



Around Manila

Includes »

Corregidor	83
Las Piñas	85
Tagaytay & Lake Taal	85
Anilao	89
Pagsanjan	91
Lucban	92
Olongapo & Subic Bay	93
San Fernando (Pampanga)	96
Angeles & Clark Airport	96
Mt Pinatubo	99

Best Places to Eat

- » Antonio's (p87)
- » Sonya's Garden (p88)
- » Iguana's (p97)
- » Texas Joe's (p95)
- » Vasco's (p95)

Best Places to Stay

- » Farm at San Benito (p89)
- » Kinabuhayan Cafe Bed & Breakfast (p90)
- » Discovery Country Suites (p87)
- » Arthur's Place (p90)
- » Lighthouse (p94)

Why Go?

After the urban joys of Manila have exhausted you, you'll probably be ready for some fresh air. Believe it or not, it's in ample supply in the hilly regions surrounding Manila.

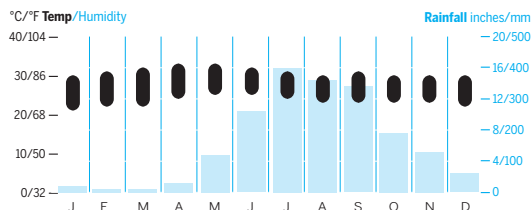
The area south of Manila is home to a clutch of interesting military history sights and some of the most dramatic landscapes you'll find anywhere. Volcanoes are the speciality, with some impressive seascapes thrown in.

Head north and you'll run square into the most notorious volcano of them all, Mt Pinatubo, in the underrated Zambales Mountains. It overlooks the twin ex-military bases of Subic and Clark, now struggling to become tourism hubs.

Unfortunately, getting out of Manila can take the bulk of the morning in rush hour traffic. With the obvious exception of tailor-made day trip Corregidor, most highlights are not really day-trip material by public transport. This is one place you might consider renting a car.

When to Go

Manila



May Local peaks become places of refuge in the height of the hot season.

Dec-Feb The coolest months are particularly welcome.

Aug-Oct Some surf on the Zambales Coast within range of Subic.



Around Manila Highlights

- 1 Journey to volcanic drama on **Mt Pinatubo** (p98)
- 2 Spend a weekend in **Anilao** (p89), the ultimate diving and snorkelling insider spot
- 3 Enjoy sumptuous views of Taal Volcano and sumptuous cuisine in **Tagaytay** (p85)
- 4 Immerse yourself in WWII history on a day trip from Manila to **Corregidor** (p84)
- 5 Jet through the rapids of **Pagsanjan** (p91)
- 6 Go to extremes amid the virgin forests and sunken wrecks in and around **Subic Bay** (p93)
- 7 Take a morning ultralight ride over lush **Mt Arayat** (p97), then climb the extinct volcano the same afternoon
- 8 Swelter through the macabre Good Friday **crucifixion ceremony** (p96) in San Fernando, Pampanga