

Islands A Drawcard For School Groups

Hawaii Tourism has noted a spike in demand from Kiwi school groups planning educational trips to the island group—and reminds agents that it can help with resources and planning.

The islands' geography, particularly Hawaii Island, offers a unique opportunity for young New Zealanders to learn, says Hawaii Tourism New Zealand manager Darragh Walshe. "Hawaii Island has 10 of the world's 14 climate zones, making it ideal for students," he says. "From the produce and agricultural side we've had Kiwi school groups from a rural community heading up—and again the real draw card is again related to the different landscapes and eco systems and there's opportunities for stu-



dents to investigate everything from botany to astrology. Earth, sky and sea sciences are particularly strong in Hawaii."

Walshe says he is getting positive feedback from learning institutions in Hawaii about the increase from New Zealand, particularly high school students.

"We can help agents connect with the right people and help them match experiences which suit their subjects," says Walshe. For more details, see hawaii.educationdirectory.com or gohawaii.com/nz

Turtle Bay Prem Rooms

Turtle Bay Resort has released new deals, with its premier rooms now from USD329 for sales to 15 Jul and travel to 01 Sep. The offer is valid for stays two nights or more. For more, [CLICK HERE](#)

Prince's Free Nights

Prince Resorts Hawaii has new deals at some of its hotels. Clients who stay at Hawaii Prince Hotel Waikiki or Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel will get their fourth night free, plus a daily breakfast buffet for two; while those who stay at Mauna Kea Beach Hotel will get their fifth night free as well as daily breakfast. Select travel dates apply. Wholesalers have details.

Women's Open For Oahu

Hawaii will hold its 'most significant tennis tournament' in decades in Nov, when 32 top-ranked players will head to Oahu for the Hawaii Open, a Women's Tennis Association tournament. The tournament will take place 20-27 Nov at the Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park, and will be a 'great opportunity for residents and visitors to see up-close top-flight players from around the world in competition', says the Hawaii Tourism Association. It will also generate 'incredible global exposure' for Hawaii.

Paddleboard Champs

The Molokai 2 Oahu Paddleboard World Championships, a 32 mile race crossing the Ka'iwi Channel, also known as the Moloka'i Channel, is to be held 31 Jul for the 20th year. Men and women from more than 20 countries will compete in the race, which typically takes top athletes less than five hours. It starts at Kaluakoi Beach on the north shore of Moloka'i and finishes at Maunalua Bay on the south shore of O'ahu. See molokai2oahu.com



Kids Arvo Tea Party

The Moana Surfrider, A Westin Resort & Spa has introduced a new Keiki (children's) Afternoon Tea Party. Each party, for a minimum of five people, will feature the likes of grilled sandwiches, focaccia pepperoni toast, desserts, fruits, juice and soda, as well as décor including balloons, teddy bears in large tea cups and candy jars. It will be available every day at noon, except on holidays and special events and is priced at USD40pp, with kids able to take home a teddy bear and sweet treats.



Surf Film Festival

The Honolulu Museum is this year hosting the ninth annual Honolulu Surf Film Festival, which will spotlight through film a range of top surf athletes, past and present 02-31 Jul. Film highlights include *View From a Blue Moon*, which follows pro surfer John Florence and his friends as they travel the globe to their favourite surf spots; *Headache*, which follows a German crew as they explore the icy northern hemisphere of Europe; as well as *Beauty & Chaos*, where Irish surfer Conor Maguire travels through India and Indonesia, documenting the places and faces he meets along the way, to name a few. Regular screenings are from USD10, or free for kids 17 and under, while the opening-night reception is USD25. See honoluluuseum.org for more.



Ritz Carlton Residences Waikiki Opening Deals

The Ritz Carlton Residences Waikiki Beach is opening soon and has released a launch offer of a USD100 at BLT Market and third night free for clients staying in one of the property's studio accommodations. Plus clients who book a one-, two- or three bedroom residence will get the third night free plus a USD 200 dining credit at BLT Market. The offer is for sales to 15 Jul and travel 16 Jul-22 Dec. Conditions apply, for details see ritzcarlton.com/en/hotels/hawaii/waikiki

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* Book Z class. Sales till 24 Jun only. See GDS for details.

