

# Nature at Center Stage

## The Amphitheatre at the Mango Grove



One of the outstanding features of the Mango Grove is the amphitheatre, a future venue for concerts, plays and perhaps even weddings. The dramatic amphitheatre, designed by talented landscape artist Ponce Veridiano, blends flawlessly with the natural terrain.

Based on the classic design of ancient Roman architecture, the unroofed amphitheatre is tiered with concrete-block seats imprinted with leaves indigenous to the Batangas region. A raised circular stage covered with grass sits at the very center.

In this lush setting, audiences can enjoy performances under a canopy of trees. Massive rocks that are native to the landscape enhance the natural ambiance of the area.

The venue can be accessed in two ways. The main entrance from the road above the amphitheatre approaches the venue from the highest point and through the last row at the back. The other entrance is through the Mango Grove, past the Kiddie Pool, and approaches the venue from the stage area. ✍

# A Spectacular Start

## The Torres-Ortega Wedding

When fashion designer Richie Ortega and businessman Itong Torres first saw Kawayan Cove, it was love at first sight. They found the place "gorgeously lush" and the architectural design "tastefully restrained".

The couple solemnized their wedding vows at a nearby church before heading over to Kawayan Cove where they celebrated their dream reception.

Sunset cocktails were served at Meditation Point. The stunningly hued sky was the perfect backdrop as the new Mr. and Mrs. Torres welcomed ooh-ing and ahh-ing guests to the magnificent venue.

Dinner followed soon after at the Pavilion on Bamboo Beach. Guests got comfortable on oversized cushions down on the sand, and enjoyed a fresh organic Filipino dinner.

It was nightfall and the wedding party had the beach all to themselves.

Fireworks lit up the night sky and dance music intensified the après-dinner festivities. Letting their hair down in the fun, relaxed atmosphere, Richie and Itong gamely doffed their shoes and led their guests to dance barefoot on the sand.

Looking back on their December wedding, Richie happily enthused, "A lot of people said it was one of the best weddings they've ever attended." It will definitely be a hard one to beat. To Itong and Richie, may your life together be as spectacular as the day it started! ✍

