

Dine Like Obama At Piggy Smalls

For clients looking to follow in the dining footsteps of former US President Barak Obama—direct them the Piggy Smalls.

Just days after Obama was living it up in New Zealand—he headed home via Hawaii, and called into Piggy Smalls restaurant in Honolulu’s Ward Village. According to reports, Obama is said to have sampled the Laoitian fried chicken wings (pictured right), ahi tatake and the lilikoi (passion-fruit) semifreddo.

Hawaiian Airlines’ New Zealand manager Rusty Williss also recommends the restaurant’s roast porchetta okonomiyaki with a side of smoked brisket.

Piggy Smalls is the sister restaurant to the legendary The Pig & The Lady,



located in Honolulu’s China Town. For more see thepigandthelady.com/ward-village/

Mind Body Wellness

Travellers are seeking more active lifestyles, and SPG Resort’s is catering for this need with a number of experiences at its Hawaii locations. At the Westin Ka’anapali visitors can take part in Kiakahi Polynesian Fitness and Functional Movement classes, while those who want something more calming can take part in Full Moon Yoga classes at The Westin Maui.

Those looking for mind-based wellness are recommended the Ho’ala – A Hawaiian ceremony of Renewal of Mind, Body & Spirit at the Moana Surfrider or the Hiuwai Ceremony at The Royal Hawaiian.

Hike Hawaii

Whether its waterfalls, rainforests of ocean views clients are looking for, Hawaii has hikes to suit all. Go Hawaii’s top recommendations include Waahila Ridge in Oahu which features numerous native plants, Ala Kahakai Trail on Hawaii Islands explores features ancient fisherman’s trails, Piilani trail on Maui which offers views over Slopes of Haleakala and Hana coastline and the five-hour long rugged Pihea Trail in Kauai which ventures through the rainforest.

MICE Opportunity

While Hawaii saw overall growth from the Kiwis, the Hawaii Tourism Authority says there’s room to grow its MICE (Meeting, Incentive, Conference, Events) business.

MICE visitor numbers from New Zealand were down 20.5% and groups down 17.2% in 2017. HTA’s Darragh Walshe says that while the figures don’t look great, ‘they are an opportunity for us’, particularly with the increased air capacity and options coming on line this year.

Hawaiian Airlines says it is looking forward to a year of growth within the MICE space. “It’s more affordable than what people realise and more diverse because of its beyond options, including but not limited to Oahu,” says HA.

The islands with more than one airport, HA says, can also cater well for those larger groups. “Hawaiian Island is big enough, diverse enough and has enough flights to make it a viable option for larger groups.”



Maui’s Got Depth

Maui is seen as the destination for the solo traveller, and the adventurer with its beaches, zip lines and hikes.

However, what makes the island special to Randy Parker, director of sales for Maui Visitors and Convention Bureau is not only its offerings, but the fact it’s always changing.

“One thing about Maui is that it’s really unique. . . it has a depth of culture and depth of spirit,” says Parker. “Maui is kind of unusual, you always want to know what’s new in Maui, what’s new is that we’re always reinventing ourselves.”

For those visiting Maui, Parker has one absolute must-do, see the sunrise from 10,000ft in the air at the summit of Haleakala. “There is absolutely no way you can have a bad day after that, it’s like your senses are jammed on steroids.”

Surf Lesson Deal



Clients staying at the Surfjack Hotel & Swim Club can take advantage of exclusive rates on surf lessons from Clips Hawaii on 29 Mar. The lessons, priced at USD95, are located outside of Waikiki and are limited to four guests, with transfers from the hotel included. See clipshawaii.com



Kau Coffee Festival

Hawaii Island’s Pahala community will stage the Kau Coffee Festival 21 Apr-06 May, advises Hawaii Tourism. Highlights of the event include a Miss Kau Coffee Pageant, a Kau Coffee Recipe Contest, a Kau Coffee and Cattle Day, Hoolaulea at the Pahala Community Centre and more. See kaucoffestival.com



Spa’s Ancient Energy

The Moana Surfrider A Westin Resort & Spa’s Moana Lani Spa is now offering a new Stones of ‘Apuakehau treatment, using healing stones from a sacred underground pool. The treatment includes a massage, the healing stones and Hawaiian ‘awa mud. See moanalanspa.com

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