Aloha Friday

Eco-friendly Travel On The Big Island



As eco-friendly tourism becomes a highlighted issue, properties on the Island of Hawaii are stepping up and taking responsibility, offering eco-friendly activities and initiatives that benefit both guests and the environment.

Highlighted eco-friendly Island initiatives include the Four Seasons Resort Hualalai's new Sustainable Seafood Experience, in which clients explore the resort's Punawai pond with marine naturalists to learn how fresh oysters are raised, grown and harvested, and taste two species of resort-raised



Hilton's Premium Suites

Embassy Suites by Hilton Waikiki Beach Walk is now offering Premium Suites, which it says are perfect for families, romantic escapes and group getaways.

The newly-created category of accommodation feature lanai with ocean views, separate living areas, a kitchen with a fridge, hotpot, coffee machine and microwave and a sofa bed for extra guests. See embassysuiteswaikiki.com oysters with champagne. The property has also launched a new eco-tour that explores the alkaline ponds found throughout the resort with David Chai, the resort's director of natural resources.

Meanwhile Aqua-Aston Hospitality offers a #ForOurReef programme, which provides guests across 40 of its properties throughout Hawaii with reef-safe sunscreen samples, while A-List rewards members receive eco-kits, which include reef-friendly sunscreen, a reusable tote and a refillable water bottle.

... Eco-adventures

Also getting on-board the eco-friendly train is Volcano Arts Center, which is offering free rainforest tours to visitors. The tours see clients learn about rare native Hawaiian rainforests, from the different species through to threats and protection.

Restaurant Week

International Market Place's collection of chef-driven restaurants will host its third annual Grand Lanai Restaurant Week in Apr (08-14). From seafood to steak, chefs will be showcasing their best dishes with exclusive menus items. See ShopInternationalMarketPlace.com/Events.

Beach Hotel Honoured

Kaanapali Beach Hotel cleaned up in *HAWAII* Magazine's 2019 seventh annual Readers' Choice Awards. Together with its sister property The Plantation Inn, it ranked number one across 16 categories ranging from culinary, bar, hotel staff, aloha spirit and guest operations.

Highlighted wins included Best Mid-Range Hotel or Resort, best hotel or Resort with Aloha Spirit on Maui, Best Hotel or Resort for Families on Maui and best Hotel or Resort for a Romantic Getaway on Maui.

Wine & Food Festival

The 38th Annual Kapalua Wine & Food Festival is back for 2019, bringing together Maui's most renowned cuisine and premium wines from around the world.

Tickets for the event, held 07-09 Jun at Kapalua resort, are on sale now, with an earlybird four day pass priced from USD1100 when purchased before 15 Mar. See the full event schedule, and purchase your tickets <u>HERE</u>.



Kauai Gastropub

For craft beer and cocktails in Kauai, clients are recommended the Island's only gastropub Avalon Gastropub. Located in Wailua, the pub offers dishes such as smokin' wings, fried mac'n'cheese and beer battered avo tacos alongside classic dishes such as burgers, surf 'n' turf and pork sliders.

Volcano House Open

Agents are reminded that The Volcano House hotel, located on the edge of Kilauea volcano's summit caldera in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, has reopened to guest stays. See aquaaston. com/hotels/volcano-house



Big Island Photo Tour Launched

Wasabi Tours Hawaii has partnered with Big Island Photo Tours to debut a small-group island of Hawaii photography tour. The experience offers clients the opportunity to capture the beauty of the island and diversity of its natural wonder, from the waterfalls of Akaka Falls State Park and the Hamakua Coast's lush valleys to the Kona Coast's majestic sunsets. See wasabitourshawaii.com,

Aloha Hawaii 6th Anniversary sale now on AKL to Hawaii from \$4.46 One way including taxes. Neighbour islands on sale also Ends 10 Mar 19. See GDS for full details



