

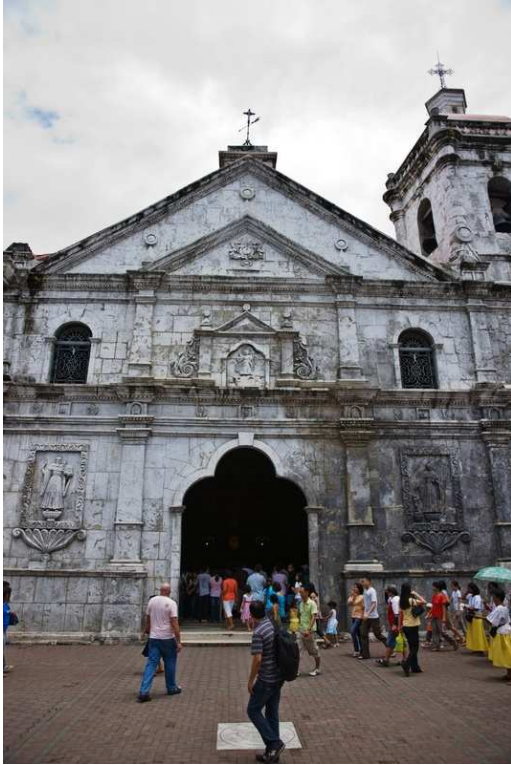
A Short Letter from a Busy Traveler
- Dr. Glenn Nosworthy



It has been a while since I uploaded and shared any travel photos... have been very busy for the past few months, so while I've continued to squeeze in some short trips (Thailand, Malaysian Borneo, Philippines), I have not taken the time to upload my photos and write to you all.

Last month I travelled with a friend to the south-central Philippines of Cebu and Bohol. This is the area where the Spanish first set foot, where Magellan was killed during the first circumnavigation of the world, and where the Spanish eventually established their Philippines colony.

As a result of this early contact with Spain, there is a lot of beautiful old Spanish architecture about (though mostly churches and forts). And since there don't seem to be many foreign tourists about, especially from the West, some of these places stand empty, and you're basically free to wander about the sites as you wish. Wonderful opportunity.



Bohol was actually more interesting than Cebu City. We took the two-hour boat ride there mostly to see the famous 'Chocolate Hills', unusual terrain at the centre of the island (when you see the photos, you'll understand the name). Then a beautiful-but-taxing two-hour car ride through the countryside. What's amazing is that in almost every small town you drive through there is a small town square and centuries' old Spanish church; each one is quite unique... feels very European at times.



Chocolate Hills



Bohol is also famous for having the smallest tarsier in the world, and I captured some photos of them in a tarsier sanctuary on the way to the Chocolate Hills. This hand-sized species can only be found on the island of Bohol.



A child was sleeping quite peacefully on his makeshift bed, beside a stall in Cebu City. No need for a play-pen or a toddler bed for him.

[All photos in this article were taken by the author.]