

Stretching The Aloha Budget

Kiwi demand for Hawaii shows no sign of abating, despite the weaker NZD-USD exchange rate, with anecdotal feedback from wholesalers suggesting the majority of New Zealanders are still staying in four-star (or higher accommodation) and staying as long—but some have noted they're not pre-booking as many excursions. For Hawaii-bound clients looking to stretch their holiday budget a little further we've compiled a list of Oahu money-saving tips.

... Dining

Eating out on Oahu is very affordable, but for those looking for cheap and cheerful eats, urge them to try one of the many 'hole in the wall' restaurants offering delicious, but cheap, local fare. Most hotel concierges can point guests in the right direction. In addition, many bars and restaurants offer happy hours, for value-for-money cocktails; or look for value add offers in the free tourist publications. The ABC stores are laden with well-priced ready to go meals and supplies for those looking to self-cater, and the Food Pantry supermarket in Waikiki is ideal for those looking to do a full shop.

For something somewhere in between Hawaiian Airlines' Russell Williss 'highly recommends' Tucker and Bevy. With two outlets in Waikiki, he says they have the best breakfast toasties and fresh juices

in Waikiki, plus there's a host of gluten free options. It's located on the second floor, Hee Hing Plaza 449 Kapahula Ave, open 0700-1400 daily. The company's picnic food kiosk is also becoming increasingly popular, and ideal for those heading to the beach, park or looking for something to take back to their hotel room. Located across from the Waikiki Zoo and open 0600-1930 it serves sandwiches, salads, juices and smoothies.

... Shopping

Despite the weaker exchange rate, shopping in Hawaii is generally still considerably cheaper than in New Zealand. Clients can get a discount card at Macy's on application (or agents can pre-print them a voucher), and many chain stores (like Sephora) offer loyalty bonuses. In addition real bargain hunters can plough through the racks at Ross Dress For Less, to pick up anything from shoes to ball gowns and tennis racquets and everything in between. There's stores located around Oahu including on Seaside Ave in Waikiki and behind the Ala Moana Shopping Center (close to Walmart). The Waikiki Outlet mall is a bit of a hike from Waikiki, but worth the ride for those looking to purchase designer goods at a fraction of the retail price. There are numerous companies offering a shuttle service from Waikiki to the outlets.



... Transport

Hawaii's The Bus service is an ideal, and cheap, way for clients to get around—as long as they're not in a hurry. In touristy areas, like Waikiki and surrounds, the buses are geared towards tourists, and the

drivers are generally very patient across the network. The Bus operates right around the island, so for about USD2 clients can travel all the way to the North Shore for a single fare, again for those with time on their hands. Tourist Trolleys operate in the resort areas for a nominal fee, and are also a great way to get around.

... Great Outdoors

Exploring Oahu's beaches, parks and landmarks are a must-see in Hawaii, and they're also free (or almost free). There's a vast network of hiking trails around Oahu, as well as the many beaches and parks. A hike up Diamond Head costs a few dollars and the views are priceless; Ala Moana Park offers a less crowded beach experience for those in the Waikiki area looking for more space. And of course there's the legendary surf breaks that make up the North Shore's so-called seven miracle. For more tips on what to see and do see gohawaii.co.nz

Waikiki Reminder

GO Holidays reminds agents that sales for its Hang Loose Hawaii packages, flying Hawaiian Airlines, end Mon (28 Sep). Four-night Waikiki packages are from \$1899pp staying at the four-star, beachfront Outrigger Reef share twin ex Auckland, for travel on select dates 29 Oct-10 Dec and 10 Jan-26 Jun. Packages ex WLG or CHC, add an extra \$179pp. GO has details.



Salty Hoola Spa

Honua Kai Resort's Hoola Spa offers clients a 'one of a kind Maui experience' says the property. The spa's Himalayan Salt Room therapy generates therapeutic, bacteria-free air, releasing negative ions vitally important for a healthy body and mind. The soothing, color-changing room is said to help heal respiratory and skin conditions and promotes detoxification. See hoolaspamaui.com



Biking On Oahu With Turtle Bay Resort

Turtle Bay Resort is offering guided bike tours of Oahu Island's jungle. The Hawaiian Island resort has launched the biking activity for guests to enjoy recreation alongside interesting facts about local geography and history. See turtlebayresort.com

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From **\$1335***pp

* Sales to 28 September. For full details see your GDS.



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