

= Guam Highway 1 =

Guam Highway 1 (GH @-@ 1) , also known as Marine Corps Drive , is one of the primary automobile routes in the United States territory of Guam . It runs in a southwest @-@ to @-@ northeast direction , from the main gate of Naval Base Guam in the western community of Santa Rita in a general northeasterly direction to the main gate of Andersen Air Force Base in the community of Yigo . It passes through Guam 's capital , Hagåtña , as well as intersecting various other territorial highways . Along its route , the highway runs through tropical forest areas , urbanized commercial areas , and residential neighborhoods . The US Military built the road starting in 1941 . Construction ceased with the Japanese invasion in December 1941 and resumed in 1944 . The highway was formally dedicated to the US Marines by the territorial governor in 2004 .

= = Route description = =

GH @-@ 1 begins near the entrance gate to Naval Base Guam , at a junction with GH @-@ 2A . Known as Marine Corps Drive , the route then travels to the northeast through tropical forests along Apra Harbor to the town of Piti . After passing through Piti , the drive runs along Tepungon Beach before turning inland near Asan Point . The road passes the US Naval Hospital and Asan Point ; then it runs parallel to the coast along Asan Memorial Beach through the community of Asan . Soon thereafter , Marine Corps Drive cuts a path due east towards the Island 's capital , Hagåtña where it passes through the northern edge of the city . In this area , GH @-@ 1 runs through commercial areas parallel to the West Agaña Beach Front area . The drive passes the Paseo de Susana before following Trinchera Beach northeasterly through town .

After passing through the capital and the community of Mongmong , the road turns towards the northeast as it skirts to the west of Antonio B. Won Pat International Airport on its way through the village of Tamuning . After the airport , the highway runs inland from the shoreline through the neighborhood of Tumon . It runs northeasterly around the Micronesia Mall before turning southeasterly through residential areas as it cuts across the southern edges of Dededo . It runs to the south of the Guam International Country Club and to the north of the Andersen Air Force Base 's southern unit . Through this area , the north side of the highway is residential areas , and the south side is tropical forests . Marine Corps Drive passes the War Dead Cemetery and turns northeasterly residential areas on both sides of the roadway through Yigo before reaching its terminus at Salisbury Junction , the main entrance to the Air Force Base , where the road continues to the northwest as GH @-@ 9 .

Like most major highways on Guam , a 35 mph (56 km / h) speed limit is posted throughout most of its length . In the past , GH @-@ 1 was one of the few roads to post a 45 mph (72 km / h) limit on lengths of less @-@ developed roadway . However , as more of the area became developed , certain sections of the roads were posted with lower limits . Travelers heading north away from the developed areas are allowed a 45 mph (72 km / h) speed limit . However , the southbound lanes on the same sections remain posted at 35 mph (56 km / h) due to development on the western side of the road .

= = History = =

The United States Military began to develop and construct roads on the island in 1941 . Some roads had existed prior to this , but improvements were beginning to take shape . Only one road , which encircled most of the island , had been graded . It was the primary route linking Agaña (the name of the capital at the time) to Piti and Asan . This was the foundation for Marine Corps Drive . After the Japanese invasion , little infrastructure improvements were made by the occupiers . Road construction resumed by the US Military after the island was invaded in 1944 . In 60 days , a 12 @-@ mile (19 km) , four @-@ lane super @-@ highway with nine bridges was built after the invasion . The remainder of the roadway was built and numbered under the local administration after Guam was given civil government in 1950 .

Named Marine Corps Drive throughout its length , it was known as simply Marine Drive until the road was rededicated by Governor Felix Perez Camacho in 2004 . In 2012 , the DPW has started to install LED streetlights along Marine Corps Drive . At the same time , construction has started to replace the Agana Bridge along GH @-@ 1 .

= = Major intersections = =