Boat tour: 4 days 5 pax starting April 29, Sibaltan to Coron

Customer: Leigh [redacted]

Special requests: Pick up in private van from Qi Palawan at 9am. Will have van taking us to Sangat at end, need to know what time boat will end in Coron. Would like to learn how locals catch fish. Snorkel gear for all 5. Kids are adventurous, make sure not to miss the cliff jumping. Beach fire with music every night. No breakfast the first day because will be eating at Qi Palawan (but have snacks and fruits ready please). Case of beernabeer or san miguel light with ice included.

Night 1 Calibangbangan Island.

Night 2 Linapacan tourist camp

Night 3 Araw beach

Boatman contact: [redacted] Amount to pay boatman on boarding: 30,000p cash

Additional info:

As final words to help you prepare for your tour, I would like to mention the following:

- There is no Globe signal along most of the way but only Smart, so I would suggest you get yourself a sim card, preferably for both. Globe is stronger in Coron, and I believe there is no Smart signal in Sibaltan but only Globe. You should be able to get both at the airport on arrival and no ID should be required. They are not expensive and it will make your communication much easier. The internet can be extremely slow at certain times and places. I'm online practically all the time but if you like I can give you my number if you need to reach me quickly.
- If you have any fancy equipment, make sure to get a good quality wet bag. They are not expensive and readily available in the area, but your Boatman should also have some, but better safe than sorry.
- If you'd like to go food selecting with your boatman when they buy food for you, arrange it with them. Best to go very early so that you can start your tour early. You can either in El Nido the day before or in Coron (from where the tours depart) in the morning of your departure.
- You can get drinks in most places but if you'd like to camp out on a deserted island, make sure you prepare a little in advance.
- There are ATMs in Coron and some in El Nido, but not in between, so it might be a good idea to stock up on cash either in Manila or at the airport. Beware of ripoff AMTs at the airport. We have an account at BDO and so far they have proven reliable.
- In this message I have connected you with your boatman and included all your requests. You are free to communicate with them with whatever other requests you might have. I will also be monitoring our correspondence in the usual manner.

<u>Qi Palawan</u>



You'll be staying here but it is not part of our tour.

April 29 - Day1

We pick you up from Qi Palawan at 9am by private van to take you to Sibaltan, which is the launching point of the tour. You stated you would will have breakfast at Qi Palawan, but snacks and your welcome case of beer will be ready for you on boarding.

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.

Calibangbangan Island

First night sleep in huts on beach.

Day 2

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 <u>CalaCala</u> <u>Island</u>. 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.





Linapacan Tourist Camp

Sleep in huts with fan on beach.

Day 3

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 <u>cliff jumping</u>. 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 <u>Araw beach</u>. Araw beach is magical as it resides in a calm channel along the route and a great place for overnight campfire partying.





Araw beach

Sleep in tent on beach, with mattresses, sheets and pillows etc, provided free of charge by your crew.

Day 4

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.

A van arranged by Sangat will pick you up from the Coron pier at your time of choosing (5pm?) and the captain has a phone in case there will be delays or otherwise.



Sangat Island Dive Resort

You will be staying here and outside the scope of our tour.



Have a great tour! Island Hopping in the Philippines