PHILIPPINES

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The Republic of the Philippines is located in Southeast Asia, on the Philippine Islands bordered by the Pacific Ocean. The nearest neighbors of the Philippines are Indonesia, Brunei, and Taiwan. The capital city is **Manila**. The total population is over **70 million people**. 90% of the population are Malays and the rest are Chinese, Ilocana, Viliani, Spanish, Moro, and Magaly. The majority of the islanders are **Catholic** (83%). The remaining **Filipinos profess Protestantism** (9%) and **Islam** (5%).

The official languages are English and Filipino. In addition, more than 600 local dialects are actively used.

The national currency of the country is the Philippine peso. 1 peso is 100 centavos. The domain is .ph and the country code is +63.

The <u>national symbols of the Philippines</u> are National Flag, the National Anthem "Lupang Hinirang", and the National Flower "Sampaguita".

The stars on the Flag represent the three island groups that make up the Philippines: Luzon, the Visayas, and Mindanao. The white triangle is a symbol of peace and purity, blue and red — patriotism and courage.

The Philippine national flower is called "sampaguita" which is generally known as the Arabian Jasmine. Its white color symbolizes purity, simplicity, humility, and strength. Sampaguita is one of the **national symbols of the Philippines**.

The Philippine national bird is called the "<u>Philippine Eagle</u>", scientifically known as **Pithecophaga jefferyi**. It was officially approved in 1978 by former <u>President Ferdinand Marcos</u> in Proclamation No. 1732.

Independence Day is a national holiday of the Philippines, celebrated annually on June 12 in honor of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence of the Philippines from Spain on June 12, 1898. It has been a national holiday of the Philippines since 1962.

Adobo is a national Filipino dish that includes meat, seafood, or vegetables marinated in vinegar, soy sauce, garlic, bay leaf, and black pepper, which is fried in oil and stewed in a marinade.

- Further information regarding the symbols and knowledge of the Philippines can be found in the table of contents -

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