



**Big Island Visitors Bureau Media Contact:**

Jessica Ferracane, Irondog Communications, (808) 895-5740, [jessica@irondogpr.com](mailto:jessica@irondogpr.com)

## **OCTOBER'S SIZZLIN' NEWS FROM HAWAII'S BIG ISLAND**

*Come to the Big Island and Explore Hawaii's Island of Adventure*

**Hawaii's Big Island (Oct. 6, 2010)** – Winter may be on its way to your neck of the woods, but it feels like summer year-round on Hawaii's Big Island! A new direct flight from Portland, and the resumption of seasonal direct lift from Vancouver to Kona, team up to bring the Big Island's newest adventures and great lodging deals that much closer.

### **ADVENTURES, ACTIVITIES & EVENTS**

**Uplifting News from Oregon!** Starting Nov. 12, **Alaska Airlines** will begin **direct non-stop flights** between **Portland** and **Kona International Airport!** These seasonal flights run four days a week, from Nov. 12 through Apr. 9 on a Boeing 737. Learn more at [Portland to Kona](http://PortlandtoKona.com) and book your flights [www.alaskaair.com](http://www.alaskaair.com).

**Oh, Canada!** Just as temperatures drop, **two seasonal direct flights from Vancouver to Kona** ramp up. **WestJet** resumes its seasonal twice-weekly (Thursday/Sunday) flights on Dec. 2, through Apr. 28. **Air Canada's** direct nonstop service every Saturday to Kona International Airport starts Dec. 11 through Apr. 30.

**Big Island Discovery Tours** announces its **new guided Waimea Historical Tour**. Learn about the **U.S. Marine Corps** divisions that trained here for Iwo Jima, then dive into **Parker Ranch** history and the life of the *paniolo* (cowboy). Then it's off to **Anna Ranch** for a historical tour and lunch. To top it off, witness the legacy of **King Kamehameha the Great** at his temple, **Pu'ukohola Heiau** – the largest in Hawaii. Visit [www.exploretheranch.com](http://www.exploretheranch.com), or call (808) 882-7954 and go back in Hawaiian time. Resort pickup available, price \$58/person.

**Fly & Barbecue/Swim Adventure with Paradise Helicopters.** A perfect day in Hawaii is filled with adventure, remote locations, local food and drink as well as expert local knowledge. Enjoy an awe-inspiring helicopter tour, a relaxing swim in a private, natural waterfall pool and a gourmet Hawaiian

barbecue with the Big Island's most beautiful scenery as the backdrop. **Paradise Helicopters** and **KapohoKine Adventures** team up once again to make this Big Island dream day a reality. Contact Paradise Helicopters at (808) 969-7392, [www.paradisecopters.com](http://www.paradisecopters.com).

**Big Island Eco Adventures Zipline Canopy Tour** has a new **"Stay & Play with BIEA"** deal, starting at \$159 per person. Other package deals include savings of 20 percent or more, and all zipliners receive 10 percent off at Luke's Place Restaurant in North Kohala with a valid zipline receipt. Visit [www.bigislandecoadventures.com](http://www.bigislandecoadventures.com) or call (808) 889-5111 for information.

**Ocean Sports' new Moku Nui Cocktail Sail** sets sail every Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday from 'Anaeho'omalua Bay on the sleek catamaran, *Seasmoke*. Guests enjoy *pupu* and an all-inclusive bar from 4:30 p.m. to sunset, on the open ocean. \$89/adults; children half off, under five are free. For an extra \$25, the captain will renew your vows at sunset, with flower lei, champagne and a personal vow renewal certificate. Call (886) 6666 ext. 103 or visit at [www.hawaii oceansports.com](http://www.hawaii oceansports.com).

**Blue Hawaiian Helicopters** has introduced the world's most advanced touring helicopter, the **EC130 "Eco-Star,"** to its base in Hilo. Previously, Blue's 14 state-of-the-art Eco-Stars – the largest fleet in the state – have been serving Waikoloa, and neighbor islands. Now guests can also choose the Eco-Star on the award-winning **"Circle of Fire plus Waterfalls"** tour out of Hilo. The spacious, luxurious Eco-Star is renowned for flying 50 percent more quietly. Go to [www.bluehawaiian.com](http://www.bluehawaiian.com), or call (800) 786-2583.

**NEW! Pa'ani Ranch "First Saturday Lil' Wrangler Roundups."** On the first Saturday of each month, Pa'ani Ranch in Mountain View offers a petting zoo, pony rides, wagon ride, barrel train ride and catch and release pond fishing for *keiki*, from 9 a.m. to noon. Price \$36 per child; parents free. Call for information: (808) 968-7529 and visit [www.paaniranch.com](http://www.paaniranch.com).

Visions of sugarplums will dance in your head Sat., Dec. 4 at **Christmas at Kona Village, Dining with the Chefs.** Over 20 top Hawaii chefs prepare tantalizing cuisine 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., accompanied by handcrafted ales, wines and 100 percent Kona coffee. Enjoy island music under the stars, and a live auction to benefit local culinary scholarships. Lodging packages start at \$235/night for single/double occupancy including Sunday brunch. Call (800) 367-5290 for details. Purchase tickets for \$75 starting Oct. 15, (808) 329-2522.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

**Book An Exclusive Buy-Out!** Travelers planning intimate gatherings and events with their family members or friends can now experience contemporary accommodations in **17 beachfront cabana guestrooms and three cabana suites combined at the oceanfront Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort & Spa.** Starting at \$9,221 plus tax, per night, guests will indulge in oversized accommodations tucked footsteps away from the resort and an evening reception. Valid through Dec. 23, 2011. Based on availability, restrictions may apply. To book, call the resort at (808) 886-6789. [www.waikoloamarriott.com](http://www.waikoloamarriott.com).

Light up your holidays at **Royal Kona Resort** with special offers extended through the holiday season. The **Volcano Value Standard View** is just \$119 per night from Dec. 22 through Jan. 2, 2011. The **Special Ocean View Room with Economy Dollar Rent-A-Car package** is just \$134 per night valid Dec. 22 to Jan. 15, 2011. Rates are based on double occupancy and don't include tax. Subject to availability, some restrictions may apply. Call (800) 22-ALOHA (222-5642) or visit [www.RoyalKona.com](http://www.RoyalKona.com).

The renovation of the casually elegant **Mauna Lani Point** pool pavilion & entertainment center is complete. Savvy travelers know that exclusive access to this pool & open plan pavilion are among the many amenities for guests of these **luxurious oceanfront villas**. New Solaire gas barbecues, designer appliances and countertops, stone flooring, upscale lounge furnishings under a cosseted ceiling, adjustable lighting and a communal dining table invite island-style gatherings. Visit [www.maunalanipoint.com](http://www.maunalanipoint.com) or call (866) 966-7169 for reservations and information.

**Free Nights!** Book your 2011 vacation early and save at the newly renovated **King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel**. Enjoy new, award-winning rooms, pool, lobby, and restaurant, as well as a new display of 40 signed, limited-edition giclees of original paintings by master artist/historian **Herb Kawainui Kane**, depicting the voyage and history of Hawaii. Book by Dec. 15 for 2011. When you stay four nights, you'll get one free. Stay six nights and get two free! Visit [www.konabeachhotel.com](http://www.konabeachhotel.com) or call (800) 367-2111.

**Book now for free nights at Mauna Kea Resort!** Enjoy discounted room rates plus a free night with your stay at **Mauna Kea Beach Hotel** or **Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel**. From \$299/night at Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel for a Terrace room with the third night free after booking two consecutive nights. And rates start at \$450 per night at Mauna Kea Beach Hotel for a Mountain view room with the fourth night free after three consecutive nights. Valid now through Dec. 22, some restrictions apply. Call (866) PRINCE-6 or visit [www.PrinceResortsHawaii.com](http://www.PrinceResortsHawaii.com).

**Aston Hotels & Resorts** presents guests with its **FREE Aloha Book** containing exclusive discounts and offers worth more than \$2,500 in savings on dining, shopping and activities such as golf deals from **Hapuna Golf Course** where Aston guests receive a \$115 special rate, including greens fees, cart, shoes and rental clubs. The book is also a guide to some of the best culture, history, cuisine and attractions on Hawaii's Big Island. Visit [www.AstonHotels.com](http://www.AstonHotels.com) or call (866) 774-2924.

**Keauhou Beach Resort** offers a package with a **compact Dollar Rent-A-Car**, **free self parking** and a moderate room, starting at \$159 valid through Dec. 21, including **complimentary daily breakfast** buffet (\$15 value/person). After breakfast, families can experience the **new Huaka'i Ali'i tour** – a \$40 value per person – as a complimentary activity with every three-night minimum stay, valid through March 31, 2011. Call (866) 326-6803 or visit [www.keauhoubeachresort.com](http://www.keauhoubeachresort.com).

Nestled on the doorstep of the Pacific Ocean, **Arnott's Lodge & Hiking Adventures** guests stay and experience paradise. Enjoy snorkeling and swimming with turtles just a short walk from the lodge, which offers accommodations to suit everyone. From private deluxe rooms to a tent area, travelers will find something in their price range. Mention What's Sizzlin' and get 15 percent off your stay. Don't delay, call (808) 969-7097 and book your room, [www.arnottslodge.com](http://www.arnottslodge.com).

Special **15 percent off** WinterGreen discount at **charming, secluded Kipuka Cottage**. Nestled in lush native rainforest just minutes from **Hawaii Volcanoes National Park**, architecturally intriguing Kipuka Cottage is offering this special discount from October through February 2011 for stays three nights or more. Visit <http://kipuka-cottage.squarespace.com> and ask for the **"WinterGreen Discount"** when inquiring about available dates.

South Kona's **Dragonfly Ranch Healing Arts Center** hosts a variety of workshops. Ocean lovers can ring in the New Year with "Dolphin Whisperer" Jennifer Hough's "Unlimited Expansion." Foodies will love **Chef Phoenix**, who offers on-site cooking lessons using ingredients from Dragonfly's organic garden. Check out his YouTube video **"Best Pesto EVER"** [Best Pesto Ever](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...). For details, go to [www.dragonflyranch.com](http://www.dragonflyranch.com) or call (808) 328-2159.

**Hawaii Holiday Vacation Rentals is now part of Aloha Coast Realty.** East Hawaii's premier vacation rental company has partnered with East Hawaii's fastest growing real estate company. Oceanfront homes, condos, and tropical getaways for vacation, or property management and real estate sales are available. Contact (808) 965-0400 or visit [www.bigislandvacationrentals.com](http://www.bigislandvacationrentals.com).

## **TASTY TIDBITS**

**Ahhh Sushi!** The AAA Four Diamond **Fairmont Orchid, Hawaii** has introduced a new menu at **Norio's Japanese Restaurant & Sushi Bar**. Chef Darren Ogasawara takes Japanese cuisine to an entirely different level with new menu items such as Hamachi and Avocado Sashimi with a Ponzu Garlic Sauce, Grilled Big Eye Toro with Spicy Sesame Miso, & Pan Seared Abalone on Truffle Mash. Open Thursday-Monday 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Reservations recommended, call (808) 885-2000 or visit [www.fairmont.com/orchid](http://www.fairmont.com/orchid).

**Special note to media:** The Big Island Visitors Bureau (BIVB) recognizes the use of the 'okina ['] or glottal stop, one of the eight consonants of the modern Hawaiian language; and the kahak\_ [ ] or macron (e.g., in place names of Hawaii such as K\_lauea). However, BIVB respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

*For more information on Hawaii's Big Island, please visit <http://gohawaii.com/big-island>*

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