

# AloHA USA

LONG BEACH

TABS ON  
**TRAVEL  
TODAY**

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## An Urban Waterfront Playground



**Kiwi travel to the US continues to climb, buoyed by competitive airfares and a host of new destinations on offer—and California is one state that is positioned to capitalise on the growth.**

Hawaiian Airlines has just announced the coming addition of Long Beach to its route network, as the airline reports a growing demand for Southern California experiences.

The competitive airfares are also motivating Kiwis to take multiple trips to the state, with anecdotal feedback suggesting that repeat New Zealand travellers are looking for new and authentic experiences in destinations such as the Los Angeles and Anaheim region.

Famed for its theme parks and plethora of family friend options, the Anaheim/Orange County (OC) region is also becoming an increasingly popular spot for Kiwis looking to experience a local's Southern California experience.

Long Beach itself is home to the Queen Mary, the vast Aquarium of the Pacific, whale watching and harbour cruises—and it's the base for the Catalina Express ferries out to picturesque Catalina Island as well as art and cultural museums.

Known as an urban waterfront playground, Long Beach has more than 18kms of sandy beaches, inland waterways and bays. The city also has its own collection of factory shops, the Pike Outlets; a range of hotel options and sightseeing experiences and waterfront dining. For a list of upcoming Long Beach events, see [visitlongbeach.com/events](http://visitlongbeach.com/events)

### Getting To LGB

HA will launch daily Long Beach services from 31 May. Fares ex Auckland, over Honolulu, are priced from \$799 one-way (book in I class). The fares permit a stop in HNL and up to two 32kg bags for economy passengers. Open jaw tickets are permitted for all of HA's mainland US points. With the addition of LGB, HA will operate service to 12 mainland US points, all with good connections over HNL.

### Cheaper Upgrades

Hawaiian Airlines' passengers looking for more legroom and extras can now upgrade to the carrier's Extra Comfort Economy product for the reduced cost of \$145 per person, one-way, between Auckland and Honolulu. The offer applies for travel through to 30 Apr.

### Why Long Beach?

Although technically located in the Los Angeles area, Visit Anaheim says the smaller, less crowded (and closer) airport is a great option for Anaheim-bound travellers. However, just because it's a smaller airport doesn't mean it is without the services clients need and expect, adds the RTO.

The airport now sports a new resort-like concourse and is home to a full-service restaurant and bar (complete with views) as well as grab and go kiosks and a café. There's also a gift shop, newsstands and free wifi access in more areas. In addition, most of the concourse seating options have electrical outlets enabling passengers to charge their devices straight from USB plugs. Other facilities include on-site car rental operators and taxi and shuttle services. For more, see [longbeach.gov/airport/](http://longbeach.gov/airport/)



### History, Heros & Ghosts

Iconic ocean liner the Queen Mary is now moored at Long Beach and operates as both a hotel and tourist attraction. Staterooms on the Art Deco style ship each have their own personality—but may not be for the faint hearted, as the ship also runs ghost tours (in addition to historical tours). *Diana: A Legacy of a Princess*, the exhibit features a number of her gowns and personal memories and is featured on the ship through to 03 Sep. For details on the ship which combines history, heros, ghosts and royalty see [queenmary.com](http://queenmary.com)



### La Casa Del Camino's Laguna Surf Rooms

The OC features over 62kms of beaches including Huntington, Newport and Laguna beaches. For clients look for something different, the Mediterranean-style La Casa del Camino on Laguna Beach offers 31 rooms and 10 Casa Surf suites. The hotel features The Rooftop Lounge and K'ya Bostro eateries and is the ideal place to take in the sunset. There's also a spa and fitness facility, including in room massages. Other benefits include free wifi and beach amenities. La Casa del Camino is close to a number of attractions including Sandy Beach, Sawdust Art Festival, Pageant of the Masters and more. Rooms start at USD159. See [lacasadelcamino.com](http://lacasadelcamino.com)

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