# **The Upgraded Hotels To Know About**

During the past few months a number of properties across the Hawaiian Islands undergo some changes, and to help agents keep up with all that's going on, Hawaii Tourism has a list of some of the most noteworthy updates.



First up, Outrigger Kona Resort & Spa on Hawai'i Island, which has just finished a USD60 million refresh, which included a revitalisation of its 511 guest rooms and suites, and its Kaleiopapa Convention Center, and the addition of a new wine bar and Club Lounge.

The former Trump Hotel in Waikiki has re-opened as Ka La'i Waikiki Beach, and has been rebranded under Hilton's upscale LXR brand. The property offers residential-style suites with fully-equipped kitchens, a variety of restaurants, infinity pool, fitness centre, and spa. Oahu's Sheraton Princess Ka'iulani has

## Queens Culinary Market



The Queen's Culinary Market takes place every second and fourth Thu, 1500-1800 on Hawai'i Island. Celebrating the culinary scene of Hawai'i Island, attendees will find tropical produce and locally crafted coffee, honey, jams, and more. See details HERE.

renovated its Ainahau Tower, and all 664 rooms have been upgraded, while the Outrigger Reef Waikiki Beach Resort recently unveiled its renovated Waiola Wellness Wing, offering a Monkeypod Kitchen by Merriman restaurant, a new fitness facility, a Coral Reef Kids Club, and residential-style rooms and suites.

The Fairmont Kea Lani has also completed its multi-year property transformation, which included a redesign of its 413 one-bedroom suites and 37 two-story villas, as well as a reimagined lobby which features a new Hawaiian cultural centre, and a new oceanfront bar and restaurant.

Meanwhile, work has begun on Mauna Kea Beach Hotel's USD180-million renovation, which is slated for completion in Q2 2025. Happening in phases, it will include a redesign of the resort's 252 guest rooms and suites, four dining venues including the resort's signature restaurant Manta.

### **HA Agent Rates**

Hawaiian Airlines will resume seasonal services between Auckland and Honolulu, and on to its 16 mainland USA points from 16 Nov. To celebrate, the carrier has released agent rates from \$795 return. Ts&Cs apply, agents have details.

#### **Reservation Reminder**



Hawaii Tourism reminds agents that as part of its efforts to promote regenerative tourism, many state hot spots now have reservation systems in place.

This includes Ha'ena State Park, which requires an advanced-paid permit, which is available up to 30 days in advance. Parking and individual entry passes sell out very quickly, so it is worth noting that The Kauai North Shore Shuttle Pass includes entry into the park, and is a good option for those who were unable to secure the above. See details and apply HERE. Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge & Daniel K Inouye Kilauea Lighthouse also require an entry permit, which can be obtained up to 60 days in advance. See HERE.

## **Kauai Creators Fair**



Kauai will host a Wailua Bay Creators Fair on the fourth Sun of the month from Aug, offering local vendors the chance to showcase their goods.

The market features art, clothing, accessories, hand-sewn items, jewelry, photography, wood carvings, home decor, Kauai keepsakes, and more, as well as live music and local food vendors. It is held at the Hilton Garden Inn Kauai Wailua Bay 0830-1300. See details HERE.

#### **Turtle Bay To Ritz**



Iconic North Shore property, the Turtle Bay Resort, is now part of Marriott and has be rebranded as The Ritz-Carlton Oahu, Turtle Bay. The resort offers oceanfront bungalows, rooms and suites all with ocean view rooms.

Marriott says highlights include seven secluded beaches within walking distance, 19km of hiking and biking trails, and 'incredible' onsite amenities.

All existing bookings at Turtle Bay Resort have been honoured during the rebrand. The resort's popular experiences will remain, including the Jamie O'Brien Surf Experience, tours of the revitalised Kuilima Farm and the resort's signature Paniolo Luau, says Marriott. See details HERE.

#### Free Hawaiian Classes



Clients on a budget in Hawai'i? Send them to the Royal Hawaiian Center, which offers a suite of complementary cultural classes and live entertainment. Available year-round, weekly classes include hula lessons for both adults and children, as well as lei making, lauhala weaving and ukulele. See details HERE.



