

Philippines



The Philippines is a nation of more than 7,000 islands stretched out in the southwest Pacific Ocean. About 1,000 islands are inhabited, and 11 islands make up more than 95 percent of the country's area. The two largest islands are Luzon and Mindanao. The country lies between the Philippine Sea and the South China Sea. It also lies along the Ring of Fire, an area known for its violent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. Mayon Volcano on Luzon is a very active and dangerous volcano that has caused many deaths and forced thousands of people to flee their homes at various times in history.

People have lived in the Philippines for more than 1,000 years. Traders were visiting Manila by the 1200s. The Spanish came in 1570 and built a city in 1571. Various groups fought for control of Manila over the years including the Chinese, British, and Spanish as well as Filipinos, people from the Philippines. The Spanish ruled Manila most of the time. In the 1830s, Manila opened its port to trade with countries apart from Spanish control. In 1896, the Philippine Revolution began, and the people fought for their independence. Because of the Spanish-American War in 1898 between Spain and the United States, Americans took control of Manila and the Philippines for a time. Japan seized control of Manila during World War II, and in 1946, the Philippines finally became free.



Manila is the capital of the Philippines and sits on the island of Luzon at the mouth of the Pasig River. Combined with neighboring cities, it forms Metropolitan Manila. Spanish galleons stopped in Manila as they traveled to and from the New World.




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I hope you've enjoyed visiting four of the many amazing places in the Philippines! Before you leave to go home, could I ask you to do something special for the people here? About eighty-nine percent of the people here have heard about Jesus and say they follow Him. Sadly, some only pretend to be Christian and try to combine Christianity with superstitions and pagan beliefs. There are many people who need to clearly understand the truth that salvation is through Jesus alone and to have the courage to abandon anything that does not agree with His Word. There are also places where it is dangerous to be a Christian. Pray that everyone in the Philippines will know and believe in Jesus as their Savior.

Will you remember to pray for the people of the Philippines? Here are a few more things you can pray for. You can add more prayer requests to the list as you think of them!

-  Pray that all people will understand how much Jesus loves them.
-  Pray for the people living in Manila, Quezon City, Zamboanga, Cebu City, plus every other city and town to believe in Jesus.
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