



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

For Immediate Release- August 2, 2024

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REGISTRATION OPEN FOR ROTA MARATHON ON JAN. 18, 2025

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – Registration is now open for the 2nd Annual Rota Marathon on Jan. 18, 2025, in The Marianas. The race will feature a full marathon, half-marathon and 5K courses on the picturesque island of Rota in the 14-island archipelago known for its natural beauty, rich history, and friendly community.

Runners may now register with early bird rates at www.mymarianas.com for the annual signature event of The Marianas Visitors Authority, organized in cooperation with the Rota Mayor's Office.

“Anyone who has been to Rota can attest that it's a very special place. The people, its quiet beauty, deep history – it's the place to relax, unplug, and rejuvenate,” said MVA Managing Director Christopher A. Concepcion. “Rota Marathon is a great reason to visit, whether you're a serious runner or taking a mindful 5K walk along the scenic roadways. We invite you to sign up today for really incredible early rates and make plans to find out for yourself why Rota is called Nature's Treasure Island.”

Rota is 30 minutes from the capitol island of Saipan via light aircraft.

The race falls on the weekend of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, a federal holiday. Early bird registration rates through Oct. 31, 2024, are \$20 for the full, \$15 for the half-marathon courses and \$10 for the 5K. Registration rates will increase beginning Nov. 1, 2024. Full marathon participants must be 16 years of age or older. Half marathon participants must be 14 years of age or older.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the Overall Top 3 Finishers, male and female. In the full marathon, prizes are \$400 for 1st place, \$300 for 2nd place, and \$200 for 3rd place. In the half-marathon, prizes are \$300 for 1st place, \$200 for 2nd place, and \$150 for 3rd place. In the 5K, prizes are \$200 for 1st place, \$150 for 2nd place, and \$100 for 3rd place.

The last day to register is Jan. 17, 2025. Mandatory race packet pickup will be on Jan. 17 from 5-6 p.m. at Rota Round House in Songsong village, and the race briefing will be at 6 p.m. On Jan. 18, the full marathon will begin at 4 a.m., half-marathon will begin at 5 a.m., and the 5K will begin at 6:30 a.m.

The road race will begin at Rota Round House and traverse scenic and historic sites on the island. Registration includes a Limited Edition Official Rota Marathon t-shirt, Rota Marathon medal, and one entry to the awards banquet to be held at 6 p.m. on race day. Registration may be made online at www.mymarianas.com or in person at the MVA office in Saipan at 3366 Beach Rd., Suite 101, Garapan or at the MVA field office in Songsong, Rota.

For more information, visit www.mymarianas.com or contact MVA Community Projects Specialist Ed Diaz at communityprojects@mymarianas.com or 1.670.664.3200 or MVA Rota Field Operations Supervisor Dave Atalig at datalig@mymarianas.com or 1.670.532.0327.



FILE - Chang Whan Jang heads into the homestretch to win the full marathon course of Rota Marathon 2024 in January 2024 in The Marianas. Registration is now open with early bird rates at www.mymarianas.com for the 2nd Annual Rota Marathon on Jan. 18, 2025.



l'Chenchon Bird Sanctuary overlook for Wedding Cake Mountain in Rota, The Marianas. The 2nd Annual Rota Marathon will be held on Jan. 18, 2025, and registration is now open with early bird rates at www.mymarianas.com. (Photo credit: Junji Takasago)



Teteto Beach is one of the sites along the full and half marathon courses of the 2nd Annual Rota Marathon on Jan. 18, 2025. Race registration is now open with early bird rates at www.mymarianas.com. (Photo credit: Junji Takasago)

The Marianas is an archipelago of 14 islands - including Saipan, Tinian, and Rota - in the Western Pacific. 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. Ancient latte stone limestone monoliths, 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 found in The Marianas, where pristine sea, sand, and skies are only a 3–4-hour flight from major Asian gateway cities. From South Korea, Jeju Air, and T'Way provide direct flights to Saipan from Seoul-Incheon. United Airlines flies three times a week from Tokyo-Narita, Japan, and daily from Guam. Hong Kong Airlines flies twice weekly from Hong Kong. Interisland travel between Saipan, Tinian, and Rota is provided by Star Marianas Air. For more information on The Marianas, visit www.mymarianas.com, Facebook/VisitTheMarianas, or Instagram @themarianas.