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WHAT'S NEW IN THE ISLANDS OF ALOHA

NEW DEVELOPMENTS

- ◆ A new restaurant and spa both featuring homegrown Hawai'i ingredients recently opened at the **Waipouli Beach Resort** on Kaua'i. The resort's new restaurant, **Oasis on the Beach**, prepares island-style cuisine with mostly Hawai'i-grown ingredients. The menu features dishes such as locally caught fresh fish glazed in miso butter and a local grass-fed rib-eye steak with a red wine sweet onion butter. At **Spa by the Sea**, guests can treat themselves to a volcanic clay facial or lomi lomi massage among other unique treatments that highlight pure organic ingredients. For more information, visit WaipouliBeachResort.com.
- ◆ **Hilo Hattie's** flagship store on Nimitz Highway (O'ahu) is now offering more than just Hawai'i souvenirs and apparel. With the addition of a new 500-square foot hula studio and two meeting rooms, Hibiscus and Plumeria, customers can now take hula lessons, learn about the history of Aloha wear and host meetings. *Kumu Hula* (hula teacher) Kale Pawai leads beginner and advanced classes every weekday, which are also taught in Japanese. Those who attend the advanced class receive a special certificate of completion. The Hibiscus and Plumeria meeting rooms are each equipped with 50-inch plasma televisions, internet access, and video and audio capabilities and can each accommodate up to 75 guests or 200 guests by combining the two rooms into one. When the meeting spaces are not in use, a free five-minute documentary on "The History of Hawaiian Wear" created by renowned filmmaker Edgy Lee is shown every 15 minutes with group showings also available in Japanese, Korean and Mandarin. For more information, visit HiloHattie.com.

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- ◆ Work on a new **Native Hawaiian Garden** at O'ahu's **Bishop Museum** is underway and is scheduled for completion this summer. The garden will feature Hawai'i's indigenous and Polynesian introduced plants including coastal plants such as *'ilima* and *hinahina*, native dry forest plants that existed in ancient times, and plants such as *hala*, *'ulu*, and *kalo* which were brought to Hawai'i by the islands' first settlers. Once completed, the exhibit will be open daily for educational programs and tours. For more information, visit BishopMuseum.org.

- ◆ "TLC for PDA" is a new amenity offered at the **Four Seasons Resort Lāna'i at Manele Bay** designed for the tech savvy traveler who's mobile device or personal digital assistant (PDA) could use some "tender loving care." Guests can relax by the pool, sip on a refreshing PDA inspired cocktail including a Blackberry Mojito or iPom, and check in their device to a pool attendant for recharging and cleaning. A "Hands Free" mini massage is also available to revive overworked fingers. For more information, call the Concierge at 808-565-2388 or visit FourSeasons.com/ManeleBay.

- ◆ Four new retailers including **Tory Burch**, **Gilly Hicks**, **Pandora Jewelry** and **Q-pot** are opening their first-in-Hawai'i stores at O'ahu's **Ala Moana Center**. Opening in July are Gilly Hicks, an Australian-based company known for its youthful and comfortable loungewear and lingerie, and Q-pot, a Japanese accessory and art emporium. Pandora Jewelry, which offers a wide selection of fun a flirty jewelry, is scheduled to open in August, while the popular American sportswear brand Tory Burch will make its Hawai'i debut in the fall. For more information, visit AlaMoanaCenter.com.

EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

- ◆ Get up close and personal with Maui's agriculture on a new **Grown on Maui Bus Tour** held every Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The group will meet at the Whole Foods Market for an inside look at how to shop on a budget by understanding the layout of a store. A continental breakfast of locally sourced

fruits, coffee and breads will be served before moving onto the next stop at Hali'imaile Pineapple Company to learn about the history and culture of pineapple plantations in Hawai'i. Guests will also visit O'o and Ali'i Kula Lavendar farm before returning to Whole Foods Market. For more information, email info@akinatours.com.

- ◆ Visit the **Honolulu Academy of Arts** on O'ahu for some **aloHAA**, a new art *pau hana* (after work celebration) held on the second Thursday of every month. The academy will remain open until 9 p.m. for the event which offers a wide selection of beer, wine and specialty cocktails from the bar and pupu from The Pavillion Café, live music and art talks.
- ◆ Explore Hawai'i's beautiful coral reefs off the Kohala Coast of Hawai'i's Big Island with **Ocean Sports** on a new snorkeling adventure where dolphins are often seen. The **Dolphins Crystal Cove Snorkel Adventure** occurs every Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8-11:30 a.m. and includes breakfast, fresh island fruits and juices, transportation, equipment and an open bar after snorkeling. For more information, visit HawaiiOceanSports.com.
- ◆ Farmer's markets continue to thrive on O'ahu with one new market opening on the island's east side and another on the west side relocating to a better venue. Kaiser High School located down the road from Hanauma Bay is the site of the new **Makeke o Maunaloa Farmers' Market** held every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, visit MakekeoMaunaloa.com. On the other side of the island, **The Wai'anae Farmers' Market** recently relocated to Wai'anae High School and opens on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Browse through a selection of fresh locally grown Asian produce, fresh cheese and churned butter from Wai'anae's Naked Cow Dairy, and fresh fish. For more information, visit WaianaeFarmersMarket.org.

- ◆ Come enjoy a 9-hole round of golf followed by a sunset wine tasting at the “**Golf Nine with Wine**” event at Hawai‘i’s Big Island’s **Makalei Golf Club** on August 27 and December 10. The golfing begins at 3:30 p.m. with a two-person alternate shot format followed by the wine tasting at the Makalei clubhouse, which will also feature live music and appetizers. For more information, visit Makalei.com.

TRANSPORTATION

- ◆ **GreenCar Hawaii** recently introduced a progressive new service offering visitors on-demand use of Hybrid-Electric vehicles by the hour. The company will unveil a pilot program beginning June 2 at the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort and Spa allowing hotel guests to rent an eco-friendly Ford SUV for \$15 an hour or \$115 for the day which includes gas and eventually some additional amenities such as onboard concierge services and iPads. Hotel guests can reserve one of four available vehicles through the GreenCar Hawaii website or at a special kiosk in the hotel lobby and return them to the hotel valet. For more information, visit GreenCarHawaii.com.
- ◆ **Hawaiian Airlines** is looking forward to the future with the approval of a new air route to Tokyo, Japan, and the launch of a new, daily direct service from Oakland, California to Kahului, Maui.

Earlier this month, Hawaiian Airlines received tentative approval from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to operate a daily flight between Honolulu (O‘ahu) and Tokyo’s **Haneda International Airport**. The flight is scheduled to depart Haneda shortly before midnight and arrive in Honolulu around noon the same day. Hawaiian had originally proposed to DOT twice-daily flights and has asked to be reconsidered for the second round trip.

Hawaiian Airlines has moved up the launch of its new, daily direct service from **Oakland**, California to **Kahului**, Maui to June 4. The service marks a new route

for Hawaiian and will operate through September 6, 2010 for the summer season.

For more information, visit HawaiianAir.com.

ACCOLADES

- ◆ Hawai'i's hotels, resorts, and condos are well represented on this year's *Expedia Insider's Select* list with 41 properties earning the distinction. Maui's **Ritz Carlton, Kapalua** scored the best of all the Hawai'i locations earning the **No. 82** spot among more than 100,00 properties that were reviewed. Properties worldwide were scored based on traveler opinions, value, and input from an *Expedia* Hotel Expert. For more information, visit Expedia.com/InsidersSelect.
- ◆ The **St. Regis Princeville** on Kaua'i was named to *Travel + Leisure's "It List"* as one of the best new hotels in 2010. The resort, which reopened in October 2009 following a massive renovation, joins 44 other properties worldwide on the exclusive list. For more information, visit TravelandLeisure.com.
- ◆ *TripAdvisor* patrons recognized three cities in the Islands of Hawai'i including **Po'ipū** (Kaua'i), **Wailea** (Maui), and **Honolulu** (O'ahu) in the **2010 Travelers' Choice Destinations Awards**. Following are the ranks and categories each destination earned:

Po'ipū, Kaua'i

- ◆ **No. 3 Beach and Sun in the United States**
- ◆ **No. 7 Relaxation and Spa in the United States**
- ◆ **No. 9 Romance in the United States**

Wailea, Maui

- ◆ **No. 8 Relaxation and Spa in the United States**
- ◆ **No. 9 Beach and Sun in the United States**

Honolulu, O'ahu

- ◆ **No. 10 Beach and Sun in the United States**

For more information, visit TripAdvisor.com/TCDestinations.

Special note to media: The Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) recognizes the use of the 'okina ['] or glottal stop, one of the eight consonants of the (modern) Hawaiian language; and the kahakō [ā] or macron (e.g., in place names of Hawai'i such as Lāna'i). However, HVCB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

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