

## Hawaii Visitor, Spending Increase

Kiwis continue to head over to Hawaii in droves, with the Hawaiian Tourism Authority's preliminary figures revealing that visitor arrivals were up a staggering 39.1% for the first half of this year, compared to 2017.

The total Kiwi visitor arrivals for the first half of this year was 37,663, and Jun itself makes up for a significant



### Kona Coffee Fest

Hawaii's oldest food festival, the Kona Coffee Cultural Festival, is celebrating 48 years in 2018 as it continues to share the story of Kona's coffee heritage with both locals and tourists.

The event is on 09-18 Nov this year and will feature nearly 50 events such as a Kona Coffee Cupping Competition, an evening Lantern Parade, Kona Coffee and food tastings, hands-on cultural events, a collection of Kona Coffee farm and mill tours and Kona Coffee art exhibitions.

To attend events, clients must purchase a USD3 souvenir festival button, available at the events as well as from local retail and farm locations. See [konacoffeefest.com](http://konacoffeefest.com)

portion of that. Yearly figures for the month were up 29%, with 9180 Kiwi visitor arrivals.

The growth in Kiwi numbers is being attributed to an increase in air service; scheduled air seats from Auckland rose 64.6% in Jun. Total visitor arrivals in the first half grew 8.2% to 4,982,843 visitors compared to a year ago, while the month of Jun saw visitors arrivals up 7.3% to 897,099.

Arrivals into Oahu were up 5.5% in Jun, while Maui saw arrivals up 11.5%, and Kauai saw arrivals up 9.1% year-on-year. However, Hawaii Island did note a decrease in arrivals, down 4.8%.

The month also saw increased visitor spending, with visitors to the Hawaii Island spending USD1.60 billion, a 10.3% growth when compared to Jun last year. The first half of 2018 shows spending totalling USD9.26 billion, a 10.8% increase compared to 2017's first half.

### Lovepop Gift

Guests who spend USD100 or more at the International Market Place on the same day will receive a free Lovepop Pop-up card. The card can be collected from any retailer at the market place until 31 Aug.

### HNL Sunset Market

The Sunset Mele and Night Market is on in Honolulu 14 Sep-14 Dec says Hawaii Tourism.

The free community event features live entertainment, a family friendly movie, a pop-up marketplace, artisan workshops, local eats and drinks. The Sunset Mele and Night Market is 1600-2100 at the Hawaii Convention Centre. See [blog.hawaiiconvention.com/sunset-mele-and-night-market/](http://blog.hawaiiconvention.com/sunset-mele-and-night-market/)

### Sunset On The Beach

Queens Beach Waikiki is celebrating the season premieres of *Hawaii 5-0* and *Magnum P.I.* at Sunset on the Beach on 14 Sep, advises *Reel News Hawaii*. The red carpet starts at 1630, followed by 50th Anniversary Celebrations for *Hawaii 5-0*, a screening of *Magnum P.I.* at 1800 and a special performance by Cyndi Lauper at 1900.

### Disney Spa Opens



Aulani, A Disney Resort & Spa's newly designed Painted Sky: HI Style Studio has opened, offering Disney makeovers for children. Packages are available for children aged three-12, which include hairstyling, make-up, costumes and accessories, with mermaid, Moana, and Maui just some of the outfits available. Reservations are recommended, see [disneyaulani.com](http://disneyaulani.com)



### Maverick On Kauai

After three successful years of operation in Maui, Maverick Helicopters has expanded into Kauai. The helicopter tour company is offering daily flights from its facility at Port Allen Airport on Kauai's southern shore. Experiences offered include a 50-minute Kauai Explorer, which explores Kauai's coastline with highlights such as the Waimea Canyon, the Napali Coast and Hanapepe Valley. The 25-minute Kauai Discovery, flies over Hanapepe Valley, with highlights such as Manawaiopuna Falls (made famous by *Jurassic Park*) and Na Pali-Kona Forest Reserve. Tours are priced from USD299 and USD199pp, respectively. See [flymaverick.com](http://flymaverick.com)



### New To Outrigger

Honua Kai Resort & Spa's on-site resort rental programme is the latest addition to Outrigger Hotels and Resorts portfolio, as it takes over the property from Alterra Maintain Company. The coastal Maui property features studio, one, two and three-bedroom suites as well as full service concierge, Duke's Beach House restaurant, Aina Gourmet market Café and the Ho'ola Spa. The resort is also set to expand, with 72 luxury townhouses to be completed by 2020. See [outrigger.com/honuakai](http://outrigger.com/honuakai)

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