



Hawai'i Visitors & Convention Bureau
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WHAT'S NEW IN HAWAII FOR MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS & INCENTIVES

Aloha! Spring and summer is an exciting time, with an abundance of updates and developments for meetings, conventions and incentive travel within the Hawaiian Islands. From hotel and meeting venue renovations, to new and engaging activities and creative programs for group travel, quarter two marks for the perfect time to book and enjoy the Hawai'i sunshine.

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEETING VENUES

Hilton Garden Inn Kauai Wailua Bay boasts a beachfront location on scenic Wailua Bay, where the famous Wailua River meets the Pacific. Conveniently located on **Kaua'i's** east coast, the hotel is a short drive to Kapa'a town and just five miles from Lihu'e Airport. Each newly remodeled guest room, suite and cottage offers ocean, mountain, or garden views. The resort's charming two-room cottages have a lanai with separate sleeping and living areas. Other features include an onsite restaurant and lounge, business center and 7,460 square feet of event space. HiltonGardenInnKauai.com

Koloa Landing Resort at Poipu Beach Resort and Spa has 12,000 total square feet of meeting space, seven breakout rooms, 6,000 square feet of pre-function space and an 8,000 square foot event lawn with full, unobstructed ocean views of scenic **Kaua'i**. There is also a private room and restroom for meeting planners, to be used as a greeting room, or any other VIP to use for preparation before going out into the main function space. KoloaLandingResort.com

The **Mauna Kea Beach Hotel** recently unveiled **Hawai'i Island's** newest venue for meetings and social functions: the Kaunaoa Ballroom. Boasting floor-to-ceiling windows on three sides framing scenic views of Kaunaoa Bay, the ballroom features nearly 3,500 square-feet of indoor function space and an expansive outdoor pre-function space. A connecting breezeway between the ballroom and the hotel's 100-room Beachfront Wing offers a unique "hotel-within-a-hotel" experience tailored for incentive and corporate group travel. Combined with its nearby Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel sister property, the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel comprises nearly 150,000 square-feet of indoor and outdoor meeting space. MaunaKeaBeachHotel.com

The current presidential suite at the **Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa** will be converted into a Sheraton Club Lounge. When it opens on April 1, the more than 3,000 square-foot space overlooking the stunning Kona Coast on **Hawai'i Island** will be the only Sheraton Club in Hawai'i with indoor-outdoor space. Sheraton Club Lounges offer an added level of luxury, comfort and convenience, including computer and internet access, office workstations, as well as complimentary breakfast and an array of snack and beverage selections throughout the day and early evening. The Kaiulu Club Lounge at Sheraton Kona will be available to SPG

-more-

members and non-SPG members who would like to upgrade to the club level. The entire venue also will be available to rent for private functions. SheratonKona.com

Uncle Billy's Hilo Bay Hotel has been renamed the **Pagoda Hilo Bay Hotel** and is now managed by Hawai'i-based Castle Resorts & Hotels. Purchased in February by Honolulu-based developer Peter Savio, the 145-room property will continue its local-style hospitality and traditions established by hotel founder and longtime owner William "Uncle Billy" Kimi, Jr. Located on historic Banyan Drive, alongside **Hawai'i Island's** Hilo Bay shoreline, the Pagoda Hilo Bay Hotel features comfortable accommodations, an oceanfront swimming pool, an island-style general store, and meeting facilities. CastleResorts.com

The **Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa** on O'ahu is proud to announce the completion of its signature Kona Moku Ballroom transformation earlier this year. The close to 7,000 square foot ballroom features three new gorgeous multicolored chandeliers, brand new carpeting, wallpaper, and is configurable into three separate rooms. As always, it is matched with Marriott's in-house state of the art audio/visual equipment and accommodating event staff for every occasion. MarriottWaikiki.com

Enjoy a relaxing, serene oceanfront experience set in a peaceful coconut grove at **Waimea Plantation Cottages**. Now managed by Coast Hotels, Waimea Plantation Cottages has incorporated a variety of property upgrades including air conditioning for each of the 61 cottages. With the Cottages' recent hire of a full-time events staff member, Waimea Plantation Cottages is now able to accommodate and offer assistance for special events of any size on **Kaua'i**. CoastHotels.com/Waimea-Plantation-Cottages

ACTIVITIES & ATTRACTIONS

To visit the **Big Island Bees' beekeeping museum and tasting room** on **Hawai'i Island**- now open on Saturdays - is to enter the wonderful world of bees and beekeeping. Guided by a beekeeper, tours explore actual hives. Visitors learn where in the hive the queen resides, how the hive is organized, and everything that makes bees so special and interesting. Guests are also able to view tools, pictures and displays sharing the history of beekeeping and honey production. The tour includes free samples of Big Island Bees' delicious, organic honey to enjoy while exploring. Admission is free. The museum and tasting room is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. BigIslandBees.com

Guests of the **Four Seasons Resort Hualalai** are now able to experience the **Hawai'i Island** resort's popular new activity, SNUBA, in the unique setting of King's Pond, a 1.8-million gallon "aquarium" built into lava rock, and home to more than 4,000 fish from 98 species. King's Pond connects to the ocean through the groundwater table, blending sea and fresh water without currents, waves or non-friendly fish. Guests may explore the pond at their own comfort level, taking in its incredible perspective, while effortlessly breathing underwater without bulky diving gear. No prior experience is necessary for SNUBA. The activity is fun, easy and memorable, especially with the addition of an underwater photo package. FourSeasons.com/Hualalai

Free Entry During National Park Week. To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service this year, all fee-charging national parks in the U.S. will offer nine fee-free days from April 16-24 to commemorate the centennial during National Park Week– including Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park on **Hawai'i Island** and **Maui**. Come and Find Your Park at no charge! Hawai'i Volcanoes is open 24 hours a day. FindYourPark.com

Swim Kohala Waterfalls starts off at **Hawaii Forest & Trail's** Kohala Zipline headquarters in Hawi, **Hawai'i Island** where guests load into an open six-wheel Pinzgauer vehicle. After a short off-road drive, Hawaii Forest & Trail guides connect guests to the beautiful wonders of Kohala on a relaxing trail walk that leads to dramatic views of Pololu Valley with charming foot bridges, historic taro terraces and intimate waterfalls. Guests on this family friendly tour are invited to get wet and swim under their own private waterfall. This special adventure is sure to become the highlight of every Hawai'i Island vacation. Hawaii-Forest.com

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park's popular After Dark program will travel to Hilo and Kailua-Kona on **Hawai'i Island** this year to celebrate the park's centennial anniversary. This year is also the 100-year anniversary of the National Park Service. NOAA's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries Mokupāpapa Discovery Center in downtown Hilo will host four one-hour After Dark Out of the Park programs on June 29, Aug. 17, and Oct. 26. Each program is free and starts at 7 p.m. In Kailua-Kona, the Kona Historical Society will host an After Dark Out of the Park program on July 27 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the West Hawai'i Civic Center. NPS.gov

Ideal for VIP group excursions, **Hoku Hawaii Tours** has introduced a brand-new Hawai'i North Shore Adventure Tour. This luxury adventure led by highly trained cultural guides known as 'navigators' offers a fascinating look at **O'ahu's** history, marine life and ecology, along with an all-inclusive lunch at a secluded location, an opportunity to snorkel near turtles, spectacular vistas of O'ahu's beautiful North Shore beaches and coastline, stand up paddle boarding, and a kayak trip along a beautiful stream leading to the ocean. HokuHawaiiTours.com

The Holokai is Waikīkī's first new beach catamaran in 20 years and **Sail Holokai** is excited to launch this product and offer the ultimate sailing experience. Holokai was custom built at Schooner Creek Boatworks in Portland, Oregon and embarked on her maiden voyage to the Hawaiian Islands this past summer. The Holokai is a 45 foot, 49 passenger catamaran with a comfortable bathroom. The landing area is on the beach between Shorebird Restaurant and Halekulani Hotel. Sail Holokai operates 7 days a week with 4 daily scheduled tours – 2 snorkel sails, trade wind sails, sunset sails and on Friday nights only, there is a fireworks sail after sunset with spectacular ocean views of **O'ahu**. SailHolokai.com

Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa debuts Meetings with Care and Purpose, a new meetings program designed around enhancing the health and wellness opportunities for meetings attendees. Customizable meetings and events programs include locally sourced and healthy menu options, a new fitness program including morning group yoga classes and mobile spa treatments featuring breakout session mini-massages. Program offerings are available to groups at any location throughout the resort, making it easier for meeting planners to incorporate health and wellness during travel. Maui.Hyatt.com

Ka'anapali Golf Courses is best known on **Maui** for its 36 holes of championship golf, but they are also known for looking outside the box for their unique programs. Ka'anapali recently began offering FootGolf daily on the Kai Course after 3:30 p.m. for just \$15. FootGolf is popular in Europe and combines soccer and golf, allowing just about anyone to be able to take it up on a whim, making it perfect for Ka'anapali's guests. There are 9-holes of FootGolf that play adjacent to the Ka'anapali Kai Course with soccer balls and carts available for rental.

KaanapaliGolfCourses.com

After a full day of meetings and breakout sessions, a "spaception" at **Moana Surfrider, A Westin Resort & Spa** on **O'ahu** allows teams to revive, renew and relax via the resort's Be Well Meeting Program. Located in the award-winning Moana Lani Spa, A Heavenly Spa by Westin, the program is designed to help nourish mind, body and soul, increase the flow of creative energy, and promote continued motivation. Wellness breaks are taken throughout the day in which team members have the chance to enjoy Westin Superfood snacks and partake in rejuvenating spa treatments. Moana-Surfrider.com

The **National Tropical Botanical Garden's McBryde Garden** to host **Nature Connects: Art with LEGO® Bricks** for the first time in Hawai'i. More than a quarter of a million LEGO® bricks will make their way to the Garden Island for display in the record-breaking Nature Connects: Art with LEGO® Bricks exhibit to be hosted at McBryde Garden May 6 – July 10, 2016. This traveling exhibit by artist Sean Kenney features 14 nature-themed sculptures made from more than 378,000 individual LEGO® bricks and will be on display for the first time ever in Hawai'i at the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) flagship garden on **Kaua'i** this spring. ntbg.org

Imagine having actual WWII fighter jets, helicopters and planes as a backdrop or offering your guests a photo opportunity to climb into an open cockpit of one of these magnificent warbirds. **Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor** on historic Ford Island on **O'ahu** has more than 100,000 square feet of space for gatherings of all sizes, accommodating groups of up to 10,000 guests. Customized packages available. PacificAviationMuseum.org/News/Book

Paradise Bay Resort in Kāne'ohē Bay, **O'ahu**, offers an exclusive "group bonding" experience at the Paepae O He'eia. Attendees will take a private boat cruise to the he'eia and can experience fishing and picking limu with their private group. ParadiseBayResort.com

The Royal Lahaina Resort and Royal Lahaina Tennis Garden on **Maui** are proud to be Hawai'i's first and only resort destination to provide the revolutionary PlaySight tennis technology. With the resort's 11 pristine courts, The PlaySight system offers the first SmartCourt and live-streaming tennis capabilities in the state. The SmartCourt is permanently equipped with six HD cameras and an interactive touchscreen kiosk; together they offer the most advanced tennis analytics available. Additionally, the SmartCourt provides line calling, instant multi-angle video replays and detailed statistics on every shot played. The system uses advanced image processing and analytical algorithms to capture and log stroke type, speed and spin with in-depth shot data for every player. RoyalLahaina.com

Sunset Ranch is an elegant thirty-acre estate on the North Shore of **O'ahu**, with ocean and mountain views of the entire northwest side of the island. The estate is extremely private and provides a wide variety of venues, indoor and outdoor, for any occasion. Event clients are

provided exclusive access to the estate from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm and can use one or all six venues for the entire duration of their event. When combined with two elegant guest suites, exceptional customer service and other property amenities, Sunset Ranch is the event venue of choice in Hawaii. SunsetRanchHawaii.com

On **Maui**, guests attending an executive retreat or board meeting at the **The Westin Ka'anapali Ocean Resort Villas** will have to work as a team and test their rowing skills during an outrigger canoe experience. Guests can paddle out on a six-person outrigger canoe while soaking in spectacular views of Ka'anapali Coast, and potentially spot some of Hawai'i's diverse marine life, including Hawaiian sea turtles, dolphins and humpback whales. WestinKaanapali.com

Meetings and incentive retreats encompass far more than learning and networking at **The Westin Maui Resort & Spa** on **Maui** as its idyllic setting is most appealing for adventures such as snorkel and sunset cruises, golfing and exploring historic Lahaina. Planners will find stimulating opportunities to design the perfect event, whether it is a team-building scavenger hunt that takes attendees through the resort's botanical gardens with calming streams, waterfalls, koi ponds and flamingos or oceanfront dining where the stunning Maui sunsets are rivaled only by the cuisine. WestinMaui.com

DINING

Kona's iconic **Hawai'i Island** oceanfront restaurant **Huggo's** has served up island-inspired cuisine alongside epic sunsets for two generations. Now, it adds hBAR to its seaside offerings, with a vibe that makes it Kona's consummate and coolest oceanfront lounge. hBar's exciting menu of handcrafted cocktails includes the "Classic Mai Tai" - an authentic, made-from-scratch mai tai, accented by a secret almond syrup recipe - and an eclectic collection of housemade syrups, fresh-squeezed tropical juices, and liquors infused with herbs, fruits, vegetables, and nuts. hBAR opens at 4 p.m., Mondays through Saturdays, and 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Huggos.com/hBAR

Lava Lava Beach Club, located on **Kaua'i's** beautiful Coconut Coast, recently opened its doors at the Kaua'i Shores Hotel featuring a 250-seat open-air restaurant and bar. Lava Lava Beach Club includes an indoor-outdoor dining experience where guests can lounge on comfy couches, unwind next to fire pits, and experience live Hawaiian music and hula.

LavaLavaBeachClub.com

After 10 months of renovations, the popular **Mediterranean Gourmet** restaurant at **Hanalei Colony Resort** on **Kaua'i** reopens its doors. Amongst the restaurant changes, the husband-and-wife team Imad and Yarrow Beydoun introduce a number of new menu items such as pizzas, a Wagyu beef burger, and an organic grass-fed Rib Eye Steak. All-time favorites such as Seafood Paella, Rosemary Rack of Lamb, and Chicken Marsala will also be readily available.

KauaiMedGourmet.com

Sangrita Grill + Cantina, west **Maui's** newest Mexican restaurant celebrates the Hawaiian tradition of *pau hana* with 50 percent off all food menu items and a special drink menu from 4-6 p.m. daily. SangritaGrill.com

There is an exciting new arrival to the heart of Kapalua: **Taverna Italian Eatery + Wine Bar** opened in March 2016 at the Village Center in Kapalua Resort. The restaurant is the latest venture for Chris Kaiwi, **Maui** restaurateur, Roger Stettler, former executive chef of Four Seasons Resort Maui, and Greg Shepherd, former beverage manager and fine wine specialist at Andaz Maui. Taverna will focus on fresh house-made pastas, wood-fired pizzas, and other favorite Italian dishes presented in a welcoming and comfortable, mid-priced, neighborhood restaurant. TavernaMaui.com

TRANSPORTATION

Hawaiian Airlines will bring back seasonal nonstop service between Kona and Los Angeles, and Kona and Oakland, for the summer of 2016. Three-times weekly service between Kona and Oakland, and four-times weekly service between Kona and Los Angeles, will be offered during the peak travel months of May through September, beginning May 27. The flights will utilize Hawaiian Airlines' twin-aisle Airbus A330 aircraft, with seats for 294 passengers. With the addition of these seasonal flights, Hawaiian Airlines will have a wide-body aircraft arriving at **Kona International Airport at Keahole on Hawai'i Island** every day of the week this summer. HawaiianAirlines.com

Island Air has restored its service to the island of **Kaua'i** with six daily round-trip flights between Honolulu and Lihue Airport (LIH). The return to Lihue is expected to benefit Kauai and the traveling public by offering more seats and more flight options for interisland travel, and the new service will create local jobs. IslandAir.com

Luxury Limo Hawaii's limo service started with a dream to become the best transportation option on **O'ahu**. Clientele are offered the newest, most luxurious, reliable, and safe rides in town. All of their limos are brand new and they have true pros at your service. They are happy to provide complimentary drinks whether it's a trip to the airport, or just 5 blocks up the road. LuxuryLimoHawaii.com

Virgin America, the airline known for reinventing domestic travel, announced it will expand its service to Hawai'i with daily nonstop flights from Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to Honolulu, **O'ahu** on May 5, 2016, and Kahului, **Maui** on June 14, 2016. This new service adds to the airline's recently-launched daily service from San Francisco International Airport (SFO) to Honolulu International Airport (HNL) and Kahului Airport (OGG), allowing for roundtrip connecting service between HNL and John F. Kennedy International Airport (JFK), Las Vegas McCarran International Airport (LAS) and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA). Virgin America's expanded Hawai'i service also offers roundtrip connections between OGG and Newark Liberty International Airport (EWR), Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD), Boston Logan International Airport (BOS), San Diego International Airport (SAN), Dallas Love Field (DAL), Chicago O'Hare International Airport (ORD), JFK, SEA, and LAS. VirginAmerica.com

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS

The fifth annual **Big Island Chocolate Festival** on **Hawai'i Island** is set for May 13 and 14, with the theme "Lavalicious -A Chocolate Salute to the 100th Birthday of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park" and events headquartered at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel. Chocolate fun will include a cacao plantation tour at the Original Hawaiian Chocolate Factory, a college culinary competition, and foodie and agriculture-themed seminars. Festival activities will culminate with an indoor-outdoor gala featuring sweet and savory tastes from top island chefs, chocolatiers and confectioners. Also on the menu for the festival is chocolate body painting, a large volcano made from fine chocolate, and culinary booths decorate to celebrate the festival's centennial theme. BigIslandChocolateFestival.com

The **Big Island Jazz & Blues Festival** is returning to the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel on **Hawai'i Island** for the fifth year in a row to celebrate and honor its namesake music genres. Guests will enjoy live entertainment by Grammy and Na Hoku Hanohano award-winning musicians from Hawaii and around the world. Special room rates will be available. The festival happens on June 4. MaunaKeaBeachHotel.com/Events

Celebrate everything that makes **Hawai'i Island's** rural Kau district special at the **Kau Coffee Festival**, happening May 13 through 22. The eighth-annual event will spotlight the district's award-winning coffee with a variety of java-jumping activities and tasty culinary fun, including the new "Kau Coffee Lobsterpalooza." Festival attendees will find adventure on a rainforest hike exploring historic water flume systems and a stargazing session atop Makanau mountain. The festival's spotlight event is an all-day *ho'olaulea* (celebration) at the Pahala Community Center on May 21, featuring coffee, food and craft booths; hula, music and kids activities; farm and mill tours; and a guided coffee-tasting tour at the Kau Coffee Experience. Some festival events are free, while others require a fee. KauCoffeeFest.com

Experience a daylong cultural festival in Hanalei on **Kaua'i** at Wai'oli Beach Park on May 14. **May Day by the Bay** features live music and entertainment, hula, cultural practitioners, displays by community groups, a silent auction, 'ono food and more! Local Kaua'i made products will also be available for purchase. Admission is \$5. For more information, please call Julie Kaneali'i at (808) 635-9028.

SPECIAL OFFERS

Holiday Inn Resort® Waikiki Beachcomber in the heart of Waikiki, **O'ahu** is offering a limited time Double Points offer for meeting planners! Book a group of 8 or more rooms in October or November 2016 and they will credit your IHG Rewards Club account with double points (value of 6 points for every \$1 in room revenue) that are redeemable for hotel stays and merchandise. IHG Rewards Club is the largest hotel loyalty program and offers exceptional benefits and rewards to their members globally. For more information, please email sales@hibeachcomber.com

Play some of the best golf courses in the world and save 15% off standard rates with the **Kaua'i Golf Trail Card**. For \$450 including tax, players can choose three rounds to play from among

four participating courses – Kaua'i Lagoons Golf Club, Puakea Golf Course, Princeville Makai Golf Club and Poipu Bay Golf Course. The rounds must be played at three different courses. Additionally, cardholders receive a 10% merchandise discount on regular-priced items during the day of play. A round at Puakea also includes a \$50 golf shop credit, which can be used for merchandise, rental clubs, or green fees. The card can be purchased from any of the participating courses, either in person, or by calling one of the courses and mentioning Kaua'i Golf Trail Card. GolfKauaiHawaii.com

The beachfront **Kauai Marriott Resort** in Lihu'e invites guests to earn an amazing allocation of up to 1,000,000 Marriott Rewards Points on group bookings through June 2016. Guests will enjoy airport shuttle service, daily self-parking, enhanced internet service and limited domestic and international calls, all free of charge. In addition, the package includes discounts on Enterprise on-site car rentals, Alexander Day Spa & Salon services and merchandise throughout the resort. Guests can also relax and unwind with perks such as complimentary mai tais, yoga classes, hula lessons, tennis court time and a deluxe Kaua'i photo book to commemorate their stay. A minimum of a three-night stay is required. KauaiMarriott.com

The largest Villas on **Kaua'i** make the perfect destination for families looking to escape to the Garden Isle. Now, at **Koloa Landing Resort & Spa**, purchase 3 nights in our 2 or 3 bedroom Villas and receive a 4th night free. Book before the end of August to also get a \$50 food & beverage credit to use on purchases at the on-site Gourmet Marketplace. This offer can be stacked for multiple free nights (every 4th) but not combinable with other offers or promotions. Based on availability. KoloaLandingResort.com

Treat yourselves to an "Aloha Day" at the beach with **Ocean Sports, Hawai'i Island's** premier full-service ocean recreation company. There's something fun for everyone, with unlimited use of beach toys (kayaks, hydrobikes, stand-up paddleboards, snorkel gear and more), and glass-bottom boat and outrigger canoe rides. The "Aloha Day Beach Package" is offered Sundays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. at beautiful Anaeho'omalu Bay for just \$35 per person (kids under age 6 get to have fun for free). HawaiiOceanSports.com

Paradise Bay Resort would like to offer free coffee with groups that book their conference meeting room. As the only hotel on the East Side of **O'ahu**, Paradise Bay Resort is a quaint getaway from the hustle and bustle of Waikiki. The meeting room fits small groups of 15-18 seated comfortably. Other meeting areas include a floating dock, and the on-premise restaurant. This very unique getaway offers nearly 360 degrees of unobstructed ocean and mountain views. ParadiseBayResort.com

Golfers have a new way to fit some green time into busy schedules on **Kaua'i**. **Poipu Bay Golf Course** has announced a new "7-Hole Stretch" program that focuses play on only the first seven holes. In contrast to the common 9-hole specials offered by most courses, the Poipu Bay Golf Course "7-Hole Stretch" program aims to fill a need by golfers on an even tighter budget or schedule. With the 7th hole finishing at the Poipu Bay Clubhouse, golfers can swiftly check-out and be on their way. The "7-Hole Stretch" program includes holes 1-7, warm up range balls, green fee, cart fee, GPS and bottled water. Rate is \$70 per person. Club rentals are available at a special rate of \$25. Valid through December 31, 2016. Poipu Bay Golf Course is situated on 210 oceanfront acres adjacent to the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort & Spa in sunny Poipu on Kauai's south shore. PoipuBayGolf.com

Sheraton Kaua'i Resort is the perfect gathering place for your attendees to enjoy some of the best locally inspired cuisine the Hawaiian Islands have to offer. Sheraton Kaua'i Resort features six memorable and unique oceanfront event spaces that can create a new and exciting experience for each event of the program. Sheraton Kaua'i invites incentive programs to take advantage of the resort's beautiful oceanfront accommodations and Ocean Lawn for an unforgettable gathering. A buyout of Sheraton Kaua'i's 160 Deluxe Oceanfront, Ocean Luxury and Oceanfront Suite accommodations provides the opportunity to also enjoy the expansive Ocean Lawn for special receptions. Sheraton Kaua'i Resort's Oceanfront guestrooms are the closest to the water on the island of Kaua'i. Sheraton-Kauai.com

The **Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa's** "A Whale's Tale" package offers visitors and adventure-seekers the chance to watch these mellow beasts breach and spout from the comforts of the resort's oceanfront rooms. The package, which requires a three-night minimum stay and is valid through April 15, includes deluxe oceanfront accommodations, two-day passes to the Maui Ocean Center aquarium, an educational whale talk and a \$25 donation to the Pacific Whale Foundation's adopt-a-whale program to support ongoing research. Book online (www.sheraton-maui.com) or call (866) 716-8140 and request rate plan WHALEPKG. To learn more about the whales and other marine creatures, guests also can visit the new Hawaiian Marine Life Hale (house), which opened at the Sheraton Maui in January as part of an ongoing partnership with the Maui Ocean Center to educate visitors and residents about the plants and marine life found along Maui's Ka'anapali Coast. Sheraton-Maui.com

AWARDS & ACCOLADES

From December through April, humpback whales can be regularly seen on the **Kaua'i** and Ni'ihau boat tours. During peak season, regular surface activity is almost a guarantee. As the only company on Kaua'i to offer daily tours to the "forbidden island of Ni'ihau, the **Holo Holo Charters** crew invites guests aboard any of the Kauai-built vessels to sightsee the Nāpali Coast, see sea life and learn about Hawaiian history and legends. For an exclusive offer of \$15 off and a free pair of sunglasses for each passenger, please mention the promo code SEESEALIFE to a sales representative or use the promo code during checkout online. Offer is valid from until April 30, 2016. HoloHoloCharters.com

Ka'anapali Beach Hotel and sister property, **The Plantation Inn**, received top honors in Hawai'i Magazine's 2016 Readers' Choice Awards. Readers of Hawaii Magazine voted Kaanapali Beach Hotel on **Maui** the "Number One Hotel with the Best Aloha Spirit" for the third year in a row, and the "Number One Best Budget Hotel" for the fourth year in a row. In addition, Ka'anapali Beach Hotel's award-winning Sunday Champagne Brunch ranked number two on the list for "Best Breakfast or Brunch Buffet." The Plantation Inn, located in the historic district of Lahaina, was voted "Number Three Best Bed & Breakfast or Inn." KBHMaui.com

Manta & Pavilion Wine Bar at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel on **Hawai'i Island** has earned an AAA Four Diamond Rating for the third year in a row. Only six other Hawaii hotel restaurants received similar honors for 2016. AAA Diamond Ratings are determined based on reviews resulting from unannounced evaluations. MaunaKeaBeachHotel.com

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About Meet Hawai'i

Meet Hawai'i is a collaboration of the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) and Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC) to reinforce the brand of the Hawaiian Islands as a world-class destination for business meetings, conventions, and incentive programs. The marketing efforts of the Meet Hawai'i team are overseen by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (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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