



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WHAT'S NEW IN HAWAII FOR MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS AND INCENTIVES

Aloha! There's always something new and exciting happening in the Hawaiian Islands. From hotel and meeting venue renovations to new and engaging activities and creative programs, there are endless opportunities to incorporate the Aloha Spirit into your next gathering.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND MEETING VENUES

Sheraton Kaua'i Resort recently announced the completion of new and refreshed guestrooms and suites in its Ocean Wing. New features include modern furnishings with an island-inspired color palette throughout the wing's guestrooms and suites. Room categories include deluxe garden view, deluxe oceanfront, luxury oceanfront and ocean suite categories. Renovations of the resort's Beach Wing are scheduled for completion in late April. For more information, visit www.sheraton-kauai.com, or call (808) 742-1661.

Kā'anapali Beach Resort Association – in partnership with Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa, Sheraton Maui Resort and Spa, and The Westin Maui Resort and Spa – has developed a new app for planning meetings at the West Maui resort area. The app, appropriately named Kā'anapali, helps meeting planners book at Kā'anapali Beach Resort by providing information for three of the resort area's largest properties as one unique venue. In total, the Kā'anapali resort area includes 13 properties, two shopping centers, two golf courses and world-famous Kā'anapali Beach. With more than 170,000 square feet of meeting space, 45 meeting rooms and 2,073 rooms combined, the three resorts' accommodations, cuisine, spas, aquatic playgrounds, natural beauty, golf courses, and close proximity to historic Lahaina Town aim to deliver satisfaction for all groups. For more information, visit Kā'anapali Beach Resort Association at www.kaanapaliresort.com.

Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa recently announced its newest offering for groups hosting meetings at the property, Meditation Refresh. A simple addition to any meetings program, Meditation Refresh encourages meeting attendees to take a mental and physical break from their meeting for a few minutes to refocus. Meditation Refresh can be included in any meeting program and includes a 25-minute break for attendees to participate in professionally guided meditation, followed by a refreshment break with healthy options. The guided meditation is crafted to allow meeting attendees to remain in their meeting attire and seats. The refreshment break includes energy bars, sliced tropical fruit, flavored hummus, a mezze platter with house-cured olives, flatbreads, Surfing Goat Dairy feta cheese and lemon; white chocolate, almond and sun-dried strawberry squares, and organic-fruit-infused water. For more information about the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa, please visit www.maui.regency.hyatt.com.

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The Garden Island's newest luxury resort, **Timbers Kaua'i at Hōkūala**, is celebrating its grand opening by offering guests an experience credit to explore all of the resort's on-property amenities. Guests and owners also enjoy oceanfront residences with scenic views, an award-winning golf course, a two-tiered infinity-edge oceanfront pool, the club's Hōkūala Spa, cultural and adventure activities, and more. For more information, or to book the Experience Timbers Kaua'i Opening Package, visit www.hokualakauai.com.

The **Aston Aloha Beach Hotel** recently reopened on Kaua'i under the **Hilton Garden Inn** brand following a major renovation of the property. Improvements were made to the hotel's 216 guestrooms, lobby, exterior, fitness center, indoor pool, 24-hour business center and 5,000 square feet of meeting space. The renovated property is the only Hilton-branded hotel on Kaua'i and the second Hilton Garden Inn in Hawai'i. For more information, visit www.travel.hilton.com.

The Ritz-Carlton Residences Waikīkī Beach recently celebrated the debut of its newly completed property with the opening of its Diamond Head Tower, which features 245 additional ocean-view residences, the resort's second infinity pool, a new dining option, an expanded spa and more than 35,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space. According to the resort, the now-completed Waikīkī luxury property features the largest collection of premium suites on island, as well as the two highest infinity pools in the area. Meeting planners can select from nine event spaces and venues with views of the Pacific Ocean. From elegant garden dinners to poolside receptions, the resort offers meetings and events with an aim of ensuring attendees leave feeling productive and inspired. For more information, visit www.ritzcarlton.com/waikiki.

The **Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort and Spa** will begin the second phase of its resort transformation in January, encompassing a full renovation of the property's 1,310 rooms. Interior design firm CRA conceived the design of the reimagined guest rooms, which are set for completion in fall 2019. In creating the project, interior designer Bianca Yih was inspired by the world-renowned lifestyle and surf culture of the legendary Waikīkī Beach Boys, who welcomed guests to O'ahu with a spirit of hospitality and aloha. The first phase of the resort's redesign began in 2016 with the property's Kona Moku Ballroom, Nanea Lobby and Kuhio Beach Grill. For more information, visit www.marriott.com/waikiki.

ACTIVITIES AND ATTRACTIONS

Holo Holo Charters and the nonprofit **National Tropical Botanical Garden** on Kaua'i have partnered to offer their brand new Na Waiwai Land and Sea Tour. The tour offers an off-the-beaten-path Native Hawaiian cultural experience encompassing ocean and land experiences and exploration. It includes a private tour of the National Tropical Botanical Garden's McBryde Garden, an exclusive hula performance and a south shore Kaua'i dinner cruise. For more information, visit www.holoholocharters.com.

Guests of the **Fairmont Kea Lani** resort are invited to immerse themselves in scenic and historic Maui exploration with a hike on the ancient Hoapili Trail. Also known as the King's Trail, the Hoapili was constructed by early Hawaiians in the sixteenth century to unify Maui's 12 *moku* (districts). The Fairmont Kea Lani's energy ambassador leads a 4-mile guided excursion on the trail, following the coastline near the resort and revealing expansive ocean views as well as historic sites, including centuries-old stone walls and *heiau* (temple). For more details, visit fairmont.com/kea-lani-maui.

Andaz Maui at Wailea Resort recently launched its new luxury lū'au, Feast at Mōkapu. Set on the resort's grassy lawn and alongside the sandy shores of Mōkapu Beach, the lū'au aims to take guests on a historical journey sharing the story of the arrival and settling of Polynesian voyagers on Maui. The lū'au features interactive storytelling, an *'ohana* (family) style meal and personalized handcrafted cocktails. For reservations and more information, visit www.feastatmokaupu.com.

The **Four Seasons Resort Lanai** recently launched new ocean adventures for visiting guest groups on its *Lanai V*, a 45-foot high-speed luxury fishing boat offering ocean tours, scuba excursions and private charters. Guests can also enjoy sunset and snorkel sails on the resort's 50-foot luxury catamaran, as well as an array of land and air activities throughout the secluded island. For more information, visit www.fourseasons.com/lanai.

The **Kā'anapali Beach Hotel's** new, traditionally designed Hawaiian outrigger canoe *Wa'a* is now available for reservations, exclusively by guests, at the hotel's ocean activity center. The hotel's *Wa'a* Tour includes knowledge on the significance of *wa'a* (canoes) to the Hawaiian culture, ocean sightseeing off of iconic Kā'anapali Beach, and snorkeling trips around Maui. For more information, visit www.kbhmaui.com.

Royal Hawaiian Limousine and Tours recently announced six new Pearl Harbor and circle-island tours of O'ahu offered in what the company describes as ultra-luxurious mini buses. Royal Hawaiian Limousine also offers private charters to all major island attractions, as well as transfers from Honolulu's Daniel K. Inouye International Airport to Waikīkī and Ko Olina Resort. According to Royal Hawaiian Limousine, the company offers O'ahu's largest and newest fleet of luxurious vehicles. Additionally, all of the company's tours are available in English, Japanese and Korean. For reservations, visit www.royalhawaiianlimousine.com.

DINING

Set to open in December, the **Fairmont Kea Lani** resort's new gourmet marketplace Makana Market and Cafe takes its name from the Hawaiian word for "gift." The cafe will serve Maui- and island of Hawai'i-grown-and-roasted coffees, including nitro cold-brews, espresso and pour-over drinks, alongside matcha and Lot 35 tea blends. Makana Market and Cafe will also offer a menu of island-inspired fare – including a selection of house-crafted pastries, sandwiches, salads, pizzas, smoothies and acai bowls – as well as a poke bar specializing in locally caught fish. The market will also offer a curated selection of island-favorite makana to take home. For more information, visit www.fairmont.com/kea-lani-maui.

The pop-up bar and lounge, Champagne Hale, will be returning to the Cliff House at **Montage Kapalua Bay** resort for select dates this holiday season, offering guests an opportunity to enjoy panoramic sunset views and a variety of champagnes paired with a special dining menu. Signature Veuve Clicquot holiday cocktails will be served over ice with guests' choice of garnish, including muddled blackberry, cucumber, lime, ginger and pineapple. Champagne Hale at Cliff House will be open December 20-23 and 27, 28, 30 and 31, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Entry to the pop-up is first-come, first-served and open to walk-ins only. There is no cover charge. Guests must be age 21 or older. For more information, reservations or to set up a private event, visit www.montagehotels.com/kapaluabay/champagne-hale-cliff-house/.

Kōloa Landing Resort at Po'ipū recently celebrated the opening of Holoholo Grill, Kaua'i's first restaurant from James Beard Award-winning Hawai'i chef Sam Choy. The restaurant's menu

features a selection of island-inspired dishes incorporating fresh, local ingredients and original recipes crafted by Choy. Complimenting Holoholo Grill's dining menu is a selection of signature cocktails. For more information, visit www.koloalandingresort.com, or call (808) 240-6600.

In September, **Hilton Waikoloa Village** opened its newest restaurant Nui Italian, which features a spacious open-air dining area and *kiawe* wood-fired pizzas handcrafted in full view of guests. The restaurant's head chef Gino Cipriano, who hails from Sicily, crafts the menu's Italian cuisine favorites using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Nui Italian features chef-inspired pizzas, salads, pastas and signature entrees served in single and family style portions. The restaurant's outdoor lanai is available for small receptions, and Nui Italian is also available to cater events for MCI groups booking the Hilton Waikoloa Village ballrooms. For more information, visit www.hiltonwaikoloavillage.com/nui

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

The **Pacific Rim Futsal Cup** is set for the Hawai'i Convention Center from November 29 through December 2. Futsal is similar to indoor soccer, may be played on a variety of surfaces and does not require walls. The international tournament is open to participation from youth ages 10-19, and men's and women's teams. The public is welcome to attend all of the tournament's matches. For more information, visit <http://pacificrimfutsalcup.com/>.

The **Courtyard King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel** will kick off the holiday season with the 30th annual celebration of the island of Hawai'i's Christmas with the Chefs event, set for December 1, from 5:30-8 p.m. Members of the American Culinary Federation Kona Kohala Chefs Association will be serving up a menu of inspired cuisine and delectable holiday treats at the event, accompanied by handcrafted ales, a selection of wines and servings of 100-percent Kona-grown coffee. Special room rates for event attendees are available. For more information or to reserve the event room rate, call (808) 329-2911 and ask for the hotel's "Christmas with the Chefs" rate.

Groups are invited to celebrate the holidays with exclusive private-party menus and take advantage of a special group rate, which includes overnight parking. This holiday-party package deal is valid for new group room blocks of 10 rooms or more and must be booked and used by December 19 to receive the special group rate and menu. For more information, call (808) 331-6356.

The **Grand Naniloa Resort, a DoubleTree by Hilton**, recently launched a new monthly activity for island of Hawai'i guests and residents, Fashion First Friday at Hula Hula's Hawaiian Kitchen and Bar. Fashion First Friday happens on the first Friday of every month and spotlights products from local businesses, including Different Level and Kapohokine Adventures. For more information, visit www.grandnaniloahilo.com.

TRANSPORTATION

Delta Airlines recently launched daily non-stop service between Seattle, Washington, and Kaua'i's Līhu'e Airport utilizing Boeing 757 aircraft. Delta is the largest global carrier operating out of Washington's Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, having more than tripled flights and destinations from its Seattle hub since 2012. For more information and flight routes, visit www.delta.com.

United Airlines is celebrating its 70th anniversary in Hawai'i with additional flights to the Islands. The new flights include daily, year-round service to Kaua'i from Denver, Colorado, and two daily flights from Los Angeles International Airport and San Francisco International Airport in California. For more information and flight routes, visit www.united.com.

Completion of the new Consolidated Rental Car Facility (CONRAC) at Maui's **Kahului Airport** is expected in 2019, consolidating all rental car companies servicing the airport, including all on-airport and off-airport companies. The five-story facility will be located east of the airport's existing Overseas Terminal parking garage and include approximately 2,250 parking stalls. (The airport currently offers 895 parking stalls.) A common busing operation will accommodate passengers traveling between various areas of the airport and the CONRAC facility.

Lanai Air, a luxury air charter service offering daily private flights between Lāna'i City and Honolulu on the island of O'ahu, recently announced a route expansion to Maui and island of Hawai'i. Parties of two to up to eight passengers can book Lanai Air's entire Pilatus PC-12 aircraft, operated by Mokulele Airlines, for private flights. Guests can also bypass waiting times for their international, mainland or interisland flights and opt for Lanai Air's flexible, daily service with private escort to the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport's charter terminal, streamlined boarding and departure. For more information, visit www.lanaiair.com, or contact reservations@lanaiair.com.

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About Meet Hawai'i

Meet Hawai'i is a collaboration of the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), HTA's Global Marketing Teams and Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC) to reinforce the brand of the Hawaiian Islands as a world-class destination for global business meetings, conventions, and incentive programs. The marketing efforts of the Meet Hawai'i team are overseen by HTA, the state of Hawai'i's tourism agency. 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. For information about Meet Hawai'i and the hosting of meetings, conventions and incentives, please visit MeetHawaii.com.

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