



NEWS MONITOR

Daily Monitoring of Tourism - Related News

Central Visayas

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<p>British firms eye construction, tourism</p>	<p>https://www.sunstar.com.ph/article/1807424</p>
<p>The Pata Summit 2019 By Mila C. Espina</p>	<p>https://www.pressreader.com/philippines/sunstar-cebu/20190528/281663961485054</p>
<p>Megaworld to open Mactan World Museum in its Lapu-Lapu township By Marc Cosep</p>	<p>https://cebudailynews.inquirer.net/235962/megaworld-to-open-mactan-world-museum-in-its-lapu-lapu-township</p>

British firms eye construction, tourism



AIRPORT INVESTMENT: The Terminal 2 of the Mactan-Cebu International Airport has its share of British suppliers. (SunStar photo / Allan Caizon)

BRITISH companies are looking to participate in the country's Build, Build, Build program.

British Ambassador to the Philippines Daniel Pruce identified the construction and tourism sectors as the top industries that have caught their interest, following the involvement of British companies in the completion of Terminal 2 (T2) of the Mactan-Cebu International Airport (MCIA).

British firm SSP Group PLC operates T2's food and beverage hub. This firm is present in more than 100 airports globally.

Other British companies that rendered their services and technology at MCIA are Zoetig UK for airport seating, Gatic UK for slot drains and manhole covers, Abacus Lighting Limited for apron high mast lighting and Cathodic Protection UK for fuel hydrant cathodic protection.

Pruce said the United Kingdom (UK) is expert in various areas such as in road and bridge building, design engineering and consultancy.

He said the UK has been helping other ally economies in building infrastructure that is done in a "sensible and sustainable way."

"We hope to grow our partnership with the Philippines in these areas," said Pruce.

Pruce was in Cebu on Thursday, May 23, 2019, for his first diplomatic visit as British ambassador to the Philippines.

He met with different government agencies to discuss the safety of British tourists visiting Cebu.

The UK government issued two travel advisories in January 2019—the first one on Jan. 1, after an improvised explosive device exploded at the entrance of the South Seas shopping mall in Cotabato City on Dec. 31, 2018, and the second on Jan. 27, 2019, when at least 27 people were killed and many more were injured as a result of bomb attacks at a Roman Catholic cathedral in Jolo, Sulu.

Although these incidents happened in Mindanao, the UK travel warning included the southernmost part of Cebu in its advisories.

But despite these warnings, Pruce said there remains a growing number of British nationals visiting Cebu for leisure and business.

Some 45,000 tourists from the UK visited Cebu in 2018.

Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III earlier expressed confidence that the economic partnership with the UK, which is among the Philippines' 10 leading sources of foreign direct investments, would grow in the years ahead, given that the British economy has been a reliable partner even when the Philippines was going through difficult challenges in the past.

"We are confident this partnership will grow even more as our economy emerges to take its place among the dynamic economies in a dynamic region," said Dominguez in a statement.

He said he is optimistic that more investments from the UK would enter the Philippines in the coming years, "especially in the sunrise sectors of our economy."

The UK, along with the US Singapore, the Netherlands and Hong Kong were the top five investor countries in 2018, according to the Department of Finance.

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The Pata Summit 2019

By Mila C. Espina

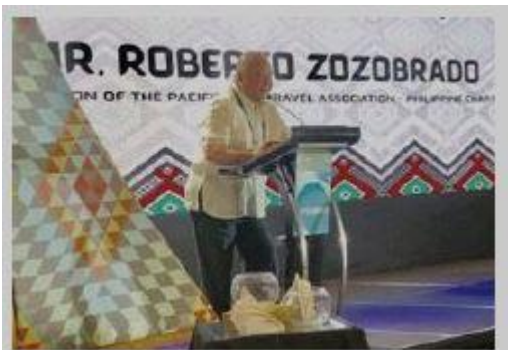


RECOGNITION. Tourism Secretary Berna Romulo Puyat receives the Plaque of Appreciation from Pata chief executive officer Mario Hardy for hosting this year's summit in Cebu.



SPECIAL GUESTS. Present during the Pata Annual Summit: Bob Zozobrado shown with ASec Rica Bueno, USec Art Boncato, Department of Tourism 7 Regional Director Shahlimar Tamano and Tourism Promotions Board chief operating officer Marie Venus Tan.

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MESSAGE. Robert "Bob" Zozobrado, chairman, Pata Annual Summit, delivers his message during the gala dinner and auction at Radisson Blu Cebu.

The Pacific Asia Travel Association (Pata) Annual Summit was held in Radisson Blu Cebu with about 500 tourism professionals in attendance. Roberto "Bob" Zozobrado, led the convention with prominent private and government tourism leaders.

Pata has been in the core of travel and tourism innovations for decades and succeeded in integrating global thrusts with national policies. I attended a few Pata events when I was still very active in tourism programs. Cebu has proven once again that it could successfully host big conventions, and Radisson Blu did well in providing state-of-the-art facilities and food management. Kudos to ace convenor, Bob Zozobrado.

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Megaworld to open Mactan World Museum in its Lapu-Lapu township

By Marc Cosep

LAPU-LAPU City, Philippines — Megaworld Corp. plans to include a museum in its integrated townships in a bid to promote local culture and tourism which would, in turn, can drive more traffic into its developments. In an interview with Noli Hernandez, Megaworld Cebu Properties Inc. president, he said that the museum would be named as the “Mactan World Museum.”

Hernandez was referring to Megaworld’s Mactan Newtown, the township in Mactan where the museum would be integrated.

It will also be launched in 2021, exactly 500 years after Ferdinand Magellan arrived in Cebu.

The museum will also focus on the events surrounding the Battle of Mactan, given its proximity to the Lapu-Lapu and Mactan Shrine.

Megaworld is the real estate arm of the Alliance Global Group, Inc.

Aside from the museum, the “La Victoria Global Residences,” a condominium building named after the first ship that successfully circumnavigated the globe will also open in 2021.

Gelana Asis-Dimpas, Department of Tourism in Central Visayas (DOT-7) chief tourism operations officer, said that this was a great move towards drawing tourism traffic, especially in maritime tourism.

Aside from museums, Megaworld has also been putting up art installations across its integrated townships to promote arts and design, building destinations that promote tourism.

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