

# PHILIPPINES AND OTHER TROPICAL COUNTRIES

## WHAT TO PACK FOR YOUR TRIP

Pack as if you are going camping. The more you bring, the more effort you must expend, packing & unpacking, carrying & keeping up with "things." We recommend you limit yourself to a carry-on bag (your backpack) and one suitcase. Remember to pack your carry-on in such a way that should your checked bag not arrive, you'll still survive. This would include all important papers, Bible, speaking notes & one change of clothing. Make sure you are up to date on current airline carry-on restrictions and when in doubt leave it out. Please pack any such restricted items in your check-in luggage. Wear your windbreaker & dress shoes on the plane. Leave all expensive jewelry at home! Your passport should be carried on you person at all times.

The climate is generally quite warm and *humid*. The highs are in the 90's with the average low temperature of 76. Average precipitation for the month of February is .40 inches. There may be scattered thunderstorms and average of 10-30% chance of precipitation most days. Good idea to bring a rain slicker or poncho for the unexpected rain shower. Typhoon season is June through November. Last season's typhoons dropped over 13 inches of rain per day. In Manila, the significant typhoon damages were due to flooding but in Northern Luzon much of the damage was due to mud slides.

### CLOTHING

Casual clothes may be worn during the day & when traveling, but Filipinos will expect you to wear "dressy" outfits for evening & Sunday services. Shorts may be worn in your living environment. Longsleeves in the evening helps ward off mosquitoes. Be overly modest. Cotton/polyester blends travel & wear best. Laundry services (hand washed & line dried) are usually provided.

#### GENERAL:

- 3 "dressy" outfits
- 3 casual outfits
- underclothing for a week
- socks & handkerchiefs (to wipe off all that perspiration!)
- very modest swimwear (no two-pieces for women)
- lightweight sleepwear/robe/cover-up
- lightweight windbreaker
- 1 pair dress shoes (services are held outdoors)
- 1 pair comfortable walking shoes (or tennis shoes)
- 1 pair rubber thongs (for shower & bathroom, do not walk barefoot)

#### WOMEN:

- below the knee length skirts/dresses (preferred when using the bathroom facilities)
- pants are not acceptable for any services but OK for casual daytime
- no plunging necklines, tank tops or sleeveless tops

#### MEN:

- "Dockers" type trousers
- buttoned shirts for services (or "Barong" - Filipino men's shirt)
- sport jackets and ties not necessary