

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY **News Release**

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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KITCHENS PREP FOR TASTE OF THE MARIANAS INT'L FOOD FEST

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) - Creative juices are starting to flow in kitchens around Saipan as hotels and restaurants prepare for the 21st Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden to be held every Saturday evening during May 2019 Tourism Month in The Marianas.

Twenty-three food and drink vendors have registered to offer their tastiest dishes and brews at American Memorial Park at the annual signature event of the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA). The festival will offer delights from the kitchens of Hyatt Regency Saipan, Tony Roma's/Capricciosa, Fiesta Resort & Spa, D'Elegance Cafe, Kanoa Resort, Terry's Snack Bar, Furusato Restaurant, Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., Mystique BBQ, Sierra's Pearl Shake, Kinpachi Restaurant, Herman's Modern Bakery, Ina's Kitchen, Matty's BBQ, Tropical Chill, The Hut, Pacific Islands Club Saipan, Kensington Hotel Saipan, Java Joe's, and Thai House. Drinks will be offered by Saipan Brewing Co., MARPAC, and Pacific Trading Co.

"It's a full house for the 21st Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden, and visitors and residents are again going to have a chance to enjoy a wide variety of mouth-watering dishes to enjoy," said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. "Equally exciting, we are working on another round of fierce but friendly food competitions. Stay tuned for more exciting news about 'Taste.""

The Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden is an annual signature event of the MVA and is one of the largest celebrations in The Marianas. The festival features international cuisine at affordable prices from local hotels and restaurant vendors, non-stop live entertainment on the main stage, nightly

Supporting businesses include Platinum Sponsor Hyatt Regency Saipan and Silver Sponsors Ina's Kitchen, Dave Electronics, and Hawaiian Rock Products. The festival will be held from 6-10 p.m. each Saturday (closing at 11 p.m. on the final night). For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com, www.facebook.com/mymarianas, or email communityprojects@mymarianas.com.



FILE- CNMI Next Top Chef and Everest Kitchen owner Laxmi Shrestha judges entries in the Certified Angus Beef Chefs Competition at the 20th Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden on May 26, 2018, in Saipan. The Marianas Visitors Authority will host the 21st Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden every Saturday evening in May 2019 at American Memorial Park in downtown Garapan.

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.

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