

Philippines Culture

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The Philippines is commonly known as a place where western and eastern cultures mingle. The cultural landscape also features Spanish, American, Japanese, Arabic and Indonesian influences. The major religions in the country are Christianity, Catholicism and Islam, which have played a significant role in shaping the culture of the Philippines.

Filipinos enjoy different kinds of festivals and holidays, for instance, the Silmugi Festival (held in honor of Saint Sebastian), the Sinulog Festival (held in honor of Santo Nino de Cebu) and the Kuraldal Festival (held in honor of Saint Lucy). The Philippines also celebrate some familiar holidays around the world, including New Year's Day – 1st January, the Holy Easter Week – between March and April, and Christmas Day on 25th December. Among all these festivals, the Sinulog Festival Fiesta is particularly worth mentioning. It is celebrated every year on the third Sunday of January. It is important to the locals because they need to celebrate their culture and traditions that are passed on from generation to generation. Such celebrations reflect Filipinos' love of their traditions and culture.

The Philippines has a lot of appetizing local cuisines, which are influenced by local and foreign cultures. Rice is the staple food in the country and is usually served together with other foods. The abundance of fish in the country makes seafood another common food item. For example, clams, squids and salted-fried-tilapia are served with rice and vegetables. Other popular food in the Philippines include lechon (roasting of a whole pig during festivals), crispy pata (pork knuckle simmered, drained and deep fried until crispy) and chicken inasal (grilled chicken). The Philippines also has some fast food franchises such as KFC and McDonald's.

Arnis is the national martial arts of the Philippines. It is also known as Kali or Eskrima. Arnis can teach us discipline and self-control. It can also give us the ability to think fast and make our body stronger as we will move a lot. Boxing is one of the most popular sports in the Philippines. One of the famous boxers in the Philippines is Manny

Pacquiao. Boxing is also what Filipinos enjoy most for the thrill and joy of seeing a compatriot fighting with skill, savvy and heart. So, boxing never fails to usher all Filipinos into unity.

The Philippines has many great cultures. I really love to learn more about its different kinds of cultures.