

THE VIBE

VOLUME 1

YOUR
GUIDE TO
MODERN
LIVING IN
THE SOUTH

LIVE

FILIGREE
REDEFINING
ULTIMATE LIVING

WORK

ASIAN
HOSPITAL
& MEDICAL
CENTER
CELEBRATING
15 YEARS OF
HEARTFELT
SERVICE

PLAY

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THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
LIVING THE
ACTIVE LIFESTYLE
IN FILINVEST CITY

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METRO SOUTH TO
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FILINVEST CITY

Inspiring Possibilities

MESSAGE FROM THE PUBLISHER



A CHARMED LIFE IN THE SOUTH

When we laid eyes on hectares of underutilized land in Alabang, we envisioned a vibrant city that would be the pièce de résistance of a rising metropolis. As we crafted the characteristics of our township, Filinvest City, a vital part of the process was the inspiration behind it. The southern way of life became our muse. Innate to it was the laid-back and unhurried way of living familiar to those who grew up in the South. This was set against the backdrop of refreshing environs and suburban charm of a less-congested locale. More importantly, there was a sense of community and family. These homegrown qualities were what we desired to maintain while building a city of fresh possibilities.

With passion and foresight, we are bringing to fruition our vision of a sustainable, future-proof city that can be enjoyed by many generations. Our ultimate goal is to make Filinvest City truly experiential and engaging, where people can live healthier and fuller lives. Thus, we strive to achieve that perfect balance of work, leisure and living in a garden metropolis that continues to be a catalyst of growth in Southern Metro Manila.

As investors and businesses continue to take notice of opportunities in the South, there is a well-balanced convergence of urban and rural living taking place. The southerners get the best of both worlds as they continue to enjoy perks such as less traffic and a serene surrounding while at the same time gaining access to modern-day living with a flourishing business and commercial district within reach.

In this issue, get more than a peek of what it's like to go south through our featured places, events and personalities. Enjoy!

Josephine Gotianun-Yap

PUBLISHER

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PUBLISHER
JOSEPHINE GOTIANUN-YAP

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CATHERINE ILAGAN

EDITOR-AT-LARGE
DON UBALDO

CREATIVE EDITOR
RULA GONGORA

MANAGING EDITOR
MARLA MENDOZA

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
LIA BERMUDO



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THE SOUTHERN APPEAL

Discover why the South of Manila deserves your attention and why more people and businesses are calling it their home

What was once considered as just a weekend destination is now becoming a permanent dwelling of young professionals, families, and even retirees who crave for better living qualities and stress-free conditions.

Over the years, the rise of residential developments, corporate hubs, and commercial establishments has allowed the South to be more than just a vacation spot. Filinvest City, at the heart of Alabang, is one of the pioneering developments that have created this kind of modern and vibrant central zone that successfully converges business and leisure while maintaining the distinct characteristics that the South is known for.

NATURE IN THE CITY

Thanks to the evolution of design and city planning, more business owners give importance to the perfect balance of open spaces and buildings. As new developments successfully marry the beauty of architecture and landscape, Filinvest City preserves the laid-back and relaxed environment which is the signature of this part of Metro Manila. *Southerners* enjoy open malls, bike and jog lanes, dog-friendly zones, parks with beautiful seating areas and neatly tree-lined streets.

WORK AND PLAY

Gone are the days when it was considered suburban with foreign and local industries—from manufacturing, automotive, medical, retail, hotel, BPO, and technology—establishing their brands in the South. Not only did they provide more work opportunities but they also helped shape a lifestyle where one is able to work and play.

EASY COME, EASY GO

While you have everything within reach, the need to leave the confines of your city is easily accessible through main thoroughfares, South Luzon Expressway and Skyway. Whether you are going north or further south, these main access points manage to bridge the gap.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY

Premier schools, fresh air, nearby recreational areas and the overall sense of safety and security make the South more conducive to family living. Here, close knit communities and strong ties are easily formed and a welcome culture.

As more people begin to appreciate these characteristics, townships such as Filinvest City continue to prosper with the emerging of the South as a place for a well-lived life where everything you need is found in one place.

FILINVEST CITY QUICK FACTS

Filinvest City has cemented its position as a premiere Garden CBD of Metro South, commanding land values reaching ₱230k/sqm net, representing up to

248% GROWTH IN LAND VALUES OVER THE LAST FIVE YEARS*

This translates to more than 200% jump in accommodation values from ₱9.2k/sqm to ₱23.1k/sqm.

Development in Filinvest City has seen an uptick with almost 50 buildings completed or has commenced construction from 2012 to date.

RETAIL

GROSS FLOOR AREA BUILD-UP:
495,000 SQM
(61% growth*)

- SOON TO RISE: 92,000 sqm **
Festival Mall Alabang expansion and The Landmark

LAND AREA

244 HECTARES

SUSTAINABILITY

- Spectrum Linear Park
- Bike Lanes
- 360 E-Jeep for in-city commute
- Waste Management System
- Energy Reduction and Water Conservation Program
- Plant Nursery
- Greenway Systems

TRAVEL ACCESS

- Skyway with Filinvest Entry and Exit
- SLEX with three Entry and Exit points: Filinvest South Station, Filinvest tollgates, and Alabang Exit
- Alabang-Zapote Road
- Daang Hari via MCX Exit at SLEX
- Old National Highway

RECENTLY COMPLETED

- Westgate Center Renovation
- Festival Mall Alabang
- Riverpark and Water Garden
- Crimson Hotel
- Commercenter Alabang
- Spectrum Center
- Filinvest Tent

RESIDENTIAL

GROSS FLOOR AREA BUILD-UP:
235,000 SQM
(25% growth*)

- TOTAL NO. OF UNITS: 3,000 units
From Studio to 5-bedroom units
- SOON TO RISE: 152,000 sqm**

OFFICES

GROSS FLOOR AREA BUILD-UP:

534,000 SQM

CURRENT LEASE RATES:

₱700/SQM

LEASE RATES

NORTHGATE CYBERZONE

- GROSS FLOOR AREA BUILD-UP: 364,000 sqm (101% growth*)
- NO. OF BUILDINGS: 19 (ranging from 3 to 19 floors)
- REGISTERED COMPANIES: 51 local and multinational
- SOON TO RISE: 84,000 sqm**

FILINVEST CITY BUSINESS DISTRICT

- GROSS FLOOR AREA BUILD-UP: 170,000 sqm (38% growth*)
- SOON TO RISE: 12,000 sqm**

LIVE

FILIGREE: EMBRACING DISTINCTION, REDEFINING ULTIMATE LIVING

Like pieces of fine jewelry, Filigree's high-end real estate projects personify elegance, unmatched attention to details, quality materials, and craftsmanship like no other

➤ In the world of art, the term “filigree” pertains to delicate and intricate design details. Often in gold and silver, it is equivalent to nothing less than the highest level of craftsmanship and quality available. Similarly, in the realm of high-end property development in the Philippines, Filigree stands for a new, luxury real estate brand that seeks to embody this very spirit, not just in name but also in ideals: by offering an unrivaled portfolio of masterfully crafted, upscale living spaces with designs employing the balance of classical elegance and modern creativity.



ACTUAL PHOTO OF BOTANIKA THREE-BEDROOM MODEL UNIT, DESIGNED BY SINGAPORE-BASED MIAJA DESIGN GROUP



ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE OF THE ENCLAVE ALABANG CENTRAL PARK AND MAN-MADE LAGOON DESIGNED BY AECOM SINGAPORE



ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE OF BOTANIKA TIERED POOL

A SINGULAR, UNPARALLELED VISION

Rising above the rest, Filigree seals its every project with tangible real value, bringing only the best residential projects to the discerning few—whether they be plush high-rise condominiums or exclusive, low-density communities. With an eye towards individuals who wish to savor the good life, growing families that desire freedom of space and access to a plethora of amenities, or investors on the lookout for superior investments that provide impressive returns, Filigree's vision is one that is grounded on exclusivity, excellence, and exceptionality.

"Filigree is the new epitome of excellence in the luxury real estate segment in the country," Catherine A. Ilagan, head of Filigree, reveals. "By having a keen understanding of our market, we are able to create signature projects and services that are tailor fit to, and even go beyond, their refined needs and desires."



FILIGREE SEALS ITS
EVERY PROJECT WITH
TANGIBLE REAL VALUE,
BRINGING ONLY THE BEST
RESIDENTIAL PROJECTS
TO THE DISCERNING FEW



ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE OF BOTANIKA FACADE

Gone are the days when luxury was equated to excesses and opulence. With Filigree, luxury living does not just revolve around aesthetics; it is also about functionality of the design, which allows you the luxury of comfort, and of ease and time at your hand. This is how Filigree redefines modern luxury."

LIMITED EDITION, FINE RESIDENTIAL SPACES

With each distinct development, you can bask in confidence knowing that they are positioned in only the most prime of locations. Moreover, nothing less than top quality materials of the most exacting standards and specifications go into every Filigree project. The team works with world-class designers to create generous living spaces, and to put together well thought-out building and unit features. To fit the lifestyle of its clientele, a wide array of princely amenities is put in place. Residents are treated to pleasant service experience from sales inquiry to the turnover of their new homes to outstanding property management. These are hallmarks that truly live up to the name Filigree.

"Right from its core design down to implementation and construction, our residents are assured that no detail in their homes is unimportant," Ilagan continues. What's more, Filigree has four exceptional designer residences now available: The Beaufort in Taguig, which is ready for occupancy, and the soon to be delivered Botanika Nature Residences, Bristol at Parkway Place, and The Enclave Alabang, all located in the progressive Metro South.

Nestled in the most exclusive and quiet portion in Filinvest City, Alabang's garden central business district, is Botanika Nature Residences, a premium, low-density residential enclave that offers exclusive village living in a convenient condominium setting. Located beside the members-only Palms Country Club, this top-end residence, which is set for turnover by the last quarter of the year, is a product of the collaboration between design giants architect of record Leandro V. Locsin Partners and US -based Architecture International with interiors by Singapore -based Miaja Design Group. A fresh take on luxury living, it is designed to provide a future-ready green good life being a registered project under the Philippine Green Building Council's Building for Ecological Design Excellence (BERDE) Program.





ACTUAL PHOTO OF THE ENCLAVE ALABANG VILLAGE GATE

With its majestic height and architecture, Filinvest City's shining beacon, Bristol at Parkway Place exemplifies how charming modern life can be. Located at the power address of Corporate corner Parkway Avenues, Bristol sets the standard in cosmopolitan living and lets its residents' live a life of ease as everything is all within comfortable reach, be it shops, leisure, rest and relaxation. Fine city living will be experienced soon as Bristol is ready to turn over by the first quarter of 2018.

The Beaufort in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig is a two-tower, world-class condominium that is ready for occupancy. With the stunning view of the Manila Golf Club, it embodies residents' aspiration for a luxurious home of quiet elegance befitting of their stature. With only four units to each floor, the Beaufort offers privacy, exclusivity, security right at the center of it all, at one of the most dynamic locations in the metropolis.

The Enclave Alabang is an exclusive residential subdivision located along the upscale section of the progressive Daang Hari Road. A collaboration among architectural firm H1

“WITH FILIGREE, LUXURY LIVING DOES NOT JUST REVOLVE AROUND AESTHETICS; IT IS ALSO ABOUT FUNCTIONALITY OF THE DESIGN, WHICH ALLOWS YOU THE LUXURY OF COMFORT, AND OF EASE AND TIME AT YOUR HAND. THIS IS HOW FILIGREE REDEFINES MODERN LUXURY.”

Architecture, interior designer Budji Layug+Royal Pineda Design Architects, and landscape consultant AECOM Singapore, phase one of this exclusive village is comprised of 169 single-detached homes of varying lot sizes from 300 sqm to 600 sqm and a hectare of amenities that includes a park perfect for families with growing kids. Lot owners can already start building their dream homes.

PILLARS THAT STAND OUT

And just as how you've reached your coveted stature in society—with passion and unrelenting focus—Filigree's portfolio of luxury properties are meticulously built with a comparable dedication and exacting standards.

“Filigree is more than embellishments. In the pursuit to achieve the finest quality of homes, we ensure that our customers' lifestyle was put in mind right from step one of the planning stage so they will live their lives with ease and comfort,” Ilagan relates, “That's how ultimate living is designed, and that's what sets Filigree apart.”



ARTIST'S PERSPECTIVE OF BRISTOL



WORK

ASIAN HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER: WORLD-CLASS SUCCESS IN THE CITY

For any business, achieving success is a slow and steady process. But when you find a prime environment that is enriched with everything you need to thrive, it can come sooner than you expect. And this was the very case 15 years ago with Asian Hospital & Medical Center, the premier medical institution that has found its home in Filinvest City.



Inside the booming central business district (CBD) of the South, Asian Hospital & Medical Center has been able to carve its niche, providing world-class medical and patient care services to those living in Metro South and Calabarzon. It opened its door to the public in 2002 being the first of its kind to offer a hotel-like ambiance. This unique concept aimed to provide patients further healing through an improved environment that is not only felt inside the hospital but also as soon as you step outside the city. The tertiary hospital has a 289-bed capacity, 1,000 highly trained medical staff and over 500 doctors holding clinics at its Medical Office Building. Immediately, it became the leading hospital known for advance medical facilities.

As testament to its excellence, Asian Hospital & Medical Center was awarded the Gold Seal of Approval by the Joint Commission International (JCI), a US-based international accreditation body that helps global healthcare organizations deliver the highest quality of patient care services. In addition, last year, Asian Hospital & Medical Center proudly accepted its second accreditation from JCI, becoming the only hospital within the Southern Tagalog region with JCI Accreditation.

Asian Hospital & Medical Center was also recognized by APAC Insider Business Awards in 2016 as one of the top healthcare firms in the region of Asia Pacific, another privilege and honor for the institution.

As it continues to reap rewards and strive for excellence, the institution's President and CEO Andres M. Licaros, Jr. admits that its prime location is, indeed, everything, and they have found an anchor. "Our location in Filinvest City has been a great gain for us," reveals Licaros, Jr.



“
OUR LOCATION
IN FILINVEST CITY
HAS BEEN A GREAT
GAIN FOR US

ANDRES M. LICAROS, JR.,
President and CEO of Asian Hospital & Medical Center

who has been with Asian Hospital & Medical Center since 2012.

"We enjoy extensive range of geographic scope. We're only 10 kilometers from Makati City, one of the major business districts in Metro Manila; a 20-minute drive from the international and domestic airports; and just a stone's throw away from the South Luzon Expressway (SLEX), the main highway that connects Makati

City and the airports with the Calabarzon area in the South." Through this access they are not limited to only serving their immediate community. Its accessibility has been a vital key to bringing the institution closer to the people.

Thanks to its unique site advantage, Asian Hospital & Medical Center has been able to bring its vision to life. By being part of a flourishing CBD it has developed a brand in a location where continuous excellence and innovation is inevitable. Licaros shares that Asian Hospital & Medical Center has found success greatly in part because it has found a true partner in Filinvest.

"Filinvest City engages Asian Hospital & Medical Center through many of its initiatives like the Wellness Promotion with Partnered Organizations. We're often invited to participate as the medic team in many of the fun runs, mall tours, and medical missions which is in line with our commitment to being consistently involved with our community and partner organizations."

Fifteen years later, Asian Hospital & Medical Center still enjoys the trust and patronage of the people in the metro and neighboring regions, because it shares the same values of those living in the South—a commitment to excellence, balance, and holistic healing.

Whether you're a multinational company, a small business operation or a premier medical institution, location is everything. And within Filinvest City, Asian Hospital & Medical Center has found a dynamic community it calls home.

From its services to its facilities, dedicated medical staff and innovative programs, Asian Hospital & Medical Center continues to redefine modern hospital management and patient care. ●

EATS



HOME FOR GREAT LIFESTYLE FINDS

Passionate people at Metro South know the importance of play and balance, and relish the simple pleasures of a good life. Discover a unique park and dine concept in Westgate Center that best captures the distinct laid-back vibe—the luxury of the South.

A lifestyle hub in Metro South, Westgate Center brings together luxurious options to enrich your life—from spas to fitness gyms, hardware stores and retail shops to help you decorate your home, it allows you to brilliantly furnish your life as you see fit. Within the area, find anchors such as S&R, Fun Ranch, Anytime Fitness, and Home Depot, among others.

Connected by weaving paths, it is a modern community “plaza” that marries contemporary design with a desire for balance and respect for green living. It’s a place where you will find charming pocket gardens,

open spaces, and quiet corners where you can read, relax, and just enjoy the outdoors. Take a break and reconnect with nature without feeling rushed.

Part of its charm and becoming a favorite hangout place among executives, young professionals and Southern Manila’s residents are the numerous dining establishments ready to serve with a gastronomic experience people will want to come back for.

When in the South, go straight to Westgate Center and discover an amazing world of incredible flavor and homegrown finds like Neil’s Kitchen, Sushi Ninja, Caviar, Shinomiya, Tus’ and Seoul Koreana.

PICKS FOR THE PALATE

When in the South, go straight to Westgate Center, the new foodie destination of incredible gourmet finds.

NEIL'S KITCHEN

A PLAY ON PINOY FAVES

Established in 2015 by Chef Neil Ramos, the renowned caterer of The Hills in Silang, Neil's Kitchen, a homegrown find in Westgate Center, Filinvest City, transports you back to your happy childhood through its memorable home-cooked dishes and chic, Instagram-ready setting. Situated in the relaxing corner of the complex, Neil's Kitchen primes your appetite with its bright yet homey setting. Kitschy décor, juxtaposed funny quotes and witticisms written on the walls delight the eyes and make you excited for the feast ahead.

Though known more for his intercontinental dishes, Chef Neil goes back to his roots and memories spent in his *Lola's* kitchen to elevate Pinoy favorites such as Chicken Barbeque, Pinakbet, and Kare-Kare, among others into more refined dishes. Each is an amazing interpretation and inspiration of the original that'll have you coming back for more. Neil plays with execution and plating, but remains faithful to the flavors that we've all come to love. For first timers, Neil recommends their renowned *paellas*. The Sinigang Paella with Grilled Pork Belly builds a delectable contrast of crunch and sourness, thanks to the rice cooked in *Sinigang* broth and crispy pork belly. This is topped with *kang-kong* crisps that add a refreshing (as well as yummy) pop of green. Another *paella* favorite is the Bagoong Paella with Kare-Kare, which plays on the sweet, salty, and buttery goodness of the well-known pairing. Other recommended dishes by diners are the Crab Fat Pasta, the Fish Fillet with Tomato, Basil and Capers, and their classic fried chicken. For dessert, delight in the alternating layers of sweetness and creamy textures of the Fried Suman, Mangga and Chocnut.

It's warm, sticky, and utterly delicious. From a desire to introduce modern Filipino cuisine in the world stage with the main philosophy to always cook from the heart, Neil's Kitchen indeed has come a long way. Diners keep on coming back to this place as Neil's Kitchen makes them feel at home and enjoy a hearty feast that brings them back to the fond memories of home. As Chef Neil's commitment to its customer, "At Neil's Kitchen, you will not only have a happy tummy but also a happy heart."

Lot C 701 - 704 Westgate Center, Filinvest City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City



BAGOONG PABELLA WITH KARE-KARE

“HAPPY TUMMIES ARE ALSO HAPPY HEARTS.”



FRIED SUMAN, MANGGA AND CHOCNUT



PINAKBET SALAD



WAGYU BEEF SINIGANG GYUDON STYLE



COZY AMBIANCE AT NEIL'S KITCHEN



SHINOMIYA

SASHIMI, SUSHI, AND MORE JAPANESE SURPRISES

➔ In the sea of Japanese restos and sushi bars in the South, Shinomiya stands out as a local favorite, thanks to its chill, neighborhood vibe and consistently delicious and authentic Japanese dishes.

A homegrown restaurant in Westgate Center which started back in 2016, Shinomiya reflects the generosity of the owners as the menu offers a great number of appetizers and dishes, complete with *sushi*, *ramen*, rice bowls and grilled picks.

When dining here, Shinomiya's array of *sushi* and *maki* should be at the top of your list. The Deep Blue Sea Maki (a profusion of mango, salmon, tuna, cucumber, and crab) offers hearty bites that are refreshing as they are flavorful. Each packed morsel delivers all the goodness of ocean. For something that showcases the keen technique and palate of the chefs, a choice of the Rising Sun, Slam Dunk Maki, Mt. Fuji, Scorpion and Tiger Eye Maki is highly recommended together with their serving of Ten Don and Okonomiyaki.

Complement your grilled picks—such as eel, salmon, mackerel and black cod—with a serving of cool *soba* or a piping hot fried rice. While the grilled appetizers are delicious as is, you can choose from the array of dipping sauces that allow you to enjoy another depth of flavor and umami. If you're feeling under the weather, a soothing, rich bowl of *ramen*—the best-selling of which is the Tonkotsu Ramen (pork) and Miso Ramen—will help lift your spirits instantly. For something with more fiery heat, the Tan-Tan Men Ramen will assuredly awaken all your senses.

Shinomiya takes away the stiffness and stuffiness of more formal Japanese dining and becomes your favorite neighborhood *sushi* and *ramen* place in the South. Dedicated to serving fresh Japanese food, Shinomiya is where you go for those nights you simply want to sit back, relax, and enjoy a good, hearty meal with family and friends.

➔ Space C 2005-2006 Westgate Center, Filinvest City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City



SLAM DUNK MAKI



MISO RAMEN



TEN DON



OKONOMIYAKI



SHINOMIYA
TAKES
AWAY THE
STIFFNESS
AND
STUFFINESS
OF MORE
FORMAL
JAPANESE
DINING



Bristol

AT PARKWAY PLACE

Filinvest City, Alabang

THE Mark OF
Sophistication



*Artist's Perspective

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REGARDLESS
OF WHAT
YOUR
PRIORITIES
IN LIFE ARE
RIGHT NOW—
IT CHANGES
WITH AGE
ANYWAYS—
THE SOUTH
KIND OF
SUPPORTS ALL
OF THAT.

SUMMER IS THE TIME TO BREAK OUT AND SHINE, AND SINGER-ACTOR
MATTEO GUIDICELLI
IS MAKING THE MOST OF HIS BY LIVING HEALTHY AND LEADING THE LIFE
HE WANTS TO LEAD. WITHIN THE VIBRANT METRO SOUTH COMMUNITY,
MATTEO IS FINDING THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF DRIVE AND INSPIRATION TO
MAKE HIS SUMMER THE MOST EXCITING SEASON YET

LIFE WITH NO LIMITS

BY KRISTEL DACUMOS-LAGORZA | PHOTOS BY PAT MATEO



Between working on his sophomore album, and back-to-back tapings for two new movie projects, *Can't Help Falling in Love* directed by Mae Cruz and *Ghost Bride* by Direk Chito Roño, Matteo Guidicelli is hell-bent on training for his triathlons later this year.

"I'm really excited to compete at Xterra and Ironman 70.3, because they bring together all that I love—swimming, biking, and running. Of course, these are challenges that will really push me to the limits," excitedly begins Matteo Guidicelli, the talented singer, actor and restaurateur who is celebrating his 11th year in showbiz.

FINDING FITNESS

Sporting a golden tan and a leaner physique, Matteo is proud that he is well on his way to achieving his weight goal and physical stamina to take on the grueling races. Lately, he's putting in more time for his training and making more than a few sacrifices in order to get fit, but he's not complaining. "In preparation, I'm trying to eat better to live a balanced lifestyle. I'm trying my best to always make the healthier choice for myself and prioritize living and eating green," nods Matteo.

While an avid athlete ever since he was a kid, Matteo shares that he recently became more committed to living a healthier lifestyle because of his dad, Gianluca Guidicelli.

"My fitness journey began maybe around five years ago, because of my dad. He was overweight, and his doctors prescribed medicines to control his high blood pressure. Instead of taking them

(which I don't recommend others doing), he started to change his lifestyle," narrates Matteo. Soon, in support of his loved one, Matteo joined his dad in exercising every day. It started small—jogging around the neighborhood and being more active in their daily lives. But soon their time together grew into a genuine love for the outdoors. They switched up their routines by biking and swimming, and today, both of them are at the pink of health.

"My dad is 54 years old now and doesn't need to take meds anymore, and that's amazing!" exclaims Matteo. "He really inspired me to take control of my health and my life, which is why, even if at first I hated doing any form of exercise, I really committed to it. Soon, I discovered that 'Hey, I'm feeling better as well,'" he beams.

Initially, Matteo worked out at home, then at the gym. But soon he traded the confining, air-conditioned gyms for the great outdoors. "When I started doing more realistic exercise, I



discovered that I loved the experience of being out in nature—with the sun on your skin and breathing in clean air.”

AN ATHLETE'S HAVEN

A Metro South resident for almost a decade, the Cebu heartthrob discovered that there was much to be inspired by as an athlete, especially in the vibrant Filinvest City with its runner-friendly sidewalk, lush gardens, canopy of trees, and bike trails.

Matteo proudly boasts, “I train here all the time. I actually prefer it, because I can use the trails here and run around. I especially love Sundays, because Filinvest has what they call ‘carless Sundays,’ so they block certain roads, and you can actually see everybody coming out to enjoy the outdoors. That’s not something you can do in many communities in the metro,” he explains.

For him, he particularly loves weekends in Alabang—to not only train but also unwind. “Sunday mornings are the best time in the world if you live in the South,” he smiles. Usually, he wakes up at five in the morning,

and heads straight to the bike trails or Filinvest to run. “I come here often. It’s quiet and there are no cars or pollution. And in the morning, there are people already jogging or doing their morning walk. You know that everybody’s starting their day out beautifully,” he shares. “And that’s a great way to wind down your week—with a nice, calm mind set.”

INSPIRED CREATIVITY

For the 26-year-old, South has indeed become more than just a place for him to train, it’s his playground and his home away from home. The place he does call home, however, is Cebu, where he’s from. “But I’ve been living in Alabang for almost a decade, ever since high school,” he reveals.

While he does travel back and forth to Cebu, the Queen City of the South, to help out in the family restaurant, Trattoria da Gianni, Matteo spends most of his time in Manila nowadays. “I’m currently working on a few movie projects as well as my second album. While my first album was just about testing the waters, now I’m more confident in exploring my sound,” he says, adding that he’s collaborating

with The Pajama Party to produce several songs. “They’re geniuses in what they do,” he says, complementing his colleagues. Of course, he has the support of his lady love, Sarah Geronimo, and their love story is told through the different heartfelt songs.

While invested in creating a truly exciting sound, his new album in no way is an indication that he’s drifting away from his main love—acting. “Acting is my craft and requires a different skill. In some ways, music does excite me more. With music, it’s really your story, your heart that’s in the song,” he explains. “On set, as an actor, you’re recreating a reality and bringing to life a character in a story someone else has written. But in music, you’re the voice, you’re the creator. But both of these (disciplines) fulfill a creative facet that’s equally satisfying,” he shares.

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Based in the South, but with hectic taping schedules that often take him to Quezon City and beyond, does Matteo ever tire or wish to live closer to the Makati, BGC or Ortigas CBD? Matteo vigorously shakes his head—“No, never!”

He later admits, “I did think about getting a halfway house between Makati or the Fort,



“

**SUNDAY
MORNINGS
ARE THE
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IF YOU
LIVE IN THE
SOUTH.**

66

I DID THINK ABOUT GETTING A HALFWAY HOUSE BETWEEN MAKATI OR THE FORT, BUT IT NEVER HAPPENED. I'M JUST SO IN LOVE WITH THE SOUTH!



but it never happened. I'm just so in love with the South!"

He continues, "Since I'm from Cebu, I had initially felt that Manila was such a strange place, a foreign land. Here, it's always about hustling and rushing, but in Cebu there's a more laid-back rhythm to your life," he compares. When he moved to Manila, Matteo honestly thought that he would be homesick forever—that was until he discovered the Metro South.

Like in Cebu, Matteo narrates, the community in the South is homey and welcoming. "Back home, in Cebu, everybody knows each other and the vibe is very chill. You can go to restaurants any time. Here, you can do that as well, wearing just *tsinelas* and shorts. Alabang is very laidback," he shares, happy to have found a sense of comfort and familiarity in the big city.

Today, his favorite places to hangout and relax are Black Pig, Westgate, Molito, and the Palms Country Club. Soon, he hopes to open

up another branch of Trattoria da Gianni at Westgate. "I think Trattoria would be a great fit to Alabang as a foodie destination," he beams.

CONVERGING PASSIONS

Metro South particularly inspires the young man, because here he's free to dream, roam, and build the life he wants to lead. "For me, this is not just an address or point of origin. The South embraces an entire lifestyle; it incorporates and supports your priorities and passions," he reveals. For him, his priorities are health and fitness; for others, it might be work or raising a family. "Regardless of what your priorities in life are right now—it changes with age anyways—the South kind of supports all of that."

In the past decades, the South has, indeed, been growing exponentially as a modern commercial hub, thriving residential community, and lifestyle destination. But despite becoming a dynamic CBD, it has retained its small, close-

knit community feel, which is great for those who yearn for a sense of home and who wish to detach from the stresses of city-living.

"I have a lot of dreams and goals that I want to accomplish, but I'm not pressuring myself too much. I know the importance of inspiration and drive, but I also know the need to enjoy the journey. If there's anything that I've learned so far, whether it's achieving a show-biz goal, completing a triathlon, or fulfilling a personal dream, it will take time. You cannot do these things overnight, so enjoy the process, enjoy the journey. Surely, through good, honest hard work you'll get there."

Through the supportive community of Metro South like Filinvest City that lets him find his own rhythm, Matteo has been able to work towards his goals at his own pace. In a city that prides itself in inspiring endless possibilities, Matteo has finally found the inspiration to live out his. ●



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PLAY

EXPLORE

THE GREAT OUTDOORS

AND DISCOVER AN AMAZING WORLD OF ACTIVITIES THAT GETS YOUR HEART PUMPING AND WHICH KEEPS YOU INSPIRED



Unlike other cities which have become concrete jungles smothered under smoke, Filinvest City is an inviting urban hub and haven that embraces wide, open spaces, green gardens, and clear skies. It embraces all of nature's beauty to create an inspiring and invigorating environment to let you fully experience the great outdoors.

RUNNING

Find your own pace and enjoy your morning and evening jogs even more as you feel safe crossing the city and finishing your route. For runners and walkers, this city has lush canopies, which protect you from the harsh summer sun and which offer a soothing shade as you run on the sidewalks.

Every Sunday, feel free to join other residents and running enthusiasts at the Shared Zone. For your convenience, one side each of Corporate, Commerce, Parkway, and Filinvest Avenues is closed off so that you can enjoy your run in peace. Bring the kids as well and your camera for a fun, impromptu shoot at the Shared Zone, which features 3D street art.



Enjoy interactive 3D street art on Asean Drive, Filinvest City.



HANGOUT IN SPECTRUM LINEAR PARK

For a different kind of walking tour, take the 1-km route along Spectrum Linear Park, which connects the southern part of Filinvest City to the northern part. Enjoy a leisure walk through the well-lighted park that leads you across Spectrum Midway.





TRAILS

When a trip to out of town cannot be planned, you can still satisfy your desire to explore with Filinvest City's fun trails. Challenge yourself as you run, bike, and hike over the 9-km stretch of uneven and rugged terrain. Many head to these trails to train.

SOUTH POINT DRIVING RANGE

The city's prime and convenient location makes it accessible to get to the golf courses in the South like Tagaytay, Laguna, and Villamor Airbase. But if you want some place closer for a quick round of golf, look no further. You can squeeze in a game at the South Point Driving Range, located adjacent to Manong's Bar & Grill, which is open to amateur and professional golfers.

BIRD-WATCHING

In many metro CBDs, it's quite rare to find quiet corners which welcome both people and creatures of the wild. At the Filinvest Trails, however, find them come together in peaceful unity. Delight in the amazing variety of wild birds that inhabit the sanctuary, from the yellow-vented bulbul, barred rail, white-breasted waterhen, white-throated kingfisher, little egret, and black-crowned night herons. Bring your kids and your camera for a fun day of birdwatching.

RENT A BIKE

If running is not your thing, rent a bike along Asean Drive near Parkway Avenue for just P100 an hour. Whether you're biking solo, with your kids, or with your special someone, find different types of bikes—from kiddie bikes, city bikes to side cars—to make the experience of going around the city a little more fun.

ZUMBA

Get your heart racing and your muscles pumping at the free Zumba class held every Sunday on Promenade Avenue. At Zumba, get more than just exercise; get to know your fellow Southerners and take part in that close sense of community.

AL FRESCO DINING

Dine under the stars or just enjoy the cool breeze on a hot summer's day. At the River Park and Westgate, find an array of dining choices, which offer quiet spots for conversation. Here, enjoy as well yummy dishes and beverages, which can satiate every craving.

WATER GARDEN, FESTIVAL MALL

A favorite among those seeking a more romantic setting, the water garden at Festival Mall delights all with its shimmering lights and spectacular water fountain display. On weekends, schedule a quick trip to this outdoor park and let the kids run free in a day of pure fun.



OUTDOOR CONCERTS

Filinvest City with its wide, open grounds has become the first choice of many local and international event franchises and festivals such as Color Manila Run Series, one of the biggest fun runs in the country, and most recently the highly successful Wanderland Music & Arts Festival.

In addition to these, Filinvest City has hosted numerous lifestyle and motoring/ bike events such as the Shimano Dirt & Play XC Fun Race; the Slidefest, the biggest slip and slide event in Asia; and Vios Cup, the biggest motorsports event in the Philippines.

With its newly launched 3-hectare Event Grounds, Filinvest City excites Southerner even more as it can now host bigger events. This month, the Event Grounds is slated to host Color Manila's Blacklight Run.

At Filinvest City, discover more ways to live inspired. 



CARLO LEDESMA

Film Director

“My favorite place to hang out in Filinvest would be the excellent mountainbike trails that creatively weave around the empty lots and forests around the area. You don’t have to be a biker to enjoy these trails, as I see lots of hikers on them as well. That’s what I love about Filinvest. There seems to be an effort to maintain balance between urban development and nature. They seem to realize that in this day and age it’s no longer about cramming buildings into every single opening. Access to nature is a huge selling point to families and I certainly hope Filinvest continues to build on this.



ARDY ABELLO

Entrepreneur

“Summer is a good way to spend time with the family at Festival Mall to shop, watch the latest movie, and share a meal together at RED Kitchen + Bar. Palms Country Club offers wide array of sports facilities for some fun and active family bonding time.



MIGUEL LOPEZ

Triathlon Coach

“I love hanging out in Westgate because I can do so many things in one place. I can hit the gym at Fitness First, eat at Brother’s Burger, have coffee at Café Breton and then hang out at Specialized Elite store. To add to that, fun activities around the area which you can do this summer will be to hit the MTB trails and run around it afterwards for some multisport workout.

SEIZE THE SUMMER!



JEM LUCIO

Civil Engineer, FLUOR Philippines

“There are a number of fitness centers in the area that offer a variety of physical activities depending on your lifestyle. Filinvest City also provides a good area for running. There are a lot of developments as well that offer a vast array of dining choices.



SHERWIN EBALO

Legal Counsel, works in Northgate, Alabang

“There’s that linear park in front of Filinvest Tent that I love. It has neat and broad benches and a lot of trees, so you get protection from the sun on exceptionally hot afternoons. During work

breaks, I like sitting in the garden and munching on sliced fruits that I buy from South Supermarket. It’s the perfect “me”-time haven.

The Southerners share their favorite spots to cool down and fun ways to beat the heat this summer at Filinvest City.



DYAN CASTILLEJO

TV Personality

“My favorite place in Filinvest City is the open space around the buildings where I run and sometimes bike. I love the

trees and the shade. I also like the Westgate area where I often eat with my family and friends.



MHA-ANNE MEJIA

Research & Development Product Specialist

Long Distance Runner

“As a member of Snail Runners Alabang and a newbie cyclist, I personally encourage people to engage in fun outdoor activities that will keep them active, fit and healthy. Summer outdoor activities such as running and biking on the flat, pedestrian-friendly roads and on the challenging trails of Filinvest City are highly recommended.

The bike trails, lush landscapes, tree-lined pathways and shaded canopies of Filinvest City provide that refreshing environment for avid runners and cyclists like me. Filinvest is a breath of fresh air for all nature-loving sport enthusiasts, and it is one of the best places to run and re-energize your spirit during this summer season.



ARIANA DORMITORIO

Cycling Champion

“As a cyclist, summer is the perfect time to go to the trails as it is not muddy yet. The bike trails in Filinvest City provide a haven for a cyclist like me. I highly recommend it to cycling enthusiasts regardless of their level as a rider.



PLAY

WANDERLAND MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL MUSIC MEETS MAGIC

Filinvest City—with its lush, green grounds, and scenic views—offered the ultimate concert experience by setting the stage for the biggest and most exciting music and arts festival in the country, Wanderland.

➤ It was a night of incredible, soul-moving music and arts at the recent Wanderland Festival, held at the spacious event grounds of Filinvest City, Alabang, last March 4. Thousands of concertgoers and art enthusiasts came together to party and play the night away, celebrating global indie music and art.

In previous years, the Wanderland Festival, which started in 2013, was held in Makati. But thanks to Filinvest City's newest Event Grounds, which encompass an impressive three hectares of land, Wanderland 2017 found a new home.

With its wide, open spaces that can accommodate over a thousand people, Filinvest City's Event Grounds serve as an inspiring venue where any event or concert can be staged. This year, Filinvest City helped Wanderland pull out all the stops, bringing to life the festival's incredible vision. On the wide greens, three grand

PHOTOS BY CHARLES VILLARUZ, KYLE AGUAS, MAGIC LIWANAG, IYA FORBES, CARLO SAAVADRE, BERN TAN



stages—the Wanderland stage, Globe stage, and Jungle stage—were built, offering concertgoers unobstructed views of their favorite bands and artists. Thanks to this unique setup, the audience was able to enjoy the full richness of the concert experience.

Taking the festival stage were the The Temper Trap, The Ting Tings, Explosions in the Sky, Yuna, Purity Ring, Honne, LANY, and Woodluck. Bringing the audience to their feet with their local hits were Up Dharma Down, Gab and John of Ubandub and Tom's Story. Fools & Foes, Reese Lansangan, Lola Amour, Banna Harbera, and Mickey Sulit also serenaded the crowd with their smooth beats.

The incredible energy and vibe of the festival were sustained throughout the night, thanks to adrenaline-pumping activities such as the bungee jump and wall climbing, which were available on the lush green ground.

Like every Wanderland Festival in the past, art installations from up-and-coming artists as well as seasoned masters highlighted the different corners of the venue. The festival became a true celebration of creativity and imagination as it offered a platform for talented muralists and illustrators like Jappy Agoncillo, KFK Collective, Quattro Hapimeel, and Ysabella Lulu.

While entertained by the amazing beats bursting in the background, the crowds were also happily satiated by the delicious fare from the food stalls. From bar chow to cold brews, the food stalls helped feed the thousands who tread to the festival that night.

In Filinvest City, the home and stage of the premier music and arts festival, Wanderland truly served up an experience like no other this year with music that shook the soul and performances that took the crowd on a rollercoaster ride of emotions. 🎵

CITY NEWS



FIGHTING FIRE AT THE FIRE OLYMPICS 2017

The Fire Olympics, held last April 22, on Asean Drive, Filinvest, is an annual event aimed to test and train personnel from the different emergency response groups (ERGs) of Filinvest City locators. The Fire Olympics is not only a refresher course on firefighting, rescue practices and tactics, it also aims to further build each team's strength as a working unit.

Showcasing their skills and powers, the 15 teams competed in four main events, namely the Rescue and Transfer Relay, Hose Laying and Replacement of Busted Hose, Blitz Attack, and Flammable Liquid Fire Extinguishment. This year's participants included ERGs from Festival Mall Alabang, Cyberzone Properties Inc., Vivere Hotel, Acacia Manila Hotel, Bellevue Hotel, Crimson Hotel, Civic Prime, Civic Place 2301, Studio 1 & 2, Studio City, The Levels, Entrata Urban Complex, The Palms Country Club, South Station, and Insular Life.



DIMMING THE LIGHTS FOR EARTH HOUR 2017

On March 25, Filinvest became a bright beacon of hope as it shut off its lights and celebrated Earth Hour 2017 with the rest of the Southern community. As it turned off its electric bulbs, Filinvest lighted candles at the Filinvest City Event Grounds, forming a giant Earth Hour "60+" logo. Filinvest City kept the electric lights closed and the partial amount of the kilowatt hour savings were donated to Alabang Elementary School for 2017 Brigada Eskwela.

GOING GREEN AT THE WASTE MARKET

As a proud garden city, Filinvest strengthened its commitment to being a green, sustainable community by hosting a bi-annual event that encouraged residents, locators, and neighboring communities to adopt and follow proper waste management and disposal. As part of its city-wide campaign, Filinvest hosted seminars and the waste market, wherein individuals could sell their recyclables—including paper, cartons, plastic bottles, cans, and other non-traditional waste such as electrical components and furniture—to accredited buyers and recyclers.



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