

PATA MICRONESIA CHAPTER GATHERS IN CHUUK AT FIRST TRIANNUAL MEETING IN 2025

PATA **MICRONESIA**
Pacific Asia Travel Association
MICRONESIA CHAPTER
**1st TriAnnual PATA Micronesia
Chapter Mtg 2025**
June 2-6, 2025

**Chuuk Successfully Hosts the 2025 First Triannual PATA
Micronesia Chapter Meeting**

The 2025 First Triannual Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Micronesia Chapter Meeting took place in Chuuk from June 2 to 6, under the theme "Together Better." This event convened PATA Micronesia Members from across the region to strengthen partnerships, promote regional destinations, and engage in discussions regarding key developments impacting Micronesia's tourism sector.

Throughout the weeklong event, attendees experienced a rich array of Chuuk's natural and cultural attractions. Highlights included an aerial tour with Caroline Islands Airline, a scenic boat ride to PATA Island, and a land tour of Weno, all of which provided participants with a comprehensive and immersive insight into Chuuk's unique offerings. These activities demonstrated the Chuuk Visitors Bureau's capacity to successfully host regional events while showcasing local tourism potential.

The two-day meeting featured important discussions centered on tourism development, with particular emphasis on the challenges and opportunities unique to the Micronesian Islands. The meeting commenced with a keynote address followed by impactful presentations from various regional delegates. Key topics included:

- One Micronesian - Obstacles and Challenges
- Overview of Challenges to One Micronesian Approach
- One Destination Four Experience – Unity vs. Individuality
- Past, Present, and Forward Movements

On the second day, representatives from PATA International reaffirmed their commitment to the Micronesia Chapter, expressing a strong interest in providing ongoing support and collaborative opportunities. National Tourism Organizations (NTOs) also presented quarterly updates, sharing country-specific developments and future plans. The meeting concluded with committee presentations outlining upcoming projects, strategies, and inter-committee coordination efforts aimed at enhancing tourism throughout the Micronesia region.

Congratulations to the Chuuk Visitors Bureau for successfully hosting this milestone event, which not only highlighted Chuuk's beautiful destinations but also reinforced the importance of regional unity and collective growth under the theme "Together Better."



Ekkewe chon feito efisi ar mwiich non fonuach Chuuk seni ewe Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Micronesia Chapter seni ewe June 2 ngeni June 6, ra pwarata ar pwapwai me meseik ren met a fis non fansoun ar uruur me kukunou non Chuuk. Me nukun ar efis ar mwich non ewe uut Kurassa, iwe ra pwan awora fansoun ar tori ewe Japanese Lighthouse me Xavier High School campus non Sapuk, Weno non ewe June 2. Iwe non June 3, ra sai ngeni matawen Faichuk ar repwe kuna ewe anuk Netutu, ekkewe noom, me ar repwe pwan feino katon ewe pwaang Fouimw won ewe fonu Pata Tupunion. Non June 4 me 5, a kan or fansoun ar ra pwan fiti ewe sepenin CIA ren ar katong ekkewe fonuen me matawen non Chuuk Lagoon. Non June 6, ra fakkun pwapwa ne fiti ewe Island Market mi fis non ewe airport parking lot fan emwenien ewe Chuuk Chamber of Commerce. Ra pwan kinissou ngeni monun ewe Chamber of Commerce ren ar efisi ew mwongon neonoas fainter me non ewe airport VIP Room. Me murin ar ra feino seni Chuuk, fitemon nein ekkewe chon feito ra mak ngeni ach CVB ofes non ar ra pwarata ukukun ar kinissou me ar mwareiti met a fis ngenir non ewe fansoun ra nonnom Chuuk, non napanapen ach etiwir me atoura ngenir ekkewe neeni rese kukuna fansoun ar tori Chuuk ika rese sinei pwe ir mi nonnom non fonuach Chuuk. CVB epwe kinissou ngeni meinisin me aninis ne awasonai ekkei aramas. Akkawin ngeni ewe Chuuk Chamber of Commerce, ewe Transportation Corporation, ewe Kurassa Meeting Hall, ewe Chuuk HPO Office, Siis Municipal Government, Fefen Municipal Government, Chuuk Airport Management, Chuuk Governor's Office, me Atefon Speaker Lester Danny Mersai ren an tupwuni Nouwis ne atoura kapasen etiweti.

Ewe ofesin Chuuk visitors Bureau epwe apasa an ennetin kinissou chapur ngenikemi ren ami umoumoch ngeni ach tingor.

CHUUK STATE AT THE WORLD EXPO IN OSAKA, JAPAN



Jedidiah Hainrick and Reachhard Lukas left Chuuk on June 10 in order to assist in receiving visitors at the FSM pavilion where display of culture artifacts and handi-crafts has been ongoing since early April as part of the World Expo being staged in Osaka, Japan. During the period of June 12 to July 12, activities at the FSM pavilion will be led by Chuuk promotion team, which is led by the Chuuk Visitors Bureau.

Chuuk State government has provided approximately \$35,000.00 to fund travel, lodging, and everything relating to Chuuk's promotional period. Jedidiah and Reachhard are funded by the FSM Department of Resources and Development. CVB orchestrated other plans that will allow Ms. Lissette Yamase, based in Honolulu, and Mr. Holger Buss from Germany to take part at the expo during the Chuuk month. Ms. Yamase is a young artist/painter. Mr. Buss is an engineer with deep dive expertise who has created models of the shipwrecks in Chuuk Lagoon. For the culture display part, the team from Fefen Island will present the traditional "unong sepiechen" and perform other dance and chants.

The World Expo event has been on-going since April. The FSM Department of Resources and Development Tourism Division is coordinating participation from all the FSM States in terms of culture material display, talent and art show, storytelling, material making demo, dance and chants, etc. One of the objectives of our participation at this event is to engage in marketing and promotion strategies to that will boost interest in our FSM Destinations in Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei, and Kosrae.

Jed interviewed by visitors at FSM Pavilion

4TH MICRONESIA EXPO FAST APPROACHING: CHUUK GETTING READY TO TAKE PART

The fourth series of the Micronesia Expo is just around the corner as it has been scheduled to take place in the State of Yap during the 3rd week of July, 2025. The Chuuk Visitors Bureau (CVB) is normally the focal point office for preparation and planning matters relating to the Micronesia Expo since it first rolled out in 2021.

As for most big events, the critical challenge we face has to do with ensuring there is adequate funding support from key stakeholders. While the event is mainly a national government initiative, it has become an opportunity for private sector, civil societies, and public sector at the State level to exert efforts in promoting their products, raise visibility, and collaborate with peers and partners throughout the federation. In this context, Chuuk State has had to direct funds to the event to enable meaningful participation and spread opportunities wider each time the event happens. This year, Chuuk State has approved a funding amount of approximately \$165,000.00 to fund a delegation of around seventy (70) performers along with leadership representation.

The initial plan is to take 16 dancers from the Pollap community that has been active in this kind of events along with also 16 stick dancers from the Ettal Namoluk group. Chuuk would like to take along as gift to Yap one "Sepien Chuuk" to symbolize friendship and respect between our people. A mixed team of sepiechen performers to be led by Fefen will take up to 24 people. We might be able to also take along "maas" dancers from Uman who took part in the last Expo hosted by Chuuk State in 2024.



CVB Executive Director met with Mr. Kerman Melsior, on the left, from Etal Island re Micronesia Expo in Yap this coming July. Mr. Melsior is contact person for Etal and Namoluk stick dancers residing in Guam.



Along with key objectives in building viable tourism in Chuuk, CVB engages in cleaning and beautification tasks at certain locations around DownTown Weno and at certain attraction sites. At the same time, we partner with existing community groups that do the same at their places, such as the Afaani Chuuk group in Nantaku, the Neouo youth, etc. Our work compliments similar tasks from the Correction unit at Public Safety and cleaners from the Governor's Office, Chuuk Supreme Court, and the Coalition led by Chuuk EPA.



Ekkei aramas ra feito seni ewe fonu Australia non ar saifein won efoch war wa-seres ika sukuna. Non ar tori Chuuk, iwe ra ekis nonnom arapakan ngeni ewe oror Transco. CVB a ngeni ekkei aramas ekis ach nifang ngenir faniten ach kinissou ren ar achchongeni ne feito ngeni fonuach. Ach anean pwe repwe feino senikich non ar pwapwaiti met ra kuna o repwe pwan tongeni niwinsefan non kan fansoun mwach. Sia pwan anean pwe epwe napeno chon wareto ngeni fonuach won kei sokkun waa faniten napenon pekin turis.