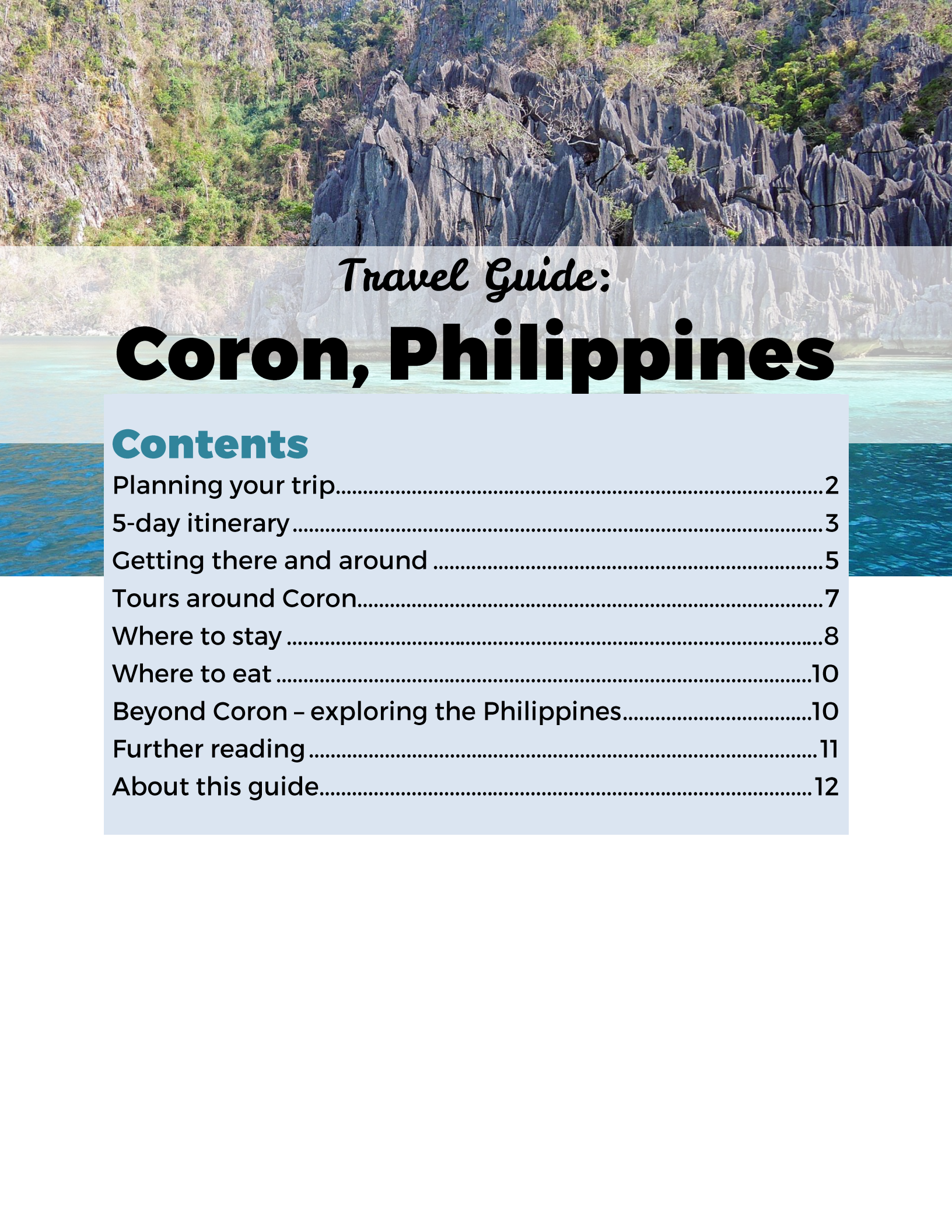




Travel Guide: **Coron, Philippines**

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Planning your trip

Use this checklist to plan your trip to Coron, Philippines. Click on the links for helpful information and travel sites.

Pre-trip essential information

- ☐ [General visa information for travel to the Philippines](#)
- ☐ [Health information for travelers to the Philippines](#)
- ☐ [Get a travel insurance](#)

Getting there and around

- ☐ [Flights to Coron \(Busuanga airport\)](#)
- ☐ [Tours around the island](#)

Accommodations

- ☐ [Coron hotels and resorts](#)



5-day itinerary



[Tourist map: Use this Google map to plan your trip.](#)

Here's a rough road trip itinerary you can follow while planning and booking your trip to Coron.

DAY 1

Arrive in Busuanga airport on an afternoon flight and stay in Coron town.

Tour of Coron Town

- **Duration:** 3-4 hours
- **Points of interest:** Mount Tapyas peak for sunset, Maquinit hot springs in the evening
- **Eat:** Lolo Nonoy's Food Station, Kawayanan Grill Station, Balinsasayaw Restaurant, Lobster King
- **Getting around:** Hail a tricycle (or van, for bigger groups) and charter them for the afternoon. Or, you can [join this town tour](#).

DAY 2

Coron Island Tour

- **Duration:** 1 whole day
- **Points of interest:** Kayangan Lake, CYC Beach, Coral Garden
- **Getting around:** Charter a boat or [join this tour](#)

DAY 3

Malcapuya Island and nearby islands

- Duration: 1 whole day
- Points of interest: Malcapuya Island, Banana Island, Bulog Dos
- Getting around: Charter a boat or [join this tour](#)

DAY 4

Calauit Safari Park

- Duration: 1 whole day
- Points of interest: Calauit Safari Park
- Getting there: [Join this tour](#)

DAY 5

Coron Island Tour

- Duration: Half-day
- Points of interest: Other spots around Coron Island – Banol Beach, Barracuda Lake, Twin Lagoon
- Getting there: Charter a boat
- Catch late afternoon flight out of Coron



Getting there and around

From Manila, Clark, or Cebu

Flying - If you're coming from Manila or Cebu, the easiest way to get to Coron is via the Busuanga airport. [Cebu Pacific Air](#), [Philippine Airlines](#), and [Skyjet](#) all have flights to Busuanga and it's worth checking out those three airlines to see which one is offering the cheapest or more convenient flights on your dates.

A tip for choosing the time of your flight in: note that most island tours begin early morning (like 7 AM or 8 AM), so it's not really worth getting an early morning flight. You most likely won't be able to go on an island tour in the morning of your first day anyway, and most hotels in Coron town will only let you check in after noon. While you can go on a town tour on your first day, this usually takes only 3-4 hours, so most operators advise to start at around 3 PM or later, which is just in time to catch the sunset from the peak of Mt. Tapyas. Bottom line is, if you think it's a chore to get ready for your flight so early in the morning (who doesn't?), you wouldn't miss a lot if you take an afternoon flight instead.

When choosing your flight out, though, try to get an afternoon flight. Most hotels will request you to check out by 12 noon, and then it's a 45-minute ride to the

airport, making a 2 PM flight or later the ideal flight out. This allows you to squeeze in one last half-day island tour before leaving paradise.

From Busuanga airport to Coron town – You’ll see lots of vans immediately outside the airport’s arrivals area and someone will definitely offer you a ride to the town. Let them know which hotel you are headed so they can bring you to the appropriate van. As of writing, the fare is PHP 150/person and travel time is 30-45 minutes. The great thing about Coron is that they have standardized rates (and in my experience, they all keep to it), so don’t stress yourself haggling.

You can also arrange your airport transfers with your hotel in advance. For those staying in the more high-end hotels and resorts, this will likely be a complimentary service. Your guide will be waiting for you at the arrivals.

From El Nido and Puerto Prinsesa

Here are the ways you can travel from the other Palawan destinations.

From Puerto Prinsesa to Coron – 2Go Travel offers ferries from Puerto Prinsesa to Coron every Saturdays and Wednesdays, with a usual travel time of 27 hours. [You can check the schedule here.](#)

From El Nido to Coron – Montenegro Lines has a fast craft ferry that plies daily from El Nido to Coron (6 AM to 9:30 AM) and back (12 NN – 3:30 PM). [You can get in touch with them here.](#)

Getting around – public transportation, boat charters, and group tours

Public transportation around Coron town – You can get around Coron in tricycles (as of writing, the fare is PHP 10 per person if riding within the town proper; it can be more expensive when going to the port or farther). If you’re traveling with a big group or visiting several destinations, it may be more cost-effective to charter a tricycle or a van for the day. Your hotel can usually arrange this for you, or you can hail and negotiate with a driver yourself.

Chartering a boat – To get around the islands, you'll either have to charter a private boat or join a group tour. Chartering your own private boat may be a bit more expensive than going on tours, especially for smaller groups, but it's great if you want to take control of your schedule and avoid the crowds. It's also good for half-day island tours – if you want to go around in the morning before flying out, for example. To charter a boat, go to the Calamian Tourist Boat Association office (see map).

Group tours – If you prefer a hassle-free vacation, all-inclusive group tours can save you from stressing over logistics. They'll take care of everything – transfers to and from your hotel, your meals for the day, and entrance and environmental fees to all the destinations. If you factor all that in, this can come out cheaper. If you're traveling in a big group (8 or more), you can even ask the tour operator to make the tour exclusive to your group, which then gives you more flexibility with your schedule.

You can scout around for tour operators once you're in Coron or ask your hotel to set you up, but if you want to take care of it in advance (especially if you're visiting on a tight schedule), here are our recommended tours.

Tours around Coron

- [Coron Island tour](#) – This tour brings you to most of the best spots around Coron Island, including Kayangan Lake, CYC Beach, and Coral Garden.
- [Malcapuya, Bulog Dos, and Banana Island](#) – This tour brings you to another set of islands a bit farther.
- [Reefs and Wrecks Dive](#) – If you're up for a dive, Coron has plenty of reefs and wrecks to check out.
- [Calauit Safari](#) – Enjoy the safari and learn about the island's conservation efforts.
- [Coron Town tour](#) – This is another popular organized tour, but personally, I'd do this DIY. What we did was to charter a tricycle to bring us to Mt. Tapyas and then to Maquinit Hot Springs. We skipped the other town sights.

Where to stay

Hotels and resorts in Coron span the whole spectrum of budgets – from the super budget backpacker to the luxury traveler. But, if you're traveling on a budget, you need to temper your expectations. Budget to mid-range accommodations in Coron aren't beachfront, they're located in Coron town. But if you absolutely must wake up to the sound of the waves and step out and feel the sand on your toes first thing in the morning, Coron (as in the Calamian Islands) has plenty of luxurious beachfront resorts as well.

Budget accommodations - PHP 1,000 or USD 20/night or less

- **Travelers' Pick:** [Happy Camper Hostel](#) – This one is for the solo budget traveler, as they have dorm beds at PHP 350 (USD 7)/night. And it's not too shabby either. They've got comfortable beds and friendly hosts, and besides, you're in Coron for the beaches right?
- [Apo Pension House](#) – For duos or groups, you can save more here with their double rooms starting at just PHP 650 (USD 13)/night. They even offer airport transfers and car rentals if you want a more convenient stay.

Mid-range accommodations - PHP 1,000-3,500 or USD 20-70/night

- **Travelers' Pick:** [The Bay Area Coron](#) – One of the best mid-range options in Coron! They're relatively new and modern, in a central location near the restaurants, with comfortable beds, great views of the sea, and friendly staff. Double rooms start at PHP 2,400 (USD 50)/night.
- [Coron Villa](#) – This is definitely one of the best-value accommodations in Coron. They have nice, clean rooms, friendly staff, and an in-house restaurant. Double rooms start at PHP 1,750 (USD 35)/night.

- [Haisa Apartment](#) – For families and big groups, Haisa apartment is a great affordable option. They have fully-equipped apartments, they serve breakfast, and can organize island tours for you. Apartments for 4 start at PHP 3,500 (USD 70)/night.

Boutique hotels and resorts

If you want a little extra comfort and ambience, these slightly higher-end hotels and resorts in Coron may be what you're looking for.

- [La Natura Resort](#) – This resort is a bit on the high-end side, but if you want to be away from the Coron town crowd, it might be worth shelling out PHP 4,500 (USD 90)/night. You can hike in the surrounding forest, hang out at the resort's swimming pool, and enjoy wonderful service all around. They also have family rooms, so this is particularly great for bigger groups.
- [Coron Soleil Express Hotel](#) – This is another hotel that is a bit on the splurge side, but it's one of the more modern hotels in Coron. They have an outdoor pool and bike and car rental services, so it's quite easy to enjoy the town from here. Check out their double rooms starting at PHP 4,500 (USD 90)/night.

Luxury beachfront resorts

For the ultimate tropical paradise experience, check out these beachfront resorts in Coron. You'll have a hassle-free vacation as they offer airport transfers, private tours, and a private beach area to lounge as much as you please.

- **Travelers' Pick:** [Two Seasons Coron Island Resort and Spa](#) – Two Seasons is in Malaroyroy island, which is definitely one of the most beautiful spots in Coron! Everything is amazing – the rooms, the resort amenities, and the endless views of the sea. It's a great spot for a honeymoon and other special occasions. Bungalows start at PHP 27,000 (USD 530)/night.
- [Club Paradise Resort Palawan](#) – This is another great and slightly more affordable beachfront resort. It's in its own secluded island so it's a perfect

place for just relaxing on the beach. If you want to go on tours, the resort can arrange that as well. Suites start at PHP 13,500 (USD 270)/night.

Where to eat

You'll find plenty of restaurants in Coron town. For comfort Filipino food like sisig and bulalo, head to Lolo Nonoy's Food Station. For other Filipino favorites like sinigang, kare-kare, and lechon kawali, check out Kawayanan Grill Station and Balinsasayaw Restaurant.

For seafood dishes, head over to Lobster King. Just check out the fresh seafood first before ordering— sometimes the oysters aren't so fresh. I'd suggest you stick to the lobsters, which is their specialty.

For drinks, head over to the [No Name Bar](#) or to [Get Real Café + Bar](#).

If you're looking for international fare, check out [Altrove Coron](#) for Italian dishes then head over to Pedro's Gelato for dessert.

Beyond Coron – exploring the Philippines

Of the many amazing destinations in the Philippines, Coron certainly is fast becoming the most popular. But while pristine islands and sparkling seas are *indeed* the Philippines' biggest draw, there's a lot more you can do in the islands.

- [Exploring Manila](#) – *I know*. It's not quite the tropical paradise holiday you signed up for, but if you're passing through anyway, why not keep an open mind? This article will help you navigate the crazy-chaotic-confusing city that is Manila.

Further reading

- [Talking ecotourism with the Tagbanua by Pia Ranada](#)

Most of Coron is managed by the Tagbanua tribe – which means you have them to thank for keeping Coron pristine. Read more about their sustainable tourism efforts, which hopefully inspires everyone to travel more responsibly (and stop griping about the entrance fees).

- [Coron and the Calamian Tagbanua by Jacob Maentz](#)

A fascinating account of a day with the Tagbanuas. This is Coron beyond the tourist trail.

About this guide

Thank you for downloading this guide! I hope you find the information here useful and I wish you happy travels to Coron, Philippines. Feel free to forward to friends!

You (or your friend) originally downloaded this guide from the [Little Holidays travel website](http://LittleHolidays.travel/website). The information is current as of December 2017 – check the website for updates or visit the relevant links listed in the guide for current information.

If you have more questions about travel in the area, send me an email (hello@littleholidays.net) and I'll be happy to help you!



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