



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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OLYMPIANS TO JOIN ROTA BLUE TRIATHLON ON NOV. 17, 2012

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) –Two Olympians have confirmed to join the 19th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon on Nov. 17, 2012, featuring the tropical environment and warm island hospitality of the southernmost of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Hirokatsu Tayama represented Japan in the Summer 2012 Olympics in London, finishing 20th in the Men's Triathlon Final. Ryosuke Yamamoto represented Japan in the Summer 2012 Olympics in Beijing, ranking 30th in the final standings. The Olympians join other regional and international triathletes who have registered for the annual Ironman event, jointly sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), Kiyokazu Fitness Club of Japan and the Rota Mayor's Office.

The triathlon features two distances: an A-type half-marathon distance, which includes a 1.5 km swim, followed by a 40 km rigorous biking course and a 10 km run (no time limit) and the B-type Olympic distance, which includes a 2.0 km swim, followed by a 90 km biking course and topped off with a 21 km run (8-hour time limit). For team competitors, there will also be triathlon of the A-type distance, again with no time limit.

“Rota is unique in the triathlon circuit, largely due to its pristine course in and out of the

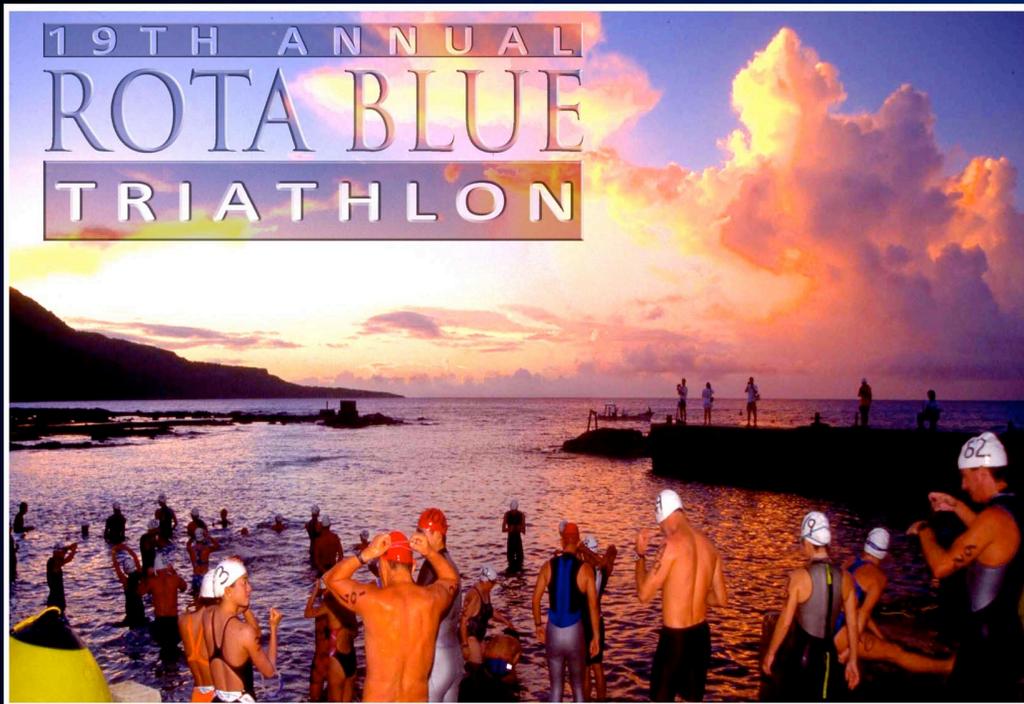
water,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “And of course, the people of Rota are renowned for their hospitality, so everyone is looking forward to a great event.”

Pre- registration will be held on Nov. 16, 2012, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Bay Breeze Restaurant & Bar. The swim course inspection will be held the same day from 1-2 p.m. at the East Harbor. Final registration will take place that evening from 4:30-8 p.m. at Rota Resort & Country Club’s Sunset BBQ Tiki Tiki. The pre-race briefing for all participants will be held that evening from 6-7:30 p.m.

Starting time for both distances is 6:30 a.m. at Rota's East Harbor. Wetsuits are permitted, while bike helmets are required. Registration fees are \$80 for A-type course solo competitors and \$70 for each member in a team. The fee for the B-type course is \$100. The entry fee includes an event t-shirt, high-quality swim cap, and an invitation to the awards banquet at East Harbor.

The annual Rota Blue Triathlon is one of four major triathlon events held in the Northern Mariana Islands, including the XTERRA Saipan Championship, Tagaman Triathlon and the Tinian Turquoise Blue events.

For more information about the annual Triathlon, visit the Events Calendar at www.mymarianas.com, or contact Frank Tudela at 1.670. 664.3200/01 or ftudela@mymarianas.com or Sandra Atalig at the MVA Rota Office at 1.670.532.0327.



A-TYPE HALF MARATHON: 1.5 KM SWIM, 40 KM BIKE, 10 KM RUN B-TYPE OLYMPIC DISTANCE: 2.0 KM SWIM, 90 KM BIKE, 21 KM RUN
 A-TYPE TEAM COMPETITION

ROTA
 NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
 NOVEMBER 17, 2012



The 19th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon will be held on Nov. 17, 2012, at East Harbor, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands.

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 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 from Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo and Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. China is served from Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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