

PHILLIPINES – MANILA & ENVIRONS
6 Nights / 7 Days

Highlights:

- **Manila** – Amazing show, City tour – Fort Santiago, The American Cemetery & Memorial, The Rizal Park, the Cultural Center, Filipino crafts, Makati, Tagaytay Taal trekking tour, Pagsanjan Falls tour.

Day 01 Arrive Manila

Arrive at Manila International Airport. Our local representative will be waiting at the airport to welcome you and transfer you to the hotel. Manila is the capital city and located on the shores of Manila Bay and is known as “Pearl of the Orient”. It is home to many scientific and educational institutions, as well as numerous sport facilities. Manila is a major political, commercial, cosmopolitan, cultural, educational, religious, and transportation center of the Philippines. Manila has been a popular tourist attraction which attracts over 1 million tourists annually. Rest of the day at leisure to relax or explore on your own. At the centre of modern Manila is Makati, the commercial centre for the country. Here, in almost orderly surroundings, you can shop, eat and drink to your heart's content. The city has many restaurants and an exciting nightlife. Evening you will be picked up for an “Amazing Show” called “Amazing Fame” – Philippines premier theatre show. Later after the show transfer back to the hotel. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 02 Manila – City tour

After breakfast, proceed for a half day city tour of Manila. Visit Fort Santiago, built in 1663 inside the older Walled City of Intramuros and was once used as a prison. The fort grounds now serve as a popular park. Then visit the The Manila American Cemetery & Memorial with its 17,100 marble head stones of known and unknown soldiers and memorial for 36,279 missing gallant American and Filipino soldiers who died during WWII from different campaigns. The Rizal Park – an oasis of relaxation and fun. The park has gardens, plazas, a grand stadium, an observatory, an open air concert hall, light and sound theatre, restaurants, food kiosks etc. Then visit the reclaimed area of the Cultural Center Complex. It is the premier establishment for galleries, the Theatre, Local Artists and Filipino Culture. Inside the Cultural Center of the Philippines are four theatres, galleries, an art and culture library specific to the Philippines and a museum. Then continue to the Central Business District of Makati. A visit to a curio of Filipino crafts is a must for a change in your shopping environment before driving back to your hotel. Evening is free for relaxing at the hotel or shopping. Manila has some of the best bargain shopping at the markets or the malls. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 03 Manila - Tagaytay Taal trekking tour

After breakfast in the Hotel, you will be picked up at the Hotel for Tagaytay Taal Trekking Tour- Tagaytay, at 2,250 ft. above sea level, Tagaytay Ridge offers a magnificent view of the smallest and lowest volcano in the world, Taal Volcano, resting in the middle of the serene Taal Lake. A deceptive tranquility; notable are the eruptions in 1716 and 1754 where ashes spewed by the volcano darkened the skies combined with rains and thunders, massive earthquakes, and gigantic waves driving the residents around the lake to the inner towns for refuge. The 1911 eruption claimed 1,300 lives and 300 more in 1965 burying 6 barrios. Transfer back to the hotel after the trek. Overnight at the hotel.

Day 04 Manila – Villa Escudero

After breakfast, check-out, and you will be transferred to Villa Escudero. Two and a half hours South of Manila the quaint & Historic Villa Escudero, amidst coconut palms, reminiscent of an old plantation life.

Highlight of the tour is a family museum of archeological artifacts and private collections of antique relics from Pre-History, Spanish time and World War 2. Local folks will serenade you on board water buffalo-drawn carts that transport you going to a man-made waterfalls that provides hydroelectric power to the plantation before. Lunch is served below the man-made falls on tables set over a flowing stream. Experience the allure of the country life. This place is a self contained working coconut plantation. The place has a worldwide reputation as a showcase for the Philippines' rich cultural heritage, offering a beguiling glimpse of its history, cuisine, dress, customs and natural beauty. After lunch, enjoy the Philippine Experience Show and watch the country's cultural legacy come beautifully to life. Paddle a native bamboo raft on the still waters of the lake, explore the grounds, watch for many of the 95 recorded resident bird species, take a dip at the pool or tour the rural village in a colorful jeepney and observe how coconut is harvested. At Villa Escudero, there are so many ways to spend your day. Overnight at the resort.

Day 05 Manila – Villa Escudero

After breakfast, you will be picked up from the resort for Pagsanjan Falls Tour- Pagsanjan Falls. A three hour drive to the countryside south of Manila to the old town of Pagsanjan. A riverside resort provides a “banea” (dugout canoe for the trip to the falls. Be prepared to get wet, water runs deep and strong in the Pagsanjan River, benevolent at times but not manageable during stormy weather when rain prods white-water mass racing downstream. At the falls, you may opt to ride a bamboo raft that will take you underneath the waterfalls to experience the thunderous cascade of water. The return trip is another beguiling and thrilling experience you “shoot the rapids” going downstream. Observe your boatmen as they skillfully maneuver the boat between rocks and boulders until you reach the calm waters of the river. Lunch follows at a riverside lodge. Evening back to the resort. Overnight at the resort.

Day 06 Manila – Villa Escudero

After breakfast day at leisure to enjoy the various facilities at the resort. Overnight at the resort.

Day 07 Depart Manila

After breakfast check out and transfer back to Manila and proceed to Manila airport for your departure flight.