

The Useful Coconut Tree

The Philippines is composed of 7,100 islands, it is a tropical paradise gifted with countless fine white sand beaches, clear blue-green seas and strong sea winds that blows from the Pacific on the soaring coconut trees that parade unceasingly in just about every sea shore and beaches in the country.

In Sanskrit, the coconut palm is called “kalpa vriksha” which means “the tree that provides every necessities of life.” From the roots to its leaves, every part of the coconut tree is functional and beneficial.

The coconut tree grows to 30 meters (98 ft) in height and might live for as long as 100 years. It has lengthy pinnate leaves or fronds; it too produces yellow flowers that will become its fruit. It takes a year for a coconut to be fully-grown and be able to bloom up to thirteen times a year yielding a continuous harvest the entire year. The liquid within the fruit’s shell will become solid and oily to form coconut meat that is when dried up are used by the locals to make commercial copra. The Philippines is next to Indonesia as the world’s prevalent producer of coconut products, generating approximately \$1 billion annually.

African coast Coconuts are probably originated in the New Guinea-Fiji area but have long been scattered widely throughout the entire Southeast Asia to the tropical regions.

The Coconut and its Usefulness

Of the Aracaceae family, *Cocos nucifera* L. is one of the economically valuable given its multitude of uses. From its roots comes medicine, the coconut juice as well help prevent dehydration. Its inflorescence is the source of *lambanog* an alcoholic beverage that is identified internationally as coconut vodka. The coconut timber is very appropriate building sturdy houses, floors and other items that are very useful inside the house.

One of the coconut’s remarkable by-products is activated carbon universally known as charcoal, which is used by manufacturers of some chemicals that are used in air purification systems in air conditioners. Dried and grounded coconut meat called copra, is heated and pressed to extract the oil used in the manufacture of soaps, detergents, shampoos, synthetic rubber, glycerin and plasticizers. Numerous mouthwatering delicacies are too made from coconut fruit. No other single plant can provide as much.

The Coconut Palace

The Coconut Palace is set within the Cultural Center of the Philippines Complex. The palace is fashioned for the representation of the coconut as the “Tree of Life.” The structure itself is made of coconut shells, indefinite types of Philippine hard wood and a specifically engineered coconut lumber. On account its construction, the Coconut Palace turn out to be an ideal tourist attraction thanks to its unparalleled architecture and superbly decorated interiors.

All around the globe the coconut tree, the “Tree of Life” isn’t simply well-known for its worth nevertheless it too represents divergent cultural beliefs of other neighboring countries in Asia thus promoting peace and unity. The coconut is beyond doubt one impressive tree.