



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

CHRISTOPHER A. CONCEPCION
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release-May 26, 2016

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

MAY 28 LAST NIGHT FOR TASTE OF THE MARIANAS
Final night extended to 11 p.m.

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – This Saturday's (May 28) final night of the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden at American Memorial Park will have extended hours up to 11 p.m. and will include two performances by the United States Air Force Band of the Pacific Hawaii.

This Saturday's final night of the annual celebration in honor of May Tourism Month will include another full lineup of entertainment: United States Air Force Band of the Pacific Hawaii (6 p.m.), Rose Dance School (7 p.m.), K-Pop (7:45 p.m.), Simiyan Mañaina-ta (8 p.m.), Saipan Music and Dance (9 p.m.), Fire Dance (9:45 p.m.), and a second performance by the United States Air Force Band of the Pacific Hawaii (10 p.m.).

Last Saturday (May 21) Mariel Ann Panaligan of Best Sunshine International served up the best drink, "Island Desire" Champion, Best in Showmanship, Best in Taste win the amateur division of the NMI Bartender's Cocktail Competition, while Jeffric Mendoza of Hard Rock Café Saipan won the professional division with his "Isla Fresco" Champion, Best in Showmanship, Best in Taste.

"We're looking forward to a great crowd on our final night of Taste," said Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. "Taste is the biggest and best annual party on island. Not only are the hotels and other vendors serving up delicious

choices at very affordable prices, but people come to enjoy the dances and spend time with friends and family.”

This year’s Chefs Competition has been cancelled due to low participation.

Taste of the Marianas offers international cuisine at affordable prices by 17 hotels, restaurants, and drink vendors; non-stop live entertainment on the main stage; nightly contests on the secondary stage; and arts and crafts sales. Participating vendors are: Coral Ocean Point Resort, D’Elegance, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Furusato Restaurant, Herman’s Modern Bakery, Hula Girl, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Kanoa Resort, Mariana Resort & Spa, Matty’s BBQ, Sierra’s Pearl Shakes, Tony Roma’s/Capricciosa, Tropical Chill, Pacific Trading Co., Marianas Pacific Distributors Inc., and Northern Marianas Bartenders Association.



Sierra’s Pearl Shakes and other food and beverage vendors, including members of the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, served up dinner and dessert on May 21, 2016, at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The event is held every Saturday during May Tourism Month beginning at 6 p.m. at American Memorial Park.



Chicken burritos, lasagna, and other choices delight as the Mariana Resort & Spa and other food and beverage vendors served up dinner and dessert on May 21, 2016, at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The event is held every Saturday during May Tourism Month beginning at 6 p.m. at American Memorial Park.



Television hosts of the Korean Broadcasting System sample the empanada of Hula Girl's at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden on May 21, 2016, in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The event is held every Saturday during May Tourism Month beginning at 6 p.m. at American Memorial Park.



Eleo Bitara of Tony Roma's Restaurant prepares his entry the "First Exposure" for the judges at the Northern Marianas Bartenders Association Cocktail Competition at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden on May 21, 2016.



Mariel Ann Panaligan of Best Sunshine International prepares her winning amateur division entry "Island Desire" for the judges at the Northern Marianas Bartenders Association Cocktail Competition at the Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival and Beer Garden on May 21, 2016.



Polynesian dance troupe Alana la performs at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden on May 21, 2016, in Saipan.



Pacific Flowers performs at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden on May 21, 2016, in Saipan.



Uncle Ben's Music and Dance performs at the 18th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden on May 21, 2016, in Saipan.

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.

###