

March 2008

WHAT'S NEW IN THE ISLANDS OF ALOHA

ACCOLADES

- ◆ Three of **Hawai'i's** beaches made **TripAdvisor's** list of the top 10 beaches in the U.S. **Kailua Beach Park** on **O'ahu** came in at No. 3 with its turquoise waters and powder white sand. **Tunnels Beach** on **Kaua'i** ranked No. 6 for outstanding snorkeling and unbelievable views. And at No. 10, **Oahu's Waimea Beach Park** boasts clear and calm waters in the summer. For more information visit, TripAdvisor.com.

EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

- ◆ **Battleship Missouri Memorial** celebrates ten years in **Hawai'i** with two new commemorative tours offered in June 2008. The **Weapons Tour** features the wide array of weaponry on the Missouri throughout her five decades of active-service. The **Generations Tour** explores the lives of those who served aboard the vessel where visitors are inspired by their stories. "**A Mighty Mahalo**" on June 21, exactly ten years after the Missouri's arrival to the islands, will offer complimentary admission to military personnel and local residents as well as pierside activities from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, visit USSMissouri.org.
- ◆ **Captain Beans' Cruises** on **Hawai'i's Big Island** now offers a new Friday night sunset sail aboard the huge 150-foot double-hulled canoe, **Tamure**. Aside from having a canoe as your dining room, the two-hour cruise includes live music, a selection of pupu, and one alcoholic drink per person. For more information, call 808-329-2955.

- ◆ **Queen's MarketPlace** at the **Waikoloa Beach Resort**, offers a daily schedule of Hawaiian cultural entertainment everyday. Located on the **Kohala Coast** of **Hawai'i's Big Island**, the public is welcome to enjoy performances by local entertainers and *hula hālau* (hula school) as well as participate in cultural lessons while they shop. For more information, visit WaikoloaBeachResort.com.

- ◆ See, smell, feel, and taste the 180-year tradition of **Kona coffee**. **Kona Joe Coffee** grows 100 percent Kona coffee on the world's first trellised coffee plantation, using the same techniques as the world's finest vineyards. Kona Joe's has expanded their hours and are now offering interactive tours for the whole family. Tours are available Monday through Saturday upon request, reservations not required. For more information, visit KonaJoe.com.

- ◆ **American Safari Cruises** announced it will begin **Hawai'i** cruises in December 2008. Each cruise will be limited to 36 guests and focus on traditional Hawaiian culture, offering guests the opportunity to interact with local residents and visit their homes. The 145-foot Safari Explorer will only travel during the day, often to places where large ships can't, visiting **Moloka'i**, **Lāna'i**, **Lahaina** on **Maui**, and **Hawai'i's Big Island** where a Volcanoes National Park helicopter tour is included. For more information, visit AMSafari.com.

- ◆ **Hilton Hawaiian Village Resort & Spa** presents **Surfing 101**, a 30-minute "talk story" session near the lagoon named after the father of modern-day surfing, **Duke Kahanamoku**. Free to guests, the class begins with an introduction by expert waterman, Ka'ai Bruhn. Next, Clyde Aikau or Errol Kane, life-long surfers who come from distinguished Hawaiian families, teach surfing techniques and share the history of Duke Kahanamoku. For more information, visit HiltonHawaiianVillage.com.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- ◆ Outrigger Enterprises Group has been selected to manage **Koloa Landing at Poipu Beach on Kaua'i**. The new 24-acre, luxury resort condominium project is currently under construction and is the newest master-planned resort-style community in Hawai'i. The \$285 million project is now underway with anticipated completion scheduled for 2009. Koloa Landing will be comprised of 323 upscale resort condominiums with luxury resort amenities and services featuring spacious two-, three-, and four-bedroom units, many with sweeping views of the ocean. For more information, visit KoloaLanding.com.

- ◆ **Wailele Terrace** is the brand new wedding venue at the **Kaua'i Marriott Resort & Beach Club**. The terrace offers a private and romantic location with a botanical garden ambiance that complements the convenience of being on-site at the resort. With calming waterfalls and elevated to overlook koi ponds, Wailele Terrace is located amidst the tropical **Gardens of Kalapaki**, home to more than 100 native and indigenous Hawaiian plants and flowers. A lava staircase and pathway draw guests up toward the hilltop where the bride and groom can exchange vows under a shady banyan tree. For more information, visit KauaiMarriott.com.

- ◆ **Royal Hawaiian Center** is the new name of the Royal Hawaiian Shopping Center which is in its final stages of a dramatic \$115 million revitalization. With a new look, new name, and new logo the Center offers more than just shopping and is setting the new mood of **Waikiki** as a gathering place for visitors and locals alike. A blend of the past and present, the Center completes renovations this spring. For more information, visit RoyalHawaiianCenter.com.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

- ◆ **Pleasant Holidays** is making **Hawai'i** a two-for-one destination. The two-for-one airfare promotion is applicable for travel April 1 through June 5, 2008 on select **United Airlines** flights from Los Angeles and San Francisco to Honolulu or Maui and from San Francisco to Kaua'i. Pleasant Holidays also offers "Hot Deals" promotions for a complimentary activity for two on O'ahu or Maui and a free rental car on Kaua'i and Hawai'i's Big Island. For more information, please visit PleasantHolidays.com.

- ◆ **Hawaiian Airlines** has announced plans for their new non-stop service between **Honolulu** and **Manila** beginning April 17, 2008. Flights will leave Honolulu four times a week, departing Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 12:30 p.m. and will arrive in Manila at 5:15 p.m. the following day. Return flights will depart Manila Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 7:00 p.m., arriving in Honolulu on the same day at 11:15 a.m. For more information, visit HawaiianAirlines.com.

- ◆ **Qantas Airways** is increasing its **Australia to Honolulu** service from three to four flights per week beginning in April. The additional flight will depart Sydney at 7:45 p.m. on Saturdays and arrive in Honolulu at 9:30 a.m. the same day. The return flight will depart Honolulu at 10:50 a.m. on Saturdays and arrive in Sydney at 5:30 p.m. the following day. For more information, visit Qantas.com.au.

-pau-

Special note to media: The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) recognizes the use of Hawaiian diacritical markings (e.g. glottal stop [ʻ], macron [ā] in place names of Hawai'i such as Lānaʻi). However, HVCB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

-more-

Media Contacts:

Darlene Morikawa
Director, PR/Communications
Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau
E-mail: dmorikawa@hvcb.org
Phone: 808-924-0259

Nathan Kam
Vice President
McNeil Wilson Communications
E-mail: Nathan.Kam@MWC-Anthology.com
Phone: 808-539-3471