Happy Easter!

Where there is life, there is hope.

Destination News

Spanish Navy training ship Juan Sebastian de Elcano approaching the port in Cebu.

The Elcano given a ceremonial welcome by the Philippine Navy and Philippine Coast Guard.

Strutting Elcano in colorful costumes entertaining the crew of the Elcano in the port of Cebu.

Pictures courtesy of Lapu-lapu City Tourism, Cultural and Heritage Affairs Commission

Spanish Navy Training Ship Juan Sebastian de Elcano arrives in Cebu

On March 16, 1521, Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan attempted to sail around the world for Spain and landed in Cebu with 5 ships and 250 men. Of these, only one ship, commanded by Juan Sebastian De Elcano, successfully came back to Spain making Elcano the first explorer to circumnavigate the world.

On March 16, 2021, the Spanish Navy training ship bearing his name, the Juan Sebastian de Elcano, arrived in the Philippines with 220 men and Pacific docked in the port of Cebu on March 20th. The ship and her crew were met by the ships of the Philippine Coast Guard and the Philippine Navy at the Mactan Channel.

The Elcano is a 114-year old four masted topsail, the third largest tall ship in the world and has sailed over 400,000 nautical miles. It is the 2nd Spanish Navy training ship to visit Cebu and the Philippines. Her visit to the Philippines from March 16 to 22. She left Spain in October 2020 to retrace Ferdinand Magellan's original route 500 years ago.

Local government officials were at the Port of Cebu to welcome the Spanish crew together with Amaya Fuentes Milani, the Spanish Embassy's deputy head of missions. The crew were entertained by Sinulog dancers.

Though the ship's crew were not allowed to disembark for safety and health reasons, Elcano's Captain Santiago de Cellos thanked the people of Cebu for the warm welcome during the visit.

Sunny-Sunny Sugbo

Following the issuance of Executive Order No. 12 s. 2021 by Governor Gwendolyn Garcia, the Cebu Provincial Government launched "Sunny-Sunny Sugbo" (travel around Cebu) tour packages to stimulate domestic tourism and attract visitors from Manila and other provinces.

The packages consist of 4 days/3 nights stay inclusive of accommodation, four breakfasts, breakfast, lunch, and dinner, tour guides, transportation, entrance fees to tour destinations, namely Bantayan Island Getaway, Malapascua Island Getaway, Southern Adventure and Northern Escapade. For each package there will be maximum 20 participants per tour, which will be spread out depending on the travelers' choice of accommodation.

According to Governor Garcia, this is an important project to provide opportunity for hotels and resorts, who have been suffering from the effects of the pandemic. This will further benefit the airlines, tour operators, tour guides and land transport providers.

photo credit to Sunny Sunny Sugbo

Entry requirement for non-essential travel to Cebu Province has been simplified. Visitors must be free of Covid-19 symptoms before departure and upon arrival in Cebu and will only need to present a medical certificate issued seven days prior to arrival by a licensed physician and a confirmed hotel booking.

Through non-essential travel from Manila and the four neighboring provinces are on hold until the end of April, the Province of Cebu believes that pent-up demand and quarantine-ready will drive visitors to travel to Cebu once allowed in the coming month. The packages are available on www.tourpass.ph.

For more details, visit
https://www.facebook.com/sunnysunnysugbofficial/

photo credit to Sunny Sunny Sugbo

What Guests Say About Cebu

Cafe Laguna