



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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NMI VISITOR ARRIVALS DOWN 12% IN MARCH 2016

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Visitors arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) dropped 12% in March 2016 compared to March 2015. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota registered 37,317 visitors in March 2016, compared to 42,539 visitors received in March 2015. Overall this fiscal year, visitor arrivals are essentially unchanged compared to the same period last fiscal year.

Arrivals from China dropped 5 percent compared to March 2015 to 15,462 visitors, as China's outbound tourism market enters the low season. The MVA's team in China is working with travel partners to carry out a wide range of marketing programs including celebrity shooting FAM, a major social media promotion and a Saipan Marathon campaign to boost the destination exposure and stimulate shoulder season demand.

Arrivals from Korea dropped 15 percent in March to 12,743 visitors. Due to the long holiday period in February with Lunar New Year's holiday, outbound travel demand was slow in March. Asiana Airlines decreased its double daily service to one daily in late March and is expected to go back to double daily service for Incheon-Saipan in the summer high season. On the other hand, the MVA has been working with Jin Air and EASTAR JET, Korea's major low cost carriers, on the launch of new daily services to Saipan this summer. The MVA and Jin Air began conducting major online promotions together from mid-March to announce Jin Air's new

service from June 9 and to boost advance ticket sales.

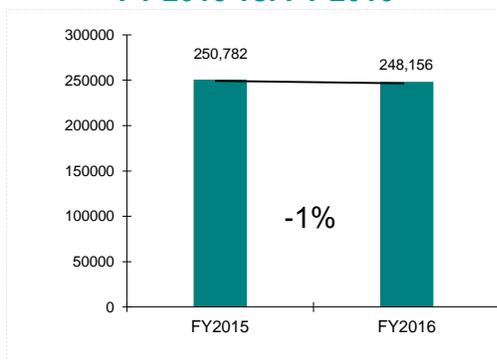
Arrivals from Japan fell 28 percent to 6,352 visitors as the NMI continued to feel the effect of Delta Air Lines cutting its Narita to Saipan night flight in October, a move that dropped airlift from the Japan market to just one daily flight, generating 6,169 monthly seats. With 6,352 visitors from Japan flying on 6,169 available seats, the Delta flights were almost entirely full, and Asiana Airlines operated three charter flights from Narita to Saipan on March 25, 28 and 31, which generated an additional 513 seats in conjunction with JTB World Vacations in order to relieve some of the pent-up demand which is not being met by Delta Air Lines' current single flight.

Source Markets Economic Highlights

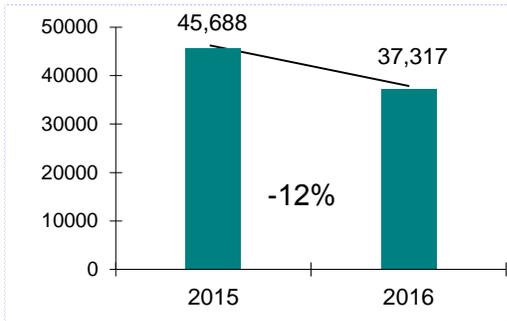
Japan's government lowered its assessment of the economy in March for the first time in five months due to weakness in consumer spending, a move likely to reinforce views that more fiscal stimulus will be needed to keep the economy growing. In March 2016, the yen continued to grow in value against the U.S. dollar for the fifth month in a row, to average 113.01 yen for the month.

The Korean government recently struck an upbeat tone in its outlook for the country's economy, but it was at odds with what many economists believe is a stance not backed by solid evidence. The Ministry of Strategy and Finance forecast in its latest economic assessment report that Korea's industrial output and domestic demand, which have been sluggish for months, will show a slight recovery later this year. The average USD/WON exchange rate in February was 1,141.95 won, 94.99 won down from the February rate of 1,235.94 won.

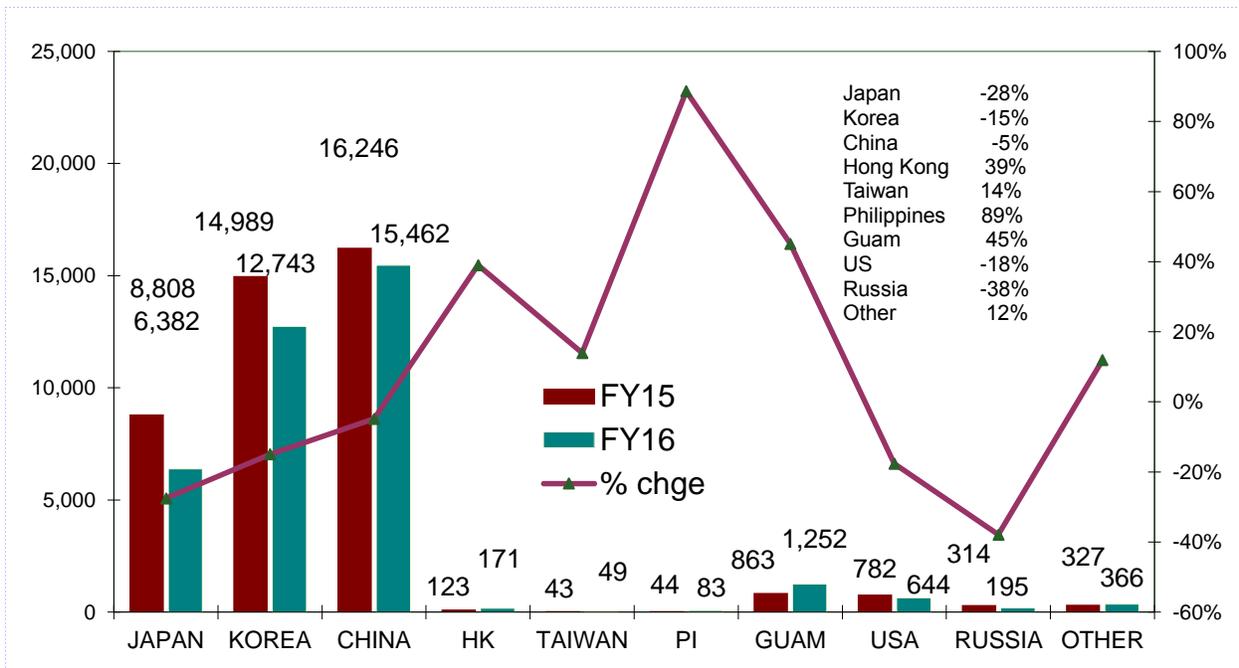
**Visitor Arrivals Year to Date
FY 2015 vs. FY 2016**



Visitor Arrivals March 2015 vs. March 2016



CNMI Source Market Arrivals March 2015 vs. March 2016



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.