

## Insider's Guide: Making the Most of Your Stay at Natura Vista

Thank you for choosing to stay with us! We're excited to welcome you. To help you settle in smoothly, we've prepared this arrival guide, packed with everything you need to know for a comfortable and enjoyable stay.

### ABOUT THE PLACE

**Natura Vista** is an eco-sanctuary located at Purok 1, Bingag, Dauis, Panglao Island, Bohol, Philippines. It offers a rustic yet immersive experience for travelers seeking an authentic provincial escape, seamlessly blending traditional Filipino charm with modern conveniences. Our accommodations consist of native-style cottages featuring wooden structures and nipa-thatched roofs, creating a cozy, natural atmosphere that harmonizes with the surrounding environment. Ideal for solo travelers, couples, and small families, Natura Vista provides a peaceful retreat away from the usual tourist-heavy spots, offering guests the chance to reconnect with nature and local culture. It appeals to those in search of a serene, eco-conscious getaway while fostering a deeper appreciation for the traditional ways of life in Bohol.

### LOCATION

Just a 2-minute walk from the beach, it offers a serene and authentic experience away from the usual tourist crowds. What sets **Natura Vista** apart is its location in a non-touristy area, giving guests a unique opportunity to experience the everyday life of the local Boholano community. It's an ideal spot for travelers seeking a deeper connection with local culture and a truly immersive experience.

**San Pedro Public Beach** is a raw, undeveloped stretch of coastline where local fishermen dock their boats. Though small at first glance, it holds hidden sanctuaries, unique beach coves, and colorful rock formations waiting to be discovered. Bring water shoes or beach booties, walk to the right (opposite direction from Mithi Resort) to explore its wild beauty.

Nearby, you'll find natural gems like **Hinagdanan Cave**, a stunning cavern with a popular underground lagoon for swimming. The **Bingag Marine Sanctuary** also offers incredible snorkeling opportunities, providing a secure habitat for giant clams and other marine life, protected from threats and degradation.

### AMENITIES AND SERVICES

- **Natura Vista Pool:** A small pool divided into a plunge pool, whirlpool, and kiddie pool
- **Hammocks & Lounging Areas:** Cozy spots for relaxation
- **Games & Activities:** Board games, sungka, dartboard, and a book exchange
- **Wi-Fi:** Available throughout the property
- **In-house Restaurant:** Serving homemade Filipino cuisine, including vegetarian and vegan options (from 7am-10pm, last call 9pm)
- **Free Drinking Water:** Refillable at the reception and restaurant
- **Free Parking:** Limited spaces available; please reserve in advance
- **Pet-Friendly:** Small dogs and other pets allowed for an additional fee
- **CCTV Surveillance:** 24/7 monitoring of public areas for your safety
- **Daily Housekeeping:** Available between 11 AM - 5 PM; please use the door sign or inform our staff if you need this service. (For Home Exchange guests, we request for a one time cleaning fee of \$20. For additional cleaning, we request for \$8 per additional cleaning fee.)
- **Massage Services:** Provided by our experienced masseuse for a minimal fee
- **Tours & Excursions:** Various tours can be arranged at the front desk
- **Scooter, Tuk-tuk, & Car Rentals:** Available for easy transportation
- **Additional Services:** Recommendations for laundry, nanny, and other services if needed
- **Special Room or Bed Decorations:** Available for special occasions, such as romantic getaways, anniversaries, honeymoons
- **Romantic Dinner by the Beach:** Under the stars, your toes on the sand, with tiki torches and candle lights sparkling around you, with your own private waiter serving home-made Filipino dishes and a bottle of wine or cocktail of your choice!

- **Banca Sunset Cruise:** a serene journey across calm waters, where you can relax on a traditional banca as the sun sets in vibrant hues. Bring a bottle of cold beer in this lovely sunset experience.

### **EXPECTATIONS:**

Our native-style Filipino cottages come with their own unique set of advantages and quirks. The traditional construction of wood and thatch offers a delightful indoor climate and a cozy, homely atmosphere. However, this natural construction also means that, at times, you may notice TINY BITS OF WOOD falling due to climatic changes, or perhaps a small lizard making its way inside, hunting for mosquitoes. Though the rooms are thoroughly cleaned and sanitized before each guest's arrival, these occurrences are part of the authentic provincial experience. Wooden floors may creak, and while these features add character, they might be unfamiliar to guests used to modern buildings.

### **PLACES AND ATTRACTIONS**

- **Panglao International Airport:** 15 minutes by car
- **Tagbilaran City Port:** 20 minutes by car
- **San Pedro Beach:** 2-minute walk
- **Hinagdanan Cave:** 4 minutes by car or a 15-25 minute walk (depending on your pace)
- **Bingag Marine Sanctuary:** 10-minute boat ride to a secluded snorkeling area, home to giant clams and vibrant fish species
- **Blue Moon Inn:** Offers a larger pool with depths ranging from 4 to 7 feet; access is free based on availability
- **Snorkeling with Sardine Swarms at Napaling:** Just a 10-minute drive away; snorkeling recommended for a closer look
- **Dinner or Drinks at Mithi Resort:** Enjoy amazing sunset views and occasional live performances at this luxury resort, walking distance from Natura Vista
- **Alona Beach:** 21 minutes by car, the most popular beach destination on Panglao Island. The beach offers a vibrant atmosphere with numerous beachfront restaurants, bars, and resorts.

- **Oceanica Resort:** Just 17 minutes by car, this location boasts some of the most stunning beaches in Panglao. Enjoy refreshing drinks at the bar while marveling at the beautiful surroundings
- **Exotic Panglao Island Tour:** Details available on a later page
- **Bohol Countryside Tour:** Details available on a later page
- **Island Hopping Adventure Tour:** Details available on a later page
- **Waterfalls in Bohol:** Details available on a later page
- **Climb the Highest Peak in Bohol:** Contact the guide: Ms. Edith, +639129766691
- **Bohol Quality Mall (Tagbilaran City):** 17 minutes by car
- **Island City Mall (Tagbilaran City):** 25 minutes by car; the largest mall in Bohol

### **CHILL AND RELAX**

Read a book, play board games, play cards. We have a book swap area where you can leave your book and take any book you like in exchange. We have Sungka (a local game), darts, playing cards, chess, dama/checkers, Scrabble, and Jenga.

### **ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY**

We encourage you to engage with local fishermen and residents and create meaningful exchanges that enrich your travel experience. They're always delighted to welcome travelers from around the world. This neighborhood offers a chance to appreciate the simple joys of life and the beauty of human connection. Embrace this special journey and create unforgettable memories in the heart of Bohol.

### **OTHER THINGS TO NOTE**

- **Mosquito Awareness:** Being a tropical country, the Philippines has its share of mosquitoes. We recommend bringing insect repellent for your comfort during your stay.
- **Accommodation Quality:** Please note that our sanctuary does not offer 5-star accommodations. Proximity to the ocean and the effects of annual typhoons may show some wear and tear. We aim to set realistic expectations; if you're seeking luxury accommodations, we kindly ask you to

consider other options. The true charm of our home lies in its secluded beach location and the authentic experience of Boholano life.

- **Electricity Availability:** Our island occasionally experiences electric brownouts (tropical blackouts). While such outages are rare, they can result in temporary power loss. We do have a generator, but it may take a few minutes to become operational.
- **Free Corkage:** Feel free to bring your own food at no extra charge. We do charge corkage for alcohol though.
- **Kids Stay Free:** One child aged 5 years or younger can stay for free when sharing a bed with parents.
- **Pet-Friendly:** Each group is welcome to bring one small pet for a fee.
- **Inclusive Environment:** We proudly maintain a safe and welcoming space for all guests, including those from LGBTQ+ and transgender communities.

## GETTING AROUND

Natura Vista is about a 600-meter walk to the main highway. From there, you can catch a jeepney to Tagbilaran City or Panglao Town proper, available until around 6:00 PM. Tricycles (locally known as tuk-tuks) and motorcycles (known as "habal-habal") are also readily available for hire. If you prefer not to walk to the highway, please ask our reception to arrange transportation for you.

For added convenience, we offer van and car rentals, and we can arrange a cab or tuk-tuk upon request. For the greatest flexibility in exploring the area, we recommend renting a self-drive motorcycle or tricycle, allowing you to roam freely at your own pace.

## SOME HOUSE RULES

To help make your stay comfortable and safe, please follow our House Rules. This will help us provide the cleanliness, safety, and comfort you deserve.

1. **Breakfast:** Served from 7 AM to 11 AM. Please do not ask us to prepare breakfast at 5 AM for early island hopping tours (typically starting at 5:30 AM). If you book your tour through us (and not from other tour operators), you can ask the staff to make you a sandwich the night before so you can bring it with you.

2. **Personal Belongings:** Please secure your belongings and valuables. Management is not liable for any loss of personal property.
3. **Smoking:** Smoking is strictly prohibited inside the rooms. You are welcome to smoke in the designated area.
4. **Toilet Use:** Please do not flush toilet paper, sanitary napkins, or other foreign objects down the toilet. Use the trash bins provided in each toilet.
5. **Noise Levels:** To respect other guests, please avoid making loud noises after 10 PM.
6. **Damage to Property:** Guests are responsible for any damage caused to property or belongings. Please handle items with care.
7. **Keys:** Keys are provided to guests. Please return them to the reception upon departure. A charge of PHP 500 will be applied for lost keys.
8. **Laundry:** We offer laundry service; please inquire with the staff for assistance.
9. **Energy Conservation:** Please turn off lights, air conditioning, and water taps when leaving the room to help conserve energy, reduce your carbon footprint, and do our part in protecting the planet.
10. **Towels:** We are happy to change towels upon request; however, we encourage you to consider the environmental impact and change them only if needed. Please do not place wet towels on the bed.
11. **Visitor Hours:** Visitors are welcome until 10 PM. For everyone's safety, please ensure that all visitors follow our security measures and inform management of their arrival.
12. **Information:** For Wi-Fi passwords, menu options, tours, directions to the beach, or the cave, please ask our front desk. They are always ready to help.

#### **GETTING HERE:**

Complete Address: Natura Vista

G. Hornijas St. Sitio San Pedro,

Purok 1, Bingag, Dauis, Bohol 6339

Phone number (Text/WhatsApp): +639663621538

This is the map to the place: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/76uMCAuk9AAhWfMs5>

#### **CHECK-IN INFORMATION:**

- **Time:** Check-in starts at 2:00 PM; Check-out until 11am

- **Security Deposit:** A PHP 500 deposit is required at check-in and refundable upon checkout.
- **Dining:** Restaurant closes at 10 PM; last dinner order is at 9 PM.
- **Parking:** Limited parking available; please notify us if needed.

**Cultural and Eco-Friendly Focus:** Our hostel prioritizes sustainability and celebrates local culture, offering guests an authentic experience of Boholano life. Here, you'll have the opportunity to engage with local fishermen and community members, fostering meaningful exchanges that enrich your travel experience and connect you with the island's natural beauty.

**Challenges and Resilience:** Located in a peaceful rural area, Natura Vista has encountered challenges like occasional brownouts (though a generator is available) and the impact of natural events, including a significant typhoon in 2021. Thanks to dedicated repairs, our hostel has been restored to provide a warm and inviting atmosphere, where nature and community come together to create a memorable stay.

## WHAT TO BRING

For a smooth and enjoyable stay, consider packing the following items:

- **Beach Towels/Sarong:** We provide bath towels, but kindly ask that you leave them at the inn.
- **Comfortable Shoes and Slippers:** Essential for both beach lounging and exploring.
- **Water Shoes or Beach Booties:** Some beach areas may have rocky or weedy spots.
- **Toiletries and Insect Repellent:** While we maintain a comfortable environment, Bohol's tropical setting means bugs are occasionally present.
- **Earplugs:** We provide them upon request, depending on availability, but bringing your own is advisable. The neighborhood is lively, with roosters, chickens, and occasional karaoke, which, although typically ending by 10 PM, can add to the local charm. Earplugs ensure a quiet evening, if you prefer.

## INTERACTION WITH STAFF

We're proud to employ local staff who embody the warmth and hospitality of Filipino and Boholano culture. You'll find our team friendly, sometimes humble or shy, reflecting the deep-rooted values of respect and humility. They're eager to assist with any requests and provide service with genuine hospitality.

### Front Desk and Staff Availability

- Reception: 7 AM - 10 PM
- Night Caretaker: 10 PM - 7 AM (for late assistance and overnight security)
- Breakfast Team: 7 AM - 11 AM
- Housekeeping: 11 AM - 5 PM (please use the door sign if you would like your room to be cleaned)

Our team is here to make your stay comfortable and enjoyable. Please don't hesitate to reach out for any assistance! Enjoy a relaxing stay with us!

## NATURA VISTA

Address: G. Hornijas St., Sitio San Pedro, Purok 1, Bingag, Dauis, Panglao Island, Bohol 6339

- ✓ WhatsApp/Globe: +63 966 362 1538
- ✓ Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/naturavistabohol>
- ✓ Website: [www.naturavistabohol.com](http://www.naturavistabohol.com)

### From Metro Manila to Natura Vista

1. Fly from Manila to Bohol-Panglao International Airport
  - Airlines: Cebu Pacific, Philippine Airlines, and AirAsia offer regular direct flights.
  - Flight Time: Around 1.5 to 2 hours.
  - Airport: Depart from Ninoy Aquino International Airport (MNL) in Manila and arrive at Panglao International Airport on Panglao Island.
2. Getting to the Airport from Your Hotel
  - Use Grab Taxi (similar to Uber) for a convenient ride to the airport. Download the Grab app on your phone to book a ride from your hotel.
3. From Bohol-Panglao Airport to Natura Vista



- Taxi or Private Car from the airport: Approximately 17-20 minutes
  - Tricycle: About 25-30 minutes
  - Directions: Provide the driver with the address: Natura Vista, G. Hornijas St., Sitio San Pedro, Purok 1, Bingag, Dauis, Bohol.
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### **From Cebu City to Natura Vista**

#### **Step 1: Ferry from Cebu City to Tagbilaran, Bohol**

##### **1. Choose a Ferry Service**

- Options: OceanJet, SuperCat, and Lite Ferries operate daily between Cebu City and Tagbilaran Port.
- Travel Time: 2 hours by fast ferry (OceanJet or SuperCat) or 4 hours by Lite Ferries.
- Booking in advance is recommended.
- Departure Location: Ferries depart from Cebu City Pier 1.

##### **2. Getting to the Pier from Your Hotel**

- Use Grab Taxi (ride app like Uber) to book a ride to Cebu City Pier 1. Make sure to download the Grab app on your phone if you haven't already.

#### **Step 2: From Tagbilaran Port to Natura Vista**

##### **1. Tricycle**

- Travel Time: 25-30 minutes

##### **2. Taxi or Private Car**

- Travel Time: Approximately 20 minutes

## TOURS

### Bohol Countryside and Heritage Tour

Embark on an unforgettable journey through the enchanting landscapes and rich cultural heritage of Bohol. This tour offers a perfect blend of history, adventure, and nature, allowing you to explore the island's most iconic sites and hidden gems.

#### Tour Highlights

- **Blood Compact Shrine** (No entrance fee): Visit this significant historical site where Spaniards and Filipinos first established friendly relations through a blood compact.
- **Baclayon Church and Museum** (Free entrance to the church; small fee for the museum): Explore the ruins of one of the country's oldest stone churches, rich in history and charm.
- **Loboc River** (Additional fee for a one-hour cruise with buffet lunch): Experience the beauty of Bohol's famous river, flanked by lush vegetation and teeming with diverse wildlife.
- **Loboc Eco-Tourism Adventure Park** (Additional fee for cable car/zip line): Enjoy breathtaking views and an adrenaline rush as you glide across the valley on a zip line or take a scenic cable car ride over Busay Falls, 100 meters below.
- **Tarsier Sanctuary** (Additional entrance fee): Catch a glimpse of the world's smallest primate, the adorable tarsier, in its natural habitat.
- **Manmade Forest** (No entrance fee): Stroll through a stunning expanse of tall mahogany trees, planted by locals to provide fresh, cool air along the highway.
- **Chocolate Hills** (Additional entrance fee): Marvel at the iconic hills that look like they're made of chocolate, perfectly arranged across the landscape.
- **Sipatan Hanging Bridge** (Additional entrance fee): Cross the Sipatan River on this famous bamboo bridge, offering a thrilling experience with stunning views.

- **Butterfly Sanctuary** (Additional entrance fee): Immerse yourself in a vibrant environment filled with various butterfly species. The sanctuary features cozy cottages, souvenir shops, and a restaurant for your enjoyment.

Join us for an unforgettable journey through Bohol's natural and cultural treasures!

### **BALICASAG ISLAND ADVENTURE TOUR**

Join us for an exhilarating Island Adventure Tour that promises a day filled with stunning natural beauty. Explore pristine beaches, vibrant marine life, and serene landscapes as you dive into the heart of Bohol's tropical paradise.

#### **Tour Highlights**

- **Dolphin Watching:** Experience the thrill of seeing dolphins in their natural habitat! While sightings are not guaranteed, this adventure adds an exciting touch to your day.
- **Balicasag Island** (Additional entrance and environmental fees + optional snorkeling gear rental): Dive into one of the richest marine sanctuaries in the Philippines. Snorkel among vibrant coral reefs and colorful fish in this diverse underwater ecosystem.
- **Turtle Point:** For an unforgettable encounter, swim alongside graceful sea turtles. This unique experience allows you to appreciate these gentle creatures in their natural surroundings.

### **EXOTIC PANGLAO TOUR**

Discover the breathtaking beauty and rich cultural heritage of Panglao Island on this exciting tour! From stunning natural wonders to historical sites, immerse yourself in the unique charm of this tropical paradise.

#### **Tour Highlights**

- **Hinagdanan Cave** (Additional entrance fee): Explore this naturally lit cavern, renowned for its impressive stalactites and stalagmites, and take a dip in its deep lagoon for a refreshing experience.

- **Dauis Church and Miracle Well** (No entrance fee): Visit the historic ruins of Our Lady of the Assumption Church, famous for its healing well located in front of the altar—a site of pilgrimage for many visitors.
- **Bohol Bee Farm** (No entrance fee): Indulge your taste buds at this delightful resort and restaurant, where you can savor native delicacies and local dishes crafted from organic ingredients.
- **Panglao Church** (No entrance fee): Step back in time at St. Augustine Church, a hundred-year-old landmark known for its stunning mosaic floor and beautifully painted ceiling.
- **Panglao Watchtower** (No entrance fee): Situated behind Panglao Church, this impressive watchtower is said to be the tallest of its kind in the Philippines, constructed from cut stones and adorned with lush plant life.
- **Nova Shells Museum** (Additional entrance fee): Delve into a fascinating collection of diverse shell species at this unique museum, complete with a souvenir shop offering shell crafts and other marine products.
- **Alona White Beach** (No entrance fee): Relax on the soft, coral-white sands of Alona Beach, one of Bohol's most popular destinations, perfect for sunbathing, swimming, and beach activities.

Join us for an unforgettable journey through Panglao Island, where natural beauty and cultural richness come together to create lasting memories!