



MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
News Release

Tourism is Everybody's Business!

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MVA, CAO, IAO LAUNCH Hafa Adai-Tirow Cultural Experience

Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands (NMI) – To provide visitors and residents a cultural experience highlighting indigenous Chamorro and Carolinian culture, the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), Carolinian Affairs Office (CAO), and Indigenous Affairs Office (IAO) will launch Hafa Adai-Tirow Tuesdays and Thursdays in August in Saipan’s main tourist district.

The event will be held from 5-9 p.m. at the CAO grounds in Garapan, Saipan, and will feature Chamorro and Carolinian live entertainment, arts and crafts by Chamorro and Carolinian artists, and food sales that will include indigenous dishes. Hafa Adai-Tirow Tuesdays and Thursdays will kick off with a soft opening on Tuesday (Aug. 2) and Thursday (Aug. 4), with an official grand opening on Aug. 9.

“We are eager and grateful to partner with the Carolinian Affairs Office and the Indigenous Affairs Office on this event, which we’re sure our visitors will love once the word spreads,” said MVA Managing Director Priscilla M. Iakopo. “Our visitors are looking for authentic cultural experiences and nighttime activities, and this event aligns perfectly with MVA’s Strategic Plan 2020-2030 to promote indigenous culture. We are also sharing details with local tour agents so they can bring their guests by.”

The MVA is providing funding for nightly entertainment and support with publicity, while CAO is providing man-power and logistical coordination.

“We are truly excited to collaborate with MVA on this event. We invite everyone to come out and join us,” said Executive Assistant for Carolinian Affairs John Tagabuel.

The event will also feature the CAO’s Project Liffang, where small business entrepreneurs such as local artists and craftspeople sell their local products.

For more information, please contact Carolinian Affairs Office Project Coordinator Agatha Ketebengang at outreach.cao@gmail.com or 1.670.234.6384.

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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. The Marianas is the first destination with a travel bubble agreement with South Korea, with direct flights from Seoul-Incheon and Busan. United Airlines flies daily from Guam. Interisland travel to Rota and Tinian 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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