

Kilauea Will See Lava Tourist Spike



Pic: NPS/L. Konrad

One of the many attractions of Hawaii Island is its volcanoes, and while Volcanoes National Park is currently closed due to Kilauea erupting, once it re-opens it is set to see increasing numbers of lava tourists.

Hawaii Tourism's Darragh Walshe says he expects an increased level of interest in the lava flow long term, and more awareness of Hawaii's volcanic offerings.

"I am sure there are plenty who weren't aware that Hawaii had such



A Very Hawaiian Flight

All cabin announcements and crew instructions on a recent Hawaiian Airlines flight from Honolulu to Las Vegas were in English, as well as the traditional Hawaiian language, a first for the airline. The flight was operated by attendants who spoke fluent lelo Hawaiian as well as English, with New Zealand country manager Rusty Williss saying that integrating lelo Hawaii is an extension of the airline's commitment to honor, celebrate and perpetuate Hawaii's rich culture.

an active volcano. We hope that once things settle down, the volcano will become another reason to visit Hawaii," says Walshe.

"Short-term, there are definitely some travellers who have been interested in taking the helicopter tours over the volcano, as well as the lava boat tours to see the lava entering the ocean."

Walshe adds that the best way to see the volcano at the moment is by helicopter, with lava boat tours also an option, though he advises clients check lavaocean.com to see if the lava is still flowing into the ocean before booking a trip. And while Hawaii Island's volcanoes may be out of reach due to safety precautions, dormant volcanoes Diamond Head on the island of Oahu and Haleakala on the island of Maui are both open for exploration.

While the re-opening date for Hawaii Volcanoes National Park is still unknown, Walshe hopes it won't be too far away, and as the locals say, it is in the hands of Pele, the Fire Goddess.

Cruise Bypass

Norwegian Cruise Line is halting its stopovers on Hawaii Island, due to air quality. *Hawaii News Now* reports that Norwegian will re-evaluate its decision and may return next week if air quality improves.



Brews In Oahu

Oahu boasts a number of craft breweries sure to be popular with Kiwis visiting the destination advises Go Hawaii. Highlighted breweries include Honolulu Beerworks, an open air brewpub with two beer gardens where clients can try out the hand-crafted brews. Aloha Beer Company is another go to, with the brewer happy to show clients around, and Waikiki Brewing Company offers on-site breweries in both Kakaako and Waikiki. Lanikai Brewing Company completes the list, clients can visit the tasting room Thu-Sun.

Hilton's MICE Move

The sales teams of two of Hilton Hawaii's flagship properties are merging, in a move set to offer unprecedented groups and MICE opportunities. The Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort on Oahu and Hilton Waikoloa Village on the Island of Hawaii merge means Hilton are now able to bridge the gap between two of its most in demand properties for meetings, conventions and incentive groups says John Hawley, executive director, association group sales for Hilton Worldwide. "The flexibility and options are now exponentially greater for meeting planners looking for an extraordinary experience in the Hawaiian Islands." Hilton Hawaiian Village offers over 450,000sqm of indoor and outdoor meeting space including two ballrooms. Meanwhile the Hilton Waikoloa Village boasts a grand ballroom that can host up to 400 guests as well as smaller boardrooms. See hiltonhawaiianvillage.com or hiltonwaikoloavillage.com



10 Years Of Aloha

The Westin Princeville Ocean Resort Villas Kauai is celebrating 10 years of Aloha with an exclusive anniversary offer, the Toast to Ten package. The package features a signature welcome amenity, buy one get one 50% off on the five course Journey Tasting Menu at Nanea Restaurant and Bar and two glasses of sparkling wine and one complimentary resort activity, including cultural programmes such as lei making and lauhala weaving. The package is available until 21 Dec with a minimum three-night stay. Rates start from USD380 per night in an island-view studio villa. See westinprinceville.com

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