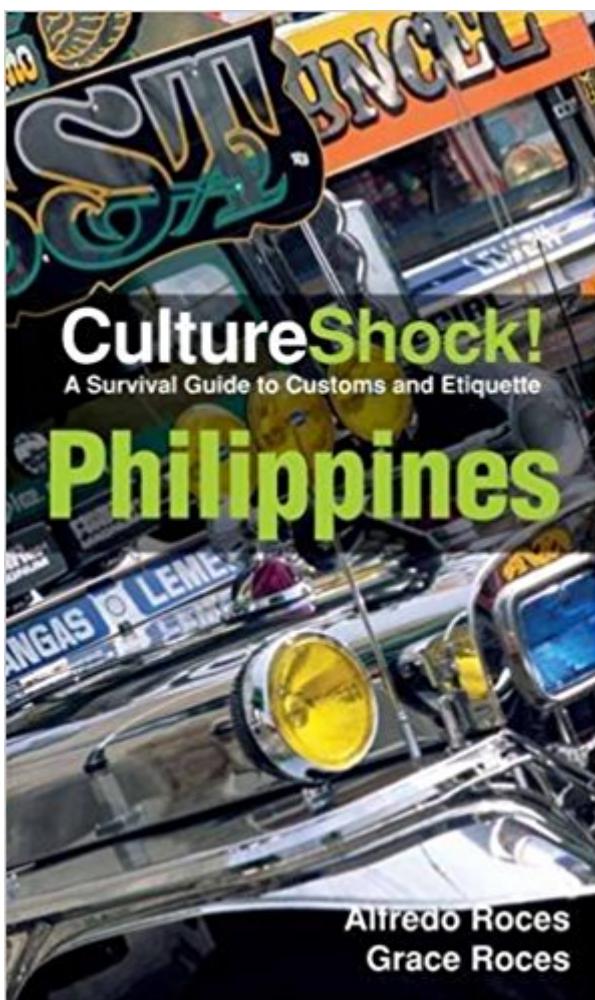


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# Culture Shock! Philippines: A Survival Guide To Customs And Etiquette (Cultureshock Philippines: A Survival Guide To Customs & Etiquette)



## **Synopsis**

CultureShock! Philippines is a survival guide for anyone living, working, or wanting to discover life in the Philippines. Settling into a foreign land is never easy but with this book, you will learn to understand the importance of amor-propio, appreciate the Filipino ways, and learn about the history and culture of this diverse country. Find out the importance of family to the Filipinos, how to communicate with the locals, and learn the appropriate business etiquette. Packed with a resource guide, glossary, contact numbers, and useful advice, CultureShock! Philippines is essential for anyone wanting to fit in and enjoy life in the Philippines.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

This is the most up to date and comprehensive guide I have ever seen for traveling to the Philippines.... There is much humor in this guide and reading it along with my Filipina wife, we found that there are many details, quotes, and suggestions as well as analysis of the culture which are truly entertaining to us.... I can wholeheartedly recommend CultureShock! Philippines to anyone planning to travel there, in fact I recommend you re-read it after you return - you'll be surprised at how helpful and accurate this guide was for your journey - and this guide will definitely be with me when I return again, lest there were any details I'd forgotten over time. --San Francisco Book Review, October 2009

Now based in Sydney, Australia, freelance writer-painter Alfredo Roces was editor of GEO,

Australasia's Geographical Magazine, from 1978 to 1991. A Filipino, he served as editor-in-chief of a ten-volume study on Philippine culture and history entitled Filipino Heritage (1978). He was a daily columnist for the country's leading newspaper, The Manila Times, for more than ten years, for which he gained a Columnist of the Year Award from the Citizens Council for Mass Media for 1971. Earlier he was cited as one of Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) in 1961 for his contribution to the study of Philippine culture. An artist with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Notre Dame in the USA, Alfredo has also authored various books. Grace Roces holds a Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in Psychology from the University of Sydney. She then worked in the training field for 18 years designing training material for Westpac, AGC and other large organisations. In the year 2000, she obtained a Postgraduate Diploma in Special Education from Macquarie University. Now a Special Education Teacher in a primary school in Sydney, she works with students who have reading difficulties. Grace grew up in Manila and moved to Australia with her co-author father and family in 1978. She is married to Howard Boorman and they have two sons, Damien and Alex.

I will be moving to the Philippines in August. I've been there three times already and I socialize with a large group of Filipinos in the states. I thought I had a good grasp of the culture but this book set me straight. This book delves into the culture in a definitive way. It's detailed and comprehensive. I highly recommend it!

I have read about a dozen books about the Philippines in anticipation of moving there. Most of them were a waste of time, badly written and desperately in need of a spell checking and grammar correcting program. I found 2 viewpoints represented in the books..The Philippines is the best place in the world and none of the country's problems are mentioned or its a terrible, dangerous country with few redeeming values.This book covers most everything. Be warned though that its not a travel book. It goes into great depth in explaining the values influencing the Filipino people, their history and what "makes them tick" in today's world. It is definitely a book that requires more than one reading and I consider it mandatory reading before and after relocating there. I think my cultural transition will be much easier having read this book.I already understand my Filipino friends much better and I haven't moved there yet.

A necessary resource for anyone traveling to the Philippines, intending on interacting with the people there. As other reviews have stated, it is intended primarily as a business traveler or ex-pats guide. However, there is enough detail to help any traveler. The book is well organized and presents

the topics in short, related and relevant ways. The book states, and rightly so, that the West is a 'goal oriented' culture, while the Philippines is a 'people oriented' culture. As such, there are many traditions and expectations. Their violation may be forgiven a first time traveler. However, there is only one chance to make a first impression. This book makes that much easier. It explains expectations in most social and business settings. The only area found lacking is the section on Dating. If one is on business, a single ex-pat, or tourist there is an opportunity to date. The book's section on dating covers some key points in an abstract way. For example, the book explains that at some point in time one must 'meet the parents'. But, one learns elsewhere in the book when meeting anyone for the first time, a gift is expected. Showing up at a female date's house to meet her parents without a gift is a BAD thing. Speaking of gifts. The book does mention gift giving as a cultural expectation. It also makes some suggestions as to appropriate gifts. The gifts mentioned are for business settings with peers or superiors. Casual/social settings do not require such elaborate or expensive gifts. Overall this book delivers a great deal of insight and information to the Philippine visitor - be it business or pleasure or both. Like every culture visited, attempting to respect national/regional culture goes very far in being welcomed. This book does allow one to do that.

I picked up this book several months before I planned on traveling to the Philippines. It's really a simple guide to the culture and way of life. There are a lot of things that one might take for granted living in the United States, and this book serves as a good introduction to your new experiences that await you. The Philippines is a great country to visit, but one should always be aware of the potential dangers that he/she might encounter. This book highlights just about everything you can imagine. It even has a section where it gives you recipes for authentic Philippine cuisine. A definite recommendation for anyone seriously considering traveling to the Philippines.

For anyone who plans to visit or live in the Philippines, this guide is "very, very" helpful and informative. Don't go to the Philippines without reading it first. I'll be better prepared, trust me.

This book is a good read for anyone seeking to travel to the Philippines or just want to know a little about the cultures there. Granted the material is a little out of date but still pretty accurate. The neat thing I like about this one is that it is written in English but there is also a mix of Tagalog words so you can get a taste. It also provides tips and pointers to any EXPAT (foreigner) planning to reside or just visit the Philippines. The book is not just focus on one area of the Philippines either like Manila but it also provides insight to other areas like Pampanga and Zamboanga. I think any who is

interested in the Philippines should get this book.

Over all this has to be one of the essential reference books for anyone dealing with the Philippine culture. A truly monumental amount of time and effort went into it. Just don't let it be the only reference. The down side is that to me at least it seems to concentrate on the area near Manila. This would be the equivalent of writing a book about the United States based on your experience living in Washington DC. If anything, the geography of the Philippines encourages a greater degree of cultural diversity than we find in the U.S.

If you consider staying in the Philippines, this book can be a good general introduction for you with useful advices for many things and cultural background informations about unique Filipino culture. I enjoyed reading this book and also came to an understanding about many things which I had experienced when I was living in the country for three years.

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