



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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501 REGISTER FOR SAIPAN MARATHON

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Five hundred and one runners have registered for Saturday's (April 25) 10th Saipan Marathon, according to the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA).

The MVA also reminds all runners they are required to pick up their race packets on Friday (April 24) from 4-6 p.m. at American Memorial Park, without exception.

“So far, it's all systems ‘go’ for Saturday's race,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “Organizing an event of this magnitude takes a lot of work, and we thank the numerous sponsors, supporters, volunteers, and community members who have been working diligently with us to make this year's race a success.”

The 10th Saipan Marathon will feature marathon, half-marathon, 10K, and 50K courses. Runners from Japan, Korea, China, Hong Kong, Guam, the USA, and the NMI have registered. This year's marathon will include the participation of at least eight Japanese comedians, including long-time supporter Kanpei Hazama. He will be joined this year by Shoji Murakami, Tamura Kenji, FUJIWARA, Total Tenbos, Kentaro Uno, Izumono Okuni and Moriyasu Ban Ban Bigaro.

The start will take place at the American Memorial Park at 4:00 a.m. for the 50k and the Marathon, at 5:00 a.m. for the half-marathon, and at 5:45 a.m. for the 10K. The cut-off time for

the 50K and marathon will be 8:30 a.m. at the halfway point in front of Bridge Capital in Garapan.

“Drivers in Saipan are great when it comes to supporting the Saipan Marathon and our other sporting events,” said Duenas. “We thank them for driving slowly and carefully on the course and following the directions of public safety officers, especially at intersections. If possible, we recommend that drivers take an alternative route other than Beach Rd. in the morning, to minimize congestion. Please ensure your dogs are restrained, and of course, everyone is encouraged to cheer for our runners and make them feel welcomed.”

Marathon sponsors are: ANGFA Co., Ltd., Mobit Co., Ltd., Artnature Inc., Delta Air Lines. Supporters include: Yoshimoto Creative Agency Co. Ltd., Dentsu Inc., Runtomo.net, Hotel Association of Northern Mariana Islands, Japan Saipan Travel Association, Dept. of Public Safety, Dept. of Lands and Natural Resources Div. of Parks and Recreation, Dept. of Public Works, Hawaiian Rock, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Northern Mariana Athletics, Mariana Resort & Spa, Aqua Resort Club, IT&E, Hyatt Regency Saipan, PDI, GrandVrio Resort, Tasi Tours, PMT, Fiesta Resort and Spa, Kanoa Resort, Saipan World Resort, Saipan Southern High School MYWAVE Club, Commonwealth Health Center Nursing Department, KinPachi Restaurant, Bridge Capital LLC, KKMP, T Galleria, American Memorial Park, Saipan Mayor’s Office, CNMI Fire Department, and members of the MVA.

For more information contact Ed Diaz at the MVA at 664-3210 or through email at ediaz@mymarianas.com.

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 and Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana provides direct daily flights from Seoul and Busan and Jeju Air provides daily service from Seoul. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, to Saipan is available. United Airlines has daily flight connections from nine cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made by Delta Air Lines to Saipan via Tokyo Narita, and United Airlines via Guam. Russian and Taiwanese visitors usually arrive via Seoul. For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com.

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