

What To Do On The Island Of Hawaii



Pic: Lava Ocean Tours

Passengers on Lava Ocean Tour's sunrise departure got to witness history in the marking on 'today's' tour off Hawaii Island.

While it's been making headlines for its erupting volcano there is more to Hawaii's big island, from astronomy to botanical gardens and four open National Parks.

The island offers five National Parks, and while the most popular (Hawaii Volcanoes National Park) remains closed for obvious reasons, Teresa Cosgrove from the Big Island Visitors Bureau says the four open parks are committed to going into the culture and history of Hawaii.

Pu'uhonua o National Historical Park, Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park, Pu'ukohala Heiau National Historical Park and the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail all offer options for visitors.

"If clients go to Hawaii, please encourage them to get an annual pass," adds Cosgrove. The pass costs USD30 and also allows clients access to Maui's Haleakala and Pu'uhonua o Honaunua National Historical Park for a year.

Cosgrove also highlights stargazing as a must-do for clients, who can either visit Hilo's Imiloa Astronomy Centre Hawaii, or go use telescopes found along the islands beaches.

Meanwhile green thumbs are recommended to explore some of the island's many gardens in Hilo, in-

cluding Nani Mau Gardens, Hawaiian tropical Botanical Gardens and Akatsuka Orchid, where Cosgrove says clients can plant their own orchid. Other highlights of the island that Cosgrove recommends includes snorkelling with manta rays at night, the Flumin Kohala kayak tour and ATV and horseback riding at either Kahua Ranch or Waipi'o Valley.

... Lava Boat Tours

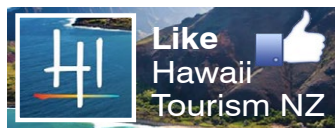
That said given all the current volcanic activity—urge Hawaii Island-bound clients (in good health) to include a Lava Boat Tour. The high speed ocean tours need to be pre-booked well in advance, and there's no guarantee just what clients will see (as mother nature, or Pele, determines where and when the lava is flowing) or the ocean conditions. Clients also must not have recent injuries or back problems due to the high speed nature of the trip.

But the chance to watch the molten lava spitting and cracking as it flows into the water is definitely a highly recommended bucket list experience (as pictured above) and safety precautions are adhered to ensure clients don't get too close to the action. To see some footage from the recent tours

[CLICK HERE](#)

Suite New Offering

Embassy Suites by Hilton-Waikiki Beach Walk is now offering premium suites, with ocean views and enhanced amenities. The suites are located in the resort's prime corner units and feature balconies as well as an assortment of non-alcoholic beverages, snacks and K-cup coffee selections. See embassysuites.waikiki.com



Say 'I Do' In Kauai

Sheraton Kauai Resort has two celebratory packages on offer, featuring four oceanfront ceremony locations for weddings of up to 200 guests. Clients can choose from the Me Ke Aloha package, which starts at USD5250 or the Pili aloha package starting at USD9250. Packages include officiants, music, and professional wedding co-ordination as well as up to 14 customisable options. See Sheraton-kauai.com



Kapalua Bay The Best

Dr. Stephen Leatherman, also known as Dr Beach, has named Kapalua Bay Beach in Maui as the number one beach in America. The coastal science professor at Florida International University says Kapalua is a perfect beach for swimming and snorkelling in the clear, azure waters that are protected by two headlands formed long ago by lava flows into the sea. Other highlights of the beach include its coral, tropical fish and the nearby restaurants. Also making the top 10 list for best beaches in America was the Big Island's Hapuna Beach State Park, in eighth place. See drbeach.org/online/



Earn HA Miles With The Westin Hapuna

The Big Island's Hapuna Beach Resort will debut as The Westin Hapuna Beach Resort, from 25 Jun, following a multi-million dollar renovation that included new guest rooms, new culinary concepts and a new pool experience. To celebrate the re-opening, the resort is offering introductory preferred rates from USD199 for stays 25 Jun-30 Sep, as well as 10,000 Hawaiian Airlines HawaiianMiles for stays over four days. See starwoodhotels.com

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