YOUR NEXT TRAVEL DESTINATION!

PHILIPPINES

Enjoy the beautiful beaches, rich cultural and natural heritage, world-renowned natural wonders, and the warmth and hospitality of Filipino people.
Philippine Airlines (PAL) is the Philippines’ flag carrier and only full-service network airline, as well as the first commercial airline in Asia.

PAL’s fleet of Boeing, Airbus, and De Havilland aircraft operate scheduled nonstop flights out of hubs in Manila, Cebu, Clark, and Davao to 33 destinations in the Philippines and 39 destinations in Asia, North America, Australia, and the Middle East.

Known for its hallmark heartwarming and gracious Filipino service, PAL also supports the global economy through air cargo and charter services, while serving the travel needs of overseas Filipinos as well as business people, tourists and families from all over the world.
About the Philippines

The Philippines is located in Southeast Asia and is comprised of more than 7,000 islands. It is home to thousands of tropical white sand beaches, pristine islands, incredible diving spots, colorful festivals, historical landmarks, stunning mountains for hiking, delicious local cuisine, and more.

About Guide to the Philippines

Launched in 2019, Guide to the Philippines (www.guidetothephilippines.ph) is the largest online marketplace for Philippine travel where you can book day tours, packages, airport transfers, car rental, hotels, and flights all on one website. Guide to the Philippines has become one of the top online resources for travel information about the Philippines with its wide collection of travel guides on everything you need to know when planning your vacation.
MUST VISIT SPOTS

**Intramuros**
Intramuros, known as the “Walled City,” is the oldest district of Manila. It was the seat of political power when the Philippines was still under the Spanish rule.

**Rizal Park**
Rizal Park pays homage to national hero Jose Rizal, a doctor and novelist executed at this site on December 30, 1896, on charges of rebellion against the Spanish government.

**National Museum Complex**
Visit the museums and the National Planetarium at the National Museum Complex to learn about the art, culture, and history of the country.

WHERE TO EAT & DRINK

**Enjoy a Food Trip in Binondo**
Binondo is considered the world’s first Chinatown. Feast on authentic Chinese delicacies like dumplings, lumpia, oyster cake, and, kiampong.

**Experience the Nightlife in Poblacion**
Poblacion is a neighborhood that is the cultural and entertainment heart of Makati. After sunset, the streetside restaurants, bars, and clubs in the area come to life and Poblacion transforms into a vibrant night scene.

**Feast on Filipino Food at Guevarra’s by Chef Laudico**
Treat your taste buds with modern and traditional Filipino fare. Bite into the crispy, sinfully tasty bagnet or delve into the glistening goodness of their special Angus roast.
Boracay Island is known as one of the best islands in the world and is one of the top Philippine tourist destinations. It’s popular for its powdery white sand beaches, crystal clear azure waters, and stunning sunset views. You can go swimming, island-hopping, diving, and try fun water activities like parasailing, helmet diving, and more. It’s the perfect destination for families, couples, and beach lovers.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

**Los Indios Bravos**
This gastropub offers classic pub food from all over the world and a wide selection of all-Filipino hand-crafted beers.

**Dos Mestizos**
Serves some of the best Spanish dishes on the island, including paella, callos, and tapas.

**Sunny Side Cafe**
Enjoy contemporary breakfast dishes like Choriburger any time of the day.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**White Beach**
White Beach is lined with resorts, restaurants, and cafés. It’s Boracay’s main tourist attraction, thanks to its powdery white sand and blue waters.

**Puka Beach**
Named after the crushed puka shells that line its shores, Puka Beach has slightly coarse sand but boasts unspoiled beauty.

**Nearby Islands**
You can join an island hopping tour and swim or snorkel in the waters of Crocodile Island, cliff-dive off Magic Island, and take photos on Crystal Cove Island.
Cebu is known for its delicious local cuisine and natural attractions, including islands, beaches, waterfalls, and dive spots. Since it is home to the oldest city in the country, Cebu is also full of historical sites you can visit. The whole province is full of destinations and activities that adventure-seekers, food-lovers, families, and couples are sure to enjoy.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Kawasan Falls**
Kawasan Falls is a three-tiered cascade with turquoise waters. The best way to explore it is through canyoneering, allowing you to swim, climb, and rappel through its levels.

**Bantayan Island**
This small island is home to white sand beaches, sandbars, caves, and even a mangrove forest.

**Magellan’s Cross**
This cross housed in an octagonal pavilion is said to encase the original cross that explorer Ferdinand Magellan planted in Cebu in 1521.

**WHERE TO EAT & DRINK**

**Lantaw Native Floating Restaurant**
This floating restaurant serves tasty local food and offers stunning seaside views. They specialize in seafood fishes like scallops, tuna, and shrimp.

**Circa 1900 Casa Uno**
This fine-dining place serves international cuisine with a local flair. Crowd favorites include the pistachio-encrusted salmon and the truffled squid and prawn risotto.

**Carcar Market**
Carcar arguably offers the best lechon Cebu in the province, and you can try it at affordable prices in the public market.
Bohol is popular for its stunning natural attractions, including islands, beaches, forests, caves, dive spots, tarsiers, and the iconic Chocolate Hills. Here, you can also find Spanish-era churches that are still standing today. Since it is full of diverse attractions and romantic spots, it's perfect for families and couples wanting to try a variety of activities during their vacation.

**TAG**
HOME TO THE ICONIC CHOCOLATE HILLS

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Chocolate Hills**
The Chocolate Hills are unique geological formations of over 1000 cone-shaped hills that turn chocolate brown during the dry season.

**Alona Beach**
Alona Beach is known for its long stretch of white sand and crystal-clear waters, making it the top beach destination on the island.

**Hinagdanan Cave**
Hinagdanan Cave has a clear pool where you can swim while marveling at the stalactites and stalagmites inside.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

**Bohol Bee Farm**
This restaurant serves tasty, wholesome food made from organic ingredients. Must-tries include the pasta dishes and uniquely flavored ice cream.

**Gerarda’s Family**
This homegrown family restaurant serves sumptuous Filipino favorites with a twist. Some of the favorites are the dinakdakan and Bohol specialty nilaw-oy.

**Shaka Bohol**
Shaka Bohol prides itself on delicious meals made entirely out of superfoods. Their healthy menu includes vegan burgers and smoothie bowls.
PALAWAN

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Puerto Princesa Underground River
This underground river is the second-longest in the world, measuring 8.2km. Apart from gorgeous stalactites and stalagmites, the park is home to several species of animals, including bats and swiftlets. It’s also a UNESCO World Heritage Site and is listed in the New 7 Wonders of Nature.

Coron Island-Hopping
You can visit Coron’s most popular attraction, Kayangan Lake, when you go on an island-hopping tour here. Other stops that may be included in the tour are Twin Lagoon, Barracuda Lake, and Malcapuya Island.

El Nido Island-Hopping
El Nido island-hopping tours have varying routes and destinations, but some of the most popular sites are Big Lagoon, Small Lagoon, Seven Commandos Beach, Secret Lagoon, and Shimizu Island.

WHERE TO EAT & DRINK

Trattoria Altrove (El Nido and Coron)
This rustic restaurant is considered the best brick oven pizza place in El Nido and Coron. Aside from freshly baked pizza, they’re also known for whipping up tasty pasta dishes.

Palaweño Brewery (Puerto Princesa)
For a chill drinking session in Puerto Princesa, head to the Palaweño Brewery, which is known for its unique line of craft beers. Their craft beers are made with fresh local ingredients.

Mango Bar & Restaurant (San Vicente)
This local favorite serves tasty and fresh seafood dishes for low to mid-range prices. A must-try is the pit or slipper lobsters.

TRAVEL ACTIVITIES RESORTS
Siargao, a teardrop-shaped island located on the northeastern coast of Mindanao, is known as the country’s surfing capital. Even if you don’t surf, Siargao can also be a good destination for your next island getaway, as it is home to white sand beaches, waterfalls, lagoons, and caves. It is the perfect place for those looking for a tropical vacation.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

**Kermit Siargao Surf Hotel & Restaurant**
This resort restaurant is best known for its freshly made brick-oven pizza and homemade pasta with sauces like carbonara, pomodoro, and puttanesca.

**Lamari Bar & Restaurant**
Located inside Lamari Resort, this restaurant serves local and international fare, including crowd favorites cauliflower pasta, smoothie bowls, and the Angus beef burger.

**Bravo Restaurant**
The in-house diner of Bravo Beach resort is known for its delectable Spanish dishes, including seafood paella, taco poblano, and tapas.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Cloud 9**
Cloud 9 is Siargao’s most popular surfing spot, famous for its big waves that are present year-round. Non-surfers will enjoy the boardwalk, from where you can enjoy and take photos of the ocean views.

**Island-hopping**
A Siargao island-hopping tour usually includes a visit to the serene sandbar that is Naked Island, the idyllic Daku Island, and the peaceful Guyam Island.

**Sugba Lagoon**
This majestic lagoon in the middle of mangrove forests allows you to swim and jump off from a tall wooden diving board.

**Cloud 9**
Non-surfers will enjoy the boardwalk, from where you can enjoy and take photos of the ocean views.

**Sugba Lagoon**
This majestic lagoon in the middle of mangrove forests allows you to swim and jump off from a tall wooden diving board.
DAVAO

A NATURE LOVER’S PARADISE

Blessed with pristine beaches, islands, and waterfalls, Davao has plenty of natural resources. It is also home to Mount Apo, the highest mountain in the Philippines, and the Philippine Eagle Center, a sanctuary for the country’s national bird. Durian, pomelo, rambutan, and other fruits are also abundant here. Nature lovers and adventure seekers will enjoy a trip to the many attractions of Davao.

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Samal Island
The Island Garden City of Samal is known as the largest resort city in the country as it is home to over 30 resorts. Apart from resorts, the island also has stunning beaches and incredible snorkeling and diving sites.

Eden Nature Park
Named after the biblical garden, this park is home to gardens, swimming pools, and lush greenery that provide an escape to the busy city.

Mount Apo
Experienced mountain climbers can climb the summit of the highest mountain in the Philippines. You can also admire it from afar from different parts of Davao, including Davao City.

Crocodile Park
The park is home to both freshwater and saltwater crocodiles bred and born onsite. You can also see birds, monkeys, snakes, and other reptiles here.

Philippine Eagle Center
The center is dedicated to protecting the endangered Philippine Eagle. Visitors can learn more about the majestic bird and conservation efforts of the center.

Malagos Garden Resort
This 12-hectare resort is home to several bird species, a petting zoo, a butterfly sanctuary, an art gallery, and the country’s first chocolate museum.

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

Lachi’s
Lachi’s is a family-run restaurant in Downtown Davao that is famous for delicious desserts and hearty meals. Be sure to try their famous Durian cheesecake and carrot cake!

Roxas Night Market
There is no better place to experience authentic Filipino street food in Davao than here. There are several stalls that serve barbecue, fresh seafood, veggies, meat, and cold drinks.
 Located in the province of Negros Oriental, Dumaguete is a peaceful coastal community that is rich in history. Thanks to its kind-hearted and laid-back locals, it is known as the City of Gentle People. It’s also dubbed as the best place to retire in the Philippines.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Rizal Boulevard**
The boulevard was named after the Philippines’ national hero, Jose Rizal, who was said to frequent it during his stay in Dumaguete. It’s a great spot to stroll around and take in the ocean views.

**Pulangbato Falls**
Pulangbato Falls can be found in the nearby municipality of Valencia. It is named after the rocks around the falls that have turned reddish-orange thanks to the sulfur deposits in the water.

**Apo Island**
Located 30km south of Dumaguete, Apo Island is famous for its marine reserve teeming with fish and coral, making it a popular snorkeling and diving spot.

**Silliman University**
The campus is home to several note-worthy buildings, including Silliman Hall, the oldest standing American structure in the country.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

**Sans Rival Cakes and Pastries**
Your Dumaguete trip will not be complete if you don’t pay a visit to Sans Rival Cakes and Pastries. It’s the place to go for the famous, melt-in-your-mouth, quality silvanas and sans rival that the city is known for.

**Hayahay Treehouse Bar and View Deck**
If you want to dine at a restaurant with a beach view, lively ambiance, and excellent food, go here. Try the Dumaguete Express, a combination of fried pork, coconut strips, and squid in white sauce.

**Gabby’s Bistro**
Gabby’s Bistro is known for its Filipino and American dishes. You can try their tomato soup, (apparently a tasty cure for a hangover), baconsilog, shrimp scampi, and pizza baguette Hawaiian.
LEGAZPI

GATEWAY TO MAYON VOLCANO AND BICOL REGION

LEGAZPI

Mayon Volcano spans different municipalities in Albay, but tourists often visit Legazpi City to see its perfect cone. Legazpi is known as the City of Fun and Adventure thanks to its outdoor activities, including ATV riding. The city is also the gateway to Bicol, so those wanting to explore the region can begin here.

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Cagsawa Ruins
The ruins of the church that was destroyed by the 1814 eruption of Mount Mayon have been preserved by the local government. It’s one of the best places to see Mayon Volcano.

Mayon ATV Tour
Explore the foot of Mount Mayon via an ATV ride. You’ll experience the rugged terrain of Albay as you pass by rivers, creeks, and rice fields.

Daraga Church
This 18th-century Baroque church is made with volcanic stone walls and comes with a gorgeous view of Mount Mayon.

WHERE TO EAT & DRINK

Small Talk Cafe
This café is known for its Bicolano fusion food like Camalig pinangat, Bicol express, and Mayon hot lava.

1st Colonial Grill
1st Colonial Grill’s most popular item on the menu is its famous Sili (chili) Ice Cream. It leaves a spicy sensation on your tongue after a sweet bite and comes in 4 spicy levels.

Socorro’s Lakeside Restaurant and Grill
This restaurant sits along the lakeside of Sumlang Lake and offers a spectacular view of Mayon Volcano. Here you can try authentic Bicolano dishes, including pinangat with pandesal.
**ILOCOS**

**EXPLORE NATURAL WONDERS AND HERITAGE SITES IN NORTH LUZON**

The Ilocos region is home to beautifully preserved colonial buildings, rugged mountainous terrain, cobblestoned streets, idyllic beaches, and scrumptious food. Its many tourist attractions include Vigan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the white sand beaches of Pagudpud. Ilocos is a great destination for those looking to explore natural attractions and historical sites.

### MUST VISIT SPOTS

**Calle Crisologo**
This cobblestoned street in Vigan, Ilocos Sur is lined with centuries-old Spanish-style homes, some of which have been turned into restaurants and souvenir shops.

**Bangui Windmills**
These 26 giant wind turbines facing the West Philippine Sea are located along Bangui Bay in Ilocos Norte. It’s the first wind farm in the country.

**Paoay Church**
This UNESCO World Heritage Site features Baroque architecture and exterior walls made out of large coral stones.

**Sand Dunes**
The Paoay and La Paz Sand Dunes in Ilocos Norte are perfect for thrilling 4x4 rides and sandboarding.

### WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

**Café Leona (Vigan)**
It is named after the Vigan native, poet Leona Florentino. Café Leona offers an eclectic fusion of Ilocano, Filipino, Italian, Chinese, and Japanese dishes.

**Cafe Uno/Uno Grille (Vigan)**
Both located in Grandpa’s Inn, Uno Grille is surrounded by a garden, while Cafe Uno is indoors with cool interiors. Try their take on Ilocano favorites longganisa, bagnet, and dinengdeng.

**La Preciosa (Laoag)**
The restaurant serves large portions of Ilocano specialties such as pinakbet, bagnet, dinardaan, and sarabasab. They also offer scrumptious desserts like tiramisu and opera cake.

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**VIGAN TRAVEL GUIDE**
**LAOAG TRAVEL GUIDE**
**ACTIVITIES**
**ITINERARY**
ILOILO
THE HEART OF THE PHILIPPINES

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Islas de Gigantes
Islas de Gigantes is home to several spectacular beaches and islands, including Cabugao Gamay Island, Bantigue Island, and Antonia Beach.

Garin Farm
The centerpiece of Garin Farm is the Pilgrimage Hill, where visitors can walk past biblical scenarios before reaching a representation of heaven: an all-white area with statues of angels.

Molo Church
This national landmark has exterior walls made of white coral rock and features statues of Greek deities in its plaza.

WHERE TO EAT & DRINK

Netong’s Original La Paz Batchoy
For one of the best La Paz Batchoy in Iloilo, head to Netong’s Original La Paz Batchoy.

Tatoy’s Manokan and Seafood
Known for its sumptuous Ilonggo dishes, Tatoy’s Manokan has become an institution in the province. Crowd favorites include their signature native lechon manok and baked oysters.

Madge Café
This is the best place to enjoy a hot cup of coffee and socialize with the locals. It has been serving coffee since 1951, making it an integral part of Iloilo’s coffee culture.

Because of its location in the center of the archipelago, the province of Iloilo is called the Heart of the Philippines. You’ll see many attractions in the province, including islands, beaches, and historical sites. Its friendly locals make it a great spot for a laid-back trip.
Located in Negros Occidental, Bacolod City is nicknamed the City of Smiles thanks to its friendly locals and its MassKara Festival, an annual celebration featuring colorful masks with smiling faces. The city is also home to heritage and religious sites that allows you to peek into the city's rich history. Also not to be missed are the city's culinary delights. It's the perfect place for travelers who want to immerse themselves in local culture.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

The Ruins
The Ruins is what is left of the mansion of Don Mariano Ledesma Lacson, one of Bacolod's sugar barons. It has beautiful architecture still visible to this day, but it was burned down during World War II.

Negros Museum
This museum provides an immersive experience to tourists. It’s a museum that focuses not on storing artifacts but on telling the interesting story of the Negros region.

San Sebastian Church
The San Sebastian Church has an elegant architecture that harkens back to Spanish times and is considered an important historical marker by the Philippine Historical Committee.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

**Manokan Country**
Manokan Country is home to rows of stalls that serve the best chicken inasal in the city.

**Sharyn’s Cansi House**
Another must-try dish is Kansi or Cansi, a slightly sour soup dish made with lemongrass, jackfruit, and beef shanks. Head to Sharyn’s Cansi House for a taste.

**Merczi**
This bakery and pastry shop is the best place to get pasalubong like napoleones, butterscotch, piaya, and biscocho.
CAGAYAN DE ORO

THE WHITEWATER RAFTING CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES

Cagayan de Oro is a highly urbanized city located in Misamis Oriental, Mindanao. It is home to parks, old-age churches, and restaurants selling delectable local dishes. It’s the perfect destination for those who want to try extreme activities as you can try whitewater rafting, ziplining, and kayaking here.

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Cagayan de Oro River
Whitewater rafting is the most popular activity in the city. You’ll be treated to stunning views while getting splashed on by the water as you make your way down the river.

Seven Seas Waterpark & Resort
The resort is home to the largest waterpark slide in Mindanao and the biggest dual-wave pool in the country.

Camiguin Island (nearby)
A day trip to nearby Camiguin Island will allow you to enjoy white sand beaches, waterfalls, and even volcanoes.

Bukidnon (nearby)
Another nearby destination you can visit is Bukidnon, where you can visit Dahilayan Adventure Park to try the longest dual zipline in Asia.

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

Kagay-Anon Restaurant
Kagay-Anon Restaurant serves its home-cooked food tucked neatly into a bed of banana leaves. Apart from the usual beef and seafood, you’ll find exotic meat on the menu, including crocodile and ostrich.

Restaurant Damaso
Restaurant Damaso offers Asian Fusion cuisine. Its dishes range from a variety of seafood to flavorful meats and veggies. While waiting for your food, you’ll have a great view of paintings from local artists.

The Oak Room
The Oak Room is a speakeasy found at the heart of CDO. It’s the perfect spot to unwind with friends over a few cocktails or a good whiskey. The atmosphere is cozy with warm wood tones and plush leather seats.
Baguio, the summer capital of the Philippines, is a mountain resort city in Northern Luzon. Its high elevation means it’s cooler than most places in the country, with average temperatures ranging from 15 to 23 °C. There are many parks, gardens, museums, and galleries you can visit during your stay here. It is the perfect destination for those looking to escape the heat of the city.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Burnham Park**

Burnham Park is an open green park at the heart of Baguio. You can try boating at the artificial lake, ride a bike, enjoy rollerskating, or just relax in some of its gardens.

**Camp John Hay**

This former American soldier camp is abundant with pine trees and is home to several hotels and restaurants. You can also enjoy ziplining or mini-golf here.

**Mines View Park**

This park sits on a ridge on the northeast side of Baguio and offers an unobstructed view of the Cordillera Mountains and Benguet’s old copper and gold mines.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

**Farmer’s Daughter**

This famous Baguio restaurant put the spotlight on Cordillera cuisine and served delicious local dishes, including pak-pako, pinikpikan, and binalisig cakes.

**Lemon and Olives**

Lemon and Olives is the best place to enjoy Greek food in Baguio. Don’t leave without trying the souvlaki plate and baklava.

**Oh My Gulay**

Oh My Gulay is a vegetarian restaurant that creates healthy meals with the freshest ingredients. Must-tries include the tofu rolls, veggie burgers, and crepes.
Batanes, which is also known as the Home of the Winds thanks to its windy weather, covers only 230 square kilometers of land. Despite this, it attracts many tourists thanks to its unspoiled beauty and peaceful vibe. Some of its top attractions are quaint lighthouses, rolling hills, and picturesque beaches. It’s perfect for those who want to escape the noise and crowds of the city.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Morong Beach**
Morong Beach is popular thanks to the large rock formation called Nakabuang Arch. This natural formation is said to be the most photographed spot in Batanes.

**Mount Iraya**
This active volcano is significant to the Ivatans, who say that whenever someone important in their tribe passes away, a ring of clouds appear above the mountains.

**Basco Lighthouse**
The iconic 66-foot tower Basco Lighthouse offers a 360-degree view of Basco town proper, Basco Port, and the West Philippine Sea.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

- **Cafe du Tukon**
  Fundacion Pacita’s Restaurant is known for its stunning hillside views and farm-to-table cuisine. Must-try dishes include the Chicken Mamtit and the Calamansi Pie.

- **Octagon Bed & Dine**
  In this property in Basco, you can enjoy local dishes like Pork Barbecue, Sinigang na Hipon, and Sisig while enjoying a view of the Basco Lighthouse.

- **Pension Ivatan**
  The restaurant here serves filling meals good for groups, including the Fiesta Boodle, the Seafood Boodle, and the Pension Ivatan Platter, which features several Ivatan dishes.
Located in the Visayas region, Antique is bordered by the Sulu Sea on the west and the central mountains of Panay on the east. The mountain ranges have separated Antique from the other provinces of Panay, resulting in the local's own language, Kinaray-a. It is one of the most underrated destinations in the country, being home to plenty of natural attractions, including white sand beaches, islands, waterfalls, and dive sites.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Kawa Hot Bath**
A unique experience that involves taking a hot bath in a big water-filled cauldron placed over a fire. The most popular Kawa Hot Bath destination in Antique is Tibiao.

**Malumpati Cold Spring**
This eco-resort in Pandan is home to cold springs and a lush forest. Visitors can enjoy swimming and water tubing here. They may also camp using their own tent.

**Malalison Island**
The 55-hectare island in Culasi is known for its beautiful scenery, which includes beaches, hills, an islet, and a stunning sandbar that extends more than 100 meters from the coast.

**WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK**

**Seaview Restaurant**
The in-house restaurant of Phaidon Beach Resort has a stunning beach view and serves a mix of Filipino and international dishes like kilawin, chicken galantina, tacos, and cordon bleu.

**Regina’s Restaurant**
Serving yummy Filipino food since 1990, Regina’s has become in institution in San Jose. Their bestsellers include camaron rebosado, ox tongue, and lumpiang shanghai.

**Mammamia Italian Restaurant**
This restaurant in Tibiao offers Italian dining by the sea. Indulge in delicious pizza and pasta dishes before capping off your meal with crepes for dessert.
LEYTE

THE BIRTHPLACE OF CHRISTIANITY IN ASIA

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Kalanggaman Island
This island off the coast of Palompon is known for its 795-meter sandbar. Its powdery white sand and surrounding turquoise waters make it one of the best in the Philippines.

Cuatro Islas
Cuatro Islas are four islets located off the western coast of Leyte. The islets, called Apid, Digyo, Mahaba, and Himokilan, may be explored via an island-hopping tour.

Limasawa Island
This island is best known as the place where the first Christian mass in Asia was held. Visitors can also see a view of Leyte, Bohol, and Mindanao from the island.

WHERE TO EAT & DRINK

Ocho Seafood and Grill
Located in Tacloban, this restaurant serves scrumptious seafood like scallops and grilled buttered garlic lobster but also offers other fare like beef bulalo and crispy pata.

Q Kitchen
Hotel XYZ’s restaurant serves Filipino, Italian, American, Chinese, Japanese, and Thai dishes. Must-tries include the beef kare-kare, pad thai, and lemon chicken.

Dream Cafe
Dream Cafe serves breakfast all day and a mix of local and Western dishes. You can also enjoy a variety of drinks including coffee, tea, fresh juice, and cocktails.

ACTIVITIES

Leyte is home to Limasawa Island, which is considered to be the birthplace of Christianity in Asia, making it a must-visit for devout Catholics. Apart from its historical and cultural attractions, Leyte is also home to white sand beaches, a gorgeous sandbar, and beautiful islands that outdoor enthusiasts are sure to enjoy.
ZAMBOANGA CITY

ZAM
ASIA'S LATIN CITY

Zamboanga City is often referred to as Asia’s Latin City because of the Spanish influence that can be seen in local buildings and establishments until now. The locals here speak Chavacano, a creole that is mainly Spanish mixed with Tagalog, Hiligaynon, and Portuguese. The city is also surrounded by natural attractions including beautiful islands, picturesque waterfalls, and even pink beaches!

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Fort Pilar
Originally the La Fuerza Real de San Jose garrison, Fort Pilar is now a park hosting a shrine dedicated to Our Lady of Pilar, the patroness of the Archdiocese of Zamboanga.

Once Islas
Located off the coast of Zamboanga del Sur, these 11 pristine islands are perfect for island-hopping. Travelers can lounge on the sandy beaches or enjoy swimming and snorkeling.

Sta Cruz Island Pink Beach and Mangrove Forest
This island is a short boat ride away from Zamboanga City. Its most popular spot is Pink Beach, which has this unique hue thanks to the crushed coral that have mixed with the sand. You can also ride a traditional vinta boat and tour the mangrove forest.

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

Dennis Coffee Garden
Head to Dennis Coffee Garden for your caffeine fix. Apart from great Sulu coffee, you can also try Tausug cuisine and pastries from the Sulu Archipelago here.

Country Chicken
Country Chicken has been serving locals delicious Filipino and Spanish dishes since the 1970s. Don’t leave without tasting their famous seafood paella.

Alavar Seafood Restaurant
While this offers a variety of seafood dishes, its most popular menu item is the curacha, a deep-sea giant crab that’s served with the restaurant’s signature sauce.
Eastern Samar

Located on the eastern coast of Samar Island, Eastern Samar is home to many beaches that are perfect for swimming and skimboarding. It is also known as the birthplace of surfing in the Visayas region. Apart from its natural gems, it is home to several historical spots, including Homonhon Island, the first spot where explorer Ferdinand Magellan landed in the Philippines.

**MUST VISIT SPOTS**

**Homonhon Island**
This 20-kilometer island is known as the spot where Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan first landed in the Philippines. The island also boasts of white sandy beaches and lush forests.

**Calicoan Island**
One of the best surfing destinations in the Philippines. The waves here are best suited for intermediate to advanced surfers, but non-surfers can still enjoy the white sand and pristine waters.

**Canhugas Nature Park**
This nature park is known for its majestic waves smashing against large rock formations. Travelers can climb these rock formations or take a dip in the natural pools near the coast.

**WHERE TO EAT & DRINK**

**Domsowir Hotel and Restaurant**
This no-frills restaurant serves home-cooked style meals perfect for groups. Best-sellers include the Domsowir Style fried chicken, pork sinigang, and lumpiang shanghai.

**Cafe Bon**
Cafe Bon has a couple of branches in Eastern Samar. Cool off with milkshakes or grab a hot cup of tea or coffee and pair it with a panini or a clubhouse sandwich.

**Dirty Grinder Coffee**
Located in Rawis Resort Hotel, this café serves both hot and iced coffee, plus a few non-coffee options like Strawberry Milk and Honey Citron.
CAGAYAN
THE SMILING LAND OF BEAUTY

MUST VISIT SPOTS

Paluoi Island
This National Marine Reserve is a biodiverse paradise serving as the home of several kinds of fish, birds, and corals.

Callao Cave
This series of limestone caves is where the bones of the Callao Man were found. Visitors can explore seven chambers.

St. Peter’s Cathedral
Also known as Tuguegarao Cathedral, this Spanish-era structure boasts picturesque Baroque architecture. It is one of the largest churches in Cagayan Valley.

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

Billy Jack’s Panciteria
Located in Tuguegarao, Billy Jack’s is one of the best places to enjoy *pancit batil patung*, a flavorful noodle dish topped with carabao meat, vegetables, and egg.

Kusina Cagayana
This restaurant serves both local and international cuisine and is known for its affordable lunch buffets, which sometimes include dishes like dinakdakan, dinuguan, and Ybanag halo-halo.

The Lighthouse Cooperative
Drop by their shop to purchase food products you can take home, including carabeef tapa and their famous chicharabao, which comes in several flavors.

Cagayan Province is home to many natural attractions, including stunning islands and caves. The Philippines’ longest river, the Cagayan River, flows through the province. Cagayan is also home to several beautiful Spanish-era churches, including St. Peter’s Cathedral. All of these attractions help the province live up to its nickname, the Smiling Land of Beauty.
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