



# Island Garden City of Samal

Province of Davao del Norte, Philippines

## EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 277 Series of 2021

### **"AN ORDER ALLOWING THE LIMITED RESORT OPERATIONS AND TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN THE ISLAND GARDEN CITY OF SAMAL AND PROVIDING GUIDELINES THEREFORE"**

**WHEREAS**, due to COVID-19 global pandemic, the Island Garden City of Samal was placed under a General Community Quarantine until February 28, 2021 pursuant to Executive Order No. 275, Series of 2021 issued by the Local Chief Executive;

**WHEREAS**, tourism operations, such as beach resorts, aqua sports and other tourism-related activities, within the Island were halted and regulated during the height of COVID-19 in order to control and prevent the further spread of the virus;

**WHEREAS**, the non-operations thereof adversely affected the economic condition of not only the resort owners and its employees, the City Government having considerably reduced its local income, but most of all, the families whose source of livelihood is dependent to Tourism and its auxiliary services;

**WHEREAS**, to help regain the economic activity and tourism industry in the city and help the resort owners recover its financial losses, there is a need to gradually allow some eco-tourism activities while upholding the anti-COVID-19 policies and guidelines for the safety and security of the general public;

**WHEREAS**, Resort and other Business Owners suffering this great economic losses have been appealing to the City Government to allow them to gradually resume their business operations in order for them to slowly recover;

**WHEREAS**, on February 08, 2021, the City requested the Regional Inter-Agency Task Force (RIATF) for an authority to allow the resumption of tourism activities in the City, the same being the main sources of income of most Samaleneos, subject to the standard safety and health protocols;

**WHEREAS**, on February 19, 2021, the RIATF, pursuant to its Resolution No. 02, Series of 2021, granted and approved the request of the City to reopen and allow the limited tourism activities in the island city subject to conditions set forth by the RIATF and the basic safety and health protocols;

**WHEREAS**, starting **MARCH 01, 2021**, the City Government shall allow the resumption of limited tourism activities and business operations of the resort within the City on the condition that the minimum public health standard protocol against COVID-19 shall strictly be observed;

**WHEREAS**, in the reopening of the tourism activities, the City adopts the Department of Tourism (DOT) Memorandum Circular No. 2020-02 that provides for the health and safety guidelines governing the operations of accommodations establishments under a community quarantine and the applicable provisions under Executive Order No. 248, Series of 2020 issued by the Local Chief Executive providing the operational guidelines for resort facilities in the island to prevent the spread of the Corona virus;

**NOW THEREFORE, I, AL DAVID T. UY**, City Mayor of the Island Garden City of Samal, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1. RESUMPTION OF LIMITED TOURISM ACTIVITIES AND RESORT/ACCOMMODATION OPERATIONS INCLUDING INLAND RESORTS IN THE CITY.** **EFFECTIVE MARCH 01, 2021**, operations of the following **resort/accommodation facilities and tourism-related activities** are hereby resumed:

- a.) Rooms, hotels or inns for accommodation;
- b.) Places, within the resort, frequented for relaxation or recreation which include beaches, seashores, scenic areas;
- c.) Dine-in restaurants, fast food, cafes, bars, gyms, spas and the like operating inside the resort/accommodation facility;
- d.) Island Hopping, SCUBA Diving, and all Aqua Sports Activities;
- e.) Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, And Exhibitions (MICE) Events;

- f.) Events/Occasions for family or personal milestone celebrations such as weddings, birthdays, baptism, and the like; and
- g.) Inland Resorts.

**ONLY RESORTS OR ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENTS WITH DOT ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO OPERATE (CAO), RENEWED AND EXISTING BUSINESS PERMIT AND LGU REGISTRATION SHALL BE ALLOWED TO OPERATE.**

**SECTION 2. ADOPTION OF DOT, DOH AND RIATF GUIDELINES.** The City hereby adopts the guidelines under Administrative Order No. 2020-002 imposed by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the guidelines issued by the Department of Health (DOH) and RIAFT relating to limited tourism activities and operations of Resorts facility and other accommodation establishments under community quarantine.

**SECTION 3. OPERATION GUIDELINES.** Reiterating Executive Order No. 248, Series of 2020 and in accordance with DOT A.O. No. 2020-002 and RIAFT Resolution No. 02, Series of 2021, the following operational guidelines for resort facilities and accommodation establishments operation and limited tourism activities shall strictly be observed:

1. **Department of Tourism (DOT) Certificate of Authority to Operate.** Pursuant to IATF RESOLUTION No. 43, Series of 2020 and RIAFT Resolution No. 02, Series of 2021, Resort Facility/Accommodation Establishment is advised to secure DOT Certificate of Authority to Operate before commencing operations. This is a certification that a Resort Facility/Accommodation Establishment placed under Community Quarantine may commence operations subject to DOT guidelines.
2. **LGU Certificate of Registration.** ALL resorts and accommodation establishments shall secure a Certificate of Registration from the City Tourism and Investment Office (CITO) of the Island Garden City of Samal before commencing operations.
3. **Display of Certifications.** The DOT Certificate of Authority to Operate and LGU Certificate of Registration must be displayed in the resort/accommodation establishments' front desk together with the Business Permit at all times.
4. **Pre-Booking prior to the Activity/Event/Occasion.** All Guests shall pre-book with the Resort/Accommodation Establishment prior to its entry to the City and Resort Facilities. No Walk-in guest shall be allowed. No Booking, No QR Code, No Entry Policy shall be imposed. Minor Guests may be allowed provided they are accompanied by their parents. For Senior Citizens, no need of medical certificates.

Guests coming from outside of Davao Region and booking with the resort/accommodation establishment for tourism activities other than MICE or personal milestone celebration shall undergo an Antigen Test upon its entry which shall be conducted by the City Health Office.

For MICE or Personal Milestone celebration such as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, baptism, and the like, all guests/participants coming from outside of Davao Region shall undergo an Antigen Test within twenty-four hours (24hrs.) prior to its entry or actual date of celebration. The expenses to be incurred for the required antigen tests shall be shouldered by the concerned guest or by the host/organizer/provider. Such guests/participants are required to submit their Negative Antigen Tests 24Hours prior to the event upon entry to Samal at all ports of entries. Provided that, if a guest is found to be COVID-19 positive, the accommodation establishment or resort management or Event Organizer shall shoulder all the necessary expenses in handling the same.

For Samal Residents, pre-booking is not required provided that the 75% operational capacity is observed. Upon arrival, they shall be subjected to QR Scanning. The Host Resort is required to book their entry in the resort with the City Investment and Tourism Office (CITO).

5. **Use of application for Quick Response (QR) CODE ID.** All guests must have a confirmed QR Code ID. The resort facility or accommodation establishment shall facilitate the application of guest/s via [www.itracsamal.com](http://www.itracsamal.com). DavNor QR Code ID is allowed.

Likewise, ancillary facilities like dine-in restaurants, fast food, cafes, bars, gyms, spas and the like operating inside the resort facility shall also observe the 75% seating/operational capacity and observe the minimum health and safety standard requirements.

QR scanners from the city government shall be allowed entry in the premises to conduct QR scanning. Resorts, Accommodation Facilities and Establishments like restaurants, bars and similar others are required to provide phone scanners with Android OS for App installation and scan all guests.

6. **Observance of Minimum Public Safety and Health Standards.** Resort/Accommodation facilities are required to observe the following:
- Must use handheld Thermometers.** Guests found with fever and flu-like symptoms shall be placed in the holding area before transport. The person must be referred immediately to the City Health Office, or to the nearest hospital, or to the Barangay Health Emergency Response Team (BHERT) for appropriate action.  
The management of the resort facility and accommodation establishments must at all times ensure confidentiality in reporting individuals suspected of COVID-19 infection.
  - Require guests to wear facemask at all times.** Guests not wearing facemasks shall not be allowed entry to the resort premises or board the resort transport facility.
  - Require guests to observe "physical distancing"** by maintaining at least one (1) meter radius between persons. For this purpose, a floor marker shall be placed for queuing guests.
  - Require guests to abide with the "wheel and/or foot bath disinfectant".** All guests/tourists shall use or pass through the foot or wheel bath provided by the resort/accommodation management at their premises or the City Government at the port of entries.
  - Front desk personnel and staff attending to guests must always wear facemask and Face Shield.** Front desk officers/staff are encouraged to implement contactless mechanisms in dealing with guests while handling cash or documents.
  - Provision of footbath and hand sanitizing station must be made available at the entrance of the resort/accommodation facility.** Likewise, the following medical kit and PPE must be made readily available at the reception counter:
    - Germicidal disinfectant or wipes for surface cleaning;
    - Face masks or face shield;
    - Biohazard disposal waste bag;
    - 70% solution alcohol or alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
    - Tissue paper, napkin, or paper towel;
    - Disposable gloves; and
    - Other protective gear like disposable protective apron, disposable protective shoe covers and full-length long sleeved gown/protective clothing or coveralls.
  - Acceptance of Guests.** Guests shall **only be accepted from 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM** only.
  - Weekly disinfection.** Resort facilities and accommodation establishments are required to **conduct weekly disinfection of rooms and all common areas.**
  - Adopt an Alternative Work-Scheme** such as Shifting Work Schedule for its employees to minimize exposure and reduce the risk of corona virus infection and ensure their safety and welfare.
  - Videoke and Live Band Prohibited.** Videoke and Live Band are **not allowed** in the resort facility.
7. **Availability of information materials for guests.** Information materials must be made available to guests to inform them of management policies particularly on room use and occupancy, dining and use of common areas within the resort/accommodation facility to ensure the safety and reduce the risk of Corona virus infection among guests and resort staff. Guests must be reminded of the following:
- Proper disposal of face masks and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE);
  - Remind guests on the proper use of face masks, handwashing and observe respiratory etiquette;
  - Strictly observe physical distancing by maintaining at least one meter distance from each other.
  - Observe proper sanitation practices at all times; and
  - Provide effective mechanism for contactless payments.
8. **Seventy-Five percent (75%) operational capacity.** The **management must only accept booking up to 75% operational capacity on function halls/rooms and other facilities.**
9. **Inspection of the resort/accommodation facility.** Resorts and accommodation establishments shall allow entry of health personnel, sanitary personnel and other frontliners anytime of day and night for inspection of facilities and guests.

10. **No Rent-Out of Aqua Gears/Equipment.** Resorts are not allowed to rent-out aqua gears and equipment such as: snorkels, flippers, goggles, floating gears and etc. Guests should be advised to bring their own aqua gears / equipment upon booking.
11. **Regulated Selling and Consumption of Liquors.** Selling and Drinking of liquors and other alcoholic drinks and beverages are allowed from 9:00am to 9:00pm ONLY. Drinking of liquors and other alcoholic beverages are allowed in the resorts, bars, restaurants, cafeterias or any establishments serving liquors. However, Consumption of liquors or any alcoholic drinks or beverages IN ALL PUBLIC PLACES such as Parks, Plazas, Beach Parks, and the like is STRICTLY PROHIBITED.  
Bars or any establishments serving liquors may operate provided that their establishments shall be an open-air type (non-aircon and not enclosed structures) and shall observe the basic health and safety standard protocols set forth by the City and DOH.
12. **Consumption of Liquors within Residences.** Drinking of liquors and other alcoholic drinks within the RESIDENCES and other PRIVATE PLACES are also ALLOWED.
13. **Observance of Curfew Hours.** Curfew hours shall be from 9:00PM to 5:00AM of the following day for the Adults and from 6:00PM to 6:00AM of the following day for the Minors. Within the curfew hours, guests should be advised to stay inside the resort/accommodation facility, except, in times of emergencies.
14. **Random Antigen Test.** Employees of the Resorts or Accommodation Establishments, Bars, Restaurants, etc. shall be subjected to a **RANDOM ANTIGEN TEST every 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month to be conducted by the City Health Office.**

**SECTION 4. BOOKING TERMINATION.** The management of the resort establishment can refuse entry of person/s or terminate the booking of guest/guests at the resort for violating the rules of the establishment.

For bookings cancelled by the guest, the resort management shall inform the City Investment and Tourism Office (CITO) for recording and cancellation/blocking of the QR Code provided to the guests. Failure on the part of the resort management to report the same shall be penalized in accordance with Sanctions provided hereunder.

**SECTION 5. RESORT/ACCOMMODATION TRANSPORT FACILITY.** Land and Sea Transport used by resort/accommodation facilities in transporting guests must always observe the 75% maximum seating capacity. For car or sedan, no passenger may sit beside the driver, except, on vans where only one passenger may be allowed to occupy the passenger's seat while two passengers may occupy each row with one seat apart. No standing passengers shall be allowed.

Transport Operators and Boat Captains are enjoined to observe the minimum public health standards, such as: require passengers to wear facemasks all the time, maintain physical distancing of at least 1 meter distance from each passenger, frequent hand washing and practice decontamination of common areas frequented by passengers.

All tourist transport facilities must have a contactless thermometer, basic first-aid kits, sanitation kits with 70-percent solution alcohol or alcohol-based hand sanitizer, tissue paper or disposable wet wipes, for the free use of passengers. Deep cleaning and proper disinfection and sanitation of transport vehicles before and after every use, especially the frequently touched surfaces such as seats, armrests, door handles, light, and air controls is a MUST.

Drivers and staff of resort/accommodation facilities must observe personal hygiene and proper grooming and avoid physical contact with passengers. They must be in uniform and should wear personal protective equipment (PPE), complete with facemasks and gloves, provided by the transport operator. Drivers must observe physical distancing at all times.

**SECTION 6. ISLAND HOPPING, SCUBA DIVING AND ALL AQUA SPORTS ACTIVITIES.** Island hopping, snorkeling, SCUBA diving and other aqua sport activities such as jet skiing, wake boarding, motor boating, water skiing, cliff diving, kayaking, snorkeling, banana boating and the like are are ALLOWED. However, snorkeling and diving shall be allowed provided that the guest will bring his/her own equipment such as snorkel, flippers goggles, floating gears and etc.

For ISLAND HOPPING and SCUBA DIVING in Dive Sites outside of the Resorts shall be allowed up to 50% operational/seating capacity subject to the guidelines set forth in another Executive Order to be issued thereafter by the Local Chief Executive.

**Trekking, Hiking, Biking and motorcycle rides** going to Labuto Peak, Puting Bato and Lantawan Ridge and other trail or tour sites are **STRICTLY PROHIBITED**.

**SECTION 7. PRIVATE RESORTS.** Private Resorts may be allowed provided, it is used exclusively by the owner and immediate family members. Provided further, that they present their QR ID upon entry. Accommodation and catering of other guest, other than their family, regardless of occasion and events are strictly prohibited.

Private Resorts shall likewise be strictly monitored and checked to ensure that they abide with this Order.

**SECTION 8. CONDUCT OF MEETINGS, INCENTIVES, CONFERENCES, AND EXHIBITIONS (MICE), PERSONAL MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS.** The MICE or Personal Milestone Celebrations are allowed up to 75% seating capacity. The MICE Host/Organizer/Provider or the individual celebrating the personal milestone or its planner/organizer is required to secure a MAYOR'S PERMIT to conduct the event/occasion. Application for Mayor's Permit shall be made by the MICE or Host/Organizer/Provider or the Accommodation/Resort Management to the City Investment and Tourism Office (CITO) at least SEVEN WORKING DAYS (7wdays) prior to the actual date of conduct of the event/occasion.

**8.1. The Application for Mayor's Permit shall be accompanied by the following requirements:**

- a.) **Booking Confirmation Document issued by the Accommodation Establishment or Resort Facility containing the following details:**
  - 1.) Name of the MICE Host/Organizer/Provider or the Person Celebrating Personal Milestone;
  - 2.) Number of Participants or Guests/Invitees;
  - 3.) Name of Accommodation Establishment/Resort Facility; and
  - 4.) Date of the Actual Event/Occasion
- b.) **Clear copy of one (1) Valid Government Issued ID with picture and signature; and a**
- c.) **Permit Fee as assessed by the CMO-BUSINESS REGULATIONS DIVISION.**
- d.) **Notarized Affidavit of Undertaking to require all guests from outside Davao Region to submit the Negative Antigen Test 24 Hours prior to the actual event/occasion.**

**Within three (3) days from receipt of the application,** the personnel from the City Investment and Tourism Office (CITO), City Health Office (CHO), City Mayor's Office-Business Regulations Division (CMO-BRD), and the Philippine National Police (PNP) shall conduct inspection of the area/venue of the celebration to ensure that herein guidelines are observed and complied with.

**NO INSPECTION, NO MAYOR'S PERMIT** shall be issued to the MICE or Host/Organizer/Provider or the individual celebrating the personal milestones or its planner/organizer or the Accommodation/Venue Management.

- e.) **All participants/guests must have a confirmed QR Code ID.** The accommodation establishment or resort facility shall facilitate the application of guest/s via [www.itracsamal.com](http://www.itracsamal.com).

**8.2. DURING THE ACTUAL EVENT/OCCASION.**

1. **Inspection of the accommodation facility/venue.** Accommodation/Resort Management shall allow entry of LGU Inspectorate Team (CITO, C CHO, CMO-BRD, and the PNP) at anytime of the day and night for inspection of facilities and guests.
2. **QR scanners** from the city government shall be allowed entry in the premises to conduct QR scanning. **Accommodation establishments or resort facilities are required to provide phone scanners with Android OS for App installation.**
3. **The Negative Antigen Test for Guests/Participants from outside of Davao Region** shall be submitted by each guest/participant upon entry to Samal at all ports of entries. Provided that, if a guest is found to be COVID-19 positive, the accommodation establishment or resort management shall shoulder all the necessary expenses in handling the same.
4. **Observed 75% maximum seating capacity in their Transport Facility** used to ferry guests/participants; and
5. **Observed the Minimum Standard Safety and Health Protocols** set forth by the City, DOH, RIATF, and other government agencies.

**Any guests who failed to comply any of the above requirements shall be denied entry.**

**SECTION 8. INDIVIDUALS WITH COVID-19 VACCINES (Vaccinated Individuals).** All returning Samal residents, either as Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) or Locally Stranded Individuals (LSIs), despite having COVID-19 Vaccination, upon entry to Samal, shall still be required to undergo an Isolation and Antigen or RT-PCR/Swab Test depending upon the assessment of the City Health Office.

**SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTATION.** The Tourist Police (TOPCOP), Task Force Samal (TF Samal), Philippine National Police (PNP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Civilian Volunteer's Organization (CVO), Bantay Dagat, and Barangay Officials in coordination with the City Investment and Tourism Office (CITO) and the City Health Office are mandated to strictly implement the provisions of this Executive Order.

Check Points shall be established by the PNP, Task Force Samal and Barangays to monitor tourists with QR Codes and to monitor resorts with DOT Certificate of Authority to Operate and LGU Certificate of Registration.

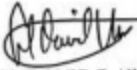
**SECTION 10. SANCTIONS.** Persons and/or entities violating any of the provisions in this Executive Order shall be subjected to judicial and/or administrative prosecution, as may be applicable, including cancellation of business permit, denial of application and/or renewal of their business permits within a period of two (2) years from the date of violation, cancellation/blocking of QR Code of guests, and imposition of other applicable penalties under City Ordinance No. 2009-156 and other existing laws, orders, ordinances, rules and regulations.

**SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision of this Executive Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SECTION 12. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All orders or issuances which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 13. EFFECTIVITY.** This Executive Order shall take effect on March 1, 2021 and shall remain in full force and effect unless modified or amended.

Issued this February 27, 2021 in the Island Garden City of Samal, Davao del Norte Province, Philippines.

  
AL DAVID T. UY  
City Mayor