



PHILIPPINES

flag: The horizontal band of blue represents peace and justice; the red band represents courage. The white triangle on the hoist side represents equality.

Eight primary rays from the yellow sun represent the first eight provinces that sought independence from Spain.

Three yellow stars represent the three major geographical divisions of the country: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

official name: Republic of the Philippines

size: slightly larger than the state of Arizona

volcanoes: There are 37 volcanoes in the Philippines with 18 that are still active.

food: The names for the meals are *agahan* (breakfast), *tanghalian* (lunch), and *hapunan* (dinner), plus an afternoon snack called *merienda*. Common foods include fish, pork, vegetables, and rice. One of the Filipino favorites is *lechon* (roaster pig).

capital city: Manila

national language: Filipino

number of islands: 7,107

population: 97 million

currency: peso

predominant religion: Roman Catholic

