Island Hopping Itinerary for Palawan

Enjoy the paradise of the Philippines, with its more than 7,000 islands of beaches, in a private, custom boat tour, away from the crowds with the islands to yourselves. This is what we specialize in, as the other tour operators mostly focus on group tours, so ours are best suited for romantic couples and families, or you can certainly form your own group. But being able to travel on your own time schedule and not have to constantly move to the next place by the honk of a horn makes a vacation in this paradise all the more enjoyable.



We suggest you start your trip in <u>Sibaltan</u>, on the peninsula east of <u>El Nido</u>, although you can certainly start in <u>Coron</u> instead and do the following itinerary backwards.

Sibaltan is a very chill village with lots to do and worth to stay one night. Our tours include van transport to or from El Nido, where we can also arrange boat tours for you.





Day 1 - Sibaltan launch

Binulbulan Island

This island will be your first experience with the beautiful coral reefs in this area, each one unique in its own way. There is now a new pearl farm being installed just offshore from this anchorage (there are many pearl farms along this route, as they require super clear waters). And for added zest, we'll throw in a case of our favorite beer to get you going!



Maosanon Island

Known locally as Mystery Island, is raw and bare, with no electricity or other structures aside from the caretaker's humble hut and a few makeshift cottages where visitors can take refuge. The beach extends as a peninsula, when during low tides you can cross over on foot to **Small Maosonan Island**, where there are some beautiful corals to view.



Nearby there is also a small island along our route where you'll have a chance to see some manta rays!

After that it is off to <u>Magransing Island</u>, an underrated tropical island in Palawan. Also known as Little Maosonon Island, you can actually see a little resemblance



between Magransing and Maosonon. The island is well known for its long sand bar, which looks really amazing. The sand bar is quite narrow that you can see the waves meeting from both sides. It is better to go there when it is low tide so the sand overlaps the water. It will take roughly 30 minutes from Maosonon Island to get to Magransing Island, but as always, it is a paradise



pleasure to watch the various islands pass you by while you lounge in the banka boat.

Accommodation:
Hut or tent on beach,
depending on your
preference.

Day 2 - Off the beaten path

Tacling Island

Awesome snorkeling, awesome beach, a deserted island you can camp out on. There are a couple of huts offering seating and shade, and a cottage for rent. The beach area is very spacious and a good place for an overnight campfire party, with beautiful coral reefs.



After that it is off to **Cobra Island** for coral reefs and a beach stroll, and then to **CalaCala Island**. CalaCala Island has wonderful snorkeling, a quiet little island and good place to stop for lunch, very possibly deserted. Excellent snorkeling if you're a strong swimmer during tide changes. It has a hut for sitting and shade and good place for small lunch party. Two long stretches of beach meet at a rocky point, where there is a mini cave opening into the ocean.



Cagdanao Island

The whole island is surrounded with a coral reef, offering a variety of diving sites from shallow coral gardens to deep drop-offs on the north side. It is popular for both snorkeling and scuba diving, and is home to a beach resort. Another way you can enjoy the beautiful beach here is use of the volleyball net set up.

<u>Accommodation</u>: Cottage/hut or tent on beach, depending on your preference.



Day 3 - Last night in paradise

Linapacan

One thing to remember is your entire journey until the popular spots around Coron tomorrow will be off the beaten path, through remote areas with few tourists, except for the big group tours occasionally passing through. So the transfer between each island becomes part of the tour, when you will find yourself smiling as you glide past empty beaches, locals living in self made huts going about their fishing activities. Following are the spots you will visit on the third day, with a brief explanation.



Turtle Island to check out some turtles while snorkeling, followed by Bulawit Island for some cliff jumping. A short rope helps you crawl up the rocky cliff face, to a natural platform about 5m above the tossing ocean below. Then it is to Manligad island for some coral reefs and beach strolling, and finally to Araw beach. Araw beach is magical as it resides in a calm channel along the route and a great place for overnight campfire partying.

<u>Accommodation</u>: From air-conditioned hotel, to hut to tent on the beach, depending on your preference.



Day 4 - Coron highlights

Banana Island

Heading up to Coron, we come to the first of the spots to see along the way, a lovely, chill little island in the shape of a banana. It has its own sandbar and hammocks to chill out and relax, or take a nap.

Barracuda Lake

A popular inner lake you can explore, usually with less people than the other popular Coron sites. Small climb, deep and good for scuba diving. This famous fresh and salt water lake holds a secret that draws in diving enthusiasts from all over the world. Starting out on the surface of the lake, divers, swimmers, and scuba enthusiasts can expect temperatures around 82 degrees Fahrenheit. But as you descend into the depths of the lake, around 45 to 50 feet down, the temperature drastically changes to just over 100 degrees Fahrenheit (to put that in perspective, most people keep their hot tubs at 104 degrees, so it's best to forego a wet suit here). This very strange increase in temperature is due to the fact that the lake contains both salt and freshwater. Divers can even see the thin, distinct boundary that separates the two bodies of water.

Barracuda lake is also characterized by an impressive display of limestone formations that rise up on all sides and extend beneath the surface.



Kayangan Lake

The boat docks at a long wooden dock, along which you walk to get to the entrance. A long climb up stairs takes you to a fantastic view of the bay below. Usually there can be a longer line to get to the photo op sweet spot, but well worth it.

After that you go back down about the same distance to a lagoon, semi surrounded by a wooden dock. Nice snorkeling but expect a lot of people, this perhaps the most popular spot in the Coron area.



Twin Lagoon

Your boat can park at the entrance of either lagoon. You swim there and explore the beautiful corals and rock formations. In the middle is a tunnel you can swim through to the other lagoon, or you can walk over on the outside. This is a popular place near Coron so expect a lot of tourists.

The above is only a sample of what you can see during your multiday expedition, on average about 4-5 sites a day, depending on your pace, but you can check out all the potential sites here.

Note that this multiday tour does not include any of the El Nido sites

or all of the Coron sites, but you can see those in a combination tour.

Hope to see ya!



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