

A Comprehensive Guide to Filipino Trikes

by vaivod

Introduction

This doc includes the main types of trikes throughout all of the main islands. There are plenty of random trikes that don't follow the patterns for the region and some very niche city-specific trikes that have been omitted for efficiency's sake.

Note that the maps next to each trike aren't frequency maps but just distribution maps (I didn't balance locations per city/island or anything.)

Thank you to Mumrik and RenegadeChicken for coming up with trike meta and inspiring me to delve deeper myself. Feel free to DM me for any questions on discord @ vaivod , and join [PHcord](#) here!

The trikes I mapped are basically any vehicle, typically with a motorcycle, that has room for a driver and a passenger. Some have sidecars, some are just one big vehicle: the main rule of thumb is as long as it's not a tuktuk or some featureless cart attached to a motorcycle it's fair game. Here are examples of not trikes.



Meanwhile these are great examples of not not trikes.



Mindanao

Mindanao has LOTS of different shapes of trikes; if you see one you don't recognize, Mindanao is a good shout.



This trike shape is essentially the only variant seen on the entire Zamboanga Peninsula. What sticks out to me is the passenger window shape- it's kind of like an airplane window. Other notable parts are the roof leaning back, and the trike kinda bulging out from under the window.

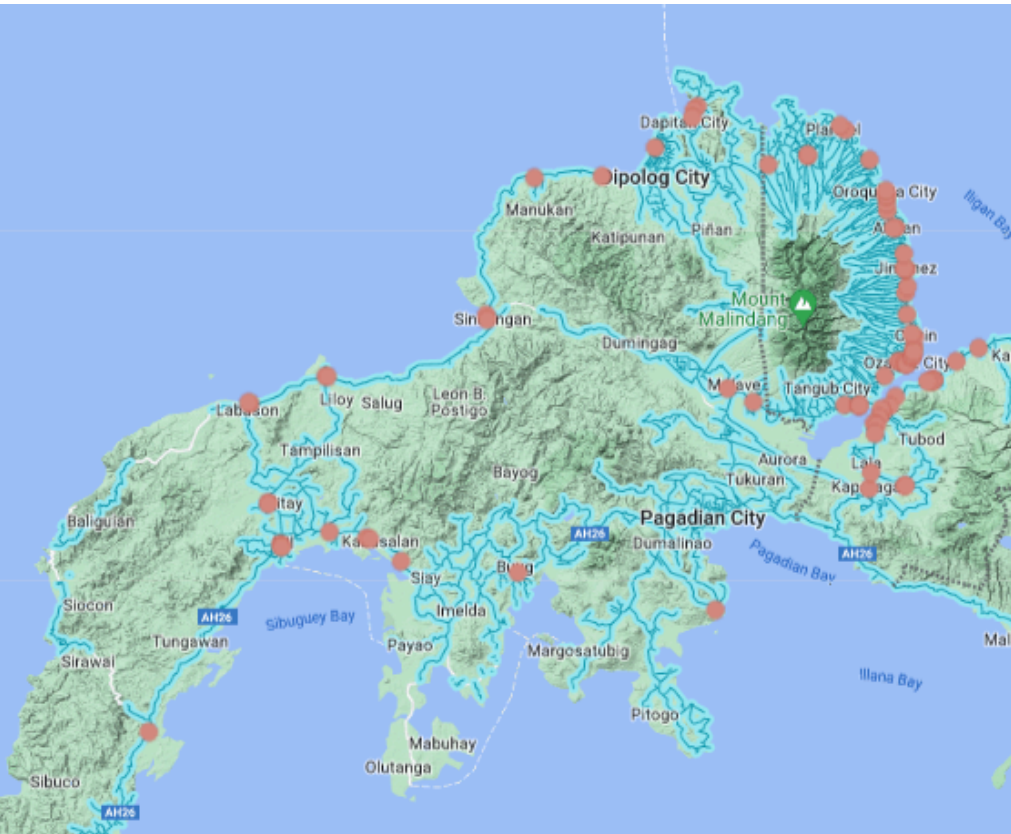


It's identifiable from the back as well from the singular window in the back, as well as the roof tilting, and the random bars on top.

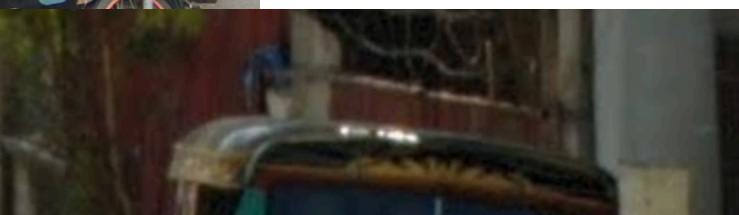
A common variant is this one with a large window hanging over the driver's side. You can tell it's the same type of trike from the same shape of the passenger car- where it has the airplane window (even if it's horizontal) and then the bit beneath it that's completely vertical and flat, along with the roof tilting back.



Dipolog City likes to have the tiniest window imaginable over the driver's side of the car & a big number on the roof.

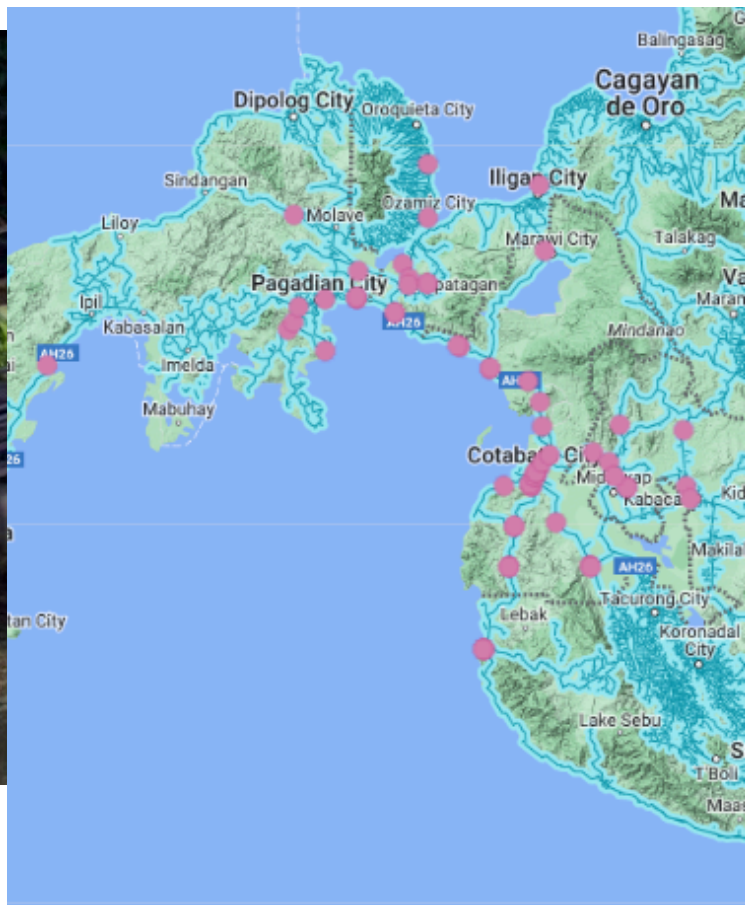
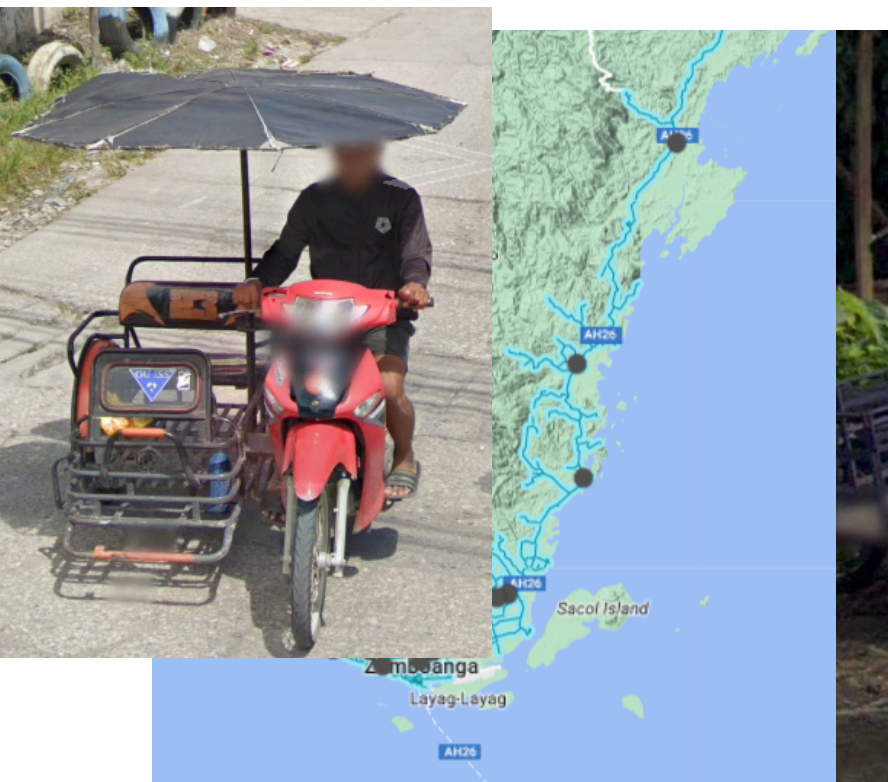


Another city-specific variant to note is this one, with these bubbly numbers on top of the driver's window (the trike itself can be any color scheme), which are exclusive to Ozamiz City and surrounding areas.

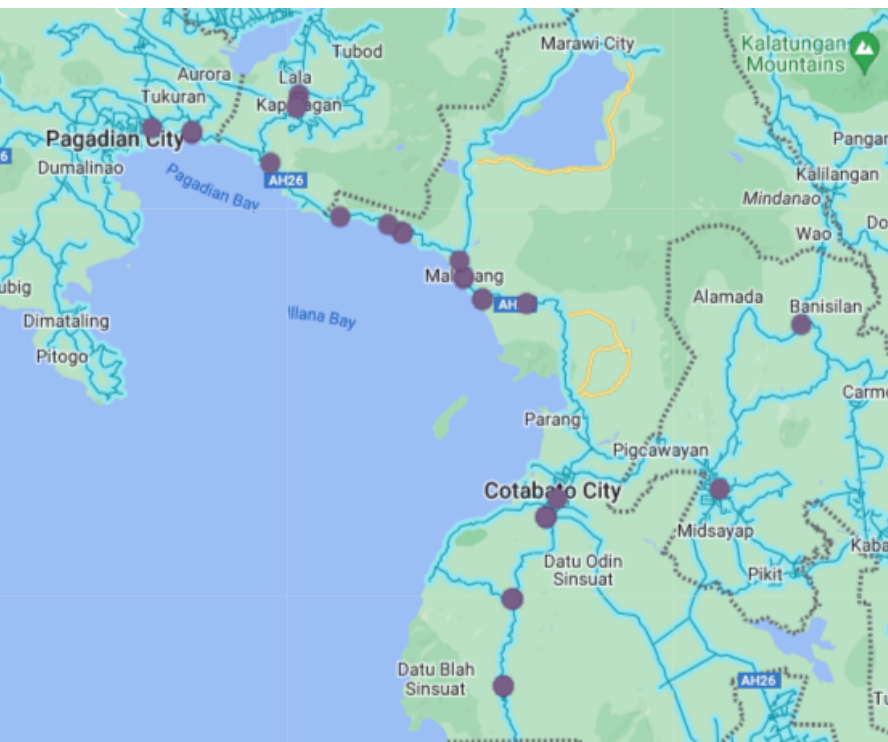


This trike is a Zamboanga city trike- they have a flat roof, a white line separating the passenger and the driver's side. There's a little bumper thing jutting out from under the window, and there's still the vertical bit underneath the passenger's window. Zamboanga city specifically has these super colorful trikes.

This type of trike is still identifiable from the back due to the black cloth roof, the large window with the singular white line, and the back having a side window. These less colorful variants can be found Northeast of the main city.



These trikes with an umbrella are super common in Maguindanao, Misamis Occidental, and Lanao del Sur. Note that these are really the only trikes found in Cotabato city, so if there's only these guys it's a good clue for there. **NOTE: These are also very common in Cebu!**



These trikes with a square roof are also very common within

Maguindanao.

These trikes with the large flat black roof, the small side window and no lines in the main window are found in Sultan Kudarat mainly. These green trikes with blue POBLACION text on them are specific to Isulan. This more colorful variant with a number on top is specific to Tacurong City.



A useful trike is the Koronadal trike (downtown Koronadal they're all yellow)



These guys have a lower passenger car, with a crown above the window and a curvy bit underneath the window. This same shape can be found throughout the area but with a different color.

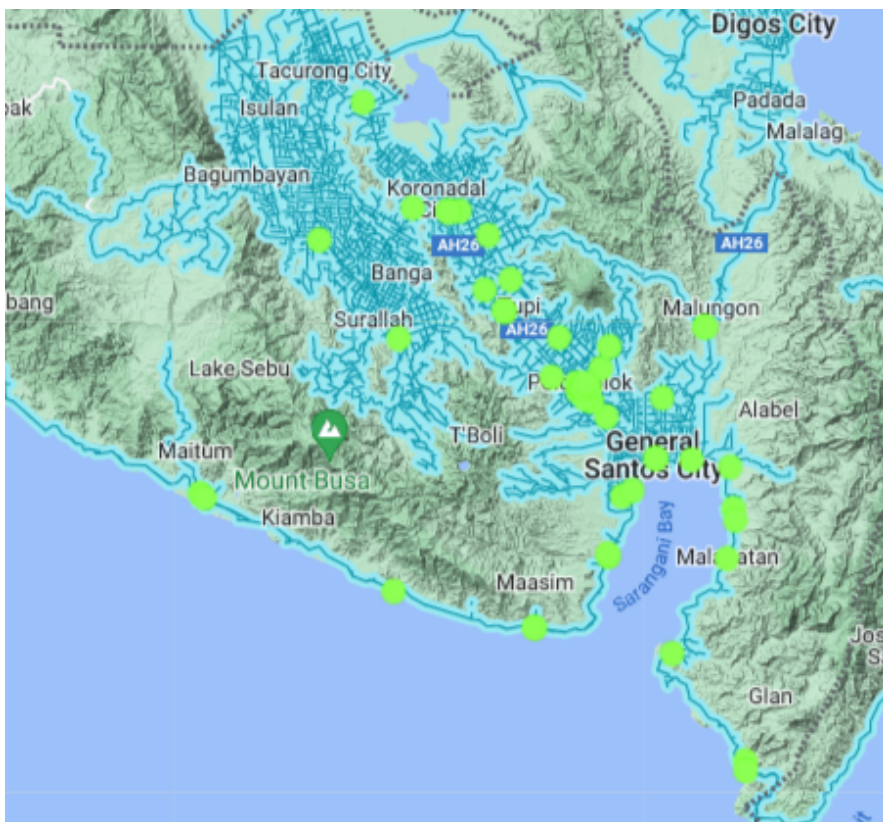


This variant with a bar underneath the passenger car is purple on the distribution.



This is the General Santos trike: the way that the window extends out at an angle is unique enough, but the roof also leans *forward* this time (insane) and there are also 2 or 3 lines on the window, along with two baby windows underneath the main one. This specific shade of blue is found in downtown General Santos.

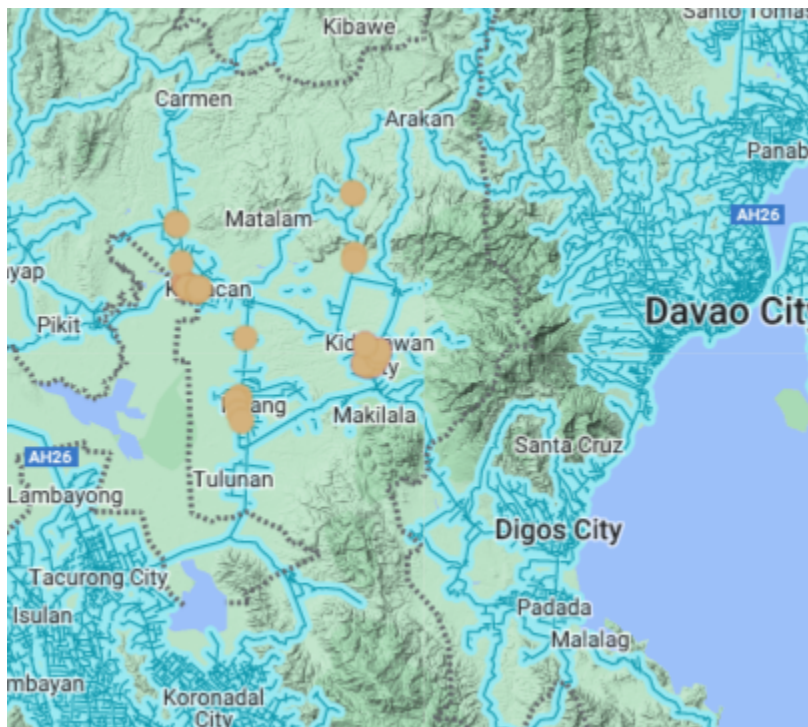
This orange one is exclusive to Polomolok, slightly north of General Santos. There are also a couple other colors found in the area.





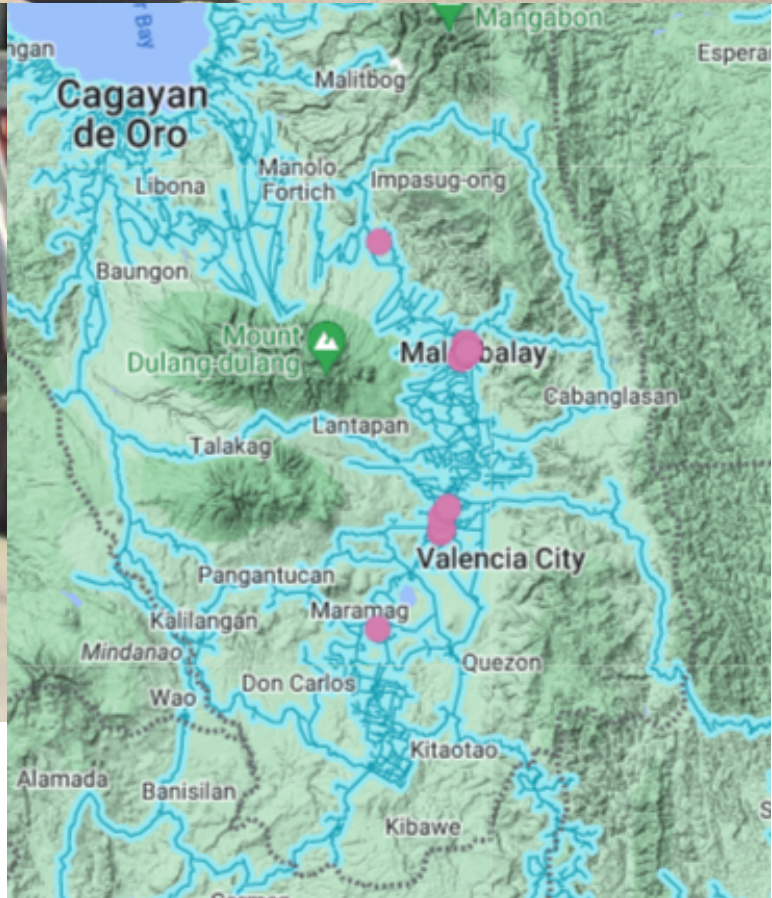
Here's the Cotabato trike: it has a crown on top, one or two windows, and the windows kind of lean forward and underneath the windows the trike is leaning more back. The roof is flat and also leans back.

The city of Kidapawan



uses an exclusively white version of these.

This is the Bukidnon trike: it's very long, and another defining characteristic is its main square window and then two side windows next to it; I described it as a trifold. It's kind of learning backwards, and it also usually has a crown on top, and the back has some side windows.





This metal outline of a trike is a good clue for Cagayan de Oro and Iligan City, both of which are not very consistent with trikes sadly.

A more fun Cagayan de Oro trike is this really colorful guy with a number on top, a big metal bar, and two tiny side windows. It looks like a mini-bus. It's harder to identify from behind tho so gl with that.



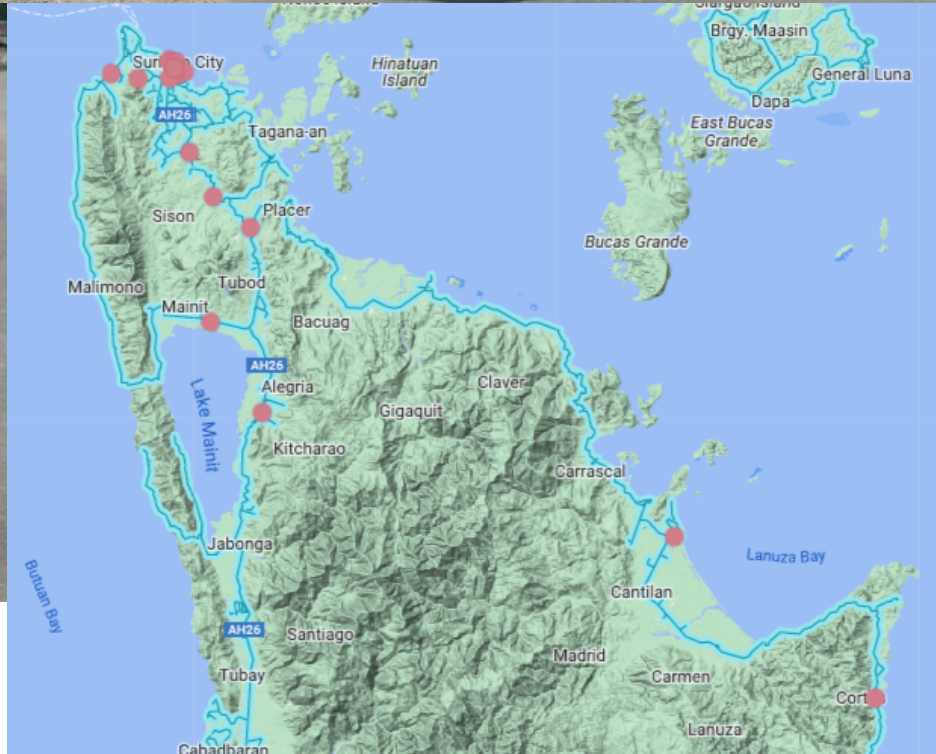
Next is the 'car lookin ass trike' which, as you can see from this screenshot alone, has a lot of variation in shape that's mostly useless. There are a couple helpful variations though, mostly pertaining to color. For example, all of these lime green ones are specific to Tagum. They are very common throughout the Eastern part of Mindanao, specific characteristics are the headlights, the ventilation (?) thing in the middle, and that it looks like a car.



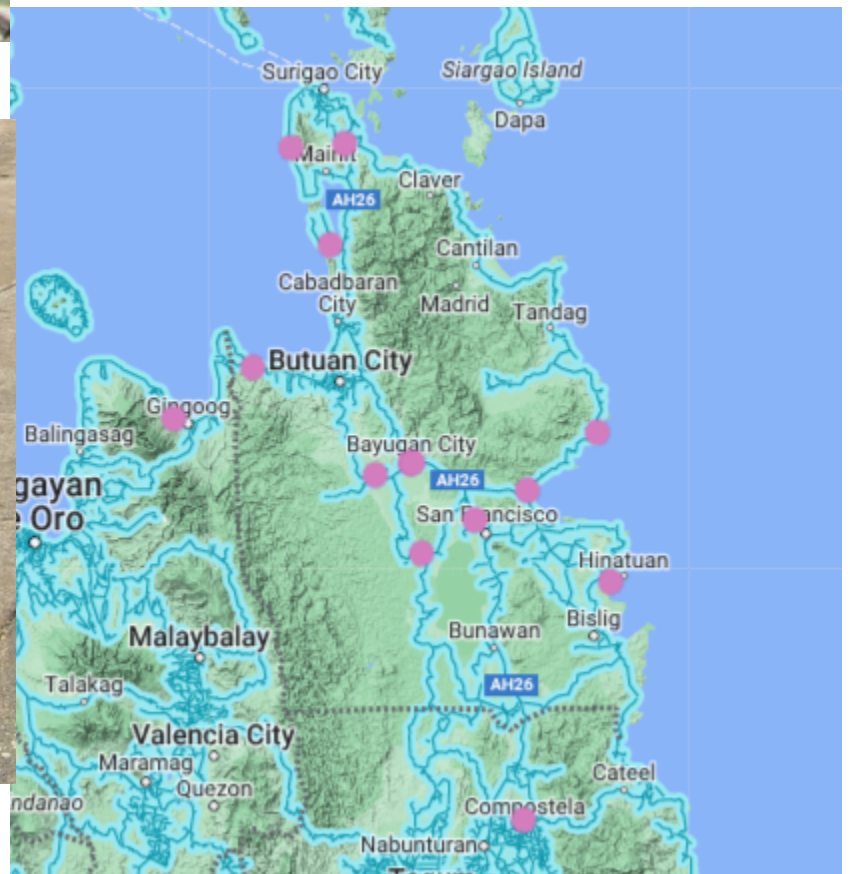
Some more variations in color and shape:



This is the downtown Surigao trike- it has a super long window with 2 or 3 lines in it, a lil bumper under the window and a back bar with a side window. Also idk the roof is leaning back less and the thing under the window is less pronounced idk man the shape is just distinct. They can be any color. This is the approximate distribution but please note that trikes can move (👀)



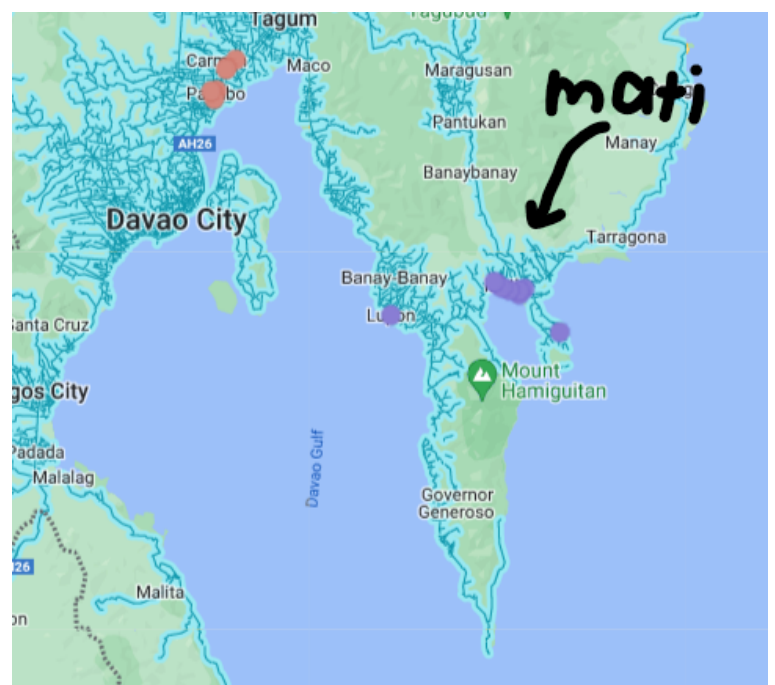
This is the most common variant in East Mindanao: they have two side windows as well as a bottom window, and the main windows are more equally shaped + there's a handlebar again. The bottom windows are also very ovular.





This is the Mati trike- there's a crown, the main window is leaning back, and there's a bumper underneath the window (i think i sense a theme here) BUUUUUT there's a LITTLE MINI WINDOW ON THE BUMPER 🌟🌟🌟 which makes this Mati exclusive.

This is the southern Davao del Norte trike- flat roof, and also flat window, has a crown and a bunch of windows in the back.





This is the Davao City trike. It has two big windows, a bar underneath the windows, a big flat roof, and the windows are leaning back. It can have a crown, and it can have a thing sticking out from the bottom (thing seems to be more common in downtown Davao), but this shape is the most important.

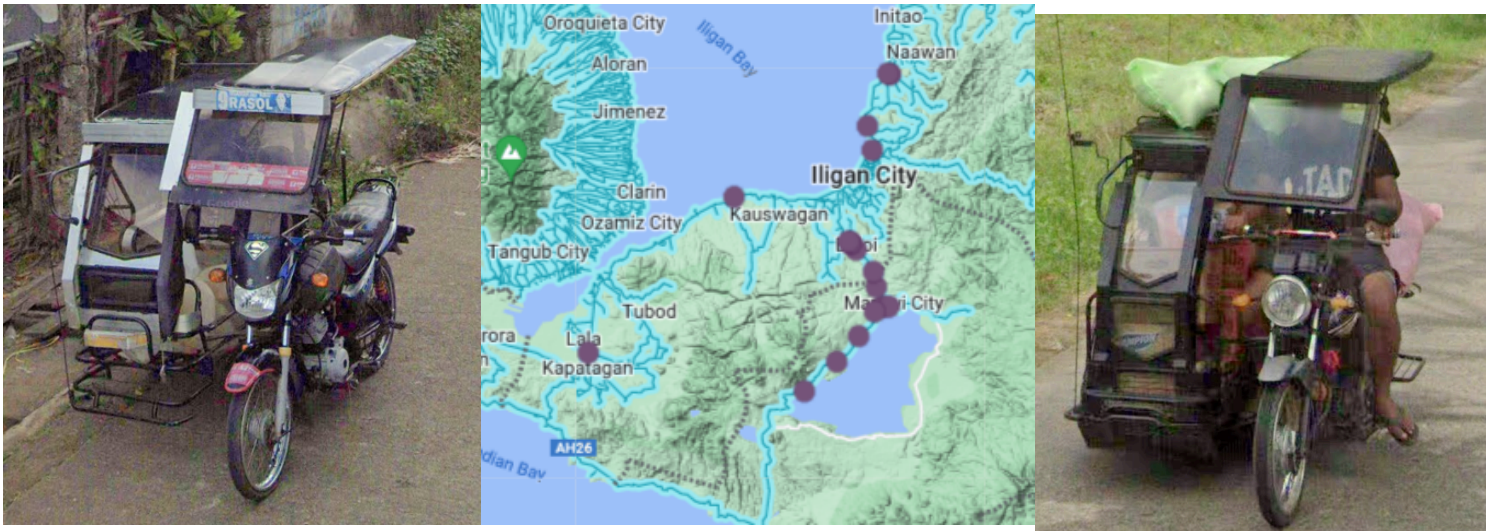


Finally, a really common variant of this is the yellow Digos City one. (has two little windows on the back!)

Other trikes that exist in Mindanao



These trikes I aptly labeled as the ‘bigass passenger window trike’ because they have a bigass passenger window. They also have a bunch of random bars- one handlebar near the passenger window and another one below it, and also there’s a window above the driver. The variant on the right that has a window below the passenger also exists.



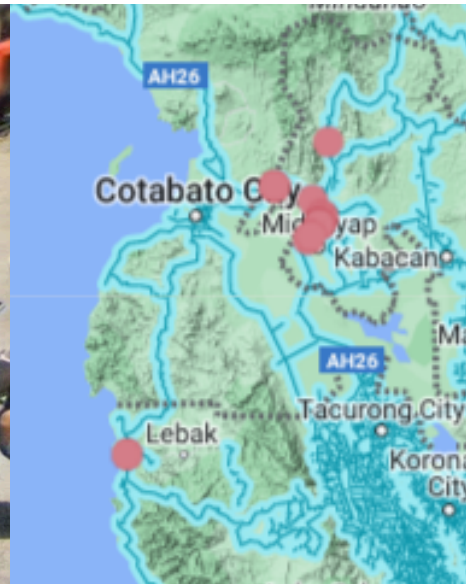
This is the tetris L shape trike (stands what you’re gonna take vs me in geoguessr lol!!) that’s pretty localized to downtown Kalilangan.



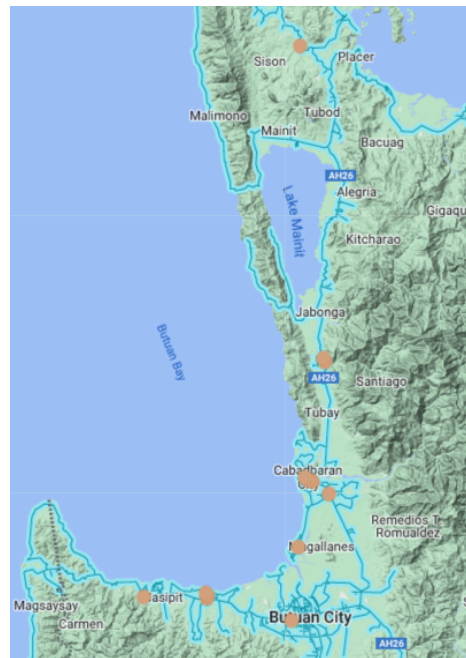
Here’s an alternate General Santos trike. Its larger shape and

two lines on the passenger window are what separates it from similar-looking Luzon trikes.

Cotabato alternate trike:
it has a lot of these cool
bar things on the
passenger window, and
the driver's side has this
really big window along
with two tiny side
windows (tiny trifold.)
The driver can also
sometimes have a big
rectangle plank behind
them.



These guys have a
huuuuge
passenger
window, a
connecting
window, and a
bunch of random
bars

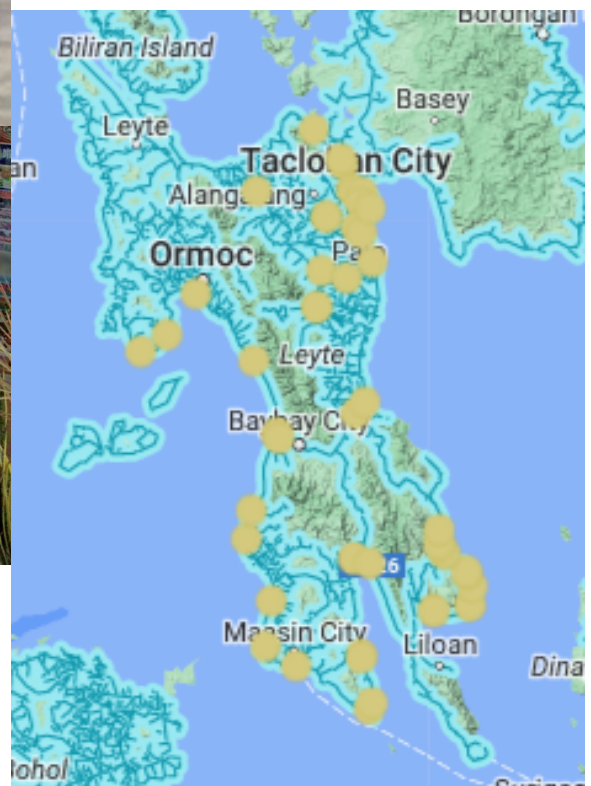


Leyte

In general, Leyte uses trikes a lot more often than in Mindanao; in Mindanao, they tend to concentrate near the main roads in cities, but in Leyte they're super common even on random rural highways and in the suburbs. There's also less trike variety.



First off, this is the standard Leyte trike. Defining characteristics: the two windows of this specific size, usually look to be slightly tilting away from each other (I imagine them to be worried looking), this huge curved crown at the top, and the roof leaning back. I identify them mainly through the shape of the trike underneath the windows.





Tacloban city uses these red ones with numbers on the bottom, they can have 1 or two windows and the roofs can be any color, but the red & the number on the trike are super there.



These green ones with the window combined and the bar underneath the window leaning outwards & a bar underneath that leaning backwards are common in Ormoc City in western Leyte. This shape can be found in different colors throughout the area.



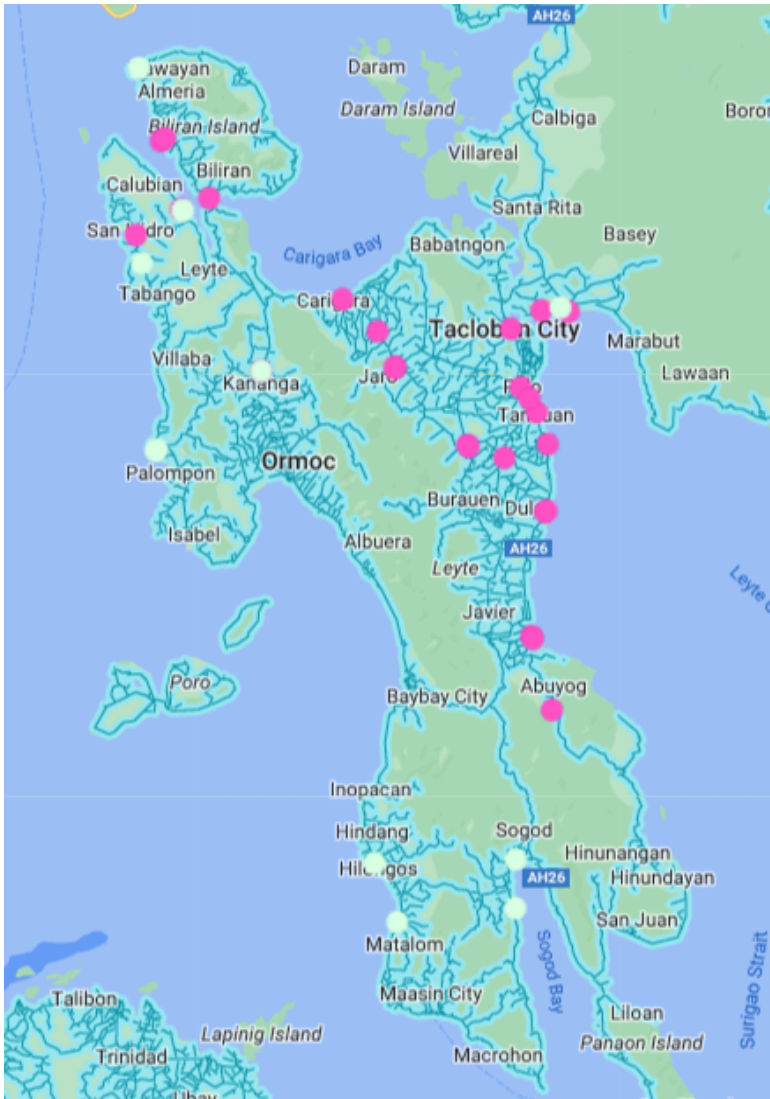
These regular bikes with a small cart attached to them are super common throughout Leyte as well. There's also another variant with intricate metal around it and a roof on top are also super common throughout the island & Samar (beware that these can occasionally be found outside of Eastern Visayas though)





This uneven roof trike with two large 'ipad' sized windows and a very long vertical bit underneath the passenger side are more common in the Western part of the island.

Meanwhile this variant with a connecting window, and two crowns above the windows is more common on the Eastern part.



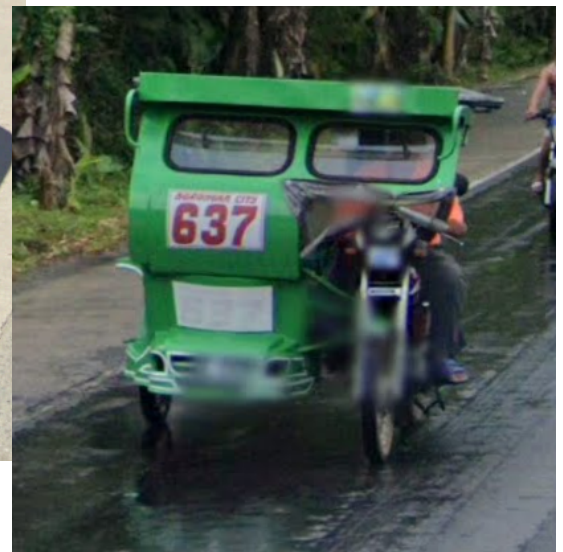
These trikes that have multiple benches and are kind of tuktuk shaped are found sporadically in specific cities in Leyte. Specifically, San Isidro, Isabela, and Hilongos use these.

Samar

Samar uses a lot of very similar trikes to Leyte, there are some slight differences though.



There's this variant with a little car thing at the bottom, and also the roof is more flat and leaning back much less. They also tend to be a little fatter.



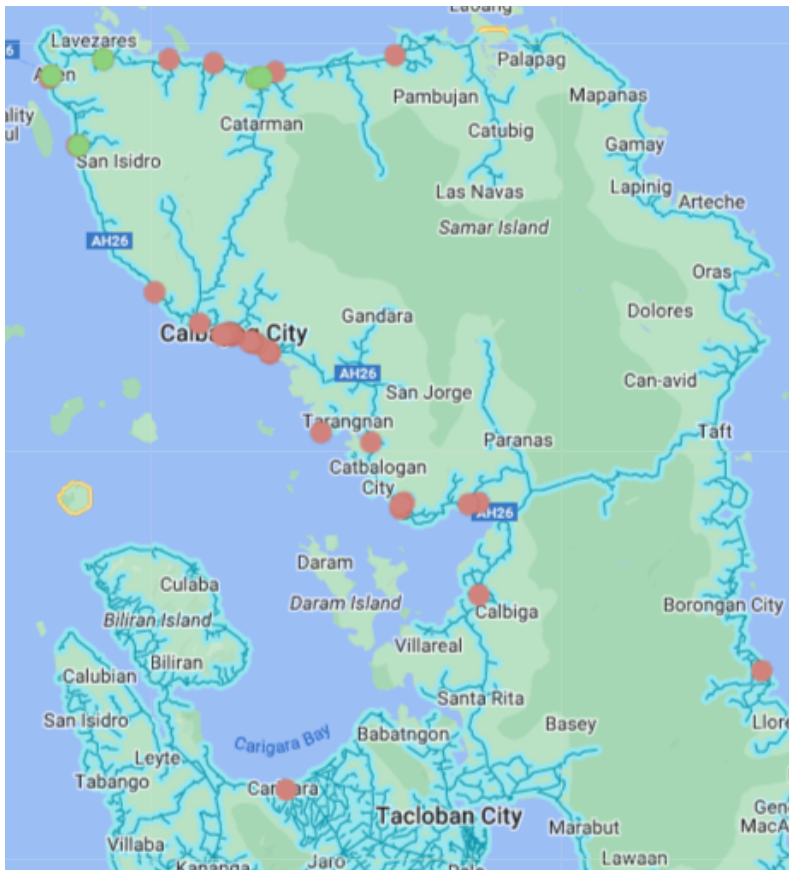
Southern Samar has these uneven windows, and Samar also uses black roofs more often than Leyte.





This type of trike that's really small in size, has two large windows and a connecting window, and the passenger trike is very low are extremely common in Western Samar. This specific shade of red with these small details are common in Catbalogan City. These can also be identified by their silly looking singular window in the back.

Slightly fake but northern Samar uses these more ovally windows and a slightly raised



passenger shape.





These also exist.

Masbate



This is the main Masbate trike shape- the driver's side is completely open, there's a roof covering it, and the passenger's side has a large window, a crown, some bars, and is this hexagon shape. This specific yellow one on the left is the Masbate City one.

This yellow one on the right with silver accents is found in Cataingan.



There's also this quirky open variant that's found in some parts of the island, but it has the same shape as the rest.

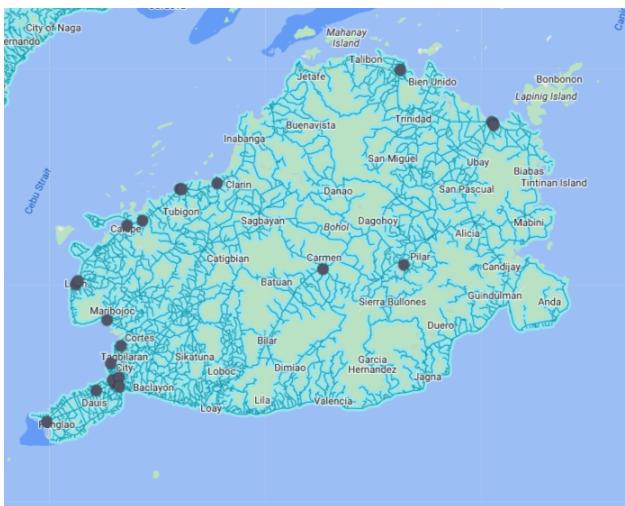
Bohol

Bohol doesn't have much variation in trikes. and uses a decent amount of tuktuks.



Bohol trikes are large and boxy. They have one large window, and a crown, but what separates them from other similar looking trikes is the little window below the larger one. This is found on every Bohol trike, but can be found on other trikes in other places. All Bohol trikes have this shape.

Tagbilaran trikes will have this unique back with 4 windows. This is exclusive to the city. Also, a lot of bohol trikes will have black roofs.

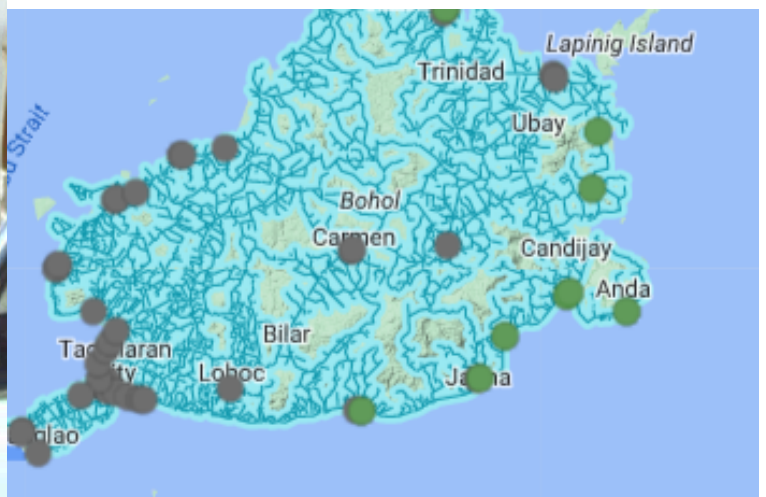




These tuktuk looking trikes are exclusive to Bohol as well. What separates them is their lil horns hanging from the front as mirrors, and the small side windows. They look pretty generic from the back, but have two back windows.



They seem to be found more on the East side of the island but that may be fake.



Cebu

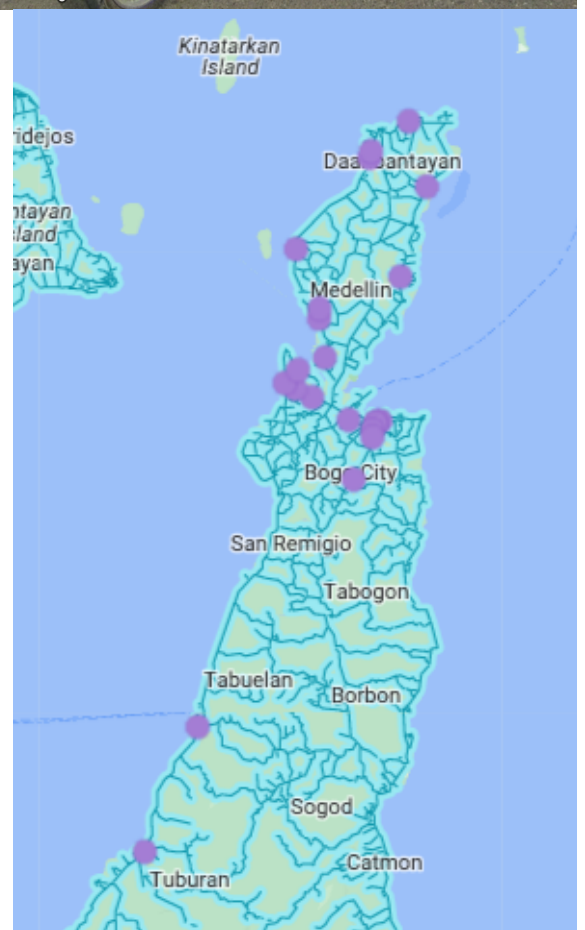
Downtown Cebu City has a stupid amount of cars and it was honestly a pain trying to find trikes. Cebu City is also the most populated city in the Visayas, so it's a diff vibe anyways.



First up we have the NE Cebu r2d2 trike - roof is flat, and the sidecar looks kinda robot-y. It's very rectangular prism shaped and the back is like a pickup truck.



Here is the northern Cebu NEOOR trike (the passenger seat looks like a racecar). NEOOR trikes are kind of a theme in Western Visayas so will touch upon that later. What makes these ones stand out is the way the driver's roof leans forward, the sticky outy thing at the bottom of the passenger, and the solid colors. It's identifiable from behind due to it being very blocky and with a small back window.



Western Cebu is a mess of trikes. Here's a compilation of all the ones I mapped.



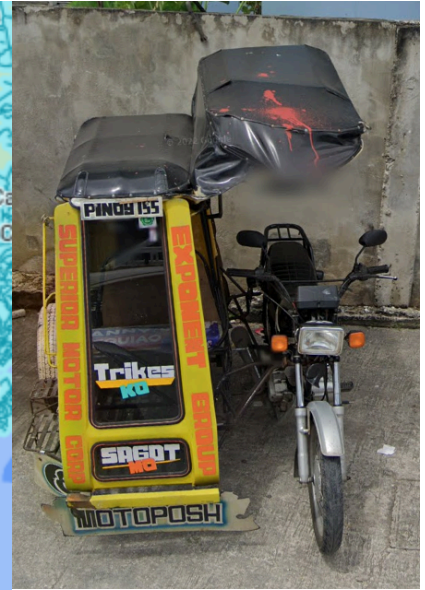
This guy is the most common variant, what's unique about him are the handles on the side of the passenger window & the shape.



There's also this very thin version of the one above that's with an actual bike & a higher roof.



These ones also exist. Yeah I don't really have many remarking words for this except to use vibes and pray. The size of the passenger car is the only somewhat consistent part really.



Most common in Southern Cebu are the iconic longass window trikes- they can be double or single windowed.



And finally, the umbrella trikes can be found everywhere throughout the island as well.

Negros

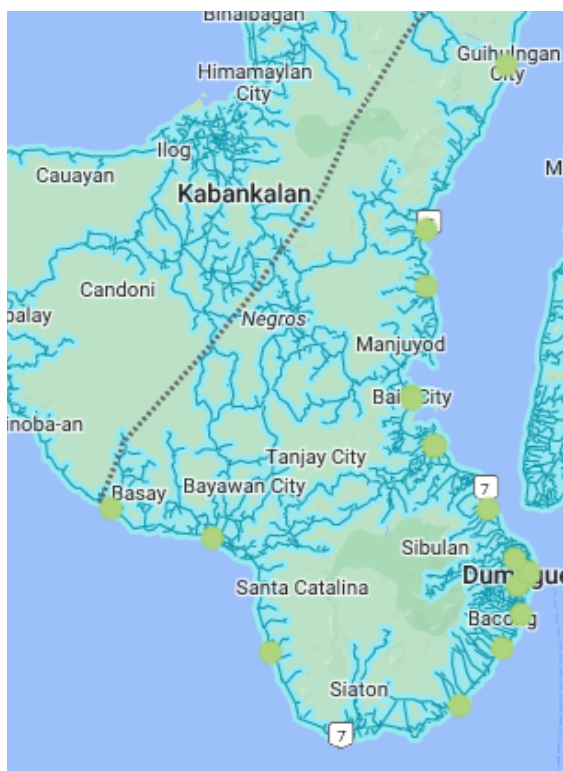
Negros is less weird with trikes, and tends to use them less often.



Here's the Dumaguete trike- lowkey looks like a samar trike except the metal is thinner and the shape is different idk. Also they're all numbered at the bottom.



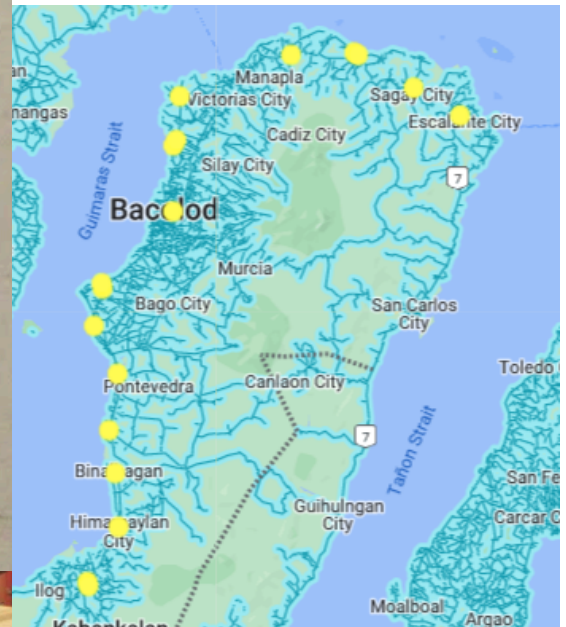
Here's a northern variant of this trike where it's larger, has a thingy sticking out under the passenger's side, and has two side windows.



(i had made a distinction between both of them but then i forgot why i made the distinction and deleted the tag and i dont feel like retagging them so you just gotta believe me :tf:)

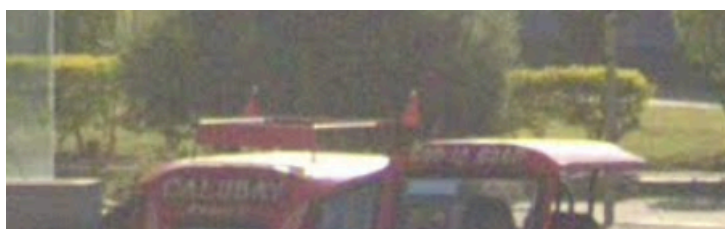


Northern Negros has another NEOOR trike but it has a larger passenger window compared to the Cebu NEOOR and a slightly different shape.



These guys with a square roof are found more South in the island (near Kabankalan.)

Here are some other trikes that exist in Negros



This specific pattern is San Carlos City specific afaik, although the shape can be found sporadically throughout Eastern/Central Negros.

Shoutout to [bro](#) for crazy drip + this cool carriage bike trike



Guimaras



Uses



these guys that are very open at the sides, have random window bits, are kinda racecar/Zamboanga coded, and have a tall passenger window.



Palawan

i mapped this lazily



Narra trike (can be seen sporadically throughout south Palawan)

um

1. is car shaped
2. is mint
3. wide asf
4. balding

More common trike to find in Northern Palawan- they're wide asf and have bigass front windows. I like to think of the trikes as balding a lil because the black bit on top doesn't take up as much space as it would on others.



Panay



Here's the standard Southern Panay trike- NEOOR coded but it leans back much farther and doesn't have any sticky outy bits on the actual passenger's window. This shape is more Iloilo City.

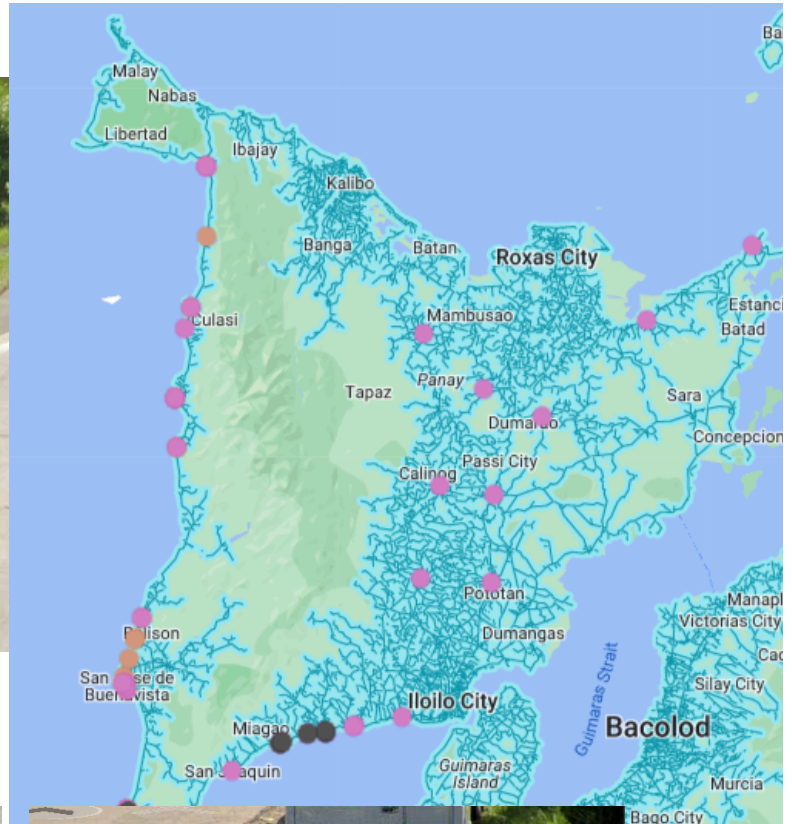


Here's a variant with a window over the driver's side. (found on the Southern & Western coasts)

Western Panay loves this mini window over the passenger.



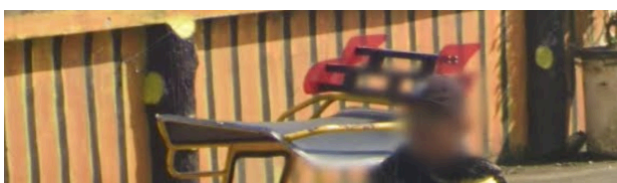
Here are some more shapes that can be found in Panay.



Northeastern Panay has this trike



Central Panay seems to enjoy removing most of the trike.



Passi City uses these crazy yellow guys.
Buenavista on the West coast uses

these exclusively white ones.



Here's the northern Panay trike.
He's silly & boxy, and he's a guy,
and he's a little short don't make
fun of him.



Also, a great way to identify some Panay
trikes is from behind; a lot of them
(specifically near Kalibo) look very bulge-y
and have a completely open back.



This is the Roxas City trike- they're almost always white and have this big futuristic passenger window and a thing sticking out underneath the aforementioned window.

Mindoro



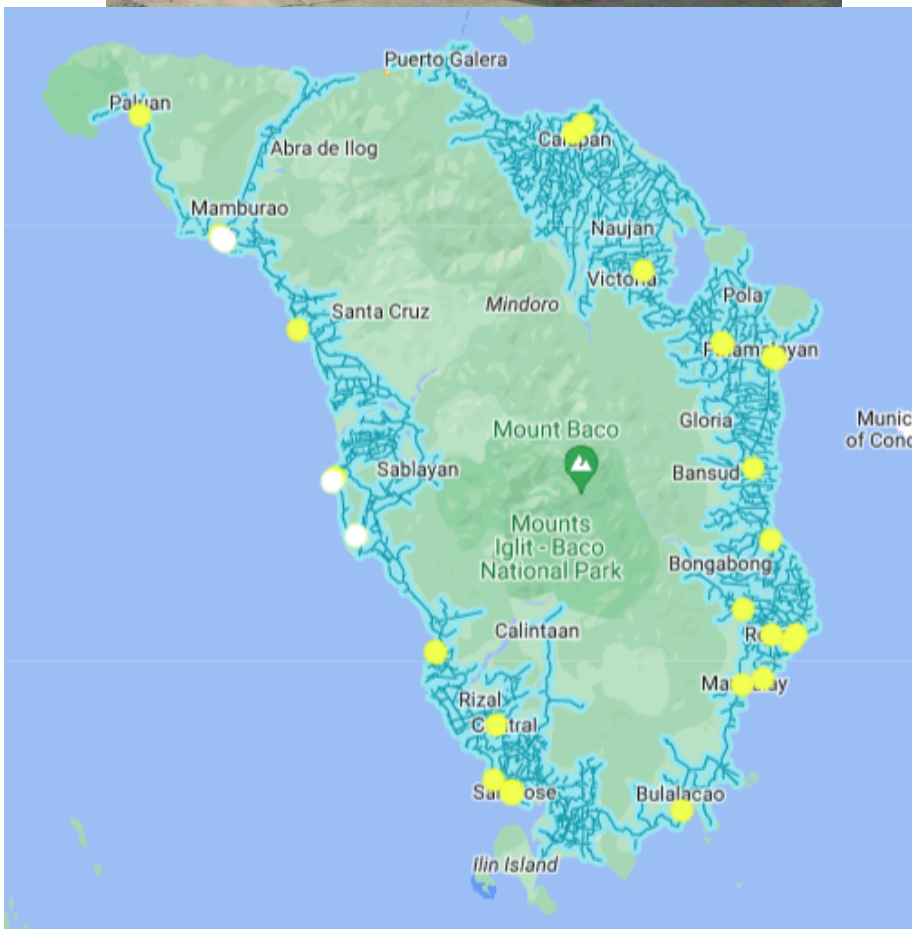
Here's a Mindoro trike- note the curvy side bars around the driver's side, the curved mattress on top of the driver + the cap underneath it, along with the metal trifold windows around the passenger. These are very common throughout Mindoro & a similar shape can be found on Marinduque.



Southwest Mindoro likes to use these metal outlines around the driver's side and to the back of the passenger's.



You got a peek from the previous image but Western Mindoro likes to use these Koronadal adjacent trikes. where the BOTTOM juts out more rather than the top of the passenger's car. The distribution below is of the standard Mindoro trike & the Western variant.



This is another random Mindoro variant- note the curved mattress above the driver, the bar, and the cap above the driver. Also Mindoro uses a lot of aluminum/silver colored trikes.

Luzon

There's much less variation in trikes compared to Mindanao, and notably some parts (Baguio has [banned](#) them actually!) lack trikes entirely.



The standard Bicol trike- lots of windows, big windows for both the driver & the passenger, a big connecting window between them, and lots of windows on the sides and on the back.



This is still identifiable as a Bicol trike due to the open driver's side and the billion windows.



This is the middle Bicol variant with a small mini window underneath the driver's side. It appears to be found most commonly North of Legazpi city.

(this trike can also be there)





Ligao likes these silver trikes and Sorsogon City these yellow ones.



Some trikes have a tarp behind the driver & the passenger's side will have one window (the back window seems to be larger the more north you go but this is pretty fake)

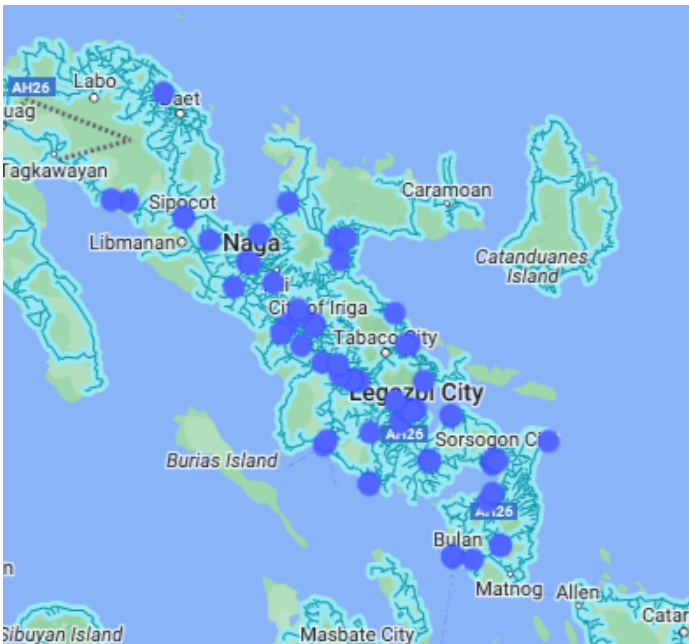


The Northern half of Bicol likes to put crowns on top of their trikes.



Daet likes using these aluminum silver trikes (note the sheer amount of them.) I like to think of these guys as being a little short and the crown they wear being slightly too large for them.

You can also get the same shaped trikes in the area, but the silver ones are Daet exclusive.

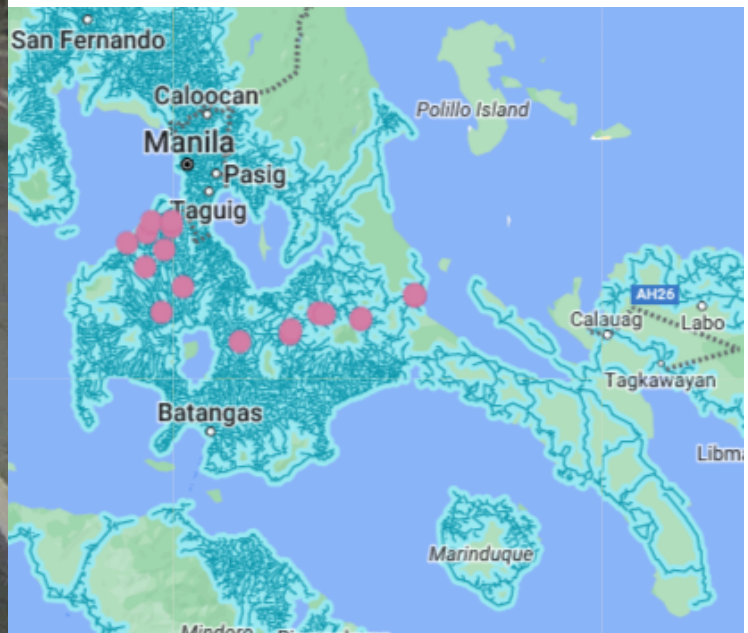




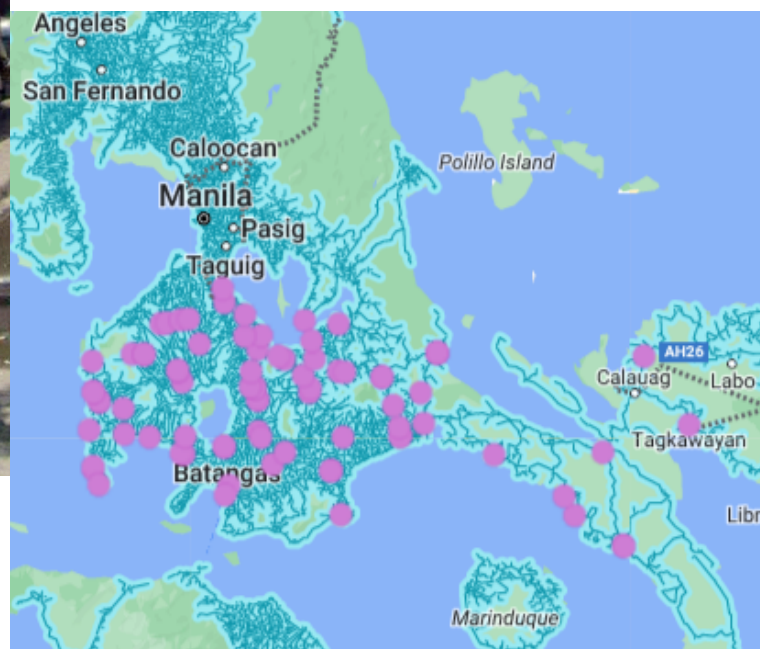
This is the standard Calabarzon trike. Important features are the mattresses above both the passenger and the driver, the curvy bar in front of the driver, and the shape of the passenger car + belt underneath the window. There are a couple minor variations in shape (window over driver, below passenger, size of cars) but most of these aren't very regional within Calabarzon.



Only mildly regional one is this variant with a connecting window.



These types of trikes are identifiable from behind due to the tiny back window and the cart shape as well- here's the Calabarzon trike distribution (it's in Calabarzon.)



Manila trike rapidfire- idk just look at the mattress above the driver and the shape of the passenger car. There's a lot of random variety & some parts seem to be more color coded but I can't be bothered to research Manila regionguessing

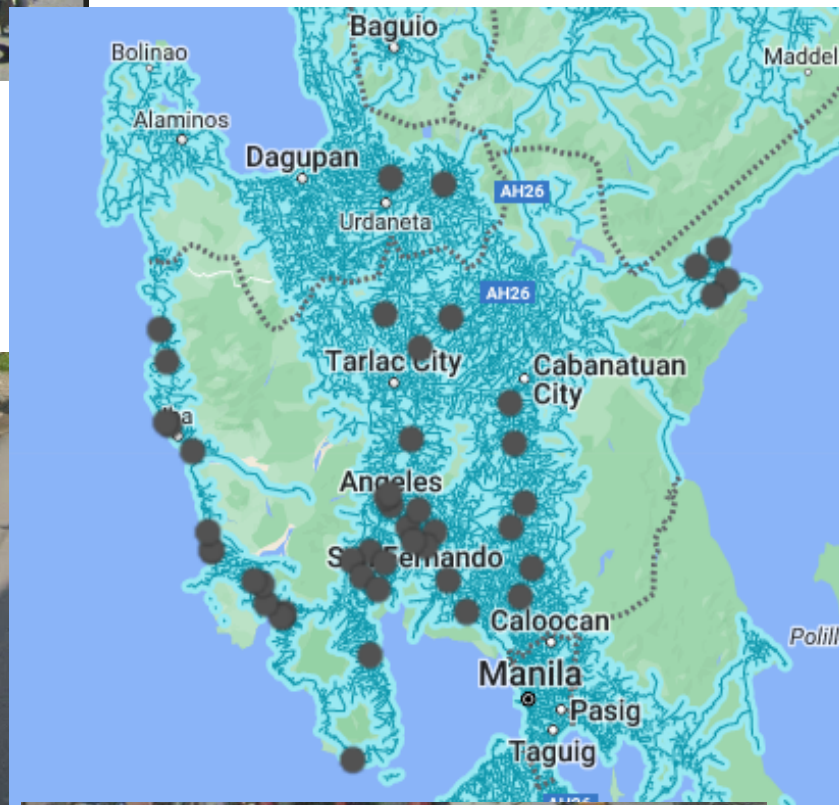


Calabarzon shape extends all throughout Central Luzon, but they lack the



Calabarzon bar on the driver's side. Cabanatuan City also tends to have these license plates on the front of their trikes. Some Central Luzon trikes have crowns on them as well.

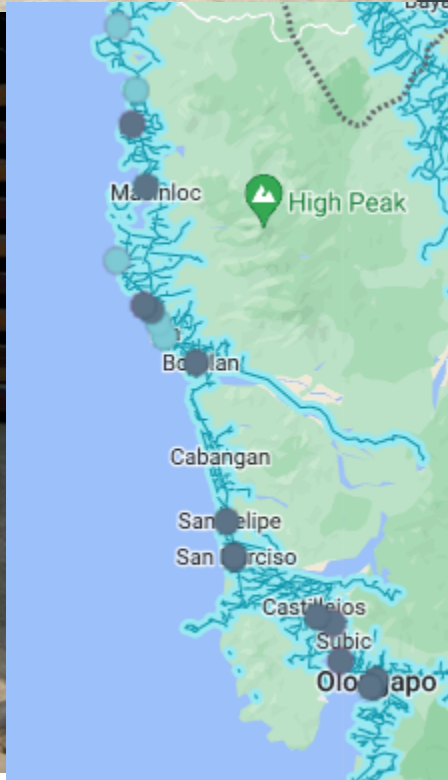
Central Luzon near Baliwag (haha silly name) has some weird koronadal lookin trikes, but these are quite rare.





Actually helpful meta time: Bataan has these double windowed trikes, and they're very concentrated within Bataan. Bataan can also have normal trikes, but they use this metallic outside.

Western luzon along the coast has this variant with a metal trifold around the passenger + a crown.





Pangasinan province & along the Luzon coast up to Vigan city (La union, Ilocos Sur) have these trikes with crowns on them.



La Union also has some weird ones: Bacnotan has these odd orange ones that sometimes look very car-y. Also, The city of Candon uses these all yellow trikes with numbers at the top.



The trifold window extends through Cagayan Valley, along with this characteristic black back covering. This big sidebar along the driver's side that's shaped like half an octagon (kinda) is unique to Nueva Ecija. This trike with the 20 billion stickers is common in Bambang- typically they'll have two stickers on the front as well.



Cagayan valley trikes go crazy cuz wtf is this. There's also the window above the driver, the shape of the sidecar, and 20 billion windows.





This variant with the connecting window between the driver and the passenger is more common more North of the province.

Another Cagayan Valley trike is this guy with the metal trifold around the driver's window, sometimes it comes with two crowns as well. This one is found more North of Tuguegarao.





The final (main) type of trike on Luzon is this one with a tiny ass side car. It's very boxy, has open passenger windows, and will always have this square-ish window. Here's the distribution:

