

EL SOL TRAVEL & TOURS SDN BHD - 54B, 1st Flr, Jln Desa Bakti, Tmn Desa, 58100 KL
Tel: 603 7984 4560 Fax: 7984 4561 david@elsoltravel.com www.elsoltravel.com

4D3N Manila, Tagaytay & Taal Heritage Town (SUN, TUE, THU & FRI departures)

DAY 1: Manila – Tagaytay

(L/D)



12.15pm arrival Manila Airport. Transfer for lunch. Transfer to **Tagaytay** and check in at your hotel, located **2,500 feet above sea level**. Enjoy cool highland climate of Tagaytay and the **fantastic view overlooking Taal Lake** with the island volcano in the middle of the lake. Then transfer out for dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Tagaytay.

DAY 2: Tagaytay – Taal Heritage Town – Tagaytay

(B/L/D)



After breakfast, proceed to **Taal Heritage Town**. Located 110km south of Manila, in the province of Batangas, the town of Taal was **founded by Augustinian friars in 1572**. In 1754, the nearby Taal Volcano erupted and destroyed the town. The town was then moved to its present day location. Taal is famous for its old ancestral houses; the whole central district of town is designated as a **National Historical Landmark**.

Go for a walking tour covering **Don Gregorio Agoncillo House**. This is the house where Felipe Agoncillo was born; he was the lawyer who took part in the Treaty of Paris negotiations that led to the sale of the Philippines by Spain to America. His wife Marcela was the “seamstress” of the first Philippine flag. The house was also the home of his nephew Gregorio Agoncillo, whose sister Maria was the second wife of General Emilio Aguinaldo, the President of the First Philippine Republic. The house is filled with beautiful Edwardian and Spanish-inspired local furniture of the 1800’s and early 1900’s.

Nearby is **St. Martin De Tours Basilica Church**, considered the largest church in the Philippines, and possibly in Asia. The church was constructed in 1575 but was destroyed together with the town in the 1754 eruption of Taal Volcano. A new church was built at the new site of Taal Town. In 1878, it was rebuilt into the one you see today.

Walking down the street directly facing the church, you will reach the **Taal Public Market** where you will find many local food specialties of Taal such as longganiza sausages and panocha peanut brittle candy.

Proceed to **Casa Villavicencio**, the former home of Eulalio and Gliceria Marella Villavicencio, built in 1850. The Villavicencios were wealthy shipping and sugar magnates. Gliceria Marella was a supporter and heroine of the Philippine Revolution against Spanish and later American colonial rule. Next to this house is **The Wedding Gift House**, a bridal gift from Eulalio Villavicencio to his wife Gliceria in 1872.

Then go down **St. Lorenzo Ruiz Steps**, the 125 steps that connect lower part of town with the upper part. In the past, the poorer locals used to live in the lower part while the upper crust of Taal society lived above. Half way, detour to visit **St. Lucia Well**, where in 1611, a girl fetching water saw an apparition believed to be of Our Lady of Casaysay.

At the bottom of the steps, **Our Lady of Caysasay Shrine** enshrines the statue of Our Lady of Caysasay; a statue of the Virgin Mary believed to be one of the oldest in the country, having been found in 1603 by a man fishing in the Pansipit River.

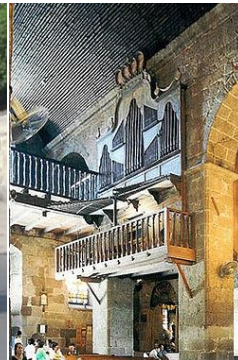
Then visit **Dona Marcela Agoncillo Museum**, located in the former home of Marcela Marino Agoncillo. While in exile in Hong Kong, with the help of her eldest daughter Lorenza and Delfina Herbosa de Natividad, a niece of Jose Rizal, she sewed the first flag of the Philippines, at the request of General Emilio Aguinaldo. Later, on June 12 1898, the General as the President of the First Philippine Republic, unfurled the flag at his home in Cavite town and declared the Independence of the Philippines from Spain.

Nearby is **Villa Tortuga**, restored to look like a 'haciendero' (a rich farm owner's house).

Return to Tagaytay for dinner at local restaurant and then back to hotel to overnight.

DAY 3: Tagaytay – Las Pinas – Manila

(B/L)



Transfer back to Manila, en-route visit a **Jeepney factory**; see how the unique vehicle is made. Then to Las Pinas city to visit **Las Pinas Church**, with its **Bamboo Organ** (completed in 1824) and **church museum**.



Arrival in Manila for lunch. Then to **Intramuros**, the preserved former Spanish walled city, including visiting **Fort Santiago**, **Manila Cathedral**, **UNESCO World Heritage St. Augustine Church**, **Casa Manila** heritage museum and **handicraft shopping**.



Visit **SM Mall of Asia**, the 4th largest shopping mall of the Philippines and is located beside Manila Bay. Dinner on your

own budget here. Overnight in Manila.

DAY 4: Manila

(B/L)



After breakfast visit **Rizal Park**, named after Filipino freedom fighter, Dr. Jose Rizal. Then to Binondo district to visit bustling **Chinatown** and **Binondo Church**.

Then visit the unique **Chinese Cemetery**, where the rich bury their dead in luxurious mausoleums complete with air-con, running water, kitchens, etc! After lunch, transfer to airport for 4.50pm flight home.

RATES: RM 2,230 per person, twin sharing, group size of 8 persons (using 1 tour van); valid till June 2018.

Single Supplement: RM 780

Rates & itinerary are subject to changes in FOREX rates, unforeseen surcharges, weather, local conditions, etc.

INCLUSIVE:

- a) Airport pickup and tour excursion using tour van on private basis
- b) Accommodation with daily breakfast:



TAGAYTAY: Escala Tagaytay (4 star) or similar; location directly facing Taal Lake

MANILA: Kimberly Hotel (3 star) or similar; in Malate shopping & entertainment area

- c) Full board meals except dinner on Feb 21 (on your own budget at Mall of Asia)
- d) English speaking tour guide
- e) Entrance fees for all attractions inclusive as per itinerary
- f) 1 x 500ml bottle drinking water daily

EXCLUDING:

- a) Air tickets, airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- b) Travel Insurance
- c) Malaysians don't require visa to visit Philippines. Other nationalities to be advised.
- d) Day 3 Dinner on own budget (at Mall of Asia)
- e) Tipping: recommended minimum (group size of 8 pax)
 - Guide USD 8 per traveler for whole tour
 - Driver USD 4 per traveler for whole tour
- f) Expenses of personal nature like activities not part of itinerary, tipping to hotel/restaurant staff, laundry charges, mini bar charges, etc.