

HAWAII VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU
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WHAT'S NEW IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- **Hilton Grand Vacations (HGV)** recently debuted its newest resort, **Hokulani Waikiki by Hilton Grand Vacations Club**. Centrally located in the energetic hub of Waikīkī, O'ahu, the resort marks the final component of the Waikīkī Beach Walk development, which is known for premier shopping, dining, and entertainment. Designed for sophistication, Hokulani Waikiki includes 143 one-bedroom suites featuring a distinctive Hawai'i style, but with an urban, contemporary aesthetic. Cosmopolitan travelers can also enjoy the resort's open-air, rooftop pool bar. US.HokulaniWaikiki.com
- **Aston at The Whaler on Kaanapali Beach** (Maui) has unveiled its upgraded studio, one- and two-bedroom premium suites providing guests ultimate comfort and extravagance. The spacious and luxurious beachfront suites offer contemporary furnishings, ocean views, large private lanais, and comfortable entertainment areas. Guests also receive amenities catered to indulge the senses, including Maui-grown coffee, fresh-cut Maui pineapple, fresh orchids, and chocolates. AstonHotels.com
- **Four Seasons Resorts Lāna'i** debuted its first full-service luxury airport lounge at Honolulu International Airport. The 1,000-square-foot lounge, located in the Island Air commuter terminal, will now welcome Four Seasons guests enroute to Lāna'i. Equipped with amenities including food, beverages, iPads, Wi-Fi access, charging stations, luggage holding areas, magazines, newspapers, and hi-def televisions, guests can retreat to the relaxing setting of convenience and comfort prior to stepping foot on Lāna'i. FourSeasons.com/Lanai
- **Moana Surfrider, A Westin Resort & Spa** (O'ahu) recently completed \$21 million in renovations to its guest rooms and snack shop, and the construction of a new beach club. Inspired by contemporary Hawaiian design with modern touches, the new enhancements include a complete décor room refresh of 552 guest rooms and 36 suites of both the resort's Tower and Diamond wings. The Tower wing's renewal also included the creation of the new penthouse at the Moana floor, perched 21 floors above Waikīkī Beach. The addition of the new beach club caters to discerning guests seeking the ultimate resort hospitality experience. MoanaSurfrider.com
- **Nobu Lāna'i**, located at **Four Seasons Resort Lāna'i at Manele Bay** launched a half-acre garden to welcome a variety of herbs and vegetables, including baby lettuce, squash, scallions, tomatoes, watermelon radish, red beets, carrots, green

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beans, asparagus, and cilantro. Fresh from the farm and grown organically, the ingredients make up 65 percent of what is used on the menu at Nobu. The produce is harvested daily to ensure freshness and the garden is cared for by Four Seasons staff led by executive chef Sean Mell.

FourSeasons.com/ManeleBay

- **Travaasa Hāna, Maui** announced a new partnership with **Marriott Maui Ocean Club** in Lahaina, allowing guests of Maui Ocean Club to utilize their Vacation Club Points and redeem nights at the resort in east Maui. Rates at Travaasa Hāna start at 1,000 Vacation Club Points per night for a Garden Suite or 1,500 Vacation Club Points per night for a Sea Ranch Cottage. Travaasa Hāna will also provide a complimentary upgrade to the next room category to vacation club guests utilizing this partnership, upon availability. Travaasa.com/Hana or My-VacationClub.com
- The **Westin Maui Resort & Spa** completed a transformation of 553 guest rooms and suites in the Ocean Tower of the 759-room beachfront resort. The multi-million dollar refresh project includes redesigned furnishings, modern decor and island inspired artwork, state-of-the-art electronics, and fresh flooring. The intuitive enhancements create vibrant energy amidst the beachfront resorts spectacular surroundings of legendary Kā'anapali Beach and West Maui Mountains. WestinMaui.com

ATTRACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

- Buckle up and join **The Groove Hawaii's** newest Formula 1 go-kart racing track and amusement hotspot located just outside of Waikīkī. O'ahu's newest entertainment destination, The Groove offers numerous activities including go-kart races, driving clinics, outdoor climbing wall, Segway tours, indoor arcade and billiards lounge, private party rooms, and a full service restaurant. The Groove will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and patrons can utilize The Groove's free shuttle bus available hourly from various locations in and around Waikīkī. GrooveHawaii.com
- Undergoing \$57,000 of restoration services, the **Battleship Missouri Memorial** provides a new luster to enhance guests' experiences of how officers of the retired USS Missouri lived while serving at sea. The 13 staterooms, known as "Officers County" have been restored to immaculate "inspection-ready" condition and appear as they did for the USS Missouri's final mission on December 7, 1991. USSMissouri.org
- **Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel** (Hawai'i Island) and **Body Glove Cruises** have partnered together to offer two fantastic cruise packages for added value and convenience. The sunset dinner cruise offers engaging historical narrative, live entertainment and an elaborate buffet dinner. For a morning activity, guests of the Kona Beach Hotel can also enjoy the Kona snorkel adventure, which includes a continental breakfast buffet, snorkel gear, and exclusive underwater snorkel time. KonaBeachHotel.com

- **Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea** has launched a SUP (Stand Up Paddleboarding) Yoga class as part of its extensive list of fitness and wellness offerings. Following the island's hottest fitness trend, SUP yoga combines the meditative art of yoga with the physical discipline of SUP to offer guests a truly innovative and unique experience, while absorbing the beauty of Maui at the same time. FourSeasons.com/Maui
- **Kā'anapali Beach Hotel** (Maui) is now offering a variety of new complimentary Hawaiian activities to its cultural program. Guests of the hotel can immerse themselves in Hawaiian culture and choose amongst scheduled programs such as 'ukulele and hula lessons, lei making, lauhala weaving, pineapple cutting, live Hawaiian music, nightly hula shows, and cultural garden tours. KBHMaui.com
- **Kohala Zipline** (Hawai'i Island) launched a convenient roundtrip shuttle service between its North Kohala course and all major Kona and Kohala resorts and hotels. Guests can choose either an early departure at 8:30 a.m., or late departure at 1 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Included in the shuttle service is a deli-style lunch with choice of sandwich, cookie, chips, and a soft drink. KohalaZipline.com
- **Koloa Zipline**, the newest addition to **Kauai Zipline Tours** introduced its most challenging zipline adventure tour, the sunset zip. Highlights of the tour include flying through the jungle, soaring above the forest, and gliding across the water on over a mile and a half of exciting zip lines and beautiful scenery of South Kaua'i at sunset and into the twilight. The Koloa sunset zipline is a 3.5 to 4 hour tour and is offered daily at 5 p.m. KoloaZipline.com
- With a blend of cultural, academic, and technical interests, **Loko I'a**, a new iPhone app built by a team of University of Hawai'i Researchers, gives anyone the opportunity to take an interactive, multi-media fishpond tour and learn about Hawai'i's resources. Using GPS and location-based technologies, Loko I'a provides both walking and virtual tours of **He'eia Fishpond**, located on O'ahu's windward coast. The app, available on the iTunes App Store, also provides maps, data and visualizations of research the UH team is conducting. Hawaii.edu
- **Tasting Kauai** created "**A Taste of Kilohana**" as an exclusive, guided food tour featuring a ride in an open-air train through the 105-acre orchard of the **Kilohana Plantation** in Kaua'i. The tour includes a Mai Tai workshop and an off-the-menu, three-course meal presented by Gaylord's executive chef Todd Barrett in the private dining room of Wilcox Mansion. Guests can also disembark through the orchard feeding wild boar, goat, and chicken, while picking fruit from 50 varieties of exotic fruit trees. TastingKauai.com
- **Turtle Bay Resort** on O'ahu's North Shore introduced its new engagement package incorporating the best in authentic North Shore locations and experiences for a once-in-a-lifetime proposal. Couples can enjoy a horseback ride along the breathtaking Kawela Bay, followed by a romantic private dinner, and ending with a memorable proposal celebration. Turtle Bay Resort will ensure every step of the proposal is seamless with an onsite photographer, 'ukulele

musician, and hula dancer. New engagement packages are available for \$1,018 per night for two with a three-night minimum in one of the resort's luxurious beach cottages. TurtleBayResort.com

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

- The **National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG)** will bring together a host of top musicians from Hawai'i including thirteen-time Grammy winner Jerry Douglas for a special concert on April 5 in celebration of its 50th anniversary. The "Musical Legends in the Garden" concert is set in NTBG's beautiful open-air Southshore Visitors Center in Po'ipū on the island of Kaua'i. Douglas will be joined by special guest performers Ledward Kaapana, Dennis Kamakahi, and Mike Kaawa of The Hawaiian Legends as well as popular Kaua'i artists Ken Emerson, Pancho Graham, and Kirby Keough performing as The Hanalei Bay Trio. NTBG.org
- The 12th annual **Waikiki Spam Jam**, a cultural tradition in O'ahu is set for May 3 in the heart of Waikīkī. Celebrating Hawai'i's love affair with spam and rated as one of the top annual food festivals, the event features local restaurants offering creative Spam dishes, entertainment stages, and a variety of Hawai'i retailers. SpamJamHawaii.com
- Marking its 25th year, the **Whalers Village Maui Onion Festival** will be held on May 3 at the **Whalers Village** in the **Kā'anapali Beach Resort**. Dedicated to the cultivation and promotion of the world-famous Maui Onion, guests can enjoy a weekend of fun, food, chef demonstrations, live entertainment, and the signature Maui Onion Challenge. WhalersVillage.com
- One of the oldest festivals of its kind in the nation, the **Kapalua Wine & Food Festival** will convene from June 12-15 on Maui at the world renowned **Kapalua Resort**. The celebration of epicurean excellence brings together local, national, and international vendors to showcase the finest products in food and wine and embrace all things Hawaiian. The four-day culinary extravaganza also features top master sommeliers, celebrated chefs, and evening gala events. KapaluaWineAndFoodFestival.com
- The fourth annual **Hawai'i Food & Wine Festival** announced the addition of an event on Hawai'i Island on August 29 in partnership with **Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort** and **Hilton Waikoloa Village**. The Hawai'i Island event supports the Festival's goal to showcase the world-class food festival as a statewide initiative, highlighting the state's culinary and agricultural community along with the hospitality and tourism industry. Co-founded by Hawai'i's James Beard Award-winning chefs, Roy Yamaguchi and Alan Wong, the festival features wine tastings, cooking demonstrations, and exclusive dining opportunities featuring the state's bounty of local produce, seafood, beef, and poultry. HawaiiFoodAndWineFestival.com
- **The Sea House Restaurant at Napili Kai Beach Resort** on Maui is celebrating its 50th anniversary throughout 2014 with a variety of special offers and pricing, creative anniversary menu items and specialty drinks, and weekly giveaways.

The popular beachfront restaurant, which opened in 1963, will be giving away weekly \$50 Sea House dining gift certificates, and each winner will be entered into a year-end drawing for a romantic Na Hoku Dinner for two.

SeaHouseMaui.com

TRANSPORTATION

- **Hawaiian Airlines** announced the following:
 - Hawai'i's newest interisland turboprop called '**Ohana by Hawaiian** with service to and from Moloka'i and Lāna'i from Honolulu International Airport. The long anticipated turboprop will offer three daily flights to Moloka'i Airport, launching on March 11, and twice-daily service to Lāna'i Airport beginning on March 18.
 - Beginning April 16, subject to government approval, Hawaiian Airlines will fly non-stop between **Honolulu** and **Beijing**, its first Mainland China gateway destination. The new route service will commence between Honolulu International Airport every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, cross the international dateline, and land at Beijing Capital International Airport the following day.

For more information, visit HawaiianAirlines.com

ACCOLADES

- **AAA Five Diamond** ratings list for 2014 have been awarded to three Hawai'i resorts and two restaurants. The **Ritz-Carlton, Kapalua**, the **Four Seasons Resort Hualālai at Historic Ka'ūpūlehu**, and the **Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea** were among 124 hotels, and the only Hawai'i properties, to earn a Five Diamond rating from AAA, while **Chef Mavro** and **La Mer** at the Halekulani were among 59 restaurants in the nation to receive the top rating. Recipients of AAA Five Diamond ratings exemplify personalization and creativity to exceed guests' comfort and provide memorable experiences. AAA.com
- Set on the North Kona Coast of Hawai'i Island, **Four Seasons Resort Hualālai at Historic Ka'ūpūlehu** was named the No. 1 hotel in Hawai'i and No. 40 in the world, in *Travel + Leisure's T+L 500 - The World's Best Hotels*. *Travel + Leisure* readers recognized hotels, destinations, and companies that define the very best in travel. The nine Hawai'i properties topping the list include:

O'ahu

- Halekulani
- Kahala Hotel & Resort
- Royal Hawaiian, A Luxury Collection Resort

Maui

- Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea
- Honua Kai Resort & Spa Kaanapali Beach
- The Fairmont Kea Lani, Maui

Lāna'i

- Four Seasons Lāna'i, The Lodge at Koele

Hawai'i Island

- Mauna Kea Beach Hotel

Kaua'i

- St. Regis Princeville Resort

For more information visit, TravelAndLeisure.com

- **Halekulani** in Waikīkī, O'ahu was named one of the best places to propose by *Luxury Travel Magazine*. Listed as the only Hawai'i hotel among a total of 24 hotels and resorts around the world, the magazine describes the luxurious beachfront hotel as an oasis of modern elegance, tranquility, and exclusivity in the midst of Waikīkī, known for impeccable service and unmatched experiences. LuxuryTravelMagazine.com
- **Hawaiian Airlines** continued its on-time performance streak in 2013, leading all U.S. carriers in punctuality for the 10th consecutive year as reported by the **U.S. Department of Transportation**. Averaging a 93.3 percent on-time performance ranking for 2013 and earning the top ranking in 11 of the 12 months, Hawaiian Airlines exceeded the industry average for the year by 15 percentage points. HawaiianAirlines.com
- Hawai'i Island's **Pāhoā** town has been named one of *Budget Travel's Top 15 "coolest small towns" in America*. As the only Hawai'i town out of 15 named across the country, Pāhoā appeals to travelers with its mid-20th century charm. Finalists were awarded based on diversity in geography, attractions, architecture, and other noteworthy distinctions. BudgetTravel.com
- Two Hawai'i destinations have made their first-ever appearances on **Travelocity's Top 10 Spring Break Destinations** list for 2014. From a top destinations standpoint, the spring break travel data revealed Maui at No. 9 and Honolulu at No. 10 on its annual list. Travelocity.com
- Five Hawai'i hotels made **TripAdvisor's 2014 Travelers' Choice** awards for hotels. The awards recognized the world's most outstanding properties identified in the categories of Top Hotels, Bargain, B&Bs and Inns, Family, Luxury, Romance and Small Hotels. The properties include:

Top 25 Hotels in the U.S.

- Four Seasons Resort Hualālai at Historic Ka'ūpūlehu (9)
- Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea (23)

Top 25 Luxury Hotels in the U.S.

- Four Seasons Resort Hualālai at Historic Ka'ūpūlehu (7)
- Four Seasons Resort Lāna'i, The Lodge at Koele (10)
- Four Seasons Resort Maui at Wailea (18)

Top 25 Romance Hotels in the U.S.

- Koa Kea Hotel & Resort (9)
- Four Seasons Resort Lāna'i, The Lodge at Koele (18)

Top 25 B&Bs and Inns in the U.S.

- Honu Kai B&B (5)

For more information, visit TripAdvisor.com.

- Selected by millions of TripAdvisor.com users, **Maui** (5), **Kaua'i** (6), and **Hawai'i Island** (7) were ranked as **TripAdvisor's 2014 Travelers Choice** awards for Top 10 Islands in the U.S. The island destination winners were determined based on quality and quantity of the most highly rated hotels, restaurants and attractions for each island, gathered during a 12-month period. TripAdvisor.com
- Readers of *USA Today* and its **10Best** website named Kaua'i as its No. #1 "**Best Anniversary Destination**" worldwide, praising its dreamy natural environment and casual yet captivating approach to romance. Nothing says love like a spectacular sunset, wondrous waterfall, and beautiful beaches on the garden isle of Kaua'i. 10Best.com

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Special Note to Media

The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) recognizes the use of the 'okina ['] or glottal stop, one of the eight consonants of the (modern) Hawaiian language; and the kahakō [ā] or macron (e.g., in place names of Hawai'i such as Lāna'i). However, HVCB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

About HVCB

The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau is contracted by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), the state of Hawai'i's tourism agency, for marketing management services in North America. The HTA was established in 1998 to ensure a successful visitor industry well into the future. Its mission is to strategically manage Hawai'i tourism in a sustainable manner consistent with the state of Hawai'i's economic goals, cultural values, preservation of natural resources, community desires, and visitor industry needs.

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