

# Aloha Friday



Fri 12 Jun 15 p3

# New Food Tours Launch On Kauai



Visitors will interact with Kauai's farmers, chefs and artisan food producers on Tasting Kauai's new farm to fork food tours, which are focused on the north and south shores, east side and farmers markets.

The tours are described as 'playful, educational edible experiences' and are based on the seasons. They're designed to connect people with the farmers and chefs of Kauai, who produce an abundance of food.

On the North Shore tour (every Tue, 1100-1500, USD120), clients follow their guide to out-of-the way establishments, taste products made



#### **Kids Golf Free**

For a fun day of family golf, kids play free with their parents at Hawaii Prince Golf Club on Oahu and Hapuna Golf Course on Hawaii Island, through to 30 Sep. The promotion is applicable to registered hotel guests who are confirmed on rack rates, packages and promotional rates. Parents must purchase one round of golf at full price to qualify. Some blackout dates and restrictions apply, and rates are based on availability. See princeresortshawaii.com

with exotic fruit, sample Hawaiian food and learn about Tiki cocktail culture.

The South Shore tour (every Wed, 1315-1700, USD120) takes in the sights, flavours and history of the region with stops to celebrate street food like tacos and tropical gelato, finishing up at the Kauai Culinary Market.

The Royal Coconut Coast tour is offered monthly on a Thu (USD120) and includes strolling down an old plantation road, learning about taro farming (pictured), sampling street food and tastings at some of the area's best farm-to-table restaurants.

The Farmers Market tour (Wed, 1500-1600, USD30) aims to help guests distinguish between what's grown in Mexico and what's genuinely from Kauai, as well as learning how to select perfect produce and how to cook it.

See tastingkauai.com

# **Slack Key Guitar Fest**

The 33rd Annual Hawaiian Slack Key Guitar Festival is taking place at Waikiki's Queen Kapiolani Park and Bandstand from 1200 on 16 Aug, says sponsor Outrigger Resorts. The celebration will include performances by some of Hawaii's greatest ki hoalu players, as well as Hawaii's next generation of slack key guitarists. See slackkeyfestival.com/

#### **Ala Moana Refresh**

All guest rooms at the Ala Moana Hotel will undergo a soft goods refresh from 15 Aug-mid Dec, including new carpeting, drapery, sofa sleeper/chair and bedspreads, Outrigger has advised. The refurbishment programme will have little or no impact on guests, as the hotel will close three floors at a time with buffer floors above and below.

### **Hawaii Getaway**

GO Holidays has seven-night Waikiki packages ex Auckland flying Air New Zealand priced from \$1549pp s/t, including one extra checked-in bag up to 23kg per person. Clients need to add an additional \$169pp for travel from all other NZ domestic departure points; and can upgrade to the works from \$100pp. The offer is for sales to 15 Jun and travel to 27 Oct-11 Dec or 11 Feb-31 Mar. GO has details.

#### **Earn More With TARP**

The Activities and Attractions Association of Hawaii (A3H) is encouraging Kiwi agents to sign up to its Travel Agent Referral Program (TARP) and start earning up to 15% commission on activities in the islands.

Agents who register for TARP, and sign up for free monthly webinars, will earn commission of up to 15%, says A3H. For an overview of TARP CLICK HERE or see hawaiitarp.com

#### **HA May Traffic Up**

Hawaiian Airlines carried 4.1% more passengers in May than the same time last year, with demand up 5.3% and capacity increasing 3.3%. Load factors rose 1.4 points to 80.5%. Year-to-date, passenger numbers are up 4.5%, demand is up 4.5% and capacity up 4.4%, with load factors steady at 79.1%.



## **Historic Rail And Outlet Shopping Tour**

Island Railway Tours has launched a new Historic Train Ride and Waikele Shopping tour, which combines a ride on Oahu's only active historic railroad as well as shopping at the Waikele Premium Outlets.

During the 90-min train ride, passengers hear the story of how sugar cane trains were used on the sugar plantations, and see historic Fort Barrette and the 'ghost town' of Gilbert. The train travels through Kalaeloa, Kapolei and Ko Olina, and includes ocean views of the west shore where whales and dolphins can be spotted.

The tour is USD90 for adults, USD80 for children (two-12) and operates every Mon, Wed and Fri. Guests are picked up in Waikiki at 0830 and given a Kona Coffee and Malasada treat at the station before the 1100 train ride. Shopping is from 1300-1500, and guests are dropped back at Waikiki at 1700. There's also a train-only option priced at USD45 for adults, USD40 for kids. See islandrailwaytours.com



