



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

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

**PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO**  
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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**For Immediate Release- February 24, 2020**

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**SAIPAN MARATHON 2020 EARLY BIRD RATES EXTENDED**

**International Registration Deadline on Feb. 27, 2020**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – Great news for those running late! Saipan Marathon 2020 – scheduled for Mar. 14 in The Marianas – is extending its early bird registration rates through the final registration deadline.

For international participants, registration is \$100 for the Full Marathon and \$70 for the Half Marathon/10K/5K. The last day to register for international participants is Feb. 27, 2020, at 5 p.m. (ChST). For residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and the USA, the Full Marathon is \$55, the Half Marathon/10K/5K at \$45, and for students with valid student i.d., \$30. The last day to register for CNMI/USA registrants is Mar. 6, 2020, at 5 p.m. (ChST); after Feb. 27, CNMI/USA registrants must register in person at the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) office in San Jose, Saipan.

Saipan Marathon 2020 is an annual signature event of the Marianas Visitors Authority aimed at drawing visitors and media attention to the destination. This year's event adds a 5K course to its 10K, Half Marathon, and Full Marathon repertoire.

“We are pleased to extend early bird rates to both international and local participants joining Saipan Marathon 2020, and we hope this will encourage more people to try it out and

have some fun running and walking together,” said MVA Managing Director Priscilla M. Iakopo. “We are all grateful that The Marianas is free to date from any suspected or confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus, but given the impact of the virus on tourism and the local economy, we know it’s the right decision to keep rates low this year for everyone. It’s going to be a great race, and we warmly invite our friends near and far to join us.”

POWERADE returns this year as exclusive sponsor, and Skymark Airlines, which provides direct daily flights from Tokyo to Saipan, is a Platinum sponsor, along with IT&E. Hyatt Regency Saipan has signed on as a gold sponsor, and silver sponsors are Budget Car Rental Saipan, Coca-Cola/Foremost, Grandvrio Resort Saipan, Saipan Apparel, Saipan Plant Center, and Subway. Supporters include Northern Marianas Athletics, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Memorial Park, Dept. of Public Safety, Dept. of Public Works, Dept. of Fire and Emergency Services, Div. of Parks and Grounds and Hawaiian Rock Products.

Saipan Marathon is certified by the International Association of Athletic Federations through the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races. Registration for the event is now available via [webscorer.com](https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=196894), with separate sites for International (<https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=196894>) and US/CNMI Residents (<https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=197420>), as applicable.

Valid photo id is required to register. Registration includes the awards banquet, a finishers t-shirt, and a certificate of completion. Those who registered by Feb. 14, 2020, will have their names included in the official 2020 Saipan Marathon booklet and on the finishers photo backdrop and will receive a personalized race bib.

The race start will start and finish at American Memorial Park, starting at 4:30 a.m. for the Full Marathon, at 5:30 a.m. for the Half Marathon, at 5:45 a.m. for the 10K, and at 6 a.m. for the 5K. The cut-off time for the full marathon will be 8:30 a.m. at the half-way point. There is no cut-off time for the Half Marathon, 10K or 5K.

All competitors are required to pick up their race packets on March 13, 2020, at American Memorial Park. Pickup times are 3-4 p.m. for team/groups/tour groups/etc. and 4-6 p.m. for individuals only.

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



The 14<sup>th</sup> Saipan Marathon will be held on March 14, 2020, in The Marianas, featuring a Full Marathon, Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K. Visit [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com) for more information.

The Marianas are an archipelago of 14 islands - including Saipan, Tinian, and Rota - in the Western Pacific. Latte stone limestone monoliths from the time of the pyramids, traditional nature-based ocean navigation not reliant on modern technology, and a culture seasoned by East and West influences are just a few of the experiences awaiting visitors to The Marianas, where pristine sea, sand, and skies are just three to four hours by plane from major Asian gateway cities. The Marianas are home to indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian people, as well as over 20 different ethnicities from around the world who live and work in this harmonious tropical paradise. From South Korea, Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, and T'Way provide direct flights to Saipan from Seoul-Incheon or Busan. Direct charter flight service is available from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Hangzhou, while HK Express flies from Hong Kong. Daily flights from Tokyo, Japan, are operated by Skymark Airlines, and United Airlines has daily flight connections from four cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop via 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), Facebook/[mymarianas](https://www.facebook.com/mymarianas), or Instagram [@themarianas](https://www.instagram.com/themarianas).

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