to departure date. Reservations made less than 60 days prior departure date must be accompanied by payment in full. If final payment is not received within the required period, Tourcan Vacations reserves the right to cancel any such reservations without prior notice and levy applicable cancellation fees.

8. PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD:

Signed copies of Credit Card Authorization Forms must be in our possession before final documents will be issued.

9. CHARGES FOR CHANGES: Any changes to a reservation will be subject to a \$50 change fee outside of 65 days of departure. Within 65 days of departure cancellation penalties will apply. If any change made by one or more customers alters the basis of room occupancy, rates will be adjusted to reflect true room occupancy status.

Changes of customer names will be treated as a cancellation and cancellation fees will apply.

Charges will apply for any changes in customer reservations (subject to availability) subsequent to the departure date.

10. CANCELLATION CHARGES: Charges will apply in the event of any cancellation. Insurance premiums are non-refundable, in whole or in part, whether cancelled before or after the departure date. The day of departure is excluded when calculating cancellation or change fees. All cancellation fees must be calculated based on the total amount of the products and Travel Services purchased. Tourcan Vacations reserves the right to cancel a booking where any payment is not received by its due date (60 day prior to departure).

CANCELLATION BEFORE DEPARTURE DATE:

- Up to 60 Days prior – loss of deposit*
- 59 to 0 Days prior- 100% penalty*

No refunds will be made for any used portion including hotels, sightseeing, cruises, transfers, meals, international or domestic flight with or without notice, unless cancelled or missed by the supplier.

*Plus any unrecoverable deposits paid to airlines or suppliers.

11. FLIGHTS AND CARRIERS:

Customers acknowledge and accept the following:

- Changes: Flights offered by Tourcan Vacations are conducted in accordance with the applicable tariffs of the air carrier and pursuant to regulations set out by the Canadian Transportation Agency. All such flights and rates are also subject to approval by the relevant government authorities. Consolidations and changes in the published schedule, aircraft type, days of operation, air carrier providing air transportation and flight itinerary may be undertaken at any time and without prior notice, in accordance with the air carrier's tariffs.

- Fares and Names: Fares and taxes may increase between the time of quoting, booking and tickets being issued.

- The fares quoted are subject to class availability and may have booking conditions attached. **Unless specified otherwise, all air tickets once issued are non-refundable, so it's important to check all relevant details at the time of issuing the air tickets.**

- Tickets must reflect the passengers name as shown in their passport. If names are not reflected correctly boarding may be denied.

- Schedule Check and Connecting Flights: Flight schedules are subject to change without notice. Customers having purchased air only must reconfirm their return flight within 24 to 72 hours prior to the scheduled take-off time. Tourcan Vacations undertakes to notify customers reasonably in advance through means it deems appropriate of any schedule changes resulting in the advancement or delay of the flight departure times or in case of cancellation of a flight. Whenever customers book connecting flights, they must allow sufficient time to make their connection. No control can be exercised over air carriers to guarantee flight schedules, which may be altered or affected by various circumstances. Tourcan Vacations will not be liable for any change of schedule or a missed flight connection, including any additional fees incurred and special, incidental or consequential damages (including the carriage of baggage) arising from the foregoing, whether or not it had the knowledge that such additional fees or damages might be incurred.

- Airport check-in: It is recommended that customers arrive at the airport check-in counter at least 3 hours prior to departure. Failing this, their reservation may be cancelled and their seats assigned to other customers, with no right of recourse.

- Seat assignment: unless already pre-assigned, staff at the air carrier's check-in counter conducts aircraft seating.

- Other applicable conditions: Air transportation is subject to all applicable government regulations and is governed by the Montreal Convention, or the Warsaw Convention as the case may be, the applicable tariffs of the air carrier as well as the conditions of contract appearing on the airline ticket. Any amendments or changes to the applicable air carrier's general terms and conditions of carriage once filed with and approved by federal regulatory authorities, are not subject to additional public notice and are legally binding.

- Refusal to transport: Removal of passengers: Tourcan Vacations shall not be liable for refusal by itself or the air carrier to transport a passenger nor for the cancellation of a reserved space or removal of a passenger due to, but not limited to, safety reasons, to prevent the violation of any applicable laws of any country or to prevent any hazard or risk to such passenger, to any other person or property, or to the flight.

12. VALIDITY OF TICKETS: Tickets are made out in the name of the customer and are not transferable. Tickets are valid only on the dates and flights indicated. Unused portions of tickets may not be used for travel on other flights and are not subject to refund at any time.

13. BAGGAGE:

- Limits: Air carriers have individual rules and regulations with respect to baggage weight, size and number. Customers must consult with the travel agent for applicable restrictions.

- **Liability:** The provisions of the Montreal Convention, or the Warsaw Convention as the case may be, the applicable tariffs of the air carrier, as well as the notice appearing on the passenger ticket and baggage check, govern the loss of and damage to baggage and establish the limits of air carrier's liability. Baggage lost or damaged while boarding or disembarking a ship must be reported to the Purser's office prior to the ship's departure from port or prior to leaving the local customs area. Passengers' baggage and property are transported, stored and handled at owner's risk at all times.

14. TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: It is the full responsibility of customers to obtain at their own expense all necessary travel documents required by all relevant government authorities, including all ports of call, and to comply with the laws thereof. Passports will be required for all air and sea travel to or from all destinations and may have to be valid for six months beyond the date of the expected return to Canada. Canadian Citizens born in certain countries may require a visa in addition to a valid passport. A permanent resident card will be required for permanent residents/landed immigrants who are not Canadian citizens. One (1) parent traveling with a child under age 18 may have to obtain a notarized letter of consent signed by the parent not traveling. Customers are responsible for checking which documents are required, and then make certain that they have the necessary documents in hand prior to departure. The carrier or relevant authorities, without further recourse or the possibility of a refund, may deny customers boarding privileges failing to provide the required documents. Entry to another country may also be refused even if the required information and travel documents are complete. No refund or replacement will be given for lost or stolen travel documents. Tourcan Vacations shall not be liable for any aid or information given by its employees or the travel agent in connection with obtaining any necessary travel documents or complying with any laws, whether given orally, in writing or otherwise, or for the consequences suffered by any customer resulting from his/her failure to obtain such documents or to comply with such laws.

15. CUSTOMER ADVISORY: Some events are part of normal unpleasant occurrences, which can happen when traveling abroad. The customer realizes this, solely assumes the consequences thereof and agrees that Tourcan Vacations cannot be held responsible for any damages owing to such occurrences.

- **Living Standards:** Customers are asked to bear in mind and accept that living standards and practices at the destination, and the conditions there with respect to the provision of utilities, services and accommodations, may differ from those found in Canada.

- **Service disruptions:** Some services including water, electricity, air-conditioning, security, sanitary conditions, pools, food, beverages and other services or benefits may be suspended or interrupted partially or completely during the customer's stay. Likewise, depending on the occupancy rate of hotels, à la Carte dining may be replaced by buffet or vice-versa.

- **Food, water and beverages:** The food, water and beverages may not be up to North-American standards. Accordingly, customers assume sole responsibility for any illness suffered while abroad or upon return owing to the quality of the food, water and beverages.

16. ROOM ALLOCATION: Hoteliers are solely responsible for room allocation, in accordance with the category reserved by customers. Should customers choose to alter their room category upon arrival at destination (upon availability), they must make their own arrangements with the hotelier and assume all additional fees levied by them.

17. CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT CONDITIONS: Customers acknowledge and accept that hoteliers, in accordance with international standards, have specific check-in times, usually from 3 PM and check out by noon on the scheduled day of departure or by noon on the day immediately preceding a late night departure.

18. CUSTOMERS REQUIRING ASSISTANCE AND CARE WHILE TRAVELLING:

All customers requiring special care, assistance, attention or treatment must advise Tourcan Vacations and the air carrier of any and all specific needs at the time of booking, in order to arrange air transportation, hotel and tour accommodations.

19. CHANGES TO TRAVEL SERVICES:

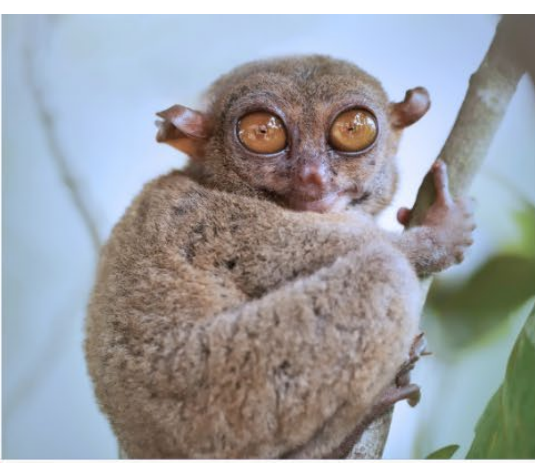
If Travel Services are no longer available prior to the departure date or subsequent to arrival at destination, Tourcan Vacations reserves the right to substitute them for comparable goods or Travel Services, or, alternatively, to cancel them.

- **Changes to itinerary:** Tourcan Vacations and the participating tour operator reserves the right to cancel, alter or re-schedule any timing, to omit one or more stops, to substitute alternative itineraries or to otherwise amend the content of the tour with or without prior notice to the passenger.

20. CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITY:

- **Health:** Customers, whose physical condition so requires, must ensure that they have a sufficient quantity of any required medication with them, and that they carry such medication in their hand baggage at all times. Customers must also consult competent medical authorities prior to departure about preventive medical measure as regards to the countries to be visited.

- **Activities:** Tourcan Vacations cannot be held responsible for any accident or mishap occurring at the destination during the practice of activities in which the customers participate of their own free will and initiative.



PHILIPPINES



POPULATION
115 MILLION



ELECTRICITY
220V
60Hz



LANGUAGE
Filipino



TIMEZONE
GMT +8



TRANSPORTATION
JEEPNEY, BUSES, TRAINS,
TAXI, MOTORTAXI



CURRENCY
PHILIPPINE PESO

WHEN TO VISIT

	JAN	SINULOG FESTIVAL (CEBU) ATI-ATIHAN FESTIVAL (KALIBO, AKLAN)
	FEB	PANAGBENGA FESTIVAL (BAGUIO) CHINESE NEW YEAR
	MARCH	PAHIYAS FESTIVAL (LUCBAN, QUEZON) HOLY WEEK
	APRIL	ARAW NG KAGITINGAN KADAYAWAN FESTIVAL
	MAY	FLORES DE MAYO SANTACRUZAN
	JUNE	INDEPENDENCE DAY TAAL VOLCANO FESTIVAL (BATANGAS)
	JULY	INTERNATIONAL MANGO FESTIVAL (SAN CARLOS, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL)
	AUG	NAGA PENAFRANCIA FESTIVAL (NAGA) BUWAN NG WIKA
	SEPT	MANGGAHAN FESTIVAL PINTADOS-KASADYAAN FESTIVAL
	OCT	MASSKARA FESTIVAL (BACOLOD) HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION
	NOV	ALL SAINTS' DAY & SOUL'S DAY BUWAN NG NOVELA
	DEC	PASKONG PINOY SIMBANG GABI

DOs

LOCAL CUSTOMS

It's polite to greet elders with "po" and "opo" as a sign of respect.

BE POLITE & PATIENT

While Filipinos are generally friendly and accommodating, a smile and patience can enhance interactions.

BARGAIN IN MARKETS

It's common to negotiate prices as long as you bargain respectfully.

ENGAGE WITH LOCALS

Be open to conversations and interactions. Filipinos are known for their hospitality and friendliness.

DONTs

PHOTOS

Always ask for permission before taking photos of people.

CLOTHING

Casual wear is acceptable. Avoid overly revealing outfits.

MEALS

Meals are often social occasions. Take your time, enjoy the food, and engage in conversation.

GREETING

"MAGANDANG UMAGA/TANGHALI/GABI"

Good Morning/Noon/Evening!



"KUMUSTA?"
How are you?

"MABUTI NAMAN!"
I'm fine!

"SALAMAT!"
Thank you!

"WALANG ANUMAN!"
You're Welcome!

"PO"

THESE ARE POLITE FORMS USED WHEN ADDRESSING ELDERLY.

"OPO"

"KUMUSTA PO?" (HOW ARE YOU, SIR/MA'AM?)

SOME TIPS



NIGHTLIFE:

RESEARCH LOCAL VENUES AND FOLLOW DRESS CODES. TRY LOCAL DRINKS AND ENGAGE WITH FRIENDLY LOCALS. BE MINDFUL OF OPEN HOURS TO MAKE THE MOST OUT OF YOUR NIGHT OUT.



SHOPPING:

EXPLORE LOCAL MARKETS FOR UNIQUE HANDICRAFTS. BARGAIN WISELY AND CHECK QUALITY. KEEP CASH HANDY. STAY ALERT.



DINING:

TRY THE LOCAL CUISINE. CHECK FOR REVIEWS. BE MINDFUL OF DINING ETIQUETTE. TRY STREET FOOD. CHECK FOR SERVICE CHARGES.

GEOGRAPHY

The Philippines is an archipelago located in Southeast Asia, consisting of over 7,600 islands divided into three main geographical regions: **Luzon**, **Visayas**, and **Mindanao**. It is bordered by the Pacific Ocean to the east, the South China Sea to the west, and the Sulu Sea to the southwest. The country features a diverse landscape, including mountainous regions, lush forests, beautiful beaches, and vibrant coral reefs. Major geographical highlights include the **Sierra Madre mountain range**, the fertile plains of Central Luzon, and the stunning beaches of **Palawan** and **Boracay**. The Philippines' varied geography contributes to its rich biodiversity, making it home to numerous endemic species and unique ecosystems. The country's strategic location along major shipping routes has also played a significant role in its historical and cultural development.

HISTORY

The history of the Philippines is marked by a rich tapestry of indigenous cultures, colonial rule, and struggles for independence. Initially inhabited by various ethnic groups with distinct languages and traditions, the islands were first documented by European explorers in the 16th century, notably Ferdinand Magellan in 1521. Spanish colonization began in 1565, lasting for over 300 years, during which the Catholic Church played a significant role in shaping society. The Philippine Revolution in 1896 led to a brief declaration of independence in 1898, but the Philippines was ceded to the United States after the Spanish-American War, resulting in a period of American colonial rule. After years of resistance and the impact of World War II, the Philippines gained full independence on July 4, 1946. Since then, the country has navigated various political and social challenges, ultimately striving for economic growth and national identity amidst its diverse cultural heritage.

THE PEOPLE

The Philippines' population is over **115 Million**, making it the 13th most populous country in the world. It is highly urbanized with its large percentage in the metropolitan centre, Metro Manila.

LANGUAGES

The Philippines is home to over **175 languages**, showcasing its rich cultural diversity. The two official languages are **Filipino**, based on Tagalog and serving as the national lingua franca, and **English**, widely used in government, education, and business. In addition to these, numerous regional languages are spoken, including **Cebuano** in the Visayas, **Ilocano** in northern Luzon, **Hiligaynon** in Western Visayas, **Waray** in Eastern Visayas, and **Kapampangan** in Pampanga. Each language often has its own dialects, contributing to the country's linguistic richness. Many Filipinos are multilingual, typically speaking their regional language alongside Filipino and English, which facilitates communication across the diverse population.

GOVERNMENT

The government of the Philippines operates as a **democratic republic** with a multi-party system, characterized by a separation of powers among the **executive**, **legislative**, and branches. The President serves as both the head of state and government, elected for a single six-year term, and is responsible for implementing laws and overseeing the administration. The legislative branch is bicameral, consisting of the Senate, with 24 senators serving six-year terms, and the House of Representatives, with members elected for three-year terms. The judiciary is independent, headed by the Supreme Court, which interprets laws and adjudicates legal disputes. Local government units (LGUs) also play a vital role, with elected officials managing various provinces, cities, and municipalities.

CLIMATE

The climate in the Philippines is tropical, characterized by high temperatures, high humidity, and significant rainfall. It generally has three distinct seasons:

1. **Tag-init (Dry Season):** Typically from December to May, this season sees less rainfall and higher temperatures, especially from March to May, which can be quite hot.
2. **Tag-ulan (Wet Season):** From June to November, the country experiences heavy rains, especially due to monsoon winds. This period also coincides with the typhoon season, where the Philippines is prone to tropical storms.
3. **Transition Seasons:** The months of November and December can be transitional, with varying weather patterns as the dry season begins.

Due to its geographical location, the climate can vary across the islands, with some areas experiencing more rain or cooler temperatures depending on elevation and proximity to the coast.

CLOTHES TO WEAR

When visiting the Philippines, it's best to wear lightweight, breathable clothing due to the tropical climate. Here are some clothing suggestions:

1. **Lightweight Fabrics:** Choose materials like cotton, linen, or moisture-wicking fabrics to stay cool.
2. **Casual Attire:** T-shirts, tank tops, and shorts are ideal for everyday wear, especially in urban areas.
3. **Beachwear:** Swimwear, cover-ups, and flip-flops are perfect for beach outings and islands.
4. **Sun Protection:** A wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and light long-sleeved shirts can help protect against the sun.
5. **Rain Gear:** During the wet season, bring a lightweight rain jacket or poncho and an umbrella.
6. **Comfortable Footwear:** Sneakers or sandals are great for walking and exploring.

7. **Cultural Considerations:** In religious sites or rural areas, modest clothing is recommended, so consider packing long skirts or pants and tops with sleeves.

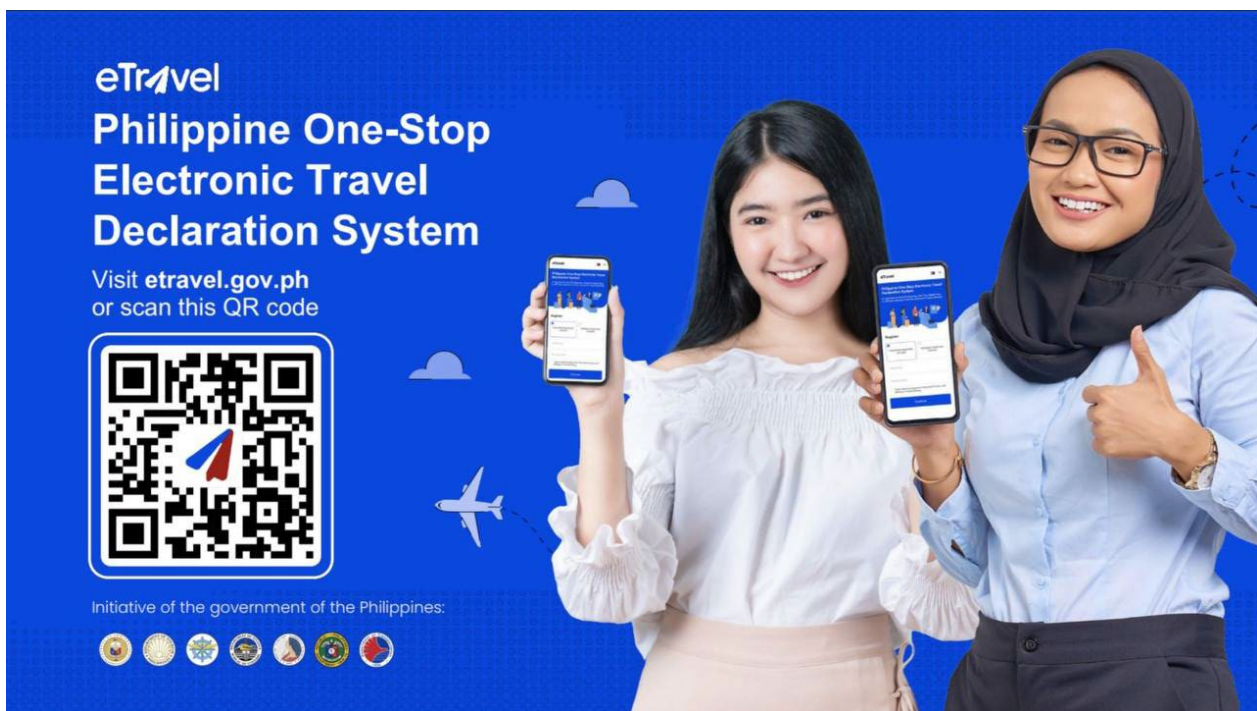
Overall, prioritize comfort and breathability while being mindful of local customs.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Passport: A valid passport is required, typically with at least six months' validity beyond your intended stay.

Visa: Many nationalities can enter visa-free for a stay of up to 30 days. Extensions may be possible for longer stays. Make sure to check if your country is on the visa-exempt list or if you need a visa at <https://evisa.gov.ph/>

eTravel/ Philippine One Stop Electronic Travel Declaration System: You must be able to Sign Up and fill up forms via eTravel to enter. You can access it via <https://etravel.gov.ph> or the QR code below.



EXIT REQUIREMENTS

Valid Passport: Ensure your passport is valid and not expired.

Return or Onward Ticket: You may need to present proof of a return or onward ticket, especially if you're traveling to a country that requires it.

Customs Declarations: Declare any items you are taking out of the country that may be subject to regulations, such as large sums of money, valuable items, or restricted goods.

BANKS AND CURRENCY

Currency: The official currency of the Philippines is the Philippine Peso (PHP), symbolized as ₱.

Banks:

1. **Banks:** Major banks include BDO Unibank, Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI), Metrobank, and Land Bank. These banks offer a range of services, including savings accounts, loans, and foreign exchange.
2. **ATMs:** ATMs are widely available in urban areas and tourist spots. Most accept international cards, but it's wise to check for withdrawal limits and fees.
3. **Currency Exchange:** Currency exchange services are available at banks, airports, and authorized money changers. Always check the exchange rates and fees.
4. **Credit and Debit Cards:** Credit and debit cards are widely accepted in hotels, restaurants, and stores, but it's advisable to carry cash for smaller vendors or remote areas.
5. **Safety:** As with any country, be cautious when handling cash and use secure methods for transactions.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mobile Phones: The country has a well-developed mobile network, with major providers like Globe Telecom and Smart Communications. SIM cards are readily available, and it's easy to purchase a prepaid SIM for short-term use.

Internet Access: Wi-Fi is widely available in urban areas, hotels, cafes, and restaurants. However, internet speeds can vary, especially in rural regions.

Social Media: The Philippines has one of the highest rates of social media usage in the world, making platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and X popular for communication.

Landline Phones: While less common than mobile phones, landline services are still available, particularly in business settings.

Messaging Apps: Apps like Viber, WhatsApp, and Messenger are popular for texting and voice calls, often used due to lower costs when connected to Wi-Fi.

Postal Services: The Philippine Postal Corporation provides mail services, but delivery times can be slow, so it's not commonly used for urgent communications.

CUISINE AND DRINKS

Cuisine:

1. **Rice:** A staple in every meal, often served with various dishes.
2. **Adobo:** A popular dish made of meat (usually chicken or pork) marinated in vinegar, soy sauce, garlic, and spices, then simmered until tender.
3. **Sinigang:** A sour soup typically made with tamarind, tomatoes, and a variety of meats and vegetables.
4. **Lechon:** Roasted whole pig, known for its crispy skin and tender meat, often served during special occasions.

5. **Pancit:** Noodle dishes that come in many variations, often served during celebrations for long life.
6. **Lumpia:** Spring rolls filled with a mix of vegetables and meats, usually served with a dipping sauce.
7. **Halo-Halo:** A popular dessert made of crushed ice, mixed fruits, sweet beans, jellies, and topped with leche flan and ube (purple yam).

Drinks:

1. **Buko Juice:** Fresh coconut water, often served straight from the coconut.
2. **Tuba:** A traditional alcoholic drink made from fermented coconut sap.
3. **Sago't Gulaman:** A refreshing drink made from tapioca pearls, jelly, and sweet syrup.
4. **Local Beers:** Popular brands include San Miguel and Red Horse, often enjoyed with meals.
5. **Kalamansi Juice:** A refreshing drink made from the local citrus fruit, often sweetened with sugar.

Philippine cuisine is celebrated for its bold flavors and communal dining culture, making meals a delightful experience.

NIGHTLIFE

Nightlife in the Philippines is vibrant and diverse, offering something for everyone, from bustling cities to serene beach destinations. Big cities like Manila, Cebu, and Davao have a lively nightlife scene with bars and clubs where you can enjoy live music and dancing, or performances.

EVENTS & FESTIVALS

The Philippines hosts various festivals throughout the year, often featuring lively street parties, parades, and cultural performances, adding to the nightlife experience. Below are some vibrant festivals celebrated in famous holiday destinations in the Philippines.

Ati-atihan Festival: The Ati-atihan Festival, held annually in **January** in Kalibo, **Aklan**, is a vibrant celebration honoring the Santo Niño (Child Jesus). Known as the "Mother of All Philippine Festivals," it features lively street dancing, participants with painted faces and colorful costumes, and grand parades. Rooted in indigenous traditions, the festival combines cultural heritage with religious activities, drawing thousands of visitors each year to experience its unique spirit and community pride.

Sinulog Festival: The Sinulog Festival, held every **January** in **Cebu** City, is a lively celebration honoring the Santo Niño (Child Jesus). Known for its grand street parades and energetic dance performances, participants wear vibrant costumes and perform the traditional Sinulog dance, characterized by a two-step forward, one-step back movement. The festival showcases Cebuano culture, history, and religious devotion, attracting millions of visitors who join in the festivities, making it one of the Philippines' most celebrated and iconic festivals.

Panagbenga Festival: The Panagbenga Festival, celebrated annually in **Baguio** City, Philippines, is a vibrant tribute to flowers and culture, typically held in **February**. Meaning "season of blooming," it features colorful flower floats, street dancing, and cultural events that

highlight the region's heritage. This lively festival attracts thousands of visitors, marking a highlight in Baguio's calendar.

SHOPPING

Large cities in Metro Manila have large shopping malls and local markets you can visit for specific shopping needs. Please reach out to our Destination Expert for suggestions.

Specialty Goods:

- **Textiles:** The Philippines is known for beautiful fabrics like piña and hablon, often used for traditional clothing.
- **Food Products:** Don't miss local snacks and delicacies, such as dried mangoes, ube products, and artisanal chocolates.

Tips:

- **Bargaining:** Bargaining is common in local markets, so feel free to negotiate prices.
- **Cash:** While credit cards are accepted in many malls, it's good to carry cash for small purchases in markets.

BAGGAGE

Carry-On Baggage:

- **General Size Limit:** Most airlines allow a carry-on bag up to 7-10 kg (15-22 lbs) with maximum dimensions of around 56 x 36 x 23 cm (22 x 14 x 9 inches).
 - **Airswift:** Each passenger is allowed to bring a maximum 7kg and standard size of 18 inches (L) x 13.5 inches (W) x 9 inches (D).
 - **Cebu Pacific:** Each passenger 7kg hand-carry allowance with maximum dimensions as indicated in the general size limit.
- **Items:** Typically, you can bring personal items like a laptop bag or purse in addition to your carry-on.
- **Prohibited Items:** Be mindful of restrictions on liquids, sharp objects, and other prohibited items.

Checked Baggage:

- **General Weight Limit:** Airlines usually have a limit of 20-30 kg (44-66 lbs) for checked baggage, but this can vary by airline and ticket class.
- **Fees:** Excess baggage fees may apply if you exceed the weight limit, so check your airline's policy.

Overall, it's essential to check with your airline for specific policies and regulations regarding baggage to ensure a smooth travel experience in the Philippines.