



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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PATA CEO VISITS SAIPAN

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Mario Hardy, chief executive officer of the Pacific Asia Travel Association, visited Saipan on May 23, 2016, following PATA's Annual Summit in Guam.

Hardy paid a courtesy call on Acting Governor Victor B. Hocog and toured the island accompanied by PATA International Executive Board Member and PATA Micronesia Chapter Chairwoman r Pilar Laguna and PATA Micronesia Treasurer and Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) Deputy Managing Director Judy Torres.

Founded in 1951, PATA is a “not-for profit association that is internationally acclaimed for acting as a catalyst for the responsible development of travel and tourism to, from and within the Asia Pacific region,” according to the organization’s website. The association provides “aligned advocacy, insightful research and innovative events to its member organisations, comprising 97 government, state and city tourism bodies, 27 international airlines, airports and cruise lines, 63 educational institutions, and hundreds of travel industry companies in Asia Pacific and beyond.”

PATA Micronesia chapter is comprised of state and national tourism boards of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Palau, Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Marshall

Islands, and Kosrae, as well a numerous tourism-related businesses such as hotels, tour operators, retail outlets, private individuals, and more.

“The MVA’s membership in PATA Micronesia is valuable in that it provides a forum for the island nations to network and work together toward common goals, whether it be improving service through training and education or jointly marketing the region,” said Torres. “In addition, it put a wealth of information and resources at our fingertips available through the PATA organization.”

Companies or individuals interested in joining PATA Micronesia or learning more about the chapter can visit www.micronesiatour.com. The chapter meets tri-annually throughout Micronesia.



Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Chief Executive Officer Mario Hardy paid a courtesy call on CNMI Acting Governor Victor B. Hocog on May 25, 2016, at the Office of the Governor. Pictured from left are Marianas Visitors Authority Deputy Manager Director Judy Torres, Hocog, Hardy, PATA International Executive Board Member and PATA Micronesia Chapter Chairwoman Pilar Laguna, and MVA Acting Chairman James Nelson.

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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