

A GLIMPSE OF CAM SUR

Camarines Sur, located in Luzon in the Bicol region, has become one of the preferred destinations this summer. Popularly known as Cam Sur, the province has a lot to offer to its foreign and local guests.

One of the hottest spots in the province is the **Cam Sur Water Sports Complex (CWC)**, the biggest cable park in Asia. Extreme water sports fanatics can now enjoy wakeboarding, knee boarding, wake skating, and skiing all year round at a very affordable price. CWC has attracted a number of sports enthusiasts originating from Australia, Europe and the US. CWC, located 10 minutes away from the Naga City Airport, boasts of other recreational and leisure facilities such as a swimming pool, billiards hall, spa, restaurant and bar, and beach volleyball area. The sports complex promises to boost not only the province's sports tourism, but as well as the whole country's.

Another interesting place to explore is the **Caramoan Peninsula**. By boat, this town is located 2 hours away from Naga City and by land 4 hours away. There are a number of islands and beaches worth exploring, such as Matukad Beach, Lajos Beach, Gota Beach, Malarad Group of Islands and Lahuy Island and other places such as the Bulang-bugang Underground River and the Shrine Of Our Lady of the Most Holy rosary at Mt. Caglago. Its pristine white sands are comparable to Boracay's famous pure white sands, or even better. But what sets Caramoan beaches apart are its unspoiled, uninhabited surroundings that offer tranquility. More so, one can enjoy diving, swimming, spelunking, and snorkeling in the area. If you're into exploring exotic destinations this summer, Caramoan is truly one of the best places to discover!

Sources:

<http://www.wowphilippines.com.ph>

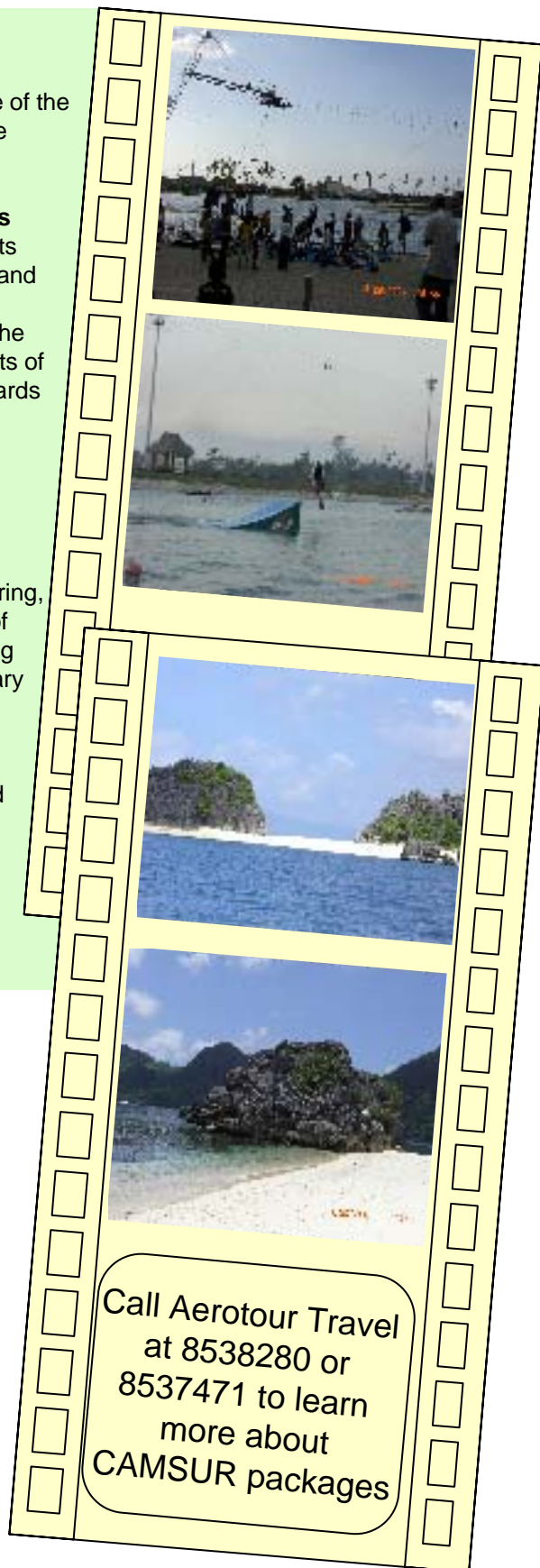
<http://www.camsurwatersportscomplex.com/>

Beach Essentials

For the ultimate summer experience, beach goers must be prepared to bring the most important beach essentials...

- Sunscreen – the most important of them all. Without this, the harmful rays of the sun can cause skin cancer, pre-mature aging, and wrinkles
- Lip balm with sunscreen – not known to many, but this is also important during our summer escapades
- Sunglasses
- Hats with brims
- Ipod/MP3s (with Speakers)
- Extra towel
- Snacks (If allowed)
- Bottled Water – to avoid dehydration under the sun
- Waterproof camera (or disposable)
- First aid kit – for unexpected accidents or calamities
- Floaters and sand toys for the kids

Enjoy the Sun, Sand and Sea!!!



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IN FOCUS: PAKISTAN'S DISCOVERY

With its amazing mountain ranges, rich Muslim culture, unique landscapes, and hospitable people, Pakistan offers a different taste of tourism to the rest of the World. Known as the **Land of the Pure**, Pakistan is located in South Asia and Greater Middle East. It is bordered by Iran and Afghanistan in the west, India in the east, China on the far northeast, and by the Arabian Sea in the south.

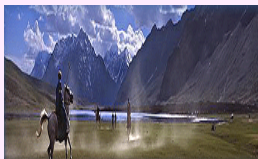
There are interesting places to visit and to explore in this Muslim-dominated country. Mountain lovers will definitely enjoy its mountain ranges, like the Himalayas, the Hindukush, and the Karakorams. These mountain ranges are for those who are into trekking, angling, jeep safaris, and mountaineering. Resorts are available for rent.

There are also excavated sites which are home of the ancient Indus Valley and Gandhara civilizations, namely, Mohenjo-daro and Taxila. Other places sites to explore are the architectural monuments of the Moghuls, and the Kyhber Pass.

QUICK FACTS:

Name: Pakistan (Islamic Republic of Pakistan)
 Capital City: Islamabad
 Currency: Pakistan Rupee
 National Day: March 23
 Religions: Sunni Muslim (77%) Shi'a Muslim (23%)
 Languages: Punjabi (48%), Siraiki (10%), Pashtu (8%), Urdu (8%), and Others (26%)

FESTIVALS



Silk Route Festival Lok Mela Festival Shandur Polo Festival

- Silk Route Festival – Held every September at Pakistan's Northern Areas, a cultural experience On the Roof of the World.
- Lok Mela Festival – Held every October, is the largest cultural activity in the country, an exhibition of Pakistan's rich culture for its 10 day duration.
- Shandur Polo Festival – Held from July 7 to 9 every year wherein Shandur invites visitors to participate in a traditional polo tournament between Chitral and Gilgit..

Sources:
http://www.galenfrysinger.com/lahore_pakistan.htm
<http://www.tourism.gov.pk/Index.html>
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pakistan>

Gallery

MOHENJO-DARO



Popularly known as the Mound of the Dead, Mohenjo-daro is located in the Sindh Province of Pakistan. It was one of the first cities and its contemporaries are Ancient Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilizations.

GREAT MOSQUE



The Great Mosque is located at Lahore, The site of a number of architecturally significant buildings and monuments dating back from the Mughal Empire. It was during circa 1526-1707 that Lahore achieved great prominence, while in 1849 Lahore fell to the British.

HANZA



Also known as Baltit, Hanza is a town in the northwestern Jammu and Kashmir State in the Northern area of the Indian subcontinent. Baltit officially joined Pakistan in 1947. This small town is a popular stop over place for travelers. The area is marked by roses, lilies, zinnias, willow, fir, snow, leopard, marco polo sheep, ibex, and more.

TRIVIA: Let's SPELL PAKISTAN...

The name PAKISTAN came about after the country gained its independence as a British Colony. It was coined by several students from Cambridge University who issued a pamphlet in 1933 known as *Now or Never*. It's actually an acronym which stands for its provinces namely, **P**unjab, **A**fghania, **K**ashmir, **I**ran, **S**indh, **T**ukharistan, **A**fghanistan, and **B**alochista**N**. The term 'stan' means country in Hindi and Persian.

Events in Review

Up, up and away!



Last February 8-11, 2007, balloon enthusiasts headed off to Clark Field Pampanga for the 11th Philippine International Hot Air Balloon Festival. The four-day affair included a number of activities like aircraft displays, sky diving demonstrations, kite flying competitions, and of course hot-air balloon rides. Needless to say, the affair was not just about hot-air balloons but as well as all forms of flying activity in the world. What makes this yearly event a must see? It is the amazing view of the skies filled with balloons from all over the world.

Panabenga Festival



2007 Panabengga Festival Blooms. The annual Flower Festival in Baguio City flourishes as it celebrated the festival with a bang. Lovely display of numerous flower species was enjoyed by spectators and locals of the city. Patterned after the Rose Festival in Pasadena Los Angeles California, the affair featured various flower designs in the float parade and street dancing activities. According to the chairman of the festival, the flowers cost approximately more than Php25 million. Most of the flowers were used during the float parade and street dancing activities. As expected, the city welcomed thousands of visitors during the whole celebration. Most hotels and inns were also fully booked with reservations. Since its birth in 1993, the festival proved to be a profitable event for the city's floriculturists.

Lastly...

NAIA 3 Opening postponed

A number of beams, girders, post-tension slabs, columns, and piles are to be remedied or reconstructed even because of poor quality. More so, it was discovered that the foundation of the vehicular access ramp was unstable and therefore, requires immediate repairs. Based on these findings, recommendations of TCGI Engineers Incorporated and Ove Arup and Partners HK Ltd., the NAIA-3 opening, originally slated at the end of March, be postponed again on a later date. The said party advised officials of the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) that to ensure the safety of everybody who will use the airport; it is but proper to review the structural design and construction of the whole facility.

MIAA General Manager Alfonso Cusi informed Ken Kurebayashi, the project director of Takenaka Corporation, the contractor hired by the Philippine International Air Terminals Co. (PIATCO), of such findings and urged that it was important to address NAIA-3's structural problems so as not to endanger the lives of millions of passengers and employees who will eventually use the facility of the establishment.

Source: Philippine Star March 6, 2007

Reminder: NAIA terminal fee

All passengers departing from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport will be required to pay a Passenger Service Charge of Php550.00 and a Security Development Charge of Php200.00. Exempted are infants or children below 2 years old, transit passengers, refugees, extra crew, pilgrims, athletes and sports official, deportees, and Overseas Contract Workers (OFWs).

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