

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY News Release

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IRONMAN 70.3 SAIPAN HAS SPECIAL RATE FOR MARIANAS, GUAM RESIDENTS Registration Deadline Extended to Sept. 30, 2018

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Triathletes residing in The Marianas and Guam are being offered a discount on registration fees for IRONMAN 70.3 Saipan on Oct. 27, 2018. The deadline to register has also been extended until Sept. 30, 2018.

Organizers Kiyozaku Fitness Club (KFC) and Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) have negotiated a special rate for residents of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam for the event: \$205 for individual entries and \$275 for relay teams. The regular rate is \$430 or individual entries and \$600 for relay teams. Online registration is available at <u>www.ironman.com</u>. Residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota may also register in person at the MVA office on Beach Rd., San Jose.

"We had a great kick-off for IRONMAN 70.3 Saipan last year, and we are looking forward to another great turnout on Oct. 27," said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. "Our very generous discount for residents of The Marianas and Guam aims to expose more local athletes to this world-class event. As the event grows, we hope local participations will grow, as well." An Ironman 70.3 is one of a series of long distance triathlon races organized by the World Triathlon Corporation. Half the length of an Ironman, Ironman 70.3 features a 1.2-mile (1.9 km) swim, a 56-mile (90 km) bike ride, and a 13.1-mile (21.1 km) run. Ironman 70.3 Saipan will offer 30 age qualifying slots for the 2019 Ironman 70.3 World Championship in Nice, France.

This year's race will also feature a new course. The race will begin with the swim course of two loops in the crystal-clear waters of Micro Beach at American Memorial Park, which will also be the transition site for the three-loop bike route to the quiet nature and historic and scenic sites of Marpi. The mainly flat, two-loop run course follows the western lagoon of the island from Micro Beach to the MVA office in San Jose and back.

Supporters include Hyatt Regency Saipan, Foremost/Coca Cola, and Imperial Pacific International CNMI, LLC.



Ironman 70.3 Saipan will be held on Oct. 27, 2018, in The Marianas.

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 other parts of Asia and Australia. The Marianas are served daily from Tokyo-Narita in Japan by Delta Air Lines with seasonal flights by Asiana Airlines. From Korea, Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, Jin Air, and T'Way provide direct flights from Seoul-Incheon, and Asiana also provides service from Busan. From China, direct flight service from Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong to Saipan are available. United Airlines has daily flight connections from six cities in Japan to Saipan with one stop. United States mainland connections can be made to Saipan via Tokyo-Narita, Seoul-Incheon or Guam. Visitors from Russia and Taiwan usually arrive via Seoul, Tokyo or Manila. Interisland travel to Rota and Tinian is provided by United Express (Cape Air) and Star Marianas Air. For more information on The Marianas, visit www.mymarianas.com.