

TECHNICAL TOUR

The host will organize a one day visit to the different resettlement sites and Yolanda Markers in the City of Tacloban and excursion to the Sohoton Caves and Natural Bridge in the Municipality of Basey, in Samar Island on Wednesday, November 9, 2016.

- Whole Day Tour: 50 USD/person (30 USD for students)
- Half Day Tour: 25 USD/person (15 USD for students)
- Please inform your attendance at the time of registration.

■ ITINERARY

Half Day Tour (8:00 – 13:30)

- 8:00 Pick-up at Hotel
 - 8:30 Typhoon affected coastal community (Barangay Baybay, San Jose)
 - 9:15 Yolanda Memorial Marker at the Astrodome – evacuation center
 - 9:45 Yolanda Shipwreck Memorial in Barangay Anibong
 - 10:45 Tacloban North Villages in Brgy. Sto.Nino, Tacloban City
 - Cali Transitional Shelter site in Brgy. Cabalawan
 - UNDP Housing site
 - First permanent housing site at GMA Kapuso Village
 - Habitat for Humanity Housing site in Brgy. Sto. Nino
 - Villa Diana Housing site by National Housing Authority
 - San Juanico Bridge to Samar Island
 - 12:00 Lunch at Pasqualino's in Sta.Rita, Samar
 - 13:30 Arrive in Tacloban City
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Whole Day Tour (8:00 – 19:00)

- AM Same as OPTION 1
 - PM
 - 13:30 Sohoton Cave excursion
 - 19:00 Arrive in Tacloban City
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■ PURPOSE OF THE TOUR

- To know the various resettlement sites established after the devastation of Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) in the City of Tacloban and to learn from the experiences of the Internally Displaced People now living in new housing sites;
- To understand the impact of the Super Typhoon as defined by the various memorial markers erected in strategic areas of the City of Tacloban;
- To discover the natural wonders of the Island of Samar in the Philippines.

■ PLACES TO VISIT

◆ Yolanda Memorial Marker at the Astrodome

The 7-meter steel sculpture designed by Architect Caryl Bacason, portraying the winds of Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda) and the resilience of the Taclobanons, stands as a reminder of the people who lost their lives and remained missing after the devastation. The character of the sculpture mirrors the edifice opposite it – the Tacloban Astrodome, which served as an evacuation center for about 7,000 families during the devastation of the Super Typhoon.



Photo (Courtesy of UNHP): The Astrodome, an evacuation center after the Typhoon Haiyan

◆ Yolanda Shipwreck Memorial in Barangay Anibong, Tacloban City



Photo (Courtesy of UNHP) A ship washed ashore after the Typhoon Haiyan, before it was turned into a memorial.

Unveiled last 7th of November 2015 during the 2nd Commemoration of the onslaught of Super Typhoon Haiyan (Yolanda), the M/V Eva Jocelyn Shipwreck Memorial serves as a tribute to the lives lost when the cargo ship was swept ashore by the powerful winds of the typhoon. MV Eva Jocelyn was one of 8 cargo vessels which ran aground in the village of Anibong during the morning of November 8, 2013.

◆ Tacloban North Villages in Brgy. Sto.Nino, Tacloban City

The Village of Sto. Nino in the north of Tacloban is the site for the resettlement projects established after the devastation of the Super Typhoon. 15 kilometers away from the city proper, the Tacloban North Villages now serves as a new home for the more or less 1,000 families from the city's coastal areas. Organizations such as the GMA Kapuso Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, Shell Foundation, Global Medics and others have built homes in the site with social facilities like schools for easy access of the new



Photo (Courtesy of UNHP): The Tacloban North Villages as detailed in the City's Tacloban Recovery and Rehabilitation Plan

residents. In the nearby village of Cabalawan, UNDP is in the last phase of construction of 55 units for the families affected by the Typhoon. Soon, families still in temporary facilities can live in permanent shelters designed to withstand strong winds.

◆ San Juanico Bridge



Photo (Courtesy of RURO flickr.com) Aerial view of San Juanico Bridge connecting two islands

The San Juanico Bridge is the longest bridge in the Philippines stretching 2.162 kilometers over the San Juanico strait. Forming the letters L & S to represent the 2 islands it connects, Leyte and Samar, the bridge was constructed as part of the Pan-Philippine Highways (commonly known as Maharlika Highway) which serves as a network of highways and bridges connecting the major islands of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao in the Philippines. The bridge was completed in 1972 after 3 years of construction with help from Japanese Engineers. Formerly known as the Marcos

Bridge, being built during the administration of former President, Ferdinand Marcos, the magnificent structure serves as a backdrop for Tacloban's gorgeous sunsets.

◆ Sohoton Caves and Natural Bridge

About 45 minutes away from the City of Tacloban is the Sohoton Natural Bridge Natural Park, an 841-hectare protected area located in the Municipality of Basey, Samar. The national park was established to preserve the area's geological features and natural wonders. Known for its natural beauty showcased in its caves, subterranean rivers, waterfalls, and unique limestone formations, it is also popular for its magnificent stone bridge (natural bridge) which connects 2 mountain ranges. Visitors to the site can engage in adventure activities



Photo (Courtesy of Gerardale Anne Balintec): One of the caves in the Sohoton Natural Bridge Natural Park in Basey, Samar.

such as spelunking, boating, bird watching, nature-tripping and other various activities which can be done with the assistance of local guides accredited by the Philippines' Department of Tourism.