Journey for Peace Experience the Philippines with Nonviolent Peaceforce

Journey with NP staff to the beautiful islands of the Philippines. You'll witness first-hand the powerful work of safety and peace of the NP Philippines team, in partnership with the local community, key decision-makers, and parties to the peace process in the region of Mindanao. Along the way we will enjoy all the Philippines has to offer in terms of hospitality, cultural sights, stunning waters, and delicious food!

This 9-day trip will take place the third and fourth weeks of April, from 4/18 - 4/26.



NP Philippines Trip Itinerary

- Day One: Travel to Manila
- Day Two: Travel to Cotabato City, Meet and greet with NPP staff, sight-seeing
- Day Three: Travel through Maguindanao to Lake Sebu, visit the BIWAB, sight-seeing
- Day Four: Lake Sebu visit and travel back to Cotabato City
- Day Five: Travel to Lanao del Sur, visit Marawi City, sight-seeing
- Day Six: Visit MILF Camp, sight-seeing, and travel to a beach resort
- Day Seven: Rest day at the beach resort
- Day Eight: Travel to Manila, visit OPAPRU, sight-seeing, and final dinner together
- Day Nine: Travel home or proceed onwards to further adventures

Day One

We will meet in the capital city of Manila. We will rest overnight at an airport hotel before proceeding to Cotabato City.



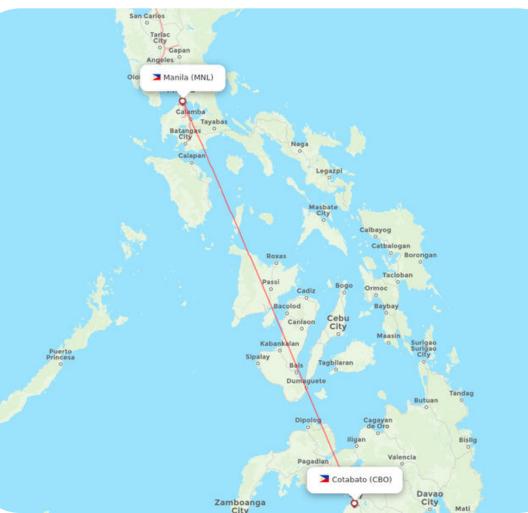


Day Two

We will depart Manila in the morning and take a short flight to Cotabato City. There we will meet and greet with the NPP staff in their office and have an orientation to the area and the work of the team. We will then sight-see at the Grand Mosque and the Bangsamoro Museum.







Day Three

On day three we will travel by land to Maguindano to meet with the Bangsamoro Islamic Women's Auxiliary Brigade. The BIWAB were a part of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and actively involved in the conflict with the government of the Philippines. Now, with the support of NP, the group is transitioning to a civil society organization with the goal of uplifting their community. We will talk with some of the women in BIWAB to hear of their experiences during the war and the peace process.

We will sight-see at the Bubuludtua Falls and the Pink Mosque and proceed to an overnight stay at Lake Sebu.



Day Four

We will spend the day visiting Lake Sebu. Lake Sebu is one of the most important watersheds in the country and a designated eco-tourism area. The area is also home to the T'boli people and is known as the land of the dreamweavers for their traditional hand-woven cloth, T'nalak. We will learn both about the importance of the lake and the T'boli people and their craft.

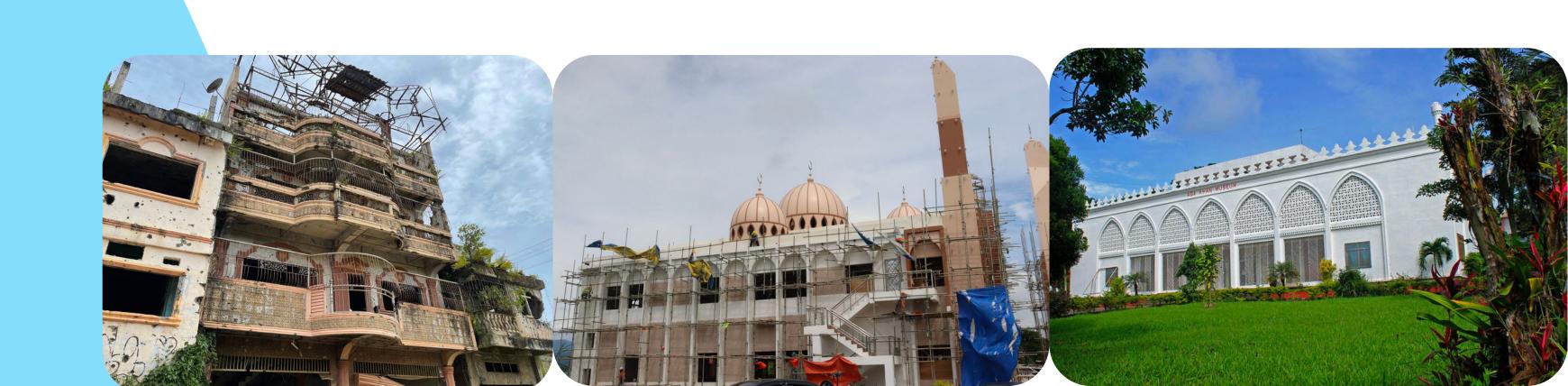
At the end of the day we will proceed back to Cotabato City via a 3 hr drive.



Day Five

On day five we will leave the Cotabato area and head north roughly 6 hours to Iligan City. On the way we will stop in Marawi to witness the destruction of the city by a siege by extremist groups in 2017. We will learn from NP staff about our efforts to keep people safe during that time and about the rebuilding that has taken place since then.

We will visit the Aga Khan Museum of Islamic Arts at Mindanao State University and stay the night in Iligan City.





Day Six

Jumping off from Iligan City we will travel to Camp Bilal to learn about the transition in the peace process of MILF camps to communities. Camp Bilal is the home of Commander Bravo, one of the top commanders in the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and a key partner of Nonviolent Peaceforce in our efforts to implement the peace process and maintain safety in local communities.

We will also sight-see at Maria Christina Falls and head about 1.5 hours to Initao Beach for an overnight stay.



Day Seven

We will enjoy a day of rest at the white sand beaches of Initao.





Day Eight

In the morning we will fly from Laguindingan airport to Manila and meet with the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity, another key NP partner in the Mindanao peace process.

In the afternoon we will enjoy a tour of Intramuros, a centuries-old historic district from the time the Philippines was under Spanish colonization. We will end our time together with a celebratory dinner and cultural show at Barbara's restaurant in Intramuros.







Day Nine

Depart for home, or travel onward in the Philippines or elsewhere! We can recommend other possible excursions to continue your travels.



Trip Cost

The total cost for this trip, including all in-country travel, lodging, and meals is \$2,600 for double occupancy. The only additional costs you will need to plan for is your flight to and from the country, any food outside of meals, personal purchases and souvenirs, and any additional travel you will do outside of the nine days. We will need a minimum of 6 people to commit to the trip.

Interested?

If you have any questions or would like to secure your spot on this trip please contact Anna Zaros, Director of Organizational Advancement. Anna is organizing this trip and can be reached at +1 612-518-4860 or azaros@nonviolentpeaceforce.org.

Anna will be joining the trip with you and has personal experience living and working in the part of the Philippines we will visit. She can answer all kinds of questions you may have about traveling to the Philippines. We will also be accompanied by NP Philippines staff and drivers as our expert guides.

