
PROVINCE OF BOHOL

Location. The province of Bohol is the tenth largest island in the country. This oval-shaped province is located northwest of Cebu and northeast of Leyte. It is bounded on the north by Camotes Sea, on the west by the Bohol Strait and on the south by the Mindanao Sea. Aside from mainland Bohol, 61 offshore islands and islets compose the province. Bohol is about 556.16 nautical miles directly south of Manila and is about 39.7 nautical miles southeast of Mactan Island in Cebu.

Bohol was once part of the province of Cebu and was called a residencia. It became a separate politico-military province on 22 July 1854 together with the island of Siquijor. Bohol is the home province of the fourth President of the Republic of the Philippines, Carlos Polistico Garcia (1957-1960) who was born in Talibon.

Topography. Bohol's mainland has the following hypsographic and physiographic features:

1. The east and west coast display northeast trending up to 870 meters in elevation (Mt. Mayana) that drops steeply to the coast. These ranges reflect the major structural units of the island.
2. The central (Carmen area) and northern parts of the island (Trinidad) are vast expanses of relatively rolling plains and flat lands.
3. The development of beautifully-arranged, symmetrically formed "haycock hills" in Carmen-Batuan-Bilar-Balilihan area in the east central part of the island is suggestive of a well-defined system of shears and joints.
4. An elongated cluster of hills of moderate height lies in the northeastern part of the island (Ubay area).
5. An east-west ridge connects the municipality of Alicia with Carmen.
6. The Anda and Loon peninsulas strongly suggest elevated plateaus.
7. At least five different Plio-pleistocene terrace levels ranging in height from 10 to 300 meters have been etched both in the Carmen sandstone and shales and Maribojoc limestone.

Climate. Bohol has a type IV climate under the Corona Classification System. A more or less evenly distributed rainfall throughout the year characterizes a type IV climate.

The average temperature in the province is 27.8 degrees Celsius. The average humidity is 76.6.

Political Subdivision. Bohol is a first class province divided into three congressional districts. It is composed of 47 municipalities and one city, Tagbilaran City that serves as its capital. There are 1,109 barangays with a total population of 1,137,268 as of the 2000 Census of Population.

Province of Bohol

Under the latest Bureau of Local Government Finance (BLGF) income classification system, Bohol has two 3rd class municipalities, six 4th class municipalities, thirty-six 5th class municipalities and three 6th class municipalities with the City of Tagbilaran classified as a third class city.

Table 1
Local Government Units by Congressional District, Classification, Area,
Population Level, Density and Average Annual Growth Rate

Political Subdivisions	Classification ^{1/}	Area ^{2/} (km ²)	Population ^{3/}	Pop'n. Density (Persons/ km ²)	1995-2000 Ave. Annual Growth Rate (in %)
First District					
Albuquerque	6 th	28.65	1,137,268	276	2.92
Antequera	5 th	82.05	13,758	168	2.84
Baclayon	5 th	34.02	14,996	441	3.44
Balilihan	5 th	150.22	16,837	112	3.41
Calape	4 th	76.15	27,921	367	1.50
Catigbian	5 th	78.48	21,461	273	4.35
Corella	6 th	30.33	6,048	199	1.95
Cortes	5 th	43.77	12,702	290	2.86
Daus	5 th	42.88	26,415	616	2.04
Loon	4 th	119.75	45,215	378	7.18
Maribojoc	5 th	51.92	16,786	323	2.94
Panglao	5 th	55.37	21,337	385	3.59
Sikatuna	6 th	26.75	6,602	247	1.96
Tagbilaran City	3 rd	30.61	77,700	2538	3.33
Tubigon	4 th	75.56	40,385	534	3.38
Second District					
Bien Unido	5 th	44.82	22,176	495	3.15
Buenavista	5 th	87.30	25,960	297	1.50
Clarín	5 th	62.79	18,040	2.66	287
Dagohoy	5 th	91.01	16,845	185	4.13
Danao	5 th	97.86	17,265	176	4.53
Inabanga	4 th	131.66	40,714	309	0.37
Jetafe	5 th	99.80	26,826	269	2.48
President Garcia	5 th	65.28	20,744	318	1.79
Sagbayan	5 th	96.75	18,346	190	2.31
San Isidro	5 th	41.04	9,106	222	4.10
San Miguel	5 th	91.56	20,828	227	3.20
Talibon	3 rd	177.04	54,147	306	4.12
Trinidad	5 th	94.27	25,683	272	4.52
Ubay	3 rd	207.55	59,827	288	3.59

^{1/} Source: Bureau of Local Government Finance- DOF, Region 7

^{2/} Source: Land Management Bureau – Tagbilaran City

^{3/} Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing, National Statistics Office

Province of Bohol

Political Subdivisions	Classification ^{1/}	Area ^{2/} (km ²)	Population ^{3/}	Pop'n. Density (Persons/ km ²)	1990-1995 Ave. Annual Growth Rate (in %)
Third District					
Alicia	5 th	114.50	21,605	189	2.33
Anda	5 th	61.10	17,863	292	2.24
Batuan	5 th	78.15	11,835	151	(0.11)
Bilar	5 th	133.15	16,628	125	0.79
Candijay	5 th	86.87	30,389	350	3.63
Carmen	4 th	248.04	40,713	143	2.19
Dimiao	5 th	77.13	14,151	183	2.92
Duero	5 th	88.90	16,485	185	3.09
Garcia-Hernandez	5 th	116.84	21,428	183	0.11
Guindulman	5 th	117.70	29,166	248	1.71
Jagna	4 th	120.63	30,643	254	0.92
Lila	5 th	36.40	10,322	284	2.94
Loay	5 th	34.79	14,433	415	3.22
Loboc	5 th	85.41	15,734	184	3.61
Mabini	5 th	64.55	27,250	422	3.34
Pilar	5 th	62.48	25,095	402	3.74
Sevilla	5 th	64.86	10,281	159	3.72
Sierra Bullones	5 th	109.75	25,499	232	4.47
Valencia	5 th	100.77	24,363	242	1.79

^{1/} Source: Bureau of Local Government Finance- DOF, Region 7

^{2/} Source: Land Management Bureau – Tagbilaran City

^{3/} Source: 2000 Census of Population and Housing, National Statistics Office

Agricultural and Fishery Products. Rice is the staple crop of the province but coconut is its principal cash crop. Coconut is planted in 36 percent of its agricultural area. Other agricultural products include corn, cacao, banana, cassava and other root crops. Livestock and poultry products are also produced in the province. The largest livestock-breeding center in the country, the Ubay Stock Farm, is located in Bohol.

There are three major fields of fishing in the fishing industry of Bohol: deep-sea fishing, municipal fishing and inland fishing. The major commercial species found in the province include anchovy, tuna, round scad, flying fish, half beak, parrot fish, caesio, sailfish, devil ray fish, siganids, mackerel, herrings, slip mouth, crevalle, sardines, shrimps, grouper, bonito, big-eyed scad, garnish, nemipterids, sword fish, snapper and mullet.

Mineral Resources. The metallic minerals found in the province include copper, manganese, silver, gold and chromites. The non-metals are guano and phosphatic limestone, clay, limestone, siliceous shale and lignitic coal.

The guano and phosphate rock deposits of Bohol are associated with limestone caves. A conservative estimate of indigenous phosphate deposits was placed at 16,418 metric tons of guano and 52,673 metric tons of phosphatic materials.

There is a large limestone processing plant located in the municipality of Garcia-Hernandez. Limestone is essential in cement manufacturing and in the sintering of iron. It is also used as road filling and fertilizer.

Industrial Activities. There are five major industrial firms in Bohol. These are the Southern Island Industrial Project located in Cortes, which is a galvanizing plant, Philippine Sinter Corporation in Garcia-Hernandez, which is engaged in the quarrying of limestone for sintering iron, the Philippine Starch Corporation in Carmen, which is involved in the manufacturing of starch and glucose, Frontier Resources Incorporated a prawn hatchery firm engaged in the production and distribution of fries and Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Incorporated located in Tagbilaran City.

The manufacturing industries in Bohol are mostly categorized as micro and cottage industry types. The earliest and most dominant is its handicraft industry. The other industries in Bohol are: fashion accessories, shellcraft, woodcraft, food processing, ceramic craft, hand made paper and novelty items.

There are 6,382 (as of 1992) business establishments in the province including trading and service firms. The central business district is Tagbilaran City although business is also thriving in the growth centers of Ubay, Tubigon, Talibon, Carmen and Jagna. All the municipalities in the province have their own public market.

There are several products in the province that directly find their way to the world market. These are the starch produced by the Philippine Starch Industrial Corporation and the limestone from the Philippine Sinter Corporation. Both products are exported to Taiwan.

Airport Facilities. Two airports serve the province - a feeder airport in Ubay and a domestic airport located in Tagbilaran City. The feeder airport in Ubay is not for commercial use.

Port Facilities. The province's main port is the Port of Tagbilaran. This port serves the vessels that ply the Bohol-Cebu, Bohol-Manila, Bohol-Siquijor, Bohol-Dumaguete, Bohol-Larena and Bohol-Cagayan de Oro routes.

The other ports in the province are the ports of Catagbacan, Getafe, Jagna, Talibon, Tapal and Ubay.

The Jagna port serves as Bohol's gateway to Mindanao with five boats plying the Jagna-Cagayan-Agusan and Butuan routes. The Catagbacan, Getafe, Talibon and Tapal ports serve the motorized passenger vessels

plying the Catagbacan/Getafe/Talibon/Tapal-Cebu City route while the Ubay port serves the vessels that ply the Bohol-Leyte route.

Utilities. There are two NPC power-generating plants in the province. These are the Bohol Diesel Plant and the Loboc Hydroelectric Power Plant with combined rated capacity of 23.2 MW. Power is also generated by the Bohol Electric Company I (BOHECO I) through its Janopol Hydroelectric Power plant, which has a rated capacity of 5 MW.

Electricity in the province is distributed by BOHECO I, BOHECO II, and the Provincial Public Utilities Department (PPUD). BOHECO I distributes electricity to municipalities in the northwestern part of Bohol; BOHECO II distributes electricity to the municipalities in the northeastern part of the province while the rest of the municipalities are served by PPUD. As of 1999, all the municipalities including the island municipality of Pres. Garcia and Tagbilaran city have been energized. Electrification covers 91.1 percent of the total number of barangays with a total household connection of 63.3 percent.

Bohol is well endowed with surface water. There are 114 springs, four major rivers and 172 creeks that constitute the chief sources of water in the province.

The provincial government through its Public Utilities Department (PPUD) serves the water requirements of Tagbilaran City and the 47 municipalities. As of 1999, all of the households in the city have access to safe water. Meanwhile only 70.57 percent of the households in the 47 municipalities of Bohol have access to safe water.

Communication Facilities. A Canadian-funded project costing C\$3.9 million has established a telephone booth in every municipality.

The municipal phones and the telephone system in Tagbilaran City is operated and maintained by the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT). CRUZTELCO and Islacom are also now serving the telephone service requirements of Tagbilaran City and several other municipalities.

There are five providers of cellular phone service in Bohol. These are Extelcom, Globe, Islacom, Piltel and Smart.

Tourism. Bohol is one of the favorite tourist destinations in the country. Its main attractions are its pristine white beaches in Panglao Island and the world-famous Chocolate Hills. Complementing these natural attractions are the historical, religious and cultural monuments/heritage sites located mostly at the southern and western portions of Bohol.

The other popular tourist spots include Loboc River, Balicasag Island, Mag-aso Falls, Loboc Krus Daku, Bohol Museum, Inambacan Falls, Punta Cruz, Albuquerque and Loon Churches, Daus Church, Hingdanan Cave,

Baclayon Church, Blood Compact Landmark and the Rajah Sikatuna National Park among others.

There were 68,336 tourists that visited Bohol in the year 2000. Twenty-three percent of these were foreign tourists. Most of the international visitors were either from the USA, Japan or Germany.