

PATA MICRONESIA



www.patamicronesia.org



IN THIS ISSUE

2 PATA Micronesia Chapter
Regional Events

3 Regional News

7 Visitor Arrivals

7 Overseas Programs &
Promotions

8 PATA International Events

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRWOMAN



**Alii! Hafa Adai! Tirow! Ran Annim!
lakwe! Len Wo! Kaselehlia! and
Mogethin!**

I would like to thank all Board of Directors, Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs, Members and all NTOs and STOS who attended our 3rd Tri-Annual Meeting in our beautiful island of Palau. To those who couldn't be with us this time, we look forward to seeing you all next year in Pohnpei.

It was a short three day meeting but I'm hoping all who joined us enjoyed and learned something from our Alii Pass Program and tours. Feedback on how we can improve is highly appreciated.

Our Board of Directors meeting was held on Guam as we did not have much time in Palau. I'd also like to thank Guam Visitors Bureau CEO and President and PATA Mic Immediate Past Chair Pilar Liguna for a successful Micronesia Cruise Association meeting that was held on Guam and for all those who attended. I strongly advise everyone to take part, and I encourage all NTOs and STOs to become members. The Cruise Industry is a new market for us. WE CAN MAKE THIS HAPPEN.

Happy holidays, my PATA Micronesia Chapter family!

PATA-ly yours,
Stephanie Nakamura - PATA Micronesia Chapter Chairwoman



PATA Mic 3rd Tri-annual Meeting held in Palau on Dec. 3-4 , 2019

REGIONAL NEWS

The 3rd Tri-annual Meeting of the Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Micronesia Chapter was held on Dec. 3-4, 2019, in Palau. Over 40 members representing national and state tourism offices of Micronesia, representatives of travel trade and other businesses, elected officials, and private individuals gathered for the organization's meeting.

The meeting opened on December 2, 2019, with a Rock Island tour to Ulong Island and a welcoming reception hosted by the Palau Visitors Authority at the Airai Bai, which won a 2019 PATA Gold Award for Community Based Tourism. Chapter committee meetings were held the following day at the Tommy Remengesau Jr. Building. Education Committee Chairwoman Denise Mendiola reported on recent trainings, received feedback from members, and led planning for future trainings in collaboration with the other PATA committees. Cultural, Heritage & Environment Committee Chairwoman Rita Nauta reported on the Micronesia project, aimed at connecting and promoting the region's history, heritage and cultural landscape by producing culturally relevant educational materials for Micronesia students and regional branding efforts. Marketing Committee Vice Chairman Luciano Abraham and Chapter Treasurer Mark Manglona reported on upcoming international and regional events, co-sharing booth space under one Micronesia Pavilion, and budget. The Membership Committee report that the chapter has 96 entities and 171 members in good standing and presented a new fee structure for membership renewals. All the committee also presented their proposed budgets and business plans for next year.

The meeting also had two guest speakers. Flori-Anne Dela Cruz shared her experiences as PATA Face of the Future and a Guam Visitors Bureau Board Director. Dr. Austin J. Shelton III of the University of Guam shared about environmental conservation. The chapter General Membership meeting was held on the following day, with each of the national and state tourism offices reporting on the status of visitor arrivals, upcoming events for tourists, upcoming marketing events, and other news. A farewell lunch was hosted by the Palau Visitors Authority in Melekeok State where members enjoyed a beachside barbecue and concluded the 3rd PATA Tri-Annual Meeting by planting 105 clams in one of the state's conservation area.

PATA Micronesia Chairwoman Stephanie Nakamura thanked Palau Visitors Authority and all PATA Micronesia Chapter members in Palau for their hospitality and all entities and members for attending the meeting.

The PATA Micronesia Chapter conducts regular meetings throughout the region and promotes the destination online at www.micronesiatour.com.

For more information about the PATA Micronesia Chapter, contact Chairwoman Stephanie Nakamura at sn@pristineparadisepalau.com or visit www.patamicronesia.org.



Pata Micronesia Chapter Regional Events

www.micronesiatour.com

KONQER-K14

Palau | Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2019
Contact: konqersports.com

GOSPEL DAY

Marshall Is. | Dec. 6, 2019
Contact: micronesiatour.com

HELL OF THE MARIANAS

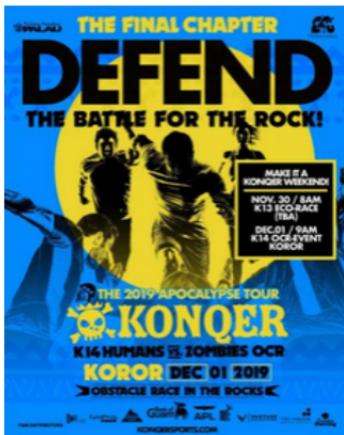
The Marianas | Dec. 7, 2019
Contact: hellofthemarianas.com

CHRISTMAS IN THE MARIANAS

The Marianas | Dec. 7, 2019
Contact: info@mymarianas.com

BOONIE STOMP

Guam | various dates
Contact: micronesiatour.com



Palau Airai State Cultural Tour Wins 2019 PATA Gold Award

REGIONAL NEWS

The Palau Visitors Authority (PVA) envisions a future where other States in Palau can profit substantially from the tourism industry while showcasing and educating travellers about Palau's cultural heritage. PVA took the initiative to launch a cultural tour in Ordomei, Airai. This body of work is the first product of a larger project names the Alii Pass programme. The tour covers three historical landmarks/structures: a Chief's meeting house called 'Bai, the war Canoe called "Kabekel," and "Chades er a Mechorei," a traditional causeway.

In collaboration with the Airai State government, Rengarairrai council of chiefs, and women's associations, a viable tour has been created. It is all around clean, culturally rich and sustainable. Utensils and food containers are made of natural material. Restrooms are neat and up to par to an individual's comfort and standards. Local vegetables and herbs are grown near the bai. Additional seating made out of bamboo has been added to uphold the island feel. The tour was created with everyone's shared ideas and cooperation.

To improve the state economy and to enhance this cultural tour, two initiatives have been introduced.

1. An authentic, traditional lunch buffet, prepared by the women's association of Airai. The women's association prepares an authentic Palauan lunch buffet, plated in natural, biodegradable material.
2. A traditional performance and visual arts performance by the children of the village community.



Yap Joins Human Resource Capacity Development Project

Yap Visitors Bureau is participating in a Human Resource Capacity Development project that recognizes the importance of traditional building skills as an important sector in supporting Yap's tourism industry. A hands-on practical traditional skills training experience is planned utilizing the Yap Living History Museum as a venue. The museum has traditional building in need of restoration. The traditional skills experience will involve the preparation of traditional building materials, including large and small bamboo, betel nut trunks, breadfruit logs, pandanas logs, mahogany logs, Napa leaves, and banana fiber preparation. these prepared material will be used to completely replace the roof of the men's house and repair the remaining roofs, floors, and walls of the other traditional buildings on the museum grounds.



1st Micronesia Cleanup Day Held on September 13, 2019

The inaugural Micronesia Cleanup Day was held on Sept. 13, 2019, with chief executives across Micronesia taking the lead to proclaim a regional campaign against garbage in the region.

Micronesia Cleanup Day was adopted at the 24th Micronesian Forum held in July 2019 in Chuuk by the chief executives of Guam, Palau, The Marianas, Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia (Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, Yap).

The campaign aims to promote cleanliness, remove environmental waste, and make a stand against littering, pollution, and threats to the island way of life.

(Photo credits from top: Iva Maurin, Dontana Keraskes/Guam Daily Post, www.facebook.com/piofsm)



Pictured Above: 2019/17 Annual Micronesia Cleanup Day



Saipan Marathon Set for Mar. 14, 2020, in The Marianas

REGIONAL NEWS

020 Saipan Marathon in The Marianas is set for March 14, 2020, and will include courses for Full Marathon, Half Marathon, 10K, and, for the first time in the marathon's history, 5K. The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) has opened registration via [webscorer.com](https://www.webscorer.com), with separate sites for International

(<https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=196894>)

and US/CNMI Residents

(<https://www.webscorer.com/register?raceid=197420>), as applicable

For international participants who register by Feb. 14, 2020, the fee for the Full Marathon is \$90, while the Half Marathon, 10K, and 5K are \$60. Registration between Feb. 15-27, 2020, for is \$100 for the Full Marathon is \$100 and \$70 for the Half Marathon/10K/5K. The last day to register for international participants is Feb. 27, 2020, at 5 p.m. (ChST).



A special registration rate is available for residents of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the USA. For those who qualify for this special rate and register by Feb. 14, 2020, the Full Marathon is \$55, the Half Marathon/10K/5K at \$45, and for students with valid student i.d., \$30. Registration between Feb. 15-27, 2020, for Full Marathon is \$65, for the Half Marathon/10K/5K is \$55, and for students is \$55. Residents of the CNMI and USA who register from Feb. 28 to Mar. 6 will pay \$95 for the Full Marathon, \$85 for the Half/Marathon/10K/5K, and \$55 for students. The last day to register for CNMI and USA residents in Mar. 6, 2020, at 5 p.m. (ChST). Valid photo id is required to register. Registration includes the awards banquet, a finishers t-shirt, and a certificate of completion. Those who register by Feb. 14, 2020, will have their names included in the official 2020 Saipan Marathon booklet and on the finishers photo backdrop and will receive a personalized race bib. Additional fees for these benefits will apply after Feb. 14, 2020.

Saipan Marathon is certified by the International Association of Athletic Federations through the Association of International Marathons and Distance Races. The race start will start and finish at American Memorial Park, starting at 4:30 a.m. for the Full Marathon, at 5:30 a.m. for the Half Marathon, at 5:45 a.m. for the 10K, and at 6 a.m. for the 5K. The cut-off time for the full marathon will be 8:30 a.m. at the half-way point. There is no cut-off time for the Half Marathon, 10K or 5K. All competitors are required to pick up their race packets on March 13, 2020, at American Memorial Park. Pickup times are 3-4 p.m. for team/groups/tour groups/etc. and 4-6 p.m. for individuals only.

For more information, visit The Marianas Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or contact MVA Community Projects Specialist Ed Diaz at 1.670.664.3210 or ediaz@mymarianas.com.

PATA INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

www.pata.org

Crocus Expo International Exhibition Center

MITT is the largest B2B travel event in Russia and the CIS, attracting representatives of the tourism industry from Russia and other regions of the world. MITT is one of the world's TOP 5 leading travel and tourism exhibitions in the world. Annually thousands of market players meet at MITT. It is a place where innovative travel products are exhibited and important strategic agreements are reached. Held annually, MITT is one of the top five travel exhibitions in the world and is highly valued by the international tourism community. Founded in 1994, the MITT exhibition has earned its reputation as the place to do business. It enables participants to increase awareness of their destination, present their new programme and gain a real feel for the Russian travel market.



Adventure Travel Conference and Mart

The PATA Adventure Travel Conference and Mart (ATCM) 2020 is Asia Pacific's leading travel trade event dedicated to the adventure travel industry. The event comprises of a one-day travel trade mart and one-day conference, along with sightseeing tours and hosted social functions to facilitate networking and relationship building. Recent events have been held in Rishikesh, Uttarakhand, India; Al Ain, Abu Dhabi, UAE; Chiang Rai, Thailand; Luoyang, China; and Thimphu, Bhutan. The event's choice of host destination reflects the growing importance of dispersing tourists to emerging destinations. Through pre-matched appointments, meet face-to-face with adventure product buyers and sellers from across the world including state, regional and local tourism agencies from established and emerging markets, unique accommodation providers and tour operators. Explore the nuances, trends and dynamics of one of the fastest-growing tourism sectors. The programme brings together international experts at the forefront of the adventure travel industry from both private and public sectors to discuss the sector's issues and opportunities.

TOURISM MALAYSIA

PATA
PATA International

ADVENTURE TRAVEL CONFERENCE AND MART 2020

FEBRUARY 12-14 | SUTERA HARBOUR RESORT
KOTA KINABALU
SABAH, MALAYSIA

SUPPORTED BY
malaysia
ATCM

'Ahead of the Curve: Authenticity and Sustainability in Adventure'