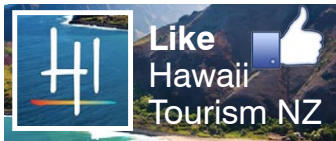


## Mele Kalikimaka: Hawaiian Festivities



There's plenty happening across Hawaii's islands for the Christmas and New Year's Eve period, including luaus, breakfasts, children's activities—and plenty of appearances by Santa, who often arrives by outrigger canoe.

For clients keen to meet up with Santa on Oahu, he'll be hosting breakfast



### New Hawaii Boss

The Hawaii Tourism Authority has appointed Ronald Williams as interim president and CEO following the departure of Mike McCartney. Williams has been on the HTA board of directors since 2009, including as chair from 2010-2014. He will serve as president while the HTA searches for a permanent replacement.

### Christmas First Fri

Wailuku on Maui will stage a Christmas-themed First Fri event on 05 Dec (1800-2100). The town's monthly street party will feature live music, artisans, crafters, and food vendors. As happens each 'first Fri' local restaurants offer specials from Gianottos Pizza, Main Street Bistro, Saeng Thai, Maui Bake Shop, King's BBQ, and Uptown Chevron. For details, see facebook.com/wailukufirstfriday

at Hawaii Prince Hotel 21 Dec and Outrigger Reef Waikiki on 16-17 Dec; and child-friendly afternoon tea at the Kahala 14 and 20 Dec. The public is invited to the beach at Outrigger Waikiki on the Beach on 13 Dec to see Santa arrive by canoe; and he'll be popping up at Turtle Bay each day 22-25 Dec for various events. Aulani will also be hosting daily Christmas activities all throughout Dec.

New Year's Eve events include Bubbles by the Sea at The Kahala; while The Modern is hosting an upscale Vegas experience.

Hawaii Island celebrations include Keiki Kalikimaka at Emma's Square on 06 Dec; Kalikimaka Boat Parade on 13 Dec at Kona; free Kalikimaka Concert at Kookia Kailua on 14 Dec; and holiday luaus at King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel on 24/25/31 Dec. There's New Year's Eve parties on at Mauna Kea Beach Hotel; Hilton Waikoloa Village; and Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keahou Bay.

On Maui, Santa arrives via canoe at both Grand Wailea and Polo Beach, Fairmont Kea Lani on 24 Dec; he's at breakfast at Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa on the same day; and there's a Christmas Eve luau at Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa that night.

There's also New Year's Eve parties at Luana Lounge Fairmont Kea Lani, Grand Wailea, and Kaanapali Beach Hotel. Hotels have details or contact Hawaii Tourism.

### Black Friday Shopping

This Fri is Black Friday, the biggest shopping day in the US, and the Ala Moana Center will officially open at midnight for what it's calling 'ThanksGetting Day'. There will be plenty of sales and promotions throughout the center, as well as complimentary valet parking at three locations. Check out the details at [alamoanacenter.com/events/thanksgetting-day](http://alamoanacenter.com/events/thanksgetting-day)

### Halekulani Holidays

Halekulani is celebrating the holiday season with events, entertainment and deals. On 24 and 25 Dec, the hotel will offer special Christmas lunch and dinner options, priced from USD49pp for three courses and USD89pp for four courses, and there's special entertainment and dining options on New Year's Eve as well. SpaHalekulani is offering two exclusive holiday treatments—a Kashmir Facial (USD185) incorporating essential oils with scents of cinnamon and nutmeg; and the Spice Detox (USD225). See [halekulani.com](http://halekulani.com)



### Aloha Thanksgiving

Hawaiian Airlines' New Zealand sales manager Russell Willis is celebrating Thanksgiving Hawaiian-style on Kauai today, including with a feast of traditional US holiday treats. Captain Aloha also took a cruise off the Napali Coast, where they spotted the first humpback whales of the season.



### Major Flower Show For Honolulu

The Garden Club of Honolulu's major flower and horticulture show, which takes place once every three years, returns to the Honolulu Museum of Art next 08-10 May. The show will be inspired by the Doris Duke's Shangri La: Architecture, Landscape and Islamic Art exhibition running at the museum at the same time. It will feature floral design, horticulture, photography, botanical jewellery and needlework, a model of an ahupua`a (Hawaiian self-sustaining land use system) and specially-designed Persian garden. Entry is covered in general museum admission (USD10 for adults, USD5 for children). See [gchonolulu.org](http://gchonolulu.org)

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