

WAIIAN Aloha Friday

TRAVEL TODAY

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Luau; Experience Hawaiian Culture

A visit to the Hawaiian Islands is not complete without experiencing a luau, a Hawaiian feast featuring lively music and vibrant cultural performances from Hawaii and greater Polynesia.

The luau was historically a feast to celebrate special occasions, boasting traditional Hawaiian dishes such as poi (taro root), Kalua pig, chicken long rice, laulau (meat wrapped in taro leaves), lomilomi salmon, haupia (coconut pudding) and poke alongside Polynesian dances.

... Experience A Luau

Clients visiting Hawaii can experience a traditional luau at a number of places, including many hotels and resorts.

Need A Lyft?

Lyft has been named as the exclusive rideshare partner for Queen Kapiolani Hotel, a move that will see guests at the hotel receive discounted rides, as well as those dining at one of the hotel's food and beverage outlets.

"At Queen Kapiolani Hotel, we're always looking for new ways to enhance our guest experience which starts even before our guests arrive at our hotel," says Jeff Perkins, hotel general manager. "By partnering with Lyft, we're able to offer an affordable transportation option while alleviating the stress that can sometimes be associated with driving." Guests will receive their discount code at check-in or via email.

Hawaiian Weaving Class

Kaanapali Beach Hotel has Nala (weaving) classes available for guests who want to know more about the classic Hawaiian art form. The classes are priced from USD5, see kbhmaui.com



Clients in Maui are recommended Kaanapali Beach Hotel's The Legends of Kaanapali Luau, held every Mon night at the Tiki Courtyard. The luau features traditional Hawaiian entertainment as well as a feast prepared by award winning Island-born chefs.

Over in Oahu, clients can experience a traditional luau at the Polynesian Culture Center. The Ali'i Luau Buffet promises an 'extravaganza of song dance and celebration' alongside a Polynesian buffet. Agents should note to book tickets in advance for this, as it frequently sells out.

For those wanting a luau experience in Waikiki, the Royal Hawaiian Hotel offers Aha'aina, A Royal Celebration, on a Mon and Thu. It's Waikiki's only oceanfront sit-down dinner show and celebrates Hawaiian culture, transforming the traditional island experience in true Royal Hawaiian style.

On the Island of Hawaii, Mauna Kea Beach Hotel offers a luau every Tue and Fri, with traditional entertainment including a fire knife dance and traditional buffet.

Finally Kauai-bound clients can partake in the traditional celebration with the Smith Family Garden Luau on every Mon, Wed and Fri. The Smith's luau features traditional Hawaiian performances and food, as well as performances from countries such as Tahiti, Samoa and even New Zealand. See more on luau options at gohawaii. com/Hawaiian-culture

Stay At Makai

For your discerning Hawaii bound clients, Hilton Waikoloa Village is recommending agents highlight its MAKAI at Lagoon Tower accommodation option. The tower's room categories have been revamped and now feature fast track luggage service, a dedicated concierge, exclusive amenities, a thoughtful selection of service enhancements, reserved pool seating and more. Clients staying at MAKAI also receive complimentary access to the upscale facilities in the Kohala Spa including the jacuzzi, steam room and fitness centre. A range of rooms are available from oceanfront cabanas to one bedroom suites and mountainside. See hiltonwaikoloavillage.com





HA Extra Comfort

Hawaiian Airlines reminds agents that they can upgrade their clients to Extra Comfort for \$139 one-way between Auckland and Honolulu. The benefits include extra legroom, priority boarding at departure gate, personal electrical power outlet and an amenity kit. The upgrade is an advance purchase level only and is not available at airport checkin. See hawaiianairlines.co.nz





Ala Moana Says Aloha To 60 Years

It's been 60 years since the Ala Moana center first opened its doors, and the shopping centre is celebrating the milestone achievement with two months of events and specials from Jul to Aug. Anniversary-themed events, special offers, gift-with-purchase promotions, and commemorative 60th anniversary products are just some of what will be on offer over the two months. The Ala Moana Center opened 13 Aug 1959, featuring 87 merchants, now it boasts more then 350, making it the largest open air shopping centre in the world. See alamoanacenter.com



