

## CAPIZ

Capiz was a part of Aklan when this was organized as a *sakop* (political unit) of Panay by Bornean datus in 1213. The name Capiz was believed to be derived from the Visayan word “Kapid” meaning twins. When the Spaniards arrived in 1570 twin children were born to the ruler of Aklan, Datu Bankaya. Somehow, the natives inadvertently miscommunicated this to the strangers as the name of the place, so the Spaniards adopted the name Capiz for what was then Aklan. (Figure 1)

When Capiz was made into a province under Act No. 2711 on March 10, 1917, it included what is now Aklan. Due to the persistent demand of the Aklanons, Aklan was separated from Capiz in 1956. Capiz is the birthplace of Manuel A. Roxas, the fifth president of the Republic of the Philippines, after whom the provincial capital was named. Capiz town (now Roxas City) was not originally the capital. The Spaniards first settled in the neighboring town of Panay. The capital was later transferred to its present site because of its proximity to the sea.

The province, shaped like an open palm, is one of the five provinces in Western Visayas found in the island of Panay. It is bounded on the north by Sibuyan Sea; south and southeast by Iloilo province; west by Antique and northwest by Aklan.

### Administrative Jurisdiction

The province has jurisdiction over Roxas City and sixteen (16) municipalities namely: Cuartero, Dao, Dumalag, Dumarao, Ivisan, Jamindan, Mambusao, Sapi-an, Sigma, Tapaz, Maayon, Pan-ay, Panit-an, Pilar, Pontevedra, Pres. Roxas. It has two (2) congressional districts and 473 barangays.

Figure 1

