



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

---

*Tourism is Everybody's Business!*

**CHRISTOPHER A. CONCEPCION**  
MVA MANAGING DIRECTOR

---

**For Immediate Release- Jan. 5, 2018**

For further information, contact:

Christopher A. Concepcion, Managing Director

Marianas Visitors Authority

Telephone: (670) 664-3200/3201 Facsimile: (670) 664-3237

[mva@mymarianas.com](mailto:mva@mymarianas.com)

[www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com)

**14<sup>th</sup> TINIAN HOT PEPPER FESTIVAL ON FEB. 17-18, 2018**

**Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI)** – The 14th Tinian Hot Pepper Festival will be held over Presidents Day weekend on Feb. 17-18, 2018, highlighting the island’s famously potent “donni sali” pepper.

Air service to Tinian is provided by Star Marianas. Available hotels on island include Tinian Ocean View Hotel, Fleming’s Hotel, Lorilynn’s Hotel, Tinian Street Motel and Green Lion House Hotel, and some hotels offer airport shuttle as well.

“The Tinian Hot Pepper Festival has become a quick President’s Day weekend getaway for people looking for a chance to just unwind, enjoy some good island vibes, and have a change of scenery,” said Marianas Visitors Authority Managing Director Christopher A. Concepcion. “We are looking into the possibility of again providing boat ferry service from Saipan, and we look forward to a great turnout.”

The event is also co-organized by the Tinian Mayor’s Office, the 16<sup>th</sup> Tinian Municipal Council and sponsored by MVA members. Activities will include the road/off road 65K Pika Bike Race on Feb. 17 at 6 .am, cooking competitions, indigenous craft sales, and live entertainment including cultural dances. Sample a variety of local dishes, catch the umang

(hermit crab), join numerous sports activities (including beach volleyball), cook your best “kadun pika” (spicy stew), Cha-cha to the championship, arm wrestle or join the donni sali eating competition, itself. Festival times will be from 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. on both days.

“The beaches at Tachogna, Taga Beach and Kammer Beach are available for those who loves to camp,” said MVA Field Operations Supervisor Vida Borja. “Power, showers and toilets are conveniently located onsite for campers’ use.”

Tinian is accessible within minutes of Saipan via airplane or via connecting flights from Rota and Guam. For more information, contact the MVA Tinian office at 1.670.433.9365, email MVA Field Operations Supervisor Vida Borja at [vborja@mymarianas.com](mailto:vborja@mymarianas.com), or visit The Marianas Events Calendar at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).



Tinian youth performing indigenous Chamorro dances draw a crowd at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival in February 2017 in the Marianas. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival will be held on Feb. 17-18, 2018.



Performers at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival will be held on Feb. 17-18, 2018, in The Marianas.



The famous “donni sali” hot pepper is the star of the annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival in The Marianas. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival will be held on Feb. 17-18, 2018.

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, Eastar Jet, 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. Philippine Airlines provides nonstop service from Manila and connects with many cities in China and Southeast Asia. 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).

###