



DESTINATION : BUNGA FALLS

LOCATION	Nagcarlan Laguna
COORDINATES	
ELEVATION	
LEVEL	Minor Climb, Level I, Easy
DISTINCT CHARACTERISTICS	Waterfalls, Tourist Destination
ACTIVITIES	Hiking
JUMP-OFF POINT	Brgy Bunga, Nagcarlan Laguna
AVERAGE DAYS REQUIRED	1 day (including travel time from Manila)
MINIMUM DAYS REQUIRED	1 day (including travel time from Manila)
IT CREATED BY	Manny Zacarias and Long Henson
DATE LAST UPDATED	August 25, 2001

● INFORMATION

If you've been to Taytay or Imelda Falls, this destination is similar to that waterfall. It is easily accessible, it has large catch basin and it is a popular local tourist destination. It has a campsite that can accommodate 6-8 tents which is located at higher elevation before descending towards the waterfalls. There are stalls near the waterfalls area. The height of the falls is about 10-15 feet high, compensated by the depth of the basin which is as deep as an ordinary electric pole submerged into its waters. According to the locals, the basin has already claimed a number of lives of the locals who have threaded its waters. Also, according to the locals, it is a popular shooting location for local TV commercials like the San Miguel Beer and Mr. Clean.

● LEGENDS

The name of the place, Bunga was derived from the once abundant Bunga palms located in that area. Bunga is the Tagalog term for Betel Nut, an addictive substance used by the elders and is also known as "nga-nga". Presently the place is known as a Lanzones orchard where the same fruit abounds. One of the goodies you can bring back home coming from this trip.

● WHEN AND HOW TO GO

There are two options in going to Nagcarlan, one is via Santa Cruz, Laguna and the other is via San Pablo City. From Sta Cruz, ride a jeepney from the Sta. Cruz Public Market towards Nagcarlan which is an approximately 55 minutes trip. Fare is about 12 Php per hear (Aug 2001). If you will be coming in from San Pablo, catch your ride to Nagcarlan at the San Pablo City Shopping Mall. Fare is around 10 pesos and travel time is within 40 minutes. You will be arriving at the Nagcarlan Public Market where you can purchase your supplies. From Nagcarlan, you can either take a jeepney ride (from the back of Aglipay Church near the market) to Brgy. Balayong or a more expensive tricycle ride further near the jump-off point. Jeepneys have long waiting time before they leave for Brgy. Bunga at 7.50 Php per head. From the Jump-off point, you will still need to walk for about 600 meters to the falls.

If you take the tricycle, be sure to check if they know the place of your destination. Be careful o bargain within 40 Php, for they are notorious advantage takers. They may ask for 60-70 pesos per head price if you are not that familiar with it. From where the tricycle can take you, it will be about 200-300 meters walking distance to the falls. The road towards the jump-off point is the right turn immediately after the third bridge (1st- Palayan, 2nd- Alumbrado and 3rd Sabang).

● POINTS OF INTEREST

There is a popular destination near the place, the Nagcarlan underground cemetery.

● SUGGESTED ITINERARY

DAY 1

05:00	ETD Manila to Sta Cruz Laguna (JAM LRT Buendia)
07:00	ETA Sta. Cruz, Market Time
07:30	ETD for Nagcarlan
08:30	ETA Nagcarlan, ETD for Brgy. Balayong
09:00	ETA Brgy. Balayong, Courtesy Call, Barangay Captain
09:30	ETD for Campsite, Waterfalls
10:00	ETA Waterfalls
12:00	Lunch
14:00	ETD For Manila
18:00	ETA Manila

● PICTURES

Photos by : Manny Zacarias (2000)

● SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no permits required but a courtesy call to the Barangay Captain near the Store at Barangay Bunga is ideal.

● CONTACTS

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