



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF BOHOL
CITY OF TAGBILARAN



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 53
Series of 2020

PROVIDING FOR THE GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BOHOL TOURIST BUBBLE

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 11469 otherwise known as the “Bayanihan To Heal as One Act”, the local government units are mandated to act within the letter and spirit of all the rules, regulations and directives issued by the National Government and to implement standards of community quarantine consistent with what the National government, however, the said LGUs are still allowed to continue exercising their autonomy in all matters undefined by the National Government or are within the parameters that the latter has set;

WHEREAS, IATF Resolution No. 50 was issued supporting the recommendations to further open up economy while revisiting strategies to boost the confidence of people to go back to work and strengthen the mitigating measures on strictly enforcing minimum public health and safety standards among others;

WHEREAS, Phase II of the National Action Plan as approved in IATF Resolution No. 51, states to strategically balance health and economic objectives, and to concentrate efforts on expanded and targeted testing and contact tracing by gradually allowing travel tourism and non-disruption of work among others;

WHEREFORE, premises considered and by virtue of the powers vested in me as Provincial Governor of Bohol under section 465(b)(2)(iii) of the Local Government Code (R.A. 7170) and other existing laws, I, ARTHUR C. YAP do hereby order the following:

Section 1. That effective 15 November 2020, the Province of Bohol may accept tourists for meetings, incentives, conventions, and exhibitions (MICE) and events (weddings, reunions, anniversaries, birthdays and similar celebrations) with at least six (6) attendees from outside Bohol. The age restrictions for this purpose shall be relaxed and the restrictions as to persons with co-morbidities will remain to be strictly enforced, Provided, that All MICE and events must be coordinated with the Bohol Tourism Office.

Section 2. Requirements

- a. **Confirmed Hotel Booking.** Tourists need to have a confirmed booking with an accommodation establishment (AE) located in the Municipalities of Panglao or Dauis which has a Certificate of Authority to Operate (CAO) from the Department of Tourism (DOT) or the Ultimate Bohol Experience (UBE) Seal from the Provincial Government of Bohol.

b. Negative RT-PCR Test Result and Testing protocol.

- i. Only tourists who have obtained a negative Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR) test result from a DOH accredited RT-PCR Laboratory not earlier than **seventy-two (72) hours** prior to the date of travel, shall be allowed entry to the Province of Bohol.

Moreover, tourists are strongly advised to observe strict quarantine immediately after undergoing the RT-PCR test until the date of travel to Bohol;

- ii. Tourists who have cancelled bookings or last-minute changes in their flight schedules may also opt to be swabbed upon arrival in Bohol at their own expense. However, they would need to fill up a signed undertaking stating they are willing to undergo strict hotel quarantine until their negative RT-PCR test result is released;
- iii. For tourists who are staying for more than five (5) days, they must undergo a repeat RT-PCR test on the fifth day of their stay; and
- iv. Locals may join the meetings, incentives, conventions, and exhibitions (MICE) and events (weddings, reunions, anniversaries, birthdays and similar celebrations), Provided, that after said activity, they will agree to be quarantined for five (5) days and be swabbed for RT-PCR testing and that they will only be allowed to go home once a negative result of said test is released.
- c. **Visit to Tourism Sites.** Trips outside the AE may only be done thru DOT Accredited Travel and Tour Operators and only to sites which have the UBE Seal by the Provincial Government of Bohol. List of Tourism Service providers with DOT Accreditation and establishments granted the UBE Seal are posted at the Bohol Tourism website: tourism.bohol.gov.ph.
- d. **Online Registration.** Tourists must register through the Bohol Tourist Registration portal via tourism.bohol.gov.ph.

Registered tourists will be sent necessary information and instructions through their respective emails. A personal QR code will be assigned to each registered tourist which would serve as their electronic visitor's ID. It is strictly mandated that there shall be no walk-in tourists.

Further, all registered tourists must properly document their trips.

Section 3. Arrival Protocol

- a. All tourists must strictly follow health and safety protocols at all times, i.e. wearing of face masks, frequent handwashing or sanitizing of hands, and physical distancing;
- b. All tourists must present a copy of their negative RT-PCR result upon check-in or a signed undertaking to take the RT-PCR Test upon arrival and undergo strict quarantine until the negative RT-PCR test result is issued;
- c. The unique QR code given to each tourist, regardless of age, after the online registration shall be scanned upon arrival at the Bohol-Panglao International Airport (BPIA) or port of entry. Tourists must always carry an electronic copy of their

documents. The QR Codes are scanned upon entrance and exit of establishments and sites;

- d. Upon arrival in the Province of Bohol, all tourists shall be picked up by the transport service of the AE where they will stay or by a pre-booked tourist transport service from the list of accredited tourist transport service providers and after which they shall then be immediately brought to their respective AE; and
- e. Stopovers from port/airport to accommodation establishments are not allowed. Moreover, tourists are not allowed to meet with friends, relatives, or acquaintances outside of the tourist bubble.

Section. 4. Accommodation establishments, restaurants, dive centers, sites, attractions, tourist transport, event venues and other tourism related establishments must observe the following :

- a. Strictly implement all health and safety protocols as stated in the national and local government regulations;
- b. Require all tourists to present their QR codes for scanning at the entrance and exit using the contact tracing system application provided by the Provincial Government of Bohol;
- c. Strictly implement crowd control measures to ensure that physical distancing is followed at all times; and
- d. Prepare an incident management plan and isolation area for guests who manifest symptoms during their stay.

Section 5. Tours, Tour operators, Tour guides, and Tourism sites

- a. Only DOT accredited and UBE Certified Tour operators are allowed to handle tours for tourists and must book through the central reservation system for sites;
- b. Tour operators must only engage the services of DOT Accredited Tourist Transport providers, tour guides and LGU Certified community guides in specific sites;
- c. Stops are only allowed in designated areas and that tour operators must strictly follow the pre-set itinerary and must not deviate from the same;
- d. Tour Operators must book their tours through the reservation system provided by the Provincial Government of Bohol; and
- e. Tour Operators must submit the list of all tour itineraries offered to guests to the Bohol Tourism Office.

Section 6. Staff Management.

All the staff members of AEs and tourism service providers shall strictly comply with the existing guidelines issued by the Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), and the Provincial Government of Bohol;

Section 7. Incident Management.

- a. TARSIER 117 and the Provincial Health Office-OPCEN are tasked to form a tourist emergency response team to respond to medical emergencies;
- b. In the event that a guest will exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, he/she will immediately be isolated and will undergo an RT-PCR test; and
- c. The tour guide/operator must contact the medical response team for further assessment and needed care.

Section 8. Regulatory Body.

The Bohol Tourism Office (BTO) is tasked in the monitoring of the implementation of the Bohol Tourist Bubble Protocols. The BTO may enlist the support and assistance of government agencies and other concerned bodies to ensure strict implementation of this Order.

Violations of this Order shall be penalized under existing applicable laws and ordinances.

Section 9. Effectivity.

This Order shall take effect immediately upon its issuance.

Issued: November 13, 2020.


ATTY. ARTHUR C. YAP
Governor