



Manila

Photo: Jon Bilous/shutterstock



Mara Rivera/unsplash



LoloStock/shutterstock



Jon Bilous/shutterstock

Manila, the capital of the Philippines, is one of Asia's best-kept secrets. As the capital of the only predominantly Catholic country in the Orient, it presents a unique blend that feels slightly out of place, yet vibrantly infused with Latin American and Caribbean influences. Music and dancing are ubiquitous, and the city's warmth and enthusiasm can easily rival that of Bangkok. Manila's rich history, shaped by centuries under Spanish religious influence and decades of American consumerism, has led to the saying that the city spent "400 years in a convent and 50 in Hollywood".

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Corregidor is a small rocky island located about 48 kilometres west of Manila...



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Pamper yourself with a spa treatment at this beautiful spa. It offers a tranquil...



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For a breath-taking view, head over to this beautiful volcano. The volcano is...

Top 5



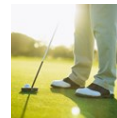
Roxas Boulevard

The 10 km long Roxas Boulevard is a popular waterfront promenade on Manila Bay...



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This Spanish fortress, with cannons trained on the sea to deter pirates and...



Club Intramuros Golf Course

Club Intramuros Golf Course is an amazing, but somewhat short, 18-hole course...



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Located along the famous Roxas Boulevard, this oasis of green features the 1...



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The sixth cathedral on the Intramuros site since 1571, was completed in the 1950s...

THE CITY



Jon Bilous/shutterstock

Metro Manila is an urban sprawl that has swallowed up 11 cities and five towns in the past two centuries. It's a place of opposites: old and new wealth and poverty, grandiosity and decay. Smog, traffic jams and a general air of decay make a less than favourable first impression, but just beneath the surface lies a fascinating and pulsating place to enjoy. The Filipinos call it 'The City of Our Affections' where the people's love affairs with fashion, music, entertainment and sheer fun are on bright and beautiful display.

By day, the original, medieval walled city of Intramuros delights with its history and elegant Latin architecture. By night — and it can be a very long night — the bright lights of Ermita and Makati beckon with jazz pubs, clubs, karaoke lounges, 24-hour diners and trendy bars. The Filipino people's zest for life, natural friendliness and ease with the English language make them the perfect hosts, always ready to invite you to their daily party. This is a fun city where your shoulders loosen in relaxation and only the muscles you use to smile are seriously stressed.

DO & SEE



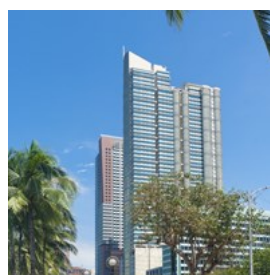
Tappasan Phurisamrit/shutterstock

Manila's colourful history has created an interesting range of attractions to keep the energetic sightseer busy for several days. There are plenty of historical sites to admire and museums where you can learn more about the city and its culture.

Take a stroll along Roxas Boulevard and witness the famous Manila sunset after exploring the UNESCO World Heritage-listed San Agustin Church and one of the oldest churches in Manila — the Manila Cathedral. And don't forget the stunning nature the city has on offer like the beautiful Taal Volcano with a breathtaking view, or take a guided tour to the small rocky island of Corregidor.

For sure, there are plenty to explore including shiny gems in a city with a bustling, sprawling and unique atmosphere. The cosmopolitan city of Manila is Asia's best-kept secret and it is just waiting to be explored.

Roxas Boulevard



The 10 km long Roxas Boulevard is a popular waterfront promenade on Manila Bay and famous for its beautiful sunsets and its well-lined stretch

of coconut trees. The area is not only a good place to take walk, but also where to find restaurants, parks, and government buildings including a huge shopping mall.

Photo: hans engbers/Shutterstock.com

Address: Roxas Boulevard, Manila

More Info: Be aware, traffic can be heavy in peak times.

Fort Santiago



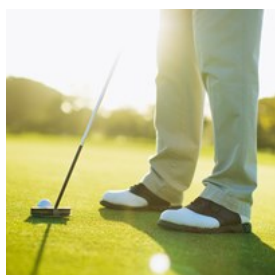
This Spanish fortress, with cannons trained on the sea to deter pirates and invaders, is more than striking medieval architecture. It is also the "Shrine of Freedom," to Filipinos tortured and killed here during the Spanish and Japanese eras. It is now a park with a resident theatre company for traditional and modern plays.

Photo: Jon Bilous/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gen Luna Street, Manila

Phone: +63 2 527 1572

Club Intramuros Golf Course



Club Intramuros Golf Course is an amazing, but somewhat short, 18-hole course in the heart of the city and surrounding Fort Santiago. You can

completed the course in less than two hours.

Enjoy a good game while admiring the excellent scenery and if the hunger kicks in, there is a restaurant in the area.

Photo: Nicolesa/Shutterstock.com

Address: Bonifacio Drive, Intramuros, Manila

Phone: +63 2 527 6613

Internet:

www.golfingphilippines.com/GOLFclubintramuros.shtml

Email: cigcreervations@yahoo.com

Rizal Park



Located along the famous Roxas Boulevard, this oasis of green features the 19th-century national hero, Jose Rizal. Rizal Park is a great place to relax and here you will find beautiful gardens, historical markers, an open-air concert hall, playgrounds and restaurants.

Photo: aldarinho/Shutterstock.com

Address: Roxas Blvd Ermita, Barangay 666 Zone 72, Manila, 1000 Metro Manila, Philippines

Manila Cathedral



The sixth cathedral on Intramuros site since 1571, was completed in the 1950s. Outstanding sculpture and artwork from Europe and Asia including coloured windows. It is a beautiful church and one of the oldest in Manila and it truly has a peaceful atmosphere.

Photo: saiko3p/Shutterstock.com

Address: Santo Tomas, Intramuros, Manila, 1002 Metro Manila, Philippines

Phone: +63 2 527 3093

Internet: www.manilacathedral.ph

Email: mlacathedral@yahoo.com

San Agustin Church



San Agustin Church, originally known as

"inglesia de San Pablo" is a Roman Catholic

Church. Check out the large collection of historic

artefacts presented here and don't forget this is a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Photo: Jomar Aplao/Shutterstock.com

Address: General Luna Street, Manila, Philippines

Phone: +63 2 527 2746

The Manila Hotel



One of Asia's greatest hotels and a Philippine landmark built in 1909. The Manila Hotel is a five star hotel that has played a pivotal role in the

nation's history, and was US General MacArthur's headquarters in World War II. The hotel is located along the Manila Bay.

Photo: Jomar Aplao/shutterstock

Address: 1 Rizal Park, Ermita, Manila

Phone: +63 2 8527 0011

Internet: www.manila-hotel.com.ph

National Museum of Fine Arts



Explore the cultural and historical treasures of the Filipino people from the 17th century onwards at this museum. With its vast collection of

paintings and Filipino artefacts, you can easily spend hours delving into the country's rich culture and history. Be sure not to miss 'The Story of the Filipino People' film and the Spoliarium by Juan Luna, the largest painting in the Philippines, measuring 4.22 metres by 7.675 metres.

Photo: Juan Carlos Bayocot/unsplash

Address: Pambansang Museo ng Sining, Padre Burgos Avenue, Ermita, Manila

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 9am-6pm, Mon closed

Phone: +63 2 8527 1215

Internet: www.nationalmuseum.gov.ph/our-museums/national

-museum-of-fine-arts

Email: inquiry@nationalmuseum.gov.ph

Corregidor Island



Corregidor is a small rocky island located about 48 kilometres west of Manila. Because of its strategic position, the island historically

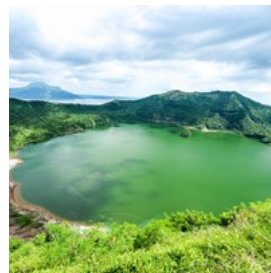
defended the entrance to Manila. Today, it serves as a memorial to those who fought against the Japanese invasion during World War II.

Photo: Precy Salazar/unsplash

Address: Corregidor Island, Manila

Internet: corregidorisland.com.ph

Taal Volcano



For a breath-taking view, head over to this beautiful volcano. The volcano is located about 70 kilometers south of Manila on the "volcano

island" and surrounded by a lake called Taal Lake, or Lake Taal. Called as the smallest active volcano, but in fact, this is one of the largest volcanoes in the world. This is a very popular tourist attraction and for sure deserves a visit.

Photo: Sthaporn Kamlanghan/Shutterstock.com

Address: Tagaytay, Manila

Internet: www.taalvolcano.org

Email: laketaal@filipinotravel.com.ph

Bahay Tsinoy



Bahay Tsinoy, or 'Chinese-Filipino House', showcases a comprehensive collection of pictures and artefacts that illustrate the history

and cultural heritage of the Chinese community in the Philippines. This museum offers visitors a deeper understanding of the Filipino-Chinese community, tracing its evolution from the first migrants, through the colonial period, up to the present day.

Photo: Tang Yan Song/shutterstock
Address: Kaisa Angelo King Heritage Center, 32 Anda Street, Intramuros, Manila
Opening hours: Tue-Sun 10am-5pm, Mon closed
Phone: +63 2 8527 6083
Internet: www.instagram.com/bahaytsinoy
Email: info@bahaytsinoy.org

Manila Ocean Park



Manila Ocean Park is the ultimate destination for anyone seeking a marine life adventure, whether you're visiting alone, with a partner, in a group, or with family. You can explore the penguin park, admire over 5,000 marine creatures, or get up close to sharks from the safety of a metal cage. Don't miss the mesmerizing jellyfish exhibit, and consider exploring the underwater world in a glass-bottom boat. This popular tourist attraction is conveniently located right in the city centre, making it easily accessible.

Photo: Richard Vance Cabusao/unsplash
Address: Quirino Grandstand, 666 Behind, Ermita, Manila
Phone: +63 2 567 7777
Internet: manilaoceanpark.com
Email: inquiry@manilaoceanpark.com

City Tour With A Segway



Take a fun and an exciting tour around the city on the electric chariot (Chinese copy of a segway). The tour starts with an introduction on how to ride the chariot. This is a great way to explore Manila and to learn about its history.

Photo: Labrador Photo Video/Shutterstock.com
Address: 1232 United Nations Ave. Manila
Phone: +632 523 1856
Internet: www.segway.com.ph
Email: segwayphil@gmail.com

Manila Luxury Spa



Pamper yourself with a spa treatment at this beautiful spa. It offers a tranquil retreat where you can relax and escape from the daily stress. This modern spa provides treatments such as sea salt body scrub, warm stone massage, golden caviar facial and much more.

Photo: Pressmaster/shutterstock
Address: The Peninsula Manila, corner of Ayala & Makati Avenue, Makati, Metro Manila
Opening hours: Daily 7am-10pm
Phone: +63 2 8887 2888
Internet: manila.peninsula.com/en/spa-wellness/luxury-spa
Email: spapmn@peninsula.com

DINING



jejim/shutterstock

While Philippine cuisine may not be universally acclaimed as among Asia's best, Filipinos have a deep love for food, particularly enjoying a leisurely long lunch traditionally eaten with their hands from a banana leaf. Manila stands out as one of the most affordable cities for enjoying a diverse array of international cuisines — including Thai, Chinese, Japanese, French, and Italian — each meeting global standards. Coupled with excellent service and beautiful dining settings, Manila offers a delightful experience for those looking to wine and dine.

Via Mare



Via Mare has great views and even better fresh seafood, including an oyster bar. This is a must for oyster lovers! There are 13 locations across

the city, the first outlet opened in 1982. Over the years, Via Mare has become one of Manila's most celebrated seafood restaurants.

Photo: Natthawon Chaosakun/shutterstock
Address: 2nd Floor, The Landmark, Makati Avenue, Ayala Center, Makati, Metro Manila
Opening hours: Mon-Thu 10am-9pm, Fri-Sun 10am-9:30pm
Phone: +63 2 8817 9720
Internet: viamare.com.ph/locations
Email: info@viamare.com.ph

Sala



Enjoy sumptuous modern Italian / European cuisine and excellent wine list at Sala. This intimate restaurant with a modern and sophisticated

ambiance serves some of the finest European food dishes in the city and the essence lies on the quality and freshness of every ingredients.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com
Address: 6752 Ayala Avenue, Manila
Phone: +632 750 1555 / +632 893 0242
Internet: www.salarestaurant.com
Email: info@salarestaurant.com

Casa Armas Tapas Bar y Restaurante



If you're in the mood for Spanish cuisine in Manila, book your reservation online to explore a fascinating array of Spain's regional

dishes. The menu offers a diverse selection, including their signature dish — Paella Valenciana.

Photo: bernatets photo/shutterstock
Address: 573 Julio Nakpil, Malate, Manila, Metro Manila
Opening hours: Daily 4pm-10pm
Phone: +63 2 8536 1839

Trellis



Trellis offers the best service when it comes to authentic Filipino cuisine for affordable prices. Food that is prepared according to family

recipes that have been passed down through several generations. With its high popularity among locals, Trellis provides local signature

cuisines, like 'sisig' and 'burong hipon' for you to enjoy in a joyful and casual environment.

Photo: ARTRAN/shutterstock

Address: Corner Matalino Street & Kalayaan Avenue,
Diliman, Quezon City, Metro Manila
Phone: +63 2 924 1057
Internet: www.instagram.com/trellis1980

Harbor View Restaurant

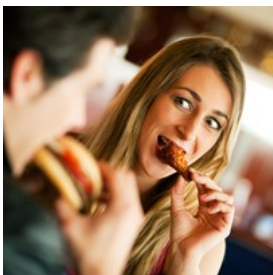


This restaurant has been in the business for more than 18 years and due to its location on Manila Bay, it offers an amazing harbour view. The menu has a very wide variety of Filipino favourites. House specialties are seafood cooked in chili and deep fried shrimps.

Photo: fotorich01/Shutterstock.com

Address: South Drive, Ermita, Manila
Phone: +63 2 710 0060

G Point Smörgåsbord & Bar



At this restaurant, you can enjoy a large 'all you can eat' buffet (called smörgåsbord in Swedish) with various Swedish, European and Filipino food. You should come here with an empty stomach and be ready to dig into the yummy food. Also serving pizza, steaks and vegetarian food.

Photo: Kzenon/Shutterstock.com

Address: 510 Padre Faura Street, Ermita, Manila
Phone: +63 2 302 2174
Internet: www.instagram.com/gpoint_ph
Email: view@gpoint.manila

Cabel Filipino Heritage Cuisine



At this hidden gem, you can eat Filipino and Spanish cuisine in a sophisticated yet casual ambience. Cabel is a stylish restaurant and best described as 'classic-meets-contemporary'. On the menu, you will find fish, pasta and meat dishes.

Photo: Kzenon/shutterstock

Address: 1153 JP Laurel, corner of Aguado St San Miguel,
Manila
Opening hours: Daily 8am-8pm
Phone: +63 2 8550 1781
Internet: www.instagram.com/bycabel.ph
Email: Bycabel.ph@gmail.com

Banana Leaf



Banana Leaf is a multi-awarded international restaurant chain serving delights of modern Malaysian, Singaporean, Thai, Indian, Vietnamese, and Indonesian cuisine. At this restaurant, they present the food on a banana leaf, hence its name. The highly skilled master chefs ensure that every dish is made with perfection and high quality.

Photo: Shebeko/Shutterstock.com

Address: Greenbelt 3, corner Paseo de Roxas & Legaspi
Street, Ayala Center, Makati, Metro Manila
Opening hours: Daily 10:30am-9pm
Phone: +63 2 729 3333

Nobu Manila



Nobu is a well-known restaurant chain with location across the world and one is at the Nobu Hotel Manila. From the menu, you can pick

innovative Japanese cuisine cooked to perfection by the expert chefs. It attracts a hip crowd and celebrities. Signature dishes includes black cod miso and lobster with wasabi pepper sauce as well as sushi.

Photo: Mateusz Gzik/Shutterstock.com

Address: City of Dreams Manila — Luxury Resort & Casino, Level 1, Nobu North Tower, Aseana Avenue, Parañaque, Metro Manila

Phone: +632 691 2882

Internet: www.noburestaurants.com/manila

Email: manila@noburestaurants.com

The Aristocrat



Another chain of restaurants, Aristocrat is famous for its chicken barbecue with Java rice among other Filipino comfort food like

kare-kare (Filipino stew) and crispy pata (crispy deep-fried pork leg). This Filipino-owned family corporation has a reputation as “The Philippines’ Most Popular Restaurant” and has become a landmark that inspired the development of the restaurant industry within the country.

Photo: KucherAV/Shutterstock.com

Address: 423 San Andres Street, Malate, Manila

Phone: +63 2 524 7671

Internet: aristocratph.com

Email: aristocratmarketing@gmail.com

Bistro Remedios



Experience great country cooking in a chic bistro setting at Bistro Remedios. It is the best dining experience foreign guests should try if they

are looking for local home cooking. The restaurant also has a trio who serenades clients with Tagalog and regional songs. For those who prefer private dining, Bistro Remedios has function rooms that can accommodate 12 to 50 persons. Bistro Remedios is located at the Remedios Circle in Malate, Manila.

Photo: Wasant/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1911 Adriatico Street, Manila

Phone: +63 2 523 9153

Internet: www.instagram.com/BistroRemedios

CAFES



Rawpixel dot com/shutterstock

Manila's coffee culture is flourishing, with countless local cafes and major international chains to choose from. The city's baristas are passionate about their craft, ensuring that whether you prefer your coffee hot or iced, strong or mild, black or flavoured, you'll find the perfect brew to satisfy your taste. And when you're in the mood for something sweet, Manila's cafes offer an enticing selection of desserts and pastries to complement your coffee or tea.

Hizon's Cakes & Pastries



This place is a Filipino classic, and it will provide you with all the little pastries and sweets your heart may desire. Here, you can have breakfast, lunch, dinner or just a cup of coffee, all served by the friendly staff. Try out the Ensaymadas, a sweet and tasty bread that is just to die for!

Photo: richardernestyap/shutterstock

Address: 1197 Jorge Bocobo, corner Arquiza Street, Ermita, Manila

Opening hours: Daily 8:30am-5pm

Phone: +63 916 507 6723

Internet: www.instagram.com/hizons_cakes_and_pastries

Cupcakes By Sonja



This is the perfect spot for anyone with a sweet tooth or in search of a light dessert. Enjoy lovely cupcakes at a great price, including must-try flavours like delicious red velvet and chocolate.

Photo: Oleg Kashaev/shutterstock

Address: 1st Level, Serendra Piazza, 11th Avenue, Taguig, Metro Manila

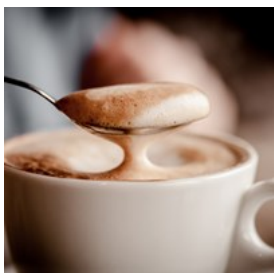
Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +63 2 8856 0308

Internet: cupcakesbysonjaonline.com

Email: cakeshop@cupcakesbysonja.com

Mary Grace



With numerous branches across Manila, Mary Grace is another coffee shop with a successful story. A place where family and friends gather over hearty meals or just relax with a cup of

coffee, or Mary Grace Hot chocolate (with Belgian chocolate) paired with their signature Ensaymada and Cheese Rolls.

Photo: Alexandra Lande/shutterstock

Address: Robinsons Place Manila, Midtown Wing, Level 2, Padre Faura Street, Ermita, Manila

Opening hours: Daily 10am-9pm

Phone: +63 2 3466 2812

Internet: www.marygracecafe.com

Email: marketing@marygracecafe.com

Pancake House



Pancake House has been around since the 1970s, and they currently have many stores across the country and even overseas. And as the name reveals, they specialise in pancakes, often paired with deep-fried chicken. From the complete menu, pick your favourites in the morning, noon, and evening to satisfy your sweet tooth.

Photo: Ari N/shutterstock

Address: CCP Complex, Malate, Manila

Internet: www.pancakehouse.com.ph

Email: feedback@pancakehouse.com.ph

The Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf



One of the largest privately-owned, family-run coffee and tea companies in the world, The Coffee Bean truly knows the model for a successful coffee house. This American coffee chain has seven locations in Manila and one is on Adriatico Street — a favourite hang out for coffee lovers.

Photo: Bplanet/shutterstock

Address: Robinsons Place Manila, Pedro Gil Street, Ermita,

Manila

Opening hours: Daily 10am-10pm

Phone: +63 2 8567 2004

Internet: www.coffeebean.com.ph

Email: wecare@coffeebean.com.ph

J. CO Donuts & Coffee



If doughnuts are your thing, then for sure you should pay a visit to J. CO Donuts & Coffee.

Everything you ever wish in doughnuts you will find

it here, unique flavours that will slowly melt in your mouth. Alcapone, a doughnut covered with Belgian white chocolate and Californian almonds is one of the top favourites or try the heavenly good tiramisu doughnut.

Photo: Busara/shutterstock

Address: SM Mall of Asia, Seaside Boulevard, Pasay, Metro Manila

Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

Phone: +63 943 403 9905

Internet: jcodonuts.com/ph

Email: hello@jcodonuts.com.ph

Habitual Coffee



For aeropress-brewed coffee and great espresso, Habitual Coffee is the place to head for.

The coffee is served by young and passionate

baristas who really know what they are doing.

This sleek coffee shop also serves limited but very delightful light meals including pastries.

Photo: GooDween123/shutterstock

Address: Paseo Heights, Salcedo Village, L.P. Leviste Street, Makati, Metro Manila

Phone: +63 2 833 9556

Internet: www.instagram.com/habitualcoffee

The Washery Laundromat & Café



At this quirky and modern venue, you can do your laundry while having a cup of coffee and a small bite on the side. They have two branches where

they offer various laundry services, and each houses a cosy cafe area where to hang out. If craving for something sweet, they serve cookies, cakes, and pastries too.

Photo: I love coffee/shutterstock

Address: 93 East Capitol Drive, Manila

Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm

Phone: +63 975 188 0061

Internet: www.instagram.com/TheWashery

Email: thewashery.ph@gmail.com

BARS & NIGHTLIFE



r.nagy/shutterstock

Filipinos take fun seriously and Manila's bars are among Asia's liveliest. Happy hour is everyone's favourite time of day — and lasts long into the night at certain hangouts. Great service, ice-cold drinks, and music nearly everywhere.

Manila is party central. Venues stay open until 5am at weekends and 3am midweek. The nightlife centres are on JM Nakpil Street, Makati Avenue or Pasay Road in Makati and throughout the Malate and Ermita districts. The palace, Manilas biggest destination is also a great place

to head for when in the party mood.

Newport World Resorts Casino & Bars



This is the Philippines' first and largest integrated resort and casino. Newport World Resorts is an entertainment complex

and has the country's largest casino, complemented by a range of bars and restaurants. Enjoy events, shows and tournaments all under one roof.

Photo: welcomia/shutterstock

Address: Newport Boulevard, Pasay, Metro Manila

Phone: +63 2 7908 8888

Internet: www.newportworldresorts.com

The Tap Room



At this old English inspired pub with dark timber ceiling and plush armchairs, you can have a relaxing time in a unique, soulful and friendly

ambiance. From the extensive drink menu, you can pick alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks to complement some delights from the sumptuous bar menu.

Photo: Africa Studio/shutterstock

Address: The Manila Hotel, One Rizal Park, Ermita, Manila

Opening hours: Daily noon-2am

Phone: +63 984 415 1234

Internet: www.manila-hotel.com.ph/tap-room

Bar Rouge



Sit down and unwind at the intimate Bar Rouge with a refreshing cocktail, while cool music plays in the background. The bar focuses on cigars and

single malts, and the experienced bartender excels at catering to the most demanding tastes with stylish, fresh, and innovative drink creations.

Photo: Efired/shutterstock

Address: New World Hotel, 1228 Esperanza Street, Makati, Metro Manila

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 6pm-1am, Sun closed

Phone: +63 2 8811 6888

Internet: manila.newworldhotels.com/en/dining/bar-rouge

Email: conciERGE.manila@newworldhotels.com

Revel at The Palace



Revel is a luxurious nightclub and lounge known for attracting Manila's most beautiful and fashionable crowds, including discerning

international travelers. The venue offers an upscale, intimate ambiance with quality drinks and sought-after DJs, making it the perfect place to enjoy a classy and stylish night out.

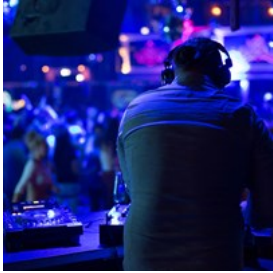
Photo: Syda Productions/shutterstock

Address: Uptown Parade, corner 11th Avenue & 38th Street, Uptown Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila

Phone: +63 917 311 8800

Internet: www.thepalacemanila.com/venues-revel

XYLO at The Palace



Located at The Palace, XYLO is reputed to be Manila's largest nightclub, with a capacity for over 2,000 people. It's one of the hottest clubs in the city and is consistently packed. The venue has hosted many famous DJs who energize the crowd, with more exciting performances scheduled for the future.

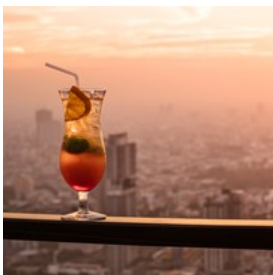
Photo: Pavel L Photo and Video/shutterstock

Address: Uptown Parade, 9th Avenue, Taguig, Metro Manila

Phone: +63 917 680 8888

Internet: www.instagram.com/xylomanila

Sky Deck View Bar



Unwind with a fresh cocktail at the Sky Deck View Bar at The Bayleaf Hotel, where you can enjoy 360-degree views of the city and stunning sunsets. The bar features an extensive wine list, local beers, and cocktails, alongside a food menu. On weekends, Sky Deck offers live entertainment, enhancing the vibrant atmosphere.

Photo: Kim Wutimet/shutterstock

Address: The Bayleaf, Muralla Street, Intramuros, Manila

Opening hours: Daily 4pm-11pm

Phone: +63 2 5318 5000

Internet: www.thebayleaf.com.ph

12 Monkeys Music Hall & Pub



12 Monkeys is one of the top live entertainment venues in Manila, offering a diverse array of music genres. Alongside excellent cocktails, the

venue also serves authentic Filipino cuisine and pizzas. The atmosphere is vibrant yet relaxed. Be sure to check the gig guide on their website before stopping by.

Photo: Stokkete/shutterstock

Address: Estancia Mall Capitol Commons, Meralco Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig, Metro Manila

Phone: +63 917 570 3222

Internet: www.instagram.com/12monkeysph

SHOPPING



Pressmaster/shutterstock

Manila one of the most exciting shopping destinations in Southeast Asia thanks to the giant malls so-called 'megamalls' where you basically will find everything your heart might desire. The malls are open seven days a week and generally the doors opens at 10 or 11. These air-conditioned malls are also a welcome escape from the tropical heat and many families and friends are regularly spending the entire days to stroll around the stores or to have a bite to eat. Many of these malls are not just for shopping, but also boasts with theatres, spas, ice-skating rinks and cinemas, making them to a huge entertainment complex.

When you get tired of the malls, head over to one of the bazaars (called tiangge) or the markets that overflows with the hottest trends and some amazing bargains to bring back home. You can easily stock up on clothes, shoes and accessories

without breaking your wallet but make sure to bargain and try to aim to pay about 30 to 40 percent lower than the original price.

Clothes, shoes and accessories are the best deals but be aware the size of the clothes tends to be smaller in Asia.

SM Mall of Asia



SM Mall of Asia is one of Asia's biggest malls with more than a hundred stores and several restaurants under one gigantic roof. Local

brands sit alongside international ones such as Mango and Zara, which have appeared in Manila for the first time thanks to the scale of the mall. In all, a great setting with amazing architecture and commanding views of Manila Bay.

Photo: Karamba Production/Shutterstock.com

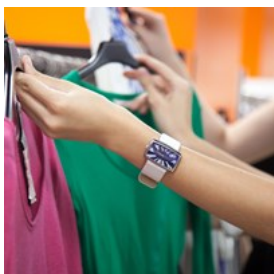
Address: Seaside Boulevard, Manila

Phone: +632 876 1111

Internet: www.smsupermalls.com/mall-directory/sm-mall-of-asia/information

Email: customer-care@smsupermalls.com

Greenhills Shopping Centre



Greenhills is often referred to as a permanent flea market minus the dust. There are plenty of bargains, especially with pearls and

other jewellery. Prices are negotiable so start haggling. This is for sure a place where you will not break your wallet and when the hunger kicks in, head over to one of the restaurants or cafes housed here.

Photo: fizkes/Shutterstock.com

Address: Ortigas Avenue, San Juan, Manila

Phone: +63 2 721 0572

Internet: www.instagram.com/greenhillsph

Divisoria Market



This famous wholesale market, Divisoria, is a unique shopping experience featuring ready-to-wear clothing, jewellery and house

wares for a very good price. Although it is crowded with people, it is worth a visit. Divisoria Market has not only stalls along the street but there is also an air-conditioned building where to find even more bargains.

Photo: Twinstereotype/Shutterstock.com

Address: 557 M. De Santos Street, San Nicolas, Manila

Email: hello@divisoriainmarket.com

Ayala Malls (One Ayala)



Ayala Malls in central Makati offers everything from high fashion to bargain basement shops, catering to all kinds of shoppers. Besides

shopping, you can also enjoy a meal at one of the many restaurants or catch a movie at the on-site cinema.

Photo: Pressmaster/shutterstock

Address: Ayala Avenue, Manila

Phone: +63 32 516 3025

Internet: www.ayalamalls.com

Shangri-La Plaza



Shangri-La Plaza is one of Manila's most upmarket malls with a striking eight-storey atrium and high-end stores with international brands such

as Calvin Klein and Polo. Not only does the mall provide vibrant and pleasurable shopping but also host events and performances, which creates a dynamic environment.

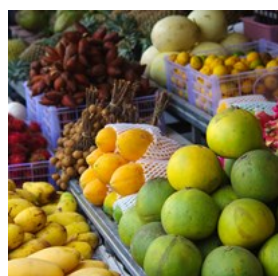
Photo: milanzeremski/Shutterstock.com

Address: Shaw Boulevard, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong, Metro Manila

Phone: +63 632 370 2500

Internet: www.instagram.com/shangrilaplazaofficial

San Andres Market



When asking the locals where to buy the best fruit, everyone points to San Andres Market. With plenty of exotic fruits both local and imported fruit, this famous market is truly full of colourful displays and it is very eye-catching. You will find this market on San Andres Street, a block away from Quirino Avenue.

Photo: Natalia Sidorova/Shutterstock.com

Address: Corner San Andres & Leveriza Street, Malate, Manila

Seaside Dampa / Seaside Market



Seaside Market is famous for seafood and located near the Baclaran church in Pasay. This is quite a small market with only 40 vendors, but the selection is nice and fresh. This place is truly a great experience; first, you pick your choice of seafood and then go to one of the restaurants nearby who will cook your food for a reasonable price.

Photo: antpkr/Shutterstock.com

Address: Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay, Manila

Silahis Arts & Artifacts



Handicrafts are on sale at Silahis and here you will find the finest of handmade Philippine products. The shop stocks paintings, furniture, an array of hand-woven baskets, jars made from red clay, colourful table napkins and much more.

Photo: May_Chanikran/Shutterstock.com

Address: 744 General Luna Street, Intramuros, Manila

Phone: +63 527 3841 42

Internet: www.instagram.com/silahiscenter_ph

Email: export@silahis.com

Balikbayan Handicrafts



Balikbayan Handicrafts has been in business for the past 40 years and you will find two big stores located in Makati City and Pasay City. These stores stocks an amazing variety and assortment of quality Philippine handicrafts such as wood furniture pieces, sculptures, picture frames, jewellery boxes, home decors, cutlery, pearls and much more.

Photo: Dolly MJ/Shutterstock.com

Address: 1010 Antonio Arnaiz Avenue, Makati, Manila

Phone: +632 893 0775

Internet: www.balikbayanhandicrafts.com

Email: sales@balikbayanhandicrafts.com

Robinsons Place Mall



Robinsons Place Mall is strategically located at the heart of the historic city of Manila. This 240,000 sqm world-class mall is a 7-level shopping complex that offers over a thousand local and

international retail shops, dining outlets and entertainment facilities.

Photo: Pressmaster/Shutterstock.com

Address: Adriatico Streets, Manila

Phone: +63 2 310 3333

Internet:

robinsonsmalls.com/mall-info/robinsons-place-manila

Email: customer.care@robinsonsland.com

168 Shopping Mall



A convenient wholesale and retail shopping mall, 168 Shopping Mall houses various stalls offering all kinds of items such as cloths, bags,

shoes, toys, hardware and others for a bargain price. When you are feeling hungry there are some good food stalls where to grab a bite to eat.

Photo: fizkes/Shutterstock.com

Address: 918 Soler Street, Binondo, Manila

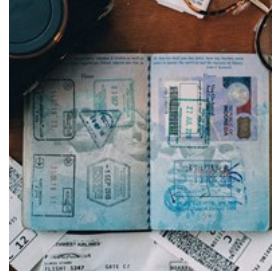
Internet: 168shoppingmall.com

TOURIST INFORMATION



Antonio V. Oquias/shutterstock

Passport / Visa



The Philippines can be visited visa-free for up to 30 days by citizens of all European Union member states, all ASEAN member states, the UK, the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Korea, South Africa, Malaysia, Israel, the UAE and most countries in Latin America. A valid return or onward ticket and a passport that is valid upon entry and for at least six months beyond the period of stay are required to enter the Philippines. If you are unsure whether or not you need to apply for a visa, contact the embassy or consulate in your country.

Photo: ConvertKit/unsplash

Internet: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Visa_policy_of_the_Philippines

Best Time to Visit



The dry period between November and April is the peak tourist season in the Philippines. Hidden areas and remote islands are fully accessible, and temperatures are very mild, especially from December to February.

During the wet season, from May to October, you can still enjoy sunny days, but bear in mind that typhoons can occur.

The months of May and November are considered low season, which means smaller crowds and lower prices for flights and accommodation. The weather is still pleasant, nonetheless.

Photo: Eryka Rose Raton/unsplash

Airport



Ninoy Aquino International Airport (MNL), also known by the abbreviation NAIA, is 7 kilometres from the centre of Manila, located south of the city, and southwest of Makati City's Central Business District.

A taxi is for sure the quickest, most efficient and safest way to travel to and from the airport. You can book a taxi at an official desk at the airport or grab a taxi outside the terminal. The journey can take between 30 minutes to one hour, depending on the time of day and the traffic. There are two types of taxis: yellow and white. The yellow taxis are the officially registered and certified taxis at the airport and one of the best and safest means of transportation. The white taxis (street taxis) are not allowed inside the airport's arrival (only arriving at the departure level) and if you decide to take one of these, be careful, the driver can give you a higher fixed price without using the meter.

Another option is to arrange for a hotel transfer to pick you up. This you should arrange in advance, but it is one of the most expensive options.

Photo: Jae Tabuada/unsplash
Address: Paliparang Pandaigdig ng Ninoy Aquino, Manila
Internet: www.miaa.gov.ph

Jeepneys



Jeepneys, originally made from converted US military jeeps, are a popular and colourful mode of transport in Manila. These 16-seat vehicles operate on pre-set routes with a fixed fare. Routes are displayed on the front of each jeepney. To ride, simply flag one down and let the driver know when you'd like to disembark.

Photo: Yannes Kiefer/unsplash
Internet: theculturetrip.com/asia/philippines/articles/how-to-ride-a-jeepney-in-the-philippines

Taxi

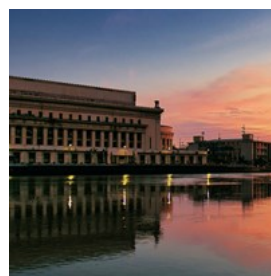


Taking a taxi in Manila is an affordable way to navigate the city. You can hail a taxi on the street or book one by phone, but it's important to ensure that it is registered and metered. If a taxi driver claims the meter isn't working, it's advisable to find another cab. Also, carrying small peso notes is wise to avoid overpaying; drivers may claim they don't have change even when they do.

The best app for summoning a taxi in the Philippines is Grab.

Photo: Melvin Glinoga/unsplash

Post



In the Philippines, the postal system operates through PHLPost, which manages mail delivery and services across the archipelago. For travellers in Manila, postal services are easily

accessible at post offices and postal kiosks in major areas, ideal for sending postcards and parcels. Rates are reasonable, and services are reliable, though delivery times can vary, especially for international mail.

Photo: Gabriel Banzon/unsplash

Address: Central Post Office Building, Liwasang (Park) Bonifacio, Magallanes Drive, Intramuros, Manila

Phone: +63 923 442 7017

Internet: www.phlpost.gov.ph

Email: info@philpost.gov.ph

Pharmacy



Drug stores abound in Metro Manila, many operated by market leader Mercury Drug.

Photo: Diana Polekhina/unsplash

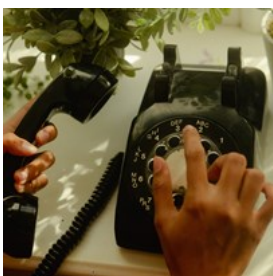
Address: Mercury Drug San Andres, 660 San Andres Street, Malate, Manila

Opening hours: 24/7

Phone: +63 2 8911 7854

Internet: www.mercurydrug.com

Telephone



Country code +63 Area code: (0)2

Photo: Wesley Hilario/unsplash

Electricity



The Philippines uses American-style power sockets with two flat prongs as well as European-style sockets with two round prongs.

Expect 220 volts at 60Hz.

Photo: ergonofis/unsplash

Population

1.8 million

Currency

Philippine peso (PHP or ₱)

Opening hours

Shops usually open from 10am to 8pm, but shopping malls close at 9pm or 10pm. Smaller shops close for lunch between noon and 2pm. There are many 24-hour convenience stores and drugstores. Malls are open on Sundays and public holidays.

Internet

philippines.travel/destinations/manila

Newspapers

Philippine Daily Inquirer: www.inquirer.net

Manila Bulletin: mb.com.ph

The Manila Times: www.manilatimes.net

The Philippine Star: www.philstar.com

Manila Standard: manilastandard.net

Daily Tribune: tribune.net.ph

Emergency numbers

911

10th Street	A2	D Romualdez Sr	D2 D3	P Casal	D1
11th Street	A2	Dasmariñas	B1	P Correa	D3
12th Street	A2	David	B1	Padre Avenue	B3 B4
14th Street	A2	Dr Antonio Vasquez	D4	Padre Burgos	B3 C2
15th Street	A2	Elizondo	C1	Padre Faura	C4 D3
16th Street	A2	Escolta	B1	Pasaje del Carmen	D1
17th Street	A2 A3	Felipe Agoncillo	D4	Pedro Gil (Herran)	C4 D4
18th Street	A2 A3	Finance	C3	Perez	D3
19th Street	A3	G Apacible	D4	Pilar Hidalgo Lim	D4
20th Street	A3	General Luna	B2 B3 C3 D3	Plaza Moriones	A1
21st Street	A3	General M Malvar	D4	Q Paredes	B1
22nd Street	A3	General Solano	D2	Quezon Boulevard	C1
23rd Street	A3	Globo de Oro	C1	Quezon Bridge	C1
24th Street	A3	Gonzates	D3	R Hidalgo	C1 D1
25th Street	A3	Guerrero	B4 C4	Railroad Drive	A2
8th Street	A2	J Bocobo	C3 C4	Real	B2
9th Street	A2	J Nepomuceno	D1	Recoletos	B2
A Mabini	C3 C4	Jaboneros	A1	Roberto S Oca Sr (13th) Street	A2
A Villegas	C1 C2	Jones Bridge	B1	Romero Salas	C4
Almacenes	A1	Juan Luna	B1	Roxas Boulevard (Dewey Boulevard)	B4 C4
Anda	B1 B2	Lara	A1	San Fernando	A1
Andres Soriano Jr	A2 B1	Legarda	D1	San Francisco	B2
Arlegui	D1	Legaspi	B2	San Gabriel	B1
Arquiza	C4	Leon Guinto Sr	D4	San Marcelino	D2 D3 D4
Arzobispo	A2	M Adriatico	C4	San Nicolas	A1
Ayala Boulevard	C2 D2	M H del Pilar	B4 C4	San Vicente	B1
Ayala Bridge	D2	Madrid	A1	Santa Clara	A1 A2
Barbosa	C1	Magallanes	B2	Santa Lucia	A2 B2
Barcelona	A1	Magallanes Drive	B1	Santa Monica	C4
Barraca	A1	Mahatma Gandhi	D3	Santa Potenciana	B2
Basco	B2	Maria Y Orosa	C3 C4 D4	Sevilla	A1
Beaterio	B2	McArthur Bridge	C1	Solana	B1 B2
Belen	D3	Muelle de Binondo	A1 B1	South Road	B4
Bonifacio Drive	A1 A2 A3	Muelle de la Industria	A1 B1	Sylvia	D2
Boston	A2 A3	Muelle de San Francisco	A3	Taft Avenue	C3 D4
C M Aguila	D1	Muelle del Banco Nacional	B1 C1	Teodoro F Valencia Circle	C3
Cabildo	A1 A2 B2	Muelle del Rio	B1	Teodoro M Kalaw Sr	B3 C3 D3
Camba	A1	Muralla	B1 B2 B3	United Nations Avenue	B4 C3 C4 D3
Carlos Palanca Sr	C1 D1	N Padilla	D2	Urbiztondo	A1
Carriedo	C1	Natividad Almeda-Lopez	C2	Vergara	D1
Chicago	A2 A3	Novales	B2	Victoria	B2 C2
Conde de Gamazo	D3	Nueva	B1	Zobel	D2
Cuartetes	C4	Orozco	C1		