

Holy Bantayan

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On a backpacking holy week trip, we felt an unusual atmosphere in Bantayan Island in Cebu. In the town of Santa Fe we were shockingly amused by this decidedly profane mix of events on a most holy of Fridays! Heaven and hangover are arguably on different dimensions but it's all happening here.

If the traditional procession was spiritual, the beach parties are spirited in the truest sense. 'Heavenly bodies' littered Bantayan's famous white shores. The sight of religious icons cradled in the arms of partying devotees side by side with a bottle of beer is fascinating – for lack of a virtuous term. It can only get 'howlier' err holier next year.