

Explore More In The Garden Isle

Kiwis love adventure, and that's exactly why Kauai Visitors Bureau's director of marketing Maile Brown wants agents to recommend a holiday on the so-called Garden Isle.

At six million years old it's the state's oldest island, and has the landscape to prove it, including the 'breath-taking' Waimea Canyon.

"We're the only island that's got this big Waimea Canyon," says Brown. "You can feel the breeze coming off the canyon and it's just amazing."

With 80% of the island inaccessible by car, Brown says clients have to do the outdoor activities to really see the island, something that adds to the islands appeal to the Kiwi market.

"Kiwis really enjoy getting out there and exploring," she adds. A helicopter flight is a must-do on Kauai.

... Gaining Popularity

Kauai is a destination which Hawaii Tourism Oceania notes is growing for this market. While the other neighbour islands saw declines, Kiwi travel to Kauai is on the increase.

This is great news, says HTO's Daragh Walshe, as it's the isle that is the

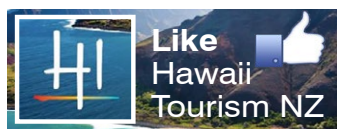


Maile Brown, Kauai Visitors Bureau

least visited. It's also an island that's easy to get to for clients looking for a Hawaii stopover there are direct flights from the mainland.

"Hawaiian Airlines has been very successful with [flights from] mainland destinations [to Kauai]," says Walshe. "You can fly from some of those points directly to Kauai."

From Hawaii, it's a 25-minute flight ex Honolulu, and clients can also fly direct from other island destinations including Kona and Kahului Airports.



Video Art Series

Alohilani Resort's Swell Pool & Bath is launching a video art projection series that will showcase the landscapes of Oahu, which can be enjoyed alongside 'evening vibes' spun by the resident DJs. The series kicks off 31 May, and will feature every Tue and Fri evening from 1900. See alohilaniresort.com

USS Missouri Update

The USS Missouri Memorial Association has announced that battleship USS Missouri is to undergo a USD3 million restoration, meaning the popular attraction will be closed this northern summer.

The association hopes that the restoration, which will see the ship look as it did when it retired from service in 1992, will be complete in time for the 75th anniversary of the End of WWII commemoration ceremony on 02 Sep 2020. Agents are advised that the restoration will have no impact on the Battleship Missouri Memorial tours. See ussmissouri.org

Nui's New Chef

The Hilton Waikoloa Village has appointed Gino Cipriano as the chef of its recently opened Italian restaurant Nui Italian. Cipriano is an Italian native who brings more than 25 years of experience to the authentic and family-friendly restaurant.

Whale Watching



Clients wanting to not only get closer to the whales but also get an in-depth insight into the biology and social behaviors of humpback whales are recommended the Jean-Michel Cousteau's Ambassadors of the Environment Whale Watch. The watch offers participants an opportunity to witness humpback whales off the Maui coastline onboard a 12-passenger private boat led by a Cousteau-trained naturalist. See ritzcarlton.com/kapalua



Garden To Glass

The Westin Hapuna Beach Resort on the Island of Hawaii is now offering a Garden to Glass mixology class. The class is priced from USD35pp and includes a guided tour of the chef's garden and a mini-mixology lesson where clients will use the fresh herbs and citrus to create cocktails. Garden to Glass is available Tue and Thu at 1600. See westinhapunabeach.com

NCL's Hawaii Guide



Norwegian Cruise Line has released its 2019-2022 Hawaii Cruising Guide, which features information on Pride of America's seven-day roundtrip cruise ex Honolulu. The ship sails to four Hawaiian islands and clients will also enjoy overnight stays in Maui and Kauai, as well as have more time to explore with nearly 100 hours ashore and no sea days. Norwegian's newly enhanced Free at Sea programme also sees free beverage and wifi packages now available on Hawaii sailings for the first time.

New Aston Spa

SPA BREATHE MAUI has opened recently at Aston Maui Kaanapali Villas, offering a variety of services such as therapeutic massages, facials, pregnancy massages and specialty treatments. See spabreathemaui.webs.com

Birds Of Hawaii

Birdwatchers take note; the Hawaii Island Festival of Birds is at Sheraton Kona Resort and Spa 25-28 Oct. The Big Island event this year features the theme 'Wanderers and Migrants—Hawaii's Unique Avian Visitors', which highlights the migratory and accidental avian visitors arriving in the Islands each year. The festival includes Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument educational sessions, a fest reception, a film festival, guided birding excursions on land and at sea, a bird fair and a gala. See birdfsthawaii.org

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