



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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MARIANAS CHEF COMPETITION ON MAY 18, 2024

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The 25th Annual Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival is now accepting registrants for the Marianas Chef Competition on May 18, 2024, in Garapan, Saipan, The Marianas.

The cook-off will challenge 10 chefs to prepare the best beef rib eye steak dish within an hour, incorporating all local produce provided in a mystery box.

Rules and registration forms for the Marianas Chef Competition are available at <https://www.mymarianas.com/taste-of-the-marianas-2024/> and at the MVA offices in Saipan, Tinian and Rota.

The top three winners will receive gift certificates for a local supermarket shopping spree: \$500 worth for 1st place, \$300 for 2nd place, and \$200 for 3rd place.

“It’s no holds barred at the Marianas Chef Competition, and all professional and home chefs are welcomed,” said Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) Managing Director Christopher A.

Concepcion. “We’re excited for the competitors to showcase their culinary skills and creativity under a time crunch, especially with the incorporation of ingredients from the mystery box.”

Taste of The Marianas is an annual signature event of the MVA and will be held every Saturday night from 5-10 p.m. (until 11 p.m. on the final Saturday) during May Tourism Month 2024 at American Memorial Park in Garapan Saipan. The festival is a gourmet’s delight, offering some of the destination’s best cuisine and entertainment. The festival will feature affordable dishes from local hotels and restaurants, live entertainment, food eating competitions, cooking contests, arts and crafts sales, and more. Entry is free.

This year’s festival eateries will include 38 Mitsubachi, Smokeout by Apu, Cup Bab Korean Restaurant, Ben ki, Yaya’s Baked Goods, CK Smokehouse and Salad, Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, Fork and Spoon, Great Harvest Bread Co., Herman’s Modern Bakery, Lanlan Tea House, Island Grindz, Java Joe’s, Kanto 10, Kinpachi, Loco & Taco, Tupu Cane Juice, New Matty’s BBQ, Oh My Grill, Surf Club, T-Bar, The Hut, Vi- Lyn’s BBQ, Saipan World Resort, Ever Trust 123 Food, Aqua Resort Club, Pacific Islands Club, Coral Ocean Point, MARPAC, Napu Brewing, and WSTCO.

Festival Gold Sponsors are American Memorial Park, Bridge Capital LLC and Dave Electronics Center. Silver Sponsors are Crowne Plaza Resort Saipan, EST Rental, IT&E, HANMI, Jonny’s Bar and Grill, M&C LLC, Lanlan Tea House, Subway, Coca-Cola, and Foremost.

For more information, contact MVA Community Projects Specialist Ray Villagomez at rvillagomez@mymarians.com or 1.670.664.3200.



FILE – Local chefs prepare their entry to a cooking competition at the Taste of The Marianas International Food Festival in June 2023 in Saipan, The Marianas. The 25th Annual Taste of The Marianas will be held by the Marianas Visitors Authority on May 4, 11, 18, & 25, 2024, at American Memorial Park. Registration is open at <https://www.mymarianas.com/taste-of-the-marianas-2024/> for all nightly contests during the festival, including the Marianas Chefs Competition on May 18.

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, Asiana Airlines, 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. 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.

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