



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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SPECIAL RATE FOR NMI RESIDENTS FOR IRONMAN 70.3 SAIPAN
Paupau Beach Closed to Traffic on March 11

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Residents getting their first taste of IRONMAN 70.3 Saipan when the international race comes to The Marianas on March 11, 2017, will enjoy a sweet deal on registration, as well.

The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) has negotiated a special rate for residents of the Northern Mariana Islands for the inaugural event: \$220 for individual entries and \$320 for relay teams. The regular rate is \$430 for individual entries and \$600 for relay teams. The deadline for NMI residents to register is extended to Friday (Feb. 17), and registration must be made in person at the MVA office.

“The world-class IRONMAN is coming to The Marianas, and we want as many local athletes as possible to have the opportunity to experience it,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “For this inaugural year, we are making it easier for residents to join by offering a greatly discounted special rate, and we look forward to seeing local faces in the race.”

Residents of The Marianas wishing to avail of the discount must register directly with the MVA using the special NMI Resident IRONMAN 70.3 Saipan form now downloadable at www.mymarianas.com.

The swim will be held in the crystal-clear waters of Pau Pau Beach, which will be closed to vehicle traffic for the day as it serves as both the start and finish line for the event, which is expected to attract hundreds of athletes. The mainly flat bike course follows the western and northern coast of the island from Bird Island south to Pacific Islands Club Saipan. The run course features the quiet nature and historic and scenic sites of Marpi.

An Ironman 70.3 is one of a series of long distance triathlon races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation. Half the length of an Ironman, Ironman 70.3 features a 1.2-mile (1.9 km) swim, a 56-mile (90 km) bike ride, and a 13.1-mile (21.1 km) run. Ironman 70.3 Saipan will offer 30 age qualifying slots for the 2017 Ironman 70.3 World Championship in Chattanooga, TN. In organizing the event, MVA is once again partnering with Kiyozaku Fitness Club (KFC) and KFC President Onishi Kiyozaku.

In addition to Ironman 70.3 Saipan, the MVA will still hold the XTERRA Saipan Championship on March 18 and Saipan Marathon 2017 on March 25.



Ironman 70.3 Saipan official logo

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, and 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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