

BORACAY PHILIPPINES

ATTRACTIONS

BEACHES

Boracay Island offers more than a dozen unique white beaches, coves and lagoons. They all have the same powdery white sand for which Boracay is world-famous.

Boracay White Beach

Undoubtedly the most famous stretch of beach in the country and acclaimed as one of the best beaches in the world is Boracay White Beach. The premier beauty and tourist attraction of Boracay features 4 kilometers of bright powdery fine sand and clear shallow waters resulting from the mild offshore current.

Balinghai Beach

Balinghai Beach, is a tiny cove at the northern tip of the island, it is accessible the Boracay White Beach using a paraw (wooden sailboat with outriggers). Particularly at sunset, Boracay Beach gives you the wonderful sensation of being lost on a tropical Island. The beach is fairly quiet, with only a few sunbathers, for those looking for tranquility.

Bulabog Beach

Bulabog Beach Boracay, is on the eastern side of Boracay Island. It is most active during the early months of the year when powerful winds of the northeast monsoon transform it to a windsurfers and parasailers paradise. A coral reef shields the beach from the sea swell forming a shallow lagoon.

Diniwid Beach

Located north of Boracay White Beach, Diniwid Beach is an ideal destination alternative for picnics and snorkelling with its own 200-metre long powdery white sand beach. It is much peaceful than the main White Beach. A few less-expensive Boracay bars, restaurants and accommodations (including bamboo designed cottages) can be found here.

Ilig Illigan Beach

Situated on Boracay Island's east coast offers travelers several opportunities for exploring its several cove and caves, including the popular Bat Cave. Further inland is an impressive jungle where the famous giant fruit bats can be seen.

Manoc Manoc Beach

Manoc Manoc Beach is on the southern end of the island. This beach offers an impressive view across the channel to Caticlan on the northern tip of Panay Island. Manoc Manoc Beach is windy, with currents reaching up to 6 knots, almost the entire year. The beach remains busy with boats unloading supplies for the resorts in Boracay.

Puka Shell Beach

The second longest beach on Boracay is Puka Shell Beach. It is located on the north coast of the island where current and waves are much stronger than on other parts of the island. The beach is famous for the innumerable puka shells painting the beach. Resulting in necklaces, bracelets and other jewellery, puka shells products still remains one of the first handicrafts of Boracay.

Punta Bunga Beach

Located just a short distance north of Balinghai Boracay Beach, is Punta Bunga Beach where many attractive shells can be found. On the hillside that forms the southern border of the Punta Bunga Boracay Beach are a growing number of private houses, some of which can be rented, located there for the beautiful view. There is also a rest-house on the center of the beach atop a rocky hill overlooking the sea.

Tulubhan Beach

Tulubhan Beach is one of the more quiet and serene beaches of Boracay. The beach offers many coves and lagoons on the east coast of the island. Spectacular trees line the shoreline and are in full bloom during the months of February and March.

ACTIVITIES

Boracay plays host to an innumerable list of sports and activities providing everything the traveler could possibly want from a holiday.

Diving in Boracay

The diversity of marine life and corals all around Boracay makes it one of the finest dive locations in the Philippines. There are over 30 dive shops with high quality equipment and good scheduling of dive and instruction. Bel-At Beach provides the best chance to see larger marine life such as turtles and sharks but strong currents make this suitable only for more experienced divers. Yapak 1, considered a better site, is a wall dive site, a few minutes from White Beach.

Shopping

Boracay's markets will take you to a world of new and exotic sights and impressions where you can buy souvenirs, local delicacies and much more. The largest is the Talipapa, a flea market that covers 4,000 square metres between White Beach and the Main Road at the centre of the island. Another shopper's haven is called D'Mall which houses some 100 stores neatly laid out among coconut trees. White Beach also has a number of shops selling everything from beachwear to art and antiques. Many items are sold at unbelievably low prices.

Wellness

Indulge yourself in the perfect pampering of the senses and unwind using one of many skilled masseurs offering massage services by the beach. For more in-depth soul connection or rejuvenating therapies, visit the luxurious spa sanctuaries on the island.

Recreational Sports

Other traditional sports are available for those who prefer an active holiday. Boracay is the perfect venue for golf, tennis, bowling, fishing, football and even beach volleyball. Top-of-class amenities for these activities are available in the island.

Boardsailing

Boracay offers flat-water speed sailing, wave jumping, and longboard cruising. White Beach is suitable for beginners, as it remains shielded from northeast monsoon, is for beginners. Bulabog Beach has ideal conditions for speed, slalom, and high-wind shortboard sailing and is also the site of the annual Boracay International Funboard Cup. Tabon Strait has superb high-performance sailing, but there is a real risk of being swept away, is appropriate for skilled sailors only.

SIGHTS

There are many attractions on the island to explore, from caves and bizarre forests to stunning viewpoints such as Naked Rock and Mount Luho.

Yapak Forest

The forest is very jungle-like and tricky to explore. It is home to monkeys, snakes, and giant fruit bats.

At the southern end of Boracay White Beach is a very different wooded area. Part of it appears to have been cultivated decades ago with groves of Frangipani and Mango trees beside the path to the coastal area. From the Boracay Beach coast there you overlook Boracay White Beach from south to north. There are several paths leading through unspoiled nature, with birds, butterflies, and delightful flowers.

The Bat Cave

Visit the many caves in Boracay, particularly the Bat Caves. These caves are home to thousands of small cave bats and the giant fruit bats, also known as flying foxes, with wingspans of up to four feet. Naturalists, photographers, spelunkers and brave souls willing to bear the intense stench of the bat cave can hire local guides to lead them through the jungle-paths to the caves. It is better to let the bats sleep during the day and wait for sunset because thousands of bats make their nocturnal flight right over visitors' heads.

Naked Rock

Naked Rock offers a spectacular view of Mindoro Island to the northwest. It can be reached by a short walk from Punta-Bunga Beach.

Mount Luho

It is well known as the highest elevation and most impressive viewpoint on Boracay Island at 100 metres above sea level. It can be an excruciating ascent climbing to the top, but definitely worth the view. The best way is to hike or take a mountain bike up the steep road going north from Bulabog, on the eastern side of the Island. Once up there, a little kiosk serves cold water and soft drinks.

The Dead Forest

Sitting at the southern end of Bulabog Boracay Beach, lies the Dead Forest where dead mangrove roots reach strangely out of the water. The mangroves are said to have died when the fishpond dam broke and seawater flooded the pond. These generate silhouettes, which pierce the landscape in a bewitched manner. They make for some impressive snapshots, and certainly worthy of a bizarre experience.

REGIONAL ATTRACTIONS

Boracay is situated in the Central Visayas Region (Region VI), which as a whole offers a wide array of interesting attractions and events for all to enjoy. Here are some of them:

Festivals: Ati-Atihan; Dinagyang; Paraw Regatta; Binirayan; Halaran; Masskara

Historical Landmarks: Kalantiaw Shrine; Panay Church and Bell Tower; Malandog Marker; Fort San Pedro, Museo Iloilo; Miag-ao Church, Molo Church, Jaro Cathedral; Nauras Church; Victorias Sugar Plantation, Spanish Ancestral Houses of La Carlota, Silay and Talisay

Natural Attractions: Isla Naburot; Mt. Madia-as, Kalamasag Falls, Igpasungaw Falls and Natural Pools; Suhot Caves