



**Guimaras Province**, which is part of Western Visayas or Region VI, is situated Southeast of Panay Island and Northwest of the Island of Negros. The Iloilo Strait separates Guimaras and Panay Island . Guimaras Strait cuts through Guimaras and Negros. Once part of Iloilo, Guimaras is composed of five (5) municipalities: Buenavista, Jordan, Nueva Valencia, San Lorenzo and Sibunag.

During the Pre-Spanish period, the island was once known as Himal-us. According to legend, two lovers named Guima and Aras got drowned in the sea trying to escape from the wrath of their parents for their forbidden relationship. Thus, the island was called Guimaras in honor of the two lovers.

Guimaras covers an area around 60,465 hectares or 606.65 sq. kilometers. The capital town is the Municipality of Jordan, seat of the Provincial Government and the center of trade and commerce.

Like the rest of the country, Guimaras has two distinct seasons: dry season or summer, usually between the months of November and April, and the rainy or wet season, from May to October.

The Wildlife Center is located in Sitio Lombardia, Barangay Sto. Domingo, Municipality of Nueva Valencia, Province of Guimaras, approximately 29 kilometers from Jordan wharf in Barangay Rizal, Jordan (main entry from Iloilo City) and 20 kilometers from the Provincial Capitol in Barangay San Miguel, Jordan. From the Poblacion Nueva Valencia, the site can be accessed through a 7-kilometer portion of Guimaras circumferential road.

It is a 72-hectare property teeming with naturally growing trees and free of residents in its immediate surroundings. The area blends naturally with the wildlife habitat because of the site characteristics that are conducive for the survival of wildlife (i.e. vegetation, topography, etc.) which could be easily enhanced, restored and preserved.