



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release-August 1, 2012

For further information, contact:
Perry John P. Tenorio, Managing Director
Marianas Visitors Authority
Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237
mva@my Marianas.com
www.mymarianas.com

19th ROTA BLUE TRIATHLON SET FOR NOV. 17, 2012

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) –The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) and Rota municipality will host the 19th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon on Nov. 17, 2012.

Regional and international triathletes are expected to return for the annual Ironman event, featuring the pristine, tropical environment and warm island hospitality of the island of Rota.

Last year's event was topped by Taro Shirato of Japan, a repeat competitor in the triathlon. The event is also sponsored by 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 Blue is simply beautiful, a world-class event through tropical waters and on quiet roadways through villages and jungles,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “Last year we had 130 competitors, and we'd like to beat that number this November.”

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, please contact Frank Tudela at 1.670.664.3200/01 or ftudela@mymarianas.com, or contact Sandra Atalig at the MVA Rota Office at 1.670.532.0327.



Competitors start the 18th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon in the early morning light of Nov. 12, 2012, at East Harbor, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands. The 19th Annual Rota Blue Triathlon will be held on Nov. 17, 2012.

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.

###