

Grand Wailea Gears Up For Pool Refresh



Grand Wailea's 'Fall Pool Refresh' begins this Sep, with the property gearing up for the launch of an all-new Lava Tube slide and refreshed pools, marking the next phase of its renovation.

Once finished, the luxury Maui resort's 79m Lava Tube slide will offer clients a 14 second ride, complete with a 9m drop, 360° turn and up to 35km per hour speeds. Along with this, the iconic property is set to carry out a complete refresh of its upper pools, rapids, slides, baby beach, activity pool and tarzan swing. Work on the Lava Tube slide is set

to begin 05 Sep and the attraction is expected to re-open in Dec, advises the property.

In addition, the resort's activity pools and upper pools will be closed from 23 Sep to 19 Oct. During this time, the Hibiscus pool will be open daily for clients of all ages, and the property is set to offer a host of complimentary activities for registered guests, including the likes of bike hire, Fiship Maui rides, dive-in movies, beach yoga, an array of non-motorised water sports and more. Additional seating will also be available, on Wailea Beach & Lawns.

The Volcano Bar and Grotto Bar will also be closed during the pool renovation, though Bistro Molokini will be open for dining and the Botero Lounge will open earlier in the day. For more details and updates see grandwailea.com/experience/pools/fall-pool-refresh/



Fun For The Kids

The fourth annual Ko Olina Children's Festival is timetabled for 23 Sep at Ko Olina Resort on Oahu.

The event features interactive video and music activities, live stage performances, family-friendly movies and a sunset finale feature film on the beach.

Festival attendees have been offered discounted rates at Aulani, a Disney Resort & Spa, and the Four Seasons Resort Oahu at Ko Olina.

Festival Of Birds

The Festival of Birds (15-18 Sep) on Hawaii Island features a flock of activities including field trips, birding adventures, photography workshops, a bird film festival and a trade-show-style event at the Sheraton Kona Resort and Spa on 16 Sep, says Hawaii Tourism. Registrations are open, see birdfesthawaii.org

Mighty Mo On Show

Restoration of the historic USS Battleship Missouri has closed the flying and navigation bridges to the public until next month, but the remainder of the ship is open for tours.

'Mighty Mo', located on Pearl Harbor's Ford Island, is where the Declaration of Peace was signed at the conclusion of World War II.

The Battleship Missouri Memorial runs two daily battleship tours as well as gives visitors a chance to explore the ship on their own. General admission costs USD27 and USD13 for children aged four to 12.

The Heart of the Missouri Tour (USD52 adults; USD25 for children aged 10 to 12) explores the inner workings of the ship with a tour guide. This tour is limited to 10 guests per time slot, and is recommended to those who are reasonably fit and able to navigate through tight doorways and low overheads. See ussmissouri.org/buy-tickets

SPG Hawaii Uber Sale

The 12 Starwood Preferred Guest resorts (SPG) in Hawaii has launched its 'biggest sale of the season'. The Pack for Paradise promotion covers Oahu, Maui, Kauai and Hawaii islands, and is available for travel booked until 30 Sep for stays to 20 Dec. Rates start from USD179 at Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay. SPG Resorts in Hawaii is also offering travellers a How to Pack for Paradise download to help them prepare for their holiday. Sale details and the packing tips are available at packforparadise.com

Made in Hawaii Fest

More than 400 exhibitors have signed up for the three-day Made in Hawaii Festival being held at Neal S. Blaisdell Exhibition Hall and Arena from 18 Aug. The festival showcases the best in Hawaiian art, clothing, food, home furnishings, jewellery, toys, fresh produce and handicrafts. See madeinhawaiifestival.com.



Waipio Valley Explorer

Visitors to Hawaii Island can now explore the north eastern side of the island with a new tour that takes in the Hamakua Coast, travelling between Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea volcanoes. Stops on route include Rainbow Falls, the popular Hilo Farmer's Market and Onomea Bay for a walk through the botanical garden, which is home to more than 2000 species of plants. The full day tour is priced from USD229 ex Kona and includes transport in 4X4, lunch and soft drinks, and entrance fees. Visit kaphokine.com

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