

Don't be the next victim!

Beware of a Scam Offering Cheap Airline Tickets to Asia

The Philippine Embassy warns the public on an ongoing scam involving offers of cheap airline tickets to Asia, including trips to Manila and Cebu, Philippines. The offers are being circulated in a local newspaper in Lucerne, Switzerland.

The advertisement offers round-trip tickets from Zurich (Switzerland) to Manila, Cebu, Bangkok, Phuket, Seoul, Singapore, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Colombo, Sydney and Melbourne for only CHF850 or US\$700, inclusive of airport and travel taxes and insurance. It also offers hotel accommodation for a separate price.

Transactions are usually done through e-mail, and those who agree to buy the tickets are required to remit 50% of the total cost of the tickets to a Swiss or German-sounding personal bank account in the Philippines, with the promise that the tickets will be sent to the buyer via DHL—a promise that will never be fulfilled.

Another mark of the scam is that its alleged travel agents—who speak and write German very well—do not accept payments through credit cards.

A number of unsuspecting people have already been victimized by this scam. Please forewarn your family and friends about this modus operandi.

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