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2019 - 20

Welcome to the Pacific



Your guide
to being stationed on

GUAM



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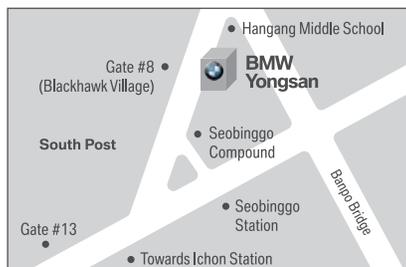
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2019-20
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STARS AND STRIPES

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This is your guide!

If you're reading this, then you've likely already arrived in Guam. On behalf of the Stars and Stripes family, we'd like to welcome you as you begin your stay in the Asia-Pacific region. No handshakes or hugs here though – just some useful information you're going to want to know.

Our aim with the Welcome to the Pacific 2019-20 magazine is to get you acquainted as you begin your new overseas journey. Looking to take Space A hop? We'll tell you how to do it! Need a set of wheels? Flip a few more pages and find some of the top dealerships near you.

Please use this as a guide to help you get settled in. It's a big change and hopefully this can provide some help as you learn the lay of the land.

Proceed knowing Stars and Stripes has you covered beyond the valuable information in this magazine. Every week, pick up a new edition of Stripes Guam inside the blue boxes you'll see around base. This community newspaper will give you the run down on off-base events, interesting must-see sights and even that new lunch spot you were curious about but haven't tried.

So, make sure to grab a copy and check us out the next time you pass a blue box.

Forgot to pick up this week's copy? Fear not, Guam.Stripes.com is stocked with thousands of travel, food and culture stories for all your adventure-planning needs.

At Stripes, our community newspapers and community websites are actually *your* community newspapers and community websites.

Keeping with the theme, this year we sought out community contributions for this edition's front cover. We were pleased to receive many photo submissions from the people in your new community. It was a tough decision, but Guam resident Alysa Nuque's photo was chosen to grace the cover of the magazine you're holding now. And photos submitted by others appear inside.

We are always interested and would love to hear from you on what you want to read about. Have a story idea? Visit one of our websites and let us know. Better yet, do you have a great story to tell? Maybe it's about a cool trip you took or a group of students working on cool project. Submit your story and photos and you might just find yourself published in the paper!

While you check out our websites, don't forget to like us on Facebook @StripesPacific. Give us a thumbs up to stay up-to-date on all the latest news relating to the U.S. military community stationed in the Pacific. And if free stuff is your jam, make sure to keep an eye out for our photo contests and giveaway promotions.

Thanks for reading and as they say here in Guam: Hafa adai!

Denisse Rauda
Publishing and Media Design Editor
Stars and Stripes
Spring 2019

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Guam's vibrant culture, people

Guam, the largest and southernmost of the Mariana Islands chain, has a unique and complex cultural history. Located in the Western Pacific in the geographic region known as Micronesia, Guam is well known for its strategic military and economic position between Asia and the North American continent, but is less known for its remarkable history and resilient people.

Inhabited for thousands of years, archaeological evidence indicates that the Marianas Islands were one of the first places to be settled by seafaring peoples, possibly from the Maritime Southeast Asia area, over 4,000 years ago. The Mariana Islands appear to have been continuously occupied by people who shared the same culture and language that eventually became known as Chamorro.

Guam's history is also one of multi-colonialism, with the last 400 years of Guam's history marked by administrations of three different colonial powers: Spain, the United States and Japan.

The ceding of Guam to the United States as an unincorporated territory after the Spanish-American War in 1898 introduced Chamorros to democratic principles of government and the modern American lifestyle, while keeping them subjects of a sometimes-oppressive U.S. Naval administration.

Guam also had a unique position in World War II, when Japan invaded the island shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. For the next three years, Guam was the only U.S. territory occupied by Japanese forces until the Americans returned in 1944 to reclaim the island.

The political maneuverings after World War II and the post-war buildup led to even more expansion of U.S. military interests in Guam and the rest of Micronesia, with Guam becoming a hub for economic and commercial development. The easing of military restrictions for entering Guam and the establishment of a local, civilian government, have made the island an ideal place for people from all over the world to visit, go to school, find jobs or pursue a variety of economic interests.

Today, in addition to its inviting beaches, elegant hotels and great bargains, Guam



Photo by Airman 1st Class Gerald Willis
Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

has another vital attraction – its unique culture. The traditions and customs of Guam's proud island heritage thrive, despite invading conquerors, wars and epidemics, and changing governments. Forged from a neolithic foundation and molded by historical events, Guam's living culture has expanded into a vibrant, modern way of life.

Since the 17th century, Catholic churches have been the center of village activities. Even today, every village has its patron saint whose feast day is celebrated with an elaborate fiesta, which the entire island is invited to attend. Family groups still hold christening parties, weddings, novenas, funerals, and death- anniversary rosaries. All are flavored by the rich Spanish heritage.

Spanish influence may also be seen in the mestiza, a style of women's clothing, or in the architecture of Guam's southern villages.

Countless Americans, Europeans, Asians, Micronesians and other visitors have left their imprints on the island's pastimes and tastes, but nowhere is the island's multicultural influence more evident than in its food.

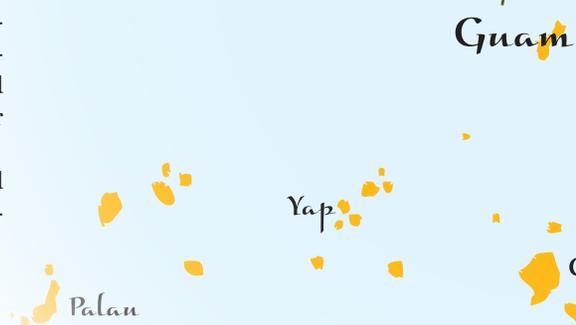
At a fiesta or other island party, families prepare heavily laden tables of local delicacies, such as red rice, shrimp patties, a Filipino-style noodle dish called pancit, barbecued ribs and chicken, and taro leaves cooked in coconut milk. Another mouth-watering treat is kelaguen, usually prepared from chopped broiled chicken, lemon juice, grated coconut and hot peppers. Fiery finadene sauce, made with soy sauce, lemon juice or vinegar, hot peppers, and onions, is sprinkled over the food for a truly memorable dish. After a hearty meal, Chamorros often enjoy chewing pugua (betel nut) mixed with powdered lime and wrapped in pepper leaf.

Music is an integral aspect of an island lifestyle, and performances using traditional instruments, such as the belembaotuyan, are highlights of cultural



presentations. The belembaotuyan, made from a hollow gourd and strung with a taut wire and pressed against one's bare stomach, creates a melodic sound enjoyed by all. The nose flute, once a long forgotten instrument, is now making a hearty return.

The Kantan Chamorro style of singing has been a favorite form of entertainment for generations. Additionally, it has been used



Culture
Community
Online
Transportation
Education
Food
Leisure

Guam's Seven Historical Eras

2,000 BC – 1668: Ancient Guam

People first arrived on Guam and the rest of the Mariana Islands probably from South-east Asia, possibly in many waves over many years. These people evolved into the Chamorro people with their own distinct language and way of life.

1668 – 1898: Spanish Era

Starting with the arrival of Father San Vitores, Guam was colonized by Spain until the Spanish-American War.

1898 – 1941: U.S. Naval Era

The U.S. Navy ruled Guam from the end of the Spanish-American War up until the Japanese invasion of Guam on Dec. 8, 1941. The Chamorros petitioned for U.S. citizenship for the first time in 1901.

1941 – 1944: World War II/Japanese Era

Japanese forces occupied Guam from Dec. 8, 1941 to July 21, 1944.

1944-1950: Post-War Era

A period of rebuilding after the destruction of World War II. Naval governors were once again in charge of the island. This is the period when the military took land and built several large bases. The people of Guam pushed hard for self-rule and U.S. citizenship.

1950 – 1970: Guamanian Era

With the signing of the Organic Act on Aug. 1, 1950, Chamorros became U.S. citizens, though they had limited self-government. The governor, a civilian, was appointed by the U.S. president. The Organic Act set up the government of Guam as well, with the administration, the legislature and the courts. The term "Guamanian" was coined, which includes Chamorros, Filipinos and everyone else who makes Guam their home.

1970 – Present: Contemporary Guam

Guam's first elected governor took office and Guam started getting more tourism business on a regular basis, which gave the island a second industry besides the military.

- Guampedia



Photos courtesy of Guam Visitors Bureau

Contemporary music is an important element of social gatherings, ranging from fiestas and fandangos to casual backyard parties. Musicians usually sing Chamorro, American, Filipino, or a variety of Asian songs.

Legends and folklore about village taotaomo'na (ancient spirits), doomed lovers leaping to their death off Two Lovers' Point (Puntan Dos Amantes), and Sirena, a beautiful young girl who became a mermaid, are portrayed in many of Guam's enriching cultural dances.

Guam's traditional arts are very much alive. During cultural fairs and exhibitions, visitors often have the opportunity to watch master weavers, carvers and even a blacksmith at work.

Weavers, using the traditional pandanus or coconut fibers, fashion baskets of various sizes, purses, hats, floor mats and wall hangings. Carvers hew tables, plaques, figurines of people or animals, and household implements using ifil wood or pago woods.

The traditional ways are being passed along to the younger generations through apprenticeship programs in order to preserve the island's art heritage. A master blacksmith, for example, recently graduated three pupils who have learned how to make useful steel farming and fishing implements, such as coconut graters, hoes, machetes and fishing spearheads. Other hand-forged items include betel nut scissors, tools for weaving and knives.

A trip to Guam is like visiting the four exotic corners of the globe. Guam is considered the hub of the western Pacific and undeniably Micronesia's most cosmopolitan destination - a true example of the great American melting pot. In addition to the indigenous Chamorros and 'stateside' Americans, Guam boasts large populations of Filipinos, Chinese, Japanese, Koreans and Micronesian Islanders, as well as a few Vietnamese, Indians and Europeans.

- Guam Visitors Bureau



Guam

to lighten long hours of group work activity, such as weaving, corn husking and net fishing. One singer would begin the familiar four-line chant, referring romantically or teasingly in the verse to another person in the group. The challenged person would then take up the tune and the song might continue in this fashion with different singers for hours.

aiapan
nian
Rota

Marshall Islands

Micronesia

huk
Pohnpei
Kosrae

Chamorro language guidelines

Most of the younger Chamorros you meet on Guam, or “Guåhan,” are not likely to speak much more of the Chamorro language than the ubiquitous greeting, “Håfa adai!” But while the number of Chamorro speakers has decreased over the decades, a recent surge in interest in preserving local history, traditions and culture indicate the language may be around for centuries to come. English may be the lingua franca on the island today, but you might be surprised at how many speak some of the Chamorro language – and would appreciate your attempt to speak it, too. Here are some basics to get you started.

Letter Pronunciation

A (æ)	E (e)	I (i)	Ñ (ɲ)	~ (ɭ)
Å (a)	F (f)	K (k)	Ng (ŋ)	S (s)
B (b)	G (g)	L (l)	O (o)	T (t)
Ch (ts)	Gu (g ^w)	M (m)	P (p)	U (u)
D (d)	H (h)	N (n)	R (r)	Y (dz)

Note: The letter Y is pronounced more like DZ (an approximation of the regional Spanish pronunciation). The letters N and Ñ, and A and Å, are not always distinguished in print. Thus, the Guamanian place name spelled “Yona” is pronounced “Dzɔna,” not “Jona” as might be expected. “Ch” is usually pronounced like “Ts,” rather than as it is in English. The Chamorro R is a flat (ɾ), like a Spanish R between vowels, and a retroflex approximant (ɭ), a type of consonantal sound, like the English R at the beginning of words.

BASIC CHAMORRO PHRASES

Håfa Adai! – Hello
(informal)

lit: What/How, Friend.

Also spelled Hafa dai, Hafadai, Hafa dei or Hafadei.

Memorias – Greetings (From Spanish)

Kao mamaolek ha' hao? – How are you?
(informal)

lit: Are you doing well?

Håfa tatatmånu hao? – How are you?
(formal)

Håyi nå'ån-mu? – What is your name?

Nå'ån-hu si John – My name is John
Ñålang yu' – I'm hungry

Må'o yu' – I'm thirsty

Ådios – Goodbye (From Spanish)

Put Fabot – Please (From Spanish)

Fanatåtte – Leave later
(informal)

Buenas dias – Good morning
(From Spanish)

Buenas tåtdes – Good afternoon
(From Spanish)

Buenas noches – Good night
(From Spanish)



Esta ågupa' – Until tomorrow

Si Yu'us ma'åse' – Thank you
(lit: God have mercy)

Buen probechu – You're welcome
(From Spanish)

For more information on the Chamorro language, see chamorrolanguage.blogspot.com

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USO connects you to family, home and country

Whether you are stationed on Guam or even if you are on island for a short deployment, USO Guam is a place where you will find your “home away from home.” It is the ideal place for newcomers to get their bearings, for local military families and guests to gather, for those on deployments to connect with loved ones, and for those in transit to relax and unwind. To deliver USO’s mission of connecting servicemembers and their families to family, home and country throughout their service to our nation, USO Guam offers a wide variety of free programs and services to keep our military and their families connected with things they often miss while rendering service to our country.

Our two centers located in Guam’s Tumon Bay tourism district and at Andersen Air Force Base now welcome more than 80,000 visitors a year. In addition, our area outreach provides special events and programs for an additional 20,000 servicemembers and families annually to Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard and Guam National Guard locations where we do not have a center.

USO Tumon Bay

USO Guam’s award-winning center located in the heart of Guam’s Tumon Bay tourism district at the Royal Orchid Hotel welcomes approximately 50,000 visitors every year from servicemembers, families, and their guests. The USO is here to ensure the best in hospitality. This unique, 5,000 square foot center offers a comfortable and relaxed “island style” environment with an array of gratis services including homemade hot food and refreshments, local and long-distance calls, high-speed internet and Wi-Fi, and more.

Regular hours of center operation:

Sun. – Thurs.: 8 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Fri. and Sat.: 8 a.m. – midnight

Center services:

- Freshly brewed coffee and cold drinks
- Hot food, refreshments served daily
- Local and long-distance calling
- High-speed internet and Wi-Fi
- Local community and “things-to-do” resources

- cardless cash ATM
- Large flat screen TVs with premium digital programming, online gaming
- computers with CAC readers
- Morale calls
- Massage chairs
- Video game systems
- Billiards
- Sesame street playroom
- Karaoke room
- Meeting space for group functions

USO Andersen

USO Tumon Bay





USO Andersen

As America's "tip of the spear" military location in the Pacific, Guam's military population is on the rise. To ensure USO is close at hand whenever needed, an additional center opened at Andersen Air Force Base in September 2017. With an average of about 3,500 visits per month, this new center serves the Air Force population of the 36th Wing and its tenant commands, units from the U.S. and surrounding Pacific locales who regularly deploy to Guam, the now permanently stationed Army units on Guam, and the expected influx of more than 5,000 Marines and families within the next five years.

Regular hours of center operation:

Sun. – Thurs.: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Fri. and Sat.: 10 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Center services:

- Freshly brewed coffee and cold drinks
- Morning, afternoon and evening refreshments served daily
- Local and long-distance calling
- High-speed internet and Wi-Fi
- Local community and "things-to-do" resources
- Large flat screen tvs with premium digital programming and online gaming
- Relaxation areas and reading materials
- Computers with CAC Readers
- Outdoor gazebos with BBQ grills and comfortable seating
- Special programming to support "no dough" dinners at barracks
- Mobile programming to isolated areas of Northwest Field for Special events (barbecues, flapjack Fridays, etc.)



Area outreach programming

In addition to its center operations, USO Guam serves more than 20,000 servicemembers and families through its area outreach programming each year. At the southern end of the island, this includes robust pier-side support for Naval Base Guam.

Sailors, Marines and Coastguardsmen enjoy USO support for homecomings, deployments, holiday celebrations and other special happenings. With a base population of approximately 4,500 and an additional 100,000 sailors in port each year, servicemembers and their families remain connected through USO Guam programs and services specifically targeted to the naval and Coast Guard operations on the island.

USO Guam also partners with the Andersen Air Force Base Guam Chapel to serve hundreds of airmen and soldiers monthly at the isolated Northwest Field training and defense area at the northern end of the island. This remote, rough terrain area offers limited meal options (even drinking water has to be transported to the locale each day), and our military personnel there

work in rough conditions.

To help keep the morale of these awesome individuals uplifted, the AAFB Chapel and USO serve flapjack breakfasts or lunch with grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers to members of the 554 Red Horse Squadron (USAF) on odd numbered months and Task Force Talon (THAAD) on even numbered months.

Guam is also home to its beloved Guam National Guard whose members protect and defend the island while also deploying to locations around the globe in support of our nation. USO Guam takes special pride in serving these 1,500+ local heroes through special events at the GNG installation, deployments, homecomings, and command and family gatherings at the USO.

USO Guam welcomes all military and their guests to please visit one of our island's centers or special programming initiatives. Visit us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/USOGuam](https://www.facebook.com/USOGuam), or get up-to-the-minute information on our website at guam.uso.org. Thank you for your service to our country!



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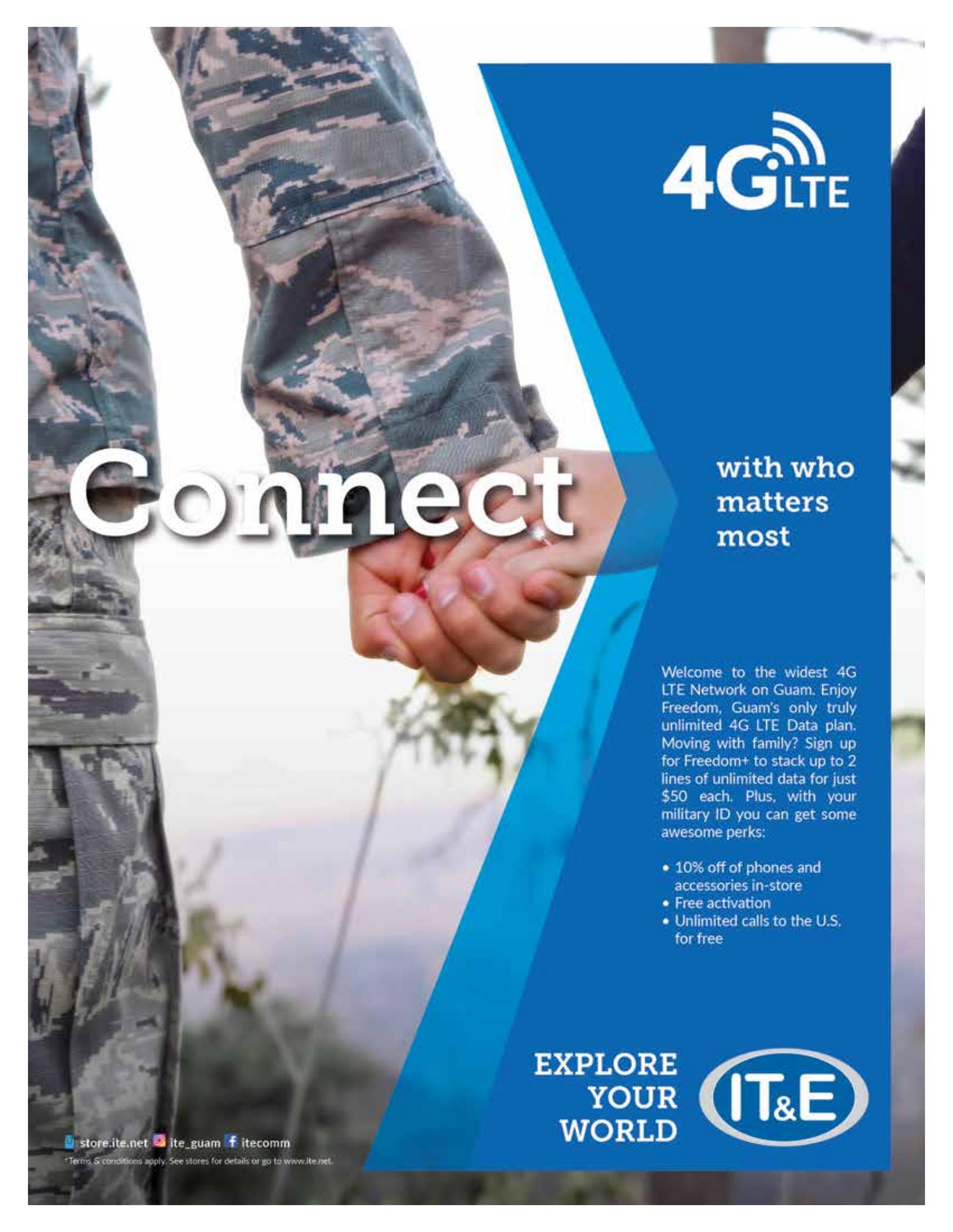
Keep in touch with friends and family the minute you arrive on Guam. Shop online at store.ite.net for phones and plans. When you arrive, swing by any one of our stores to pick up your phone or SIM. Love your phone? Go for the *Keep Your Phone Plan* and get 1 month of free service on a 12-month contract; or 2 months of free service on a 24-month contract. Take all the time you need to catch up with friends back home. Talk whenever you want for as long as you want with FREE calls to the States. Even dependents can sign up. Like, love, share, and keep up with friends on social media with unlimited 4G LTE data. Freedom is the only plan on Guam with truly unlimited 4G LTE data. Work, play, and connect without worrying about data caps or throttling.

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matters
most

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Finding a job on Guam

So, you followed your spouse to Guam. They have a job. You don't. There are jobs available on Guam, but you just need to know where to look. Here's some helpful resources to get you started on your job search:

Guam Department of Labor's One-Stop Career Center

Great place to visit early on so your name can be placed on a list of jobseekers and your resume can be available to a potential employer match.

Office Location: Bell Tower Plaza, 3rd Floor
710 West Marine Corps Drive
Hagatna, GU 96910

Mailing Address: 710 West Marine Corps Drive

Suite 301, Bell Tower Plaza
Hagatna, GU 96910

Phone: (671) 475-7000/1

Fax: (671) 475-7045

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (except Government of Guam holidays)

Pacific Daily News

The PDN's online job finder service php.guampdn.com/sites/jobfind/ is a great resource.

Hireguam.com

This is the official job bank for the island of Guam. It is the American Job Center's free online service for job seekers, students and businesses. This means you can partake in a

multitude of services from anywhere on the island using a computer.

guamjobsonline.com

A list of job openings for on and off island.

www.usajobs.gov

Looking for a job with the U.S. government? Here's the site to check out.

Getting connected with a cell phone

You have probably had your own cell phone since you were in high school, and gradually learned the ins and outs of calling plans as you grew older. But now you are on Guam, and the familiar U.S. cell phone carriers are not available. Moreover, the distance between Guam and home in the U.S. means you have different service requirements than before.

Buying a cell phone is more than just getting a handset; you also have to select a service provider. And with a smorgasbord of carriers offering different technologies and service plans, choosing a provider should be the first step – before signing a contract that will tie you to a carrier for most of your time on the island.

On Guam, there are four main providers: Docomo Pacific, GTA, iConnect and IT&E. If you want to weigh your options and see all of

what Guam cell providers have to offer, here is a quick breakdown:

Docomo Pacific

Docomo Pacific is one of Guam



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GTA

GTA provides complete communication services on Guam. These include local and long distance telephone service, wireless, high-speed internet, advanced digital television, and carrier-class data circuits. Based in Tamuning, Guam, GTA is privately owned and locally managed. For more information, visit www.gta.net.



iConnect

iConnect is a premier provider of world class communications and high-speed mobile data services and products on Guam and the Marianas. They offer a wide variety of phones, smartphones and devices. Unlimited U.S. calling and texting on postpaid and prepaid, budget friendly long distance rates and other affordable calling and data plans are the hallmarks of iConnect. Visit www.icconnectguam.com for more information.

IT&E

IT & E offers a full range of cellular, wireless data, long distance, roaming and corporate data services on Guam. The company pioneered many of the advances in domestic/international calling, internet, data and wireless services. Visit www.ite.net for more information on IT&E's selection of the latest smartphones, tablets and mobile devices.



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Veterinary services & clinics

The Boller Veterinary Clinic and the Andersen Veterinary Treatment Facility are fully operated vet clinics (i.e. grooming services, vaccinations, spay/neutering services, micro-chipping, deworming, etc), but do not have emergency care. Patrons who have MWR privileges are eligible to use both clinics. For more information call:

- **Boller Veterinary Clinic:** 671-333-3225
- **Andersen Veterinary Treatment Facility:** 671-366-3205

Off-base veterinary clinics

- **Animal Medical Clinic (Dededo):**
Tel: 671-366-3205
- **Isla Veterinary Clinic (Asan):**
Tel: 671-477-7879
Emergency: 1-877-822-6651
- **Marianas VetCare (Barrigada):**
Tel: 671-734-6341
- **Wise Owl (Tamuning):**
Tel: 671-646-2273



Vaccinations, licensing & registration

Guam does not have strict leash or pet licensing and registration laws. Although, if you live on base your pet must always be on a leash, micro-chipped and registered at the Boller Veterinary Clinic on Naval Base Guam or the Andersen Veterinary Treatment Facility on Andersen Air Force Base.

Pet-friendly hotels on Guam

Navy Gateway Inns & Suites

Tel: 671-339-5259

The Westin Resort

105 Gun Beach Road, Tamuning, GU 96913

Tel: 671-647-1020

LeoPalace Resort

221 Lake View Drive, Yona, GU 96915

Tel: 671-471-0001

Days Inn

155 Ypao Road, Tamuning,

GU 96913

Tel: 671-646-3297



Who to Call

Department of Agriculture
Animal Health Section

163 Dairy Road

Mangilao, Guam 96913

Tel: (671) 734-3942/3

Fax: (671) 734-6569

e-mail: gu.agri@yahoo.com

Base Animal Control

Tel: 671-339-3414

Stray Animal/Adoption Facilities:

G.A.I.N. Tel: 674-653-4246



– Source: Naval Base Guam

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Guam online

Choice sites to help you enjoy your stay

Guam

This is, hands down, the most comprehensive site for local military community news and events as well as travel, restaurant reviews and off-base activities on island. [guam.stripes.com](http://www.guam.stripes.com)

Detailed site offers a wealth of information, from dining and shopping to entertainment and maps. www.guam-online.com

Fun website is a great source for local activities, attractions, travel and more. theguamguide.com

This is a portal to nine active sites with contact details and related video on anything from popular eateries and who sells the best fruit smoothies to hot shopping spots and volunteer groups. hotguam.com

This is Guam's major daily newspaper. www.guampdn.com

Guam factoids

This is an online encyclopedia of almost all things Guam, including its history, culture and indigenous language as well as contemporary arts, issues and more. www.guampedia.com

Government

The official website of the Guam government is loaded with useful info on the island territory, including a handy "how to" section with info ranging from registering a vehicle to starting a business. www.guam.gov

Culture

This gateway to rare snippets of Guam history, culture and archeology offers entry into a realm of Chamorro legends, vintage photos, archeological discoveries and local arts. guam.org.gu

Food

Guam native and former Air Force officer can help you create some tasty Chamorro dishes. www.annieschamorrokitchen.com

All things about BBQing, cooking and eating on bbqguam.blogspot.com

Military

The Command Joint Region Marianas website offers official military information for servicemembers and the general public, as well as links to the installation websites for Andersen Air Force Base and Naval Base Guam. www.cnic.navy.mil

No matter where you are stationed, this is the most relevant source of news for America's military, other Defense Department personnel and their families. stripes.com

Tourism

The official website of Guam Visitors Bureau offers all the essentials needed for a first time visit or extended stay – including a pretty handy island-wide events calendar. www.visitguam.com

Nearby islands

Information – including a handy events calendar – about the neighboring Northern Mariana Islands (Saipan, Tinian and Rota) is at: mymarianas.com

Diving

Hosted by MDA (Micronesian Divers Association), this site is a great place to start when it comes to getting the basics on diving in Guam. www.mdaguam.com

Running

With its list of annual foot races, courses, race results and contacts, the homepage of the host of the annual Guam Marathon is a good starting point for getting into any race. guamrunning.club



Ride out the storm with Dave

Dave Ornaier has been with Stars and Stripes since 1981, and one of his first assignments as a beat reporter in the old Japan News Bureau was "typhoon chaser." Pacific Storm Tracker is designed to take the technical weather lingo and simplify it for the average Stripes reader.

www.stripes.com/blogs/pacific-storm-tracker



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Getting behind the wheel

Purchasing a vehicle

‘Where America’s Day Begins’

In addition to the usual considerations for purchasing a vehicle, service personnel must choose whether to buy from another service member or the equivalent, a local resident or a car dealer. A fourth option is Military AutoSource (formerly Exchange New Car Sales).

Military AutoSource is ideal for those who can afford it. Vehicles come with import licenses, bill of sale and a warranty. Just because someone can afford such a purchase, however, does not mean they can afford to ship the vehicle back home or to their next duty station.

So whether one’s “follow-on” orders are likely to include vehicle shipment is one thing to stop and consider with this option. Chances of selling the vehicle for its true value before PCSing out are not likely to be high.

Many people opt for buying used vehicles from military or civilian personnel PCSing out. The ritual usually begins with a visit to the base’s so-called (sometimes figuratively, sometimes not) lemon lot for a few rounds of tire kicking and/or haggling. It is possible to find one’s ideal vehicle in near-perfect shape. The only guarantee, however, is that there are no guarantees.

People with short tours tend to do minimal maintenance and a vehicle may have had more than one short-term owner. Analyze any defects and consider the repair costs. Without any warranty the risk is significant.

Also, bear in mind that regulations vary between military installations, requiring different steps for vehicle transfers between bases, import vehicles and motorcycles. Check with the

appropriate offices before making any plans or purchases.

An off-base dealer is probably the safest bet for getting a quality pre-owned vehicle. There are likely to be hundreds of cars to choose from. The registration process isn’t difficult and many dealers offer direct finance plans.

If the dealer has a garage for maintenance, that’s a bonus. Minor repairs can be taken care of before and after you select your car. If you have access to a base auto hobby shop and you like working on cars you can save lots of money.

Always insist on a warranty when buying a car from a dealer.

For your added protection, the Auto Hobby Shop on Andersen Air Force Base and the at Navy Exchange Car Care Center offer inexpensive inspections of used cars that servicemen and women are considering purchasing. These cover the same points the local motor vehicle department checks.

The car dealers on Guam are just as sophisticated and high tech as those in the States, with the best of them operating websites that enable you to shop online before you visit the showroom. You can input the year, make and model of the vehicle you are interested in, and then see photos of the cars the dealers have in stock, the general specifications and the sticker price.

This goes for both new and pre-owned cars. You still have to go to the dealership to negotiate the price and put up with the sales tactics that are universally used by car dealers, but you will at least have an idea of what you want and information in your hand before you go.

Some major dealerships catering to the military community on Guam are:

Military AutoSource offers Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram, Ford, Lincoln and Harley-Davidson vehicles to military personnel stationed, or on TDY assignment, abroad for at least 30 days. It has independent sales representatives on or near U.S. bases throughout Japan. www.militaryautosource.com. There are two offices on Andersen Air Force Base – one in the BX (653-3155) and one by the Shoppette (653-7741). On Naval Base Guam, you can contact the office near the Main Exchange (564-3259).

Atkins Kroll is the automotive distributor for Toyota, Lexus, BMW, and Chevrolet. They have the largest inventory of Used Cars on the island, largest parts warehouse, and is the only automotive dealer with its own body & paint shop. You can reach them at 443 South Marine Corps Drive, telephone 649-6410, and AKGuam.com.

Guam AutoSpot (www.guamautospot.com) carries the full line of new Mitsubishi cars and a huge selection of quality used cars and trucks from all major brands; serving you from two locations on Marine Corps Drive (Route 1) in East Agaña and Adelup. For military discount pricing, just click military appreciation on their website and shop “mouse to house.”

Cars Plus is located in Maite, right across Tiyan, at 647 Route 8. It handles Jeep, Chrysler, Dodge, and Hyundai vehicles, both new and used, as well as Honda, Kawasaki and Suzuki motorcycles and SYM scooter

lines through its Cycles Plus division. For more information, visit www.carsplusguam.com or call 300-8155.

Nissan Guam lives up to its name, offering a wide selection of Nissan automobiles as well as a large number pre-owned vehicles. See what they have to offer on their website at www.nissanguam.com, or drop in to their showroom in Tamuning at 1012 North Marine Corps Drive. Call ahead for an appointment at 647-7261.

Prestige Automobiles operates two locations on Guam, with its sales office for Land Rover and Subaru at 491 East Marine Corps Drive in Dededo, and one specializing in Pre-Owned cars and Subaru at 1339 North Marine Corps Drive in Upper Tumon. Visit their website at prestigeautoguam.com or contact them at 633-2698 (Dededo)/647-2698 (Upper Tumon).

Triple J Motors has the widest selection of vehicle brands on Guam, including Ford, Honda, Acura, Mazda, Kia, Lincoln and Volvo, as well as top commercial brands like Ford, Isuzu and Blue Bird. They also offer all qualified military personnel a \$500 purchase incentive that can be used towards the purchase of a new or pre-owned vehicle at any of their Guam locations. It has three locations: on the corner of Airport Rd. and Marine Corps. Dr. in front of Kmart, next to McDonald’s in Tumuning and in front of Kmart in upper Tumon. You can also get a real time 360-degree view of their entire inventory and get pre-approved instantly at triplejguam.com. To speak to a sales associate, visit one of their showrooms or call 648-(CARS) 2277.



Motor vehicle rules

Safety inspections

All private motor vehicles must pass an annual Government of Guam Vehicle Safety Inspection. Before you buy a car, ensure that it has a current inspection. The safety inspection and the vehicle's license plates are transferable to the new owner.

Guam requires all vehicle operators to carry a minimum insurance coverage of \$25,000 personal liability for each injured person, \$50,000 personal liability for each accident, and \$20,000 personal liability for property damage.

Driver's license

For active duty military members, a valid driver's license from the member's state of legal residence or an expired license from a state of residence that honors a military waiver; as long as the military ID is current, is valid on Guam. For further information, please refer to the base legal office. However, spouses are required to get a Guam driver's license 30 days after arriving on island.

No need for speed

The highest speed limit on Guam roadways is 35 mph. Many areas are hazardous and therefore posted at reduced speeds.

Route #1, or Marine Corps Drive, is the most heavily traveled roadway on Guam. Traffic itself presents a hazard on this roadway most of the time. Additionally, wild and domestic animals may suddenly cross this roadway without warning. Numerous fatalities have occurred on this roadway, so use caution and drive defensively at all times.

Quick tips

- Guam's traffic laws require that your car's headlights be turned on during periods of reduced visibility (rainstorms, darkness, etc.).
- As a result of the coral roads, road conditions on Guam are extremely harsh on both car and bicycles causing the tires to wear fast. Pay attention to the level of air and constantly check for leaks.
- Most roadway shoulders are

unimproved, so use caution when pulling off onto the shoulder. Numerous roadways on Guam have uneven or jagged edges, with a drop off of one inch to six inches, or more. If you drive off the edge of the roadway, grip the steering wheel firmly, and gradually slow down without braking. When speed and conditions permit, steer back onto the roadway.

- Due to the numerous potholes along the roadways, motorists tend to swerve to avoid any possible tire damage, be aware and drive defensively. Many of the roadway entrances are blocked by overgrown vegetation, so never assume the person turning on or off of the highway can see you.
- Drivers on Guam tend to use both lanes for travel, i.e., the left lane on 4-lane or greater roads is not necessarily perceived as the "fast" or "passing" lane (remember the max posted speed limit is 35 MPH!!).

Motorcycles

All two-wheeled motor vehicles (including mopeds and scooters over 50cc) are required to be licensed

by Guam. According to Guam law, you are required to obtain a Government of Guam license for motorcycle operation.

Motorcycles are required to carry the same minimum liability insurance coverage as automobiles.

Motorcycle operators and passengers, and moped/scooter operators must wear a DOT approved helmet, impact resistant goggles or face shield, long sleeved shirt, long pants, sturdy shoes that cover the ankle (no sandals or loafers), and full fingered motorcycle gloves. Passengers are prohibited on mopeds. Operators must have their headlight on at all times.

In addition, active duty riders (motorcycles, mopeds/motorized scooters over 49cc) MUST attend your base's motorcycle safety course. Please call your Safety office for further details.

Did You Know?

Guam has one of six non-voting members in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Public transportation

Buses

Mass transit service is provided by the Guam Mass Transit Authority, which currently operates buses on nine routes, connecting nearly all of the villages of the island.

Service frequencies vary from 30 minutes to two hours. Service on all routes is provided, Monday through Saturday and is available to people with disabilities.

No service is provided on Sundays or on



holidays. Hours of service generally run from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., although three of the routes begin service at 5:30 a.m.

The standard fare is \$3.00/day, \$1.00/ride with discounts available for senior citizens, students, and physically challenged passengers.

For ages 6 to 18 and 55+ year-olds, the fare is 35¢/ride, \$1.00/day.

Prices and routes are subject to change without notice.

Taxis

Taxis are readily available at all hotels and major shopping centers. All taxis have regulated meters, and the standard flag rate is \$2.40, \$4 for the first mile, and \$0.80 every 1/4 mile thereafter.

Typical one-way fares are about \$5 to \$6 from the airport to Tumon Bay hotels, and \$8 to \$10 from Tumon to Hagåtña.

A round-trip fare from Tumon to Merizo, in southern Guam, is approximately \$80 to \$100.



Space-A travel

A way to see the world

A privilege to Uniformed Forces personnel, their dependents, retirees, and others who support the mission, the Space-Available travel program may be a great option for seeing the world on a budget ... if the timing is right. The program is nicknamed Space-A, and although that A is short for “available,” it could also mean “attitude.” Learning how to navigate the program with a positive attitude, plenty of leave and a back-up plan is key for a successful “hop.”

What is Space-A?

The Space-A program allows authorized passengers to occupy surplus DoD aircraft seats after all space-required duty passengers and cargo have been accommodated. Most Space-A flights are offered through the Air Force’s Air Mobility Command (AMC) or the Navy and are usually free of charge, except for a small tax (usually under \$30) charged per seat and per leg, when seats are on commercial, they are through Patriot Express flights. Common destinations include the Continental U.S. states, Hawaii, Alaska, Germany, England, Spain, Italy, Japan and South Korea. Flights may even go

to South and Central America, Africa and Australia. The best time to obtain seats is when DODEA schools are in session.

Have a back-up plan

Because this program is a privilege and not an entitlement, it is imperative to understand the circumstances may change due to mission mobility. Flying exactly where you want to go at the time or day you want to fly is not always possible. The first obligation of the AMC is to fill seats for military missions, therefore available seating fluctuates and could change at any time on any part of your destination. So, if you have a specific itinerary, event or obligation waiting for you at your destination or on your return, you may want to reconsider using Space-A for those travel plans. This program is designed for those who have enough available leave, time and flexibility to wait or change their schedule.

For example, it may be a breeze to sign up and get seats on the first flight, but when you try to return, you could wait several days for available space. Or, you could even be dropped off in another country to wait for a flight. Remaining calm,

positive and being flexible will help. Sometimes travelers attempt to catch a hop at neighboring base terminals. For example, it is not uncommon to travel between Ramstein and Spangdahlem Air Bases to attempt to get a seat. Or, travelers drive between terminals in Dover and Baltimore on a regular basis seeking seats. When flying Space-A, be ready for anything. Create a back-up plan and have available funds in case you need to make other travel arrangements and accommodations when space just isn’t available.

Who can fly Space-A?

The program was created as a way to enhance the lives of Uniformed Services duty personnel by creating an avenue of respite; recognize the careers of veterans who have served; and extend a privilege to other categories of passengers such as dependents of Uniformed Services personnel, Red Cross and USO personnel who also support the mission. Passengers may not use the flights for personal gain, in relationship to employment, to find a house or for other prohibited activities.

Qualified travelers of Space-A travel need to be sure they have

completed the proper procedures to ready for travel and also have the required documentation. For instance, active duty must be on leave before they can register for travel. Dependents of active duty flying unaccompanied need an Unaccompanied Command Sponsorship from his or her spouse’s commander. The letter is valid for one round-trip travel via military aircraft, describes the reason for travel and the category of passenger travel. The following are also mandatory for travel: military ID cards, passports, social security numbers and emergency contact information at the final destination.

How do you register?

You may register in person at each Space-A passenger terminal at either the helpdesk, or through self-help kiosks. You may also register through email, fax or online, for up to five departure airports and five countries of destination. The website www.takeahop.org offers a free service to help you register for five departure airports as well as five countries at the same time. Recently, the site rolled out both a Take-A-Hop iPhone and Android app for smartphone users. For a few dollars, you have instant access

to all Space-A terminal contacts, flight information and the ability to quickly sign up for up to five flights through your phone. You can also monitor available activity at the terminals through the app to save you time and keep you mobile.

Once registered, your information remains active for either 60 days, or for the duration of your leave orders or authorization of flight, whichever occurs first. Print a copy of your registration to keep on hand at the terminal. The time and date stamp of your registration determines your position and priority within your Space-A category.

Each passenger is assigned a passenger category for travel. These categories designate the order by which you may be boarded on Space-A flights. The following list is generalized. For a detailed list, please see the Space-A handbook link mentioned above:

Category I – Emergency travel on a round-trip basis in connection with serious illness, death, or impending death of a member of the immediate family.

Category II – Environmental Morale Leave (EML) and dependents.

Category III – Active duty ordinary Leave and dependents; convalescent leave; permissive TDYs; Unaccompanied dependent of deployed servicemember for more than a year.

Category IV – Unaccompanied dependent of deployed servicemember on EML status.

Category V – Unaccompanied military dependent of non-deployed servicemember.

Category VI – Retirees, Reservists.

PACIFIC LOCATIONS

OKINAWA

KADENA AB

733 AMS, Unit 5145 Box 10
Phone: 634-5806 / 098-962 6487

Facebook.com/AMCKadena

Mainland JAPAN

MISAWA AB

Bldg. 943
Phone: 315-226-2370/2371
Commercial: 011-81-176-77-2370/2371

Facebook.com/
MisawaPassengerTerminal

NAF ATSUGI

Bldg. 206
Phone: 0467-63-3118
Facebook.com/AtsugiTerminal

MCAS IWAKUNI

Bldg. 727
Phone: 315-253-5509
Facebook.com/
IwakuniPassengerTerminal

YOKOTA AB

Bldg. 80
Phone: 315-225-5660/5661/5662
Facebook.com/
YokotaPassengerTerminal

KOREA

OSAN AB

Bldg. 648
Phone: 315-784-6883
Facebook.com/
OsanABPassengerTerminal

KUNSAN AB

Bldg. 2858
Phone: 063-470-4666

GUAM

ANDERSEN AFB

Bldg. 17002 Unit 14008
Phone: 671-366-5165

Baggage requirements

Passengers may check two pieces of checked baggage, 70 pounds each, up to 62 linear inches in size. You and your family can pool your baggage allowances as well. Carry-ons must fit in overhead bins (if they're available on the type of flight) or under your seat. Hand-carried baggage must fit under the seat or in the overhead compartment, if available. As always, it is best to travel light because due to aircraft or other restrictions, baggage weight could be restricted for your flight.

Getting a flight

Decide which terminal you think would be the best chance for Space-A departure and head out. It helps to phone the terminals that you requested for departure and monitor their recent departure schedules. For OPSEC reasons, Space-A flight schedules were removed from many online resources. However, terminals usually record a short-term flight schedule, and information is slowly being released by electronic means again.

Check with

Facebook for your favorite Space-A terminals. Some terminals are creating fan pages to improve accessibility and help travelers plan their travel.

Available seats are now identified as early as five hours and as late as two hours prior to departure. Being at the terminal early for a flight will help you vie for seats. As soon as you physically arrive at the terminal, visit the passenger desk to be sure you are indeed registered with the correct date, time of registration and number of seats. Use your previous printed email or documentation to help correct any discrepancies. Then, let the desk personnel know you are interested in available flights. Be "travel-ready" with the proper luggage, any dependents and paperwork, your car parked or rental returned, etc.

It's show-time for roll call

You now wait for the "show-time" of the particular flight you'd like to be selected (manifested) for, as well as the upcoming flight's "roll call" of names of those who are designated for the flight's Space-A seating. The priority of your assigned category, the day and time that you signed up to travel and number of available seats will determine if your name makes the roll

call. Remember, be travel-ready. If your name is called and you are not physically present to hear the roll call and manifested (readied for flight and allowed to travel), your name will be put at the bottom of your category list, and you may not make that flight.

Parting tips

A hop flight could be either on a military plane or commercial airline. If you travel on a military plane, be aware that accommodations and services are different, from fold-down jump seats along the wall, cargo in front of you and a plane that is either pretty warm or cool, depending on the time of year of travel and location. Open-toed or open-heeled shoes should not be worn on military planes. So, wear appropriate footwear, bring jackets, blankets, snacks, bottled water and things to keep you busy, like books, games or electronic devices. Available plugs for charging are along the walls. Remember to stay flexible. Travel during off-peak seasons (stay away from summer break and major holidays) and keep a positive attitude about this great privilege. If you look at the program as an opportunity for a new adventure, plan accordingly and have a back-up plan, you are sure to have a great time, wherever you land.



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I'm the one on the left.



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JAPAN CAMPUS

5-7-12 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-0022

EMAIL: admissions@japan.lakeland.edu

TEL: 03-3225-0425 Fax: 03-3225-0428

My name is Thien and I am a 1st-term student at Lakeland University Japan. As a student veteran, I think I have a fairly unique background. I was born in Denver, Colorado, from immigrant Vietnamese parents and as I grew up, I learned to appreciate my heritage and wanted to begin my own legacy as an American.

I enlisted into the U.S. Marine Corps at the age of 17 and left home to boot camp right after high school graduation. Stationed in southern California, I served 4 years as a Field Wireman and deployed multiple times on Marine Expeditionary Units and Unit Deployment Programs.

Those deployments gave me the opportunity to explore many different countries, cultures, and cities throughout the Persian gulf and Southeast Asia. However, one country stood out to me from the rest during my enlistment and it was Japan.

Drawn in by the unique culture and people, I decided to return. During a rainy day in the chow hall line, I read about LUJ off of an advertisement in the Stars and Stripes Magazine. The school was an opportu-

nity for me to pursue a college education while experiencing Japanese culture. So I applied.

Now having parted from my friends and family state-side, I am studying and taking university level classes while creating new connections with locals, international students, and other fellow veterans. LUJ gave me a chance to utilize my G.I. Bill and experience the unique and robust lifestyle that is found only in Tokyo.



Doing your DoDEA homework

The Department of Defense Education Activity is a K-12 American school system for U.S. military, DoD civilian dependents and other eligible families. DoDEA Pacific manages schools in the districts of Guam, mainland Japan, Okinawa and South Korea.

Registration

Families can register online using the DoDEA Online Registration System (DORS). This system allows perspective sponsors to complete required documentation and include uploads of pertinent forms prior to arriving at the new duty location. A visit to the assigned school is necessary to verify eligibility and enrollment documents, and to finalize registration. Families may also complete their registration in-country upon arrival to the new PCS location. Contact the school website for office hours.

Enrolled students who are advancing to the next grade level will need to revalidate enrollment eligibility by providing a copy of orders or Letter of Employment verification along with any required and updated immunization records for each child.

Students preparing to enter kindergarten must be five years old by Sept. 1 of the enrolling school year. Proof of your child's age must be provided through documentation such as birth certificate or passport.

Some DoDEA Pacific schools offer a pre-kindergarten program called Sure Start. The program offers a comprehensive approach to early childhood education in the areas of education, health, social services and family involvement. Contact the school directly to learn more about

eligibility requirements and how to apply for Sure Start.

Records

Parents should hand-carry all academic, immunization and special education records if possible. Some schools may require records to be mailed. If so, send records via U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail to the military address of the receiving school. Sending priority mail to the Pacific usually takes about seven to 10 days, while other methods could take several months. The sending school can also ship records to the commercial address of the DoDEA Pacific school. It is recommended that you confirm the current mailing address with the school.

Student meal / free and reduced lunch program

All families with students enrolled in DoDEA Pacific schools are eligible to apply for the Free and Reduced Meal Program. Completing this application is an annual requirement for families, if eligible, to continue to receive either a free or reduced lunch. To find the correct Free and Reduced Meal Program point of contact for your family's school, please visit the

DoDEA Pacific website.

To pay for school lunches, parents and sponsors will need to set up and fund a prepaid account with the agency that operates your school's lunch program. Contact your school for additional information.

School liaison officers

School liaison officers can help your family with transition issues. SLOs operate independently of DoD schools and have expertise in transition support and advocacy for incoming families. Consider making contact with the SLO early in your PCS process.

Special needs children

If your child has special needs, be sure to research the available support options for your desired location. To the greatest extent possible, we follow an inclusion model and work to

provide individualized support as needed.

However, overseas locations may not have the specialized medical or other support services necessary to fully meet your child's unique needs. Parents should consider how limited services may impact the growth and development of their special needs child. DoDEA Pacific staff members are available to help parents with special needs children make informed choices throughout the school year.

You can reach out to the District Special Education Instructional Systems Specialist (ISS) by contacting the DoDEA District Superintendent's Office in the location where you are considering your next assignment.

A very helpful source for information to families can also be accessed through the Exceptional Family Member Program. You can easily access this information at: www.militaryonesource.mil/efmp

Home school support

DoDEA-Pacific schools offer auxiliary services to eligible military families who choose to home school their children. Auxiliary services include use of academic resources, access to the library of the school, after hours use of school facilities, and participation in music, sports, and other extracurricular and inter-scholastic activities. ↗

You can also visit:

DoDEA-Pacific

www.dodea.edu/Pacific

Exchange Student Meal Program

www.aafes.com/about-exchange/school-lunch-program/

Exceptional Family Member Program

www.militaryonesource.mil/efmp

Let's Move's (nutrition and exercise tips)

www.letsmove.gov

Tutor.com (Free online tutoring for military families)

www.tutor.com/military

Celebrate April's
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Stars and Stripes teams up with DODEA to give our wonderful military brats a platform to be heard. Kids of all ages from across Pacific bases submit stories, poems, drawings and photos about what life is like as a military child. All of these run in our community newspapers in mainland Japan, Okinawa, Guam and Korea.

They are also all published at <https://militarychild.stripes.com/>. We hope you and your children join in on the fun!





➤ Eligibility is limited to students who are designated as space-required (mainland Japan, Okinawa and South Korea Districts) or DoD dependent students eligible to enroll in Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (Guam District) on a tuition-free basis. Homeschoolers using or receiving

auxiliary services must also meet the same eligibility requirements as dependents enrolled in DODEA schools who use or receive the same auxiliary services. Eligible homeschoolers are not required to attend a specific number of courses to receive auxiliary services, including participating in extracurricular and interscholastic activities.

DoDEA encourages DoD sponsors who wish to homeschool their dependents to communicate

the desire to their commanders in order to determine if there are any command policies or other rules ensuring that homeschooling practices meet host nation, state, commonwealth, or territory requirements. Sponsors are responsible for complying with applicable local requirements. Contact your local School Liaison Officer or command representative to learn more.

– DoDEA-Pacific

Take advantage of on-base colleges

The majority of colleges and universities offering on-base courses will have an office in your base's education center with a counselor available. The counselors can also provide information on scholarships and other financial assistance specific to their program or school.

Together, such colleges offer a variety of training, undergraduate and graduate programs – including many online distance-learning programs for those stationed on bases where they do not have offices.

Many also have long-standing relationships with the military and cater to the specific needs of servicemembers and their families. This includes the application of military benefits, academic credit for military training and experience, and military educational programs.

The Defense Department has contracted colleges and

universities to provide in-resident college and graduate programs on military installations in mainland Japan, Okinawa, South Korea and Guam for seven years.

The current contracted institutions are:

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

For aviation programs (undergraduate and graduate).

University of Maryland University College

For high school completion (GED), academic skills, undergraduate degree programs, Master of Business Administration/Management (graduate) programs and National Testing Center services.

Troy University

For international relations (graduate program).

Undergraduate and Vo-Tech



programs are offered at 32 locations throughout the Asia-Pacific region. Graduate programs are only available at a few locations.

International relations graduate programs are available at: Osan Air Base, Yongsan Garrison and Camp Humphreys, South Korea; and Kadena Air Base and Misawa Air Base, Japan.

MBA/graduate management programs are offered at: Osan Air Base, Yongsan Garrison and Camp Humphreys, South Korea; Kadena Air Base, Yokota

Air Base, Camp Zama, and Yokosuka Naval Station, Japan; and Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

In-resident undergraduate and graduate aviation programs are now available at: Camp Humphreys and Kadena Air Base.

Undergraduate and graduate teacher education programs are no longer offered in the region.

Contact your education center to learn what in-residence and distance-learning programs are available on your base.

University of Maryland University College:
www.umuc.edu/military

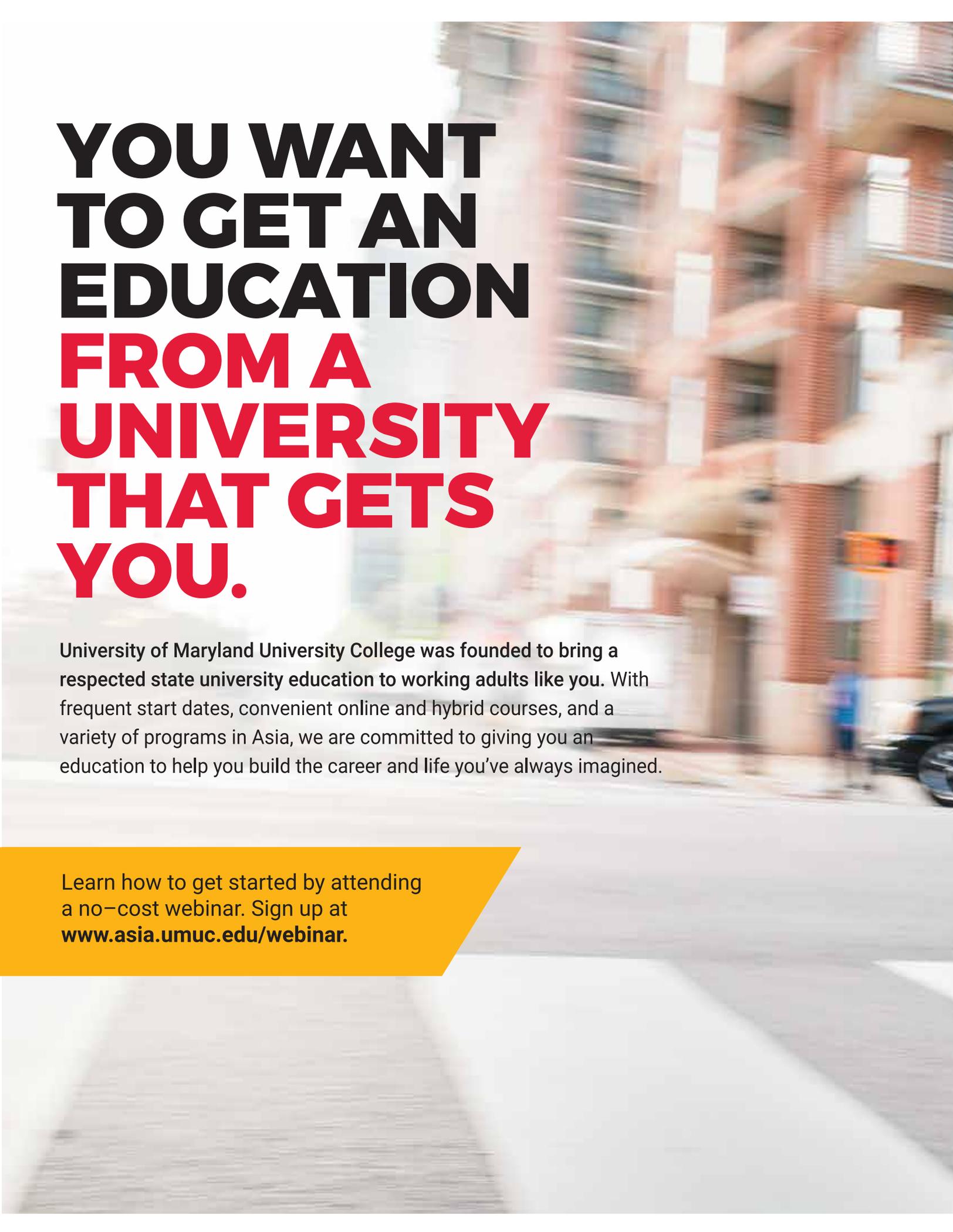
Troy University:
www.troy.edu/military

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University:
www.erau.edu

Education Centers

Naval Base Guam
Barracks 1 DSN: 339-8291

Andersen Air Force Base
Bldg. 21000 DSN: 366-3170



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Eat like a Chamorro

Fiesta cuisine offers plethora of local fare

As in many places around the world, food is the center of celebration on Guam. A virtual cornucopia of fiesta foods are laid out – usually in a specific order – for every festive occasion. And “where America’s day begins,” there are ample opportunities to celebrate.

For starters, the island’s predominantly Roman Catholic population affords each village a patron saint and accompanying feast day. Each village parish honors this with an annual fiesta, and many families hold their own celebrations at home after the Festal Mass to make merry with relatives and friends.

There are also weddings, christenings, birthdays and graduations – not to mention holiday celebrations like Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter.

Traditional Chamorro dishes such as red rice, citrus-marinated meat or seafood “kelaguen,” and barbecue may be the staple of any Guam fiesta. However, some local delicacies are the darlings of the fiesta table during certain celebrations or special times of the year.

Village fiestas and weddings are the biggest celebrations with the most elaborate menus, according to Lou Cruz of Santa Rita. As such, they are likely to serve up Chamorro classics ranging from red-and-white tamales, or “gisu” and “bunelos uhang”, or shrimp patties to smoke, dried beef and “panglao” (stuffed crab). These celebrations are also the most likely to showcase the mother of all fiesta table features – “hotnon babui” – a roast pig.

“For magnificent celebrations we prepare and roast a whole pig,” says lifelong Guamanian Toshio Akgiami. “Basting the pig while slowly roasting it over an open fire makes the skin crispy and the meat tender and juicy. The ears are the best parts; we like the crispy texture with the fat around the ears.”

Roasting pig for a wedding or fiesta – a practice believed to date back to the 17th century when the Spanish introduced pigs to the island – symbolizes a very special occasion, indeed. It’s a practice that grill aficionado behind BBQGuam.blogspot.com, Rueben Olivas, knows a little something about.

“Back in the 1950s, the roast pig was pretty straight forward for the most part on Guam,” he said of traditionally hand-turning the pig over a handmade spit. “Nowadays, they are roasted in large ovens and stainless steel outdoor spits, turned by electric motors. (But) some roasting is still done in the traditional way on occasion.”

Whether or not a wedding fiesta features roast pig, one thing is certain: The duty of providing adult beverages and soft drinks typically falls on the groom’s godfather. But it’s the bride’s godmother, Cruz says, that provides the wedding cake and other desserts. It’s an

“For magnificent celebrations we prepare and roast a whole pig.”





opportunity for many to show off family recipes for “latiya” custard sponge cake, “kek chokolati” (chocolate cake) and sweet “apigigi” tamales.

As with any fiesta, sweets like these have their own special place or table. And it’s the dessert table that gets special attention during Christmastime when seasonal donuts, cakes and other desserts rule.

“Bunelos dagu’ is a special treat during the holiday season,” says Guam Visitors Bureau’s Josh Tyquiengco. “The yams used to make these fried donuts are usually harvested during the Christmas season.”

Annette Merfalen, Chamorro food expert and author behind AniesChamorroKitchen.com, agrees that these deep-fried treats are “synonymous with Christmas” on Guam.

“There are several varieties of yams that you can use to make these donuts,” she writes in her online treasure trove of recipes. “If you live on Guam or the other Mariana Islands, you can use ‘d’agu,’ ‘nika,’ or ‘gadu.’ There are also both white and red varieties of dagu (called dagun a’paka’ or dagun agaga’, respectively).”

Similarly, “bonelos dagu,” or taro donuts, are also a traditional Christmas treat on Guam.

As with crispy fried “lumpia” spring rolls, pancit noodles with meat and vegetables is another popular dish Guam has adopted from the Philippines and made its own.

A mainstay of many fiesta tables on island, pancit is particularly favored at birthday and New Year’s Eve celebrations, perhaps as a nod to the Asian custom of eating them on such occasions to ensure long life. If so, it wouldn’t be Guam’s only imported culinary custom.



Bonelos dough

This U.S. territory also shares a very American traditional feast – Thanksgiving. As much a celebrated holiday for feasting with friends and family as in the States, the local love for barbecue on Guam means that a smoked or grilled turkey may take the place of an oven-roasted bird at the fiesta table. And what would a Thanksgiving turkey be without the stuffing?

“Chamorro stuffing, or ‘riyenu,’ is a delicious side dish usually served during special holiday meals, alongside baked turkey, ham, or roast pig,” writes Merfalen. “My mom taught me how to make this a very long time ago, when I was a very young girl. In fact, this recipe is one of the few I added to a recipe book that I made when I was perhaps 8 or 9 years old.”

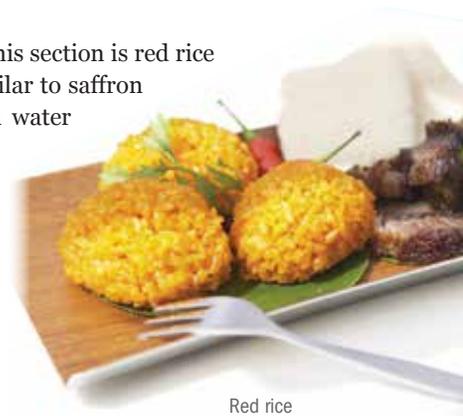
So what makes Chamorro stuffing so Chamorro?

“Well, I guess it’s the addition of potatoes, pimento and olives, kind of like our Chamorro potato salad,” she says. “A few optional ingredients that my mom sometimes puts in her riyenu are finely diced celery and a small jar of sweet pickle relish. I prefer my stuffing without those two ingredients, so I leave them out.”

Like so many other delicacies – whether with a Chamorro twist or 100 percent native – that bear the indelible stamp of one of the island’s special occasions, church fiestas or state holidays, it’s just one more way to get a true taste of Guam.

Aggon (starch)

The most important dish in this section is red rice (“hineksa agaga”), which is similar to saffron rice in that it is prepared with water colored from soaking achiote seeds, which gives it a deep orange color. This section of the fiesta table is also where you’ll find starchy fruit and vegetable dishes made from such produce as bananas, sweet potatoes and taro. Traditionally, these kinds of dishes are typically reduced in a coconut-milk sauce to make such dishes as “gollai appan suni” (from taro) and “gollai appan dagu” (from yams) according to Jay Blas, manager of Island Cuisine restaurant. Dinner rolls and “tiyas” (tortillas) are also found in this section of the table.



Red rice



Gollai Hagon Suni

Eggplant in coconut milk

Continued on page 30



Roast pig

Continued from page 29

Totche (meat)

Barbecue is a staple of many fiestas on Guam and this is where you'll find totche. Pork spareribs, marinated chicken flavored with spicy "finadenne sauce", fried chicken and roasted ham are regular staples, according to Toshio Akigami. "In hunting season, deer meat is also served," Akigami says. "Locals usually cook dried beef by hanging the meat above a barbecue pit to smoke and dry the meat." Finadenne sauce made from soy sauce or salt, lemon juice and/or calamansi citrus juice, water, peppers and onions is always placed at the end of this section as a condiment.



Finadenne Sauce



BBQ Chicken



Eskabeche



Sashimi

Guhan (seafood)

As the name suggest, this section is where such delicacies as fish, prawns and crab are placed. "Eskabeche," sweet-and-sour fish or seafood cooked with vegetables and ginger, is a must-have for this section of the fiesta table. Stuffed crab may also be found here. Though usually not locally caught, yellowfin tuna is often found here in the form of raw "sashimi" along with such grilled and barbecued local catch as parrot fish and other reef and open-sea fish. "Salt-flavored finadenne sauce is often applied to them," says Akigami, adding that deep-fried mahi mahi is a seasonal fiesta treat found on this part of the table during spring and summer.



Barbecued Fish



BBQ Fresh Reef Fish

Kelaguen

No fiesta, indeed, no meal, on Guam is complete without "kelaguen." At this section you'll usually find a variety of meat and seafood dishes prepared cerviche style, in which the meat is usually cooked overnight by the acidity of lemon or calamasi juice along with salt (sometimes soy sauce), hot peppers and onions. In the case of chicken kalaguen, the meat is usually lightly grilled first and freshly grated coconut is also added. The dish is served chilled as is, or as a side with tortillas or rice. Dishes such as lumpia spring rolls, pancit noodles and shrimp patties are also placed on this section of the fiesta table.

Chicken Kelaguen



Shrimp Kelaguen

Kadu (soups)



Soup with Lemon Finadenne

This section of the fiesta table is not only where soups and stews are placed, you'll also find a variety of vegetable dishes. Here you'll find potato and garden salads of every ilk, coleslaw and cucumber dishes such as "diago" cucumber kimchee. In addition to dishes like cucumber salad and spinach with coconut milk, you also find such classic Chamorro soups as spicy chicken "kadun pika," "chicken chalakiles" made with toasted rice and simple "kadun manuk" chicken soup as well as corn soup.



Daigo Salad



Cucumber Salad

Fina' mames (dessert)

The dessert section of the fiesta arrangement is so special that even at small events it often gets a table all to itself. Favorites to be found here include "latiya" custard cake as well as chocolate and red velvet cakes. Other staple sweets include warm "ahu" soup, sweet "apigigi" tamales, "bunelos aga" (banana donuts), "bunelos dagu" (yam donuts) and "bunelos manglo," or typhoon donuts. "At most fiestas," says Sayumi Ishioka. "People usually bring their homemade sweets, such as latiya or fruits, or sweets made from local fruits, such as mango, watermelon, papaya, banana, banana donut."



Coconut Cake

- Takahiro Takiguchi

Photos courtesy of Fishermen's Co-op / Guam Visitors Bureau



Latiya / photo by Annie's Chamorro Kitchen

Culture
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Jungle safety

Guam's jungles, from the outside looking in, offer views of beautiful flowers, World War II relics, colorful foliage, secret caves, boonie peppers (which some people love to eat), hidden rivers, etc. This tropical paradise sometimes becomes so irresistible that we feel compelled to enter the exciting and seemingly harmless jungle.

The Wing Safety Division recommends that you do not enter nontraveled jungle areas. If you do, take the following mentioned precautions and notify someone when and where you are going and the time you will return. This is for your own safety. Andersen AFB Outdoor Recreation, Naval Base Guam and Guam's Department of Parks and Recreation often have organized boonie stomps conducted by trained guides. And you can always hook up with Guam Boonie Stompers (see story to the right).

It is recommended that you stay out of the caves on Guam unless you are prepared and aware of the hazards. There are many caves on Guam that are frequented and relatively safe to explore. If it's your first time, go with a guide who has been in the cave and can brief you on the dangers. Keep in mind that caves are not well lit, so bring a flashlight(s) and/or lantern. Also, the ground inside the cave will most likely be very slick and the rocks may be very sharp. Ensure you are wearing proper footwear for this event and take your

time walking inside the cave.

Once you enter the jungle, you may encounter deer, wild pigs, frogs, brown tree snakes, mice, bats (dawn, dusk, and night), and coconut crabs (that can amputate fingers if given the chance).

Some of the insects you will see while enjoying your exploratory walk are ants, termites, several varieties of spiders, flies, gnats, and, worst of all, swarms of boonie bees (paper wasps) and other stinging insects. Something to be aware of is the fact that you might experience getting lost or walking in circles, due mainly to the limited visibility in the dense jungle. If you do get lost in the jungle stay calm, the heat and high humidity can dehydrate you and increase your need for food and water.

Other jungle hazards you should know about include slippery undergrowth and vines, razor sharp coral protruding from the ground, cliff lines and large holes hundreds of feet deep that are covered with leaves, fallen tree limbs, and undergrowth. There is razor sharp and poisonous vegetation throughout the jungle. World War II relics such as hand grenades, land mines, bombs, bullets, antipersonnel mines, rockets, and almost any other type of explosives known are still out there ready to explode.

If you find any of these old relics, do not touch them, they may be very unstable. Alert authorities immediately.

– 36th Wing
Safety Office



Enjoy guided hikes

One of the most adventurous and memorable outdoor activities you can experience on Guam is "boonie stomping," which is what locals call hiking through the jungle. Guam's landscape is dotted with stunning off-the-beaten-path sites including secluded rivers and coastlines, cascading waterfalls, majestic mountain peaks, natural caves, remnants of ancient Chamorro civilization and historical World War II battlegrounds.

Boonie stomping trails range from easy walks across beaches to very difficult treks over rough rocky terrain. Many trails are unmarked and conditions can widely vary depending on weather, so it is recommended to go boonie stomping with an experienced guide or with a group such as the Guam Boonie Stompers.

Founded in 1970, Guam Boonie Stompers is a non-profit organization committed to helping island residents and visitors explore and preserve the natural beauty of Guam. Every Saturday, Guam Boonie Stompers leads groups to remote beaches, snorkeling sites, waterfalls, mountains, caves and cultural and historical sites.

To participate, the group meets at 9 a.m. at the center court of Chamorro Village in Hagåtña. After a short briefing, participants take their own transportation and meet at the trailhead. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There is a nominal \$5 fee and no reservations are required.

Guam's tropical climate can sometimes mean intense rain and sweltering heat, so it is best to be very prepared when going on a boonie stomp. Bring plenty of water, wear appropriate clothing and shoes, and always inform someone of where you're going and when you expect to return.

Guam's beautiful landscape and fresh air offers many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors. When it comes to unique activities on Guam, add an element of adventure to your trip with an only-on-Guam boonie stomping experience.

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GUAMBOONIESTOMPERSINC

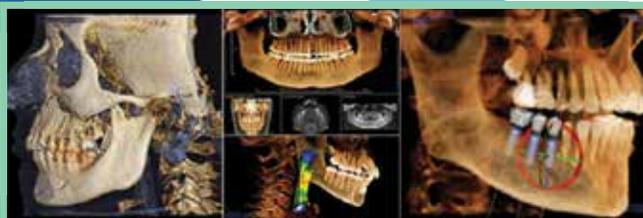




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Safety first

Know the risks that lurk off Guam's shores

The best thing about being on Guam is all the opportunities there are for fun in the sun on the beach and beyond. There is an endless array of water sports from swimming, scuba and snorkeling to waterskiing, windsurfing sailing, fishing and more.

While young and old alike should take full advantage of all this, annual water-related deaths and injuries should be a sober reminder that you can never be too cautious when it comes to safety.

There are various dangers to be aware of off Guam's shores where aquatic activities take place. Some of the main ones include powerful rip currents, waves, wind, rain, strong sun and sharp coral reef.

For swimmers and snorkelers, the safest areas are beaches protected from the ocean

by a barrier reef. Inside this reef, the water is calm, shallow and has only a slight to non-existent current. However, swimming near the reef can be extremely dangerous because of waves and currents.

Whether using a beach that is off or on base, you should always check the beach warning flags before deciding whether to get into the water. A red flag means it's too dangerous to swim, a yellow flag warns to swim with caution, green indicates all is good, while a blue flag warns that dangerous marine life is present. Also, keep an eye out for signage with specific precautions for beaches.

Active duty military personnel are prohibited from reef walking anywhere on Guam. For these purposes, the reef is defined as the elevated ridge of coral or rock between the

shore and the open sea. This ridge may be above or slightly below water level, depending on the tide. Keep well clear of the outer portion of the reef when the tide is going out. Rip tides are common on Guam and extremely dangerous.

Dangers of reef, current

The first danger to swimming near a reef is caused by the waves breaking on the reef. Even in the calmest conditions, it is difficult and dangerous to cross the reef in surf. The coral itself is extremely sharp and can cause deep and painful cuts. Gloves and foot protection are essential.

The second danger is the current caused by the waves. In almost all cases where the waves are consistently larger than one foot, a strong current runs along the reef. This current, known as a "long shore" current, is created when the water forced inside the reef by the waves is higher than the sea level outside the reef. When this happens, the water tries to flow back out to sea but the waves bringing more water into the reef prevent it. The water will flow along the reef or shoreline until it finds a place to flow back into the sea. This current can be very strong.

A person swimming too close to the reef's edge can become caught in the current and be swept onto or over the reef. When they attempt to climb back over the reef, not only do they have to fight the current pushing them



Photos courtesy of Guam Visitors Bureau

Boating

Even fishing boats in the presumed safety of Apra Harbor are routinely carried out of the harbor by the outgoing tide. Experience has shown that boats drifting in this area travel in a generally westerly direction at a minimum of one nautical mile per hour. Few people can paddle against a one-knot current for any length of time. Winds in the area of 15 to 20 knots can increase the drift to two knots. That means a rate of drift anywhere from 24 to 48 miles per day. What starts out a simple frustration (i.e. dead battery within sight of land), can quickly lead to a large search covering hundreds of square miles of ocean.

Always observe a measure of caution and good judgment when boating around Guam.

One of the most important measures is to stop and take a good look at the situation. Ask yourself all the "what if" questions you can think of and make sure you have planned for the unexpected. Take plenty of extra water and food. Take as much fuel as possible. Make sure that the proper safety equipment is onboard. Have extra flares, a mirror, a flashlight, and extra flashlight batteries. Let someone know where you're going, when you'll return, and what equipment you have onboard.

No one should ever go out in the ocean without a marine VHF radio.

Snorkeling

Guam offers some of the best snorkeling in the world. However, people venture out into

unfamiliar waters and find themselves in serious trouble. The waters around Guam need to be respected.

Always snorkel with another person and use proper equipment: a snorkel, mask, and brightly colored fins. If you are not an experienced Guam swimmer, wear a snorkel vest (this will enable you to stay afloat if you become tired or carried out to sea). If a current carries you away from shore, wave one of your brightly colored fins in the air to signal someone on the shore to seek help.

Before you venture out, contact a local dive shop for information on areas you intend to snorkel. The National Weather Service (dial 211 off base and 99-211 on base) has a recorded message on surf, winds, and tide conditions.



sideways, but they must also fight the waves smashing against the reef. After struggling to cross the reef, many people become exhausted and are washed out to sea or banged along the reef until they die.

Wrestling a rip current

Tips on what people should do when they are caught in a rip current. Stay calm. Don't fight the current; you will lose all your strength.

- Escape the current by swimming in a direction that follows the coastline. When over the shallow reef flat, walk or swim to shore.
- If unable to escape by swimming, float or tread water. When the current weakens, swim toward the reef flat where the water is shallow.
- If at any time you feel you will be unable to reach shore, draw attention to yourself: face the shore, call or wave for help.

Hazardous marine life

Treat all seashells as poisonous. Do not handle shells with your bare hands as some contain live animals with a deadly venom. The beaches on Andersen AFB are designated as a marine preserve; as a result, shell collecting on base beaches is prohibited.

Another danger to keep in mind is hazardous marine life such as scorpion fish, sea urchins, moray eels, cone snails, crown of

thorns starfish, stingrays, sea snakes, stone fish, turkey lion fish and sharks.

"There are several organisms living in Guam's waters that can be dangerous," says Brent Tibbatts, a fisheries biologist for the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources. "Injuries from these organisms are almost always caused by human actions. If you don't bother them, they won't bother you."

Tibbatts points out that there are two common organisms that people should watch out for on Guam.



"Indo-Pacific man-o-war are jellyfish-like creatures," he explains. "These are most abundant during times of strong onshore winds from the north and east, therefore are most often seen on north and east facing beaches. Man-o-wars are most commonly seen during the months of December through February. They look like little blue bubbles, usually about 1-2 inches across, with dark blue tentacles underneath.

"Man-o-wars should not be touched, even if on the beach," Tibbatts says. "They can sting even after they are dead. If stung, remove any clinging tentacles with a branch or other solid object, then flush the affected area with large amounts of salt water. Medical care may be recommended."

Another sea creature to steer clear of is the box jellyfish.

"Guam has at least two species of box jellyfish," says Tibbatts. "They are not the deadly species known from Australia, but they can deliver a painful sting. If stung by a box jellyfish, any clinging tentacles should be removed with a stick or other hard object. The affected area should be flushed with large amounts of salt water. Vinegar may help ease the pain and markings caused by the sting. If conditions appear severe, seek immediate medical attention."

— Courtesy of Andersen Air Force Base, Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources

Safest snorkeling areas:

- Tarague Beach (swim within buoyed area)
- Any beach in the Tumon Bay hotel row area (Hilton to the Guam Reef Hotel)
- Gab Gab Beach (Big Navy, no lifeguard)
- San Luis Beach (Big Navy, no lifeguard)
- Spanish Steps (Big Navy, no lifeguard)
- Outhouse Beach (No lifeguard)
- Piti Bomb Holes
- Dog Leg Reef (Family Beach)

Hazardous snorkeling areas:

- Ritidian Beach
- Tanguisson Beach
- Asan Cut
- Gun Beach
- Haputo Beach

Surfing

Guam's location in the middle of the Pacific Ocean subjects it to many different ocean swells. Unfortunately, these swells hit on dangerously shallow and sharp reefs. Currents in these areas range from friendly to deadly causing surfing to be very deceptive and dangerous.

The best place to learn to surf or boogie board is Talafofo Bay. In addition, pay attention to surfing etiquette and perhaps talk to experienced local surfers before attempting to surf on Guam.

There have been a number of incidents where non-locals were harassed or even threatened by the "regulars" at the limited number of surfing sites.

Scuba diving

Guam features many excellent dive sites and a robust scuba-training infrastructure with several large dive centers, boat operators, and guides. Do not scuba dive deeper than your certification level. Always use the buddy system and use a dive flag at the surface. Newly assigned military personnel (PCS and TDY) should plan their first few dives through Outdoor Recreation or at one of the local dive shops until you are familiar with the area. Many local dive shops offer free shore dives led by a dive master on weekends. This is a great opportunity to learn the local area and meet new dive buddies.

— 36th Wing Safety Office



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Beachin' good fun on base

Naval Base Guam's Gab Gab Beach

Gab Gab Beach, or Fab Gab as we like to call it, is truly a hidden gem and easily our family's regular go-to place for no-frills low-cost weekend fun.

Great for picnics, birthday parties, unit gatherings, hail & farewells, snorkeling, swimming, diving, sand volleyball, SUP'ing and all sorts of water play. The beach umbrellas and grill grates can be rented for a meager amount, and camping is allowed by reservation with the Outdoor Recreation Center. There is something for everyone.

Gab Gab is located on Naval Base Guam, so you'll need base access to get to it, its also one of the most popular shore dives on Guam, and any given day of the week you're likely to find divers exiting or readying to enter the water via the easy stairs next to the "3-sided pool."

If you get there early enough, make a leisure surface swim due North out to the Atlantis Submarine Tender buoy, and drop down on the plateau reef at about 50', known as Gab Gab II, where baited buckets attract the fish for the viewing pleasure of the underwater tourists. You're almost guaranteed to get an up close view of the docile Nurse Sharks, large schooling fish, and possibly a moray eel in the artificial reef ball. Also look out for anemones teeming with clown fish at various locations on the reef.

Steer clear of the submarine while diving, but be sure and give a wave to all the tourists peering out the portholes.

It's also a beginner snorkeler's paradise. Enter the water via the stairs and your only yards from colorful coral, sloping reefs, an abundance of fish and there is always a greater than average chance of seeing a turtle along the reef edge. Note, no forms of fishing or collection of marine life (live or dead) is permitted at Gab Gab.

Bathrooms are provided, and outdoor

showers are just steps away from the water stairs - convenient for divers and snorkelers exiting the water to rinse their gear and themselves. During your surface interval, enjoy some beach volleyball, relaxing under the umbrellas, barbecuing in the poolside grills.

Enjoy Fabulous Gab Gab, but be sure and clean up after yourselves when you leave.

Things to know

- Open 24 hours a day unless otherwise noted.
- Please note there are no lifeguards on duty at Gab Gab Beach throughout the year.
- Planning on heading out to the beaches this weekend but don't have the proper outdoor equipment? Don't let it ruin your plans! Drop into Rec-N-Crew and inquire about all your outdoor needs. Call 564-1826.
- There is a \$20 rental fee for cabanas on the right-hand side of Gab Gab Beach. This is required to guarantee that a spot will be reserved for your function. Patrons can still use unreserved cabanas for free. For more info, call 564-1826. (Fee is waived for command functions. Contact David Callaway at 564-1846 for more info).

Andersen's Tarague Beach

Whether you're with a group of friends or looking for some personal time, Tarague Beach on Andersen Air Force Base is your answer to camping on Guam.

Make the most of the day at the beach enjoying activities such as swimming, snorkeling, beach volleyball or barbeque. The beach also provides a playground for kids, a nature trail for hiking and exploring the different historical highlights and agriculture in the area.

Tarague Beach offers 30 campsites along the sandy beach. Most of the campsites are



shaded by beautiful pine trees and the ocean breeze keeps you cool. Each campsite includes a picnic table and grill. Bathrooms and showers are centrally located so all patrons can use them conveniently.

You also have the option to enjoy dinner or cold refreshments at Bamboo Willies beachfront restaurant.

Find local restaurant reviews,
travel information,
community news and events in

STARS AND STRIPES
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GUAM



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guam.stripes.com



Heather Colson, 36th Force Support Squadron aquatic director, changes water-condition warning flags at Tarague Beach. Photo by Airman 1st Class Alexaann Henderson, 36th Wing Public Affairs



Gab Gab Beach / Images by Petty Officer 2nd Class Claire Farin Defense Media Activity



As the evening approaches, catch a breathtaking sunset, roast marshmallows or make smores.

Camping at Tarague is open all year round. However, December through February usually offers the best weather conditions: slightly cooler with a little less rain and humidity. This makes for perfect camping.

- If you don't own any camping equipment, Outdoor Recreation has all your supplies such as tents and other camping equipment for rent. Reservations for campsites as well as supplies can be made online at www.MilitaryMWRGuam.com under

Outdoor Recreation or by calling (671) 366-5204 or 5197.

Swimming pools

The Navy operates three swimming pools on the island. At Naval Base Guam, the swimming pool is located near South Tipalao Housing and the barracks area. Call the pool at (671) 564-1822.

At the Naval Communications Station, the pool is located on the main drive of the base, next to the laundromat. For more information, call (671) 355-5091/564-1822.

At the Naval Hospital, the pool is

located near the housing area. To reach the Naval Hospital pool please call (671) 564-1822/344-9009.

The Andersen pool is located near housing, directly next to the Youth Center and Skate Park. They have an aquatics program for all ages and interests. Red Cross certified instructors teach swim lessons to all ages and all ability levels. They also have lap swim, open recreation swim, a wading pool for your little ones and a picnic area that is available on a first come, first serve basis. For inquiries, email andersenaquatics@gmail.com, or call 366-3202.

Marina/boating

Situated on scenic Apra Harbor, Sumay Marina Adventure center offers a variety of activities for water sports enthusiasts. Enjoy a day of sightseeing, fishing or diving on one of our 19' Edgewater rental boats. The Marina also offers fishing and dolphin-watching trips on its 23-foot Pro-Line charter boat.

To rent boats, you must have a National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) endorsed certificate. If you need a certificate, go to BOATUS.ORG, click the link for Online Courses, then on to the Free Boating Safety Course. Choose any state that is endorsed by NASBLA. Print a certificate and present it to the marina staff and they will assist you with scheduling a check ride on our boats. Reservations start at \$100 plus the cost of fuel for four hours of boating.

For boat owners, two boat-launch ramps are provided as well as outdoor dry storage pads and wet slips at the marina docks. For more information, call (671) 564-1826.

Culture

Community

Online

Transportation

Education

Food

Leisure





Guam Reef Hotel

On The Beach in The Heart of Guam

Guam Reef Hotel offers hospitality and high quality entertainment venue. Located in the center of the shopping and entertainment district and within walking distance of all the exciting Tumon attractions.



RESTAURANTS

Guam Reef Hotel offers a selection of restaurants. Guests can experience the culinary bliss of Sango, Western Food / Japanese Style and Rica & Rico, Pacific Rim Cuisine. Enjoy "Sky Breakfast" at Bayview located on the 18th floor, where you can see a great ocean view.

ROOMS

Guam Reef Hotel has 427 well-appointed stylish rooms and is located in the heart of Tumon Guam. Our Beach Tower and Infinity Tower offer you a wide range of rooms from modern minimalist to rooms with panoramic views of Tumon Bay. All rooms include a flat-screen TV, hot/cold water dispenser and free Wi-Fi for your pleasant stay.



BARS

Century XXI Poolside Bar & BBQ serves a selection of light dishes and refreshing drinks to complete your Poolside experience. Do not miss our happy hour at the Top of the Reef with beautiful sunset and night views to make your time on Guam more memorable.

FITNESS & AMENITIES

A fitness room (678 sq ft) is available to help you unwind and further enhance your stay with us. We also have a microwave on every floor and a coin laundry facility located at the lobby level, available 24 hours for your convenience.



Guam Reef Hotel

On The Beach in The Heart of Guam

<http://guamreef.com/en/>



Guam Reef Hotel

On The Beach in The Heart of Guam



Bay View
Sky Breakfast

For Reservations

Tel: 1-671-649-2229 / 1-671-646-6881

E-Mail: reservations@guamreef.com

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Dealing with Mother Nature

Andersen AFB and Naval Base Guam are both equipped with a public alert system (AKA Giant Voice) that announces the Tropical Cyclone Condition or Readiness (TCCOR). Due to Guam being located inside Typhoon Alley, both bases are always in TCCOR 4 which is weather expected within 72 hours.

The 36 CES Readiness and Emergency Management Flight always has the most current information with regard to typhoon preparedness. They can be reached at 671-366-3113.

A typhoon is a large-scale tropical storm that occurs west of the International Date Line. It would be called a hurricane if it was east of the International Date Line. A typhoon has sustained wind speeds of at least 74 mph. The warm waters surrounding Guam are ideal for the development of typhoons year round. Most occur Jun – Dec, but one can occur anytime.

Tropical Cyclone (Typhoon) Condition of Readiness (TCCOR)

- **TCCOR 4:** Winds of 58 mph or greater are expected within 72 hours.
- **TCCOR 3:** Winds of 58 mph or greater are expected within 48 hours.
- **TCCOR 2:** Winds of 58 mph or greater are expected within 24 hours.
- **TCCOR 1 Caution:** Winds of 58 mph or greater are expected within 12 hours.
- **TCCOR 1 Emergency:** Declared when sustained destructive winds reach or exceed 58 mph.

- **TCCOR 1 Recovery:** Declared when destructive winds have passed, but dangerous weather may still exist.
- Little to no movement should take place on base TCCOR 3, 2, or 1. The base traffic signs (stop signs, speed limit signs, etc.) are removed during TCCOR 3, so proceed with caution at all intersections.

Typhoon Preparedness Kit should include enough supplies for at least 1-2 weeks. Contents should include: canned & ready-to-eat food, can opener, 1-2 gal water per person per day, propane stove, first aid kit, plastic dining ware, flashlight/batteries, cash, mop/towels, duct tape, hygiene items, baby supplies (formula, diapers, etc.), battery-operated radio, 550 cord/rope, medications, and tool kit.

Housing Residents and Member Responsibilities

Please refer to your base's housing guide for detailed information regarding typhoon preparedness.

Earthquakes

If Inside...

1. Drop to the floor.
2. Take cover under a sturdy desk or furniture and be prepared to move with it. Hold this position until ground stops shaking and it is safe to move.
3. Stay clear of windows, fireplaces and heavy furniture or appliances.
4. Stay inside.
5. Stay calm.

If Outside...

1. Get into the open and away

- from buildings and power lines.
2. If driving, stop if you are in a safe location; however, stay inside your car.
3. Stay away from bridges, overpasses, and tunnels.
4. If possible, avoid stopping under trees, light posts, power lines, or signs.
5. If near mountainous area or unstable cliffs, be alert for falling rock and other debris.
6. If at the beach, move to higher ground.

Tsunamis

Tsunamis are a series of large ocean waves generated by large undersea disturbances, such as a major earthquake or landslide. Tsunamis are not affected by tides or currents. A tsunami means the whole water column is moving, not just the surface. Tsunamis can strike any ocean shoreline. If you are on the beach or in low coastal areas, you may not have much time to seek higher ground. The tsunami danger period can last several hours as the waves move onto land, recede, and return. The second and third waves have been known to be more devastating than the first.

Be aware of the signs of a tsunami:

1. A strong earthquake lasting 20 seconds or more near the coast.
2. A noticeable rapid rise or fall in coastal waters.
3. A loud roaring noise from the ocean. If you suspect a potential tsunami, move to your designated assembly area or proceed inland and uphill.

What to do during

a tsunami watch:

1. Use a NOAA Weather Radio or listen to local radio or television stations for updated information.
2. Locate loved ones and review evacuation plans. Be ready to move quickly if a tsunami warning is issued.
3. Tsunamis produce strong currents or waves dangerous to those in or near the water. Local officials may close beaches, evacuate harbors and marinas, and ask ships to reposition to deep water. Obey their directions.

What to do during a tsunami warning:

1. If you hear a tsunami warning siren or suspect a tsunami at your location, leave the area immediately.
2. Offer assistance to those who may need help evacuating the area.
3. Bring pets with you to keep them safe.
4. Take your disaster supply kit.
5. Move to higher ground as far inland as possible.
6. Keep listening to the NOAA Weather Radio, local radio, or TV for the latest updates.

What to do after a tsunami:

1. Return home only after local officials tell you it is safe.
2. Stay away from damaged areas so emergency responders can have full access.
3. Stay out of any building that has water around it.
4. Be careful re-entering buildings or homes. Tsunami-driven floodwater may have damaged buildings.

– Source: Andersen Air Force Base and Naval Base Guam

Top 10 things to do on Guam

If you're new to Guam, there's a good chance you don't know of many things to do. The island is known for its beaches, but there's much more to the island. Here are 10 things you must do during your stay where America's day begins:

Understand Guam's role in the WWII Pacific Theatre

After the Japanese Occupation in 1941, Guam became a prized military possession of the United States. The island played an instrumental war in the Pacific Theatre of World War II. To commemorate local servicemen and ensure wartime stories are not forgotten, visit the War in the Pacific Museum! Walking up the steps to the T. Stell Newman Visitor Center, smiling volunteers greet you with a "Hafa Adai" before directing you to a compelling 10-minute movie, *The Battle for Guam*, presented in four languages. After short museum introductions, you should visit colorful exhibits and interactive artifacts. The museum operates on the latest technology, featuring recordings of gripping personal stories and music from pre- and post-WWII.

nps.gov/wapa/t-stell-newman-visitor-center.htm

Visit an underground historical monument

Imagine living in an underground bamboo hut for more than a quarter of a century. In 1944, Sergeant Shoichi Yokoi hid in the depths of Talofof to escape capture by American soldiers. In accordance with Japanese nationalism ideals, Yokoi perceived the Americans as enemies and feared to be a prisoner of war. When Talofof farmers discovered Yokoi in 1972, the sergeant begged to be killed on the spot,

only to return to his hometown with a hero's welcome. Seven feet underground lies Yokoi's cave: A small underground room that's three feet high and nine feet long, supported by large bamboo cranes. To see how a man could survive hiding in a cave — only leaving at night to hunt for fish or rats — visit the Talofof Falls Resort Park.

Climb the world's tallest mountain

Without oxygen masks or certified training, hikers can easily reach the world's tallest mountain. Mt. Lam Lam, though only 1332 feet above sea level, measures an additional 36,070 from the bottom of the Marianas Trench. If Mt. Everest were measured from the bottom of the Marianas Trench, the world's tallest mountain (above land) will still lie submerged 6000 ft. Across from Guam's Cetti Bay Overlook, one can reach the summit in about 30 minutes. You can also reach Guam's second highest peak — Mt. Jumullong Manglo — on the same trail.

Taste a local favorite: Kelaguen

When visiting a fiesta or a local Chamorro restaurant, one cannot miss out on the prized "kelaguen." Featuring chopped chicken or shrimp combined with salt, pepper, and lemon juice, the acclaimed dish serves as either a main

dish or, typically, an appetizer. Homemade Chamorro recipes are the tastiest, but the evolution of kelaguen has long since moved from a household favorite to a restaurant top seller. Today kelaguen is served on its own, with red rice, or with cooked corn tortillas.

Learn to cha-cha at Chamorro Village

In the heart of Guam's capital, Hagatna, Chamorro Village bustles with energy. Every Wednesday, the "village" opens up shops and vendors to sell locally-sourced jewelry, barbecue and crafts. Under breezy conditions in the main dining hall, Chamorro pluck their guitars and ukuleles while couples twirl and step to the beat of cha-cha music. The cordial greetings of waitresses and vendors will easily put a smile on your face, and if lucky, some of the Polynesian dancers may even select you to perform with them. Learn to cha-cha and see a laid back Guam at Chamorro Village.

Bike up to the popular Two Lovers Point

When two lovers were forcefully separated from their families, they chose to die together rather than risk capture. Few people on the island have never heard of the famous two lovers legend, and even fewer have not visited the iconic cliff line. Featuring tasty smoothies and a romantic canopy atop the cliff, Two Lovers



Talofof Falls / Photos courtesy of Guam Visitors Bureau



Cocos Island



Gef Pa'go Cultural Village

invites families and couples to enjoy sunset dinners and relaxing afternoons. The long routes leading up to the attraction are well-suited for bikers, and the attraction itself is not a disappointment. For couples visiting Guam for a short period of time, make sure to purchase a heart-shaped chain and attach it to one of the rocks adorned with thousands of other love chains.

puntandosamantes.com/

Watch an exquisite performance at Sand Castle

Spend a night in plump, lavishly designed seats in Sand Castle. As performers move to the rhythms of soft classical music and intense hip-hop, viewers are taken to a nighttime show you might see in Las Vegas. Acrobats perform daring tricks — right above your head — before magicians play with large, fearsome tigers. Sit in a \$40 million theatre voted the best tourist attraction by the Guam Visitors Bureau and squeal in delight as you enjoy an elegant dinner!

bestguamtours.com/shows/sandcastle-guam/

Snap a selfie in Latte Stone Park

In ancient times, Chamorros built their huts on latte stone pillars. The stable stone structures represent formed an integral construction in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. When eight, natural megalithic monuments were restored in the Latte Stone Park, the location became a must-see attraction for tourists and locals. Today, students visit the park on Chamorro studies or as the third stop on the Hagatna Heritage Walking Trail. While you're at the park, don't forget to snap a selfie in the center of the eight latte stones!

Ride a boat to Cocos Island

Since you've already arrived on Guam, you might as well travel to a nearby island. Cocos Island features a day resort, meaning guests cannot stay overnight. Customers arrive at the resort via a scheduled boat ride and spend a day sunbathing or participating in beachside activities varying from parasailing to snorkeling. Tickets to Cocos

include a basic meal (nothing fancy), and though the resort is not luxurious in any sense, the island's water is fresh and clear. Cocos is also famous for its wide variety of bird species, and its beaches are very clean.

Learn to weave a coconut basket at Gef Pa'go

In elementary school, Gef Pa'go was a must-see field trip site. The culture village reflects Guam during the 1940s and 1950s. Elder Chamorros demonstrate Chamorro arts and crafts, and storytellers teach Chamorro legends. It's not very common to see people speak standard Chamorro language, but at Gef Pa'go, Chamorro language is heard often. Elders also teach you how to make coconut candy, and since coconut trees adorn Guam's beaches, making fresh candy and coconut juice is very easy. You also learn to make handwoven rope and bowls out of tree bark. Travel to the times of Guam in the mid-1900s in the village of Inarajan.

- Anne Jing Ping Wen

Chamorro Village / File photo



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Exploring Guam's villages



Culture

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Our footprint-shaped island is divided into 19 villages, each with its own distinct history and character.

Each of Guam's villages is also home to its own Catholic church.

Over the centuries, these communities' identities have evolved from bases for farming, ranching, and fishing to residential centers, hubs for commerce and history, and bases for the same food-producing activities that have long been a focus of life on Guam.

Visitors are invited to take special note of the island's colorful and uplifting village murals, beautiful works of art that arose as part of a revitalization project to unify the island, spearheaded by the Guam Visitors Bureau in cooperation with local mayors, businesses, schools, and residents.

Architecture in Guamanian villages varies widely, from strongly Spanish-influenced edifices to the matching two-story concrete homes in Asan-Maina, where in the 1980s

the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority undertook a major redevelopment of residential structures, even painting the suburban-style houses the same color.

Some villages' borders are formed by modern highways, while the boundaries of others are defined by natural features; the municipality of Chalan Pago/Ordot, across the narrow "waist" of Guam, divides the predominantly volcanic southern half of the island from its mostly limestone northern half.

Agana Heights

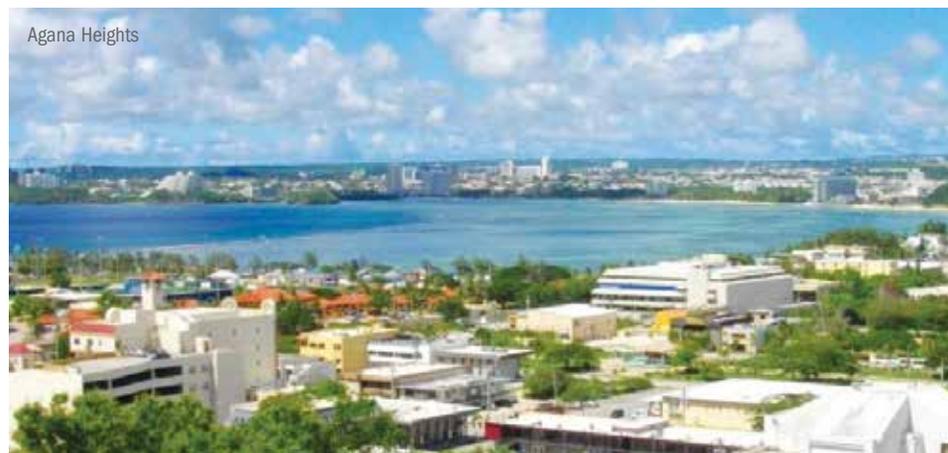
The villages of Asan/Maina, Hagåtña, Ordot/Chalan Pago and Sinajana border Agana Heights.

The sections of the village are Apugan, Timpugan, Fonte, Hilaan, Taigigao and Charito. Fonte River divides Agana Heights from Maina village and Taigigao Street is the boundary separating Agana Heights from Ordot/Chalan Pago. Sinajana village and Agana Heights village are also separated by a shared roadway.

Prior to World War II, Agana Heights was a farming community for residents who lived in Hagåtña. Today, sprinkled throughout the village are some beautiful homes with gated and manicured lawns, quaint residential homes, apartment complexes, and a row of buildings that serve as homes to different religious denominations and organizations. Agana Heights has been transformed into a thriving cosmopolitan community

Agat

While many regard Agat as the western



gateway to the south, it is also the commercial center of the south. Numerous businesses - from merchants and restaurants to the seventy-room Inn on the Bay - have sprung up in the once-quiet seaside village in the last twenty-five years. Despite Agat's thriving business center, the old heart of the village that includes Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Convent and School, still exists.

The seaside village of Agat lies just south of Naval Base Guam. The village's main road, Route 2, meanders through several commercial and residential areas. The road also leads to a group of public buildings, such as the Agat Community Center and mayor's office and a community library and police station. Farther south, Route 2 runs along the coast of some of the finest beaches on Guam including Nimitz



Beach. Nearby is the popular Agat Marina.

The village of Agat is also home to several parks dedicated to the events of World War II. These parks are part of the National Park Service's War in the Pacific National Historical Park.

Asan-Maina

The district of Asan-Maina encompasses a large area, including the main coastal village of Asan, the community of Maina nestled in a valley between Nimitz Hill and Agana Heights, and most of Nimitz Hill (also known as Libugon) and land beyond it further inland.

The main village of Asan was redeveloped in the 1980s by the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority (GHURA). The redevelopment changed the village's look from its more traditional Spanish flavor to a fairly modern-looking suburban appearance. The streets were straightened, sidewalks were added and the houses are nearly all concrete with many two-stories high. GHURA still owns many of the houses in the main village, houses that were all built exactly alike, and even painted the same color. Space was limited by the ocean to the west and the hills to the east, which necessitated the two-story structures and small yards.

The village sits partly on the hillside of Nimitz Hill and partly on the flat land below it, just in front of the sea. Many of the houses are built on steep roads going up the hillside, reminiscent of San Francisco. The Catholic church, Niño Perdido Y Sagrada Familia (Holy Family), sits at the center of the village, along with the community center and mayor's office.

Maina rests in a valley of lush vegetation, bamboo groves and colorful flowers that come right up to the houses and the main road. The small community is spread out along one small, winding main road, one end of which meets the road going up Nimitz Hill and twists its way to the back side of Agana Heights. The small Fonte Bridge at the end of the road is the site of the famous Guam legend of the "White Lady."

Barrigada

Barrigada is a land-locked village located near the center of the island on Guam's limestone plateau. It stretches from the cliffline overlooking Harmon Industrial Park in the East to Mt. Barrigada in the north. Upscale homes have been developed on Mt. Barrigada along an area known as Barrigada Heights overlooking Tiyan, the interior hills of Guam and the Philippine sea. To the south is the village of Mongmong-Toto-Maite and to the east is the village Mangilao.

In the past, Barrigada was a popular ranching area for people from Hagåtña. Today some parts of the village still have a rural feel attributed to the long winding roads that make their way through hills, valleys, dense vegetation and wetlands. Nevertheless, the village of Barrigada is now a heavily populated residential area bordered by considerable commercial development along routes 8 (Purple Heart Memorial Highway), 10 (Vietnam Veterans Highway) and 16 (US Army Corps Drive). The recently returned former federally-designated land located in Tiyan (formerly the Naval Air Station, Guam) has become the site of some government of Guam offices, private

businesses, and residential homes.

Chalan Pago/Ordot

The municipality of Chalan Pago-Ordot stretches across the narrow "waist" of the island of Guam. Housing areas are built mostly along Route 4. These villages are on the dividing line between the mostly volcanic southern half of the island and the mostly limestone northern half of the island. The result is a diverse and rugged topography characterized by low hills, small valleys, wetland areas and streams that seem to disappear into the ground. The area is covered with lush green vegetation and homes are built on flat areas of land at times next to small valleys. Some residences have also been built at the foothills of nearby mountains.

The area had long been a center of ranching for people from Hagåtña but since World War II, it has become home to two tight knit village communities as well as several new housing subdivisions.

Chalan Pago also leads to Pago Bay where homeowners have a view of the ocean on Guam's eastern coast. A few people have also taken advantage of mountain properties, building residences overlooking the bay.

Ordot is also the site of the island's landfill. In March 2008, U.S. District Court of Guam Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood placed the dump under federal receivership after the local government failed to close it and build a sanitary landfill in another location as ordered by a federal mandate. An off-island solid waste management consulting firm has been given full authority to take over the closure of the dump.

Continued on page 48



Dededo

Dededo is Guam's second largest and most populous village, encompassing 30 square miles of northwestern Guam. Most of Dededo is located on Guam's limestone plateau and sits above the Northern Aquifer, an important fresh water resource for the island as it provides for about eighty percent of Guam's drinking water.

The main sections of this northern village lie on either side of Route 1, officially known as Marine Corps Drive, Guam's main thoroughfare. From a small pre-war farming community, it has become a major commercial and residential center.

Dededo is home to the Micronesia Mall, the largest shopping mall in Micronesia, located at the corner of Route 1 and Route 16 (Army Corps Drive). Along Route 16 there are several small stores and other businesses that cater to the area's Filipino residents. Also along this strip is a two-story McDonald's restaurant, the Guam Power Authority main business office, and the gated Iglesia Ni Cristo Church. Along Fatima Road, off the highway, there are several vegetable stands selling local crop products.

Hagåtña

Hagåtña, located in central Guam, is nestled between Agana Bay and the cliffs of Agana Heights. It is considered the first European city in the Pacific because of the early colonization of the Marianas, as compared to the rest of the Pacific. It was declared a city by a Spanish royal decree March 30, 1686 as the capital of the Marianas, the residence of the Spanish governor and the site of the garrison.

Guam's main roadway, Marine Corps Drive, runs through the village from east to west. Another major artery, Route 4, dissects the village from the shoreline to the central part of the island, running east. Hagåtña borders the village of Tamuning in the east and Asan to the west.

The capital of Guam, Hagåtña is the seat of the island's three branches of government: Judicial, Legislative, and Executive as well as the religious center for the Catholic Church. It is also home to numerous commercial activities including legal offices, banks, department/variety stores, insurance, technical and professional services and restaurants.

The cultural resources of the village are significant being home to a large number of Guam's historical sites. The Hagåtña boat basin (formally known as the Gregorio D. Perez Marina), the Guam Public Library (formally

the Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library) and numerous public facilities are also located within the village.

As opposed to the island's historical past, Hagåtña is currently one of the least populated villages on the island. Residential homes primarily are located below the cliff at the western portion of the village.

Inarajan

To the outside eye, the village of Inarajan seems to have been untouched by the hand of change. It is known as the most distinctly Spanish-style village on the island, with the village proper on Inarajan Bay, remaining basically intact over the decades.

A visitor could drive through the small Spanish barrio-style streets, which until recently were one-way streets, and see the history of Inarajan in its old houses. The houses reflect a mixture of architecture influenced by the Spanish period and the early American period (early 1900s).

The village retains many of its traditional ways, with the St. Joseph Church still at the center of many activities, including the village's annual fiestas. Residents of the village are still a small number of families whose roots are deeply entwined in Inarajan. Very few outsiders have moved into the village, and very few modern structures have been erected.

Part of what gives Inarajan its heritage-rich flavor is one of its more recent additions: the Gef Pa'go Cultural Village, which sits right on the bay. The village, which consists of ancient-style thatch-roofed huts, is staffed mainly by elder Chamorros who demonstrate traditional Chamorro arts, crafts, and cooking to visitors.

Mangilao

The village of Mangilao is located in central Guam. It lies between the villages of Barrigada and Chalan Pago. The village also branches off into subdivisions bordering Dededo and Yigo. These subdivisions include Latte Heights, Latte Plantation, Sunrise Villa, Banyan Heights, and lower and upper Pagat. The village has been called "Guam's capital of education" because both the University of Guam and the Guam Community College are located there.

Merizo

Merizo skirts Guam's scenic southern shoreline on a long strip of land between mountains and sea.

Cocos Lagoon, several miles square and enclosed by a large triangle of reef, extends

Inarajan, Guam

Photo submitted by Kailey Brown



about three miles out from the village. Cocos Island Resort draws day visitors to the small, densely-vegetated, low-lying strip of land along the lagoon's southern exposure. The lagoon is distinguished from the deeper water outside the reef by an array of vivid blues and greens that signify shallow water over sand flats and protected coral gardens. Mama'on Channel, the lagoon's deep main pass, runs west to east past Merizo Pier and the village boat ramp, gradually shallowing as it cuts farther into the lagoon.

Fiestan Tasi (Festival of the Sea) is held annually in Merizo, and celebrates the importance of the ocean to Guam's past, present and future. It often includes boat races and other water sports competitions and exhibitions. Dates of the festival vary from year to year.

On the other side of the winding main coastal road, Route 4, several rivers flowing to the sea from the nearby mountains cut lush valleys through dry savanna foothills. Much of the population lives in these rural valleys, which are mainly residential areas dotted with a few farms and ranches, shadows of the community's agrarian past.

Mongmong-Toto-Maite

Mongmong-Toto-Maite is located in central Guam, just north of the capital city of Hagåtña. Aside from the airplanes flying directly over the tri-village before landing in the neighboring area of Tiyan, many residents of Mongmong-Toto-Maite find it to be a very quiet and peaceful place to live. Maite's cliffline, with beautiful sunset views, is home to some of the island's most well-known families, including the Calvos, whose attractive homes line the cliff above East Hagåtña.



Mongmong and Toto for the most part are rural, residential areas. Mongmong runs parallel to Maite and is at the center of the tri-village. It is heavily vegetated and is the most populated of the three villages. Toto borders Barrigada to the north of the other two villages, and is known for its winding roads and swamplands.

However, there is also a busy industrial side to the Mongmong-Toto-Maite. The area of Maite and Toto along Route 8 between Tiyan and the island's capital, Hagåtña is primarily an industrial area, filled with warehouses, hardware and furniture stores, mom-and-pop markets, and many popular bargain shops.

Mongmong's Catholic Church is Nuestra Señora de las Aguas (Our Lady of the Waters). Parishioners celebrate their annual fiesta in honor of their patron saint on the last day of January.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Toto celebrates its patron saint's fiesta on the second or third Saturday of June each year.

The village of Maite does not have a Catholic Church and does not have a village fiesta. The Bayview Baptist Church and Son of God Baptist Church are located in Maite.

Piti

Most Guam residents know the village of Piti from what they see along Marine Corps Drive, Guam's main thoroughfare. The first noticeable landmark in the village along Marine Corps Drive when heading southbound is the Piti Underwater Observatory. The observatory juts out from the coastline into the ocean.

The Piti coastline is lined by two beach parks: Tepungan Beach Park, with newer

pavilions, and the Pedro Santos Memorial Park, with an older, large pavilion and unused basketball court. This area of the coast, known as the Piti Bomb Holes, is a marine preserve, where fishing is now prohibited. This prohibition has resulted in an abundance of fish and other sea life that make the Piti waters popular among divers and snorkelers.

Slightly further south, across the road from the ocean, is the New J-Market grocery store and a gas station, just before the Piti Power Plant at the junction of Marine Corps Drive and Route 11, which leads out into Cabras Island. Cabras Island extends into the ocean to form part of Apra Harbor and is further extended by the Glass Breakwater, named after U.S. Navy Captain Henry Glass. On this island is the Cabras Power Plant, the Port Authority of Guam and the Commercial Port. Further out is Family Beach, a secluded recreational spot.

The village proper is located just across from Cabras Island, on the cliffside of Marine Corps Drive. The village is a small residential area with curved two-lane roads and a scattering of homes, many of which date back to the decade after World War II. The village's most prominent features are Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church and the Mike S. Tajalle Baseball Field. The mayor's office is in a small house-like structure, and the old senior citizen's center is now being used as a youth center.

Santa Rita

The village of Santa Rita proper, not including the military housing areas, Naval Station and Naval Magazine, is one of the smallest, quietest, and least modernized villages on Guam. There are two small stores – D's Corner Store and Santa Rita Store – and a more recent addition, the Santa Rita Video Store adjoined to the Santa Rita Store within the main village. The village is surrounded

by natural water sources. Its boundary with Yona is marked by Tarzan Falls, while its border with Talofoto is in the vicinity of Fena Lake. Santa Rita's border with Piti lies along the Guatali river, while it shares a border with Agat along the Namu River. The village flower, previously the gardenia, has recently been changed to the ginger because of its present abundance throughout Santa Rita.

Most of the village's activities revolve around the church, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, as well as the Mayor's Office and new Senior Citizen's Center, and the baseball field that lies between them. Most of the families in the village have been there since it was built, just after the war, so most of the residents know each other or at least see one another at church every Sunday.

The Fena Reservoir in Santa Rita, located within the gates of Naval Magazine, was completed in 1951 with the intent of providing a dependable water supply to the U.S. Navy on Guam. It now serves as the main drinking water supply to a considerable portion of the southern region of the island. The reservoir is also home to a large population of carabao, once valued as an important animal for farm labor and transportation that has now become a cultural and historical icon on Guam. To support growing demand for water, a \$1.5 million upgrade was completed in 2007 on the Santa Rita Springs Booster Pump.

Sinajana

Sinajana is perched along a hilltop between Agana Springs and Agana Heights. When entering the village from San Ramon Hill, one comes upon the Catholic Saint Fidelis Franciscan Friary, whose order maintains Sinajana's Saint Jude Thaddeus Catholic Church, among others. The annual village fiesta is celebrated on the last weekend of October, in

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honor of Saint Jude, patron saint of the impossible.

The two main schools are Carlos L. Taitano Elementary School, a public school, and Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School, a private Catholic school.

C. L. Taitano Elementary School is centrally located within walking distance of the village fire station, St. Jude Thaddeus Church, mayor's office, and community center. Within this busy block, one will also pass the old Won Pat store, which is now an apartment complex. A hotnu, or old Spanish oven, can still be found in the yard.

Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School sits on the site of the old Saint Jude Thaddeus Junior High School campus.

Talofofu

Former Mayor Tito Mantanona coined the name "God's Country" for Talofofu, a nickname affectionately used by many residents and seen on signs throughout the village. At the heart of Talofofu is a four-way intersection recognized as the crossroads of this small village. Anyone giving directions to a location in this village inevitably starts with this intersection, which is also at the heart of economic activity in Talofofu, with three corner stores doing business near the four-way intersection. North from the intersection is the village's Catholic church, San Miguel Church, as well as the mayor's office and houses, most of them similar to homes in suburban communities.

East from the intersection is the Onward Talofofu Golf Course, after which the road intersects with Route 17, locally known as Cross Island Road.

West from the intersection are more houses and Talofofu Elementary School, a sports field, and the Talofofu gym.

South of the intersection is the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Notre Dame High School, and as the road heads downhill toward the Talofofu subcommunity of Ipan and Talofofu Bay, it passes the ancient Talofofu Caves.

Sitting below the hills of the main village is the coastal community of Ipan, Talofofu. A number of secluded beaches and a scattering of houses, along with a gas station, make up most of Ipan. The area also includes Ipan Beach Park, a popular spot for barbecues. Jeff's Pirates Cove is located on the northern border of Ipan and has become an institution in the area. It is best known for its relaxed-atmosphere bar and grill, along with a small

souvenir store and an outdoor area used for arts and craft fairs, concerts and other gatherings.

The southern boundary of Talofofu is marked by the Ugum River (joined by the Talofofu River), which flows into Talofofu Bay. But as the Talofofu Bay park facilities are on the southern side of the bay, the area most people visit in Talofofu Bay is actually part of the neighboring village, Inarajan.

Tamuning/Tumon/Harmon

The main geographic features of this region are the low plateau of Oka (Saupon) Point which divides Tumon and Hagåtña bays, and the Tumon Bay area which is enclosed by high cliffs leading to relatively flat Upper Tumon/ Harmon areas.

Tumon, with its beautiful white sand beaches and protected waters, has developed over the last four decades into Guam's tourism center while Tamuning has become a major commercial and residential area. Harmon, the sight of the post-World War II airfield, is now an industrial park.

Umatac

The small village of Umatac is located in southern Guam along Umatac Bay. The community of Umatac is relatively smaller than others on Guam and made up of a handful of residents, many of whom are related to each other.

Interspersed between old houses that sit along the bay's shoreline are ruins that have become prominent reminders of the Spanish colonial era in the village. Plaques are placed throughout the village that describe the Spanish era to visitors. Remains of the Spanish times include the former Spanish governor's residence, the site of the old San Dionisio church and several Spanish forts and a battery.

A bumpy two-lane road runs through the center of the village, and visitors coming down into Umatac from the steep hills in the north will first notice stones placed into a hillside in the shape of the island of Guam, welcoming them to the village. A couple of small stores and the San Dionisio Church, built at its current location in 1939, sit along the road.

The road, with houses built in the first half of the last century, then opens up into a spectacular view of the bay before coming to a small park with a children's playground built by IT&E in the 1990s. Adjacent to the park is the mayor's office, right on the beach, with perhaps the best view of any mayor's office on Guam.

At the center of the bay is an obelisk monument to Ferdinand Magellan's landing in 1521, bearing the inscription, "Magellan landed here." The bay is also home to some of the island's best surfing.

Yigo

Yigo is the island's largest and most northern village, encompassing 35 square miles. On the map the village looks like a triangle that stretches from Pati Point to Ritidian in the North and from Ritidian to the coast near Pagat.

Yigo is the home to Andersen Air Force Base and has secured access to the beaches of the village. Yigo has numerous housing subdivisions that have sprung up in the last three decades, but it still retains a rural feel thanks to its large open spaces and dense forests supported by some of the richest soil on Guam. Like all northern Guam villages, it sits on top of the Northern Aquifer, which supplies about eighty percent of the island's drinking water supply.

Yona

Yona is the first southern village on the eastern side of Guam. Its boundaries stretch for six miles, from the south side of Pago Bay to the north side of the bridge at Jeff's Pirates Cove in Ipan, Talofofu. The village also extends west on Route 17, or Cross Island Road, from Route 4, or Chalan Kanton Tasi, to Tarzan Falls, near the Naval Magazine overlook.

Its jurisdiction also includes the area from Pulantat and Manenggon Valley to Lonfit Bridge in Chalan Pago. As such, Yona is one of Guam's largest municipalities in area and is divided into ten sections: Baza Gardens, Windward Hills, Ylig, Manenggon, Camp-Witek, Pulantat, Triangle, Central Yona, Tagachang and As Namu.

Tamuning, photos courtesy of Guam Visitors Bureau

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