



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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

VISA-FREE NORTHERN MARIANAS WOOS RUSSIANS AT MITT

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Touting its visa waiver program for Russians, the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam participated in the Moscow International Travel and Tourism Exhibition held on March 21-24, 2012, in Moscow.

The beach resort attractions of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota were touted by the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to the over 80,000 participants of the event, Russia's largest travel and tourism fair.

Over 800 potential visitors and travel trade professionals networked with the MVA exhibition booth personnel, and an additional 85 attended the Marianas Seminar for an even more detailed look at the destination.

“Drawn by the natural beauty of our islands, the number of Russian visitors visiting Saipan, Tinian, and Rota continues to grow,” said MVA Managing Director Perry Tenorio. “Participating in MITT for the first time this year has allowed us to reaffirm existing partnerships we have developed with media and travel agents and to build new relationships. We look forward to welcoming more visitors from all over Russia this year.”

The Northern Marianas welcomes Russians without visa restrictions, making the island group an attractive tropical destination in the western Pacific. Last fiscal year, over 5,000 Russians discovered- or rediscovered- the Northern Marianas, an increase in arrivals of 18 percent compared to the previous year.



Perry Tenorio, Managing Director of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), third from right, led the Northern Marianas delegation in welcoming travel reps, media, and potential visitors at the Moscow International Travel and Tourism Exhibition (MITT) on March 21-24, 2012. Also pictured are MVA Director James Mendiola, Marketing Specialist Tatiana Babauta, and other MITT delegates.

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, Nagoya, and Osaka in Japan by Delta and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana Airlines provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. Fly Guam/Fly Marianas provides direct flights from Hong Kong. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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