



TRAVEL | ARTICLE

Experience the best of the Philippines in Boracay

Pristine beaches and enhanced safety measures make this idyllic island worth a look
when the Philippines is ready to welcome you again.

Since there's so much to see and do in the Philippines, it can be daunting to decide where to go. The string of islands feature an astounding 22,500 miles of coastline and is brimming with extraordinary travel experiences. While no single place encapsulates all the Pacific archipelago has to offer, Boracay comes close, making the small island a smart choice for a best-of-the-Philippines experience.




Boracay is also well-positioned to be a first-trip destination for people in the nearby regions who are eager to travel again. Hotels are required to meet strict health standards based on World Health Organizations coronavirus guidelines, and only confirmed hotel guests are permitted into the island. Limiting the number of visitors is one of the many “new normal” steps Boracay has taken to help everyone stay safe.

SEAMLESS TRAVEL

Boasting sugar-white beaches, crystalline coves, and all manner of water adventures, four-square-mile Boracay is the Philippines in microcosm. The island’s compact size inspires exploration. Discover a varied array of outdoor activities and sights across Boracay’s three *barangays* or districts: Yapak on the northern end, Balabag in the middle, and Manoc-Manoc in the south. Use environmentally-friendly electric tricycles, or e-trikes, to get around on land, and traditional *paraws*, or double outrigger sail boats, to travel by water.

Enhancing the ease of travel in Boracay is the island-wide commitment to curb the spread of COVID-19. No matter where you go, wearing face masks and maintaining safe physical distancing are the norm. Each visitor also receives a QR code upon arrival in Boracay, allowing for contactless transactions across the island.





A volcanic rock cave frames this picture-perfect view near White Beach, Boracay.
PHOTOGRAPH BY YURY BIRUKOV, SHUTTERSTOCK

BEACH PARADISE

Of the more than a dozen beaches in Boracay, none is more famous than the three-mile-long White Beach. Stringent environmental protections and health protocols are enforced to keep this famous beach pristine, serene, and ready to welcome the tourists again.

At the northern edge of White Beach, follow the cliff-bottom footpath to one of Boracay's best pocket beaches: Diniwid. The craggy bluff separating the two beaches makes tiny Diniwid a bit of a hidden treasure. It's also one of the best spots in Boracay to watch the sunset.





LEGENDARY HOSPITALITY

Visitors instantly feel at home in Boracay thanks to the *bayanihan*, or spirit of cooperation and community, deeply ingrained in Filipino culture. Genuinely warm and welcoming, Filipinos are legendary for their hospitality. One reason why the Philippines regularly receives kudos as one of the world's friendliest countries is this. The authentic kindness and positive vibe make it easy to relax, unplug, and fully embrace the laid-back, island life.

The cooperative spirit of the Philippines is particularly appreciated now as everyone navigates the world of "new normal" travel. For traveler peace of mind, Boracay has rolled out a number of helpful resources, including a COVID-19 hotline. The island is also equipped with a hospital for coronavirus testing and treatment, one of the many reasons to consider a getaway to Boracay—when you're ready to travel again.