

Plastic Surgery in the Philippines - Medical Tourism

By [Joel Unson](#)

Cosmetic surgery tourism is a price driven phenomenon that has grown by leaps and bounds over the last few decades. Popular destinations for cosmetic surgery tourism include Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Malaysia, Mexico, Philippines, Poland, South Africa, and Thailand. What does the Philippines have to offer over other popular cosmetic surgery hotspots?

The primary advantage of having surgery done in the Philippines is the cost. Because of the present exchange rate (1 USD: 41 Pesos as of April 2008), the cost of plastic surgery in the Philippines is only a fraction of the cost in other countries particularly the United States and Europe. On the average, a typical breast augmentation will cost around 7000-8000 USD in the United States. In the Philippines, this will cost around 3000-4000 USD at the present market rate.

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Although cost is a primary consideration, it should not be the only factor to determine one's choice of surgeon. Wherever you are in the world, choosing the right plastic surgeon is the most important decision you will have to make. In the Philippines, there are a number of fully trained and highly skilled Plastic Surgeons who underwent formal training in plastic and reconstructive surgery.

The Philippine Association of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgeons, Inc (PAPRAS) is the only organization that accepts fellowship training for Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. After training, they undergo certification by the Philippine Board of Plastic Surgery (PBPS) which is the only organization tasked by the Philippine College of Surgeons (PCS) to grant board certification in the field of Plastic Surgery.

State-of-the-art technology and professional medical expertise are offered by most Philippine hospitals and out-patient surgery centers. Patients can be assured of first class healthcare

comparable to world class standards. Be sure to ask if the center is accredited by the Department of Health.

Filipinos are known to be cheerful, caring, and compassionate. They are warm and very hospitable. Nursing care provided by Filipinos in Britain is legendary as is in the United States. This holds the same for doctors. Their unique characteristics makes them excel in the healthcare industry.

The language barrier can be very frustrating especially for patients. Imagine trying to convey something to your surgeon and all he does is nod or shake his head. Most Filipinos are fluent in English. This is an important advantage in healthcare professions. Communication between patient and surgeon is of utmost importance during initial consultation as well as the post-operative period. It helps make the surgical experience a more "pleasurable" one.

Surgery in the Philippines offers distinct advantages to potential patients of cosmetic surgery. Low costs, highly qualified plastic surgeons, and world class facilities makes the Philippines a potential site in the cosmetic tourism industry.

JOEL UNSON MD, a fully trained Plastic Surgeon from the Philippines. For more information on plastic surgery procedures in the Philippines, you may visit his website at <http://plasticsurgery.unson.com>

Article by JOEL UNSON MD, a fully trained Filipino Plastic Surgeon. The desire for facial improvement, body contouring and rejuvenation makes Aesthetic (Cosmetic) Surgery one of the most exciting fields in medicine. It is a great privilege to be a part of this increasingly popular discipline. For more information about the author and cosmetic surgery in the Philippines, please visit

<http://plasticsurgery.unson.com>

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