

APO REEF National Park

Occidental Mindoro / Philippines



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Apo Reef in Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro is the world's second largest single coral reef, and the largest atoll in the Philippines.

Today, it is part of Apo Reef Natural Park (ARNP), and was declared a Protected Area on September 6, 1996.

The Apo Reef Natural Park and its surrounding zones cover a total of 27,469 hectares. The park consists of three islands.

The largest, Apo Island, features a shallow lagoon and rich mangrove forests which serve as a food source, nursery, and spawning ground for marine animals and birds; guests can alight to visit the ranger station or climb the lighthouse for breathtaking views of the reef and the surrounding mangroves and rock formations. The park's underwater reefs, walls, and other areas are home to corals, thriving schools of jacks and tuna, and pelagics like manta rays, white-tip and gray reef sharks, and in cooler weather, hammerhead sharks. It is a favorite project site for marine conservation projects of environmental groups like the Haribon Foundation and WWF-Philippines.

www.aporeefclub.com