

There are just not enough words to describe us.



Iligan Visit us.
You'll run out of words yourself.



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Visit us @ www.iligan.gov.ph

OVERVIEW

Chroniclers say that centuries ago, long before Legaspi's expedition reached the Philippines in 1565, the Tala-andigs and the Banwahons, two of the known peace-loving Higa-onon tribes of Mindanao, had to build an ilihan or iliyan, meaning a "fortress of defense" on the coastal plain to secure them from the frequent attacks of pirates and savage tribes. Hence, the place came to be called as ILIGAN.

Iligan City is bounded by the provinces of Bukidnon, Misamis Oriental, by the two provinces of Lanao, and by Cagayan de Oro. Iligan has a total land area of 81,337 hectares with 44 barangays and a projected population of 298,000. It has a Type C climate characterized by short, low sun dry season for one to three months. Rainfalls are evenly distributed throughout the year. It is located outside the



typhoon belt.

ILIGAN, City of Majestic Waterfalls, as of latest count has 23 waterfalls distributed in the 44 barangays of Iligan. Most famous of these waterfalls is the Maria Cristina Falls which is harnessed by the National Power Corporation-Mindanao Generation and provides electricity not only for the city but the entire Mindanao island as well.

It is not only known for its rich natural resources, but is also the home of nationally acclaimed artists, poets, film makers, cultural workers and writers and geographically,

he crossroad of the cultural mix of the Maranaos of Lanao del Sur, Higaonons of Bukidnon and the dominantly Christian settlers and migrants from Luzon, Visayas, and other places of Mindanao.



SCENIC SPOTS



ILIGAN CITY HALL - situated on top of Buhanginan Hill, 130 feet above sea level, is the seat of Government of Iligan, built way back 1958. It is also a favorite promontory of Iliganons for viewing the sunset or skyline of the city by night. The grounds are sometimes utilized for official social functions.



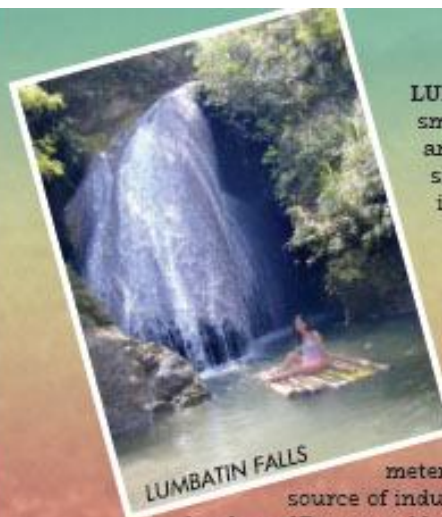
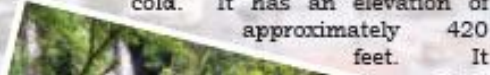
ANAHAW OPEN AMPHI-THEATER - Located at the Buhanginan Hill in the southeastern side of city hall. It is only 2.3 kilometers from the city proper. Probably the biggest open Amphitheater in Mindanao. A beautiful site to view Iligan City, where children can romp around the playground. The road going to the top of the hill is a challenge and favorite destination for early morning exercise.

TIMOGA COLD SPRINGS

- known for its pristine, cool and crystal clear waters freely flowing downstream towards several swimming pools. Shed, snack bars, cottages and lechon (roasted pig) stalls are available.



TINAGO FALLS - literally hidden in a deep ravine, the falls cascading beautifully into a basin-like pool, clean, and deep and icy cold. It has an elevation of approximately 420 feet. It



LUMBATIN FALLS - a 15-foot falls with a small lagoon located at Barangay Puga-an. The falls, hidden with deep foliage, sits at the foot of mount Agad-agad and is a 15 minute trek from the Barangay road. Ideal for small group picnic.

MARIA CRISTINA FALLS - Iligan's greatest heritage, the landmark of Iligan City. The most resplendent among the 20 plus waterfalls. Also known as the "Mother of Industry" and "Fountainhead of Progress."

It is 320 feet high, spews 130 cubic meters per second of water and the veritable source of industrial power in the city. Located at the borders of Barangay Maria Cristina, Ditucalan and Buru-un 9.3 kilometers away from the city proper. Since its water is being harnessed for electric power, full grandeur viewing of the waterfalls is every Saturdays and Sundays at 11:00 in the morning.



MIMBALUT FALLS - a not so high and mighty falls with a drop of approximately 90 feet high and is 18 ft. wide, but very alluring with its naturally limpid water. It is a site to behold and provides an enjoyable swimming spot, 11.0 kilometers away from the city proper. Picnic tables are available for those who simply want to wade and enjoy a quiet scenery and listen to the melodious chirping of birds.





Iligan Mountain Resort, City Tourism Office with an entrance fee of P10.00.

is 13.8 kilometers away from the city proper. Access to the falls is through the Tinago managed by the

MACARAEG-MACAPAGAL ANCESTRAL HOUSE – The house boasts as the only house in Mindanao where two Philippine Presidents resided. One being the father, and the other, the daughter, Pres. Diosdado Macapagal and HE Gloria M. Macapagal-Arroyo respectively. In 1994, upon the instigation of the late former President Diosdado Macapagal, the lot where the house stands and a two-hectare cocoland nearby were donated to the City government of Iligan for the purpose of developing the place into a tourist destination with a memorabilia of the Macaraeg-Macapagal family



DODIONGAN FALLS – 65.60 feet high, cascading down to a concrete-like boulder. Its tranquil, cool waters and lush vegetation make it a real haven for nature lovers. The pool at the foot of the falls is very ideal for swimming. 14.5 kilometers away from the city proper and a 15-minute trek to the foot of the falls.



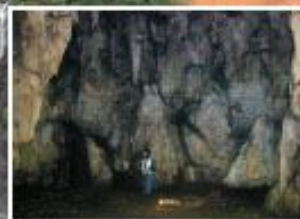
LIMUNSUDAN FALLS – 35 kilometers away from the city proper. It has the claim of being the country's highest waterfalls. It is a breathtaking two-tiered falls. The lower cascade alone is higher than the 320 feet Maria Cristina Falls. It has a total height of 870 feet. It is close to the eastern boundaries of Iligan, Buldnon and Lanao del Sur. To reach the waterfalls, one has to trek for 2 days from Kalamalamahan, Barangay Rogongon, Iligan City.



MARIA CRISTINA FALLS



HINDANG FALLS AND CAVES – a 40 ft. high two-tiered waterfalls with a lagoon ideal for swimming. Located at hinter-land Barangay Hindang, approximately 20 kilometers from the city. Other attractions of the Barangay are the 6-8 cave clusters. Most caves have narrow entrances with long and deep chambers.



Diyandi Festival sa Iligan

Folk-lore depicts Iligan's patron saint, St. Michael the Archangel as the protector of peace. During the 70s, at the height of the secessionist hostilities in Mindanao, people believed that Iligan remained untouched and safe from rebel attacks because of the miracles of St. Michael.

One evening, when a hostile group was poised to attack Iligan City, the rebels retreated because they could not find the city as it was transformed into a lake. Another story told is that the Patron Saint makes his rounds in the evening as evidenced by amorseko grass on his clothes and muddy boots.



These are just a few of the many stories about St. Michael. Even the story of his installation as patron saint of Iligan continues to inspire and endear him to each and every Iliganon.

Thus, his feast every 29th of September, is a grand celebration in Iligan. In fact, it has transformed into a month-long festival, the **DIYANDI FESTIVAL SA ILIGAN**.

Diyandi is a ritual performed by an all-female group outside the Cathedral during the Pagkanaug, before every novena and before the start of the Komedya, or Comedia de San Miguel, a folk stage play depicting the celestial battle. The ritual depicts the courtship between a Maranao male and Higaonon female, and culminating into an offering symbolic of their union and bountiful harvest to St. Michael the Archangel. The ritual aptly describes the peaceful co-existence of Iligan's tri-people – Maranaos, Higaonons and Christians

GETTING THERE

The fastest and most convenient is to take a plane to Cagayan de Oro, with seven daily flights from Manila for 1 hour and 20 minutes, and from Cebu for 20 minutes. From Cagayan de Oro you can take either bus, a taxi or rent a car and travel 86 kilometers to Iligan.



Its public seaport serves passenger ships taking Iligan-Cebu and Iligan-Manila routes and cargo vessels both inter-island and foreign.

LANGUAGE/DIALECT

Cebuano, the major dialect in the city is reported as the mother tongue of 94% of the population. The remaining 6% of the population speaks Tagalog, Maranao, Ilonggo, Ilocano and Waray-waray. Conversational English is however spoken and understood by majority of the population and street and directional signs are likewise in English.

TOPOGRAPHY



Iligan's topography is such that 65% of the area is mountainous: 30% nearly level to moderately sloping and only 4% is level. Its coastal plains has a maximum expanse of only 3 square kilometers. The mountains running parallel with the coastal plains are not very high and do vary in size.

Tips for Unguided Tourist

If you'd like to visit and see the various attractions that Iligan offers, you may request for a tour guide at the City Tourism Office or you may wish to go around on your own. Here are some tips for the unguided tourist for a whole day tour.



ITINERARY	WHAT TO DO?
7:00 Breakfast 8:00 ETD Buhanginan Hill	From Poblacion (City Proper) take a jeepney (Iligan-Palao-City Hall-City Hospital) and inform driver to take you to City Hall. Fare =P6.50
8:15 ETD Buhanginan Hill	Buhanginan Hill houses the City Hall which is 49 years old, the new Sangguniang Pambansod building, the anabaw amphitheatre. You'll get a good view of the city from the Buhanginan Hill too. Some 200 meters from the City Hall is the Bahay Salakot which houses the City Tourism Office and the Iligan Investment Promotion Center
9:30 ETD for Maria Cristina Falls	Take a jeepney from Buhanginan Hill to city proper. Tell driver to drop you at Monterey / Masonic Temple and pay a fare of P6.50. From there take a jeepney (Iligan-Buruun) to Maria Cristina Falls. Fare is P12.00. Inform driver to drop you at the crossing going to Maria Cristina Falls.
10:15 ETA at Gate of NPC Agus VI and VII Hydro Electric Power Plant Complex	From the crossing of the national highway and road leading to Maria Cristina Falls is the NPC gate which is some 150 meters from the highway. You shall be asked to register at the gate, fill-out some forms and leave an ID. In exchange you shall be given an ID PASS which you shall be asked to wear at all times while inside the complex. From the gate to Agus VI Hydro-electric power plant where you shall be viewing the falls, is an 800 meter walk. Maria Cristina Falls is open to the public everyday, however should you wish to view its full grandeur, it is recommended to view it on Saturdays and Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
11:45 ETD from Maria Cristina Falls to Timoga	From the gate of the NPC Complex walk towards the highway and cross it. From there, take a Buru-un bound jeepney and tell driver to drop you at Timoga. Fare is P6.50. There are food stalls along Timoga highway where you can take your lunch. Recommended restaurant is the Gloria Ihas-Ihas and a must-eat (for pork eating tourists) is lechon (roasted pig) and puso (hanging rice).
1:00 Macaraeg-Macapagal Ancestral House	Across Timoga's food stalls is the Macaraeg-Macapagal Ancestral House where two Philippine presidents have stayed President Diosdado Macapagal and President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.
1:30 ETD for Mimbalut Falls	Across the Macaraeg-Macapagal Ancestral House take an Iligan-Buru-un jeepney and inform driver to take you to the School of Fisheries. Fare is P6.50. Jeepneys make their u-turn at the School of Fisheries as it is the end of the line. Get off from where they make their u-turn and walk some 500 meters to Mimbalut Falls. After viewing, walk back to the highway and take Buru-un-Iligan bound jeepney. Tell driver to drop you at the Buru-un talipapa (stalls selling fishes). Fare is P6.50. At the talipapa are habal-habal (motorcycles used as public transport). Inform barker that you are going to
2:00 ETD for Tinago Falls	Tinago Falls. Rate is P20.00 per head, minimum passenger is 2 passengers. If you are alone and you do not wish to wait for additional passenger then fare is P40.00. You may make arrangements with driver to pick you up at the Iligan Tinago Mountain Resort and special rates can be arranged. Entrance fee at the Iligan Tinago Mountain Resort is P10.00.

The fares/and other rates indicated above are based on current fares (March 2007) and may therefore change depending on legislated/approved rates.