



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

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*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

**CHRISTOPHER A. CONCEPCION**  
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

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**ROTA'S TETETO NAMED BEST BEACH AT MARINE DIVING FAIR**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – Teteto Beach on the island of Rota in The Marianas was selected as the #1 Reader's Choice Best Beach at Dive and Travel Awards of the annual Marine Diving Fair in Japan on April 6-8, 2018.

In addition, Saipan, Tinian, and Rota combined won 4<sup>th</sup> place Reader's Choice Best Diving Area, Overseas; Blue Palms Dive Service Rota won 2<sup>nd</sup> place Reader's Choice Favorite Dive Operator, Overseas; and Megumi Takaku of Blue Palms won 2<sup>nd</sup> place Reader's Choice Favorite Dive Guide, Overseas.

“Rota is a jewel that the whole world deserves to know about, and that is a goal the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) has been working toward with more promotions, more media and travel agent FAM(iliarization) tours, and more events, like this month's Rota Coffee Marathon,” said MVA Managing Director Christopher A. Concepcion. “The MVA welcomes the opportunity to work with the municipality to strategize how their allocated funding can be applied to keep Rota accessible for visitors through charter flight incentives or other promotional initiatives. We must keep Rota open.”

Diving opportunities in Rota and throughout The Marianas were touted by the MVA to over 50,000 attendees at the fair, which is Japan's leading consumer diving show, targeting consumers and trade representatives in Japan and other Asian countries. The MVA hosted an information booth at the event, held at Ikebukuro Sunshine City in Tokyo.

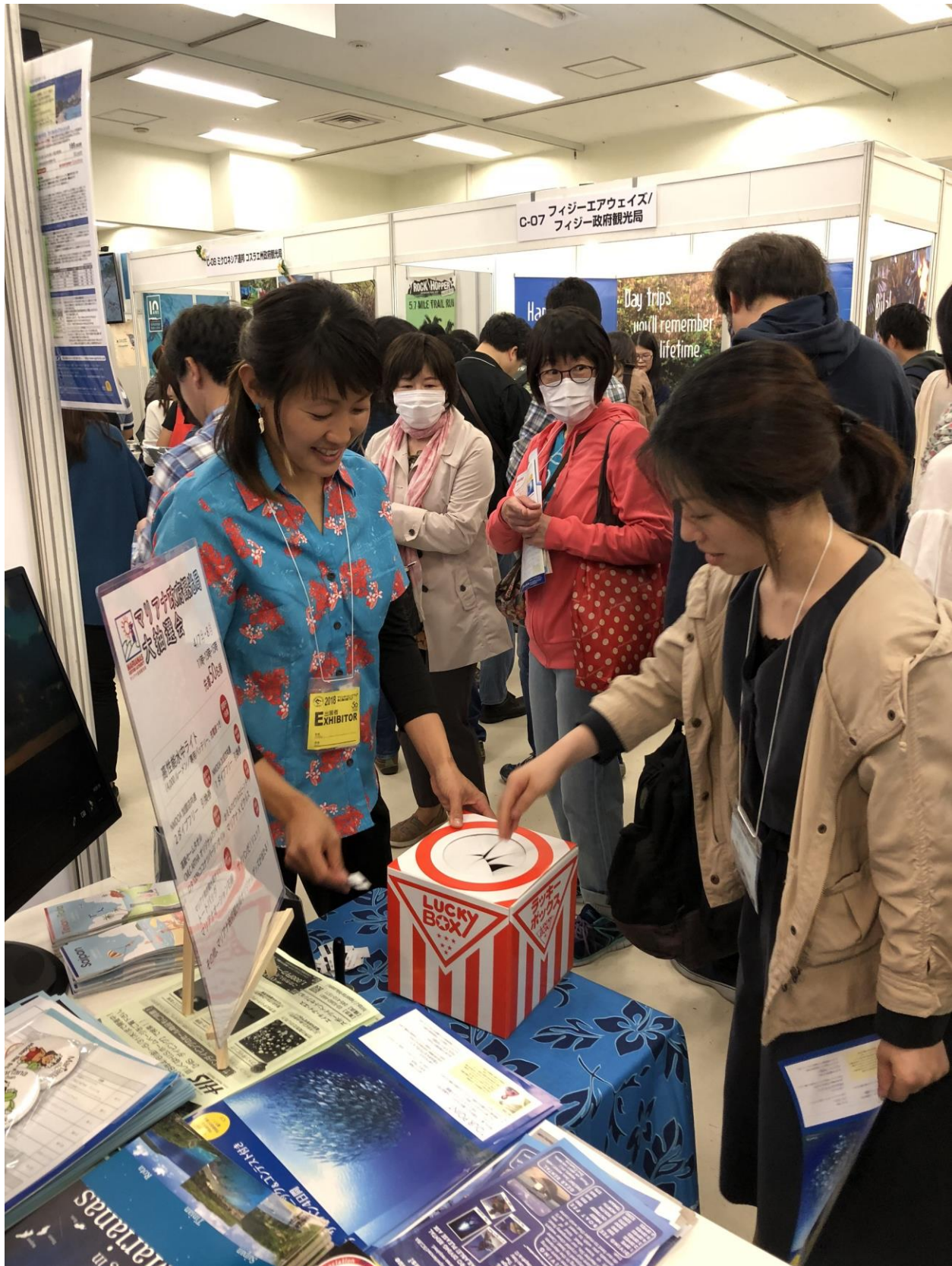
The MVA showed the new movie "Diving in The Marianas," distributed new diving leaflets, new island maps, and other material; and answered questions from attendees at the show, which attracted 30 countries and territories. In cooperation with MVA staff, the event was also attended by Miyuki Ishihara of Super Fish Diving Saipan and Hiroshi Yamamoto of Rota Scuba Center RUBIN, members of the Northern Marianas Diving Operations Association.

A number of dive sites are among the "Marianas 30 Treasures" now being promoted internationally by the MVA, including Treasure #1 Grotto, #2 Managaha Island, #8 Obyan Beach, and #22 Rota Hole.





The Marianas Visitors Authority meets with divers and beach enthusiasts at the Marine Diving Fair on Apr. 7, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. The fair had over 50,000 attendees.



Megumi Takaku of Blue Palms Dive Service Rota registers attendees at Marine Diving Fair on Apr. 7, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. Participants had the opportunity to win free diving coupons offered by Northern Marianas Diving Operators.



Kyoko Okabe, Sales Manager of the Marianas Visitors Authority's Japan office, accepts the award for #1 Reader's Choice Best Beach given to Teteto Beach, Rota, on Apr. 6, 2018, at Marine Diving Fair in Tokyo, Japan.





Megumi Takaku of Blue Palms Dive Service Rota accepts the award 2<sup>nd</sup> place Reader's Choice Favorite Dive Guide, Overseas, on Apr. 6, 2018, at Marine Diving Fair in Tokyo, Japan. Blue Palms also was awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> place Reader's Choice Favorite Dive Operator. Marine Diving Fair is attended annually by the Marianas Visitors Authority to promote diving 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](http://www.mymarianas.com).

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