

Kiwis Coming Back To Hilo, Volcanos NP



Sunset from Liliuokalani Gardens

New Zealand visitor arrivals to Hawaii Island for Oct, and year to date, were 15.6% and 21.2%, respectively, show the latest Hawaii Visitor Statistics.

One notable statistic was that Kiwi arrivals into Hilo increased 27.1% for Oct.

"It is very pleasing to see New Zealanders returning to this area after a big drop-off in numbers," says Hawaii

Tourism's Darragh Walshe. The drop off, which was a global trend, was caused by volcanic activity in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park, which has now become a drawbar for adventurous Kiwis.

"The volcano and recent activity can be explored either by air (helicopter), or by visiting Volcanoes National Park to witness the Halema'uma'u caldera—and even including the option of staying right on rim at Volcano House," adds Walshe.

... Global Trend

Despite the significant rise in Kiwi numbers, it isn't a global trend, show the statistics. Oct visitor arrivals to Hilo were down -15.7% (to 115,573), with fewer visitors from U.S. West, U.S. East, Canada and Japan. There were increased in arrivals to Oahu, Maui and Kauai, as overall total visitor arrivals rose to 770,359 (+4.4%) in Oct.

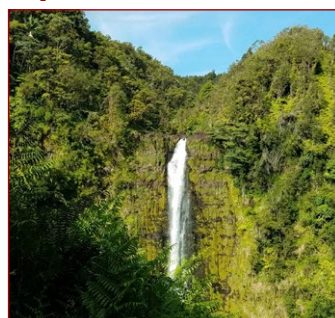
Grill At Kukui'ula

Kiawe Roots Grill is now open at The Shops at Kukui'ula, offering local style barbecue staples and brunch with a modern twist. See eatatkiawe.com

Market Place Hours

Agents are reminded that the International Market Place in Waikiki is open 1000-2200 365 days a year, including Christmas. Operating hours for restaurants and department stores will vary, see shopinternationalmarketplace.com

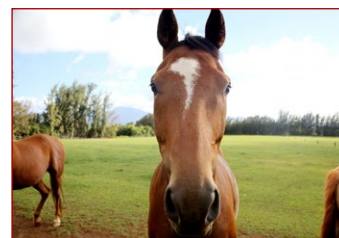
Explore Hawaii Island



KapohoKine Adventures has a new, all-day Hawaii Island Odyssey tour, exploring the island's highlights. The tour, which departs from Kona and South Kohala, takes clients to sample treats from Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Farm and Factory, Big Island Candies and Kona coffee grower Bay View Farms, as well as take in sites such as Punaluu Black Sand Beach, Akaka Falls State Park, Waipio Valley and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. The tour is USD169 per-person, plus tax, and includes roundtrip hotel transportation and park entrance fees. See kapohokine.com

History Dinners

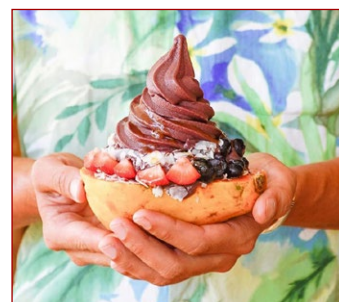
The Weston Princeville resort Villas and the Waipa Foundation have launched a new farm-to-table dinner which highlights Hawaiian history as well as Kauai's local foods. Known as He 'Aina Ola the dinner will see clients tour Waipa's orchards and gardens before sitting down for a three course dinner with matching wines. The experience is available on the second and fourth Mon of every month at 1630 from USD135pp. See westinprinceville.com



Volunteer At Ranch

Heart Horses at Sunset Ranch in Oahu's North Shore is welcoming tourists who want to volunteer while on holiday. Heart Horses is a one-of-a-kind therapy programme for youth, adults, families, and groups that incorporates horses for growth, learning, and healing. Volunteers can help with therapeutic riding lessons, barn chores, grooming horses, and grazing chores.

No prior horse experience is required. Find out more at hearthorses.com/volunteer.html




Oahu's Cool Bananas

Turning locally grown bananas into sweet treats is Banan, an Oahu retailer with a goal to support local farmers, boost the local economy and provide Hawaii with healthy and affordable meals. Flavours range from acai and chocolate mac through to pumpkin almond spice and lilikoi, with floats, papaya boats and creations (fruit and cookie laden sundaes) also available. Banan has four stores in Honolulu, including one at Waikiki Beach. See bananbowls.com



Get Golfing In Maui

Hawaii has plenty to offer golfers, with Maui alone offering number of scenic golf courses sure to keep even the pros entertained. Courses on offer include bay Course and Plantation Course in Kapalua, as well as Ka'anapali Kai Golf Course and Royal Ka'anapali Golf Course in Ka'anapali. Wailea has three courses; Wailea Emerald Course, Wailea Gold Course and Wailea Blue Course while Waikapu is home to the King Kamehameha Golf Club. See gogolfmaui-lanai.com for more.



Say aloha to extra leg room

Upgrade to Extra Comfort
from NZD\$175

HawaiianAirlines.co.nz/extracomfort