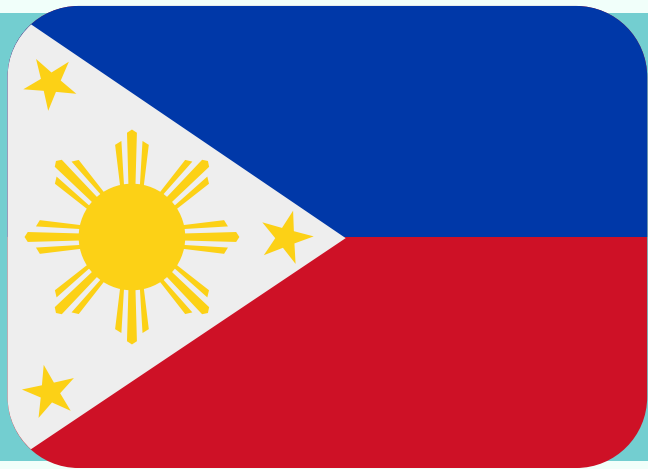


The Philippines



The Philippines is an archipelago located in Southeastern Asia between the Philippine Sea and the South China Sea. Its capital is Manila and it has a population of 109,180,815. It has a tropical marine climate with a northeast monsoon season from November to April and a southwest monsoon season from May to October.

Languages

The official languages of the Philippines are English and Filipino. There are other major dialects spoken throughout the country including Tagalog, Cebuano and Ilocano.

Nationality

Filipino (noun)
Philippine (adjective)

Currency

Philippine Peso



Ethnic Groups

The major ethnic groups in the Philippines are Tagalog, Binisaya, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon, Bikol and Waray. Tagalog is the largest ethnicity, as it encompasses 24.4% of the population. Indigenous tribes include the Igorots, Lumad, Badjaos, Palawan, Mangyan and Aetas. The Mangyan are the largest of the indigenous tribes, while the Aetas are some of the earliest inhabitants of the Philippines.

The Philippines national symbols are three stars and a sun, and a Philippine eagle.

Major Sites

- Chocolate Hills
- Banaue Rice Terraces
- Puerto Princesa Subterranean River National Park
- Malapascua Island
- Taal Volcano
- Hanging Coffins
- Pagsanjan Falls
- Loboc River Hanging Bridge

Independence Day

July 4, 1946

The Philippines national colors are red, white, blue and yellow.

