



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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SWIM AROUND MANAGAHA ON JUNE 15

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) is inviting all swimmers and snorkelers to discover the underwater wonders of Managaha with a course around the island on June 15, 2013.

For 10 consecutive years Managaha has been named “Best Beach and Snorkeling” at Japan’s annual Marine Diving Fair, and local swimmers are invited to join visiting competitors in exploring the underwater beauty of the island during 5th Annual Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament in mid-June.

“Once again we are hosting the annual flipper race, and on June 15 we are inviting all snorkelers to see for themselves why Managaha has won so many awards,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “The marine life is absolutely stunning, and the flipper tournament allows snorkelers to safely swim a course around the island under the watchful eye of volunteers who will help ensure their safety. Last year we had competitors aging from ages 8 to 68, so the flipper tournament is a nice event for all ages.”

Managaha is the most popular site for visitors to Saipan. The race featured a 1.5 km swim around the island. Thirty participants joined the annual signature event of the MVA last year.

This unique race requires swimmers to use wetsuits and fins. Snorkels and life jackets

are also allowed. Competition age divisions are: 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, and 60-and-up. Those age 18 and under will be entered into the Junior Division.

Ferries will depart Smiling Cove Marina to Managaha promptly at 4:45 a.m. the morning of the race. The race will begin at 6:30 a.m., followed by an island-style breakfast and awards ceremony on the white sand beaches of Managaha.

The cost is \$25 for Northern Mariana Is. Residents with valid I.D. The deadline to register with the MVA is June 14, 2013, from 4:30-5:30 p.m. during the orientation at the Micro Beach pavilion on Saipan. Participants must be in good health with snorkeling or diving experience.

The event is also sponsored by the Community Sports Center Foundation of Japan. For more information or to register, contact the MVA at 1.670.664.3210, or visit the Events Calendar at www.mymarianas.com.



The 5th Annual Saipan International Open Water Flipper Race Tournament will be held at Managaha in the Northern Mariana Islands on June 15, 2013.

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, Nagoya, and

Osaka in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct flights from Seoul and Busan. For more information visit www.mymarianas.com.

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