



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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PHILIPPINES TRAVEL AGENTS, MEDIA TOUR SAIPAN

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Fifteen travel agents and eleven media representatives from the Philippines recently visited the Northern Mariana Islands to experience an adventure in Saipan that they will share with potential visitors, readers, and viewers.

The travel agents highlighted their tour with hotel inspections at Aqua Resort Club, Kensington Hotel, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa (where they lodged), Kanoa Resort, Saipan World Resort, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Coral Ocean Golf Resort, and Lao Lao Bay Golf & Resort. Other activities included a tour of historic and scenic sites in Marpi, an off-road ATV tour with Let's Go!, banana printing, and swimming, parasailing, snorkeling, and scuba diving at Managaha. Additional activities covered by Travelife Magazine included the various treatments available at Hyatt's I Sagua Spa, shopping at T Galleria and Joeten Shopping Center, Saipan's iconic flame trees, a cocktail show at the Las Vegas-style SandCastle Saipan, and sunset aboard a Best Sunshine yacht. Other media also covered Santa Lourdes Shrine and a submarine tour as part of the group FAM(iliarization) tour on Aug. 28-Sept. 1, 2016.

“It was a pleasure to welcome this large FAM tour from the Philippines as they explored the Northern Marianas. They had a jam-packed three days, and during our welcoming dinner, they expressed a lot of enthusiasm about their experience,” said Marianas Visitors Authority Managing (MVA) Director Christopher A. Concepcion. “Through our industry partner

Philippine Airlines, it's now more convenient than ever for Filipinos and ex-pats to visit, as well as visitors connecting through Manila from elsewhere in Asia, as we are now seeing on arriving flights.”

Participating travel agencies were: Travel Specialist, Globetrotters, Arfel Travel, Luxus Pacific, Supersonic Travel, Amiable Tours, Travelplus, Fortune Travel, Travel Best Guide, Rajah Travel, Cebu Fortune, Travelways International Inc., Goldlink Travel, Goldenworld, and Hana Tours.

On the media side, Travelife Magazine circulates monthly to nearly 2-million people and will publish an 11-page fashion and activity feature and cover in its October 2016 edition. Husband and wife team Joy Mendoza of Teach with Joy and ANC TV Anchor Edric Mendoza teamed up for four full features on family and relaxation that will air daily for two weeks on ANC. Both individuals are well-respected in their fields, and their visit will also be featured on the Teach with Joy blog. Travel Update Magazine circulates to 1-million readers twice monthly and will feature six pages on the Northern Marianas in their October 2016 edition. Royal Class Travel and Timberfield Travel also participated in the tour.

The group was joined by two members of the MVA's office in the Philippines who coordinated the tour along with on-island MVA marketing specialists.



Media and travel agents from the Philippines with cultural dancers at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Joyful dinner show on August 29, 2016, in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The group was in Saipan on a FAM tour organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority

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 other parts of Asia and Australia. The Northern Marianas are served from Tokyo Narita in Japan by Delta Air Lines and Asiana. From Korea, Asiana, Jeju Air, and Jin Air provide direct flights from Seoul, and Asiana also provides service from Busan. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong to Saipan are available. Philippine Airlines provides nonstop service from Manila to Saipan and connects with many cities in China and across Asia. 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 to Saipan via Tokyo Narita, and by United via Guam. Russian and Taiwanese visitors usually arrive via Seoul or Manila. Interisland travel is provided by United Express (Cape Air). For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com.

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