



ADDMORE SERVICES
Architectural, Engineering, and Construction
Professional and Technical Offshore Outsourcing

INFORMATION PACK

Rev.1, June 2025

PHILIPPINES

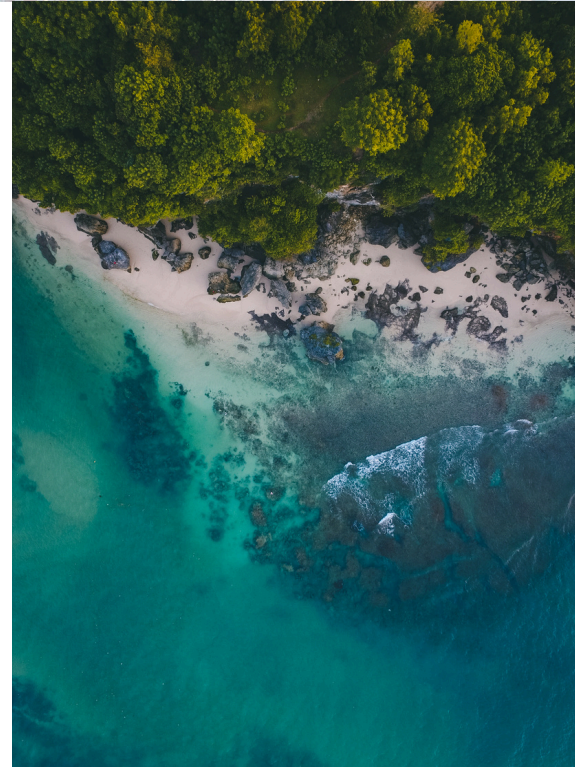
The Republic of the Philippines is a sovereign nation in Southeast Asia, lying on the west side of the Pacific Ocean. The Philippines is the 64th-largest country in the world, an archipelago of 7,641 islands that are categorized broadly under three main geographical divisions: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

AREA	POPULATION	CAPITAL CITY
300,780 sqm	110 MILLION	MANILA

Its neighbors are Taiwan, which lies north across the Luzon Strait; the Celebes Sea separates it from other islands of Indonesia to the south; to the east it is bounded by the Philippine Sea; the island of Borneo lies southwest across the Sulu Sea; and Vietnam, which sits west across the South China Sea.

RELIGION

Approximately 80% of Filipinos is Roman Catholic, making the Philippines the only predominantly Christian country in Asia. There is also a significant number of Protestants, Born-Again Christians, and Muslims.



LANGUAGES

The two official languages are Filipino and English. Filipino, which is based on Tagalog, is the national language. English is widely used and is the medium of instruction in many institutions of learning. The eight major dialects spoken by majority of the Filipinos are Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon or Ilonggo, Bicol, Waray, Pampango, and Pangasinense.

CURRENCY & FOREIGN EXCHANGE

The currency in the Philippines is the Peso (PHP) and the Centavo. 100 centavos = 1 PHP. Coin denominations are: 1, 5, 10, and 25 centavos, ₱1, ₱5, and ₱10. Bill denominations are: 20, 50, 100, 200, 500 and 1,000 pesos.

Foreign currency may be exchanged at the airport, hotels, banks, authorized money changers, and many large department stores. Other than these places mentioned, exchanging money is strongly discouraged. As of February 2024, the conversion of US\$1 is approximately 56.40 pesos.

Almost all major establishments: department stores, retail outlets, restaurants, hotels, and resorts accept major credit cards including Visa, MasterCard, and American Express. Personal checks drawn on foreign banks are generally not accepted.



TRADING HOURS

Private and government offices are open from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM weekdays and 8:00 AM till 12:00 NN on Saturdays for private offices. Most banks are open from 9:00 AM till 3:00 PM Mondays through Fridays, but some banks located inside malls are open daily, with trading hours same as the mall. Automated Teller Machines (ATM) operate 24 hours daily. When banking in the Philippines, it is advisable to have your passport with you for identification.

TIME DIFFERENCE

Local time is GMT+8 hours.



ELECTRICITY

220 volts, AC 60 cycles is the common standard. Two-pin flat blade plugs are used. 110 volts AC may be available in major hotels and in selected areas.



The post offices are open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM weekdays only. Stamps for postcards are usually available from the Concierge desk or souvenir shops at most major hotels.

NOTE: The usual lunch hour is 12:00 NN to 1:00 PM. Most offices are closed, but business establishments remain open.

UNIT OF MEASURE

The Metric System is used in trade & transactions.



COMMUNICATIONS

Telephone service is modern and you can direct dial anywhere in the world. Short-term mobile phone cards (prepaid Sim cards) can be easily purchased. Most hotels offer computers with internet connectivity for free. Internet cafes and free WIFI are gaining popularity in commercial establishments.

HEALTH REGULATIONS

For international travel to the Philippines, all travelers, regardless of vaccination status, are now permitted entry. Registration on the [eTravel platform](#) is mandatory within 72 hours before travel.

However it's crucial to stay updated on any specific airline or transit country requirements. Restrictions may vary but compliance to minimum public health standards must be constant.

Always practice:

- Proper wearing of face mask
- Physical distancing of at least one meter
- Hand hygiene. Wash your hands regularly or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer

All travelers must meet the following requirements: **Passport must be valid for at least six months at the time of arrival.**

For updated Health Protocols visit: [Minimum public health standards | DOH](#)



PASSPORT/VISA

Visitors to the Philippines must hold a valid passport or travel document with a minimum validity of six months beyond the intended visiting period and present a return or outward bound ticket to their country of origin or to a next country of destination.

Do you need a VISA to enter the Philippines?

Starting August 1, 2013, nationals from 151 countries may enter the Philippines without a visa and stay for a maximum of thirty (30) days. Chinese Nationals, including citizens for Hong Kong and Taiwan, will need a special permit.

To see the complete list of 151 countries, visit itsmorefuninthephilippines.com.



WATER

Metropolitan Manila and many key cities and towns have ample supply of clean water, but in most places, tap water is not potable. For drinking purposes, it is strongly recommended that bottled water be used, and is widely available. It is also advisable to ask first, if the water used for ice in restaurants is purified.



SAFETY

Filipinos are known for being hospitable and helpful towards visitors. But as a precaution, visitors must exercise discretion when dealing with strangers. They are strongly advised to stay away from dimly-lit streets, walking alone at night, avoid wearing flashy jewelry, and be mindful of their personal belongings in public places.

NON-SMOKING POLICY

Smoking is absolutely prohibited in enclosed public places. Smoking in bars and diners is allowed only in areas that are designated as smoking places.

CLIMATE AND WHAT TO WEAR

The summer months of March to May are hot, humid, and dry, with temperatures reaching a high of 37°C, while the months of December, January, and February are cool (early morning temperatures in the low 20's). The rainy season is from June to October and the months between July and September are characterized by typhoons.

Mosquito repellent or long-sleeved tops are good to have against bites. Sunscreen and sun-block lotion are good to prevent sun burns.

Light, casual clothes are worn for comfort in tropical weather. Shorts, flip-flops & short-sleeved shirts are the typical outfit for mall or sightseeing outdoors. Jeans/slacks, a shirt, a modest dress, and closed shoes are the typical outfit for watching movies or going to churches or museums: For formal occasions, men are encouraged to wear the Philippine Barong Tagalog. For women, cocktail dresses or long gowns are accepted and are more contemporary.



AIRPORT

The **Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA)** is the airport serving the general area of Manila and its surrounding metropolitan area. It is located about seven kilometers south of the city of Manila, along the border between the cities of Pasay and Parañaque. NAIA is the main international gateway for travelers to the Philippines.

NAIA TERMINAL 1

Terminal 1 currently serves the following carriers: Air China, Air Niugini, Asiana Airlines, Cathay Pacific, China Airlines, China Southern Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Dragon Air, Emirates, Etihad Airways, EVA Air, Gulf Air, Japan Airlines, Jeju Air, Jetstar Airways, Jetstar Asia Airways, KLM, Korean Air, Kuwait Airways, Malaysia Airlines, Qantas, Qatar Airways, Royal Brunei Airlines, Saudia, Singapore Airlines, Thai Airways International, Tiger Air, and United Airlines.

Terminal 1 has consistently received very poor ratings due to limited and outdated facilities, poor passenger comfort, and crowding, but it will soon undergo a major make-over and will be rehabilitated as an “Airport City”.



NAIA TERMINAL 2

Terminal 2 currently serves Philippine Airlines and Philippine Airlines' subsidiary PAL Express flights (to Bacolod, General Santos, Iloilo, Laoag, and Tagbilaran) exclusively. The North Wing handles the international flights while the South Wing handles the domestic flights.

NAIA TERMINAL 3

Terminal 3 currently serves All Nippon Airways, Cebu Pacific, PAL Express (except the aforementioned in Terminal 1), Tiger Air Philippines (international flights), Zest Airways (flights to Quanzhou and Seoul).

NAIA TERMINAL 4

Terminal 4 currently serves Fil-Asian Airways, SkyJet, Sky Pasada, Tiger Air Philippines (domestic flights), Zest Airways (domestic flights and flights to Kota Kinabalu, Kuala Lumpur and Shanghai).

AIRPORT TAXI

Yellow airport taxis bring passengers from the airport to most destinations within the city. Fares are around PHP300 - PHP450 depending on the destination. When leaving the airport, this is the only type of taxi available at the

Special coupon taxis are special taxis with fixed rates according to the destination. Coupon taxis serve various hotels in Metro Manila and most points within the city.



A **regular white city taxi** from the airport costs between 180-250 PHP to most destinations within the city, depending on the distance. It is possible to get a white city taxi at the departure area when leaving the airport, but airport security have orders to prevent white city taxis from picking up passengers at the departure area, hence, you may do this at your own risk.

Air-conditioned taxis are also typically found outside of shopping malls, restaurants, and hotels. The flag-down fee is forty (PHP40) pesos. Every 300 meters of path or every minute standing or stuck in traffic costs Php4.00

RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEMS

There are two different rapid transit systems in Metro Manila: the Manila Light Rail Transit System, or the LRT, and the Manila Metro Rail Transit System, or the MRT. Both systems operate from 5:30am to 9:30pm.

The LRT system has two lines, the Yellow Line that runs along the length of Taft Avenue and Rizal Avenue, and the Purple Line that runs along Ramon Magsaysay Blvd from Santa Cruz, through Quezon City. Fare on the LRT ranges from 13 to 28 pesos, depending on destination.

The MRT system has a single line, the MRT-3 or the Blue Line, located along Epifanio de los Santos Avenue (EDSA). Fare on the MRT ranges from 13 to 28 pesos depending on destination.



BUS

Air-conditioned and non-air conditioned (“regular”) buses ply all major routes in the metropolitan area. Majority of them do not have specific loading and unloading areas, except in EDSA. A passenger may just call the attention of the driver or bus conductor if he/she wishes to alight at a particular spot. For the air-conditioned bus the standard fare is 13 pesos for the first 3 kilometers, and 2.20 peso for every kilometer thereafter.



JEEPNEY

The jeepney has become the symbol of Philippine culture due to its unique and colorful design. It is the cheapest and most popular mode of land transportation. They do not have specific unloading stations. One can just make a hand signal along the jeepney’s route to stop and ride it, or call out to the driver to alight it. The standard fare is 10 pesos for the first 4 kilometers and PHP1.00 for every km thereafter.



TRICYCLE AND PEDICAB

The tricycle (or “trike”) is a motorcycle with an attached passenger sidecar that can sit from 2 to 4 persons. The pedicab is a bicycle, also with an attached passenger sidecar. These modes of transport take you to your destination for a fare of at least 20 pesos per person.



ACCOMMODATION

Here are the recommended accommodations close to the ADDMORE team.

DUSIT THANI

Ayala Center, 1223 Makati City Metro
Manila, Philippines

Tel No.: +63 2 7238 2222

Email: dtmn@dusit.com



THE PENINSULA MANILA

The Peninsula Manila, Corner Of Ayala
and Makati Avenue

1226 Makati City Metro Manila,
Philippines

Tel No: +63 2 8887 2888

Email: PMN@Peninsula.com

Website: www.peninsula.com



NEW WORLD MAKATI HOTEL

Esperanza St. Corner Makati Avenue,
Ayala Center,

Makati City 1228, Philippines

Ten No: +63 2 8811 6888

Website:

www.manila.newworldhotels.com

FAIRMONT MAKATI

1 Raffles Drive, Makati Avenue, Makati City
1224, Philippines

Contact No's: +632 7795 1888

Toll Free Reservations: +800 0441 1414

Email: makati@fairmont.com

Website: www.fairmont.com



SHOPPING

Manila and the metropolitan area is a shopper's haven. Many big malls are located in Manila and Makati. Malls open at 10:00am and close at 8:00pm daily. Varied products ranging from clothes, footwear, electronic gadgets, equipment, cosmetics, Philippine products and souvenir items are available. The malls have theatres and restaurants too. The shopping malls that are near the conference venue are Harrison Plaza, Robinson's Ermita, and SM Manila. The other nearby malls are the Mall of Asia in Pasay, and in Makati, Glorietta, Greenbelt, SM Makati, Landmark, and Power Plant Rockwell.



There are also flea markets in Baclaran and Divisoria where prices are reasonably low and still be able to haggle. Visitors who wish to shop in these flea markets are strongly advised to go with company familiar with the area, and be very careful of pickpockets.



Duty-Free Philippines near NAIA is the country's largest duty-free outlet. "Bring Your Own Shopping Bag" is strongly encouraged, to minimize the use of plastic (non-environment friendly) bags.



SIGHTSEEING

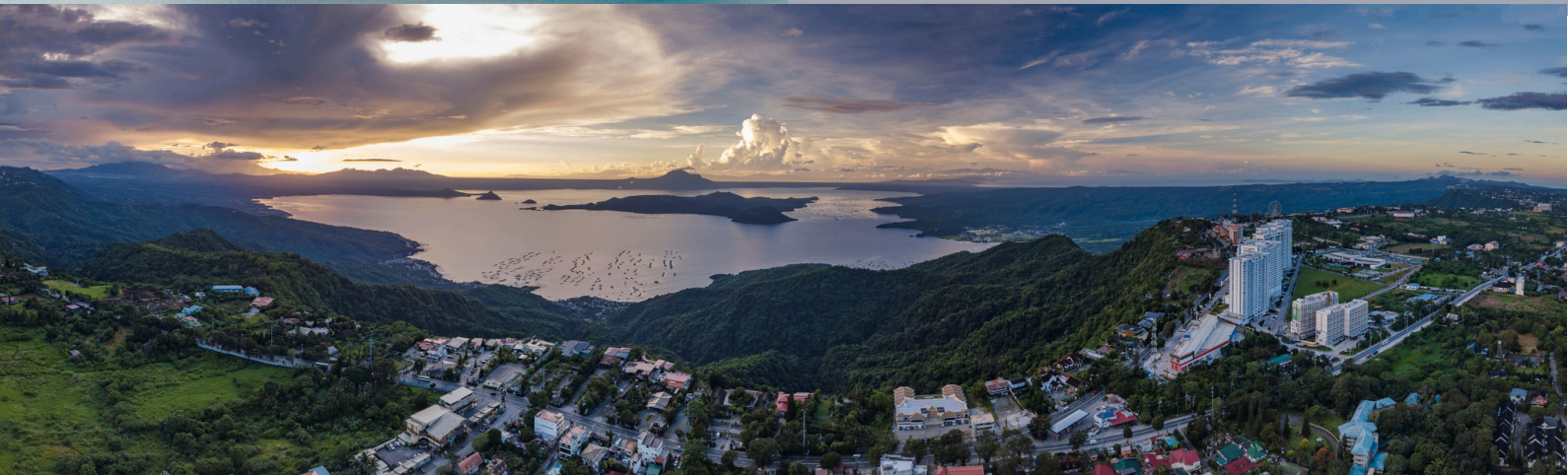
MANILA OLD AND NEW: SIGHTSEEING TOUR INCLUDING INTRAMUROS AND FORT SANTIAGO

Discover the top sights of Manila on a 4-hour sightseeing tour by coach with an expert guide. Take in the City of Makati and Old Manila, including landmarks such as Nielson Tower, American Cemetery and Memorial, and the old walled city of Intramuros. Walk through Intramuros to see UNESCO World Heritage sites including San Agustin Church and Fort Santiago, and learn about the nation's history and heroes like Dr. Jose Rizal. You'll gain insight into the Philippines' history, the Spanish colonial era, and vibrant modern-day Manila. Tour Package Fee 3,400 per head.



TAGAYTAY DAY TOUR

Tagaytay is a popular tourist destination, about 50 km south of Manila. It has a number of natural, historical, cultural and man-made attractions. The town of Tagaytay gives a spectacular view of the Taal Volcano and lake, and there are various activities available for visitors. With its cool climate and clean air, Tagaytay City is a place for leisure activities such as horseback riding and sailing, and there are breath-taking views.





CORREGIDOR DAY TOUR

Corregidor Island is one of the important historic and tourist sites in the country as it played an important role during the invasion and liberation of the Philippines from Japanese forces during World War II. Guests will need to check in at the terminal at 0700. Boarding the ferry bound for Corregidor Island is at 0730. During the tour, an optional Light and Sound show at Malinta Tunnel is offered as well as other activities like Rocket Zipline, Hike, Kayak and ATV. Buffet lunch is served at Corregidor Inn.



VILLA ESCUDERO DAY TOUR

Villa Escudero is located in Tiaong, Quezon which is a pleasant 2-hour drive from Manila, through scenic countryside. Visitors will have a glimpse of historic colonial plantation and rural life of the 1800's. The day tour includes taking a guided tour of the AERA Memorial Museum, then enjoying a leisurely carabao-drawn cart ride accompanied by musicians and singers serenading them with Filipino folk songs on the way to the resort proper. Visitors can take their lunch at the Labasin Waterfalls restaurant, a unique feature of Villa Escudero. Fee is 1250 pesos per adult, Monday to Thursday, and 1400 pesos on weekends (excluding the round-trip transfer from Manila)





BORACAY, Philippines is one of the world's top tourist destinations. Every year, thousands of local tourists and foreigners go to Boracay to enjoy the stretch of beaches covered with white sands and coral reefs.

Boracay is 345 kilometers away from the south of Manila. It is an island located in the province of Aklan that is 7 kilometers long and 1 kilometer wide.

Apart from its white sand beaches, Boracay is also famous for being one of the world's top destinations for relaxation. It is also emerging among the top destinations for tranquility and nightlife.

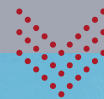
In 2012, Boracay was awarded as the best island in the world from the international travel magazine.

Three communities make up Boracay: Yapak, Balabag and Manoc-manoc. Both Yapak and Manoc-manoc are characterized by hills that are elevated up to a hundred meters above sea level. What link these three communities are tropical jungles that boast the most colorful greens.

PALAWAN ISLAND has been rated by National Geographic Traveler magazine as the best Southeast Asia region in 2007, and the 13th best island in the world! Is the most bio diverse island in the Philippines. Palawan is an archipelago with 1,780 islands on the western part.

Due to amazing landscapes and high biodiversity, Palawan island is known as "The Last Ecological Frontier of the Philippines". The northern part is characterized by incredible clear waters, white beaches, and many species of flora and fauna. Here at the north, there are most visited places like El Nido and Taytay, characterized by limestone cliffs and underwater with many species of tropical fish and coral, also are present five species of endangered sea turtles. Jungle has about 100 different species of birds!

So...this is a real amazing tropical destination to relax and enjoy yourself!!! If you like tropical islands maybe you also could like one of the most beautiful islands in Cambodia, visit Koh Rong Island, still undeveloped, a good place for snorkeling, scuba diving, or trekking into the jungle!



FILIPINO CUISINE

Philippine cuisine is mostly influenced by the food preparations and cooking of the Spanish, Chinese, American, and other Asian countries. The following dishes are the most popular in the Philippines:

ADOBO - chicken and/or pork in garlic, vinegar, oil, black pepper, and soy sauce, either braised or cooked until dry.

KARE-KARE – variety meats (oxtail and tripe) and vegetables (eggplant, string beans, banana heart, radish) cooked in peanut sauce and annatto water, served with shrimp paste called bagoong.



And the most popular desserts are:

HALO-HALO - a dessert made with shaved ice, evaporated milk, and sugar with additional ingredients like ice cream, mashed purple yam, caramel custard, plantain bananas, jackfruit, red beans, tapioca and pinipig

BIBINGKA - a hot rice cake optionally topped with a pat of butter, slices of white cheese, salted duck eggs, and grated coconut

BUKO PANDAN – a cold dessert consisting of sweetened grated strips of coconut with gelatin, milk, and the juice or extract from pandan leaves.



LECHON – whole roasted pig

LUMPIA – spring rolls that may be fresh or fried. May be a mixture of vegetables and meat, or 100% vegetarian

SINIGANG – meat or seafood cooked in sour broth(usually tamarind or guava or miso)

DINUGUAN – meat spicy stew cooked in pig's blood. Best served with a local rice cake called puto



BASIC FILIPINO WORDS AND PHRASES

PHILIPPINE EMERGENCY NUMBERS

ENGLISH	FILIPINO
GOOD MORNING	MAGANDANG UMAGA
GOOD AFTERNOON	MAGANDANG HAPON
GOOD EVENING	MAGANDANG GABI
THANK YOU VERY MUCH	MARAMING SALAMAT
GOODBYE	PAALAM
TAKE CARE	INGAT
YES, NO	OO, HINDI
MAY I ASK A QUESTION?	PWEDE PO BA MAGTANONG?
HOW ARE YOU?	KAMUSTA KA?
HOW MUCH IS THIS?	MAGKANO PO ITO?
HOW DO I GET TO (LOCATION)?	PAANO PUMUNTA SA (LOCATION)?

EMERGENCY NUMBERS	
NATIONAL EMERGENCY HOTLINE	GOVERNMENT HOTLINE
911	8888
NLEX	SLEX
(02) 3-500	(02) 824-2282
SKYWAY	CAVITEX
(02) 824-2282	(02) 825-4004
SCTEX	STAR TOLLWAY
0920-9672839	(043) 756-7870
NAIA	COAST GUARD
0917-8396242	(02) 527-8481

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PHILIPPINES

1. **It's More Fun in the Philippines** <https://itsmorefuninthephilippines.co.uk/manila/>
2. **Eco Friendly Fun in the Philippines**
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/partner-content-sustaining-happiness-eco-friendly-fun-in-the-philippines>
3. **Know Before You Go** <https://www.nationalgeographic.com/travel/article/partner-content-know-before-you-go-the-philippines>

