



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

---

*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

**CHRISTOPHER A. CONCEPCION**  
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

---

**For Immediate Release- Feb. 21, 2019**

For further information, contact:

Christopher A. Concepcion, Managing Director

Marianas Visitors Authority

Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237

[mva@mymarianas.com](mailto:mva@mymarianas.com)

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

**SAIPAN MARATHON 2019 RATES INCREASE AFTER FEB. 22**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – Runners in the Saipan Marathon 2019 on Mar. 9, 2019, have one more day to avail of regular registration rates before a price increase after tomorrow (Feb. 22).

So far nearly 500 runners from China, Japan, Korea, Germany, US, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Taiwan, Guam and The Marianas have registered for the race. Registrants can link to on-line registration at the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) official website at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).

The annual run features 10K, half-marathon, and full marathon courses and is an annual signature event of the MVA.

“We’re seeing a sudden increase in registrants for the Saipan Marathon this late in the process, which is a good thing,” said MVA Managing Director Christopher A. Concepcion. “However, we recognize that our flight schedule pre-Yutu still has not fully recovered, with one airline from Korea not resuming operations until the end of March. Our local and offshore teams are still aggressively recruiting runners for the marathon, so we hope for a great turnout once again this year,”

Runners will receive a finisher’s t-shirt, finisher’s medal, and entry to the marathon awards banquet at Fiesta Resort & Spa. Saipan Marathon has been certified by the International

Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) and the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races (AIMS), making it a qualifying race for the Boston Marathon.

The international registration fee for the full marathon (ages 16 and older allowed) is \$90 and for the half marathon and 10K is \$60. For U.S. and CNMI residents with valid photo ID showing proof of residency who register by Feb. 22, 2019, the registration fee for the full marathon is \$65 and for the half marathon and 10K is \$55. Registrants are reminded to select their proper category, International or CNMI/U.S., on the website. The last day to register is Feb. 8, 2019.

Joining the MVA as exclusive sponsors of this year's marathon are Skechers and Powerade. Platinum sponsor is IT&E. Gold sponsors are Northern Marianas Athletics, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, Hyatt Regency Saipan, and Fiesta Resort & Spa. Silver sponsors are T Galleria by DFS, Tokyo Jusen, DEEN International, Grandvrio Resort Saipan, The Athlete's Foot, Boarderline, and All Star Sporting Goods. Additional sponsors are Vladivostok International Ice Run and Skydive Saipan.

Aid stations will be manned by Hyatt Regency Saipan, Pacific Development Inc., Kinpachi Restaurant, Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Kanoa Resort, Coca-Cola/Foremost, Pacific Islands Club, Imperial Pacific Int'l CNMI, IT&E, Aqua Resort Club, Kensington Hotel Saipan, Tasi Tours Transportation, and Marianas Base Camp.

Supporting agencies and companies are American Memorial Park, Dept. of Public Safety, Dept. of Fire & Emergency Medical Services, Div. of Parks and Grounds, Dept. of Public Works, Dept. of Public Lands, Saipan Mayor's Office, Hawaiian Rock Products, and Marianas Health Services.

For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com) or contact MVA Community Projects Division at 1.670.664.3210 or [communityprojects@mymarianas.com](mailto:communityprojects@mymarianas.com).



The next registration deadline is Feb. 22, 2019, for the 14<sup>th</sup> Saipan Marathon set for Mar. 9, 2019. Registration fees will increase beginning Feb. 23. Participants can register via the marathon link at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com) or at [www.webscorer.com](http://www.webscorer.com).

The Marianas are a chain of idyllic islands including Saipan, Tinian, and Rota in the Western 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 looking for new travel discoveries will find them in The Marianas, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four to five from Korea, China and other parts of Asia and Australia. The Marianas are served seasonal flights from Japan, with regular flights to begin in Winter 2018. From Korea, Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, and T'Way provide direct flights from Seoul-Incheon, and Jeju Air also provides service from Busan. From mainland China, direct flight service is available from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Hangzhou. HK Express and Hong Kong Airlines provide service from Hong Kong. United Airlines has daily flight connections from four cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made to Saipan via Seoul-Incheon, Hong Kong, or Guam. Visitors from Russia and Taiwan usually arrive via Seoul or Hong Kong. Interisland travel to Rota and Tinian is provided by Star Marianas Air. For more information on The Marianas, visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).

###