

FREE

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Philippine primer

The **Expats'** Guide to the **Philippine Lifestyle**

GOOD SCHOOL GUIDE

for expat kids

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International Schools &
Preschools for Expats

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Japan Desk

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Features of the Issue

COVER – Expats have a lot of adjustment to deal with when settling into a new city, even more so for families with children. One of the main challenges for expat families is finding a suitable school for their kids in a new country or city that may have a different school system from their home country. For expat parents who are still brooding over which school to choose in the Philippines, we feature some of the best schools in Metro Manila that every parent, expat and local alike, can entrust the education and development of their children.

JAPAN SPECIAL – As the travel season peaks alongside the summer sunshine in the Philippines, this month's back-to-back feature of Japan's Chubu region, which we fondly call the soul of the rising sun, and Kagoshima Prefecture, dubbed as the "Naples of the East," will be the culmination of our love affair with Japan—one that will inspire every traveler to wander off the beaten track and get to know a side of Japan that not many people know about.

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GOOD SCHOOL GUIDE

Written by Feliz Bueno & Faye Almazan | Design by Dantes Remot



Choosing to move to a foreign country is already difficult enough, but there are more decisions to make after moving in, especially if there are children to consider. Luckily, the Philippines is not short of institutions offering quality education both for local and foreign students. In fact, a good mix of local, private, and international schools can be found in the Metro Manila area alone. In this section, we have gathered some of the best schools in the country to help parents in choosing the most suitable school for their child's needs. These schools cater to every level—from early childhood education all the way to pre-college preparation.

Guidelines for expat parents — how do you pick the best school for your child in the Philippines?

① Consider your family and your child's needs.

- 1. Your child's age. Young children or preschoolers who are yet to start school in the Philippines will have the least difficulty adjusting. For older children or teenagers, it may help to choose a school with a similar environment to what they are used to in their home country.
- 2. Your child's interests. Is your child reserved or shy and needs a supportive environment? Does he/she show interest in sports and other extracurricular activities?
- 3. Possibility of going back to your home country. If there is a possibility, choose a school with an international curriculum or one that has the same curriculum as in your home country.
- 4. Your child's mother tongue. If it's other than English, it may be best to choose a school where your child can still use his/her native tongue while learning other languages.
- 5. Home location. It would be more practical to choose a school that is accessible from your home or one that provides school bus service.

② Get to know the schools.

- 1. Tuition and other fees
- 2. Size of the school and number of students per class

- 3. The faculty — nationality and certifications of the teachers
- 4. Availability of bus service
- 5. International curriculums offered
- 6. Parent and faculty relationship

③ Take the extra steps.

- 1. Communicate with the teachers as good communication between the family and teachers is also important for the child's education.
- 2. If you are not fluent in English, it is good to seek support from other expat parents. Ask them for recommendations.
- 3. Check the schools' websites in advance. There are schools that allot much time for religious or history classes, which may not be a priority for your child. It is good to educate yourself of the classes offered and the options you have for your child's learning.



International Programs

International Baccalaureate (IB)

The International Baccalaureate (IB) is a two-year diploma course offered by the educational organization based in Geneva, Switzerland, targeting children aged 16 to 19. It is widely known for its global standard of academic qualifications. Universities in about 90 countries, including the Philippines, recognize the IB diploma as a credential.

Official website: <http://www.ibo.org>

Cambridge International AS and A Levels

This program is conducted by Cambridge Assessment International Education, one of the largest and most reputable provider of international qualifications in the world. You can go through the assessment for qualification in over 130 countries.

Official website: www.cambridgeinternational.org

International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)

Also offered by Cambridge Assessment International Education, this is for international students aged 14 to 16 years old. It is recognized in the UK as being equivalent to finishing high-school compulsory education.

Official website: www.cambridgeinternational.org

PRESCHOOLS

Happy Hearts @ Rockwell Club



Happy Hearts is a multicultural preschool and play center that has been providing early childhood education since 2001. Their methods of teaching aim to address the cognitive, physical, and socio-emotional areas of childhood development. Their classes, which combine playing and learning, are divided into three: the toddler class, the junior preschool class, and the senior preschool class. They maintain a small teacher-to-student ratio ensuring that every educational and developmental need of the child is well-addressed.

📍 23 Amoroso Dr., Rockwell Center, Makati City; G/F One Rockwell West Tower, Rockwell Center, Makati City

☎ 02-216-7500 / 0917-811-3731 🌐 happyhearts.ph

Class Hours: Half-day Classes - 8 am to 11 am / 11 am to 2 pm; Whole-Day Classes - 8 am to 2 pm (Year-round schedule)

Annual Tuition Fee: Undisclosed; to be discussed with parents upon inquiry

Admission Requirements: Updated immunization record, doctor's certificate, and information sheet

Target Age Range: 1 1/2 to 6 years old

Student Population: 25

Offers Trial Classes: 3 days

Outdoor Activities: Weekly special activities

Extracurricular Activities: Yes

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

Fun-D-Mentals Preschool

Fun-D-Mentals Preschool utilizes English education to effectively form children's language and social skills. The preschool also offers student-interest learnings such as cooking and painting. The materials used in the school are carefully selected to match the student's progress. Fun-D-Mentals Preschool also helps their students' learning development by using high-quality visual aids with a difficult level of mastery.



📍 G/F Salcedo Mansion, 109 Tordesillas St., Salcedo Village, Makati City

☎ 02-818-9764 / 0922-807-4983

🌐 fundamentalspreschool.weebly.com

Class Hours: Morning class: 8:30 am to 11:30 am Afternoon class: 1 pm to 3:30 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Morning class - P146,840 to P168,680; Afternoon class - P133,280 to P168,680

Target Age Range: 1 to 6 years old

Admission Requirements: None

Student Population: 40

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: Yes

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

Cambridge Child Development Center

Cambridge Child Development Center was first founded in Singapore in 1993 and was then introduced to the Philippines in 2001. The center's teaching methods are backed by different educational theories with a focus on addressing a child's individual needs and developing their individual skills and capabilities. Hands-on learning experiences and activities like project time and playtime aid children in their development. The preschool provides different spaces meant for specific learning areas, creation, and exploration.



📍 2/F Cambridge Centre Bldg., 108 Tordesillas St., Salcedo Village, Makati City

☎ 02-844-8633 / 02-844-8392

🌐 cambridge.com.ph

Class Hours: Pre-toddler class: 9 am to 10 am
Toddler classes: 8 am to 10 am / 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
Junior Nursery, Senior Nursery, Kinder classes: 8:30 am to 11:30 am / 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Undisclosed; to be discussed with parents upon inquiry

Target Age Range: 10 months to 6 years old

Admission Requirements: Photocopies of birth certificate or passport, immunization records

Student Population: 80 to 100

Offers Trial Classes: 1-day trial for pre-toddler class and 3-day trial for toddler, junior & senior nursery, and kinder classes

Outdoor Activities: Outdoor classes

Extracurricular Activities: Annual concert

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: Yes (Available at the center)

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

Toddlers Unlimited



Toddlers Unlimited is the first school in Alabang to offer Developmentally Appropriate Programs (DAP) for children 6 months to 6 years old. The school was established to provide a nurturing environment by having the best student-teacher ratio in the area. The school branched out in 2014 with a progressive elementary school, Thinkers Unlimited, which aims to provide older children with an environment where they can pursue their passions and develop creative and critical thinking skills.

📍 4/F Festival Supermall, Filinvest City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City

☎ 02-850-4064 / 0917-898-2557 🌐 toddlersunlimited.com

Class Hours: Vary per year level

Annual Tuition Fee: P80,000 to P145,000

Target Age Range: 6 months to 12 years old

Admission Requirements: Written and practical assessment; parents of elementary students are required to meet with the director

Student Population: 100

Offers Trial Classes: Half-day trial

Outdoor Activities: None

Extracurricular Activities: Chess Club, Engineering for Kids/Robotics, Music Class, Taekwondo, Catechism

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

Creative Play Corner



Creative Play Corner is committed to enhancing a child's individuality by providing a holistic approach where a child's cognitive, social, physical, and emotional needs are nurtured. They also offer activities like Free Play, Unit Study, and Story Time, as well as special classes such as Math and Science Camp, Reading Class, and Dance Theater Arts. These activities encourage children to better themselves and their relationships with others.

📍 2/F Forbes Town Center, Burgos Circle, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City

☎ 02-403-3387 / 0917-844-1118

🌐 creativeplaycorner.com

Class Hours: Nursery: 8:30 am to 11 am; Junior Kinder: 8:30 am to 11:40 am / Optional Afternoon Classes (Mon, Wed, Fri): 8:30 am to 2 pm; Senior Kinder: 8:30 am to 12 pm / Optional Afternoon Classes (Mon, Wed, Fri): 8:30 am to 2:15 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Undisclosed; to be discussed with parents upon inquiry

Target Age Range: 1.6 to 6.6 years old

Admission Requirements: None

Student Population: Approx. 100

Offers Trial Classes: 1-day trial

Outdoor Activities: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: Art and dance classes

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

9th Avenue School

9th Avenue School uses an approach called P.L.A.Y., an acronym for Progressive Learning for Academic Yearners. Their idea of "Play to Learn" revolves around their belief that playing is a child's means of discovery, communication, and self-expression.

The school offers full-time and part-time programs that cater to the needs of each child. They also offer a mixed age class called "Mid-Avenue" that focuses on hands-on learning, guided instruction, and socialization across different age groups. There are also after-school programs, like the Orton Gillingham, a multi-sensory approach to reading and learning, and one-on-one tutorials.



📍 Mezzanine Level, Active Fun Bldg., 9th Ave. cor. 28th St., Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City

☎ 02-856-1478 / 0917-801-7529

🌐 9thavenueschool.com

Annual Tuition Fee: P124,000

Target Age Range: 2 to 5 years old

Class Hours:

Daily Programs

2-year-old class: 9 am to 11:30 am

3-year-old class: 9 am to 12 pm

4-year-old class: 8:45 am to 11:45 am

5-year-old class: 8:30 am to 11:30 am

Mid-avenue class

For 2-year-olds: 8:30 am to 11 am

For ages 3 and 4: 8:30 am to 11:30 am

Part-Time Preschool

(Mon, Wed, Fri; for children ages 2 to 4) 2-year-old class: 12:30 pm to 3 pm

For ages 3 and 4: 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Admission Requirements: None, but trial classes are recommended

Student Population: 45

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Outdoor Activities: None

Extracurricular Activities: None

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes



St. Michael Playhouse

St. Michael Playhouse is the first daycare in the Philippines with a teaching philosophy inspired by Waldorf/Steiner education. Introduced by Rudolf Steiner, Waldorf/Steiner encourages child development through creative play and exploration rather than the standard academic workload. Arts is incorporated in every learning opportunity, may it be in the form of a song, dance, painting, or theater.

📍 6241 Palma cor Mañalac St., Poblacion, Makati City

☎ 0939-925-0848

🌐 stmichaelpayhouse.com

Class Hours: Half-day classes: 8:30 am to 12 pm
Whole-day classes: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Undisclosed; to be discussed with parents upon inquiry

Target Age Range: 3 to 5 years old

Admission Requirements: Admission depends on space availability and age requirement

Number of Students: 16

Offers Trial Classes: 4-week trial period

Outdoor Activities: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: Summer programs and excursion

School Bus Service: No

Uniforms: No

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Depends on availability



Edith Learning Center International Preschool

Edith Learning Center International Preschool promotes both child's academic development and artistic talents. The center modifies its teaching methods to meet the needs of a child and offer an environment where the child is free to explore and learn at their own pace.

📍 U101-102 Kennedy Center, Prime St., Madrigal Business Park 2, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa

☎ 02-823-3129 / 02-904-3498 / 0916-790-7890 / 0921-345-2719

🌐 edithpreschool.com

Class Hours: 9 am to 12 pm / 9 am to 3 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Undisclosed; to be discussed with parents upon inquiry

Target Age Range: 1 to 6 years old

Admission Requirements: None

Student Population: Approx. 20

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Outdoor Activities: None

Extracurricular Activities: Taekwondo, ballet, yoga

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

Gymboree Play & Music



Ever since the development of Gymboree Play & Music in 1976, their concept has expanded to over 700 branches worldwide. With their curriculum developed by experts, Gymboree Play & Music's main philosophy is to aid in the development of a child's physical, social, and cognitive skills through play, movement, and exploration. At the same time, Gymboree classes encourage parents to bond with their children.

📍 The Rockwell Club, Amorsolo Bldg., Rockwell Center, Makati City

☎ 02-798-1718 🌐 www.gymboreeclasses-ph.com

Class Hours: 9 am to 5 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: P4,080 to P34,600

Target Age Range: Newborn to 5 years old

Admission Requirements: None

Student Population: 100 to 300 (each branch)

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Outdoor Activities: None

Extracurricular Activities: Music, arts, and sports

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Brent International School



Brent International School prides themselves in having over 100 years of educational tradition in the Philippines. While the school's main campus is located in Biñan, Laguna, the school branched out to other locations such as Baguio and Subic.

Brent utilizes Western-style education based on Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (ESLRs), which largely benefits their international students. The institution aims to focus on the student's personal growth and academic, interpersonal, physical and spiritual aspects.

The school is well-equipped with facilities and materials that can assist students. Gadgets such as MacBooks and iPads are used in the classrooms for educational purposes. The school also hosts activities such as UN Day and international food festivals, among others.

📍 Brentville Subd., Brgy. Mamlasan, Biñan, Laguna

☎ 049-511-4330

🌐 brent.edu.ph

Class Hours: Vary per level

Annual Tuition Fee: \$3,376 + P154,664 to \$9,120 + P418,900

Other Fees:

Matriculation Fee: \$3,000

Application Fee: \$200

Capital Development Fee (Donation): \$1,575

ESL Fee: \$1,210

Target Age Range: 6 years old and above

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam with interview, passport, visa

Student Population: 1,040

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: After school clubs, Visual and Performing Arts, Sports, Interscholastic Organizations, and Student Leadership

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Outdoor Activities: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes



International School Manila

Founded in 1920, International School Manila (ISM) is the oldest international school in Manila and the first to offer the IB Diploma program in Asia. ISM utilizes an international curriculum and offers a vast array of programs and co-curricular activities that extend learning and development beyond the standard classroom setting. These include Fine and Performing Arts, Athletics, Design Technology and Robotics. ISM's student body embraces true diversity as it is composed of at least 80 nationalities, and the 237 faculty members are just as diverse with 100 from the USA, 50 from the UK and the remainder from 21 other nations.

📍 University Parkway, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City

☎ 02-840-8400 🌐 www.ismanila.org

Class Hours: Vary per level

Annual Tuition Fee: Starting from \$7,600 + P244,000 for Preschool up to \$15,550 + P500,000 for Grades 11 & 12

Other Fees:

Specialized Learning Support Program: \$40,000

Matriculation Fee (one-time payment): \$3,500

Facilities Enhancement Fee (one-time payment): \$3,500; Application Fee: \$450

Target Age Range: 3 years old and above

Student Population: Approximately 2,300

Levels Offered: Preschool to High School

Class Hours: Vary per level

Admission Requirements: Depend on grade level (Refer to www.ismanila.org/ Application-File-Requirements)

Extracurricular Activities: Athletics & Activities, Fine & Performing Arts, ES/MS (Elementary School/Middle School) Activities, Bamboo Telegraph (Student Publication), Sailfish Swimming (Swim Club), and Service Learning

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes



Photos from German European School Manila Facebook

German European School Manila

German European School Manila is the only recognized "German School Abroad" in the Philippines. It is also the only international school in Manila that puts a large focus on the introduction and development of European culture and language. The school offers programs from preschool to IB Diploma Program (IBDP), with a curriculum based on IB Primary Years Program (PYP), Cambridge, and the IBDP. It also has a German Curriculum taught in the German language.

📍 75 Swaziland St., Better Living Subd., Parañaque City

☎ 02-776-1000

🌐 www.gesm.org

Class Hours: Vary per level

Levels Offered: Preschool to IB Program

Annual Tuition Fee: €1,820 + P166,000 to €5,070 + P466,000

Other Fees:

Membership Fee: €150

Entrance Fee: P130,000

Refundable Deposit: P130,000

Target Age Range: 3 years old and above

Admission Requirements:

Entrance exam with interview

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Student Population: 340

Extracurricular Activities: Music, Arts, Science, and Sports

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: No

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes



British School Manila

Established in 1976, The British School Manila adopts a form of the British National Curriculum and offers the IB Diploma Program. The student body is composed of students from at least 44 countries. The sense of community that the school provides the families is remarkable and apparent in all of the school's aspects. The British School Manila offers holistic education and prides itself on honing global citizens.

The campus provides state-of-the-art learning facilities, highlighted by the opening of their new Visual Performing Arts Building. Throughout the years, The British School Manila has had graduates who have been offered spots in top universities around the world.

36th St., University Park, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City

02-860-4800 britishschoolmanila.org

Class Hours: Mon to Wed, Fri: 7:40 am to 2:30 pm; Thu: 8:10 am to 2:30 pm

Levels Offered: Preschool to IB Program

Admission Requirements:

- Application forms and health records
- School reports from the last two years (those coming from a non-British school have to include a grade translation and sample works of English and Math)
- Two recommendations from current school (one from the head teacher/principal and one from the class teacher)
- A copy of birth certificate
- A copy of passport showing the applicant's photo, date of birth, passport number, issuance, and expiry date
- 2x2 photo of the parents and the applicant
- Application fees

Offers Trial Classes: Nursery to Year 2 students are invited for an assessment; Year 3 to Year 6 have a one-day full immersion

Student Population: 950

Extracurricular Activities: ESL Program for non-English speakers, sports, fine and performing arts

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

Nord Anglia International School Manila

Nord Anglia International School Manila follows a British education curriculum that focuses on the development of the child as a globally competitive individual. Resources and books used in teaching are imported from the UK, and teachers are well-equipped to deliver the English National Curriculum.

The international school nestled in Aseana City in Parañaque boasts of a diverse environment, with staff and students of more than 25 different nationalities. Classes are typically smaller in number so the needs of students are addressed, and proper supervision is ensured.



Bradco Ave., Aseana Business Park, Parañaque City

02-519-5799

www.naismanila.edu.ph

Class Hours: 7:30 am to 2:30 pm

Levels Offered: Early Years to Secondary

Annual Tuition Fee: P272,620 to P990,521

Other Fees:

Application Fee: P22,000

Enrollment Fee: P170,000

Capital Development Fee: P130,000

Target Age Range: 2 to 16 years old

Admission Requirements:

Entrance exam and interview

Levels Offered: Early years to Secondary

Student Population: 230

Offers Trial Classes: 1 day

Extracurricular Activities: Arts and crafts, music, performing arts, and sports

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes



Reedley International School

Reedley International School is one of the few schools in the Philippines that is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). It offers complete education from pre-kindergarten all the way to the 12th grade of senior high school. Its humanities curriculum is derived from US' McRel academic program, while its science and math curriculum are from Singapore's national academic curriculum. It is also known to offer English as Second Language (ESL) programs.

J. Cruz St., Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City

02-925-9464 / 02-925-9486 / 02-718-4483 / 02-576-6440 / 0917-507-9306

reedleyschool.edu.ph

Levels Offered: Preschool to Grade 12

Class Hours: Vary per year level

Annual Tuition Fee: P153,000 to P328,000

Target Age Range: 4 years old and above

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam and interview

Student Population: 700

Offers Trial Classes: No

School Bus Service: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: After-School Clubs

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

Southville International School and Colleges



Southville International School and Colleges (SISC) prides themselves on being the only international school in the country, which offers a complete array of educational programs, officially recognized as an educational institution of an international character based on Republic Act No. 9493.

Their curriculum is supported by special academic enhancement programs such as English as Second Language (ESL), tutorials, and the INNOVE, which allows students to finish their curricular programs online or on mixed media.

The school utilizes innovative and internationally-benchmarked curricular offerings in college to ensure that their students are globally competitive. Their astute academic and character building programs ensure that students effortlessly tackle school requirements including social and environmental adjustments.

📍 1281 Tropical Ave. cor. Luxembourg St., BF Homes International, Las Piñas City

☎ 02-825-6374 loc. 100 / 0917-853-2450

🌐 www.southville.edu.ph

Class Hours: Pre-school - 8:30 am to 12:30 pm; Grade School - 8:15 am to 3 pm; High School - 7:30 am to 4:30 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: \$3,000 to \$3,700

Target Age Range: 3 years old and above

Levels Offered: Preschool to Graduate Studies

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam and interview

Extracurricular Activities: Ballet program, and sports and varsity programs

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-term Enrollment: Yes



Singapore School Manila

Singapore School Manila (SSM) adopts the Singaporean curriculum for preschool to lower secondary levels, the Cambridge IGCSE for upper secondary levels, and the Cambridge International AS/A and IB Diploma Program for pre-university levels. They offer trilingual education in British English, Filipino, and Mandarin. The school adheres to the No Homework Policy for students until Secondary 2 and encourages family time. For their IGCSE, IBDP, and AS/A Level students, they are given homework to prepare them for the university level.

📍 Lots 1 and 40, East St., East District, Aseana City, Parañaque City

☎ 02-500-4672 / 02-966-9315 / 02-225-4899 / 0917-536-3920 / 0917-802-5352

🌐 www.singapore-schoolmanila.com.ph

Levels Offered: Preschool to IB Program

Class Hours: Vary per level

Annual Tuition Fee: P190,000 to P360,000

Other Fees:
Processing and Admission Test: P6,000
School Development Fee: P125,000
Student Deposit: P50,000
Enrollment Deposit: P50,000
Processing of Special Study Permit for Foreign Students: P12,000

Target Age Range: 3 to 18 years old

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam and interview

Student Population: 550

Trial Classes: 1 week

Extracurricular Activities: Music, Taekwondo, Football, Performing Arts

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes, but casual wear on Fridays



MIT International School

MIT International School subscribes to the K-12 curriculum developed by the United States. Aside from being one of the Philippine schools to be accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), MIT International School is also one of the few schools in the country that offer a choice to apply for the Advanced Placement (AP) program. The AP program lets high school students take classes that are of a higher level compared to what their curriculum prescribes, thus preparing them more for university-level education. MIT also offers the English as Second Language (ESL) program.

📍 Alabang-Zapote Rd. cor. Don Manolo Blvd., Alabang, Muntinlupa City

☎ 02-809-1616

🌐 www.mitis.edu.ph

Class Hours: Vary per level

Levels Offered: Kinder to Grade 12

Annual Tuition Fee: (As of 2017-2018) P121,000 to P229,162

Other Fees:
Application Fee: P3,000
Entrance Fee: P40,000
Annual Development Fee: P10,000 (Kinder) / P12,000 (G1-12)

Target Age Range: 6 years old and above

Levels Offered: Kinder to Grade 12

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam and interview

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: After school clubs, Student Coordinating Board

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-term Enrollment: Yes



The Beacon Academy

The Beacon Academy is one of the few IB World Schools in the country. It ensures that their students can grow and adapt to international standards. They boast state-of-the-art facilities and an environment conducive to learning.

They are a secondary school that also provides a four-year college preparatory program to their students aged 14 to 18. Classes are often small, with at least 20 students in one class only. This ensures that each student gets the attention and support that they need in order to grow. The Beacon Academy's facilities include indoor and outdoor sports centers and art and technology facilities.

📍 Cecilia Araneta Parkway, Biñan, Laguna

☎ 02-425-1326

🌐 www.beaconacademy.ph

Class Hours: 8 am to 3 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Available upon request

Target Age range: 14 to 18 years old

Levels Offered: Junior to Senior High School

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam, school tour, class sit-in, and interview

Student Population: 120

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: Model United Nations, Chorale, The Griffin Post (School Newsletter), World Scholar's Cup, and Sports and Athletics

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-term Enrollment: Yes

📍 2/F Salustiana D. Ty Tower, 104 Paseo de Roxas, Legaspi Village, Makati City

☎ 02-463-1669

🌐 www.canamschool.org

Levels Offered: Preschool to Junior High School

Class Hours: Preschool - 8 am to 11 am;
Kindergarten - 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: \$5,900 to \$13,600

Target Age Range: 1 year old and up

Admission Requirements: Initial assessment, school tour

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: After-school clubs

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes



Canadian American School

Canadian American School utilizes the North American STEAM curriculum with a focus on multilingualism and acculturation for its co-educational classes from preschool to Grade 12. The STEAM curriculum combines Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics to ensure effective learning among students. As early as preschool, students are exposed to different languages including English, French, German, Hebrew, Japanese, Mandarin, and Spanish.

Domuschola International School



Domuschola International School is also known as the "Second Mom Child Care Kindergarten." The name Domuschola is derived from Latin words *domus* and *schola* meaning "home garden" and "school," respectively. It denotes the strong ties and cooperation between the home and the school.

Domuschola is an IB World School that offers the IB-certified International Primary Years Program (PYP), and Secondary Education Programs. The school caters preschool to secondary education students. Children are given opportunities to immerse themselves in various fields such as arts, IT, and sciences in order to develop multiple skills as members of the next generation.

📍 #13 J. Cruz St., Brgy. Ugong, Pasig City

☎ 02-635-2002 / 02-635-9743 / 0927-651-5669

🌐 domuschola.edu.ph

Class Hours: Toddler: 8:30 am to 11 am / 12 pm to 2:30 pm
Nursery: 8 am to 11 am / 12 pm to 3 pm
Pre-Kinder: 8 am to 11 am / 12 pm to 3 pm
Kinder: 8 am to 3 pm
Grades 1 to 12: 7:30 am to 3:30 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: (As of 2016-2017) Foreign student: P130,501 to P333,570

Other Fees:
Matriculation Fee: P50,000 (Foreign student)
Capital Development Fee: P50,000

Target Age Range: 6 years old and up

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam

Student Population: 250

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: School paper, school events, clubs, and varsity

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

— LOCAL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS —

Colegio San Agustin

Colegio San Agustin is a private Catholic school built in 1969 and is under the administration of The Order of St. Augustine. The co-educational school offers classes from preschool to high school. At least 11% of their student body are from over 40 different countries.

Colegio San Agustin has a two-story sports complex that houses a basketball court, a tennis court, a field, and an Olympic-size swimming pool. These facilities are available for use by students for their classes and after-school club activities.



📍 Palm Ave., cor. Carissa St., Dasmarinas Village, Makati City

☎ 02-843-9998 / 02-844-2002 / 02-844-3723

Class Hours: Vary per level

Annual Tuition Fee: Starts at P112,000

Target Age Range: 5 to 18 years old

Levels Offered: Early childhood education to Senior High School

Admission Requirements: Passport, enrollment permit

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: Excursion, club activities

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: No



Ateneo Grade School

Ateneo Grade School manages the basic education program of Ateneo de Manila University. The exclusive Catholic school has been open for boys since 1859 and follows a Jesuit education, with a philosophy of being a "man for others."

Ateneo Grade School offers eight grade levels that are divided into two areas: primary school (Prep to Grade 3) and middle school (Grade 4 to Grade 7). The core of its academic program is the Christian Life Education (CLE) which aims to develop a deeper understanding of the word of God. It has three general objectives: doctrine, morals, and worship or DMW.

📍 Katipunan Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City

☎ 02-426-6001 loc. 7101, 7102, 7103

🌐 ateneo.edu

Class Hours: Vary per level

Annual Tuition Fee: Undisclosed; to be discussed with parents upon inquiry

Target Age Range: 3 years old and above

Levels Offered: Prep to Grade 7

Admission Requirements: Alien Certificate of Residence, passport, visa, understanding of English, and basic Filipino

Student Population: 3,000

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: Excursion, family events, club activities

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: No



La Salle Green Hills

Established in 1959, La Salle Green Hills is the only all-boys school among De La Salle's chain of universities. While the school is mainly a Catholic institution, students from different religions are also welcome. Classes are conducted in English and are comparable to those of international schools. However, since there are subjects in the school that use Filipino as their language of instruction, non-Filipino speakers will be required to take a "Special Filipino program" in order for them to take Filipino subjects.

📍 Ortigas Ave., Mandaluyong City

☎ 02-721-2000 (loc. 107/205) / 02-727-3761

🌐 lsg.edu.ph

Class Hours: 7 am to 3:30 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Undisclosed; to be discussed with parents upon inquiry

Target Age Range: 4 to 18 years old

Levels Offered: Preschool to high school

Admission Requirements: Entrance exam and interview

Student Population: 3,000 - 3,200

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: Club activities, sports

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Only possible during the first term

UP Integrated School

The UP Integrated School (UPIS) is one of the first integrated schools in the country and has been following an integrated curriculum since it opened in 1976. The establishment of UPIS serves three primary purposes.

First, it functions as a laboratory school of the University of the Philippines College of Education. UPIS is also a service school, which is why admissions to UPIS is geared mostly towards the children of UP personnel. Aside from discounted tuition fees, 60 of the 100 kindergarten slots are reserved for the children of the employees. Lastly, UPIS serves as a feeder school to the premier state university UP.



📍 A.Ma.Regidor cor. Quirino Ave., Diliman, Quezon City

☎ 02-929-7797

🌐 upis.upd.edu.ph/

Class Hours: Between 9 am and 3:20 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: Around P14,000-15,000

Target Age Range: 5 years old and above

Levels Offered: Kinder to Grade 12

Admission Requirements: Kindergarten Admission Test (KAT) and Grade 7 Admission Test (GAT)

Student Population: 1,500

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: Sports, science activities

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: No



Montessori de Manila

Montessori De Manila (MDM) utilizes a comprehensive program that is centered on Montessori education. Their program integrates principles from the Montessori approach combined with their outstanding faculty. The school is child-centered, as seen in their low teacher-to-student ratio. MDM is also the only school in Las Piñas that offers five of the Department of Education's (DepED) seven senior high school programs.

📍 73 Pablo Roman St., BF Homes Executive Village, Las Piñas City

☎ 02-805-9863

🌐 montessoridemanila.edu.ph

Class Hours: Pre-school - between 7 am and 3:30 pm; High school - 7:30 am to 3:15 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: P78,005 to P101,870

Target Age Range: 3 to 16 years old

Levels Offered: Primary to secondary level

Admission Requirements: Student assessment, interview, and parent interview

Student Population: 500

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: Music, Visual Arts, Athletics, and Academic Enrichment

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes; only possible until the first week of October



Maria Montessori Foundation

Maria Montessori Foundation adheres to the Montessori philosophy of education set by the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI). Under such method, the development of the child is the center of the whole learning process. They are provided with toys and educational materials which enables them to explore and learn through different hands-on activities and experiences.

📍 Cairmito Dr., Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City

☎ 02-842-4409

🌐 mmfi.edu.ph

Class Hours: Vary per level

Annual Tuition Fee: From P178,730

Target Age Range: 3 to 12 years old

Admission Requirements: ACR, SSP, visa for long term stay, parent & child's passports, academic record, certificate of enrollment

Student Population: 200

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: Piano, Voice, Sports, Engineering for Summer

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes; child can be transferred at the beginning of each term October



Acacia Waldorf School

Acacia Waldorf School utilizes a Steiner education curriculum. They offer education that's established on a spiritual understanding of the human being. In order to reach their full potential, students are educated through beauty, wisdom, and truth. Every year, the faculty participates in Asian Teacher Training (ATT) under the supervision of a Dutch Steiner lecturer.

📍 Hacienda Sta. Elena, Sta. Elena City, Sta. Rosa, Laguna

☎ 0917-554-0435 / 0998-980-8185

🌐 acaciawaldorfschool.com

Class Hours: Vary per level

Annual Tuition Fee: P52,520 to P221,320

Other Fees: School Development Fund (SDF) - P40,000
For foreign students: Processing fee for special study permit (SSP) and 2 months visa extension - P10,500

Target Age Range: 1.8 to 18.6 years old

Levels Offered: Preschool to Upper School

Admission Requirements: Assessment, Parent Orientation, Parent Interview (Toddler and Kinder Students)

Student Population: 45

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Extracurricular Activities: Excursion

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes



Caritas Don Bosco School

Established in 1994 by the Sister of Charity of Jesus, Caritas Don Bosco is a Christ-centered Salesian community that develops life servants. Aside from their academic offerings, the school also encourages its students to actively participate in sports by joining competitions and athletic clubs. They also have clubs and volunteer activities that not only live up to their motto "I love, therefore, I serve," but also help their students form leadership qualities.

📍 Laguna Blvd., Laguna Technopark, Brgy. Biñan, Biñan, Laguna

☎ 049-541-2954

🌐 caritasdonbosco.weebly.com

Class Hours: 1st and 2nd grade - 7 am to 12:30 pm; 3rd grade - 7:30 am to 3:45 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: P68,000 to P87,000

Target Age Range: 3 to 17 years old

Levels Offered: Preschool to Senior High School

Admission Requirements: Alien Certificate of Residence, passport, visa

Student Population: 1,400 - 1,500

Offers Trial Classes: No

Extracurricular Activities: Robotics, sports

School Bus Service: Yes

Uniforms: Yes

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes; only possible during the first term

HOME SCHOOL



Bright Young Minds

Bright Young Minds is a learning and academic support center that offers a dynamic approach to alternative learning suited to a child's learning style. They offer a Homeschool Assistance Program that caters to all grade levels and all subjects. It can be customized based on the level of assistance a student needs. It is offered through. Parent Directed Homeschool Program done in at home or Center Based Program where you can leave the child at the Bright Young Minds center.

📍 Unit 311 Venture Bldg., Primer cor. Market St., Madrigal Business Park, Alabang, Muntinlupa City

☎ 02-774-3747 / 0919-269-1086

🌐 bymindsph.wordpress.com

Class Hours: 8 am to 2 pm

Annual Tuition Fee: P40,000

Target Age Range: 8 to 15 years old

Student Population: 30

Offers Trial Classes: Yes

Outdoor Activities: None

Extracurricular Activities: Excursion

School Bus Service: None

Uniforms: None

Allows Late or Mid-Term Enrollment: Yes

GOOD STUDENT INTERVIEWS



Cora Buentjen, 17

School: British School Manila

Attending Since: Kindergarten (EYFS)

Other Schools Attended: None

Home Country: Germany

Language Spoken: English, German, Spanish

Cora Buentjen, currently in Year 13, has been a student of The British School Manila since reception (age 4). She came to the Philippines at two months old from her home country of Germany. Cora adapted quite easily to the community having come to the Philippines at such a young age. Cora finds the excursions during their activities weeks the most memorable parts of her school life as they enabled her to experience a variety of new cultures and provided opportunities to get out of her comfort zone. Cora plans to study geography at London School of Economics after graduation and is interested in going into development work after university.



Bianca Braza, 18

School: Colegio San Agustin Makati (Alma mater)

Attended for: 12 years

Home Country: Philippines

Language Spoken: English, Filipino

Alumna Bianca Braza shared how Colegio San Agustin (CSA) Makati helped her grow into the person she is today. Aside from academic competence, her alma mater provided a fostering environment that encouraged constant self-development and endless opportunities for the students. CSA Makati has a significant number of foreign students, but she said there was never a divide between the students as their environment had always been inclusive and diverse. Bianca plans to stay in the Philippines even after she graduates, but she is open to pursuing graduate studies abroad.



Emi Nagasako, 20

School: Southville International School and Colleges

Attending Since: First-year college

Other Schools Attended: San Beda College-Alabang

Home Country: Japan/Philippines (dual citizenship)

Language Spoken: Japanese, English, and Filipino

Multimedia Arts student Emi Nagasako chose Southville International School and Colleges as it is one of the few in the country that offers her chosen course. She studied in Japan for her preschool years then transferred to the Philippines in her first grade. She never had difficulties adjusting, as she has been transferring schools since she was young. Emi also shared how Southville is supportive of its international students, offering assistance and having organizations for them. Emi plans to go back to Japan after graduation; she shared she has always been preparing to work there even before she entered college.



Kanna Shimoda, 17

School: Brent International School

Attending Since: SY 2018-2019

Other Schools Attended: Maria Montessori Foundation, Bright Young Minds, Australian International School, Mahatma Gandhi International School

Home Country: Japan

Language Spoken: Japanese, English, and Filipino

Kanna Shimoda moved to the Philippines before she turned two years old. Although she is Japanese, she is more proficient in the English language. She is currently an IB student of Brent International School. She expressed how happy she is to be in Brent as she felt like she found a school that suits her best. Kanna also shared how the teachers and counselors were amazing and how the students, local and expat alike, were all nice and welcoming.



Saira Saundh, 14

School: Singapore School Manila

Attending Since: 5 years

Other Schools Attended: Maria Montessori Alabang, Colegio San Agustin, and Chinese International School Manila

Language Spoken: English, Hindi, Filipino, Mandarin

Saira Saundh moved to the Philippines at a young age. She has been with Singapore School Manila (SSM) for five years and is currently in 9th grade. Saira said that she instantly felt welcomed the first time she came to the school. The family-like environment SSM fosters made it easy for her to adjust to her new surroundings. School-wide events are always memorable for her as these encourage students to not only learn but also have fun and bond with one another. Saira sees herself moving someplace like Singapore, the US, or Canada after graduation as she believes endless opportunities await her there.

— OTHER INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS IN METRO MANILA —

SCHOOL	TARGET AGE	ADDRESS	CONTACT NO.	WEBSITE	FACEBOOK
MGC New Life Christian Academy	2 yrs. & 10 mos. - 16 y/o	Lot 2, Block 18 University Parkway, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	02-816-4233	mgcnewlife.ph	MGC New Life
Everest Academy Manila	3 - 18 y/o	38th Drive North, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	02-882-4981 / 02-882-5019	everestmanila.com	Everest Academy Manila
Summit School	1 - 6 y/o	38th Drive North cor. University Parkway, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	0917-673-6789 / 02-881-9032	summitschoolph.com	Summit School: Progressive Developmental-Interaction Approach
The International Montessori School @ Treston	2 yrs. & 6 mos. - 12 y/o	4/F Treston International College Bldg., University Parkway District, 32nd St. cor. C-5 Rd., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	02-986-5517 / 0917-897-1984	montessoriphil.ph	
Learning Jungle Philippines	8 mos. - 5 y/o	F112-F113 Forbeswood Heights, Forbes Town Center, Rizal Dr., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	02-915-2773 / 0917-813-3395 / 0920-922-7010	learningjungle.com/ph	Learning Jungle Philippines (Taguig)
Korean International School Philippines	6 - 18 y/o	6A Upper McKinley Rd., McKinley Hills Town Center, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City	02-403-3495 / 02-403-3498	kisp.ph	Korean International School Philippines
Chinese International School	3 - 18 y/o	Upper McKinley Rd., McKinley Hill, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City	02-798-0011 / 0917-798-0011	cismanila.org	Chinese International School Manila
Appleseed Montessori	2 - 5 y/o	20th Drive Corporate Center, McKinley Business Park, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	02-832-8033 / 0915-797-5787 / 0916-377-3895	appleseedmontessori.com.ph	
Eton International School	6 mos. - 14 y/o	1839 Dr. Vazquez St., Malate, Manila	02-522-1003 / 02-526-2994 to 95 / 02-536-1511	eton.edu.ph	ETON INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

— AFTER-SCHOOL & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES —


FIELD	TARGET AGE	LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION	BUSINESS NAME	LOCATION	CONTACT NO.	WEBSITE	FACEBOOK
English tutorial	6 mos. - 14 y/o	English	Berlitz	2/F Peninsula Court Bldg., 8735 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City	02-813-2231 / 02-817-9319 / 0917-630-5489	berlitzph.com	Berlitz Philippines
	3 y/o & up (with parent)	English	English Breakthrough	New Capitol Estates 1, Quezon City	02-881-5455 / 0947-994-6607	english-breakthrough.com	EB: English Breakthrough (フィリピン留学)
	13 y/o & up	English	PJ Link Language Center	Ricogen Bldg., 112 Aguirre, Legazpi Village, Makati City	02-832-5735 / 0917-813-0693	pjlink-manila.com	PJLink Language Center
	6 y/o & up (with parent)	English	Wexcel Language Academy	Unit M-D, Burgundy West Bay Tower, 820 Vito Cruz, Manila	02-313-5443	wexcel-ph.com	Wexcel Language Center
	5 y/o & up (with parent)	English	Dela Cruz English Club	22A Chatham House, VA, Rufino St., Salcedo Village, Makati City	02-550-1376	testara-english.com	
	5 y/o & up	English	StepForward	Unit 2108 The Trade & Financial Tower, 7th Ave. cor. 32nd St., BGC, Taguig City	0920-696-4099 / 0927-391-1246	stepforward-learning.com	StepForward Philippines Inc.
	9 y/o & up (with parent)	English	Grandline	#205 N. Garcia Cor. Constellation Streets, Brgy. Bel-Air, Makati City	02-817-4594	grandline.asia	Grandline
Japanese tutorial	7 y/o & up	Japanese	Ezoe Japanese Language Institute	Unit No. 1/2, 3/F, University Mall 2507 Taft Avenue, Malate, Manila	02-562-7797 / 0917-160-2630 / 0939-939-6674	e-naka-ma.com	EZOE Japanese Language Institute
Cram School	6 y/o & up	English	Topia	Soho Unit 102, Arvida Citylax Tower, 7th Ave. cor. Lane T, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City	0917-843-1852 / 02-368-6717	topiabgc.blogspot.com	After School Tutorial Topia in BGC
	All ages	English	Kumon	Metro Manila (several locations)	02-885-0226	ph.kumonglobal.com	Kumon Philippines
Math Tutorial	3 - 15 y/o	English	CMA Mental Arithmetic	Main: G/F East of Galleria Bldg. Topaz Road, Ortigas Center	02-584-9670	cma.ph	CMA Mental Arithmetic - Philippines
Ice skating	5 y/o & up	English	SM Ice Skating Rink (MOA)	SM Mall of Asia Complex, Pasay City	02-510-0861 / 0933-357-9588	smkatingrink.com	SM Skating
	5 y/o & up	English	SM Ice Skating Rink (Megamall)	S/F, Mega Fashion Hall, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City	02-631-5670 / 02-631-5676	smkatingrink.com	SM Ice Skating Megamall
	4 y/o & up	English	Xrink Philippines	Okada Manila Crystal Corridor, Atlantic Drive, Paranaque City	0920-963-4329	smkatingrink.com	Xrink Philippines
Swimming	6 months & up	English	Aqualogic Swim	Makati Shangri-La, EDSA Shangri-La, Makati City	02-703-6386 / 0917-858-2782	aqualogicswim.com	Aqualogic Swim Co.
Soccer	3 - 17 y/o	English	Futbol Funatics	BGC Turf, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City	02-622-2898 / 0917-329-0011	futbolfunatics.com	Futbol Funatics
	4 - 18 y/o	English	Team Soccer FC Youth Academy	Tahanan Village Football Field, Paranaque City	02-405-4357 / 0915-743-1475	teamsoccer.com	Team Soccer
Baseball	5 - 12 y/o	English	Little League Philippines	Rizal Memorial Baseball Stadium Cor. Vito Cruz / Adriatico St., Malate, Manila	02-461-7705	littleleague.org.ph	Little League Philippines
	4 y/o & up	English	ILLAM (International Little League Association of Manila)	Colegio San Agustin, Dasmarinas Village, Makati City	illam.manila@gmail.com	illam.org	International Little League Association Of Manila - ILLAM
Basketball	3 - 18 y/o	English	The Best Center	34 Scout Lozano St., Quezon City	02-411-6260 / 02-372-3066	mlo.com.ph/events/best-center	BEST Center Sports Inc.
Karate	5 y/o & up	English	AAK Fitness System	S/L Building B, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City	02-635-6608 / 02-635-6611	aakarate.com	AAK Fitness System
Mixed martial arts	5 y/o & up	English	KMA Fitness & Martial Arts	La Domaine, Torcasillas St, Salcedo, Makati City	02-551-4449 / 0917-824-2420	bjphilippines.com	KMA Fitness and Martial Arts
Boxing, dance, etc.	6 y/o & up	English	The Rockwell Club	Amrosolo Square, #23 Amrosolo Drive, Rockwell Center, Makati City	0917-521-7625	therockwellclub.com	
Yoga	6 y/o & up	English, Japanese	JPY Japanese YOGA	# 121 Fort Palm Spring Condominium, 30th cor. 1st Ave., Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City	0995-435-5526		JPY Japanese YOGA
Dance	2 y/o & up	English	Steps Dance Studio	8485 Kalayaan Ave., Brgy. Poblacion, Makati City	02-917-532-7360 / 0917-898-1419	stepsdancestudio.ph	Steps Dance Studio

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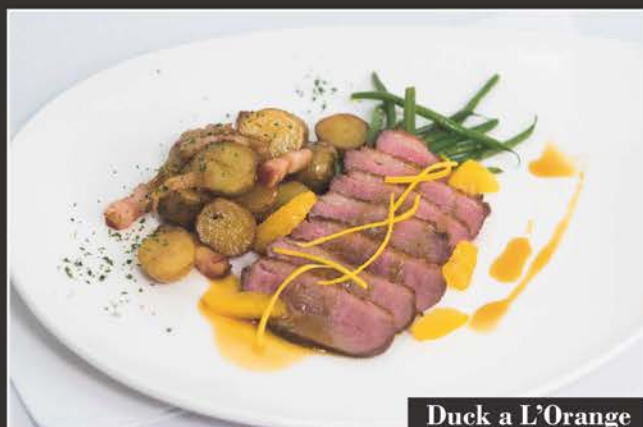
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Central

Feature by: Rei Leaño and Chin Sanigan
Design by: Janina Torres



It is often the impression that Tokyo is in the center of Japan. As Japan's political and financial center, Tokyo can be likened to the human heart, a vital organ that pumps life to the body. Geographically, however,

Japan's capital is not in the center.

The central region of Japan is called Chubu, an area that we like to call the soul of Japan—a place that keeps the nation grounded in its roots, its traditions, its true nature. The thing that upholds the very essence of Japan and keeps its spirits aflame. In this region, you will find yourself lost in reminiscence and a fascination of nature, culture, and rural life. Picturesque old towns and small villages cradled at the foot of the mountains, pleasurable roadways, delicious local delicacies, thriving local communities—these are the hues that make up the art that is Central Japan, a beautiful landscape that is what the soul of the modern man needs.



GETTING TO CENTRAL JAPAN VIA NAGOYA

From Manila to Nagoya

There are currently four airlines that fly directly to Nagoya: Philippine Airlines, ANA Airways, Cebu Pacific Airlines, and Jetstar. The flight takes 5 hours.

From Tokyo to Nagoya

By plane:

Fly in from Tokyo Haneda or Tokyo Airport to Chubu Centrair International Airport (1 hour).

By shinkansen (bullet train):

There are three trains on the Tokaido Shinkansen line that can take you to Nagoya: the Kodama, the Hikari, and the Nozomi. The fastest train (with the fewest stops) is the Nozomi shinkansen, which can take you to Nagoya for only 1 hour and 40 minutes.

JAPAN

CHUBU CENTRAIR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

While Chubu Centrair International Airport serves as the first-class gateway to Central Japan, this airport also holds surprises for the region's visitors. The airport is, in itself, an attraction—it houses Flight of Dreams, a new facility that exhibits the first-ever Boeing 787 Dreamliner and includes the immersive Flight Park, and Seattle Terrace for dining and shopping.



Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner (ZA001)



Arrivals lobby

- 📍 Chubu Centrair International Airport, 1-1 Centrair, Tokoname City, Aichi Prefecture
- 🕒 Flight Park: 10 am to 5 pm (Mon to Fri, Sun); 10 am to 7 pm (Sat)
- 🕒 Seattle Terrace: 10 am to 10 pm
- 🌐 centrair.jp/en



Nagoya AICHI

Central Japan, despite being a cultural region with a strong old-world flair, is able to balance tradition and development through cities like Nagoya. The capital city of Aichi Prefecture, Nagoya holds a past centered on waging and conquering wars. As the home of the three most renowned ninja schools in Central Japan and a historic manufacturing hub that produced the most efficient aircraft in World War II, Nagoya has garnered an indestructible beauty just like its crowning glory, Nagoya Castle. Now, it continues to be a booming business district and a city of advanced technology, making it as alive as it will ever be.

NAGOYA CASTLE



Jorakuden Hall used for shogun visitations

Originally constructed in 1612 on the orders of Tokugawa Ieyasu, Nagoya Castle stands at the center of the former castle town that is Nagoya.

The main castle keep is currently closed for renovation, but visitors can still explore the castle grounds and the newly-restored Hommaru Palace. Once inside, the distinct sweet smell of Japanese cypress will invade your senses, taking you back to the Tokugawa period as you read the stories displayed along the palace halls.

To get here by train, take the Subway Meijo Line going to Shiyakusho (City Hall) Station.



Genkan or Entrance Hall

- 📍 1-1 Hommaru, Naka Ward, Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture
- 🕒 9 am to 4:30 pm (Hommaru Palace: until 4 pm only)
- 🌐 nagoyajo.city.nagoya.jp
- 💎 ¥500 (adult)

KINSHACHI YOKOCHO



Kinshachi Nikomi Udon (¥1,932)

Kinshachi Yokochō is a charming "gourmet town" sought after for its showcase of restaurants serving Nagoya Meshi or traditional Nagoya cuisine. It is divided into two zones, the Yoshinao Zone (near Nagoya Castle Main Gate) and the Muneharu Zone (near East Gate). A popular choice is Yamamotoya Sohōnke in the Yoshinao Zone, which stands out with its unique serving of udon. The noodles are cooked al dente, which gets softer the longer you let it sit in the piping hot soup made with red miso, a typical ingredient in Nagoya Meshi.



- 📍 Nagoya Castle Main Gate Seimon and East Gate Higashimon, Naka Ward, Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture
- 🕒 Yamamotoya: 11 am to 3 pm, 5 pm to 9 pm (Mon to Tue, Thu to Fri); 11 am to 9 pm (Sat to Sun)
- 🌐 yamamotoya.co.jp

OASIS 21 & NAGOYA TV TOWER



Nagoya TV Tower is an enduring landmark in Nagoya, standing tall and proud since 1954, making it the oldest in Japan. It is currently closed for repairs, but you can best get a view of the tower looking over the city from the fascinating SpaceShip-Aqua glass roof of the nearby Oasis 21, which is also a good destination for sightseeing (on the roof) and shopping (in its underground shopping arcade).



- 📍 Oasis 21: 1-11-1 Higashisakura, Higashi Ward, Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture
- 🕒 10 am to 9 pm (SpaceShip-Aqua & shops); 10 am to 10 pm (Restaurants)
- 🌐 sakaepark.co.jp

OSU SHOPPING STREET



Osu is Nagoya's very own shopping mecca, with over a thousand restaurants and shops, accommodating not only fashion-forward shoppers but also otaku, foodies, and bargain hunters. For rare or collectible items, an antique market is held every 18th and 28th of the month at Osu Kannon Temple right by the main entrance.

- 📍 Osu, Naka Ward, Nagoya City, Aichi Prefecture
- 🕒 Hours vary by business; most shops/restaurants are open by 11 am and close at 8 pm
- 🌐 inbound.nagoya-osu.com/en/

Inuyama

AICHI

Inuyama is a city in Aichi that radiates with history and well-preserved tradition that dates back to the Edo period. It is home to one of the oldest and most magnificent castles in the country and an army of museums, guarded by the historic Kiso River to its north in quiet glory. Don't be surprised to find many adorable dog souvenirs—Inuyama literally translates to "mountain of the dog," and the city has an adorable samurai dog mascot named Wan-Maru-Kun.



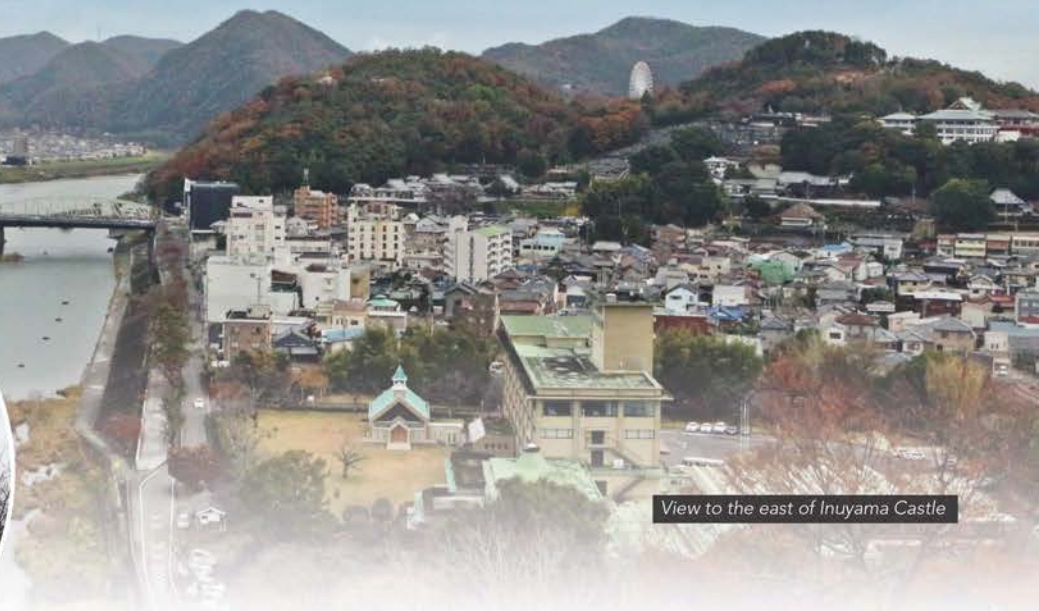
INUYAMA CASTLE

With its beginnings dating back to 1440, Inuyama Castle is the oldest of the only five National Treasure-designated castles in Japan. Inside Inuyama Castle, you will go through well-preserved steep staircases that lead to the top of the castle, where the most awe-inspiring part of the castle can be found. An encompassing balcony that used to be a lookout post now serves as a rustic viewing platform that not even modern-day skyscrapers can rival. The balcony offers unparalleled views of Aichi, and Gifu on the other side of Kiso River. Inside the top floor, you can also find landscape paintings from the Taisho Era, hanging on each side of the castle, giving you a picture of how the region looked like before modern buildings and infrastructure took up land.

To get here, take the Meitetsu Line going to Inuyama Station, which is just a 15-minute walk to Inuyama Castle.



📍 65-2 Kitakoken, Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture
 ⌚ 9 am to 4:30 pm
 🌐 inuyama.gr.jp (English available)
 💰 ¥550 (adult, 15 y/o & above)



View to the east of Inuyama Castle



Honmachi-dori



Inuyama Biyori

INUYAMA CASTLE TOWN & KIMONO RENTAL

Besides Inuyama Castle itself, the castle town is just as fascinating to explore. Honmachi-dori, the main street right across the castle, is lined with old Japanese wooden houses that now serve as restaurants and shops. The best way to immerse in this traditional setting is by walking around the castle town in a kimono, which you can rent at Inuyama Biyori. The dress-up process is very flattering, with two professional dressers delicately putting the kimono on you, which somewhat gives you a feeling of royalty. It is highly recommended to make a reservation before coming to the shop.

📍 Inuyama Biyori: 195 Higashikoken, Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture
 ⌚ 10 am to 6 pm (Mon, Wed to Sun)
 🌐 inuyamabiyori.com/english-top



SANKO INARI SHRINE

Sanko Inari Shrine is a Shinto shrine guarded by an *inari* or fox, a deity of agriculture and prosperity. There is a corner filled with "ema," or pink heart-shaped wooden boards where visitors' wishes for love and happiness are written. You can buy an ema and write your own wish for ¥500. You can also pray for good fortune through money-washing.

Another popular spot is the torii gates lined up like a tunnel—a perfect spot for your Instagram photo, especially while wearing a rented kimono.

📍 41-1 Kitakoken, Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture



10-Piece Iseya Temaki Sushi (¥1,500)

ISEYA SUNA OROSHI

Iseya Suna Oroshi serves cute and colorful ball-shaped sushi called *temari*. They use vinegared konjac rice, which is said to be a healthy rice alternative with fewer calories. There are 12 variations to choose from, including tamago (Japanese omelet), shrimp, tuna, salmon, radish, cucumber, and more. Another fun thing is that their soy sauce is provided in a spray bottle so you can avoid over-soaking or disintegrating the sushi when dipping it.



📍 58 Higashikoken, Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture
🕒 10 am to 4 pm



SHIRO-TO-MACHI MUSEUM

A vast glass-encased scale model of Inuyama in the middle of the museum—with streets filled with colorful floats and jubilant people in celebration of the historic Inuyama Festival—offers a lifelike representation of the city's culture. Deeper inside the museum, bigger models of festival floats, samurai swords and armors, and pottery are also exhibited.

📍 8 Kitakoken, Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture
🕒 9 am to 5 pm *Last admission 4:30 pm
💎 ¥100 (adult)



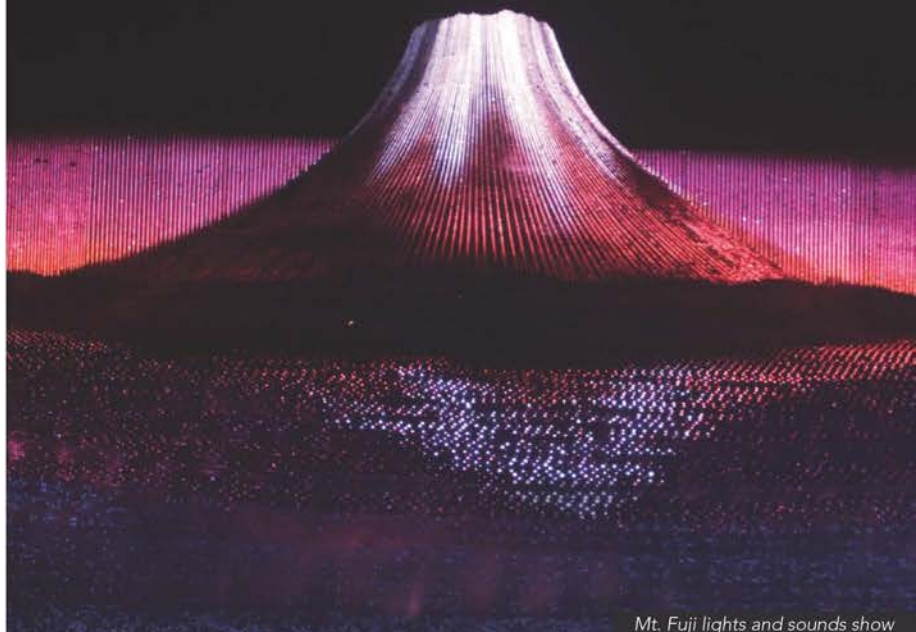
FESTIVAL MUSEUM DONDENKAN

After viewing small scale models, move on next to this museum to see just how huge Inuyama's festival floats are. Three actual floats used during Inuyama Festival, measuring up to eight meters tall, are the central display here. There are more exhibitions of illustrations, artifacts, and dioramas depicting Inuyama's history and culture on the second floor.

📍 62 Higashikoken, Inuyama City, Aichi Prefecture
🕒 9 am to 5 pm *Last admission 4:30 pm
💎 ¥100 (adult)

KuwanaMIE

Immediately to the southwest of Aichi, across Kiso River, is Kuwana City in Mie Prefecture, a far cry from the bustling crowds of major cities. Only 30 minutes away by train (Kintetsu-Nagoya Line) from Nagoya City, Kuwana is a worthwhile side-trip for nature and gourmet lovers, as well as avid shoppers. The city is famous for seafood like *hamaguri* (hard clam) and is home to some of the best shopping centers in the region, namely, Jazz Dream at Nagashima Spa Land and MyCal Kuwana.



Mt. Fuji lights and sounds show

NABANA NO SATO

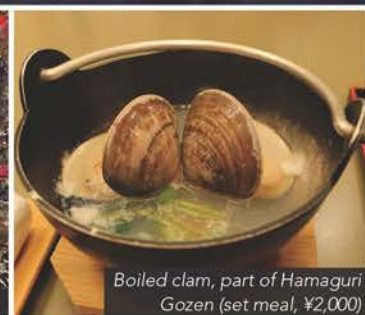
Boasting one of the most stunning winter illuminations in Japan, Nabana No Sato is a vast winter wonderland, illuminated as it is with over 8 million LED lights during the season (until May 6, 2019). Two tunnels lit up by lights of dancing colors lead to more magical places, such as the famous ground for the lights and sound show promoting famous landmarks in Japan and around the world. The park also features an indoor Begonia Garden, a 9,000-sqm warm paradise full of thousands of colorful flowers.

After your tour around the park, you can choose from a variety of restaurants housed inside the park, one of which is Kawasemi, offering special set menus with the local specialty, *hamaguri*.

To get here, take a train on the Kintetsu Nagoya Line to Kintetsu-Nagashima Station, and then take a bus bound for Nabana No Sato. You can also take an express bus from Nagoya Meitetsu Bus Center to Nabana No Sato (30 mins.).



Begonia Garden



Boiled clam, part of Hamaguri Gozen (set meal, ¥2,000)

📍 270 Komae, Nagashima-cho, Kuwana City, Mie Prefecture
🕒 9 am to 9 pm *Operating hours may vary by season.
🌐 nagashimaresort.jp/nabana/index.html
💎 Entrance during winter illumination (Oct 20, 2018 to May 6, 2019): ¥2,300 with ¥1,000 coupon consumable in any restaurant | Regular entrance fee: ¥1,600 | Begonia Garden: ¥1,000 (adult)

Takayama Gifu

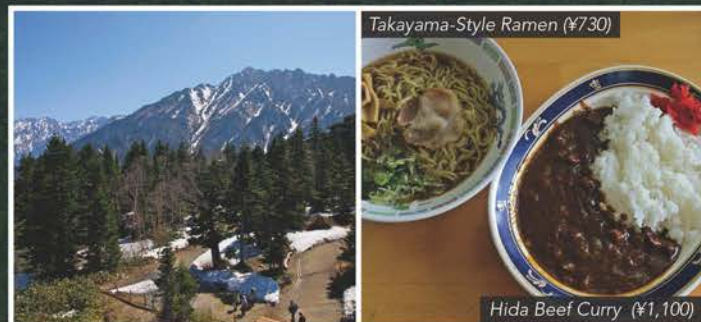
Cradled amidst a mountainous area of Gifu Prefecture, Takayama engulfs you in a mesmerizing atmosphere that draws you back to the olden days when there was no rush by modernity, and time itself was gentle and consoling. This quaint city thrives on wood crafts and pottery, as well as tourism kept up by Takayama's charms such as its well-preserved old town, gastronomic gems, and the centuries-old Takayama Festival, to be held from April 14 to 15 in spring and from October 9 to 10 in autumn.

SHINHOTAKA ROPEWAY

Like the spotted nutcrackers that soar around the mountains surrounding Shinhotaka, you can also witness the changing of colors through Shinhotaka Ropeway that takes you 2,156 meters above the ground. There are two ropeways, the first one taking you on a four-minute ride to Nabadairakogen Station. The second ropeway features a double-decker gondola that takes you seven minutes up to the Nishihotakaguchi Station, where the topmost observation deck offers picturesque views of the highest peak in Gifu, Mt. Kasagadake, and the southernmost peak of the Hotaka mountains.

After taking in the views or playing at the nearby Sengokuenchi Nature Park, you can get a fill at Mount View Cafe with famous local specialties like the Takayama-style Ramen and the Hida Beef Curry, both made with tender and savory Hida wagyu beef.

From JR Takayama Station (2 hrs. 20 mins. from Nagoya Station), take the express bus at Takayama Nohi Bus Center and get off at the last stop, Shinhotaka Ropeway (1 hr. 40 mins.).



- 📍 Shinhotaka, Okuhidaonsengo, Takayama City, Gifu Prefecture
- 🕒 Winter: 9 am to 4:30 pm (last ascent from Shinhotakaonsen Station; final descent from Nishihotakaguchi Station is 4:15 pm)
- 🌐 shinhotaka-ropeway.jp (English available)



TAKAYAMA OLD TOWN (LITTLE KYOTO)

Takayama Old Town lets its visitors experience the same historic ambiance as Japan's old capital with graciously preserved houses and buildings from the Edo period. Sannomachi Street (Kamisananomachi) is the seat of most of these ancient structures, which now house old shops, cafés, and sake breweries. Takayama is the home of some of the best-tasting sake producers in Japan, so dropping by the breweries, marked by *sugidama* or cedar balls hung in front of the shops, is a must.

📍 Kamisananomachi, Takayama City, Gifu Prefecture



MIYAGAWA MORNING MARKET

Every day, Takayama locals set up their stalls early in the morning along Miyagawa River, pursuing a tradition that can be traced back to the Edo period. From tofu, pickled turnips, and delectable mochis to vegetables and raw cooking ingredients, as well as handmade crafts, various products are sold at surprisingly reasonable prices, considering the quality of these items.



What can make your tour of this riverside market more memorable and exciting is the experience of vendors welcoming you to taste samples of their products—a vivid glimpse not only of the local gourmet but also of the warm local hospitality.

- 📍 Shimosannomachi, Takayama City, Gifu Prefecture
- 🕒 7 am to 12 pm (Apr to Oct); 8 am to 12 pm (Nov to Mar)
- 🌐 asaichi.net
- ✉ miyagawaasaichi@gmail.com



Gujo Gifu

Gujo is a small city with the enduring appeal of a traditional Japanese old town. Rivers and streams of clean, fresh water run across the city like veins that pump life to Gujo's local industries of food and agriculture. A walk along its streets, lulled by the nearby streams, is an unflagging source of comfort to visitors that seek refuge from stress. Meanwhile, Gujo Odori Festival, celebrated for 31 festive nights from July to September, lets one experience the vibrant and amiable community of Gujo.



Gujo Hachiman



Souvenir Shop at Gujo Hachiman Tourism



Keichan, part of Setoukei Guai Set (¥1,250)



Fake food ingredients

GUJO HACHIMAN

Gujo Hachiman is perhaps the most resounding out of all the villages in Gujo City, representing the city as an old castle town and the core of Gujo's history. While walking around Gujo Hachiman, you can see a glimpse of Hachiman Castle seated atop a mountain, watching over the city. Another fascinating area is the picturesque Shimizu Bashi Bridge from which you can view traditional riverside houses.

📍 520-1, Shimadani, Hachiman-cho, Gujo City, Gifu Prefecture (Gujo Hachiman Tourism Association)
 🌐 gujohachiman.com/kanko/index_e.html

RYUKYO NO SATO

Ryukyo no Sato is an ideal stopover for souvenir shopping and dining. It houses a spacious shopping facility with a small café on the first floor, and upstairs, a restaurant that is the biggest in Gujo Hachiman. The restaurant boasts such local specialties as *keichan*, pan-fried native chicken mixed with vegetables and a miso-based sauce that boosts the flavor and aroma of the meat.

📍 166 Tatei-machi, Hachiman-cho, Gujo City, Gifu Prefecture
 ⌚ Souvenir shop: 10 am to 6 pm
 ⌚ Restaurant: 11 am to 3 pm *Last order 2:30 pm
 🌐 ryukyonosato.jp/restaurant/

SAMPLE VILLAGE IWASAKI

Sample Village Iwasaki owes its beginnings to Takizo Iwasaki, the Father of Food Sample. You can experience fake food making by joining a workshop starting at ¥800 per person. The workshop area resembles a fully-equipped kitchen, where you might find workshop participants in aprons working like a chef's protégés. After the workshop, you can take your finished masterpiece and even bring more home from the souvenir shop!

📍 250 Gunan-cho, Hachiman-cho, Gujo City, Gifu Prefecture
 ⌚ 10 am to 4 pm *Sample food workshop until 3 pm only; closed on 1st Thu of Oct, 1st Sat of Feb & holidays
 🌐 iwasakimokei.com

Seki Gifu

Seki is a world-class hub of traditional and modern Japanese swords and cutlery, which the city celebrates through the Seki Cutlery Festival, held in October every year. It is a destination for knife and blade enthusiasts and those who want to meet modern-day samurais.

HAMONoya SANSU

Hamonoya Sanshu acquaints Seki's visitors with the city's leading industry. There are free fun experiences such as the *iai* (Japanese sword martial art) performance and kimono wearing. Other activities include mini-scissors production experience, Japanese sword forging tour, and a tea ceremony. They have a shop visited by people from around the country to get exceptionally sharp blade products like household knives, scissors, and nail cutters, which can possibly last you a lifetime!

📍 950-1, Oze, Seki City, Gifu Prefecture
 ⌚ 8:30 am to 5 pm
 🌐 hamonoyasan.com
 💡 Free admission; all activities (paid & free) require reservation



Free Kimono wearing



iai performance



Go Kyushu

Kyushu is a beautiful island region located south of Japan blessed with breathtaking nature and scenery, World Heritage sites, and wonderful delicacies like black pig pork, red cattle meat, and seafood. There are direct flights from the Philippines to Kyushu (Fukuoka Airport), which only take about 3.5 hours. Come experience the natural beauty of Japan through Kyushu!

Experience beautiful Japan in Kyushu!

GoKumamoto

DAY 1

- ✧ Depart via Cebu Pacific Airways: Manila to Fukuoka Airport (Arrive at 17:30)
- ✧ Transfer: Fukuoka International Airport to Kumamoto Traffic Center (high-speed bus)
- ✧ Stay: Hotel in Kumamoto City

DAY 2

- ✧ Kumamoto City sightseeing
- ✧ Kumamoto Castle (Sakura viewing)
- ✧ Suizenji Park
- ✧ Tram tour (1-day ticket)
- ✧ Walking around the arcade
- ✧ Stay: Hotel in Kumamoto City

\$1,000
per person

DAY 3

- ✧ Free time (options below)
 - A: Healing time at Kurokawa Onsen
 - B: Rapid-speed train tour to Amakusa - World Cultural Heritage - Sakizu Village
 - C: Hitoyoshi Onsen and Aoi Aso Shrine (Sakura viewing)
 - D: Tour of Aso Volcano (one of the world's largest active volcanoes) and a magnificent view of Kusanenri
- ✧ Stay: Hotel in Kumamoto City

DAY 4

- ✧ Departure day
- ✧ Free time until departure
- ✧ Transfer: Kumamoto Traffic Center to Fukuoka International Airport (high-speed bus)
- ✧ Depart via Cebu Pacific Airways: Fukuoka Airport to Manila (Depart at 13:35)

*Package rate may be modified according to the fluctuation of flight prices.

CONTACT US:

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0916-302-2176

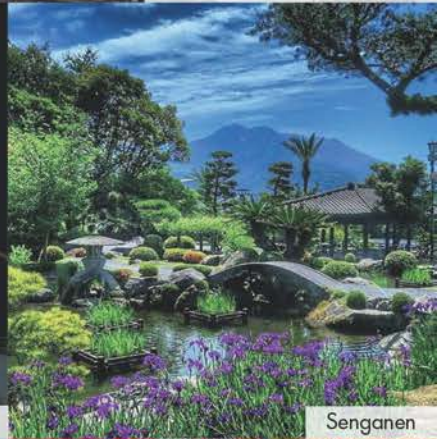
✉ travel@primer.ph



Sunset in Amakusa Islands



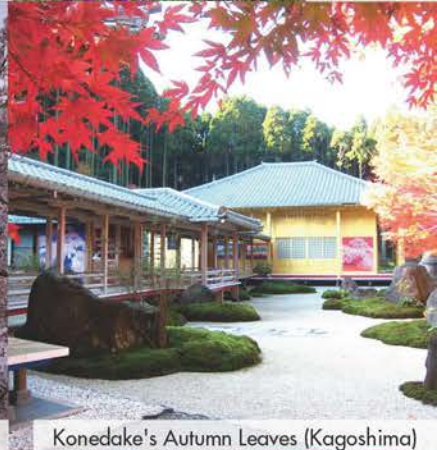
Sakizu Church



Sengen



Nishihei Tsubaki Park



Konedake's Autumn Leaves (Kagoshima)



Dolphin Watching

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☎ 02-553-8000 / 02-553-7000

✈ 15/F, Tower 2, RCBC PLAZA,
6819 Ayala Ave. Cor Sen Gil Puyat
Ave., Makati City

Cebu Pacific

☎ 02-802-7000

✈ Terminal 4, Domestic Rd., Pasay City

Japan Airlines

☎ 02-403-2486

✈ 2/F, 6788 Ayala Ave.,
Oledan Sq., Makati City

Philippine Airlines

☎ 02-855-8888 /
02-832-2939 **Baggage Tracking**

✈ Mezzanine Floor, PNB Financial
Center, President Diosdado
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Pasay City

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✈ Unit 203 COKO Building 1, Patio Madrigal
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☎ 02-318-0788

✈ M. Adriatico cor. Gen. Malvar Street, Manila

Raffles Makati

☎ 02-555-9777

✈ 1 Raffles Drive, Makati Ave., Makati City

Seda BGC

☎ 02-945-8888/02-588-5700

✈ 30th St. cor. 11th Ave., BGC, Taguig City

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☎ 02-840-1060

✈ 3/F, Dusit Thani Hotel, Makati City

New World Makati Hotel

☎ 02-811-6888

✈ Esperanza St. cor. Makati
Ave., Ayala Center, Makati City

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☎ 02-848-1412~16

✈ 29/F, Citibank Tower, Paseo De Roxas, Makati City

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☎ 02-307-7875 / 0927-816-6080

Kagoshima

Written by Jastine Valeriano
Layout by Jowinie Doma



As part of our journey to unearth Japan's endless discoveries, we found ourselves in the middle of Kagoshima, a far-fetched prefecture in the Kyushu island of Southern Japan.

Although less frequented by tourists, Kagoshima emerges as a much-needed respite away from Japan's tourist-laden cities. Dubbed as the "Naples of the East," it will make you fall in love with its deeper appeal, as seen through its exceptional cuisine, abundant hot springs, and local artistry.

Beyond its iconic spots, it is significant to note that Kagoshima is the trailblazer of modern Japan. In this feature, we'll be walking you through some of the locale's unmistakable charms—one that you can only witness in Kagoshima.



ACCESS:

Getting to Kagoshima:

Manila to Tokyo Haneda Airport: approximately 4 hours

Haneda Airport to Kagoshima Airport: approximately 2 hours

Getting around Kagoshima: Kagoshima is accessible by bus, ferry, and city tram.



IBUSUKI BLACK SAND BATH

Although onsen is a widely known place for relaxation, Ibusuki Sunamushi Onsen (Black Sand Bath) is a different kind of onsen experience as it involves the use of sand. Located along the Ibusuki shoreline, this so-called "Hot Spring of Beauty," is known to have many health and beauty benefits, thus the popularity among adults. This unique kind of onsen is done outdoors at the seashore, where your body will be covered with geothermally heated sand that's around 50 to 55°C. The experience should only take 10 to 15 minutes. The sand will feel a bit heavy as it warms up, but it is still manageable. You'll sweat a lot, which is part of the detoxification process.

How to get here: From the Ibusuki-ekimae bus stop, take the bus to Sunamushi-kaikan bus stop (4 minutes)

Fees: Sand bath: ¥1,080 (adult); ¥590 (child under 12 y/o) / Bath towel rental: ¥200 (inclusive of yukata robe)

📍 (Ibusuki Sand Bath Hall "Saraku") 891-0406 Yunohama 5-1 25-1 18

Ibusuki City, Kagoshima Prefecture

🕒 8:30 am to 8:30 pm

🌐 sa-raku.sakura.ne.jp/en/index.html



MOUNT SAKURAJIMA

Mount Sakurajima, one of Japan's most active volcanoes, stands 1,117 meters tall, and it's an iconic landscape that can be seen from mainland Kagoshima. This volcano is known to be frequently active, spewing ashes and billowing smoke every so often. Yunohira Observatory is the closest you can get to see the volcano and its crater, offering a majestic view by day and a dramatic sight by night.

To learn more about Mount Sakurajima, Sakurajima Visitor Center offers information about the history of Sakurajima. It houses a theater room, exhibit areas, and a video corner.

How to get to Yunohira Observatory: From Sakurajima Port, take the Sakurajima Island View Bus to go to Yunohira Observatory (approximately an hour). One-day pass costs ¥500 for adults and ¥250 for children.

🌐 www.sakurajima.gr.jp/svc/english/

SENGAN GARDEN

Sengan-en reveals its splendor through its natural landscape and fascinating history.

Heralded as "A Place of Scenic Beauty" in Japan, Sengan-en (Sengan Garden) is a sprawling 12-acre garden built in 1658 by Shimadzu Mitsuhsa of the influential Shimadzu clan. Before it became a tourist attraction, Sengan-en served a greater purpose of bridging Japan to other countries, thus the many Chinese and Western influences that you can see in the surroundings. In 2015, Sengan-en and Shoko Shuseikan Museum were recognized as World Cultural Heritage Sites of Japan's Meiji Industrial Revolution.

Sengan-en boasts of its borrowed scenery from Mount Sakurajima and Kinko Bay, adding beauty to the beguiling landscape of the garden. The best way to navigate around Sengan-en is to take a leisurely stroll. The garden houses around 30 spots, from the prestigious Shimadzu House to historic monuments, museums, and restaurants.

How to get here: Take any of these bus lines: Kagoshima City View Bus, Machi Meguri Bus, or Public Bus Service, and get off at Sengan-en mae stop.

Admission fees: Garden, museum and the house: ¥1,300 (adult); ¥650 (child 6 to 15 y/o) / Garden and museum only: ¥1,000 (adult); ¥500 (child 6 to 15 y/o)

📍 9700-1 Yoshino-cho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture

🕒 8:30 am to 5:30 pm

🌐 www.senganen.jp/en/



SHIMADZU SATSUMA KIRIKO GLASSWORKS

Part of the efforts of the Shimadzu clan to modernize Japan is Satsuma Kiriko, the art of glass making. Satsuma Kiriko, a cut crystal glass, was first manufactured in 1851, pioneered by Nariakira, the 28th head of the influential Shimadzu clan. A visit to the Shimadzu Satsuma Kiriko Glassworks will let you observe the step-by-step process of making Satsuma Kiriko.



📍 9688-24 Yoshino-cho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture

🕒 9 am to 5 pm (Tue to Sun, closed every 3rd Sun of the month)

🌐 www.satsumakiriko.co.jp/index.html



SHIMADZU HOUSE

This stately home, which also doubles as a museum, showcases the clan's lifestyle, particularly that of Japanese feudal lord Shimadzu Tadayoshi, who lived here the longest. Both Western and Japanese influences can be seen around the house, making the dwelling a symbolic attraction to learn about modernization in Japan—a legacy of the Shimadzu clan.

Admission fee: ¥300 (adult); ¥150 (child 7 to 15 y/o)

📍 Sengan-en, 9700-1, Yoshino-cho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture

🕒 9 am to 5 pm *Last entry 4:50 pm

🌐 www.senganen.jp/en/experience/the-house/



TOKUMITSU SHRINE

The shrine was established to honor a sailor, Maeda Riemon, who introduced sweet potato seedlings from the Ryukyu Islands to Kagoshima in 1705. These seedlings were very beneficial to Kagoshima in that period as it helped prevent starvation. Sweet potatoes, commonly known as satsuma-imo, are known to have high nutritional value, too. Because of these seedlings, Kagoshima is now the largest sweet potato producer in Japan.

How to get here: Tokumitsu Shrine is just a 15-minute walk from JR Nishi-Oyama Station.

📍 Yamagawa Okagashimizu 391 Ibusuki City, Kagoshima Prefecture
🕒 24/7
🌐 www.ibusuki.or.jp/tourism/view/tokkoshrine/



RYUGU SHRINE

Located in Cape Nagasakibana, the shrine's vivid red exterior makes it truly stand out amidst the otherwise soothing colors of nature. Painted with the color of love, Ryugu Shrine has drawn tourists wishing for good fortune in romance. There's a dedicated area where visitors may write their wishes on a seashell and leave it at the statue.

How to get here: Take the Kagoshima Kotsu Bus at Yamagawa Station (JR Ibusuki-Makurazaki Line). Get off at Nagasakibana bus stop. It takes a 3-minute walk to Cape Nagasakibana.

📍 1578-8 Yamagawa Okachiyogamizu, Ibusuki City, Kagoshima Prefecture
🕒 24/7
🌐 www.ibusuki.or.jp/tourism/view/ryugushrine/



GREEN FARM

Green Farm Agriculture Park offers learning-focused activities that help tourists understand more about nature and agriculture in Japan. This 40-hectare establishment is divided into three zones: the Experience Learning Zone (farming), the Regional Exchange Zone (craft and cooking), and the Private Participation Zone (recycling agriculture technology).

How to get here: Take a taxi from JR Kiire Station (10 minutes).

📍 5809-97, Kiirehitokura-cho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture
🕒 9 am to 5 pm (Nov to Mar); 8:30 am to 6 pm (Apr to Oct) *Closed from Dec 29 to Jan 1
🌐 kankonogyo-park.jp/



SAKURAJIMA FERRY

Sakurajima Ferry is a widely-used public transport established to connect Kagoshima Port to Sakurajima Port for a travel time of only 15 minutes. It even has its own restaurant that serves delicious udon. You can also take the 50-minute Yorimichi cruise for more dedicated sightseeing.

How to get to Kagoshima Port: Walk for 7 minutes from Kagoshima Station or take the tram to Suizokukan-guchi and walk for 5 minutes.

Tickets: Sakurajima Ferry: ¥160 (adult); ¥80 (child) / Yorimichi Cruise: ¥500 (adult); ¥250 (child)

📍 4-1 892-0814 Honko shinmachi, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture (Kagoshima Port Ticket Office)
🕒 24/7
🌐 www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/sakurajima-ferry/english/guides.html





FOOD

From overwhelming seafood platters to desserts, Kagoshima abounds with a rich cuisine like no other. Here are the highlights of Kagoshima gourmet that makes a trip to Southern Japan well worth your time and money.

Set Meal B (¥1,340): Somen noodles, grilled trout with salt, koikoku (miso soup with sliced carp) and onigiri



TOSENKYO

Tosenkyo, a restaurant in Ibusuki City, is known to be the birthplace of nagashi somen (flowing noodles), a unique Japanese noodle dish that is a summer favorite in Kagoshima. The way to eat nagashi somen is fairly challenging as it involves catching the somen noodles in running water using chopsticks. They use a circular tray filled with 13°C natural spring water, with a basket of somen noodles in the middle.

How to get here: Take the Kagoshima Kotsu Line bus bound for Kaimon Station – Higashi Okawa. Get off at the Tosenkyo bus stop.

- ☎ 5967 Kaimon-ju cho, Ibusuki City, Kagoshima Prefecture
- 🕒 10 am to 5 pm (Mar to Jun, Oct, New Year); 10 am to 7 pm (Jul, Sep, Golden Week); 10 am to 8 pm (Aug); 10 am to 3 pm (Nov to Feb)
- 🌐 www.ibusuki.or.jp/eat/somen/ibusukicity/



CHOJUAN IBUSUKI

Chojuan specializes in Kagoshima kurobuta (black pork), recognized as the most delicious pork in all of Japan. The pigs are raised on a sweet potato diet, making the pork fat sweet and high in collagen. If you'd like something warm in winter, have yourself a Kurobuta Pork Shabu Shabu. Locals say that it's the perfect dish for you to taste the pork's rich flavor. You can also try Kurobuta pork cutlet if you want something savory.

The restaurant interior features an upscale and fashionable look. It's a modern Japanese restaurant, but it does not lose its traditional sense with its tatami flooring and low tables. They have table seating, counter seats, and private rooms to accommodate all guests. Although the restaurant's beautiful interiors are worth all the praise, it is their kurobuta dishes that deserve the spotlight.

- ☎ 2167-1 Junicho, Ibusuki, 891-0403, Kagoshima Prefecture
- 🕒 11 am to 2:30 pm; 5:00 pm to 10 pm
- 🌐 minamibussan.jp/tyojyuan/tyojyu_ibusuki/ibusuki.html



JYUTTOKUYA

Jyuttokuya is a hole-in-the-wall izakaya that serves Kyushu gourmet. They take pride in using fresh seafood purchased from the local market daily, letting you taste the authentic flavors of the island.

Like most izakayas, Jyuttokuya features a traditional Japanese pub style. It has private spaces with tatami floors and low-table seating. The highlight of your dinner should be their fresh seafood bowl, which consists of assorted sashimi such as tuna and salmon, among others.

How to get here: From JR Kagoshima Chuo Station, it takes a 5-minute drive.

- ☎ Dai 2 Simadu Bldg., 2-17 Yamanokuchi-cho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture
- 🕒 5 pm to 12 am *Last order 11:30 pm
- 🌐 www.jandj-food.co.jp/english.html





Gyudon (¥890)

DAI DAI FARM RESTAURANT

Situated inside Green Farm, Dai Dai Farm Restaurant specializes in udon and soba and also offers delicious rice meals made with locally sourced ingredients. Their gyudon, a Japanese beef rice bowl, is made up of steamed white rice topped with thinly sliced beef, nori, and poached egg and comes with a side of miso soup, which makes the meal more nutritious.



- 📍 5809-107 Kiire Hitokuracho, Kagoshima Prefecture
- 🕒 10:30 am to 3 pm (Mon to Fri); 10:30 am to 5 pm (Sat to Sun, Holidays)
- 🌐 www.jf-group.co.jp/e.jy.hp.transer.com/



Shirokuma Kakigori (¥667)

TENMONKAN MUJAKI

While walking along Tenmonkan, a shopping street in Kagoshima, you would notice a giant polar bear statue in front of one of its shops. This shop is Tenmonkan Mujaki, the birthplace of shirokuma kakigori.

The order of how the ingredients are placed plays an important role in creating shirokuma. It creates a perfect balance of flavors so that it's neither too sweet nor bland. To create their special kakigori, the fruits and beans go in first, and then the shaved ice drizzled with milk and honey and topped with more ingredients.

How to get here: Take the tram at Kagoshima Chuo Station and get off at Tenmonkandori stop. By bus, take the Kagoshima City View Bus and get off at Tenmonkan.

- 📍 5-8 Sennichi-cho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture
- 🕒 11 am to 10 pm; 10 am to 10 pm (Sun, Holidays, Jul to Aug)
- 🌐 www.mujiyaki.co.jp/

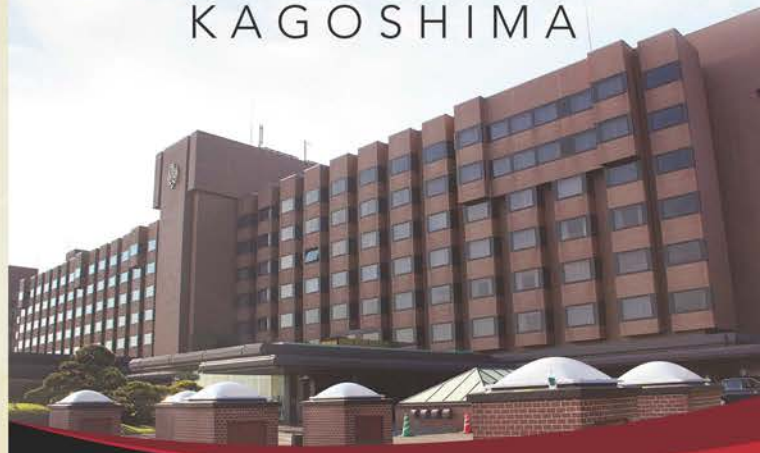


Matcha Kakigori (¥667)



SHIROYAMA HOTEL

KAGOSHIMA



Shiroyama Hotel Kagoshima is a four-star hotel under the Okura Hotels and Resorts hotel chain that boasts first-rate facilities and amenities. Situated 108 meters above sea level, the hotel offers exceptional views of Kagoshima's majestic Mount Sakurajima and Kinko Bay in its unbeatable location amidst the city.



Imperial Suite (¥300,000 tax exclusive)

Those who fancy the opulent comforts of a hotel room may choose from their suites. Meanwhile, travelers who prefer a comfortable stay without the grandiose features may choose from their other well-appointed room types such as the Ladies Room, Japanese Suite, and Family Rooms. The hotel also has a Universal Room that has a barrier-free feature for persons with disabilities.

The hotel provides 12 dining facilities offering Japanese, French, and Chinese cuisines, as well as a bar and a party hall. For relaxation, Shiroyama Hotel takes pride in their outdoor onsen, Satsumanoyu, that uses underground natural hot spring water from 1,000 meters below.

How to get here:

From Kagoshima-Chuo Station, walk towards the Kagoshima-Chuo Station West Exit for approximately 5 minutes. Take the free shuttle bus that goes directly to Shiroyama Hotel Kagoshima.

- 📍 41-1 Shinshoin-cho, Kagoshima City, Kagoshima Prefecture
- 🕒 Check-in/Check-out: 2 pm / 11 am
- 🌐 www.shiroyama-g.co.jp/en/
- ✉ yoyaku@shiroyama-g.co.jp



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Floor Wiping Brush

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To help you out, here are 4 trusted medical professionals in Manila, who are highly-experienced and trained to provide the best care for their patients. Get to know them as you read their profile and each of their specializations.



Michelle D. Lingao MD, DPBO

Pediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus, Ocular Genetics

Dr. Michelle Lingao took a different route early in her medical career, in which she steered her life to success. She initially took up physical therapy before she shifted to ophthalmology. Dr. Lingao finished her fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology and adult strabismus at the University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH) in 2009 and has been in practice for over eight years. On the other hand, she completed training in ocular genetics in 2013 at Wills Eye Institute in Philadelphia, USA. She is also one out of the few ocular genetics practitioners in the globe. Consulting patients from different locations mostly consumes her typical clinic hours. Aside from clinic duties, she is an associate clinical professor for ophthalmology at UP-PGH.

Make an appointment:

- ✓ Unit 106, G/F Commercenter, Commerce Ave. cor. Filinvest Ave., Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tuesdays: By appointment
Contact Nos.: 02-403-9013 / 02-403-8996 / 0917-628-2807
- ✓ 8/F, 9/F PHINMA Bldg., Hidalgo Dr. cor. Plaza Dr., Rockwell Dr., Makati City
Thursdays: 9 am to 6 pm
Contact Nos.: 02-898-2020 / 0918-898-2020
- ✓ 2/F, Wellness Zone, Mall of Asia, Pasay City
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Contact Nos.: 02-556-4996 to 98 / 0908-894-6185 / 0917-628-7908

Farahnaz Shamsi, DMD

Cosmetic Dentistry

Following the footsteps of her mother and siblings, Dr. Farahnaz Shamsi recalls her aspiration to become a doctor is rooted in the family. She took up dentistry at Centro Escolar University and graduated in 2010. Currently, her field of specialization is cosmetic dentistry and is refining her practice of endodontics. Dr. Shamsi emphasizes the need to strengthen rapport with every patient to alleviate the fear and anxiety associated with going to the dentist, as well as the need to visit a dentist at least twice a year to prevent possible further complications in dental health.

Make an appointment:

- ✓ Fashion Smile Dental Clinic, Unit 601, Heart Tower, 108 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City
Mondays to Saturdays: 10 am to 7 pm
Contact nos.: 02-478-7738/ 0917-509-2010



Farzaneh Shamsi, DMD

Dental Surgery and Cosmetic Dentistry

Dr. Farzaneh Shamsi is the CEO and founder of a multi-awarded dental clinic and wellness center in Makati, Passion Smile and Aramesh Wellness Center. She is a graduate of Centro Escolar University, a prominent university for its dental programs in the Philippines. Dr. Shamsi has been practicing aesthetic surgery, which is concerned not only with dental health but also appearance, for more than nine years. She has a broad experience in handling various complications, ranging from dental problems to surgical implants.

Make an appointment:

- ✓ Fashion Smile Dental Clinic, Unit 601, Heart Tower, 108 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City
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Lee Seung Chul, DMD

Dental Aesthetics and Implants

Hailing from Korea, Dr. Lee Seung Chul came to the Philippines in 2007 to do missionary work. Since he is a Christian, he always thought of a way on how he can be of service, especially to the poor, and one thing that came up to his mind is through dental works. Apart from his missionary work, Dr. Chul specializes in dental aesthetics and implants. His typical day at work concerns patients that want to improve their appearance, i.e. smile, by getting braces, tooth whitening, and others. Dr. Chul does a lot of dental missionary work on weekends in poverty-stricken areas such as Tondo, Manila. For aspiring dentists, Dr. Chul gave a piece of advice: focus on providing quality service rather than personal intentions.

Make an appointment:

- ✓ Unit 106, SOHO, AVIDA Towers Cityflex, BGC, Taguig City
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Business Talk

An interview with the top executives in the Philippines
Get a first person point of view when it comes to business



Aisa Mijeno is the CEO of SALT (Sustainable Alternative Lighting), which she co-founded in 2014 with her brother, Raphael Mijeno. SALT is a tech startup the Mijeno siblings call a social movement, motivated by tribal communities who do not have access to electricity. Their flagship product, the SALT lamp, won the Good Design Award 2018 presented by the Japan Institute of Design Promotion, a Japanese comprehensive design evaluation and commendation system. The SALT lamp can be powered by saltwater through metal-air technology.

What is SALT and where did the idea come from?

We are promoting SALT as a social enterprise. What we do is we try to address the energy access gap first in the Philippines. Our country is an archipelago, which makes it hard to connect every single home to the power grid. We wanted to address that gap through the use of the most abundant natural resource we have: saltwater or ocean water.

I took volunteering seriously after a year of doing it and applied for a job at Greenpeace Philippines as a directorial campaigner. That's where everything started for me, especially in terms of service. We would travel across the Philippines and do immersions in tribal communities, those that other travelers would not have access to. That's where I got to see the problem we are trying to solve.

Most of these communities are not connected to the power grid, which meant they did not have ready access to electricity. They still used fire-based lighting systems to light their homes, like kerosene lamps. That was the spark that led me to the idea for SALT.

I already had a background on fuel cells and fuel cell technologies as an engineer, which led me to asking, "Why not use saltwater as a way to generate enough power to light up an LED bulb?" The timing for this idea could not have been better. LED doesn't need that much to power it

up, and without the developments in LED technology, SALT would not have existed.

I then decided to join the academe so I can get access to facilities for product development. I became a lecturer for De La Salle University in Lipa, Batangas where I also started my research regarding the fuel cell which would power up the lighting system.

A common misconception about SALT is that the innovation was the lantern, but it's not. It's what's inside the lantern that's the real innovation: the fuel cell that uses saltwater as its power source. The lantern was merely an application of the technology. If we can further develop this, just imagine how many uses we could find for it.

What are some of the biggest achievements you've made?

One of the biggest achievements we have is when we started deploying the lanterns. It wasn't meant for commercial use when we first deployed them; it was more for a test run, to see if the technology worked. That's what has been happening with us for the past two years: we deploy the lantern, evaluate, and go back to improve on the design of the lantern. It's difficult to put up a hardware-based startup. It's something that requires a lot of capital, and for us to still be around is already an achievement in itself. Being able to come up with a working version of our product that's commercially viable is an achievement for us.

What are some of the bigger setbacks you've faced in trying to get out of the development phase?

You have to be smart about dealing with investors. Aside from being capital intensive, you have to have the correct financial protections and get the cash flow, which makes it different from software startups.

What you need to put up a software startup is usually a group of people with programming

knowledge and a good internet connection. For hardware startups, especially those that get to a point of mass production, they usually go to China to save on costs. We didn't want to do that. We wanted to promote SALT as a 100% Filipino-made product.

We've got two partners as of today. One of them is a semiconductor company located at Laguna Technopark. The other one is San Miguel Yamamura Packaging Corporation. They are the ones helping us with all of our packaging needs: the box it comes in, the plastic, and even the design of the package.

What are you looking for SALT and your plans for the future?

Our short-term goal is deploying our first 45,000 units. We want to distribute them in the Philippines, but we're looking into a different strategy now. We've been getting more attention outside the country than in it, which is why we're changing our approach.

We're having a bit of a dilemma about releasing the product in retail here in the country. It's easier for us to sell the lantern in bulk to private companies for their corporate social responsibility (CSR) projects, which is our current business model. The problem is we cannot see the lantern being sold in the country because of its suggested retail price (SRP). We're looking at an SRP of P999, which is expensive for a lighting system at least in the Philippines.

How would you describe the way you run SALT?

We give a lot of autonomy to our team. I let each team decide which methods would be the best for the company. I still gather the ideas during meetings before we brainstorm, but I still let them decide on things within the company.

Who are some of the people you look up to?

There's Dado Banatao. He's partly one of the reasons why we were able to put up SALT in the first place, because of his achievements.

I think the education system in our country should be promoting people like him to our engineers so they have someone to look up to, a role model to inspire them. Imagine being born to a farmer in Cagayan and becoming one of the most successful businessmen in Silicon Valley! Unfortunately, every time I ask students who Dado Banatao is, only a few raise their hands. These are the kinds of people we should be promoting.

The other person isn't really related to technology, but more on life principles. Christopher McCandless, the inspiration behind "Into the Wild," lived a tragic life, but he's someone I look up to. He's a guy who gave up everything to meet people and experience the rawness of life. I wanted to experience life the same way he did, but not necessarily end up dying the same way.

What's one thing that motivates you to do better with SALT?

It's the people we want to serve, the people who will benefit from the lantern. They're the main reason why we started SALT in the first place. Along the way, there were a couple of times when we wanted to give up. We've been through many ups and downs, but everytime we're at that point of giving up, what we like to do is to go back to the tribes we are helping and immerse ourselves. That's how we renew our motivation and keep on pushing forward.

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Business Talk *Extended*

Interview with the top executives of Japanese companies that have penetrated the Philippine market



Takayuki Araki
President & CEO of
AEON Credit Service Philippines

Takayuki Araki became the president of AEON Credit Service Philippines, one of the leading providers of installment plans without credit cards, in 2014. He has a diverse business background, which includes working at a French bank and running a restaurant business in Shanghai. With calm analytical skills and passion for immersing himself in the main business scene, Araki is introducing financial products and services suitable for every Filipino, leading to the improvement of their living conditions.

Please tell us about yourself.

I was born in Osaka in 1962 and entered a university in Kansai. I was interested in foreign countries; in fact, I studied English in Los Angeles in my second year of college. In 1987, I got into the Osaka branch of the French bank, Crédit Lyonnais as a fresh graduate. Because of the merger, it is now called Crédit Agricole. At that time, with the yen's high depression before the bubble, manufacturers focused on the number of recruits, so I turned my attention to banks and securities companies. There is a somewhat uniform image for Japanese banks and securities companies, and I joined a foreign-funded company.

What kind of task were you in charge of?

After joining the company, I have been involved in basic operations such as managing credit limit for about three years. After that, I was in charge of supporting sales for corporations. Japanese companies, such as manufacturers and trading companies, based in France were the main customers. After that I transferred to the Tokyo branch in 1991. I took on the position of Relationship Manager and worked for about 20 years until I was about 50 years old.

What did you do after that?

I have friends in Shanghai, China and started a restaurant business there by recruiting colleagues before I left the bank in 2010. However, I fully realized that the business in China is difficult to manage during that time and then withdrew around 2013. Looking back, what we were missing was a strategy.

What happened after you return to Japan?

I looked for my next job at around 52 years old. I submitted my resume to about 300 companies, but my age was always a hindrance. I worked for about a year looking for a job. After I met a colleague who I previously worked with, he introduced me to my current company and joined in June 2013.

What role did you take?

I was majorly involved in corporate governance of subsidiaries, accounting, finance, and compliance. In 2014, I was sent to Malaysia, where a company oversees Indonesia, Philippines, and India. I took charge of the re-organization plan in the Philippines and became a president after.



How is the current business situation?

After three years, it has now become possible to make profits. Originally, we set a low interest rate as compared to competitors for loans, but there was a high risk of customers failing to repay. For this reason, we changed the structure by setting interest rates as high similar as competitors, and we reformed our asset system that diversifies the risks. We continue to improve the collection rate of funds and measures are implemented.

Please talk about the characteristics of the market.

Consumer loans including purchases of cars and household goods are about 4.4 trillion dollars in China and other Asian countries, and the growth rate is 14%. In the Philippines, it is about 26 billion dollars and the growth rate is about 8%. When considering the total sales of our franchisees as a market, it is in the scale of 160 billion to 200 billion pesos, so we can expect considerable growth in the future. I would like to encourage customers who visit affiliated stores and home appliance mass merchandisers to register and analyze installments so that it will improve review and collection. Credit cards as a means of payment will remain for more expensive purchases, but I think that the spread of prepaid cards will advance in the future, so we consider entering the market as well.

I heard that a business designed for low-income consumers was also started.

We started a tricycle drivers' loan in July 2017. It is a loan to purchase a tricycle. We partnered with a company called Global Mobility Service. Initially, we aimed for 1,000 contracts but reached up to 3,000 in 2018. I would like to extend it to 10,000 after three years.

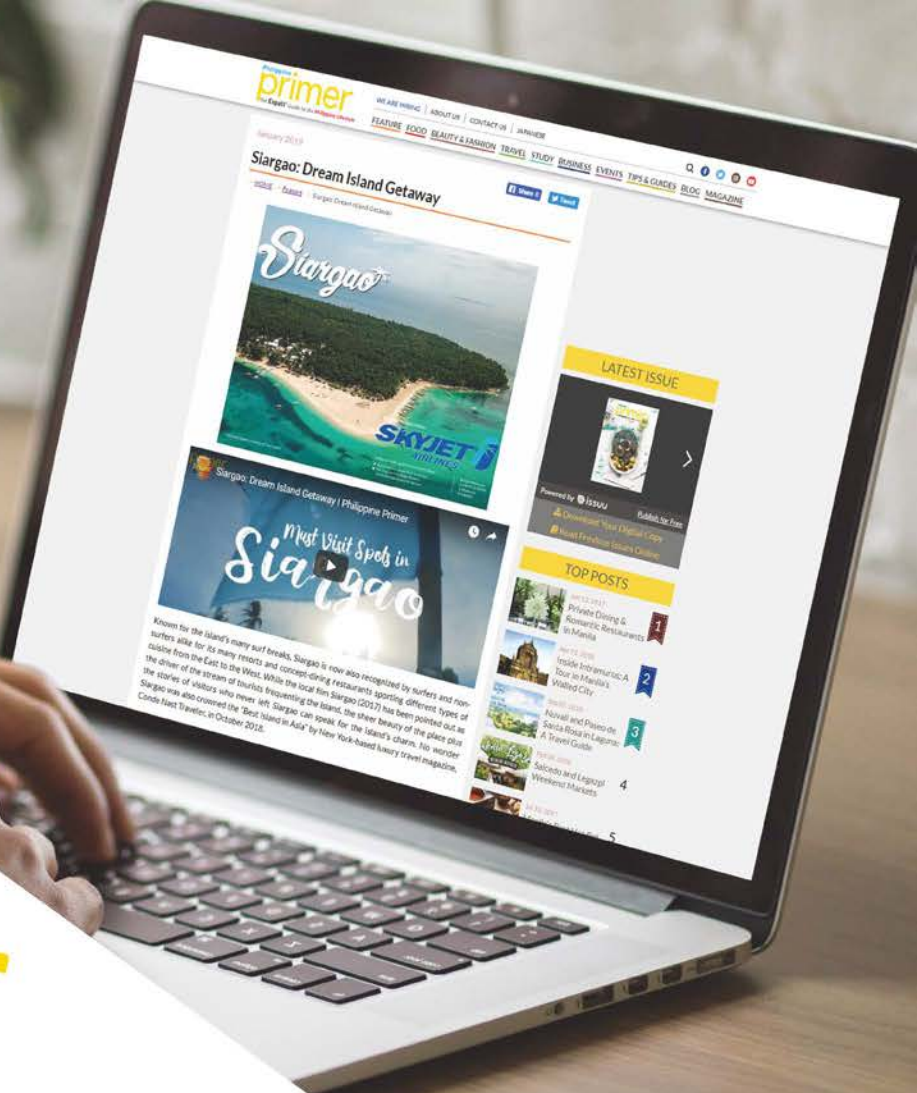
What are your future plans?

In the future, the core business of our company that is installment loans will change. It is unclear whether it will be electronic payments through QR code or whether it will be in other forms. However, we have provided the necessary funds to the customer in an appropriate form. Through various experiences so far, regardless of what kind of new business we are going to start, the most important thing is what's out there—the answer is always on-site, so I would like to gather and review on-site opinions more than anything else.

Scan the code to view the full interview. Read more on business at

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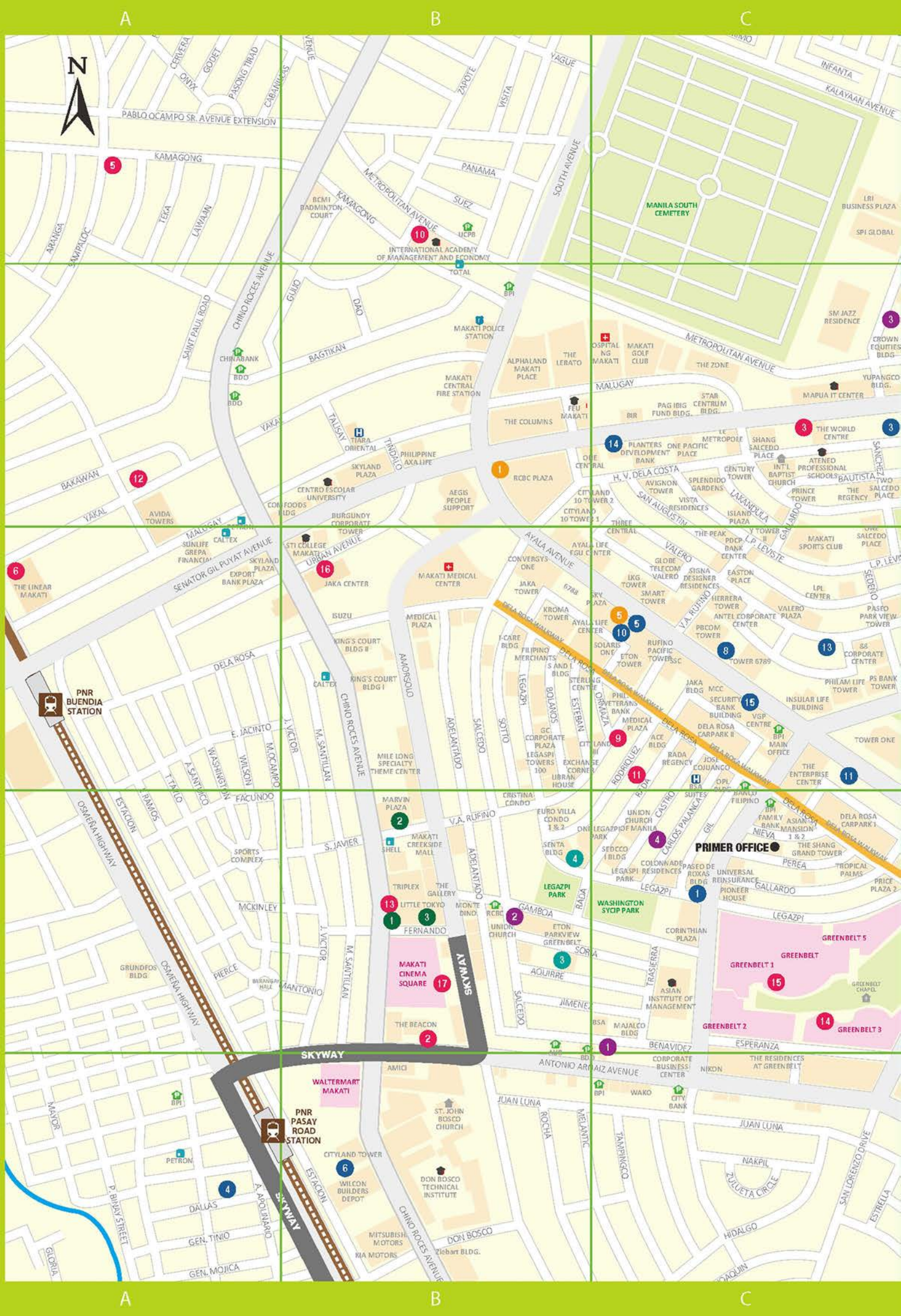
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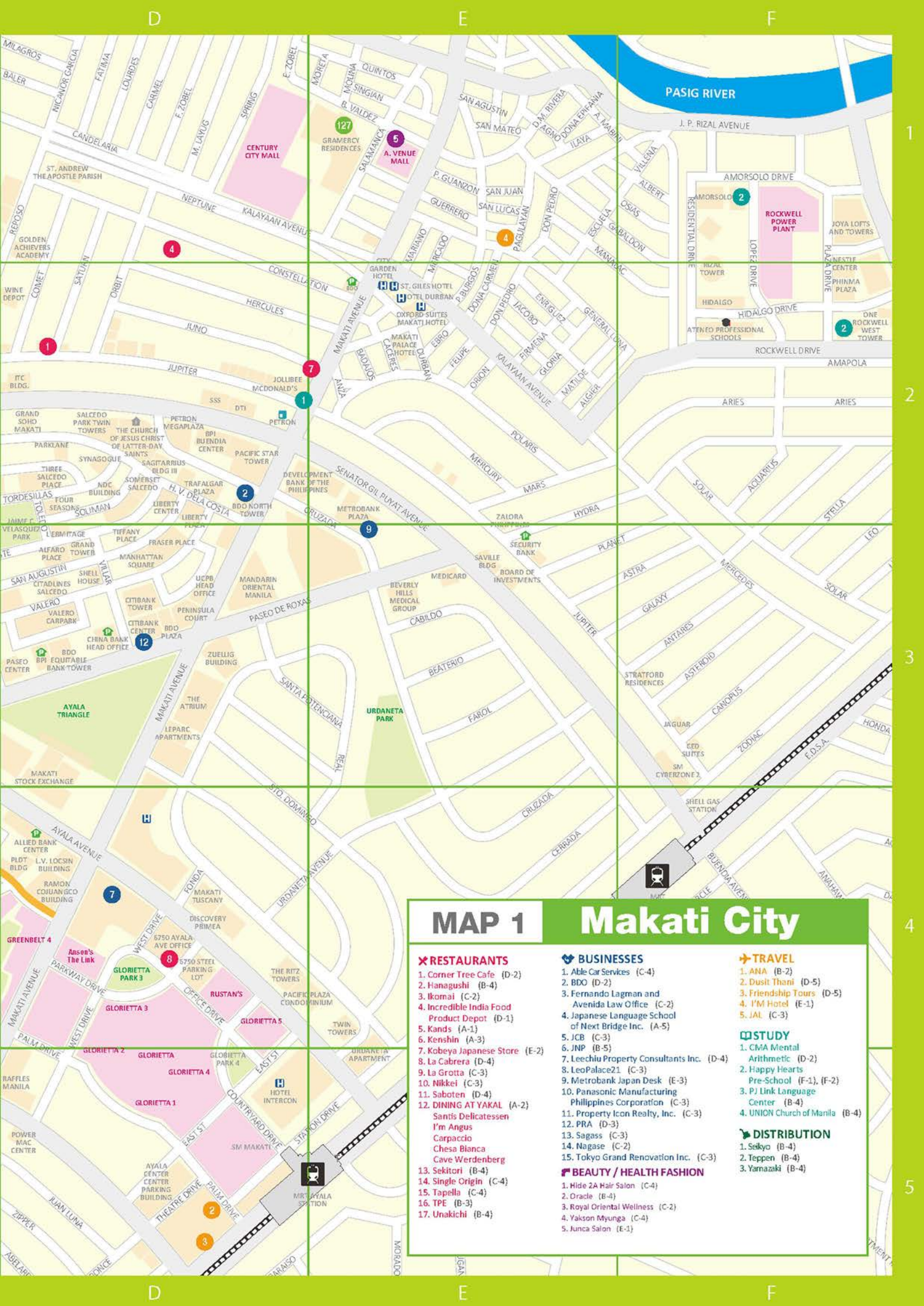
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MAP 1

Makati City

✳ RESTAURANTS

1. Corner Tree Cafe (D-2)
2. Hanagushi (B-4)
3. Ikoma! (C-2)
4. Incredible India Food Product Depot (D-1)
5. Kands (A-1)
6. Kenshin (A-3)
7. Kobeya Japanese Store (E-2)
8. La Cabrera (D-4)
9. La Grotta (C-3)
10. Nikkei (C-3)
11. Saboten (D-4)
12. DINING AT YAKAL (A-2)
Santis Delicatessen
I'm Angus
Carpaccio
Chesa Bianca
Cave Werdenberg
13. Sekitori (B-4)
14. Single Origin (C-4)
15. Tapella (C-4)
16. TPE (B-3)
17. Unakichi (B-4)

✳ BUSINESSES

1. Able Car Services (C-4)
2. BDO (D-2)
3. Fernando Lagman and Avenida Law Office (C-2)
4. Japanese Language School of Next Bridge Inc. (A-5)
5. JCB (C-3)
6. JNP (B-5)
7. Leechiu Property Consultants Inc. (D-4)
8. LeoPalace21 (C-3)
9. Metrobank Japan Desk (E-3)
10. Panasonic Manufacturing Philippines Corporation (C-3)
11. Property Icon Realty, Inc. (C-3)
12. PRA (D-3)
13. Sagass (C-3)
14. Nagase (C-2)
15. Tokyo Grand Renovation Inc. (C-3)

✳ BEAUTY / HEALTH FASHION

1. Hide 2A Hair Salon (C-4)
2. Oracle (B-4)
3. Royal Oriental Wellness (C-2)
4. Yakson Myunga (C-4)
5. Junca Salon (E-1)

✳ TRAVEL

1. ANA (B-2)
2. Dusit Thani (D-5)
3. Friendship Tours (D-5)
4. I'M Hotel (E-1)
5. JAL (C-3)

✳ STUDY

1. CMA Mental Arithmetic (D-2)
2. Happy Hearts Pre-School (F-1), (F-2)
3. PJ Link Language Center (B-4)
4. UNION Church of Manila (B-4)

✳ DISTRIBUTION

1. Sekyo (B-4)
2. Teppen (B-4)
3. Yarnazaki (B-4)



P2P / UBE

P2P BUS ROUTES

MAKATI

Routes	Fare
Greenbelt 1 to Alabang Town Center	(P100.00)
Greenbelt 5 to Ayala Malls South Park	(P100.00)
Glorietta 3 to Robinsons Galleria	(P30.00)
Glorietta 3 to Robinsons Novaliches	(P100.00)
Glorietta 3 to UP Town Center	(P80.00)
Ayala Center - SM Megamall - Trinoma - SM North (Saturdays)	(P100.00)
Makati Circuit Lane to Nuvali Transport Terminal	(P150.00)
Park Square to Trinoma	(P95.00)
Greenbelt 5 to SM City Masinag	(P80.00)
Makati to Eastwood	(P100.00)
Greenbelt 3 to Sucat interchange	(P100.00)
Greenbelt 5 - SM Cherry Antipolo	(P80.00)

QUEZON CITY

Routes	Fare
Robinsons Galleria to Clark International Airport	(P250.00)
Araneta Cubao - NAIA	(P100)

ORTIGAS

Routes	Fare
Robinsons Galleria to Antipolo Triangle Mall	(P50.00)

- Robinsons Galleria to Robinsons Place Antipolo (P60.00)
- SM Megamall to SM North EDSA (P65.00)

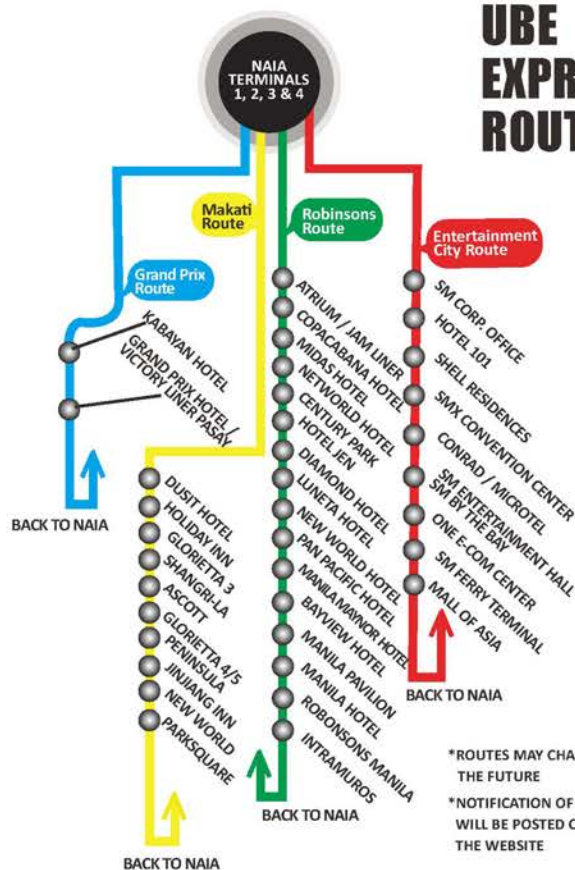
ALABANG

Routes	Fare
Alabang Town Center to Market! Market!	(P100.00)
Starmall Alabang - Central Mall Dasmariñas	(P50.00)
Starmall Alabang to Robinsons Galleria - Starmall Shaw	(P80.00)
Starmall Alabang to Vista Mall Daang Hari, Bacoor	(P35.00)
ATC to Ayala Malls 30th	(P80.00)
ATC to Greenhills Shopping Center	(P80.00)
Alabang South Station (Muntinlupa) - Market! Market!	(P100 / P80.00)
ATC - Greenbelt 1	(P180.00)
ATC - Ayala Malls the 30th	(P80.00)
ATC - Lawton	(P180.00)

BULACAN

Routes	Fare
Sta. Maria Bulacan - Trinoma	(P70.00)
Robinsons Place Malolos - North Ave. (QC)	(P80.00)

UBE EXPRESS ROUTES



Others

Routes	Fare
NAIA - Clark Airport	(P350.00)
Camella Dasma Highway - San Lorenzo Place Makati	(P150.00)

LRT / MRT ROUTES

QUEZON CITY



FARES: (SINGLE JOURNEY)
MRT - Php 13.00 to Php 28.00
LRT1 - Php 15.00 to Php 30.00
LRT2 - Php 15.00 to Php 25.00

MAKATI

	LRT 1
	LRT 2
	MRT 3



What's New in the Metro?

QUEZON CITY



Concert March 10

Rita Ora Live in Manila

British singer-songwriter Rita Ora will be coming to Manila on March 10, at the New Frontier Theater (formerly KIA Theatre), as part of her World Tour 2019. The tour is to promote the new album 'Phoenix' to be released on November 23, this year.

📍 New Frontier Theater



Concert March 23

Pulp Summer Slam XIX: The Second Coming

Prepare yourself as the 19th installment of the sought-after Pulp Summer Slam is happening this coming March 23, at the Amoranto Stadium in Quezon City. This time, it will be starred by the American thrash metal band, Slayer!

📍 Amoranto Stadium



Concert March 30

Andy Brown Live in Manila

Lawson's lead singer-guitarist, Andy Brown, will perform unaccompanied, as he serenades you on a one-night acoustic concert playing their band's top-charting hits on March 30, in the SM Skydome at SM City North EDSA.

📍 SM Skydome, SM North EDSA



Concert April 9

Sabrina Carpenter: The Singular Tour

Nineteen-year-old Sabrina Carpenter has announced her latest album Singular Act 1, as well as an upcoming Manila concert this April. The American singer-songwriter is behind the chart-topping "Thumbs," "Why," and the No. 1 breakout song on the Billboard Dance Club chart, "Alien."

📍 New Frontier Theater

PASAY CITY



Event March 8 - 10

Noli Me Tangere, The Opera

The acclaimed Filipino opera inspired by Dr. Jose Rizal's famous novel, Noli Me Tangere, is back for an all-new production tribute to the National Hero as well as to National Artists Felipe de Leon, and Guillermo Tolentino.

📍 Cultural Center of the Philippines



Event March 23 - 24

Cosplay Carnival 2019

Come to the Cosplay Carnival 2019 on March 23 and 24 for two days worth of cosplay enjoyment at SMX Convention Center Manila, MOA Complex, Pasay City. Cosplay Carnival 2019 features a lot of exciting booths, games, and competitions for all otaku fans!

📍 SMX Convention Center



Event April 5 - 7

World Travel Lifestyle Expo

Score amazingly cheap travel deals, promos, and treats from various local and international tourism industries in the Philippines as the annual World Travel Lifestyle Expo 2019 takes place on April 5 to 7 at SMX Convention Center Manila, MOA Complex, Pasay City.

📍 SMX Convention Center



Event April 6 - 7

GameCon Philippines 2019

With the theme Play, Learn, and Enjoy, this year's GameCon Philippines 2019 gathers more gamers from all gaming platforms for a two-day festivity full of amazing games, competitions, and fun! Don't miss its third run on April 6 and 7, at the SMX Convention Center Manila, MOA Complex, Pasay City.

📍 SMX Convention Center

SPOTLIGHT

WORLD BEX SERVICES INTERNATIONAL

THE 24TH PHILIPPINE WORLD BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION EXPOSITION

WORLD BEX

MARCH 13 - 17, 2019

10:00 AM TO 8:00 PM

WORLD TRADE CENTER METRO MANILA
SMX CONVENTION CENTER MANILA

worldbex.com

Event

World Building and Construction Exposition 2019

March 13 - 17

Now on its 24th year, the biggest and longest-running construction expo in the country is back to showcase the latest products and services in the market. In their pursuit of forming great business relationships between parties, WORLDBEX 2019 offers you a grand showcasing of architects, furniture, and interior designers gallery among others to facilitate networking between businesses. Catch the WORLDBEX 2019 at the World Trade Center in Pasay City happening from March 13 to 17.

📍 World Trade Center, Pasay City

PASIG CITY



Event March 16

Sticker CON MNL 2019

Calling all sticker fans and collectors for the biggest gathering of the best local sticker artists in the country—Sticker CON MNL 2019! Get all your journals, notebooks, and gadgets, and go hoard all kinds of stickers this March 16, at Bayanihan Center's JYC Halls A and B.

📍 Bayanihan Center- Unilab

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