



SOCCSKSARGEN

Region XII is also known as SoCCSKSarGen– an acronym that spans four provinces and one major city: South Cotabato, Province of Cotabato, Cotabato City, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, and General Santos City. The regional center is Koronadal City located in the province of South Cotabato.

Although it has an unusual name, SoCCSKSarGen is blessed with beautiful features such as wide coastlines, pristine valleys, vast mountain ranges, and a legendary river system that nourishes the islands of Mindanao. The Rio Grande in Cotabato is in fact the longest river in Mindanao, and the second-longest in the whole country.

Beyond the natural wonders, SoCCSKSarGen is also home to cultural and ethnic treasures such as the revered T'boli tribe, among the most colorful and musically-gifted tribes in the Philippines. Region XII is simply teeming with adventure, heritage, and surprises just waiting to be discovered!





GENSAN FISH PORT

General Santos is the Tuna Capital of the Philippines. So it's no surprise that this world-class fish port offers the biggest and freshest fish around! If you're looking for sashimi-grade tuna, this is heaven on Earth for you! You might even get free sashimi from the vendors if you're lucky.

BARAS BIRD SANCTUARY

Formerly a black pepper plantation, this 2.5-hectare sanctuary in Tacurong City houses 20,000 wild migratory birds. Find a good spot to stay and be amazed as birds color the sky.





ASIK ASIK FALLS

These majestic falls in Alamada, Cotabato Province are undeniably among the most beautiful in the world. Locals often associate the falls with mystical elements, believing there's a higher power protecting their mountains. Take a dive into its enchanted waters and experience the legend for yourself!

T'NALAK WEAVING

T'nalak is a sacred cloth woven by the T'boli people in communities around Lake Sebu, Mindanao island. Traditionally made by women of royal blood, thousands of patterns that reference folklore and stories are known to the T'boli women by memory. You are sure to find a very special souvenir here!





GUMNE BLILA CULTURAL VILLAGE

The Blaan Tribe have been settling in Koronadal City for centuries, hunting wild game and gathering a variety of crops. Visit their community in Barangay Assumption and you can also witness their vibrant cultural dances and unique indigenous rituals. Check out the shops where you can buy tribal products handcrafted by the locals.



GRAND MOSQUE

Also known as the Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Masjid Mosque, the largest mosque in the country stands at 141 feet and occupies 5,000 square meters. Visitors are more than welcome to come inside and join 1,200 worshippers pray, as long as the men wear abayas and women wear hijabs. Come at sunset and see the white walls bathed in warm orange hues.



TIMPUPO FESTIVAL

“Timpupo” means “harvest” in Bisaya, and this agro-tourism festival in Kidapawan City showcases the best produce the region has to offer. Make sure you don’t miss the Fruit Galore, where tons of exotic tropical fruits are arranged on an 800-meter long table for the locals to share!



SARANGANI BAY

This breathtaking bay is located at the southern tip of Mindanao and hosts a huge variety of underwater treasures. Divers flock to Sarangani to explore the reefs for hard and soft coral, huge gorgonians, sponges, clown fish, angel fish, parrot fish, millions of shell fish, and some of the freshest seafood you will ever eat!



THE KNIFE EDGE PEAK OF MT. UGIS

If you love the thrill of heights, challenge yourself and trek the trails of Mt. Ugis. Once you reach the peak, the mountain rewards you with a glorious view of Esperanza. Every climber should put this peak on their bucket list!

FUN THINGS TO DO



Sun and Beach

SoCCSKSarGen is a region renowned for warm, blue water, powdery sands, and endless fun under the sun! Check out Gumasa Beach in Sarangani or Balut Island in Sultan Kudarat to get your fix of sandy adventure. Or you can discover glassy, glittery black sand at the unique beach of Glan on the southern coast!



Dive

Region XII is a diver's paradise, and deep sea thrill-seekers come from all over the world to experience its myriad of underwater discoveries. Jump into the South Point, Kapatan-Lago, or Tango Point dive spots to get an introduction to the SoCCSKSarGen marine world and discover millions of brightly-colored fish and thousands of larger-than-life giant tunas!



Nature and Adventure

This is one region where nature and adventure truly go hand-in-hand! Try White Water River Tubing in Maitum, Sarangani for the thrill of a lifetime. Soar through the sky by paragliding over Sarangani Bay or ziplining over the falls of Lake Sebu. Or you can just kick back and relax in the idyllic heart of nature at Baras Bird Sanctuary or Lake Holon!



Food and Hospitality

SoCCSKSarGen not only boasts of raw nature and wild adventure, but also some of the most warm and welcoming people in the country. Visit the summer capital of South Cotabato in Sebul Farm, a ranch on a hill with organic crops, a nearby river, and even its own waterfalls! Or you can wind down and stay with the local tribespeople in their villages to discover a tranquil kind of life. Make sure to try the famous Buko Halo-Halo in Koronadal!



Events and Culture

Culture and heritage are the two things that Region XII was built on. Explore the intricacies and beauty of local tribal life at the T'nalak Weaving Center headed by legendary weaver Lang Dulay, and at the cultural villages of the T'boli and Lemuhan tribes. And don't forget to join in the fun at the annual Kalimudan Festival of Sultan Kudarat!

TOP 5 FESTIVALS



T'nalak Festival

T'nalak is an intricately woven cloth with dynamic patterns and vivid colors. Each piece showcases the craftsmanship of the T'boli tribe. You'll see these beautiful fabrics worn by performers at the T'nalak Festival. It is held every July to commemorate the founding anniversary of South Cotabato and celebrate the region's vibrant culture.

WHEN: July 13-18
WHERE: Province of South Cotabato



Sarangani Bay Festival

The festival pays tribute to Sarangani Bay which supplies the region with rich marine resources. The festival also becomes a venue to educate both tourists and locals on the importance of protecting and conserving the bay through eco-tourism.

WHEN: Last week of May
WHERE: Sarangani Province



Tuna Festival

There's no better place to have a festival celebrating tuna than in the tuna capital of the Philippines, General Santos City. If you're obsessed with tuna, activities like the tuna parade and the sumptuous sashimi night are some of the highlights you should look forward to!

WHEN: September 1-5
WHERE: General Santos City



Kalivungan Festival

From the Maenuvu word which means "gathering", the Kalivungan Festival celebrates the annual founding anniversary of the Province of North Cotabato. The week-long celebration showcases the unique culture and traditions of Cotabateños through cultural presentations, ethnic dances, rituals, music, and native games.

WHEN: August 26-September 1
WHERE: Province of Cotabato



Kalimudan Festival

"Kalimudan" means an annual gathering of different tribal groups to celebrate a bountiful harvest. The festival has turned into one of the most awaited celebrations, gathering people from all over the province to commemorate the founding anniversary of Sultan Kudarat. Street parties, trade fairs, and sports competitions add color to the festivities.

WHEN: November 16-22
WHERE: Province of Sultan Kudarat

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