

## More Kiwis Say Aloha To Romance



Hawaii continues to be popular for romantic getaways, especially for Kiwis, says Hawaii Tourism Oceania's Darragh Walshe.

The STO has noted an increase in the number of Kiwi couples getting married in Hawaii with the first quarter statistics for New Zealand showing a 13% increase, year-on-year. "The Hawaiian Islands offer spectacular beauty along with an abundance of opportunities to share special moments," says Walshe.

So what should agents be recommending clients looking for a romantic getaway?

Kauai is recommended for couples looking to escape and get back to nature. Highlighted activities here include hikes to Waimea Canyon and Kokee State Park, visits to the Island's several botanic gardens and a sailing trip along the Napali Coast.

In Oahu, the most popular island, recommendations include couple's surfing lessons on Waikiki Beach, while clients looking to get away from the crowds can rent a car and drive up the Pali Highway to Nuuanu

Pali Lookout which offers views over the Windward Coast, or head to the Valley of the Temples which features a Japanese temple called Byodo-in.

Looking to the smaller islands, Lanai offers outdoor adventures for couples such as snorkelling at Hulope Bay's marine sanctuary and cliff hikes to Puu Pehe, while Molokai boasts cosy bed and breakfasts, charming towns and amazing sunsets at either Papohaku or Kapukahehu Beaches.

Maui has something to offer every sort of couple; from hikes up to Haleakala Crater and sunset cruises along the Kihei Coastline for the adventurous to shopping in Lahaina and culture at the Maui Arts & Culture Center for couples looking for something more relaxing.

Finally, clients bound for the Island of Hawaii can make the most of the destination's art, coffee and history scene.

Highlights include shopping and sightseeing at the historic Kailua Village and exploring historic small towns such as Holualoa and Hawi, which also boast art and coffee scenes. A road trip down Hamakua Heritage Corridor which offers old plantation towns, waterfalls and plenty of scenic detours is also recommended.

### Ukelele Festival

America's largest ukulele festival is returning to Waikiki this Jul, featuring a star-studded line-up of musicians from around the world. The 49th Annual Ukelele Festival will be held 21 Jul 1030-1700 at Kapiolani Park, featuring free ukulele lessons, ukulele displays and giveaways by ukulele manufacturers as well as food booths, keiki activity booths and more.

The festival is free and open to the public, see [ukelelefestivalhawaii.org](http://ukelelefestivalhawaii.org)

### Win With NCL

Norwegian Cruise Line reminds agents of its latest competition, in which Kiwi agents can win weekly prizes whilst increasing their Hawaii product knowledge.

To be in to win, agents need to visit [nclpromo.com.au](http://nclpromo.com.au) and answer two simple questions on Norwegian's Hawaii cruise experience, with each week focusing on a different island visited by Pride of America.

Prizes include a Samsung Galaxy S10e mobile phone, an Apple Watch Series 4 an Apple 12.9 inch iPad Pro and more.

### Kohala Beer Cart



Hilton Waikoloa Village and Kona Brewing Company have partnered up to launch the Kohala Brewing Cart, an electric-powered wagon equipped with a two tap system pouring ice-cold Kona Brewing Co. favourites which will be cruising through the resort. Likened to an 'adult ice cream truck' the cart also features a selection of tropical slushies and a crafted menu of quick bite such as hummus veggie wraps, steak house burgers, ahi poke wraps and more.

### USS Arizona Closed

According to *Hawaii News Now*, the USS Arizona Memorial in Hawaii's Pearl Harbor will be closed throughout the US summer, as repairs continue. The visitor centre will remain open.



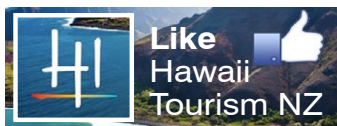
Image courtesy of Aston Aqua Hospitality.

### New Luxury Accommodation In Waikiki

The Waikiki hotel Scene is set to expand this Jul with the opening of Aqua-Aston's Espacio—The Jewel of Waikiki.

Located on Kalakaua Ave the boutique hotel will feature nine multi-room suites, each featuring butler service, as well as a private balcony Jacuzzi, a full kitchen and complimentary access to luxury vehicles.

The property will also offer a rooftop infinity pool, full service spa and Mugen restaurant, adds Aqua-Aston.



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