

The Legend of Mayon Volcano – Romeo and Juliet of the Philippines

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by [Cathy](#).

Dear mouse,

[Mayon Volcano is showing abnormal activity again](#) alerting the National Disaster Coordinating Council and the governor of Albay to prepare the people living near the volcano to be evacuated anytime.



My father was from Camsur while my mother was from Albay. I had seen Mayon Volcano from afar when we were travelling by boat. It was when I was already in Manila and was chosen as delegate in an educational trip which brought us to different provinces in Luzon that I saw Mayon Volcano in its splendour. You will not miss it. We also visited Cagsawa Ruins (the belfry of the church) which place was buried during the 1814 eruption.

Many people do not know that the legend of Mayon Volcano is a Romeo and Juliet story.

Here is the short summary of the legend:

Once there was a princess named Daragang Magayon (Daraga means lady, Magayon is beautiful) who lived in Bicol. She's so beautiful. She came from the family that reigns over the entire Bicol.

Because of her beauty and influence, warriors, princes and datus from different parts of the country desired to have her as their wife. But Magayon fell in love with a warrior named Handiong, a prince who came from a tribe that was, unfortunately, the rival of Magayon's tribe. The two suffered so much from their respective family's attempts to separate them that they finally decided to flee. Unfortunately their families found out and fought a bloody tribal war. This caused the young couple so much pain they decided together to commit suicide.

The tribes buried the lovers separately. Months passed when Magayon's tribe saw a volcano growing in the place where Magayon was buried. They named it for Daragang Magayon. "Bulkan Magayon" describing its perfect shape like their beautiful Daraga.

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