



**MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY**  
**News Release**

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

**PERRY JOHN P. TENORIO**  
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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**BEIJING TV TOUTS 2015 SAIPAN MARATHON**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – Beijing TV (BTV) sports channel filmed in Saipan this month to prepare promotional programming for the island and the 10<sup>th</sup> Saipan Marathon on April 25, 2015.

A 20-minute program on the Northern Mariana Islands and the marathon will air to the station's 20-million viewers. BTV will also air a 30-sec. ad ten times daily throughout the month of March.

“We’re seeing incremental increases in the number of Chinese visitors joining the Saipan Marathon, and we hope the BTV coverage will further increase that number this year,” said Marianas Visitors Authority Managing Director Bruce Bateman. “Our emphasis is that the marathon offers shorter courses like the 10K and half-marathon for the less-fit athlete and that the attractions of the Northern Marianas are available to be enjoyed during marathon weekend and anytime throughout the year.”

As part of its destination video, BTV will feature: an island tour of Banzai Cliff, Suicide Cliff, and Bird Island Lookout, snorkeling at Grotto with Marianas Trekking, snorkeling, lunch and a tour of Managaha, standup paddleboarding with SUP SPN, an ATV tour of Mt. Tapochau with Let’s Go Tour, a Seawalker tour, a discovery flight aerial tour, 360 Night Market, and the marathon route along Beach Rd. Saipan athlete Mamiko Berger was also interviewed. .

The 10<sup>th</sup> Saipan Marathon will feature marathon, half-marathon, 10K, and 50K courses.

Early registration for the 50K and marathon is \$55.00 for US and NMI participants, and \$45.00 for half-marathon and 10K participants. Early registration must be made by March 27, 2015. An additional late fee of \$10.00 will apply to registrations submitted after March 27. The last day to register for the event will be on April 10, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. Registration will include the awards banquet, a finishers t-shirt, and a certificate of completion.

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.

All competitors are required to pick up their race packets on April 24, 2015, at American Memorial Park, without exception.

Entry forms are available at the MVA office located in on Beach Rd. in San Jose or on the MVA official website Event Calendar at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com). For more information contact Ed Diaz at the MVA at 664-3210 or through email at [ediaz@mymarianas.com](mailto:ediaz@mymarianas.com).



From left, Beijing TV Station (BTV) Journalist Editor He Fang Zi Sun, Century Tours China Marketing Manager Kimi Ling, Marianas Visitors Authority Marketing Specialist Laura Hsiao, and BTV Journalist Editor Lei Zheng visited the 360 Night Market on March 3, 2015, as part of the station's coverage of Saipan and the upcoming 10th Saipan Marathon on April 25, 2015.

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](http://www.mymarianas.com).

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