

An Invitation to
Join a Pilgrimage

to

BOHOL & CEBU with CORON



8 Days

Date: January 17-24, 2024

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Pilgrimage Chaplains

ITINERARY:

17JAN (Wed). MANILA – BOHOL.

Fly to **Tagbilaran** in the morning. On arrival, meet your local guide for a full day tour. First stop is the **Baclayon Church**, the oldest Catholic stone church in the country built by the Jesuits in 1595. Though ruined by the earthquake in October 2013, the coral stone church has not lost its charm and continues to attract tourists while being funded for restoration by the government. On to visit the **Santa Monica Church**, commonly known as the **Alburquerque Church**. It is notably one of the few intact churches after the earthquake in the tourist trail of Bohol. *Mass to be arrange for the group.* Next is a visit to the **Virgin of Guadalupe Extremadura** (Birhen sa Guadalupe) located in **Loboc**. Throughout the history of this venerated image, several miracles were also reported through her intercession for centuries and it continues up to this day. It was through these miracles that she captured the hearts of the Boholano faithful devotees.

Take a relaxing cruise on Bohol's **Loboc River**. Enjoy the scenery while having a buffet lunch with a live performance onboard. Rejoin your coach and drive through the **Bilar Man-made Forest**. Stop at the **Bilar Church**, known also as St. Isidor the Farmer Church, built in 1831 and is one of the many old churches in Bohol. Leave for Batuan to visit the **Batuan Church** (St. James the Great Parish), built in the 1960s and famous for the strong Moorish influence it emanates. Highlight of the afternoon is a visit to the famous **Chocolate Hills**, declared the Philippines' 3rd National Geological Monument and is dubbed as an Eighth Wonder of the World. Head for Corella town to visit the **Philippine Tarsier Sanctuary** where you can find the smallest primates that are mostly found in Southeast Asia — tarsiers. Transfer to your hotel in **Panglao** for check in followed by dinner. (L,D)

18JAN (Thu). BOHOL,

Breakfast at your hotel. Meet your local guide for a morning tour of Bohol's churches. Drive north to the town of **Loon** to visit **Our Lady of Light Church** (Birhen sa Kasilak), commonly called Loon Church or Nuestra Señora de la Luz Parish Church. The parish was established by the Jesuits in 1753 and the original stone church was built from 1855 to 1864. It was declared as a National Historical Landmark by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines and a National Cultural Treasure by the National Museum of the Philippines.

Head back to **Tagbilaran** to visit the **Tagbilaran Cathedral**, officially named St. Joseph the Worker Cathedral, a grand cathedral located near the Bohol Capitol and Plaza Rizal; and the seat of the Diocese of Tagbilaran. Inside, the walls of the cathedral are adorned with wooden and historic images. Drive to the historical site of Bohol, the **Monument of the blood compact**, where Datu Sikatuna and Don Miguel Lopez de Legazpi had a blood compact. Leave for **Davis** to visit **Our Lady of the Assumption Church**. This basilica-style church in Davis is built in a mixture of styles, influenced by both Byzantine and Romanesque architecture. The church was named a **National Historical Landmark by the National Historical Commission**. The church has a watch and a bell tower made of corals. Depart for lunch at the **Bohol Bee**

Farm. After, return to your hotel. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to enjoy the hotel's facilities and the beach. Dinner at your hotel. (B,L,D)

19JAN (Fri). BOHOL – CEBU.

Check out of your hotel and transfer to the **Tagbilaran Port** for your ferry ride to **Cebu**. On arrival Cebu, meet your local guide and proceed to a restaurant for breakfast followed by a full day tour of Cebu's religious and historical shrines. Visit the **Shrine of the Our Lady of the Rule** in Mactan Island, an important symbol of the Catholic faith in the Lapu-Lapu region. The name is believed to have originated from St. Augustine, who dedicated to her the rules he created for the members of his order to follow. Stop at the **Cebu Plaza Independencia** - one of the most significant sites in the history of Cebu. It is a symbol of Independence and freedom from all the conquerors that tried to take over the island of Cebu. Its century old trees are witnesses to what the plaza/park had been through during the colonial days. Nearby is the **Fort San Pedro**, said to be the oldest and the smallest fort in the Philippines, covering an area of 2,025 square meters. Photostop at the **Magellan's Cross**, planted in April 14, 1521 by Ferdinand Magellan. Next, visit the **Basilica Minore of the Santo Niño**, built by Miguel Lopez de Legazpi in 1565, now housing the statuette of Santo Niño. Proceed for lunch at a local restaurant.

Continue your pilgrimage to the **Chapel of St Pedro Calungsod** donated by the Sy family to the Archdiocese of Cebu and the first structure in the SM Seaside Complex. See the **Heritage of Cebu Monument**, a representation and illustration of sculptures depicting significant and symbolic events in the history of Cebu back from the time of Rajah Humabon to the recent beatification of the Cebuano martyr, Pedro Calungsod. End the day with a visit to the **Chapel of the Holy Relics** located in Tabor Hill where over 600 relics are on display including a splinter from the True Cross where Jesus was nailed, a part of the veil worked by the Blessed Virgin Mary and bone fragments of Saints among others. Check in at your hotel for accommodation followed by a welcome dinner. (B,L,D)

20JAN (Sat). CEBU.

This morning, meet your local guide for a full day visit to the religious shrines of **Southern Cebu**. Stop in the town of **Naga** to visit the **San Francisco de Assisi Church**, established in 1578, it is the first church in the region built by the Franciscan Friars. The church is made of limestone and coral by Fr. Simon Aguirre in 1839, patterned after the designs done by Bishop Santos Gomez Maraon. Continue your pilgrimage to **Carcar**. Visit the **Archbishop Teofilo Camomot Shrine**, maintained by the nuns of the Daughters of St. Teresa whose convent stands inside the compound. This information is necessary to support the impending plea of the religious community for the beatification of the late monsignor. Leave for **St. Catherine of Alexandria Church**, reconstructed on top of the hill for security purposes as it was destroyed by the Muslim raiders in 1622.

After lunch, depart for **Sibonga** town. Visit the **Nuestra Senyora Del Pilar Church**, restored and consecrated in

1907 and has always been astonishing for its pre-war ceiling frescoes. Highlight of the day is a visit to the **SIMALA SHRINE** or known as the Monastery of the Holy Eucharist, a castle-like church built in 1998 by the Marian Monks from Pampanga, after the occurrence of several miraculous events. The site hosts the image of the Our Lady of Lindogon which is believed to be miraculous by devotees of the Virgin Mary after it is attributed to the healing of those who were afflicted with dengue in the area in 1998 after it reportedly shed tears. Return to Cebu city in time for dinner. **(B,L,D)**

21JAN (Sun). CEBU.

This morning, enjoy a leisurely breakfast. Spend the day in the city proper to join the Sinulog festivities. **NOTE:** Venue to be advised. **(B)**

22JAN (Mon). CEBU – BUSUANGA - CORON.

Breakfast and check out. Transfer to Cebu Airport for your flight to **Busuanga**. On arrival, transfer to **Coron** for lunch in a local restaurant. Then, continue with your half day tour of Coron town. Trek to **Mt. Tapyas' view deck** for a bird's eye view of the town and the bay. Then, leave for **Maquinit Hot spring**, one of the only few saltwater hot springs in the world. Here, mangrove trees surround the area, as if guardians of the stunning beach. There are two available pools of warm saltwater at the site. The flooring and walls of the pool are covered in pebbles. The pool temperature plays between 37° to 40° Celsius. While it certainly takes time to adjust the body to the temperature, remember that it gets more soothing and more therapeutic later on. Just don't stay in the water too long. Return to Coron and see **its public market, the town plaza, Lualhati Park, St. Augustine Church, and the Harbour Center**. Transfer to your hotel for dinner and accommodation. **(B,L,D)**

23JAN (Tue). CORON.

Breakfast at the hotel. Meet your guide at the hotel and venture on a full-day tour to **Coron Island** on a motorized bangka boat. Visit **Kayangan Lake**, the clearest lake in the Philippines, and **Barracuda Lake**, known for its thermocline and unique underwater rock formations. Then sail to **Twin Lagoons**, a vast expanse of turquoise water surrounded by towering limestone cliffs. Explore the **Twin Peaks Reef** and **Balinsasayaw Coral Garden** snorkeling sites, blessed with an abundance of marine life and colorful corals. Experience the natural beauty of **CYC Beach** and **Beach 91** before returning to Coron town. Transfer back to your hotel. **(B,L,D)**

24JAN (Wed). CORON – MANILA.

Breakfast at the hotel. Free time until you are transferred to the airport for your flight back to **Manila**. **(B)**

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- ➔ Roundtrip economy airfare Manila/Tagbilaran x Cebu/ Coron/Manila with 10kgs luggage allowance
- ➔ One-way ferry ticket Tagbilaran-Cebu
- ➔ Roundtrip airport transfers (Airport/Hotel/Airport)
- ➔ First class hotel accommodation on twin-sharing basis
- ➔ Meals and guided tours as specified in the itinerary including entrance fees
- ➔ Transportation by private air conditioned bus/vans all throughout the tour
- ➔ Daily private Masses
- ➔ Services of a local Tour Guide all throughout the tour
- ➔ Services of a Pilgrimage Chaplain and Tour Leader all throughout the trip
- ➔ Travel Insurance
- ➔ Tips to Guides, Coach driver, waiters, and porters

TOUR COST PER PERSON:

Based on Twin Sharing:

Based on min. 40 passengers	US\$ 1,950.00
Based on min. 30 passengers	US\$ 2,035.00

Additional for Single Room	US\$ 700.00
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NOTE: For passengers coming from the U.S. and will need an airfare ticket U.S./Manila/U.S., you may call John Ronald, Mobile # +1.773.6917694.

PAYMENT TERMS:

- 1) US\$ 500.00 deposit is required upon reservations together with a recent passport-size photo, the Pilgrim's Booking Form, copy of passport, and Travel Insurance Form.
- 2) Full payment in U.S. dollars is required on or 60 days before departure date.
- 3) **MODE OF PAYMENT:**
Deposits and full payment may be remitted either via Credit Card using PayMaya link or via bank transfer to:
Account Name: **THE PILGRIMS' CENTER - EXECUTIVE RESOURCES, INC.**
Bank: **BANCO DE ORO (BDO)**
Address: **Roxas Blvd. - Coast Residences Branch
Lot 3 & 4, Block 5, Coast Residences
Roxas Blvd. corner Dapitan St., Brgy. 7
Pasay City, Manila, Philippines**
Savings Account No.: **10 447-116-4484**
Swift Code: **BBNORPHMM**

NOTE: For bank transfer, please arrange with your bank to transfer in full and email to us a copy of the bank transmittal for verification with our bank.

CONDITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

PRICES DOES NOT INCLUDE: Airport terminal fee, hospitalization and other medical expenses not covered by the travel insurance, tours and transportation during free periods, portage of extra pieces of luggage in excess of the maximum allocation (10 kgs.), drinks and beverages taken during meals, items of personal nature such as laundry, telephone, fax, room service, tips for drivers, guides, tour escorts, and other expenses not mentioned in the itinerary terms and conditions.

THE PILGRIMS' CENTER has arranged for the various tour services to be performed under the responsibility of various contractors. Executive Resources, Inc., its employees or its subagent's therefore only acts as agents for the contractors providing the various services described in the tour and accept no responsibility or liability in connection with losses or accidental expenses due to delays of schedule, overbooking, defaults or "force majeure". All tours and arrangements are subject to the general conditions specified by each contractor. Tour itineraries and prices are subject to change without prior notice. When making a tour booking, the passenger acknowledges and accepts the foregoing conditions.

*****SCHEDULE AND RATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE!*****

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