

Taal Volcano Field Trip (Pre-conference)

Date: 5 February 2018, Monday

Please note that insurance is not included in the field trip and participants are responsible for their own insurance

Nestled within the province of Batangas is the world famous Taal volcano, a popular destination for tourists, hikers, and scientists to witness first-hand both the beauty and the destructive capability of an active volcanic complex. Taal is ranked as the second most active volcano in the Philippine archipelago with last known eruptions happening as recent as 1977 with the most destructive eruption dating back to 1911. The main volcanic body is composed of multiple craters that form a 3-mile wide volcanic island situated in the center of Taal Lake, which represents an infilled caldera from earlier eruption events around 500,000 and 100,000 years ago.

Attendees of this trip to Taal will take a trail unknown to most hikers called the Calait Trail which allows for a scenic view of the Main Crater Lake while also passing by manifestations of volcanic activity such as steam vents and mud pools. Scoria fields from the recent lava flows will also be visible and possibly approached. Caution is advised however as the trail may bring a moderate level of difficulty; participants are encouraged to wear comfortable hiking clothes and bring ample drinking water.

The local PHIVOLCS monitoring observatory will also be visited allowing for an in-depth look at the various equipment used for monitoring this active volcano.

The cost of this trip is 65 USD and covers the trip from Taal Vista (hotel pick-up and drop-off along the main Tagaytay highway is possible) to Taal Volcano Observatory of PHIVOLCS, boat ride to Taal Volcano Island, tourism fees, guides, and food. Horses are also available for rent on the island at an additional cost. Please be advised also that if conditions are unfavorable, alternate routes will be taken instead of the above-mentioned trail.