

PHILIPPINES ISLAND EXPLORER



DAYS



From endless white beaches to majestic emerald cliffs, the Philippines boasts stunning natural beauty to entice sun seekers, adventure junkies and culture lovers alike! To show off the best of this island nation we've created the Philippines Island Explorer, a 13 day adventure that will see you snorkelling pristine waters, hanging out with locals, exploring untouched islands on a multi-day boat expedition, and much more! Oh, and did we mention that you'll be doing all this with an awesome group leader, plus an instant crew of new mates? The trip of a lifetime just got even better...

MANILA -> EL NIDO

Transport: Planes, Ferries,

Tricycles & Minibuses

Meals: 12B, 6L, 2D

Group Size: 4 - 22 **Age Range:** 18 - 39

HIGHLIGHTS

- Get up close and personal with Kawasan Falls whilst canyoneering
- Immerse yourself in an underwater wonderland at Moalboal's famous Sardine Run
- Discover untouched islands and towering emerald cliffs on a 3 day boat expedition between Coron and El Nido
- Check out the best spots of El Nido on a Jeepney Tour



INCLUSIONS

- ✓ Airport Pickup To Our Accom 24/7
- √ 12 Nights Accommodation
- ✓ All Transport & 2 Internal Flights
- ✓ 20 Meals
- ✓ Awesome Group Leader
- ✓ Waterfalls
- √ Beach Sunsets
- ✓ Sardine Run
- √ Kawasan Falls Canyoneering
- √ Simala Shrine
- ✓ Hot Springs
- ✓ Coron Viewpoint
- ✓ 3 Day Boat Expedition
- √ Snorkelling
- ✓ Deserted Paradise Islands
- ✓ Cultural Activities
- √ Jeepney Tour of El Nido
- √ Nacpan Beach
- √ Help with Onward Travel

NOT INCLUDED:

International flights, travel insurance, visas & some meals







ITINERARY & IMPORTANT INFO

DAY 1 - ARRIVE IN MANILA

• MANILA Kamusta and welcome to Manila! On arrival in the bustling capital, we'll meet you at the airport to take you to the hotel. You'll have plenty of time to recover from the flight before meeting up with your new travel crew!

DAY 2 - TRAVEL TO MOALBOAL

• MOALBOAL Today we travel to Cebu via a short flight and ferry. We'll then get to drive up the coast, stopping at one of Cebu's most impressive waterfalls and getting those classic Philippines Insta snaps!

DAY 3 - KAWASAN FALLS

 MOALBOAL Today you're in for a treat - an adrenaline-pumping canyoneering experience at Kawasan Waterfalls! This activity will have the brave of us not just looking, but LEAPING into the unbelievably blue pools of the falls below.

DAY 4 - SARDINE RUN

• MOALBOAL This morning we'll venture out to witness Moalboal's famous Sardine Run, a natural phenomenon worthy of a David Attenborough documentary. You'll get the chance to snorkel amongst millions of sardines in crystal waters, truly an experience like no other. We'll also keep our fingers crossed for sea turtles! The afternoon is yours to explore more of Moalboal, or simply relax by the beach or pool.

DAY 5 - VISIT SIMALA CHURCH & TRAVEL TO CORON

• CORON On the way to our second flight of the trip from Cebu City we'll stop at Simala Church to gain insight into the Spanish colonisation of the Philippines. After our flight to Busuanga Island, we'll check in to our accom.

DAY 6 - SNORKELLING

• CORON It's time to whip out the snorkel goggles and underwater camera as we go snorkelling in the Sulu Sea. Visiting some of Coron's most iconic snorkel spots, we'll be sure to spot some beautiful creatures! Tonight we get ready to experience the vibrant nightlife in Coron.

DAY 7 - CORON & HOT SPRINGS

• CORON After a chilled morning, you'll lace up your sneakers as we venture on a short hike up Mount Tapyas to be rewarded with incredible views of the bay. We'll then head to Maquinit Hot Springs for sunset as we soak in the naturally warm saltwater pools.

DAY 8 - BOAT EXPEDITION

Today we set off on an unforgettable 3-day expedition from Coron to El Nido. This trip will take us far from the usual tourist hotspots, sailing away on a traditional Banca boat to discover deserted islands, leave footprints on soft white beaches, snorkel turquoise waters, interact with local tribes and stargaze on the beach. This trip will wake up your inner adventurer - with only a mattress, mosquito net and bucket shower our traditional Filipino huts and facilities are simple - but given the lack of crowds, abundant fresh food and postcard shots everywhere you turn, the trade-off is worth it!

DAY 9 - BOAT EXPEDITION

Continuing our sail to El Nido we'll swing by more uninhabited beaches and swim amongst fish in some of the world's clearest waters. Without Wi-Fi we are completely off-the-grid, able to fully immerse ourselves in the otherworldly beauty of our surroundings and focus on our routine - swim, snorkel, sunbathe, repeat! Tonight we stay in a traditional beach camp to fall asleep to the sound of the ocean

DAY 10 - EL NIDO

• EL NIDO Our boat expedition comes to an end today when we arrive in El Nido on the island of Palawan, our final destination in this stunning country. After a few jam-packed days of sailing and swimming, today we'll have plenty of free time to chill out on the beach, sip cold drinks, work on our tans and explore El Nido. Tonight we'll get to experience El Nido's nightlife!

DAY 11 - CANOPY WALK & MASSAGES

• EL NIDO This morning head off to see the town from above on a canopy walk through the jungle. We'll then treat ourselves with an included Filipino massage, the ultimate way to ease our muscles after so much adventure Tonight you'll choose how you want to spend your evening, the options are endless!

DAY 12 - JEEPNEY TOUR OF EL NIDO & NACPAN BEACH

• EL NIDO Our last day of exploring will see us jump in a Jeepney for a tour of El Nido! We'll visit a local organic farm and enjoy lunch on the beach with a traditional Filipino dance performed by the local community. We'll then head to Nacpan beach, one of the most picturesque spots on Palawan, as well as checking out a few local hideouts to get a taste of Filipino island life. Tonight we'll have our final dinner and drinks together.

DAY 13 - DEPART EL NIDO OR EXTEND YOUR STAY

• EL NIDO Time to bid farewell as our 13 day adventure comes to an end. You can either check out and make your way back home, stay on longer in El Nido or continue your travels in the Philippines. If you need any assistance planning onward travel, we're more than happy to help!

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

It's best to arrive on the actual start date, as that's when most people get in. While there are no activities on the first day, the group usually meets up for dinner around 7pm. If you do arrive early, we'll still pick you up from the airport if you're staying at our accommodation. You can book and pay for extra nights accommodation in the Manage My Booking area.

It's also recommended to have onward travel booked out of the Philippines before travelling there, as you may get asked for proof of this before boarding your flight to the Philippines.

AFTER YOUR TRIP

Philippines Island Explorer 13 day finishes in El Nido, Palawan. You can choose to stay on longer in El Nido or continue your travels around the Philippines. If you need to get back to Manila or are flying to any of the other islands, the closest airport is El Nido (ENI), which is about a 30-minute drive away but has limited flight options which can be quite expensive. A cheaper option with more regular flights is Puerto Princesa airport (PPS), which takes approx. 5 hours by minibus from El Nido and costs approx. £10/\$20 AUD. If you have a flight from Manila on Day 13, you will need to take into consideration the costs and times of getting there from El Nido or Puerto Princesa airport.

When booking your flights to the Philippines we recommend comparing your flight cost options versus the options to return to Manila and decide what's best for your circumstances

Your group leader can help with any other onward travel options within the Philippines.

VISAS

Most nationalities including the UK, Europe, Australia, NZ, Canada, USA, Scandinavia and most South American countries will generally receive a 30-day visa exemption on arrival for free. Brazilian passport holders can receive a 59-day visa exemption on arrival for free. We recommend checking visa requirements before you travel.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance for the Philippines is compulsory to join the trip. Your group leader will ask to see proof of your cover before your trip begins. You can organise a quote and policy for yourself here.

ACCOM GUIDE

MANILA - LUB D HOTEL

1 NIGHT

Funky hotel in the heart of Manila.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con, Laundry & Restaurant

MOALBOAL - PESCADORES SEAVIEW SUITES

3 NIGHTS

A beach front resort in a perfect location.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con, Laundry & Beach Front Pool

CORON - VIENNA HOTEL

3 NIGHTS

A modern hotel in a central location.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con, Laundry & Pool

BOAT EXPEDITION - TRADITIONAL HUTS

2 NIGHTS

Basic and traditional Filipino huts on a remote hidden island.

Twin Huts

Shared Bathrooms

A unique experience sleeping under the stars!

EL NIDO - SOUTH ANCHORAGE INN

3 NIGHTS

Comfortable and close to the beach.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con, Laundry & Restaurant

IMPORTANT NOTE



The accommodation featured in this document is our usual properties. At certain locations we use alternative accommodation (of equal standard) when needed.





SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL









SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES



CULTURAL EXCHANGE & EDUCATION



ANIMAL WELFARE

Making a positive difference to the amazing destinations we travel is at the core of what we do, and we are proud to say that every INTRO tour is 100% carbon neutral.

Small Change is our socially conscious initiative aimed at travelling responsibly and changing the world for the better!

Find out more.





DO MANY PEOPLE TRAVEL ALONE?

Yes. Lots of people on our trips are travelling solo. But by doing our trip you'll instantly be part of a group, so it's a great way to meet others and make friends! Most of our accommodation is twin or triple share, so we will put you in a room with someone of the same gender.



CAN I CHAT TO MY GROUP BEFORE I LEAVE?

You can start chatting to people in your group and other travellers before you leave. Just go to our Facebook page, click on 'Groups' and choose Philippines.



CAN I CHANGE MY START DATE?

Enjoy ultimate peace of mind and flexibility with INTRO. Should your travel plans change or be disrupted you can change your start date or tour for free up to 30 days before your start date.

Or simply transfer your booking to 100% travel credit that will never expire and can be used against any tour with us at any time in the future.



WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO VISIT THE PHILIPPINES?

The great thing about the Philippines is it's usually quite hot and dry whilst we are operating, so it's great to go at any time from late September to early June. Please keep in mind that we don't operate our tours during the main wet season (July, August, early September).



HOW WILL I ACCESS MY MONEY WHILE I'M AWAY?

We recommend getting a travel currency card through <u>Wise</u>. You can use the Wise card almost everywhere and withdraw cash and use it with Google or Apple Pay. If you transfer your money into the local currency, you can avoid paying foreign exchange fees when you use the card. There are ATM's available throughout the Philippines so it's easy to get access to cash.



IS THERE WI-FI THROUGHOUT THE

Some accommodations we stay at have free Wi-Fi available. The Philippines network quality is often lower than you're used to but you can generally connect and do basic stuff.



TERMS & CONDITIONS

For the full set of terms & conditions for our tours including your responsibilities as a traveller with us, please see the Terms & Conditions section of our website.

That's about it for now!

Once you've booked you'll get access to Manage My Booking and the INTRO Travel App, which will give you all the information you'll need on the Philippines and Philippines Island Explorer, so you can just relax and enjoy the experience.

Of course if you have any more questions just contact us. We're happy to help!