# New Zealand Arrivals To Hawaii Up 76%

The growth in Kiwis heading to Hawaii has outpaced capacity increases for the first five months of this year, and numbers continue to build as other markets including Australia see a drop in visitors heading to the Aloha State.

"The most promising aspect of the year-to-date May arrivals is that they are up by 76.1% which is outpacing the YTD increase in air seats (45.7%)," says Hawaii Tourism's Darragh Walshe. "This is a good sign



# **Hawaii Upgrades**

Hawaiian governor Neil Abercrombie has released more than USD30.4 million to go towards capital improvement projects including protecting the state's natural resources.

They include acquiring Lipoa Point, a popular coastal spot on Maui for snorkelling and surfing, and improving forest and outdoor recreation facilities at Kahakapao Recreational Area on Maui, Alakai Swamp Trail on Kauai, Kaulana Manu Native Bird and Plant Sanctuary on Hawaii Island, Ka Iwa Ridge Trail on Oahu, and Na Ala Hele trails on Maui.

that there continues to be a strong demand for Hawaii."

In May 4267 Kiwis headed to Hawaii, an increase of 4.3%, while overall for the month visitors from Oceania declined by 6.2% as Aussie arrivals fell 7.8%

Capacity from Oceania fell 7.6% for the month—however seats from Auckland increased by 15.6% on May 2013.

# ... Kaua'i Missing Out

Despite the growth, Kaua'i has seen visitor numbers fall 14%—and it's to the detriment of Kiwi travellers, says Walshe.

"This is a travesty given what a stunningly beautiful island Kaua'i is—and it's recently won some noteworthy accolades. Kiwis are missing out," he says.

Napali Coast was recently named one of the most awe-inspiring places around the world by TripAdvisor.

## **Kilohana Food Tour**

Tasting Kaua'i is now offering a Taste of Kilohana tour at Kilohana Plantation. The tour amid the pineapple fields and lush landscapes includes a three-course locally sourced meal served in the private dining room in the historic Wilcox Mansion. See tastingkauai.com



## **Iconic Waikiki Hotel's Photo Exhibition**

The Royal Hawaiian hotel will host an exhibition of photographs from the 1920s-60s showcasing the 'posh parties' that took place at the resort and on Matson Lines passenger ships at the time. A Royal And Matson Lines Celebration & Feast is open to the public now, and will be on display at the Coronet Lounge until 31 Jul. Entry is free, and more than 30 photographs are on display. See royal-hawaiian.com



# **New History Tour**

Coach tour company Royal Star Hawaii has launched a new five-hour Arizona Memorial and Historical Downtown tour. Clients can take in some of Hawaii's most famous attractions including the USS Arizona memorial, National Memorial Cemetery at the Pacific Punchbowl and a drive through Downtown Honolulu with sites including the Iolani Palace, Hawaii State Capitol and Chinatown. Pick-up is in Waikiki, the tour operates daily from 0645-1145 and costs USD36 for adults and USD25 for children aged three-11. There's also an option to add-on a tour of the USS Battleship Missouri. See royalstarhawaii.com

# **Only In Maui**

The new Willow Stream Spa at the Fairmont Kea Lani says it is the only facility in Hawai'i to offer a WaveMotion table that tilts, rotates and rocks to create a weightless sensation, while therapists use joint-release techniques to stretch muscles more effectively. The new spa opened in Jan following a USD8 milli8on renovation. Details Fairmont.com/kealani

### Ala Moana Fashion

Ala Moana Center will hold a Fall Fashion Event 12-14 Sep, with fashion shows, competitions and an exclusive gift-with-purchase Ala Moana clutch. For more details see alamoanacenter.com

# **Hawaii Airport Upgrades**

More than USD22.6 million has been released for capital improvement projects at seven of Hawaii's airports. They include improving the Wiki Wiki shuttle stations, replacing the overseas terminal roof and sidewalk improvements at Honolulu International Airport.

