



GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Located at the southern tip of Luzon, the province is the gateway to the south of the Philippines via the town of Matnog where the ferry terminal is found.

Nature has showered the province with unexplored and pristine tourist attractions, boost by Mountain Lake cradled below Mt. Bulusan, rising at 2000 feet above sea level.

Awed by the wild vegetation around it, the succulent environment of the forest and the idyllic mixture of the wildlife's enchanting aura, foreign tourists have compared it with the cool and enthralling country of Switzerland, naming it "Switzerland of the Orient."

Sorsogon is blessed with rich reserved of aquatic resources. It is the major supplier of fish food all over the mainland. By twist of fate, an amazing discovery of grandest scale surfaced.

The world's largest fish-whale shark (scientific name is Rhicodon Typus) locally known as butanding shelters near the shores of the towns of Donsol and Pilar.



HOW TO GET THERE

By Land

Sorsogon is accessible from Manila and the Visayas via the Pan-Philippine Highway. Air conditioned coaches plying the Manila to Samar and Leyte routes in the Visayas islands can take these air-conditioned coaches across the San Bernardino Strait from Allen/San Isidro to the Matnog in Sorsogon.

By Sea

Sorsogon is also accessible via the Manila-Cebu-Masbate-Pilar/Bulan route. Luxury ships from Manila can take you on a cruise from Manila to the Port of Cebu. From Cebu another ship can take you on a 12-hour trip to the Port of Cebu. And from Masbate, a motorized boat can take you on another three-hour ride to the rustic town of Pilar/Bulan in Sorsogon.

By Air

This southernmost province of Luzon is accessible by plane through the Legazpi City Airport. From here you can take a cab and go direct to Sorsogon or a "tricycle" that can take you to the city proper where buses queue for passengers going to Sorsogon.

BRIEF HISTORY

SORSOGON, at the southeastern part of the Bicol Peninsula, is bounded on the north by the

Province of Albay, on the east and northeast by the Pacific Ocean, on the south by the San Bernardino Strait, and on the west and northwest by the Ticao and Burias Passes. The province has an irregular coastline. There are good harbors in Bulan, Magallanes, and along the shore of Sorsogon Bay.

Sorsogon, with an area of 2,141.4 square kilometers and a population of 426,935. In 1970, consists of 16 towns with Sorsogon City as the capital.

In 1569, Captain Luis Entiquez de Guzman, and Father Alonzo Jimenez and Juan Orta celebrated the first mass at Otavi (site of the old town of Bulan.) In 1570, a chapel was built along the Gingara River in Magallanes. The missionaries reached the town of Pilar where the Abuca-Catamlangan mission was established. Among the early towns founded in the province were Casiguran in 1600 and Bulusan in 1601.

Because of the urgent need of ships during the galleon trade, shipbuilding was developed as an important industry in the province. 1669, Fr. Pedro de Espellargas invented the abaca stripping knife which revolutionized fiber extraction, and promoted the pre-making or the cordage industry.

During the Muslim raids on the coastal towns of Sorsogon in 1737, 1740, 1749 and 1781, Captain Pedro de Gastambide built a fort at Sirangan. Several watchtowers were also constructed at Gubat, Bacon, Bulusan, Sta. Magdalena and Matnog.

On October 17, 1894, Sorsogon was separated as a province from Albay. Juan de la Guardia became the first governor, succeeded by Guillermo Montes, Saliendo Salazar and Leandro Villamil.

The Spaniards abandoned Sorsogon during the Philippine Revolution of 1876. For sometime, the provincial government was administered by Father Jorge Barlin, Vicar Forane in Sorsogon, who later turned over the province to the revolutionary forces.

On January 20, 1900, the American forces under General William Kobbe occupied Sorsogon and set up a provisional military government. The resistance movement against the Americans ended when Emeterio Funes, head of the local revolutionary forces, was captured. He later took the oath of allegiance to the United States.

A civil government was established in Sorsogon on April 30, 1901. Bernardino Monreal was the first governor of the province.

During the World War II, after the Japanese occupied Sorsogon in 1942, Major Licerio Lopez and Salvador Escudero organized guerilla units which joined forces with the American Liberation Forces in the Liberation of Sorsogon on April 29, 1945.

The province is rich in prehistoric culture. The archaeological excavation conducted by Robert Fox in 1959 unearthed stone tools and burial jars at the "hacienda" of Juan Escuetura in Bato. Golden crowns, believed to exist from 91 B.C. to 79 A.D., were also found in Bulan and Juban.

Sorsogon is known for its historic and panoramic places, such as the century-old towers or "baluartes" in Sta. Magdalena, Bacon Matnog, Casiguran and Bulusan; the eye catching waterfalls in Guinlajon; the summer resorts along Lake Bulusan; the "Tulong Gapo" in Bacon; the Bato Limestone in Bato; and the Irosin church in Irosin.

LOCATION, ADMINISTRATIVE COMPOSITION and LAND AREA

The province of Sorsogon on the north extend westward from 124O to 123O longitude and on the north-south axis from 12O to 13O north latitude. Forming a triangular shape, it is bounded on the north by the province of Albay and Albay Gulf, on the south by Samar and San Bernardino strait; on the east by Pacific Ocean and on the west by Burias Island and Ticao Pass.

Sorsogon has an area of 2,141.45 square kilometers or 214,144.86 hectares. It lies at the southeastern tip of Luzon Island and is located about 600 kilometers southeast of Manila.

The ratification on December 16, 2000 of Republic Act 8806, which merges the towns of Bacon

and Sorsogon and converting into Sorsogon City, reduced the municipal composition of the province into fourteen (14) and one component city. Sorsogon City serves as the capital. The province has 541 barangays and two congressional districts.

Thirteen (13) municipalities dot the 336 kilometers long coastline, which stretches from the northern portion of Sorsogon City (Bacon District area) to the municipalities of Prieto Diaz, Gubat, Barcelone, Bulusan, Sta. Magdalena and Matnog, which faces the Pacific Coast. The towns of Bulan, Magallanes, Pilar and Donsol are found on the western side while Casiguran, Castilla and the southwestern portion of Sorsogon City line along the shores of the semi-circular Sorsogon Bay.

Irosin, the only inland town, is at the heart of the southern half of the province the southwestern side of the Bulusan Volcano.

TOPOGRAPHY

Characterized by an irregular topography mountain sprawl over the northeast, southwest and west portions of the province. These mountains sloped down to small valleys and plains.

Mount Bulusan is the tallest peak as it towers 1,560 meters above sea level. It is an active volcano located at the south-eastern part of the province.

CLIMATE

Generally, the climate is pleasant the whole year round with only two pronounced seasons; rainy (July to December) and dry (January to June).

TOTAL POPULATION

The NSO Survey of Population in 2000 shows that Sorsogon has a total population of 650,535. It increased by 58,608 persons from the 1995 census figure of 591,927. The populations grow at a mean annual growth rate of 2.04% from 1995 to 2000, which is remarkably lower than the 2.35% annual growth rate registered from the period 1990 to 1995.

Sorsogon City, the capital of the province registered the largest population at 134,678 while Sta. Magdalena the smallest with only 14,623 persons recorded in the year 2000 census.

LANGUAGE/DIALECT

Bicol is the local dialect. Being at the gateway between the Visayas and Luzon through the Bikol Region, Sorsogon's brand of Bicol, however, is the unique mixture of the Visayas and Bicol dialects. For languages, most of the natives can speak English and Filipino fluently. There is also smattering of Spanish. In fact, the local dialect has a liberal sprinkling of Spanish words and at times, colloquially corrupted.

MAJOR INDUSTRIES

Sorsogon is rich in natural resources, but many of them remained undeveloped. The major crops are abaca and copra. The province boasts of producing the best hemp in the Bicol Region. Fishing industry ranks next. Freshwater and offshore fishing resources are not yet fully developed. There are plenty of raw materials for cottage industries. The province has untouched deposits of sulfur, kaolin, limestone and coal.

SORSOGON..... At a Glance... 2006

INDICATORS	SOR
Land Area (sq.m.) (Source: DENR, 2000)	2,119.0
Percentage to the Region's Land Area	11.7

No. of Cities	1
No. of Municipalities	14
No. of Barangays	541
No. of Districts	2
POPULATION	
Population 2000 (Source: NSO)	650,535
Population Growth Rate (1995-2000)	2.04
Household Population (2000)	649,411
Average Household Size (2000) Persons/HH	5.19
Population Density (Pop/sq.km)	307.0
Projected Population 2004	656,453
Projected Population 2005	662,526
Projected Population 2006	668,188
Projected Population 2007	673,845
Projected Population 2008	679,532
Projected Population 2009	685,189
Projected Population 2010	690,851
Income Classification (Source: NSCB 2001)	2nd
Agricultural Areas (Source: BSWM 1998)(has.)	
Palay	
Irrigated	15,145
Rainfed	6,444
Upland	69
TOTAL	21,658
Corn	1,569
Coconut	104,017
Sugarcane	
Abaca	9,968
Diversified Crops	45
Coffee	324
Citrus	
Banana	39
Pasture	1,712
Fruit Trees	2,843
Grassses	24,040
Shrubs	10,008

LIST OF MUNICIPALITIES

SORSOGON/MUN.	MAYOR	TELEPHONE NO.
1st District		
CASIGURAN	EDWIN HAMOR	(056)421-5061
CASTILLA	RENATO G. LAURINARIA	
DONSOL	SALVE R. OCAYA	
MAGALLANES	ROQUE L. CARRANZA	
PILAR	ROSEMARIE H. SIA	
SORSOGON CITY	SALLY A. LEE	(056) 211-3530
		(056) 211-2155
2nd District		
BARCELONA	CELSO F. FALCOTELO	
BULAN	MARIETTA BOYOLA	(056) 411-1051
BULUSAN	JUAN G. GUYSAYKO	
GUBAT	DEOGRACIAS B. RAMOS, JR.	(056) 311-1713
		Fax 311-1498
IROSIN	MA . LILIA B. GONZALES	
JUBAN	MA. TERESA C. FRAGATA	Telefax (056)421-5039
		(056) 421-3197
MATNOG	GUILLERMO G. SO	
PRIETO DIAZ	BENITO L. DOMA	
STA. MAGDALENA	ALEJANDRO E. GAMOS*	

REGION V (Bicol Region) Code: **050000000**

Province: **6** City: **7** Municipality: **107** Barangay: **3,471** District: **14**

SORSOGON Code: **056200000**

Income Class: **2nd** City: **1** Municipality: **14** Barangay: **541** District: **2**

City/Municipality	Code	Income Class	City Class	Rural/ Urban	District
BARCELONA	056202000	5th Class		Partially Urban	2nd
BULAN	056203000	2nd Class		Partially Urban	2nd
BULUSAN	056204000	5th Class		Partially Urban	2nd
CASIGURAN	056205000	5th Class		Partially Urban	1st
CASTILLA	056206000	4th Class		Partially Urban	1st
DONSOL	056207000	4th Class		Partially Urban	1st
GUBAT	056208000	3rd Class		Partially Urban	2nd
IROSIN	056209000	4th Class		Partially Urban	2nd
JUBAN	056210000	5th Class		Partially Urban	2nd
MAGALLANES	056211000	4th Class		Partially Urban	1st
MATNOG	056212000	5th Class		Partially Urban	2nd
PILAR	056213000	3rd Class		Partially Urban	1st
PRIETO DIAZ	056214000	5th Class		Partially Urban	2nd
SANTA MAGDALENA	056215000	5th Class		Partially Urban	2nd
SORSOGON CITY (Capital)	056216000	1st Class	Component	Partially Urban	1st

As of March 2001

Source: NSCB R5

PHYSICAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES

a. Physical Area

MUNICIPALITY	PALAY			TOTAL
	IRRIGATED	RAINFED	UPLAND	
SORSOGON	15145	6444	69	21658

Bacon	1252	129		1381
Barcelona	1118			1118
Bulan	1518	355		1873
Bulusan	214			214
Casiguran	1219	132		1351
Castilla	192	2152	16	2360
Donsol	731	1079		1810
Gubat	3215	139		3354
Irosin	2492			2492
Juban	924			924
Magallanes	242	84	27	353
Matnog	316	160		476
Pilar	575	649	26	1250
Prieto Diaz	41	365		406
Sorsogon	670	1134		1804
Sta. Magdalena	426	66		492

MUNICIPALITY	CORN	COCONUT	ABACA	DIVERSIFIED CROPS	COFFEE	CITRUS	BANANA	FRUIT TREES
SORSOGON	1569	104017	9968	45	324	399	39	2843
Bacon	3	6104	590	3	102			76
Barcelona		2074	617					311
Bulan		11568	868					267
Bulusan		3838	112			30		577
Casiguran		4498	731	3				205
Castilla	915	7433		14				
Donsol	30	7736						
Gubat		4659	31					150
Irosin	20	3603	1293		4	369	15	387
Juban	5	5550	1501					335
Magallanes	25	9023	745					84
Matnog		10461	1416				22	177
Pilar	571	15779	5	21				
Prieto Diaz		1575	138	4				16
Sorsogon		7851	1581		218		2	11
Sta. Magdalena		2265	340					247

MUNICIPALITY	PASTURE	GRASSES	SHRUBS	MANGROVE		FISH-POND	INLAND MARSH	TOTAL
				TREE TYPE	PALM TYPE			
SORSOGON	1712	24040	10008	6448	3116	2313	124	188623
Bacon		621	2848	3224	1558	16	8	16534
Barcelona		618	61	81	109		5	4994

Bulan		3968	239	55		90	29	18957
Bulusan		1366	334	167				6638
Casiguran		661	467			122		8038
Castilla		3953	644	57	12	271		15659
Donsol		3263	1086	24		28		13977
Gubat		777	313	615	222	128	17	10266
Irosin		1189	565					9937
Juban		709	186	1003		275		10488
Magallanes		1183	477			182		12072
Matnog		2012	194	229	136	47		15170
Pilar	1712	2172	1456	675	93	606	65	24405
Prieto Diaz		162	77	50	22	306		2756
Sorsogon		949	1015	252	964	40		14687
Sta. Magdalena		437	46	16		202		4045

Source: BSWM, 1993

b. Land Use

MAPPING SYMBOL	LAND USE/ VEGETATION	SORSOGON
AGRICULTURAL AREAS		142,360
1	Paddy rice irrigated	15,165
2	Paddy rice non-irrigated	6,444
3	Upland rice	69
4	Corn	1,572
24	Ampalaya	-
26	Squash	-
31	Chayote	-
36	Cabbage	-
51	Cassava	46
52	Sweet Potato	-
56	Yam Beans	-
57	Arrow Root	-
59	Ginger	-
60	Gabi	-
72	Watermelon	-
81	Coffee	324
83	Citrus	399
91	Banana	39
105	Mixed Fruit Trees	-
107	Abaca	9,969
112	Sugarcane	-
113	Pineapple	-
114	Pili	2,843
116	Coconut	103,778
127	Pasture Land	1,712
GRASSLAND/SHRUBSLAND AREAS		34,283
126	Grasses	24,035
131	Ipil-Ipil	-
134	Shrubs	10,248
WOODLAND AREAS		26,935
136	Forest	26,935
140	Pine Tree	-
WETLAND AREAS		7,218

141	Mangrove Palm Type	1,884
142	Mangrove Tree Type	3,224
144	Inland Marsh Grass Type	-
146	Salt Bed	
147	Fishpond	2,110
148	Nipa	-
MISCELLANEOUS AREAS		3,348
151	Built-up	1,728
152	Beach Sand	-
154	Mine Pit	-
155	Quarry	-
157	Airport	50
158	Riverwash	504
160	Major River/Lakes	436
159	Rockland/Volcanic Debris	-
161	Volcanic Ashes	630
TOTAL AREAS (Ha.)		214,144

Source: BSWM/SWAT

LAND USE VEGETATION	
MAPPING SYMBOL	SORSOGON
AGRICULTURAL AREAS	142,360
GRASSLAND/SHRUBSLAND AREAS	34,283
WOODLAND AREAS	26,935
WETLAND AREAS	7,218
MISCELLANEOUS AREAS	3,348
TOTAL	214,144

TOPOGRAPHY

a. Mountain Ranges

MAPPING SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	SORSOGON
A	0-100 m	137,025
B	100-300 m	52,824
C	300-500 m	10,853
D	500-1000 m	9,392
E	1000-2000 m	4,050
F	>2000 m	
TOTAL		214,144

Note:

A – Very Low

B – Low

C – Moderately Low

D – Moderately High

E – High

F – Very High

b. Slope

SLOPE	SORSOGON
0-8 degree	57,105
8-18 degree	45,959
18-30 degree	53,868
30-50 degree	26,176

50 degree & above	8,778
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MAPPING SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	SORSOGO N (Ha.)	MAPPING SYMBOL	SLOPE CLASS (%)	DESCRIPTION	SORSOGO N (Ha.)
Eo	No apparent erosion	38,963	M	0 - 3	Level to nearly level	38,779
E1	Slight erosion	74,248	N	*3-8	Gently sloping to undulating	30,181
E2	Moderate erosion	79,617	O	*8-18	Undulating to rolling	40,054
E3	Severe erosion	17,968	P	18-30	Rolling to moderately steep	56,679
Eu	Unclassified erosion	3,348	Q	30-50	Steep	37,809
			R	>50		10,642
TOTAL		214,144	TOTAL			214,144

Source: BSWM/SWAT

A. Soil Physiology

Soil Type and Soil Characteristics

SOIL TYPE	LAND CAPABILITY	DOMINANT FEATURES	LIMITATIONS & HAZARDS	RECOMMENDED LAND USE	EXTENT	
					HA.	%
Irosin silt	Very good land	Level to nearly	None to very	Diversified	3,200	1.49

loam, sandy loam	(Lands suitable for cultivation)	level; well drained; medium textured; deep to very deep soils	slight	upland field crops		
Bascaran clay, sandy clay, sandy loam Macabre sandy loam, clay loam Donsol sandy clay Panganiran clay Silay fine sandy loam	Good land (Lands suitable for cultivation)	Level to nearly level; somewhat poorly drained; fine-soil; deep soils	Slight wetness; subject to occasional slight overflow	Paddy rice; may be used for upland crops with simple drainage system	15,840	7.40
Sorsogon silty clay loam, sandy loam	Good land (Lands suitable for cultivation)	Level nearly level; somewhat excessively drained; coarse, textured, moderately deep soils	Slightly droughtiness low fertility	Upland field crops especially sugarcane with sufficient irrigation water	5,880	2.75
Castilla clay loam Casigutan clay loam	Fairly good land (Lands suitable for limited cultivation)	Strongly sloping well drained; moderately deep with fine sub-soil	Severe erosion if cultivation	Pasture (forage production) or tree farm	76,640	35.79
Beach sand	Fairly good land (Lands suitable for limited cultivation)	Nearly level to gently sloping; excessively drained moderately	Severe droughtiness; low fertility severe salinity problem	Pasture (forage production) or limited upland cropping with sufficient irrigation water to correct salinity problem	1,390	0.65
Bulusan sandy Loam Sevilla clay Annman clay loam Ubay clay loam Castilla-Bolinao complex Bolinao clay Luisiana clay	Lands limited to pasture or forest	Steep; well drained shallow	Very severe erosion if cultivated	Pasture (grazing or tree farm or forest)	107,144	50.03
Hydrosol	Lands limited	Very poorly drained;	Very severe wetness	Fishpond, salt bed site or	4,051	1.89

		marshy or swampy		recreation		
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Source: BSWM

PEDO-ECOLOGICAL ZONE	LMU	DESCRIPTION	SORSOGON	
WARM LOWLAND	1	Active Tidal Flats, Developed (Fishpond/Salt Bed)	2110	
	2	Active Tidal Flats, Natural (Mangrove/Nipa)	5108	
	{<8% slope, <100 m}	8	Beach Ridges and Swales	2540
		9	Broad Alluvial Plains (width >500m.)	11104
	elevation, 25c or >}	10	Former/Old Tidal Flats	296
		12	Lower River Terraces	2248
		13	Upper River Terraces	1772
		15	Lacustrine Plain	
		17	Inland/Stream/Enclosed Valleys	10088
		18	Collu-Alluvial Fans	2397
		21	Solutional Depressions (Karst Valley, Sinkhole)	
		22	Limestone/Karst Plains, Lower Terraces	
		23	Limestone/Karst Plains, Upper Terraces	3180
		24	Tuffaceous Plains (Convex, Flat and Concave Slope)	3558
		25	Volcanic Plains/Residual Terraces	1110
		26	Lower Foothills (Shale, Sandstone Hills)	7600
		27	Lower Piedmont Plains/Foothills (Volcanic Hills)	
		28	Lower Foothills (Limestone Hills)	
	29	Lower Foothills of Volcanic Cones	766	
	30	Lower Foothills (Metamorphic Hills)		
WARM COOL UPLAND	43	Broad Alluvial Valleys (100-500m. elevation)		
		with Remnants of Low Hills		
	{<18% slope, 100-500m.	45	Inland/Stream/Enclosed Valleys	
	elevation, 22.5-25 c}	46	Collu-Alluvial Fans	725
		49	Residual Terraces, Sloping to Undulating	
		50	Residual Terraces, Sloping to Rolling	
		51	Lower Foothills (Volcanic Hills or Mountains)	6052
		53	Upper Foothills (Volcanic Hills or Mountains)	2444
		55	Lower Foothills of Volcanic Cones	
		59	Lower Foothills (Limestone Hills or Mountains)	
		61	Solutional Depressions (Karst Valley, Sinkhole)	
		62	Limestone/Karst Plains, Lower Terraces	
		63	Limestone /Karst Plains, Upper Terraces	
		66	Low Limestone Hills	5594
		67	Karst Plateau with Isolated Limestone Hills	
	68	Shale/Sandstone Plateau		
	74	Volcanic Complex Plateau		
	76	Low Shale /Sandstone Hills	6250	
	77	Low Conglomeratic Hills		
	78	Low Pyroplastic Hills	4632	
	80	Low Volcanic Complex Hills	186	
	82	Low Andesitic Hills	3358	
	83	Low Dioritic Hills		

	88	Low Metamorphic Hills	
	89	Low Ultrabasic Hills	
	90	Low Meta-Rock Complex Hills	
WARM COOL	111	High Limestone Hills	11606
HILLYLAND	112	High Shale/Sandstones Hills	9646
{>18% slope,<500 m.	113	High Conglomeratic Hills	
elevation,>22.5c}	114	High Pyroclastic Hills	29720
	115	High Basaltic Hills	
	116	High Andesitic Hills	13916
	117	High Volcanic Complex Hills	11952
	118	High Ultrabasic Hills	11586
	120	High Dioritic Hills	
	125	High Metamorphic Hills	
	126	High Meta -Rock Complex Hills	
COOL HIGHLAND	129	Cinder Cones,Low Rounded & Steep Hills & Ridges	
	156	Shale /Sandstone Mountains	
{>500 m.elevation <22.5c}	160	Low Meta-Volcanic Mountains	
	162	Metamorphic Mountains	
	163	Basaltic Mountains	
	164	Andesitic Mountains	5600
	165	Ultrabasic Mountains	
	168	Complex Volcanic Mountains	1492
	170	Volcanic Cones,Non-Active	4574
	171	Volcanic Cones Active	1776
MISCELLANEOUS	180*	Built-up Areas/Urban Lands	1778
	183	Sandbras/Beach Sand	
	184	Rock Land	
	186	Riverwash	504
	188	Open Pit and Mines	
	190	Quarry	
	191	Escarpment	
	193	Major Rivers	406
	194	Inland Water Lakes	30
	195**	Volcanic Ash	630
		TOTAL	214144

a. Soil Suitability

GROUP	COMMODITY CROPS	SORSOGON
1	Paddy rice, irrigated & non-irrigated	28536
2	Upland rice, corn sorghum, pineapple, ramie, sugarcane, soybean, mungo, stringbeans, peanuts, cassava, sweet potato, gabi, ubi, eggplants, upo, batao, melons, etc.	35298
3	Baguio beans cabbage, white irish potato, carrots, lettuce, cowpea, sweet peas, and sweet pepper, spinach, cutflower,	4632

	strawberry, etc.	
4	Ginger, garlic, onion, cucumber, etc.	35298
5	CottoN, tobacco	30666
6	Coconut, oil palm, banana, abaca, coffee (robusta), etc.	32901
7	Mango, cashew, papaya, santol, tamarind, atis, jackfruit, guava, citrus, guyabano, chico, etc.	35298
8	Durian, marang, lanzones, rambutan, avocado, rubber, etc.	53537
9	Bamboo, ipil-ipil, paragrass, pasture, etc.	45436
10	Coffee (arabica), tea, black pepper, etc.	5068

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA

A. Agriculture

a. Area Devoted to Agriculture 1995 – 2001

COMMODITY	EFFECTIVE AREA						
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
PALAY							
Irrigated Farms	25,320	24,080	25,610	20,700	23,640	24,100	25,360
Rainfed Farms	10,620	13,510	13,670	7,570	13,430	11,880	13,450
CORN							
Yellow Corn	174	560	420	570	340	95	140
White Corn	126	140	70	90	210	79	120
PILI	669	669	700	716	895	895	895
MANGO Statistics is still in the process of validation							
PINEAPPLE	93	94	94	94	96	136	138
BANANA	2,555	3,275	3,380	3,376	3,074	3,095	3,065
ROOTCROP	2,550	2,660	2,650	2,385	2,481	2,700	2,708
CAMOTE	2,449	2,500	2,300	2,102	2,159	2,191	2,198

Source: BAS R5

b. Cropping Pattern

PLANTING CALENDAR		
	TYPE II	TYPE IV
Rice	June-August	April-June
Corn		
Wet Season	January-February	April-June
Dry Season	March-May	Sept.-November

3 rd Planting		December-February
Tobacco		Sept.- November
Cotton		Sept.-November
Ampalaya	June-August, November-February	May-June, Sept-January
Arrowroot	June-September	May-June, November-June
Beans	February-April	May-June
Cabbage	January-March	June-September, Oct-January
Carrots	March-April	May-June
Cassava	Whole year round	November-January, May-June
Celery	January-March	June-July
Paayap	January-March	May-June, October-December
Pipino	March-April	June-July; Oct-Dec.
Eggplant	January-April	June-July, November-January
Garlic	November-December	Sept.-February
Ginger	Whole year round	May-June
Potato	February-March	October-December
Lettuce	March-June	May-June; Jan.-Feb.
Melon	March-June	November-January
Monggo	February-June	May-June, November-January
Mustard	January-March	June-July, Sept.-December
Okra	Whole year round	June-July, Sept.-Oct., Jan.-Feb.
Beans	January-May	May-June, Nov.-Jan. – Sept.
Patola	March-September	May-June, November-January
Dry Season	August-September	September-November
Wet Season	May-June	May-June
3 rd Planting		November-February
Pechay	January-March	May-June, Nov.-December
Seguidillas	February-April	May-June
Utaw	January-March	May-June; Nov.-Jan
Squash	Whole year round	May-June, November-January
Sitsaro	February-March	June-July; Dec.-Jan.
Pepper	February-March, August-September	November-January
Sweet potato	April-June; Nov.-Jan.	
Tomato	January-April, August-September	May-June, October-January
Ube	Whole year round	May-June
Upo	November-March	May-June, October-January
Watermelon	January-March	April-May, November-January

Tourist Attraction

Sorsogon teems with beauty spots, which are still untouched by the complexity of urbanization. They offer an excellent retreat for those transiently wanting to escape the exhausting life of the city. Among these wonders considered pride boosters for Sorsoguenos are the White Sandy Beaches, relics of the old Spanish Culture, springs, caves, bays, falls, lakes, mountain peaks and mountain ranges. There are also several archeological sites in the province that can be preserved or can be used for scientific studies.

Except on its northern boundary, Sorsogon is surrounded by the sea, so it is bestowed with beautiful and exotic beaches.

Only Bulusan Lake is considered to be attractive for tourists among the existing lakes in the province.

The province is also gifted with 12 springs, which are famous for their odd characteristics. Best among them are the Masacrot and San Benon Springs. The former is situated between Irosin and Bulusan and bubble with cool soda waters. The latter is found in Monbon, Irosin which produce sulphuric water.

Nearly all tourist spots in the province are about 2 or more hours drive from the cities of Naga and Legazpi – the major urbanized areas in the Bicol region. Insufficient transport facilities in effect hinder the influx of tourist/travelers in the province.

Crystal-clear water of Sorsogon beaches

Crystal-clear water of Sorsogon beaches. Photographed by Mike Dioneda - Sorsogon - 2004-09-26

A related article from Camperspoint:
[The Sights And Flavors Of Sorsogon](#)

Often called the Switzerland of the East, this small town in the southern part of Bicol Peninsula has rolling hills and valleys that are carpeted with varying foliage of mostly untracked tropical soil. Seen as a humble town but with affluent myriad of natural sights and man-made places to explore. These are the unbounded strips of beaches along its coasts, lakes, falls and thickly forested mountains comprised together as an ultimate destination for both leisure and adventure tourism. municipal building of Sorsogon The domineering view of Bulusan Volcano in the middle of a forest land is considered Sorsogon's best touring destination for either sightseeing and adventure trips. Its emerald-green lake by the peripheral crater offers a refreshing sight of a well preserved natural park, while the hike to the main crater, once experienced, is undeniably a real encounter with the wilds. Down by the mountains of Bulusan there is a town named Irosin. It has several hot spring resorts with man-made pools of curative effects - an ideal place to rest after an active day. Bacon Beach although incomparably far from other beaches, has shores best for picking shells and corals. And despite of its remoteness, Sta. Magdalena has strips of white sand beaches overlooking the neighboring islands of Samar and Leyte. Bulusan Lake Sorsogon is a town famous for coconut based Bicol cuisine. Laing or Gulay Na Gabi in its dialect, is a famous dish that have delighted Filipinos and foreigners to the extent of their Bicol dining experience. It is a kind of vegetable called Taro leaves cooked in coconut-cream and mixed with variety of chillies. Another popular dish immensely flavored with chilli and cooked in coconut milk is called Bicol express. It is present in most restaurants of Bicol but for Sorsogonos, it is just a daily energizing food. Other dishes are Langka or jackfruit, a local fruit called Santol, or even the banana blossoms are simple ingredients usually prepared in coconut cream but when cooked the Bicolano way, turns out an exciting tasteful cuisine. Such richness any visitor in Sorsogon should never miss to experience. Paguriran lagoon, sawanga To get there by land, all buses bound for Visayas pass by Sorsogon; the most known are Philtranco buses. They have routes straight to Sorsogon. By air, PAL and Air Philippines have flights from Manila to Legazpi City and 1 hour by bus from Legazpi to Sorsogon. Buses from Legazpi are located near the City Public Market. Picture Gallery Sorsogon Map

Sorsogon City:

Fernando's Hotel, Tel. 63-56-2111357 or 63-56-2111573

Villa Kasanggahan Pensione, Tel. 63-56-2111275

Gubat:

Veramaris Resort, Tel. 63-56-2112457

Rizal Beach Resort Hotel, Tel. 63-56-2111056

Bulan

Munting Paraiso Resort, Bgy. Gerona, Tel. 63-9193819608

Beaches	Location
Rizal Beach	Rizal, Gubat, Sorsogon
Balading Beach	Sta. Magdalena, Sorsogon
Tulong-Gapo Beach	Caricaran, Bacon District, Sor. City
Pagol Beach	Buenavista, Sorsogon City
Padaraw Beach	Bogña, Bacon District, Sor. City
Tingco Beach	Pilar, Sorsogon
Libanon Beach	San Juan, Bacon District, Sor. City
Subic Beach	Calintaan, Matnog, Sorsogon

Falls/Springs	Location
Palogtoc Falls	San Roque, Bulusan, Sorsogon
Namuat Waterfalls	Casiguran, Sorsogon
Botong Falls	Casiguran, Sorsogon
Mateo Hot & Cold Spring	Monbon, Irosin, Sorsogon
Masacrot Spring	San Roque, Bulusan, Sorsogon
Mapaso Spring	San Roque, Bulusan, Sorsogon

NATURES WONDER

LOCATION

Donsol Butanding/Whale shark Interaction	Donsol, Sorsogon
Mt. Bulusan Natural Park & Bulusan Mountain Lake	Bulusan, Sorsogon
PNOC/Inang Mahirang Eco-Park	BACMAN Geothermal Power Plant
Prieto Diaz Mangrove Forest & Coastal Management Showcase	Prieto Diaz, Sorsogon
The Picturesque Island	Bacon District, Sorsogon City
Bato Limestone Cave	Bacon District, Sorsogon City
Pinaculan Island	Sorsogon City
Pinagsorok Cave	Prieto Diaz, Sorsogon

Fast Food/Restaurant	TELEPHONE #
Acacia Grill Peralta St., Sorsogon City	(056)211-1486
Casa Dominga Brgy. Balogo, Sorsogon City	(056) 211-1683
Janes Restaurant Rizal cor. De Vera St., Sorsogon City	(056) 211-2067

Kalundan Seafood Vicenta Hall, Pareja St. Sorsogon City	(056) 211-1357
Kambak-Kambak Seafood Brgy. Bibincahan, Sorsogon City	(056) 211-4014/ 421-5449
Kims Food Palace De Vera St., Sorsogon City	(056) 211-1492
Mike & Gerrys Rizal St., Sorsogon City	
Ricardos Bibincahan, Sorsogon City	
Fishermans Hut Caricaran, Bacon District, Sorsogon City	
Greenwich Magsaysay St., Sorsogon City	
Jollibee Magsaysay St., Sorsogon City	(056) 211-5555
Chowking Rizal St., Sorsogon City	(056) 211-2222/4444

In Sorsogon City

Outside Sorsogon Proper

Fernandos Hotel

N. Pareja St., Bitan-o, Sor.City
(056) 211-1357/211-1573
Fax. No. (056) 211-1573

Sabang Beach Resort

Sabang, Bulan, Sorsogon

Villa Kasanggayahan

Rizal St., Dalipay, Sor. City
056) 211-1330

Skyview Hotel

Bulan, Sorsogon

La Vista Resort

Jimenez Subd., Alegre St.
Burabod, Sorsogon City
(056)211-1888

Villa Celeste Hotel

Dancalan Beach, Bulusan, Sor.
(056) 311-1008

Andys Point Apartelle

Rizal St., Piot, Sor. City
(056)211-1678

Rizal Beach Resort

Rizal Beach, Brgy. Rizal Gubat, Sor.

(056) 311-1829/30

Mayorga Pension

Brgy. Pangpang, Sorsogon City
(056) 211-1888

Vera Maris

Rizal, Gubat, Sorsogon
(056) 311-1824

Mahogany Lodge

Narra St., Sts. Peter & Paul
Ville Subd. Bibincahan, Sor. City
(056) 211-1370

City Park Inn & Resort

Gulang-Gulang, Irosin, Sor.

Mercedes Country Lodge

Rizal cor. Peralta Sts., Sor. City
San Benon Hot & Cold Spring Resort
San Benon, Irosin, Sorsogon

Villa Isabel

Flores St., Burabod, Sor. City
(056) 211-4050

Matnog Grand Mansion

Matnog, Sorsogon
(056) 311-1505

Dalisay Lodge

Peralta St., Sorsogon City
(056) 211-1330

Casa Dominga

Balogo, Sorsogon City
(056) 211-1683

Ingko Hotel

Macabog, Sorsogon City
(056) 211-5388/89