

## Pack For Paradise



Marriott has launched a range of shoulder season deals in its Pack For Paradise sale, offering savings at all 12 of its Starwood Preferred Guest resorts on Oahu, Maui, Kauai and Hawaii Island.

Rates start from USD145 at Sheraton Princess Kaiulani in Waikiki and USD169 at Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay, for sales to 31 Oct and travel by 20 Dec.

### ... Pack For Paradise

In addition to the savings, SPG Resorts Hawaii has created a free How to Pack for Paradise downloadable guide for each of the islands. While the obvious articles are swimsuits, sunblock and sunglasses, Marriott International area director of sales, David Richard says each island has its own distinct features and characteristics, so it's helpful to know a bit more on what to bring.

For all islands, keep it light. One or two fancy pieces are ok, but Hawaii is casual. Bring a jacket to Maui, especially if planning a sunrise excursion to the Haleakala National Park.

A portable GPS is a good idea for self-drive around Hawaii Island. Pack hiking boots for activities in Kauai (known for its horse and hiking trails); and in Oahu, pack binoculars for watching surf competitions on the North Shore for the coming winter months.

### HA HNL Fare Sale

HA has short-life one-way Honolulu fares from \$479, inclusive, for sales to 02 Oct. Bookings are in L class and neighbour islands fares are also on sale.



### Grand Tasting Aloha

Chef Mavro restaurant in Hawaii is set back of the bustle from Waikiki, and is ideal for clients looking to celebrate a special occasion or for a fine dining option. The restaurant's Grand Tasting menu is nine courses, with three complimentary courses of amuse bouche, pre dessert and after dinner candies.

For those wanting something more informal, the restaurant also offers a small plates menu for clients who want to share plates or build their own menu. See [chefmavro.com](http://chefmavro.com)



### Hawaii Food On Show

An evening with live music, Hawaiian food and drinks was on the cards for the Hawaii Global Tourism Summit Kiwi group yesterday, to mark the completion of the second day of the conference. Cuisine from some of Hawaii's top restaurants was on offer, such as 12th Ave Grill, Kan Zaman, Huggo's, Black Rock Kitchen and 3660 On the Rise, to name a few.

Pictured at Hawaii Convention Centre's rooftop garden is Hawaii Tourism Oceania's Darragh Walshe and Hawaiian Airlines' Nick Dew.

### Book Hawaii Early

Agents with clients looking to travel to Hawaii next year should be urged to book early to avoid disappointment. Hotel demand is outpacing supply in all of the Hawaiian islands except for Oahu, STR's Duane Vinson has warned, although he says Hawaii, in is 'really, really doing well' compared to other states.

In STR's latest forecasts, it predicts supply for 2017 will be up 2.5%; demand will be up 3.7%; occupancy up 1.2%; and that average daily rates increase 5.6%.

For 2018, the forecasts have shown more of a softening, with both supply and demand expected to be up just some 0.2%, while occupancy is set to flatten at 0%, and both ADR and revpar is expected to drop to 4.5%.

### Agents Key For Hawaii

Roy Morgan research shows the majority (65%) of Kiwi/Aussie travellers use an agent to booking a Hawaiian holiday, says Hawaii Tourism's Darragh Walshe. Other booking choices include through an airline (42%), direct (32%) and with an OTA (21.6%).



### New Maui Heli & Horseback Ranch Experience

Piiholo Ranch has launched its new helicopter and horseback package for the ultimate Maui experience. The tour starts with a limo service that will pick up your client from their hotel and take them to Kahului Heliport where they will then fly over Maui for 30 minutes, then landing at Baldwin family cabins for pastries and coffee before a two hour horseback ride through the 800 acre ranch. Piiholo Ranch recommends ending your tour with lunch at Makawao or Mama's Fish House. Tour starts at USD3335 for two, see [piiholo.com/maui\\_helicopter\\_horseback](http://piiholo.com/maui_helicopter_horseback)

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