# Aloha Friday

# TRAVEL TODAY

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# Auberge Welcomes Mauna Lani



Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows, on Hawaii Island is closing in Oct for an extensive redesign and revitalisation as the resort joins the Auberge Resorts Collection.

The USD100 million renovations are slated for completion in 2019, with the Hawaii Island resort to then be 'reborn' as Mauna Lani, Auberge Resorts Collection.

The renovation will see the total number of hotel rooms reduced, and more ocean front and ocean view



### **Trendy Beaches**

Pinterest has revealed its most popular US beach destinations to *USA Today*, with Hawaii featuring a number of times on the list.

Sunset Beach on Oahu came in second place, with Papakolea Beach on the Big Island seventh, Secret Beach in Kauai 14th, Hanauma Bay in Honolulu 16th and Ka'anapali Beach in Maui in 18th place. The top five overall were Nokomis Beach Florida, Sunset Beach, Kiawah Island in South Carolina, Driftwood Beach in Georgia and Orange Beach, Alabama.

suites added, while the luxurious Mauna Lani Bungalows, which feature private pools and butlers, will be enhanced.

The Bay Terrace Restaurant will be re-imagined as a new three-meal restaurant, and new adult and family pools, including an infinity edge adult pool and lounge will be built.

The property will also feature a fitness facility and a signature Auberge Spa that features traditional Hawaiian healing.

#### ... Cultural Focus

The resort itself features sacred royal fishing ponds, natural lava plains, tropical gardens and white sand beaches, with Dan Friedkin, owner and chairman, Auberge Resorts Collection saying among the many distinctive qualities of Mauna Lani are its exceptionally beautiful natural setting and iconic place in the history of Hawaii.

"We are excited to elevate the great heritage of Mauna Lani with the Auberge sense of intimacy, world-class service, local adventures and a fresh contemporary aesthetic that will allow guests to experience the best that Hawaii has to offer."

Mauna Lani will close in Oct 2018, re-opening late 2019. See maunalani. aubergeresorts.com

### **New Exhibition**

Bishop Museum has a new *Unreal: Hawaii in Popular Imagination* exhibition on display 14 Jul-27 Jan. The exhibition offers clients the chance to see the depth of Hawaii-themed commercial art throughout time, and encourages analytical discussions as to how unreal impressions of Hawaii have fed Western imagination since the 1880s. Admission to the exhibition is priced from USD24.95 for adults and USD16.95 for youth/children. See bishopmuseum.org

# **Spirit Of Aloha**



Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort has welcomed new catamaran Spirit of Aloha, replacing Port Waikiki Cruises older cataraman. At nearly 20m, Spirit of Aloha will be the largest catamaran on the island, catering for up to 80 passengers. The catamaran will be operated by Port Waikiki Cruises at Port Hilton, offering sailing excursions with snorkelling adventures, Fri night fireworks dinner cruises, and private cruises. See hhytoursandactivities.com

#### **Dec Memorial Parade**

Hawaii honours and respects Pearl Harbor survivors, veterans, and the military every 07 Dec with the Pearl Harbor Memorial Parade. The parade journeys down Kalakaua Ave featuring a decorated F-104 Starfighter, bands and floats. The parade starts at 1900 at Fort DeRussy in Waikiki, eventually ending at Kapiolani Park.



## **Japanese Pub Food**

Waikiki's newest Izakaya, or Japanese pub, ZIGU has opened offering a Hawaii farm-to-table menu as well as sake and local craft beers. Menu highlights include Waimana egg and potato salad, fried Aloha tofu okara and Ewa sweet corn balls, kale udon with basil pesto and local pork belly with laulau, macadamia nut mocha and warabu fern. ZIGU is open Mon-Sat 1600-0100.

#### **Menu Refresh**

Chef Dayne Tanabe has updated the menu at the Hilton Waikoloa Village's Kamuela Provision Company. New dishes include roasted pineapple chipotle, BBQ glazed beef short ribs and deconstructed mahi lau lau with Molokai sweet potato gnocchi.



#### **Ala Moana Deals**

Shoppers can enjoy five days of exclusive savings at the Ala Moana Center 30 Jun-04 Jul as part of its Fourth of Jul celebrations, which will also see live entertainment at the center's main stages. The annual Fourth of July celebration will finish with Hawai'i's largest fireworks show at Ala Moana Beach Park.



