

Quezon Province



Macro Perspective of Tourism and Hospitality
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Quezon Province

Quezon, officially the Province of Quezon (Tagalog: Lalawigan ng Quezon), is a province in the Philippines located in the Calabarzon region on Luzon. Kaliraya/Kalilayan was the first known name of the province upon its creation in 1591. Around the middle of the 18th century, it was changed to Tayabas. In recognition of the second president of the Philippines, Manuel L. Quezon, the name of Tayabas Province is changed to Quezon. Lucena, the provincial capital, the seat of the provincial government, and the most populous city of the province, is governed independently from the province as a highly urbanized city. To distinguish the province from Quezon City, it is sometimes called Quezon Province.

Economy of Quezon Province

Quezon is the country's leading producer of coconut products such as coconut oil and copra. A large part of the province is covered in coconut plantations. Other major crops are rice, corn, banana, and coffee. Fishing is also a large part of the province's economy.

Famous Food of Quezon Province

- ***Pancit Habhab***

The indigenous Lucban Miki noodles, which are made of dried flour, are used to make a pancit habhab. It has a similar texture to a pancit canton, but it has a gentler bite. Pancit habhab is decorated with carrots, chayote, pechay, and pork to add flavor to the dish. To get that tangy flavor, it's generally drizzled with vinegar.

Their unique pancit habhab isn't your typical noodle dish, not only because of its flavor but also because of how it's served: without utensils. It's served on a banana leaf, which also doubles as a utensil when folded, and then goes straight to your mouth like a sandwich!



Festivals of Quezon Province

- ***Araña't Baluarte Festival - Municipality of Gumaca***

The Municipality of Gumaca celebrates the Araña't Baluarte Festival held annually every 15th of May. Baluartes, or "fortresses" in Spanish, are built on the streets of Gumaca using bamboo set up in an arc, where people can pass through. Fruits and vegetables arranged like arañas, or "chandeliers" in Spanish, are hung from the baluartes.



- **Pahiyas Festival of the Municipality of Lucban**

This festival is celebrated annually every 15th of May, as thanksgiving or pasasalamat for a bountiful harvest, and in honor of San Isidro Labrador, patron saint of farmers. Pahiyas is from the word pa'yas, used widely in the Tagalog region, which means 'to decorate. Originally, locals offered their harvest inside the church, but as the number of harvests increased, the church could no longer accommodate their offerings. The parish priest then advised the people to display their produce in front of their houses. The priest would then bless them, their household, and the produce during the procession. Those who participated in the procession would get some of the ornaments and offerings, encouraged by the house owners to partake from the offerings as a way of sharing their blessings.



- **Mayohan Festival in the City of Tayabas**

The last among May festivals in the Province of Quezon is the Mayohan Festival in the City of Tayabas, celebrated every 15th of May, in honor of San Isidro Labrador, patron saint of farmers. Hagisan ng suman is the highlight of Mayohan. Residents would toss suman (rice cakes), fruits, vegetables and other items to the people joining the libot (procession) of the image of San Isidro Labrador. According to locals, it is their form of thanksgiving for abundance and blessings they received, and a way of sharing and redistribution of their bounty. The suman associated with San Isidro Labrador is only made during the Mayohan festival, and prepared two to three days before the event. It is different from the suman wrapped in banana or pandan leaves available in the market. The suman of San Isidro is wrapped in young leaves of coconut and is also characterized by a long tail, which serves as its propeller when tossed. There is a technique in tossing the suman to make its tail swirl, one should hold and release the suman one by one like a dart from the veranda or roof of the house.



Culture of Quezon Province

Quezon Province embodies a vibrant blend of rich history, diverse culture, and natural beauty. From its captivating mountain ranges to its serene coastal areas, Quezon Province truly offers a unique experience for every traveler. Quezon Province holds a significant place in the annals of Philippine history. Its roots extend deep into the Spanish colonial period, providing many historical sites and stories that continue to captivate locals and tourists alike. Several pivotal events and figures have shaped Quezon Province into the region we know today. One such event was the Battle of Paye in 1941, where local guirella fighters courageously resisted Japanese forces during World War II. These historical events and figures have imprinted on Quezon Province's culture and identity. For instance, the legacy of President Quezon is evident in the spirit of resilience and unity that pervades the province. The Spanish colonial period has also left its mark on the region, influencing everything from architecture to local traditions. As we continue to explore Quezon Province, we'll see how this rich history continues to shape its vibrant and unique culture.

Tourist Attraction in Quezon Province

- ***Villa Escudero Plantations and Resort***



Villa Escudero started as a sugarcane and coconut plantation in Tiaong Quezon. In the 1980s, the owners transformed part of this property into a resort. Over the decades, Villa Escudero has become a go-to spot for tourists who would like to understand and experience Filipino culture and heritage.

The resort offers accommodation set in green and serene plantation scenery. It also houses a museum, which showcases one of the largest private antique collections in the country. The museum is an excellent place to learn and appreciate Philippine history.

Another highlight of your visit to Villa Escudero is the Labasin Waterfalls Restaurant. This restaurant lies at the bottom of the Labasin Waterfalls, the property's stunning centerpiece. Dining here means trying out traditional Filipino dishes while dipping your feet in shallow water. Villa Escudero celebrates Filipino heritage by regularly organizing the Philippine Experience Show. This show features various dances originating from the different regions in the country. Some of these dance styles are almost rare to see. Other recreational activities available at the resort grounds include fishing, bird watching, rafting, biking, and swimming.

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