



## Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines Los Angeles



Press Release  
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### PHILCONGEN LA LEADS U.S. SOUTHWEST DELEGATION TO THE 2025 VIP TOUR

LOS ANGELES, CA – Consul General Adelio Angelito S. Cruz led the delegation from Southern California, Southern Nevada, and Arizona to the 2025 Very Important Pinoy (VIP) Tour held on 6 to 15 July 2025. This was the Consul General's first VIP tour since his return for a second term as Consul General in Los Angeles.



*Consul General Cruz speaking before VIP Tour participants in Ilocos Norte, Philippines*

An annual program of the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs and the Philippine Department of Tourism, in cooperation with Rajah Tours, the VIP Tour aims to bring together Filipino-Americans from across the United States to explore and celebrate the beautiful sceneries and rich cultural heritage of the Philippines, as well as to reconnect with and deepen appreciation for their Filipino identity.

This year's VIP Tour offered participants two (2) dynamic itineraries: the main VIP Tour, which ventured through the cultural and historical landmarks of Ilocos Region, and the Next Gen VIP Tour – a specially curated tour for young adults and professionals – which explored the natural attractions of Siargao.

The trip commenced in Manila with a wreath laying ceremony at Luneta Park, setting the tone for a journey rooted in cultural appreciation and national pride. The tour then concluded with all the participants converging in Palawan, where they experienced the world-renowned Puerto Princesa Subterranean River, one of the New Seven Wonders of Nature and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.



*Consul General Cruz and Mrs. Catherine Cruz with VIP Tour participants from the U.S. Southwest, including Filipino-American Council Member Arleen Rojas of District 4, Carson CA*

Preparations for the 2026 VIP Tour are already underway, with the Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles looking to capture greater participation from the Filipino-American communities within its jurisdiction. END