

The Guam Visitors Bureau
Hafa Adai Tour Series 3

Guam's Marine Preserve and Wildlife Refuge



Hafa Adai and welcome to Guam!

Guam is an island blessed with a rich cultural legacy and spectacular natural beauty. What we have to share with you is an island at the crossroads of the Pacific linking East with West. Travelers the world over have known of Guam's world class luxury hotels, exquisite restaurants featuring sumptuous fine dining, Duty Free shopping, and endless hours of leisure activities.

Since the advent of Guam's tourism in 1967, when Pan American Airways inaugurated service from Japan, the island's economy has continued to expand and diversify. In addition to increased military expenditures, tourism, and related businesses—construction, retailing, banking and financial services—a revamped/rejuvenated economy played a significant role in providing jobs for local residents, while offering business options our cosmopolitan society has come to expect and appreciate.

Guam's rich historical legacy serves as the framework for which the future development of the island depends upon. That future is now as Guam has earned the reputation as the gateway to Asia, Micronesia, and the United States; the island's 21st century airport and shipping ports are second to none, catering to a bevy of international airlines and ships. Regular airline flights connect Guam with numerous Asian and Pacific countries, including the United States, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Australia, and the Philippines, as well as the neighboring Micronesian islands.

In addition to a plethora of natural and historical attractions, and modern amenities discerning international travelers have come to expect from a premiere destination of choice, Guam's culture is an attraction unto itself. 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.

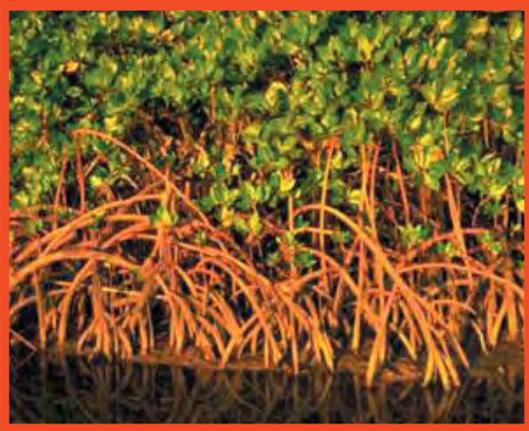
We welcome you to our world with open arms. Enjoy what we have to share and you will be well rewarded with memories to last a lifetime!

The Guam Visitors Bureau's Hafa Adai Tour Series is developed to create a greater understanding of Guam for travelers who wish to investigate the island on their own. Other series include diving, the environment, cultural history, botanical, and scenic. Copies of the Tour Series are available at the Guam Visitors Bureau in beautiful Tumon.

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Our Connection to the Sea

Pacific islands are blessed with a unique eco-system found nowhere else in the world. Although each island is like a fingerprint—no two islands are exact—there are shared characteristics, including stunningly beautiful coral reefs, one of the most diverse and productive communities on Earth, and wildlife refuges, home to endangered species of flora and fauna.



Coral reefs enhance biological diversity, fisheries, tourism, maritime, and cultural heritage, and protect shorelines from storm damage. Guam's nearshore environment includes fringing, patch, submerged, and barrier reefs, as well as offshore banks that total approximately 27 square miles (69 square kilometers); an additional 42 square miles (110 square kilometers) of coral reef exist beyond the three-mile federal offshore limits. With an average sea temperature ranging between 27-30°C, scientists have painstakingly recorded an amazing array of undersea life that has thrilled visitors

and sustained residents alike. In addition to more than 1,000 species of shorefishes, scientists list the following species from Guam's coral reef ecosystems:

- Four seagrass species
- 306 marine macroalgae species
- 403 stony and 77 soft coral species
- 128 sponge species
- 295 foraminiferan species
- 53 flatworm species
- 1,673 mollusk species
- 104 polychaete species
- 840 arthropod species
- 194 echinoderm species
- 117 ascidian species
- Three sea turtle species
- 13 marine mammal species



Stressed by human activities and extreme natural events, coral reef communities worldwide are in a state of decline. Guam's reef conditions vary, ranging from excellent to poor depending on land activities, coastal populations, the amount of freshwater runoff, weather phenomena, and coral diseases. Scientists have seen a decline in fishing as well.

Although the worldwide condition of coral reefs appears ominous, Guam policy-makers, environmental conservationists, and your Guam Visitors Bureau have made concerted efforts to protect our sea heritage. On May 16, 1997, Public Law 24-21 was implemented, creating five marine preserves—Pati Point Preserve, Tumon Bay Preserve, Piti Bomb Holes Preserve, Sasa Bay Preserve, and the Achang Reef Flat Preserve—that protect coral reef habitats and aquatic animals, as well as help restore reef fish stocks for future generations.

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Guam's wildlife refuges and sanctuaries are home to sea turtle nesting sites, old forest stands, rare and exotic birds, and our only mammal, the fruit bat, known locally as the fanihi. In addition, there is a wide range of plants that dazzle the senses.

Balancing our island's natural beauty and fragile state with your memorable visit is our priority. Take your time to commute with Nature—we have designed this three-day travel itinerary with your interests at heart. And always remember: Stop by the Guam Visitors Bureau and let us know how we can be of further assistance to you and your family.

DAY ONE—Northern Guam

Exploring northern Guam's preserves and refuges is an adventure unto itself. Given the relatively close proximity to the Guam Visitors Bureau, a thorough tour of the various sites could take all day. And, why not? There's much to see and do, so take your time and enjoy what northern Guam has to offer!



1 Tumon Bay Preserve

Located on the northwest coast of Guam, the Tumon Bay area is the center of both business and leisure activities. Internationally recognized for the variety and quality of tourist-related activities available to visitors, Tumon Bay plays host to guests from all walks of life and all parts of the globe. Yet, for all the world-class hotels, designer shops, five-star restaurants and entertainment that the locale has to offer, the real draw to Tumon remains the two and one-half-mile long white sandy beach and crystal blue waters of Tumon Bay itself.

While the natural abundance of marine life in Tumon's waters was once appreciated for strictly utilitarian purposes, today it is recognized as a marine preserve; protected by law for its aesthetic. For those less inclined to the water, the beach offers soft white sand to lie in and soak up the sun.

Less than a one-minute walk from the Guam Visitors Bureau.

2 Guam National Wildlife Refuge

An unspoiled jewel of natural beauty, Ritidian Point lies on the northernmost tip of Guam. Once a restricted military area, the Point is now accessible to the public and is the site of the Guam National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge participates with other federal and local agencies in managing Guam's natural resources, provides facilities for research, and is developing interpretive and educational programs and facilities for the public. This 772-acre refuge consists of 371 acres of native limestone forest—home to the endangered Marianas fruit bat—and 401 acres of marine habitat used by the endangered hawksbill and green sea turtles. Within the refuge is a 50-acre public use area that is open daily from 8:30 am to 5 pm. Two miles of beach and marine habitats are open to the public.

The collection of plants and animals is prohibited without prior special authorization. There are no lifeguards on duty; visitors should exercise caution while in the water. In keeping with nature, there are no convenience stores, equipment rental facilities, or other accoutrements.

Go north on Route 1/Marine Corps Drive; turn left on to Route 3 just past the Micronesia Mall. Go approximately four miles and turn left on to Route 3A. Follow Route 3A for about five miles and you'll see the sights and sounds of Ritidian Point and the wildlife refuge.

3 Pati Point Preserve

Located on Andersen Air Force Base in the northeast quadrant of Guam, Pati Point Preserve is the most remote and least accessible of the island's five marine preserves. The preserve is ensconced by Tarague Beach to the west and Anao Point to the south, both pristine and picturesque sites perfect for photographers, environmentalists, scientists, and nature lovers. Unusual coral growth can be found at Pati Point that harbors rich fish life, sea turtles, jacks and barracuda. Given its remoteness, in 1986, an ocean current assessment study was conducted to determine the areas most likely to be seeded by larvae originating from this preserve.

Go north on Route 1/Marine Corps Drive to the main gate at Andersen Air Force Base. Due to security restrictions since the September 11, 2001, attacks, access is limited to those who can be sponsored by anyone affiliated with the United States military.

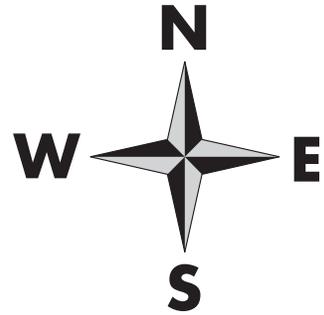
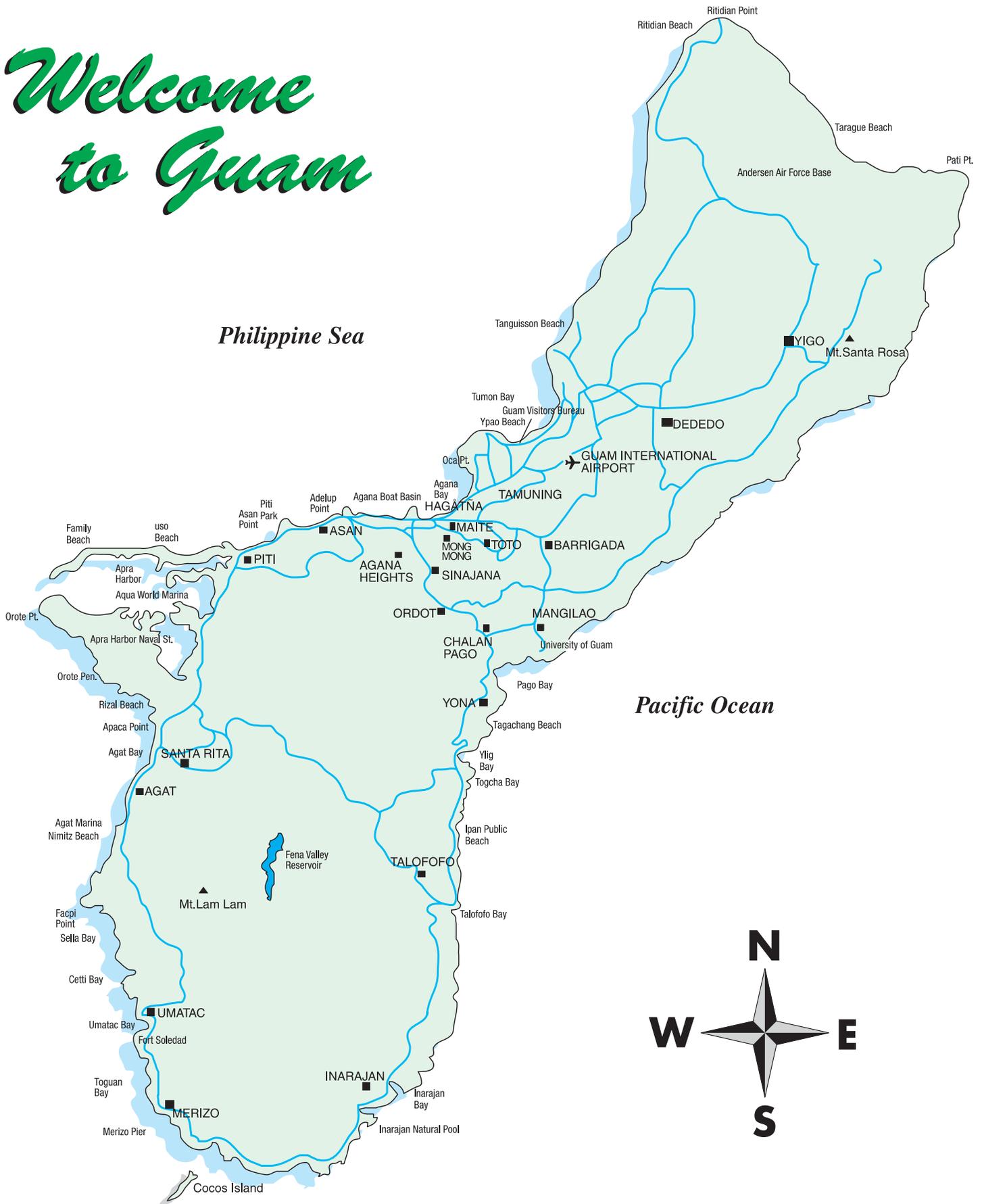
Touring Practicalities

Most of the scenic sites featured in your tour itinerary are accessible to virtually everyone. We have designed the Hafa Adai Scenic Tour series with an around the island viewing over three days beginning at the Bureau and moving North. Each site has directions and is numbered for easy identification. Take your time—there's no need to rush, as the island's ambience is easy-going and relaxed.

Tips for the Traveler

- For sites with trail time, wear appropriate clothing, such as hiking shoes, pants, and a hat
- Bring lots of water and film for your cameras
- Use copious quantities of insect repellent
- When near the beach, sunscreen will mitigate the effects of the equatorial sun
- Pack out what you pack in—leave only footprints in the sand
- Take a break every now and then by visiting a fruit and vegetable stand

Welcome to Guam



Glimpses of Guam

Political Status: Unincorporated territory of the United States of America

Capital: Hagatna

Location: 13.38° North Latitude, 144.44° East Longitude

Land Area: 212 square miles (549 square kilometers)

Native Inhabitants: Chamorro

Official Languages: English and Chamorro

Currency: US Dollar

Time: Greenwich Mean Time +10

Population: Approximately 150,000

Electricity: 120 volts/60 cycles

The Guam Flag

Guam's unique flag bears the Great Seal of the Territory of Guam. Each image symbolizes a significant part of Guam's history and cultural lifestyle.

- The shape of the seal is that of an ancient Chamorro slingstone.
- The coconut tree represents self-reliance—its is the tree of life.
- The flying proa, the ocean-going canoe used by the ancient Chamorros, was sleek and agile in the water. The proa required great skill to build and sail.
- The river symbolizes a willingness to share the resources of the land with others.
- The land mass demonstrates the Chamorros' stewardship of natural resources.
- Guam is the island home of the Chamorro people.
- The red stripe surrounding the Guam seal represents the blood shed by her people.
- The blue field represents Guam's unity with the sea and the sky.



FAQs about Our Marine Preserves

The Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources serves as the government of Guam's regulatory authority to enforce the laws of Guam's five marine preserves. The United States federal government, under the auspices of the Department of Interior, US Fish & Wildlife office monitors the War in the Pacific National Historical Park and Guam National Wildlife Refuge. The following frequently asked questions are answered for your understanding of our laws protecting and preserving our fragile and very precious environment.

What is prohibited in a preserve?

Within a marine preserve, the taking of aquatic animals is restricted. Unless specifically authorized, all types of fishing, shell collecting, the use of gaffs, and the removal of sand and rocks are prohibited in a preserve.

What is allowed in a preserve?

Limited inshore fishing is allowed within the Pati Point Preserve and Tumon Bay Preserve. Within the Pati Point Preserve, hook and line fishing from shore is allowed for all species of fish. Within the Tumon Bay Preserve, hook and line fishing from shore, cast net fishing from shore, and cast net fishing along the reef margin are allowed but only for certain species of fish.

Rabbitfish (sesjun and manahak), juvenile goatfish (Ti'ao), juvenile jacks (I'e') and the convict tang (Kichu) are the only species that can be caught with hook and line from shore and cast net from shore within the Tumon Bay Preserve. Rabbitfish and convict tangs are the only species that can be caught with cast nets along the reef margin within the Tumon Bay Preserve.

Limited offshore fishing is allowed in all preserves. Bottom fishing is allowed only in the Tumon Bay Preserve, but from the 100-foot contour seaward. Trolling is allowed in all preserves from the reef margin seaward but only for pelagic fish, which includes all billfish, mahi mahi, bonita, kawa kawa, wahoo, yellowfin tuna, rainbow runner, or any other tuna or migratory ocean-going fish.

Are the preserves being enforced?

Yes. On January 1, 2001, the laws regulating the marine preserves went into effect. All offenders violating the marine preserve regulations could be fined up to \$500 and/or imprisoned up to 90 days. Informal signage and boundary markers have been installed.

Are there boundary markers?

Yes, range markers define the boundaries of the preserves, except at the Piti Bomb Holes Preserve which has no markers; Sasa Bay Preserve only has one marker—all others have two each. Each range marker is a 24" x 24" diamond-shaped plate with reflective orange and white bands mounted to posts and set in the water.

For more information, contact the Department of Agriculture's Division of Aquatic & Wildlife Resources at (671) 735.3955/56 or its Law Enforcement Section, (671) 735.3989/734.3930 between Monday and Friday, 8 am – 5 pm. At other times, contact the Guam Police Department's TOC Unit at (671) 472.8911.

DAY TWO—Central Guam

Central Guam's park and marine preserve combine a rich treasure trove of the historical and environmental. Both sites are accessible and offer a wide range of activities for the creative mind.

4 War in the Pacific National Historical Park

Since the opening of the park in 1978—the only park in the National Park Service system dedicated to the Pacific Theater of World War II—the National Park Service provides visitors with a comprehensive collection of World War II artifacts. The park commemorates the bravery and sacrifice of the American and Japanese soldiers and Guam residents who lost their lives on Guam during WWII. Six different locations comprise the park; 1,000 offshore acres of ocean are part of this preserve and contain submerged military relics.

If you visit all six locations, plan on spending several hours. Included in the park are the following units:

- Asan Beach and Inland—The focal point of the American invasion in 1944, Asan Beach has gun encasements, caves and pillboxes, and 445 water acres of reefs and relics. At Asan Point, the “Liberator’s Memorial” honors the US armed forces who participated in the 1944 landing, as well as the Guam Combat Patrol and Civilian Scouts. The T. Stell Newman Visitors Center has been closed since Super typhoon Pongsona’s 175-miles per hour sustained winds and 30 inches of rainfall, but you can reach the National Park Service in its temporary offices located in the Park’s Maintenance Facility across from Asan Beach Park (460 North Marine Corps Drive, Piti, Guam).
- Fonte Plateau—A former Japanese naval communications center, the site contains concrete tunnels.
- Piti—Covered in lush jungle growth, the hillside in this village has three Japanese coastal defense guns in good historical condition.
- Mount Tenjo/Mount Chachao—Thousands of Japanese soldiers dug trenches and foxholes as they prepared for the impending American invasion. A World War I American gun emplacement is one of several important relics found in this remote, hilly area.
- Mount Alifan—Historic sites and debris cover hilly slopes, making hiking fairly difficult. It is the site of a former Japanese command post.
- Agat—Apaca Point, Ga’an Point, Bangi Point, and Bangi Island contain historic sites and structures, including caves, bunkers, and more than 10 pillboxes. The Agat Invasion Marker marks the command post of the 1st Provisional Marine Brigade, which spearheaded the Agat invasion.

Take Route 1/Marine Corps Drive south to Asan. The park is located on the beachside of Marine Corps Drive.

5 Piti Bomb Holes

The Piti Bomb Holes—located between Asan Point and the Piti Canal—is a quiet respite for beginning divers who wish to immerse themselves in relatively safe waters. Although the US Navy bombarded Guam's west central coast during the 1944 Liberation, the bomb holes underwater have become home to dozens of different coralline and fish species. Turbidity is



low, allowing for crystal clear visibility for those who wish to explore underwater. In the late afternoon hours, you may see the fabled green flash on the Philippine Sea horizon. The preserve does not have range markers.

Take Route 1/Marine Corps Drive south past the War in the Pacific National Historical Park to Piti. You'll notice the Fish Eye Marine Park pier on your right. The Piti Bomb Holes Preserve is located adjacent to the pier.

DAY THREE—Southern Guam

Delving into Guam's southern heartland will, without doubt, reduce your blood pressure. The coastal drive is both scenic and leisurely; numerous points of interest will spice up your travel. Once you've reached Guam's southern marine preserves, you'll be rewarded with a sense of unrivaled calm.

6 Sasa Bay Preserve

Sandwiched between the western Pacific busiest port and Polaris Point of Big Navy in Piti is Sasa Bay Preserve, a family-oriented area where divers, yachties, and skiers cavort in the safe harbored waters. A bevy of sunset cruise boats can be seen plying the gentle waters; underwater, the battery-operated submarine, Atlantis, takes people to depths never before seen. Mangroves ring portions of the preserve, home to seabirds and crabs alike. Despite the varied activities present, the preserve's eco-system is teeming with life. One range marker each is used at Drydock Island and Polaris Point. To determine the ocean boundary of the preserve, the range marker at Drydock Island is aligned with the range marker at Polaris Point.

Take Route 1/Marine Corps Drive south to Piti. Turn right just past the Veterans Cemetery to Route 18.

7 Achang Reef Flat Preserve

At the very southern tip of Guam in the quaint village of Merizo is the largest of the five marine preserves—Achang Reef Flat Preserve. The preserve encompasses an area between Achang Bay and Ajayan Channel and includes the Manell Channel, Achang Reef, Tangon Rock, Asgadao Island, Fofos Island, and Agrigan Island. Cocos Island and the fringing reef can be seen on the horizon from the preserve. Southern Guam is not only known for its historical villages, friendly people, and lush verdant jungles, but also for some of the finest swimming and boardsailing on Guam.

Take Route 1/Marine Corps Drive south to Piti. Turn left at the traffic light near Taco Bell, and follow Route 2A, then Route 2, which connects to Route 4. Follow Route 4 to Merizo.

SAMPLE THREE DAY ITINERARY

DAY ONE		DAY TWO	
7:00 A.M.	BREAKFAST	7:00 A.M.	BREAKFAST
8:30 A.M.	MEET AT LOBBY WITH TOUR GUIDE	8:30 A.M.	MEET AT LOBBY WITH TOUR GUIDE
8:45 A.M.	BEGINS TOUR Tumon Bay Marine Preserve (Snorkeling, swimming?) Two Lovers Point	8:45 A.M.	BEGINS CENTRAL ISLAND TOUR Hagatna Village Tour Chief Quipuha Plaza de Espana Dulce Nombre de Maria Cathedral- Basilica Sen. Angel Santos Latte Stone Park
10:00 A.M.	Guam National Wildlife Preserve Ritidian Point Beach		
11:30 Noon	Lunch	10:00 A.M.	War in the Pacific Historical Parks
1:00 P.M.	Continue Tour Pati Point Preserve, Andersen Airforce Base, Yigo	12:00 Noon	Lunch
3:00 P.M.	Begins Northern Guam Island Tour Mount Santa Rosa South Pacific Memorial	1:30 P.M.	Continue Tour Piti Bomb Holes Fish Eye Marine Observatory
4:00 P.M.	Shopping	3:00 P.M.	Hagatna Village Tour Chamorro Village San Antonio Bridge & Sirena Statue Government House Fort Apugan Adelup Point
5:00 P.M.	Return to hotel		
7:00 P.M.	Dinner	5:00 P.M.	Cocktails in Hagatna Bay
		7:00 P.M.	Cultural Dinner Show

Hafa Adai Tour Series 3
 Guam's Marine Preserve & Wildlife Refuge

DAY THREEE

7:00 A.M. BREAKFAST

8:30 A.M. MEET AT LOBBY WITH
TOUR GUIDE

8:45 A.M. BEGINS TOUR
Diving or Dolphin
watching

10:00 A.M. Sasa Bay Preserve

12:30 Noon Lunch

2:00 P.M. Continue Tour
Achang Reef Flat
Preserve

3:00 P.M. Begins southern Guam
Island Tour
Saluglula Pools
Umatac Bay Park
Sella & Cetti Bay Park

5:00 P.M. Return to hotel

7:00 P.M. Dinner

Acknowledgements

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 Interior

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