**About:**  
Lipa is one among the three cities in the province of Batangas, Philippines (the others being Batangas City and the City of Tanauan). It is situated 80 kilometers south of Manila. According to the latest census, it has a population of 283, 468 inhabitants in 59,063 households.  
  
The city is considered a religious center due to the numerous magnificent churches, convents, retreat facilities and seminaries. Dubbed as the “Little Rome of the Philippines”, tourists usually flock the city especially during Lenten Season. It is also the seat of the Archdiocese of Lipa and the home of two popular apparitions, the Shower of Petals in 1948 and the “Lady” atop a coconut tree in 1993. It is also the host to the annual Marian Pilgrimage: The National Day of Prayer for Peace and the Sanctification of the Clergy.  
  
Being in the forefront of economic activities in the province and in the region, Lipa City is an ideal place for investments due to its business friendly environment. It provides great opportunities for light industries such as the LIMA Industrial Estate, Nestle Philippines and other multi-national companies.  
  
Having been identified as one of the ten cyber growth corridors in the country, Lipa City has a great potential in business process outsourcing as it has been chosen as on the Top 10 Next Wave Cities for a couple of years now.  
  
The city is now one of the two (the other being Batangas City) newest districts of Batangas Province.

**Historical Background:**  
The primal composition of the ancient settlement in the southeastern region of Bombon Lake, now known as Taal Lake, were elements of the dispersed colonial families founded by the Datus Dumangsil and Balkasusa in Taal Batangas between the 10th and 13th Century A.D. From the clan of these Bornean Datus, the ancestry of Lipa was born.  
  
By origin, the early Lipeños were Buddhist in religion and Indian in civilization. But with its frequent contact with Chinese traders, the Batangueños have been influenced too by another ancient civilization, that of china. And with the Spanish colonization and the Salcedo conquest of Batangas in 1572, the Lipeños absorbed a mixed culture.  
  
The Spaniards came to Batangas in 1570 and reached Tagbakin but it was in 1605 after Marshall Gabriel de Rivera received the encomienda of Bombon that the Agustinian Fathers made Tagbakin the first settlement of the Lipeños and mission center with the name of San Sebastian. The settlement was made a regular municipality in 1702 and a regular parish in 1716  
  
In 1724, Taal Volcano erupted and the municipality was moved to a place called “Lumang Lipa”.  
  
Thirty years after, Taal Volcano erupted and the municipality was moved to “Balete” and finally in 1756 the Municipality of Lipa moved to its present location to be safe from volcanic eruption.  
  
Lipa is the birth place of the coffee industry. According to BPI records, coffee was first brought to the Philippines from Mexico in 1740 by a Franciscan Friar and planted in Lipa.  
  
Don Geronimo de los Santos was the first Captain when Lipa was formally established as a town in 1808. It was Don Galo who enforced the planting of coffee. When a plague destroyed coffee plantacion in Brazil the other coffee producing countries, the town supplied the needs of the coffee-drinking world. The municipality became the world center of coffee trade.  
  
The town Lipa was elevated to a city in 1887 with the name of “Villa de Lipa” by no less than the Queen Maria Cristina of Spain because of the prosperity brought about by the coffee boom. It was then the richest municipality in the country with an annual income of P4M.  
  
Lipa was authorized to use the Coat of Arms on December 13, 1887, the only one given this privilege in the Philippines. Lipa was reverted into a municipality in 1895.  
  
On June 20, 1947, Lipa became a Chartered City through Republic Act No. 162 signed by then President Manuel A. Roxas.

**Geographic Location:**  
Lipa City is in Southern Luzon located almost at the heart of Batangas Province. The nautical location is at longitude of 13.4 degrees north and latitude of 121.25 degrees east on the globe. She is virtually majestically on top of a mountain with an elevation of 1, 025 ft. above sea level which makes the climate generally cool throughout the year with an average minimum temperature of 18.7” to 23.2” and average maximum temperature of 30.7” to 37.6”.  
  
Lipa City is bounded by the town of Santo Tomas in the northeast, San Pablo City of Laguna and San Antonio of Quezon in the east, the municipalities of Padre Garcia and Rosario in the southeast, the municipalities of Ibaan and San Jose in the southwest, the municipalities of Cuenca and Mataas na kahoy and Taal Lake in the west and the municipalities of Balete and Malvar in the northwest.  
  
The city’s location, in a valley between Mount Malarayat and Mount Makulot, makes it a low risk area. These two mountains serve as a wind breaker in times of typhoon. Mount Makulot at the western portion also served as shield of the city in times of eruption of Taal Volcano. The Southern Tagalog Arterial Road (STAR) and South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) provide convenient access to the city.  
  
**Major Income Sources:** Manufacturing, Services, Retail Trade  
  
**Tourist Destinations:** Lipa City Community Park, Bluroze Farm, Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club, The Farm at San Benito, Metropolitan Cathedral of San Sebastian, Carmel of Our Lady of All Grace, Divino Amor Chapel (Redemptorist Church), Mary Mediatrix of All Grace Parish, St. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, Capuchin Chapel (St. Padre Pio), Benedictine of the Incarcate World (OSB)  
  
**Special Events/Festivals:** Lipa City Fiesta Celebration (January 20), Foundation Day (June 20), Coffee Festival, Lomi Festival  
  
**Contact Information:**  
Address: New City Hall Compound, Marawoy, Lipa City, 4217, Batangas  
Phone: (043) 774 5169  
Fax: (043) 774 5169  
Email Address: [admin@lipa.gov.ph](mailto:admin@lipa.gov.ph)   
Website: [http://www.lipa.gov.ph](http://www.lipa.gov.ph/)