



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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YUTU 5K HOLIDAY FUN RUN ON DEC. 29, 2018

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – As part of the #MarianasSTRONG Year-end Celebration on Dec. 29, 2018, at Paseo de Marianas in Garapan, Saipan, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) will hold the Yutu 5K Holiday Fun Run.

The race will be held at 5 p.m. from the pedestrian mall flag pole south along Beach Rd. to the former Wendy's restaurant and back. The first 100 registrants will receive a holiday hat, and the first 100 finishers will receive a Yutu 5K Holiday Fun Run t-shirt. A special prize will be awarded for the best holiday costume. Registration opens at 4 p.m.

“The #MarianasSTRONG Year End Celebration is going to be a great time for residents and visitors to celebrate the holidays, and the Yutu 5K Fun Run is going to be a great opportunity to show our holiday spirit in a fun way,” said MVA Community Projects Manager Martin Duenas. “All the registration fees from the race will go to Karidat Social Services to assist with the continued recovery effort following Super Typhoon Yutu. Registration is only a \$1 minimum donation, but of course, larger donations are welcomed!”

The #MarianasSTRONG Year-end Celebration is intended to mark the resiliency and recovery of The Marianas following Super Typhoon Yutu in October 2018. The annual Mochitsuki Festival, featuring the Japanese traditional pounding of rice in preparation for the new year, will highlight the event. Other festivities from 5-10 p.m. will include live entertainment, food sales, games and more. Activities will include food and drink sales, free mochi-tasting, free bouncy house for children, one free round of yoyo play, and one free Saipan-da pencil, while supplies last. Donations will be accepted to aid in continuing recovery efforts. #MarianasSTRONG t-shirts will be given away for each donation of \$15 or more, while supplies last. All proceeds will go to Karidat Social Services.

Partnering with the MVA to put on the event are PDM Promoters, Japanese Society of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Japanese Northern Marianas Descent Association.

For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or contact the MVA Community Projects Divisions at communityprojects@mymarianas.com or 1.670.664.3210.



The Yutu 5K Holiday Fun Run will be held at 5 p.m. on Dec. 29, 2018, at Paseo de Marianas in conjunction with the #MarianasSTRONG Year-end Celebration. All registration proceeds will be donated for typhoon recovery efforts.

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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