



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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SAIPAN MARATHON EARLY BIRD DEADLINE ON FEB. 24

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Participants registering for Saipan Marathon 2017 are reminded to register by the early bird deadline of Friday (Feb. 24) to get the best possible price for the March 25 race. In addition, those who joined the marathon in 2016 are eligible for a \$5 discount on registration fees if they register by Friday.

So far, over 180 runners from Japan and The Marianas have registered for the race. Registration is U.S. and NMI participants is \$55.00 for the 50K and marathon and \$45.00 for half-marathon and 10K participants. The fee for high school and junior high school students is \$30 (student I.D. required). An additional late fee of \$10.00 will apply to registrations submitted after Feb. 24. The last day to register for the event will be on March 10, 2017, at 5 p.m. Registration will include the awards banquet, a finishers t-shirt, and a certificate of completion. Entry forms are available at the MVA office located on Beach Rd. in San Jose or on the MVA official website Event Calendar at www.mymarianas.com.

2016 participants who have already registered for the 2017 race may visit the MVA office to receive a refund.

“We’re looking forward to a great marathon on March 25 and encourage everyone to register by the early bird deadline, if possible,” said MVA Community Projects Specialist and event coordinator Ed Diaz. “Mark your calendars, and be prepared to welcome and share the road with hundreds of racers during the last three Saturdays in March!”

The MVA will also host the first Ironman Saipan 70.3 on March 11 and XTERRA Saipan Championship on March 18, 2017.

Saipan Marathon has been certified the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) and the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS), making it a qualifying race for the Boston Marathon. IAAF uses the measurement standards of AIMS, an association of over 400 race organizations in 100 countries and territories around the world.

All competitors are required to pick up their race packets on March 24, 2017, at Paseo De Marianas, without exception. The start will take place at the American Memorial Park at 4:00 a.m. for the 50k and the Marathon, at 5:00 a.m. for the half-marathon, and at 5:45 a.m. for the 10K. The cut-off time for the 50K and marathon will be 8:30 a.m. at the intersection of Beach Rd. and Chalan Pale Arnold Rd.

For more information contact Ed Diaz at the MVA at 664-3210 or via email at ediaz@mymarianas.com.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West Pacific, offering a friendly, fun and exciting vacation in paradise. They are an excellent destination for families, adventure and sports-minded travelers, as well as business people looking for a tropical haven. Adventurous travelers from Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four to five from other parts of Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served daily from Tokyo-Narita in Japan by Delta Air Lines with seasonal flights by Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, Jin Air and Eastar Jet provide direct flights from Seoul-Incheon, and Asiana also provides service from Busan. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong to Saipan are available. Philippine Airlines provides nonstop service from Manila to Saipan and connects with many cities in China and Southeast Asia. United Airlines has daily flight connections from six cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made to Saipan via Tokyo-Narita, Seoul-Incheon or Guam. Visitors from Russia and Taiwan usually arrive via Seoul, Tokyo or Manila. Interisland travel is provided by United Express (Cape Air) and Star Marianas Air. For more information on the Marianas, visit www.mymarianas.com.

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