



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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For Immediate Release-November 10, 2016

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CHRISTMAS IN THE MARIANAS THROUGHOUT DECEMBER

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), PDM

Promoters, Inc., Team PDI, and other travel partners will celebrate “Christmas in the Marianas” throughout December, offering weekly holiday entertainment for visitors and residents, alike.

This year, the event will be held on the first three Saturdays of the month and then the last two Fridays.

“The final Saturdays in December are Christmas Eve and New Year’s Eve, so Christmas in the Marianas will be held on Friday on those two weeks, instead,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “We are looking forward to again working closely with PDM Promoters and Team PDI to bring a joyful celebration to our visitors and the community on the first three Saturdays of the month, Dec. 3, 10, and 17, and the last two Fridays, Dec. 23 and 30. We invite everyone to come down and celebrate the holidays with us from 5-10 p.m. each of these evenings.”

The celebration will kick off on Dec. 3 with the annual school-wide Christmas Tree Decoration Competition at Paseo de Marianas in downtown Garapan. The trees, decorated with recyclable material, will remain on display at the pedestrian mall in Saipan’s main tourist district throughout the month. Also, elementary and middle school students will sing their hearts out

at the annual Christmas Caroling Competition.

On Dec. 10, high schools will compete in the skit competition.

On Dec. 17, the Parade of Floats will be held around sunset from the Carolinian Affairs Office in Garapan along Beach Road to American Memorial Park, followed by a costume show.

Dec. 23 and 30 are open for those who would like to perform at Paseo de Marianas. The Japanese Mochitsuki Festival will be held on Dec. 30, marking the pounding of rice to make mochi, a traditional event in preparation for the new year.

Participating schools are Oleai Elementary, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary, Kagman Elementary, San Vicente Elementary, Saipan Southern High, Marianas High, Kagman High, Tanapag Middle School, Dan Dan Middle School, Agape Christian School, Green Meadow School, Grace Christian Academy, Northern Marianas International School, and Mt. Carmel School.

For more information on the event, contact MVA Community Projects Specialist Ryan Calvo at rcalvo@mymarianas.com or 670.664.3200/1.



Carolers take to the stage at Christmas in the Marianas in Saipan on Dec. 23, 2015. The annual holiday celebration will return to downtown Garapan on Dec. 3, 10, 17, 23, and 30, 2016, from 5-10 p.m.

The Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are a chain of idyllic islands in the West 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 from Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America and elsewhere looking for new travel discoveries will find them in the Mariana Islands, just three hours travel from most cities in Japan, and four to five from other parts of Asia and Australia. The Northern 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 Eastar Jet 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 to Saipan 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 is provided by United Express (Cape Air) and Star Marianas Air. For more information on the Marianas, visit www.mymarianas.com.

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