Hip New Laylow On Kuhio



A hip new hotel nestled in Waikiki is being recommended for Kiwi clients looking for something a little different in the Honolulu tourist hot spot.

The all-new Laylow hotel, located on Kuhio Ave, has become the island state's first Autograph Hotel—a Marriott brand with the tagline 'exactly like nothing else'.

Described as laid-back luxury, Hawaiian Airlines New Zealand manager Russell Williss says the property offers guests an urban oasis in the middle of Waikiki among the revitalised Kuhio Ave developments.



Moon Paddling

Turtle Bay Resort has introduced a number of new fitness classes for guests.

The classes include full moon paddle sessions, a surf-training programme, running programmes and a Tahiatian dance cardio class. See turtlebayresort.com

"With the international marketplace and other retail and restaurant developments Kuhio is really coming of age—just one street back from the beach," says Williss.

The 251-room Laylow's décor features mid-century modernism with a Hawaiian twist. In addition to all the mod cons the rooms sport quirky touches like monstera leaf wallpaper, surf nostalgia photography books and authentic ukulele. In room amenties have been developed in conjunction with Maak Lap (with a scent said to 'capture the essence of the Pacific ocean'). There's also a fitness studio and secluded pool.

The on-site Hideout Restaurant and bar is now one of the area's hip new hang-outs, offering cuisine with a local focus. Agents can recommend the Hideout and its open-air terrace complete with firepits for those looking to sip artisan cocktails and takein some local music acts.

All Aboard M20 2017

The Molokai-2-Oahu Paddleboard World Championships (M20) launches into its third decade on 30 Jul.

A field of traditional and stand-up (SUP) paddleboarders from 20 countries have signed up for the annual event, which this year celebrates its 21st birthday.

The 51.5km race starts on Kaluakoi Beach on the north shore of Molokai and finishes in Maunalua Bay on the south shore of Oahu. It crosses the Kaiwi Channel (also known as the Molokai Channel).

Top athletes typically complete the crossing in less than five hours, riding mid-channel waves that can crest more than 12 feet.

The event, founded in 1997, started off as a grassroots challenge for lifeguards of Oahu.

Maui Monkey Business



Southern California's The Goat Group has branched into Maui opening The Dirty Monkey on Front St.

The second-floor restaurant and bar has fast become the place to be for nightlife in Lahaina, says the Maui Visitors and Conventions Bureau.

Food includes burgers and tacos, and there are more than 120 bourbons, whiskeys and ryes to choose from as well as around 40 single malt scotches from Scotland. See thedirtymonkey.com



Happy 120th Amelia

The Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor is to raise its glasses to aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart's 120th birthday this month—and visitors are invited to join in.

American Earhart was the first female to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She disappeared in Jul 1937 while attempting to fly around the world—and this week reports claim an old photo taken in the Marshall Islands may show she didn't crash land. Earhart had taken off from Luke Field, which fronts the museum, during the early days of that fated flight nearly 80 years ago. In memory of that event, the museum plans to honour Earhart on her 24 Jul birthday anniversary.

Visitors will be given free cake and juice as they explore the museum's Amelia Earhart in Hawaii photography exhibition. And families who arrive with at least one member dressed as Earhart or in historical aviation clothes can visit for free.

Meanwhile, the museum also in Jul will be running a series of educational and adventure camps for teens and children aged from eight to 10.

Aquarium's Offering

Renowned Hawaiian aquarium The Maui Ocean Center, has added a 30seat theatre to the mix. The Makai Theater will feature a rotation of short films on conservation that put the focus on local and international ocean topics. Theater entry is free with aquarium admission. See mauioceancenter.com

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