

# DS Davao, the premier city in Mindanao

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Davao City  
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June 24, 1978

Welcome to Davao in the land of promise — the "Deep South" of the Philippines. You will feel welcomed the moment you set foot on this 244,000-hectare metropolis — the "premier city in this side of the Pacific."

Davao is only 90 minutes by jet plane from Manila but in spite of this proximity, Davao is aptly considered the "Deep South" of the Philippines. For truly it is because while Davao is a progressive commercial, industrial and agricultural center it is the sum total of and idyllic panorama of southern culture and southern art that always enchant Filipinos and foreigners alike.

#### INSTANT PHILIPPINES

The city and the three provinces of del Sur, del Norte and Oriental that all carry the name "Davao" are melting pots of all the ethnic groups in the country. Name and dialect in the Philippines and for sure you can hear it in Davao. And because of this marvelous mixture of the country's different ethnic groups, Davao is appropriately called "Instant Philippines."

More than four-fifths of the inhabitants are migrants from other places in the Philippines, with the Cebuano-speaking Visayans as the dominant groups. From the island of Luzon also came large groups of Ilocanos, Tagalogs, Bicolanos and Pangasinenses.

Mixing with "nativos", descendants of the pioneer families, the aboriginal tribes and the Muslim groups — together they changed the face of Davao City over-night . . . from a sleepy town near mangrove swamps to a bustling cosmopolitan center populated by over 700,000 people.

#### LEISURELY BUT ALIVE

Davao offers the tourist a welcome change from the hectic tempo of noisy cities. For in spite of its being a boom town, Davao has not lost its atmosphere of languid loveliness.

Yes, everything happens in Davao. Try skin and scuba-diving and explore the beautiful coral reefs underneath the clear waters . . . experience fishing at the Davao Gulf where all varieties of tuna

are found . . . climb Mt. Apo, the highest mountain in the Philippines . . . taste the durian, "the king of Philippine fruits that smells like a hell but taste like heaven" . . . witness how Philippine hardwoods is converted into finished plywoods . . . visit the abaca and ramie plantations that turn out the raw materials for the famous Manila hemp and barong tagalog . . . take time out to visit any of the banana plantations, now one of the biggest dollar earning industries . . . all these and a lot more are in store for the Davao visitor.

#### CLIMATIC CONDITIONS

The visitor to Davao City will find a mild and pleasant climate compared to the heat and humidity of other tropical cities. Shielded from typhoons spawned in the Pacific, Davao City enjoys fair weather throughout the year, with no pronounced rainy or dry season.

#### HOTELS

Davao City has excellent hotel facilities. There are several hotels, four of which have first class accommodations, namely: the Davao Insular Hotel, Hotel Maguindanao, the Apo View Hotel, Venes Hotel and the Imperial Hotel. Other good ones are the Men Seng Hotel, Hotel Amigos, Ronquillo, Island Drive-In and the Davao Bay Hotel.

#### ENTERTAINMENT

Tourists who want their evenings of fun and pleasure can pick from a choice list of nitespots, supper clubs and cocktail lounges.

Awaiting their pleasure are over 20 restaurants serving the best in native, Chinese, American or European cuisine conveniently located all over the city.

For evenings of enjoyable dancing and exciting music, there are three night clubs and scores of cocktail lounges with dining facilities not to mention the bars and beer gardens for the more adventurous.

The night clubs have excellent bands and combos in the fine tradition of Filipinos' love for good music and entertainment. Open-air dining places are popular such as Harana, Anahaw and others.

#### TRANSPORTATION

For several years now, Davao City has been linked to the international jet since the Philippine Airlines started its BAC-11 service with four direct flights to Manila. A smooth 90-minute's ride from Manila brings the visitor to Davao while several other jet-prop daily flights link the city to almost any point in the Philippines.

In going around the city, there are numerous mini-taxis operating in Davao City in addition to jeepneys which are plentiful.

#### SPORTS

For the sports enthusiasts, Davao City offers a variety of sports ranging from scuba-diving to wild-game hunting. Its tropical waters, from sheltered coves of Davao Gulf to the vast open Pacific offer challenge to the fishing aficionado, the underwater explorer and the water skier. A motor boat can easily take you down to Cape San Agustin where large marlin and tuna abound.

Wild game hunting is a

year-round sport because of the dense forests and unexplored mountains where wild deer, monkeys, wild ducks and other wild fowls and animals thrill the hunting enthusiast.

Golfers will have a holiday in Davao City where "one of

the best golf courses in Asia" is found . . . the Apo Golf & Country Club. Another fine golf course is at the Davao Golf Club which is a few minutes nearer from the downtown hotels.

The pelota courts at the Davao Insular Hotel and Hotel Maguindanao offer excitement to those who'd like to try their hand at indoor sports.

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