



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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SAIPAN MARATHON OFFERS DISCOUNT FOR RETURNING RUNNERS

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Participants registering for Saipan Marathon 2017 who joined the marathon in 2016 are now eligible for a \$5 discount on registration fees if they register by the early bird deadline of Feb. 24, 2017.

Residents are required to present valid ID when registering with the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) for the marathon, which will be held on March 25, 2017, in The Marianas. The name on the ID must match the registered name used in 2016.

“As much as possible, we want to see returning runners for the marathon, and this discount will make it easier for them to do so,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “To get the lowest possible price, we encourage all runners to register by the early bird registration deadline next Friday (Feb. 24).”

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

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.

Last week the MVA received race certification for Saipan Marathon from the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) and the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS). 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.

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

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

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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