

Bantayan Island

: Bantayan means “KEEP WATCH! KEEP WATCH, because of the watchtowers which served as look-outs for the incoming Moro pirate vessels in the past



Bantayan is located at the northernmost tip of Cebu mainland and is composed of three municipalities namely Sta. Fe, Bantayan and Madridejos. Your trip to Bantayan will be one of the most enjoyable and memorable experiences of your lifetime. The white sand beaches of Bantayan Island are pristine and unspoiled by over development and excessive tourism as in most other locations around the world. On any given bright and sunny day when the winds are calm and the water is so crystal clear and blue that a leisurely swim in the 85 degree water will satisfy your senses as nothing else you have ever experience before. From the moment that your tired feet touch

the powder soft white sand beaches, feel your aching body soothed by the crystal clear water. You will never forget this island paradise.

VOCABULARY

municipalities
pristine
unspoiled
excessive
soothed

QUESTIONS

1. Name the three municipalities of Bantayan Island.
2. What words were used to describe the beaches and the water of Bantayan?
3. What is your idea of a perfect vacation?

EXERCISE

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from the story.

municipality pristine unspoiled excessive soothe

1. The car seemed to be in _____ condition.
2. When purchasing a product, check the number on the bottom of the container to make sure your _____ can recycle it.
3. I would love to go to an island with clean, _____ beaches.
4. I picked up the crying child and tried to _____ her.
5. She was reprimanded for her _____ tardiness.

Camotes Island

: once known as “The Lost Horizon of the South” because of its unspoiled atmosphere



The Camotes Islands are a group of islands that form part of the province of Cebu, Philippines. The island group is located at the Eastern part of Cebu and the southwest of Leyte Island and north of Bohol Island. The Camotes is comprised of the following islands: Poro, Pacijan, Ponson, Tulang. Surprisingly, it is affordable to stay in a beautiful island like this; sometimes you just need to know where to find the hidden gems. Enjoy a piece of seclusion and delight

in one of the world's undiscovered paradises, home to some of the Philippines best beaches. It's so easy to forget all the modern comforts of home when you are staying on a paradise like this. No wonder the locals are so friendly and happy, they know they are on a good thing.

VOCABULARY

gems
seclusion
delight
comprise
comforts

QUESTIONS

1. Where is Camotes Island located?
2. What islands comprised Camotes?
3. How were the locals of Camotes described in this article?

EXERCISE

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from the story.

gems seclusion delight comprises comforts

1. I enjoyed the _____ of the island.
2. He watched the fireworks with _____.
3. He makes a living selling precious _____.
4. They were great _____ to each other during that difficult time.
5. Each army division _____ 4,500 troops.

Malapascua Island

: means "Unfortunate Christmas" in English, there's nothing unfortunate if and when you experience the beauty that the white sand beaches that the island has to offer



Malapascua Island has a charm that many have so often wished to find in a tiny isolated beach paradise. The beach bungalows nestled in between the locals' homes makes you feel like you have really left your own world behind. Diving with the thresher sharks is the main highlight, and it's one of the best places in the world to see these distinctive-tailed sharks. Located off the northern tip of the province, its tight island community, absence of cars and sporadic electricity supply give Malapascua a

laid back charm that keeps it grounded in the face of some rapid fire development.

VOCABULARY

isolated
nestled
sporadic
thresher sharks
laid back

QUESTIONS

1. What is your favorite beach in the world?
2. Do you think island life is ideal?
3. How do we best maintain the beauty of beaches?

EXERCISE

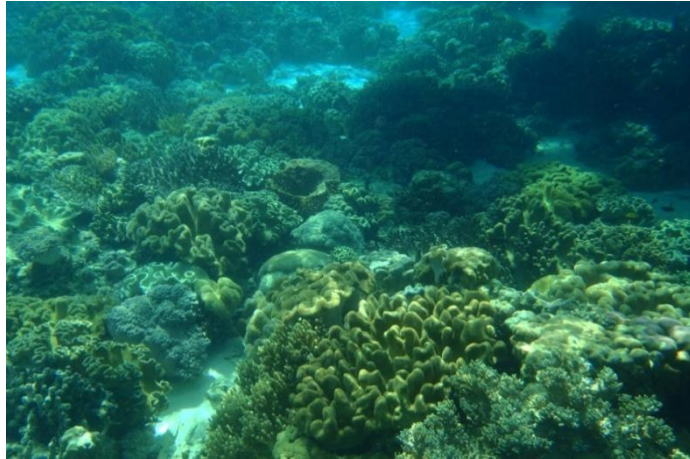
Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from the story.

isolated nestled sporadic thresher sharks laid back

1. _____ cases of the disease were reported.
2. _____ grow to about 6 meters long.
3. The town remains a very _____ community.
4. He has a _____ attitude.
5. He _____ his head against his mother's shoulder.

Moalboal

: originated from the word bukal-bukal which means 'bubbling stream'



One story tells Moalboal has a spring where many of the locals get their water. One day, a foreigner happened to ask a woman with a cleft lip the name of the place. Thinking that the foreigner is asking about the spring, she answered back that it was a bukal-bukal. But her speech condition made it sound like Moalboal. As interesting as its legend, the spring offers interesting adventures that one surely doesn't want to miss. Moalboal is a sleepy town located in Southern Cebu – best known for its beaches, colorful underwater world. It's an impeccable weekend get-away from the hurried capital of Cebu.

The place is a dive location in the Philippines ideal for: reef diving, underwater photography and resort based diving holidays

VOCABULARY

cleft lip
legend
sleepy town
impeccable
get-away

QUESTIONS

1. What water activities have you tried?
2. What marine animals do you want to see?
3. Share an interesting story about your city that tourists would love to go to.

EXERCISE

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from the story.

cleft lip legend sleepy town impeccable get-away

1. She has _____ manners.
2. We're planning a weekend _____ to the mountains.
3. Tina underwent a _____ procedure.
4. I don't believe the _____ I've heard about this forest.
5. Moalboal used to be a _____ before it became a popular diving site.

OSLOB

: came from a misunderstanding between a native couple, who answered "Toslob", which means "soak" when asked about the name of the place while they were soaking bananas with the vinegar and salt



Oslob in Cebu is the place where you can relax away from the busy world.

Reasons why Oslob is very special:

If you want to swim or dive with whale sharks, this is the place.

If you want to experience clean water and fresh air, this is the place.

If you want to enjoy amazing natural 300 feet high waterfalls, this is the place.

If you want to enjoy white beach, swimming and sunbathing, this is the place.

If you want to experience the Oslob shark

interactions always respect safety regulations and follow your tour guide at all times.

VOCABULARY

dive
waterfalls
sunbathing
interaction
regulations

QUESTIONS

1. What is the cutest sea animal for you?
2. Name one special activity you can try in Oslob.
3. What kind of sea adventure would you like to try and why?

EXERCISE

Use one of the words or phrases below to complete each of these sentences from the story.

dive waterfalls sunbathing interaction regulations

1. Don't swim too close to the _____!
2. People were _____ on the beach.
3. Students should have a lot of _____ with their teacher.
4. Each agency has its own set of rules and _____.
5. This will be my first _____ on a coral reef.