



## METRO MANILA Excursions:

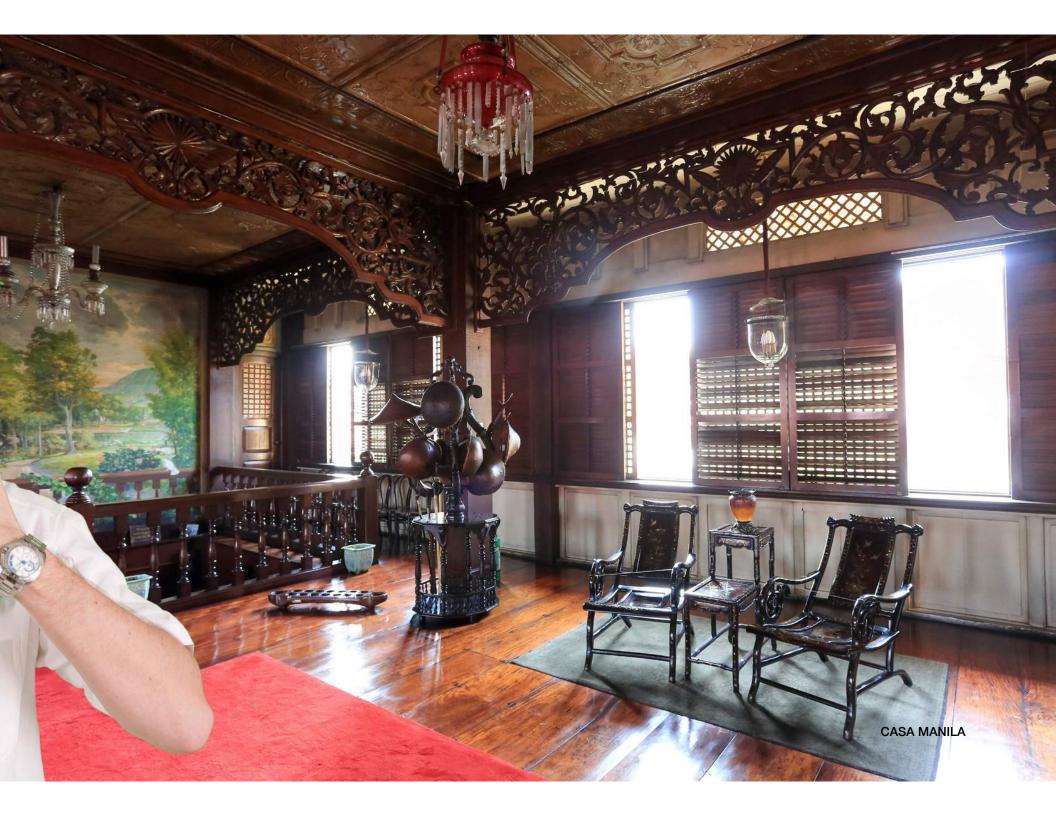
INTRAMUROS WALKING TOUR. Take a walk through to the Philippines' historic past in Intramuros, the medieval fortress built by the Spaniards during the 16th century. Its ruins were preserved and rehabilitated, including Barrio San Luis, a cultural cum commercial complex of nine Hispanic style stone houses turned into living museums, a boutique-hotel, arts and crafts store, and restaurants. It also houses two majestic structures: the Manila Cathedral and the UNESCO-listed heritage church, San Agustin. A few of the gates and ramparts have also been turned into lush parks and outdoor event venues, including Fort Santiago.

**CHINATOWN WALKING TOUR.** Visit Manila's Binondo District to discover the living architectural and gastronomic influence of the Chinese. Known as the world's oldest China Town, Binondo was established in the 1590's by the Spaniards as a settlement for Catholic Chinese. Today, it is known for its remarkably delicious Chinese food and bargain buys, from Chinese trinkets, to colourful souvenirs, clothes and jewelry.

ART & CULTURE TOUR. Get a glimpse of Filipino culture and heritage in the National Museum's collections of ethnographic, anthropological, archaeological, and visual artistry of the Philippines. This tour also includes a visit to the Metropolitan Museum where a huge collection of pre-Hispanic gold work and a fine selection of antique paintings by Filipino masters are exhibited. Thereafter, a short drive to the Cultural Center of the Philippines will treat you to a contemporary visual arts show or theatrical performance of various local and international productions.

LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT. Stop by and take a leisurely walk along Roxas Boulevard to catch the world-famous sunset of Manila Bay. Here, the naval battle fought between American and Spanish forces ended almost four centuries of Spanish rule in the islands. Be thrilled over a game of chance, watch a spectacular show, or go clubbing at the Entertainment City – home to luxe gaming resorts such as the Solaire Resort & Casino and the City of Dreams Manila.













# Shopping & Spa

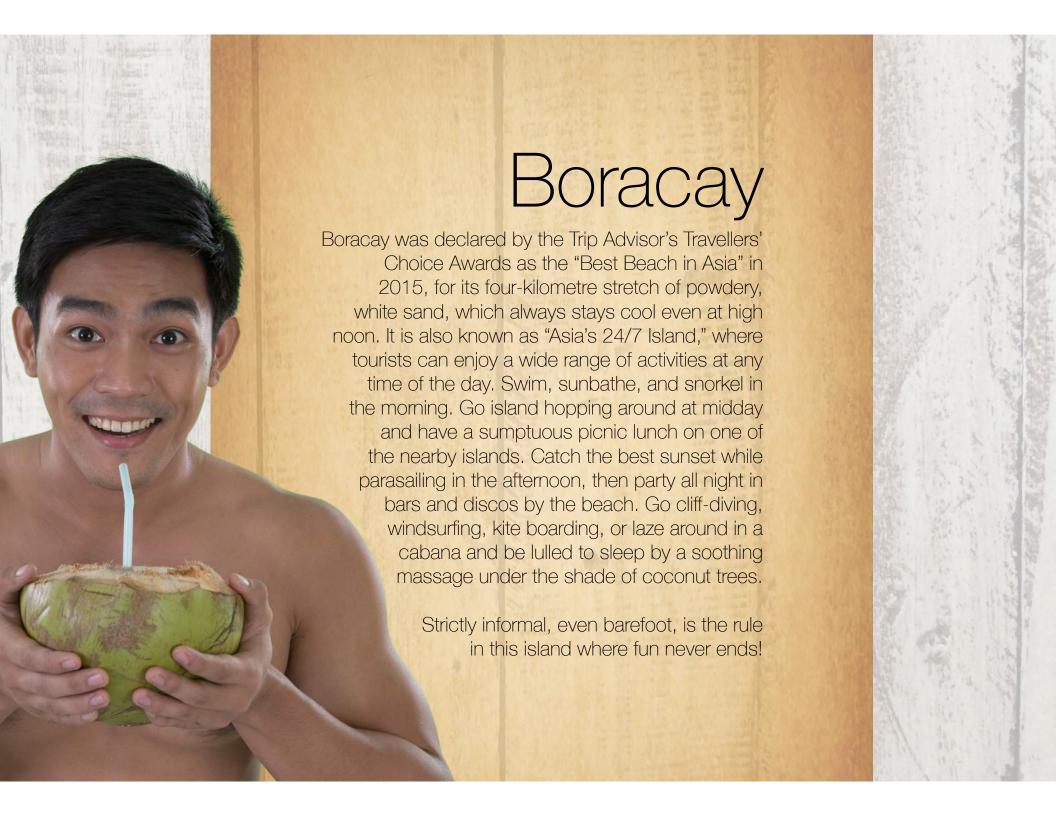
Splurge, on an amazing trove of world-class international and local products, crafted and stamped with unique creativity and elegance. Shoppers have a long list of ritzy, high-end malls to visit, like Greenbelt and Rockwell, to name a few. Or swoop into one of the world's largest malls, the SM Mall of Asia. Handcrafted souvenirs, apparel, leather goods, fashion accessories, or fine South Sea Pearl jewellery – everything is right here in our islands!

Cap-off the day by treating yourself to a "hilot" - the signature Philippine massage infused with aromatic oils and traditional herbs, and sink into a blissful feeling of wellness.

















#### Boracay

#### Excursions:

**ISLAND-HOPPING TOUR.** Enjoy the view from above and below the sea by taking an island-hopping expedition. The tour usually lasts half a day and culminates in snorkelling and a barbecue lunch at Diniwid Beach.

DAY AT THE BEACH. Loosen up and stretch on the gorgeous white powdery beach of Boracay. Feel the cool breeze blowing from the sea with the sun on your face. Enjoy eating in any of the restaurants by the beach. This island offers not only a wide variety of gastronomic delights but a number of exciting water sports such as parasailing, kite boarding, and even banana boating as well. You can even enjoy activities like learning how to swim like a mermaid, island hopping and snorkelling in the clear blue waters of Boracay. After a full-day of fun activities grab a refreshing drink in a nearby juice or cocktail bar.

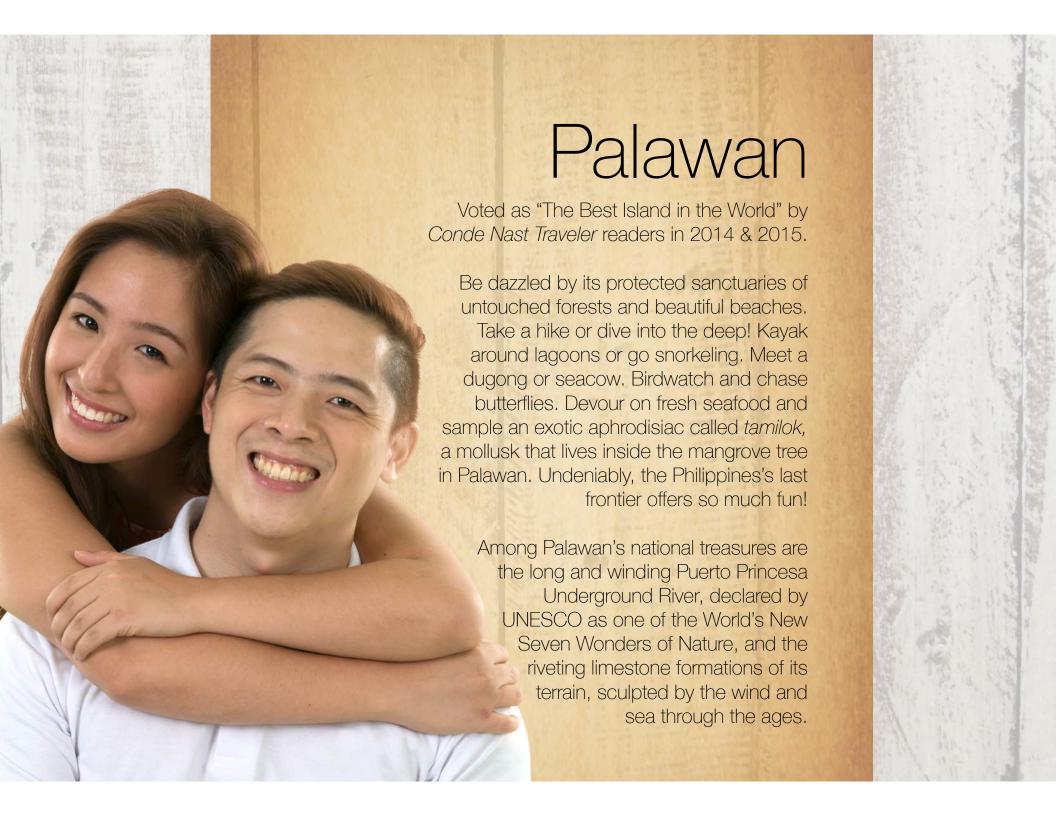
**OFF THE BEATEN TRACK TOUR.** Take a buggy car or an All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and go around the island to discover the scenic spots. Go up to Mt. Luho, the island's highest point, and see the beauty of the island from above. If you want to witness and experience the traditional way of life of the people from Malay before the tourists came, Motag Living Museum would be a good place to add to your travel itinerary.

**SHOPPING.** Discover unique novelty gifts, beachwear, trinkets made of local materials, personalized shirts and flip-flops, and other local handicrafts in the island's flea market, *Talipapa*, or in shops at D'Mall, the famous shopping center in Boracay.

















#### Palawan

#### Excursions:

PUERTO PRINCESA UNDERGROUND RIVER TOUR. Take an enchanting cruise inside a cavern and marvel at the beautiful stalactite and stalagmite sculptures filling the 8.2-kilometer river that flows directly to the sea. The river lies within the limestone-encrusted mountain range of St. Paul, which has a forest ecosystem that is home to 800 species of plants, 165 species of birds, 19 species of reptiles, and 10 species of amphibians.

HONDA BAY ISLAND HOPPING. Spend half a day island-hopping around the Bay, where the different islands have their own unique features--from pristine sandbars to magnificent coral reefs near small drop offs, clear swimming and snorkeling areas, to fabulous dive sites. Packed lunch and refreshments go with the tour.

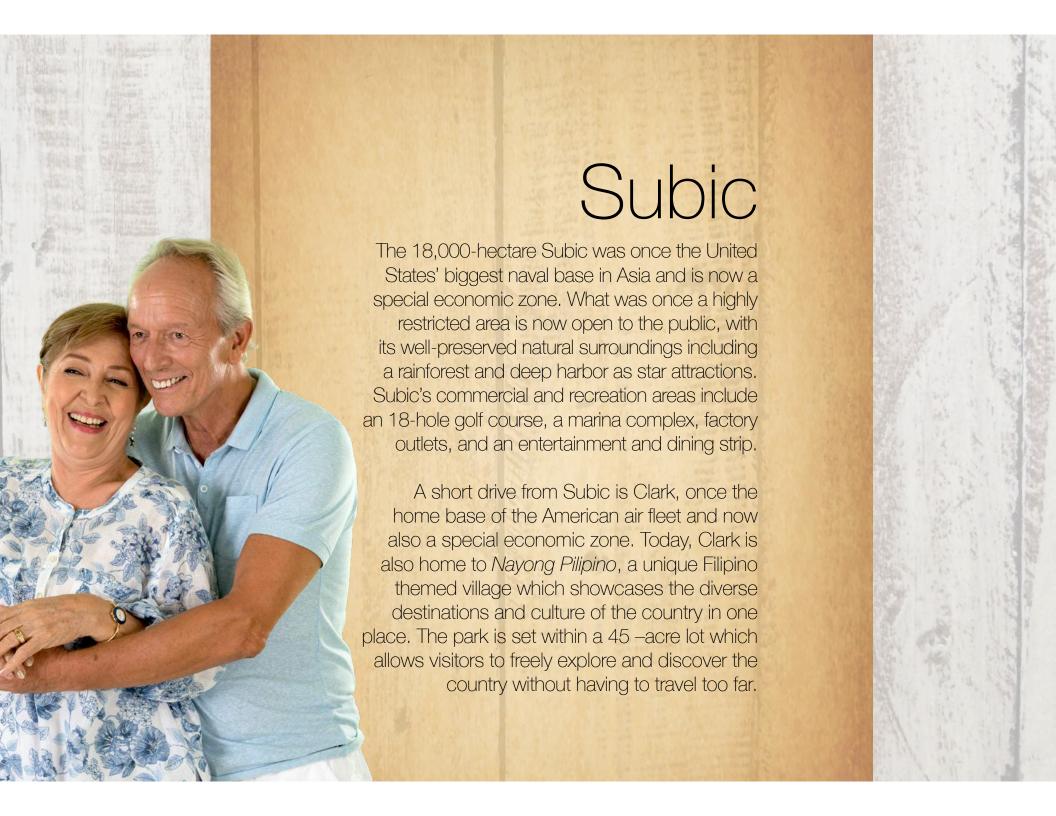
PUERTO PRINCESA COUNTRYSIDE TOUR. A half-day tour takes the visitor around Puerto Princesa, Palawan's capital city. Points of interest include the Palawan Museum, Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservations Center, Mitra Ranch, Palawan Butterfly Graden, Plaza Cuartel and Mendoza Park.

**SHOPPING & LEISURE.** Great buys include fresh and cultured pearls, as well as ethnic handicrafts and sweet cashew nuts. Dining options range from fine dining restaurants serving international cuisine to specialty restaurants serving esoteric dishes like crocodile meat.









# Jonale Environment survival translate INTING Opposite the Control of the Control







#### Subic

#### Excursions:

**PAWIKAN JOURNEY.** Situated in a cove in Bagac, Bataan is the white sand Montemar Beach Resort. It is noted for its luxe amenities and pawikan (turtle) conservation effort. In the adjoining town of Morong is located the Pawikan Conservation Center, where turtle eggs are cared for and hatchlings are guided back to the open sea.

**HERITAGE TOUR.** Also in Bagac is Las Casas Filipinas de Acuzar, a themed resort village by the beach, with some 27 original stone houses and buildings built from the 18th to early 20th centuries. These houses were uprooted from their original sites in Luzon, and rebuilt stone by stone, plank by plank, to its current location. A guided day tour is inclusive of lunch and refreshments.

**SUPER MANGO TOUR.** The Philippine mango or the Carabao mango was declared by the 1995 Guinness Book of World Records as the sweetest fruit in the world. Go on a mango picking tour and observe how the plant is propagated and the fruit processed into candies, wine and other delicacies. A side trip to Casa San Miguel, a museum of community heritage in San Antonio, Zambales caps the tour for a sampling of Philippine culture. Some of the exhibits on display are earthenwares from the Ming Dynasty taken from shipwrecks in nearby villages of Pundaquit and Santa Cruz, photographs of local fishermen taken by Filipino veteran photojournalist Nico Sepe as well as old photographs of Aetas taken by American anthropologist William Allen Reed. A collection of traditional fishing equipment and other artifacts are also on display.

**KULINARYA TOUR.** Less than 30 minutes away from Subic is the province of Pampanga, the Philippines' culinary capital. Go on a gastronomic tour and taste local cuisine at its finest--a delicious fusion of European, American and Oriental cooking. Pampanga is famous for *Sisig* - a crunchy charcoal-grilled pork cheek chopped into minute morsels and mixed with minced chicken liver, onions, and juices of freshly-squeezed calamansi (Philippine lemon). Then, there is *Tocino* – a specialty made of cured pork, which has a sweet and savory flavor. Also popular are *Longanissas* or native sausages that come in different lengths and flavors.

**JUNGLE ENVIRONMENT SURVIVAL TRAINING.** Right within the rainforest in Subic, explore the native flora and fauna while on an hour-long trek or horseback ride to the village of the indigenous tribe Aeta, where you can get a quick training on jungle survival.

**SHOPPING & LEISURE.** The leisure facilities in the two special economic zones offer excellent amenities including casinos and duty free shops while varied international cuisines are readily available in food establishments. Sports activities like golf, zip line tours, parasailing and scuba diving can be arranged.













#### Other Destinations:

HUNDRED ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK. Scattered within Lingayen Gulf in Alaminos, Northern Luzon are some 124 mushroom-shaped islands formed some two million years ago by corals in an area that used to be a seabed. These islands are navigable for island hopping. To date, three of these islands have facilities ready to accommodate tourists. These are the Quezon Island, Governor's Island and Children's Island, which are popular for snorkeling, spelunking and birdwatching.

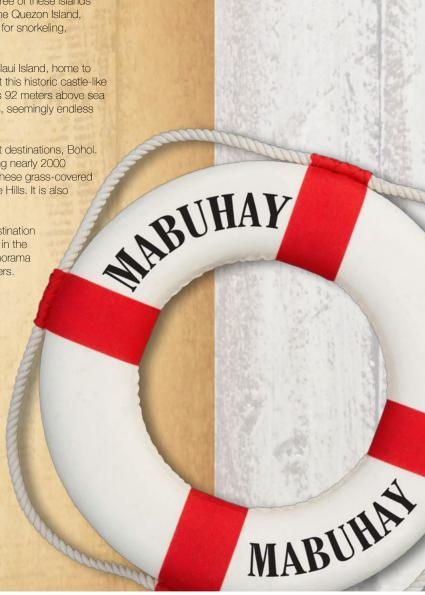
CAPE ENGAÑO. At the northernmost part of Luzon is Palaui Island, home to Cape Engaño Lighthouse or Faro de Cabo. Spaniards built this historic castle-like structure in 1892. The hike up to the lighthouse, which sits 92 meters above sea level, offers a spectacular view of the sprawling grasslands, seemingly endless stretch of white sand beaches and the vast blue sea.

**BOHOL.** In the Visayas lies one of the country's top tourist destinations, Bohol. It is famous for its beaches and natural attractions, including nearly 2000 haycock-shaped limestone hills that straddle four towns. These grass-covered hills turn to brown in the summer, thus its name, Chocolate Hills. It is also home to the tarsier, one of the world's smallest primates.

**KALANGGAMAN ISLAND.** The perfect eco-tourism destination is the virgin island of Kalanggaman (Calanggaman). Found in the Visayan town of Palompon, Leyte, its postcard-perfect panorama showcases pristine powder-white sandbars and clear waters.

**CAMIGUIN.** The tiny, pearl-shaped island of Camiguin in Mindanao can be toured in half a day and boasts many attractions, including seven volcanoes, the majestic Katibawasan Falls, hot and cold springs, beaches and white sandbars, and an underwater ancient cemetery.

**SIARGAO.** Siargao Island in Mindanao is the surfing capital of the Philippines and one of the world's best surfing destinations. It prides itself with great swells brought by uninterrupted winds coming from the Pacific Ocean, which is intensified by the Mindanao current that runs through Siargao Straight. It has hosted international surfing competitions and is renowned for its world-class Cloud 9 wave. Here you will also find one of the biggest mangrove forests in the country and wetlands which spread over its 48 towns.





# About the Philippines

#### **GETTING THERE**

Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) in Manila is the main gateway to the Philippines. Divided into four terminals, it caters to domestic and international flights from the world's major airlines. Tourists can avail of varied services from help desks, including tourist information, hotel and car rental services, and assistance for the handicapped. There are also banks and duty free shops. Other international airports are: Clark International Airport in Pampanga, Mactan-Cebu International Airport in Cebu and Francisco Bangoy International Airport in Davao.

#### CLIMATE

The best time to visit the country is from November to May, where you will see clear blue skies and enjoy large amounts of sunshine. June to October is usually rainy and the months of July to September are occasionally visited by typhoons. Average temperature is 25°C or 78°F; average humidity is 77%.

#### **LANGUAGES**

Being the 3rd largest English speaking country in the world, tourists enjoy ease of communication throughout the Philippine archipelago. Filipino and English are the country's official languages. The national language, Filipino is the language of communication among ethnic groups, while English.

is the business language and is the medium of instruction in higher education. There are also eight (8) major dialects spoken: Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon or Ilonggo, Bicol, Waray, Pampango and Pangasinense. There are about 76 to 78 major language groups, with more than 500 dialects in the country.

#### **CURRENCY**

The Philippine currency is the Peso (Php). Foreign currencies may be exchanged in hotels and in most large department stores, banks and authorized money changing shops. Major credit cards (i.e. American Express, Visa, Mastercard and Diners) are accepted in major hotels and hospitals as well as other big business establishments. Traveler's Checks (preferably American Express) are accepted at big hotels and large department stores. Personal checks drawn from foreign banks are generally not accepted.

#### **ELECTRICITY**

The common standard is 220 volts, with 110 volts also used in major hotels.

#### **CLOTHING**

Casual light blouses, t-shirts, shorts, jeans or chinos are common wear for both men and women.

#### **COMMUNICATION FACILITIES**

Mobile phone sites can be found all over the county. Prepaid SIM cards and load "mobile connectivity credit" are sold almost anywhere – from convenience stores to malls and sari-sari stores (neighborhood retail outlets).

Internet and email services are widely available, and most hotels and fine restaurants offer free Wi-Fi.

Some Important Telephone Numbers: (24-Hour Hotline)

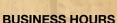
Police & Fire: 757 or 116 (Kindly check for local

Police Hotline)

Emergency No: (02) 501-650 or (02)501-728

Directory Assistance: 114
National Operator: 109
International Operator: 108

Note: It is advisable to always have the telephone number and the address of your hotel, embassy or consulate.



Major shopping malls are open from 10 am to 9 pm 7 days a week, while convenience stores and major branches of drugstore chains are open 24/7. Most businesses are open from 8:00am to 5:00pm on weekdays and 8:00am till noon on Saturdays. Most commercial banks are open from 9:00am till 4:00pm on Mondays through Fridays. When banking, it is advisable to have your passport with you for identification. The post offices are open from 9:00am to 5:00pm on weekdays. Stamps for postcards are available from the Concierge Desk of major hotels. The Philippines uses ZIP codes, so it will be useful to include them when sending local mail (http://zip-codes.philsite.net/).

#### TIME DIFFERENCE

Local time is GMT plus 8 hours





Market Development Group 351 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati Philippines

Trunkline: +63(2)459 5200 Local 504, 525 to 526

Email: webmaster@tourism.gov.ph

#### PHILIPPINE PORTS AUTHORITY

Bonifacio Drive, South Harbor, Port Area, Manila 1018

Philippines

Phone: +63(2) 527 4855 Website: www.ppa.com.ph

#### MAJOR CRUISE PORTS IN THE PHILIPPINES:

MANILA NORTH HARBOR Pier 6, Manila North Harbor, Tondo, Manila Philippines 1012 Phone: (+632) 588-900

Fax: (+632)588-9011

#### CATICLAN JETTY PORT AND PASSENGER

TERMINAL Malay, Aklan

Phone: +63(36) 288 7419 Email: nivenmaquirang@yahoo.com

Website: www.aklan.gov.ph

#### PORT OF CORON

Port Area

Puerto Princesa City

Palawan 5300

Philippines

Phone: 048 434-56-26 Fax: 048-434-56-26

Email:ppa-pla@mozcom.com Website: www.ppa.com.ph

#### SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN AUTHORITY

Main Administration

Bldg. 229, Waterfront Road Subic Bay Freeport Zone 2222

Philippines

Phone: +63(47) 252 4895 Fax: +63(47) 252 3014 Email: investsubic@sbma.com

#### PHILIPPINE SHORE EXCURSION HANDLERS:

SHARP TRAVEL SERVICE PHILIPPINES, INC. Website: www.sharptravelservice.com

BLUE HORIZONS TRAVEL AND TOURS INC. Website: www.bluehorizons.travel

RAJAH TOURS PHILIPPINES, INC. Website: www.rajahtours, com.ph

TRAVELPEOLPLE LTD, INC.
Website: www.travelpeople.com.ph

BARON TRAVEL
Website: www.barontravel.ph

SOUTHWEST TOURS BORACAY, INC. Website: soutwerstoursboracay.com

NEW GOLDMINES TOURS & TRAVEL CORP. Website: builtwelltrd@yahoo.com

#### PHILIPPINE PORT AGENTS:

MAGSAYSAY LINES, INC. Website: www.magsaysay.com.ph

WALLEM PHILIPPINES SHIPPING, INC. Website: www.wallem.com.ph

SORIAMONT STEAMSHIP AGENCIES, INC. Website: www.soriamont.com.ph

SHARP PORT SERVICES, INC. Website: www.cfsharp.com

BENLINE AGENCIES
Email: management@benline.com.ph
Website: www.benline.com.ph

NYK FIL-JAPAN SHIPPING CORP. Website: www.nykline.com

#### PHILIPPINE PRIVATE PORT OPERATORS:

ASIAN TERMINALS, INC.

Website: www.asianterminals.com.ph

MANILA NORTH HARBOUR PORT, INC. Website: www.mnhport.com.ph





## Philippine Ports For Cruising

# **KEY PORTS** MANILA O South Harbor, Manila O Cagban Jetty Port, Boracay Puerto Princesa Port, Palawan Subic Bay Freeport, Zambales OBoracay Palawan Shanghai

#### PROXIMITY TO HOME PORTS

Nautical Miles to the Philippines

Singapore 1305 NM Hongkong 626 NM Shanghai 1091 NM



### Tourism Offices

CHINA – Beijing Office Philippine Tourism Office Embassy of the Philippines Room 18-01 CITIC Building Tower A No. 19 Jiangoumenwai Dajie, Chaoyang District, Beijing 100004 People's Republic of China

(008610) 6512-8809 (008610) 8526-2330 (008610) 8526-2331 nielb@hotmail.com Website: morefunph.cn

CHINA - Shanghai Office

Philippine Consulate General Suite 301, Metrobank Plaza No. 1160 West Yan' An Road corner Panyu Road Shanghai. People's Republic of China (008621) 6281-8580 (008621) 6281-8529 nielh@hotmail.com Website: www.morefunph.cn

HONG KONG & MACAU

Philippine Department of Tourism JJ Explorer Tours Ltd. Head Office: Unit 1303 Technology Plaza No. 651 King's Road, Hong Kong Phone: (852) 2806 3261 / (852) 2911 0119 Mobile: (852) 9499 9829 david@jjxtours.com

Website: www.tourismgov.com.ph INDIA - New Delhi Office Philippine Tourism Marketing Office

c/o Buzz Travel Marketing Pvt. Ltd. 1110, 11th Naurang House, 21, K.G. Marg, New Delhi, 110 001, India +91 11 4166 9575/9477 +91 98 1003 1311 +91 11 4166 9577

E-mail: sanjeet@buzzindia.in INDIA - Mubai Office

Philippine Tourism Marketing Office c/o Buzz Travel Marketing Pvt. Ltd. 504 Marine Chambers 43 New Marine Lines Mumbai -400 020 India Phone: +91 22 2200 0263 Mobile: +91 98 1003 1311 +91 22 2207 0131 sanjeet@buzzindia.in

**INDONESIA** 

Philippine Department of Tourism Pt. Intrareps Jl. Dr. Sahardjo 96 A Jakarta Selatan, 12960, Indonesia Phone: (62 21) 8378 2203 (62 21) 8379 3456 david@intrareps.com

JAPAN - Osaka Office Philippine Department of Tourism

1F Honmachi dotosaka@lake.ocn.ne.jp Bldg., 3-2-5 Honmachi Chou-ku, Osaka Japan, 541-0053 Phone: (816) 6251 2400 (816) 6251 2401 dotosaka@lake.ocn.ne.jp Website: www.premium-philippines.com

JAPAN - Tokyo Office Embassy of the Philippines Philippine Department of Tourism

5-15-5, Roponggi, Minato-ku Tokyo, Japan 106-85-37 (81) (3) 5562 1583 / 5562 1584 (81) (3) 5562 1593 dotjapan@gol.com Website: www.premium-philippines.com

Philippine Department of Tourism Suite 801, Paiknam Building 188-3-1-ga Eujiro, Joong-gu Seoul 100-191, Korea (822) 598 2290 (822) 318 0520 Phone: pdot@7107.or.kr

maricon.ebron@yahoo.com

MALAYSIA

Philippine Department of Tourism 206 Block A, Mentari Business Park, Jalan PJS 8/5. Bandar Sunway. 46150 Petaling Jaya, Selangor Darul Eshan, Malaysia

Phone: (603) 5638 7288 Fax: (603) 5637 0988

**SINGAPORE** 

Philippine Department of Tourism Pacific Leisure Marketing Pte. Ltd. 371 Beach Road #12-06 Key Point Singapore 199597

(65) 6296-1488/6293-8488 (65) 6292-5882 charles@pacleisure.com

TAIWAN

Philippine Department of Tourism 9th Floor, 176 Chang Chun Road Taipei, 104 Taiwan

(886) (2) 2507 6664 / 2507 1936 (886) (2) 2507 9036 / 9038 (886) 988 551 112 Mobile: Email: philtour@ms57.hinet.net

renereyes71@yahoo.com.ph www.itsmorefuninthephilippines.com.tw

THAILAND

446/2 Soi 20 Mituna 11, Pracharat Bamphen Road, Huaykwang 10310 Bangkok Thailand

Phone: (+662) 2277 7778 (+662) 2277 0170 pdtbkk@gmail.com

Website: www.itsmorefuninthephilippines.com

www.philippinetourism.in.th

VIETNAM

Philippine Department of Tourism Golden Jade Trading Service Co. Ltd. 13 D, Phan Chu Trinh St. P-2 Binh Thanh District HCMC Phone: (848) 3551 2202 Fax: (848) 3551 3800 +849 0828 1169

miriam.melgar@prakit.vn Website: www.itsmorefuninthephilippines.vn

FRANCE

Interface Tourism France 16 Rue Ballu 75009

blaise.borezee@interfacetourism.com

GERMANY

Philippine Department of Tourism D-60313, Frankfurt Am Main Frankfurt, Germany
Phone: (49) (69) 208 9304
Fax: (49) (69) 285 127 phildot-fra@t-online.de Website: www.morefunphilippines.de

Interface Tourism Spain S.L. Calle Cardenal Cisneros 51 28001 Email: victor.munoz@interfacetourism.com LINITED KINGDOM

Embassy of the Philippines Philippine Department of Tourism London, SWIY 4HG +44 207 321 0668 Phone: +44 207 925 2920 +44 7478 676305

kat@itsmorefuninthephilippines.co.uk info@itsmorefuninthephilippines.co.uk Website: www.itsmorefuninthephilippines.co.uk

**RUSSIA & the CIS** 

123104 Russia, Moscow, M.
Palashevskiv per., 6, 4th entrance, 2nd floor Phone: +7 495 699 9351 (Moscow Office) +7 914 078 9362 (Vladivostok Office)

Mobile: +7 926 206 8320 Email: vishunkin@accessrussia.ru Website: www.fun-philippines.ru

UAE – Dubai Office 1908-A Business Central Towers Dubai Media City P.O. Box 502657, Dubai United Arab Emirates Phone: + 971 4 375 3295 + 971 4 439 3582

Website: www.itsmorefuninthephilippines.ae

**AUSTRALIA** 

Philippine Department of Tourism Suite 703 Level 7 301 George St., Sydney New South Wales 2000, Australia Phone: (612) 9279 3380 Fax: (612) 9279 3381

info@morefuninthephilippines.com.au

Website: www.tourismphilippines.com.au

NORTH AMERICA CANADA

Connect Worldwide, Canada Connect wondowice, canada 370 king Street West, Suite 452 Toronto, Ontario M5V 1J9, Canada Phone: 00(1) (416) 341 0245 Fax: 00(1) (647) 350 5737 Mobile: 00(1) (416) 317 0838 Mobile: 00(1) 446) 317 0838 charmaine@cwww.travel Website: www.cwww.travel

USA - Los Angeles Office

Philippine Department of Tourism 3660 Wilshire Boulevard, 900 Suite 216 Los Angeles. California 90010, USA Phone: 00(1) (213) 487 4525 Fax: 00(1) (213) 386 4063 Email: pdotla@aol.com

USA - New York Office

Philippine Tourism Center 556 Fifth Avenue, New York New York 10036, USA Phone: 00(1) (212) 575 7915 Fax: 00(1) (212) 302 6759 Email: pdotnewyork@gmail.com

USA - San Francisco Office

Philippine Department of Tourism 447 Sutter Street, 5th Floor, Suite 507 San Francisco, California 94108, USA Phone: 00(1) (415) 956 4060 Fax: 00(1) (415) 956 2093 philtoursf@gmail.com rdpsmolintas@yahoo.com.ph





DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM DOT Bidg., 351 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, 1200 Makati City, PHILIPPINES Phone: (632) 459-5200 to 459-5230 Website: www.tourism.gov.ph