

HAWAII VISITORS & CONVENTION BUREAU

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HAWAII'S WORLD CLASS EVENTS CALENDAR January-June 2023

Please note that events are subject to change without notice. For the most complete and updated Hawai'i calendar, please visit GoHawaii.com/Events.

JANUARY 2023

- ◆ **January 4-8, 2023**
Sentry Tournament of Champions (Maui) — The Sentry Tournament of Champions at the Plantation Course at Kapalua opens the 2023 calendar year and the PGA Tour season on Maui's majestic northwest coast. Wisconsin-based insurance company Sentry recently renewed its title sponsorship of the PGA Tour's only pro-am event featuring champions from its previous season. The Sentry Tournament of Champions annually attracts more than 30 of the world's best golfers. Sentry.com
- ◆ **January 9-15, 2023**
Sony Open in Hawai'i (O'ahu) — The PGA Tour's Sony Open in Hawai'i returns to O'ahu's Wai'alaie Country Club with more than 140 of the world's top golf professionals. The Sony Open is also one of Hawai'i's largest charity golf events, having raised almost \$22 million for more than 350 local nonprofits over the years of its existence. SonyOpenInHawaii.com
- ◆ **January 13, 2023**
New Year's 'Ohana Festival (O'ahu) — The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i's (JCCH) New Year's 'Ohana Festival is the state's largest annual festival celebrating Japanese New Year's traditions. The New Year's 'Ohana Festival is an opportunity for the community to come together and celebrate the Year of the Rabbit and Hawai'i's cultural diversity. JCCH.com
- ◆ **January 13-February 17, 2023**
Annual Juried Exhibition (Maui) — Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center will again host its annual Juried Exhibition, a prestigious competition offering visitors an opportunity to view current work by local artists in all media. A renowned panel of exhibition guest jurors offers new perspectives for each year's unique show. HuiNoeau.com
- ◆ **January 15, 2023**
Maui Oceanfront Marathon (Maui) — The 15th Maui Oceanfront Marathon, held annually during the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend, brings Maui residents and visitors together for a fun-filled day of events, with event proceeds benefiting local school teams, clubs and multiple Maui nonprofit groups. The competition's scenic course takes runners along the oceanside highways of Maui's windswept west side, with views of whales and surfers. The event also offers a half marathon starting in Lāhainā, a 15K starting at Pāpalaua Beach, a 10K starting at Kamehameha Iki Park, and a 5K walk from Lone Palm Point, all finishing at Kamehameha Iki Park. MauiOceanFrontMarathon.com
- ◆ **January 15-21, 2023**

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Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualālai (island of Hawai'i) — Continuing its January tournament journey through the Hawaiian Islands, the PGA Tour heads to the island of Hawai'i's Hualālai Resort Golf Club for the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualālai. The tournament's roster will include PGA champions from the past five years and other tournament winners of the past two years.

HualalaiResort.com

◆ **January 20, 2023**

Polynesian Football Hall of Fame Polynesian Bowl (O'ahu) — The Polynesian Bowl is held annually during the Polynesian Football Hall of Fame's Enshrinement Week, regularly gathering some of the world's top high school football players to celebrate culture and play the game they love.

PolynesianFootballHOF.org

◆ **January 13-14, 2023**

Chinese New Year Celebration (O'ahu) — The Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii will present its annual Chinese New Year Celebration at the Chinatown Cultural Plaza in Downtown Honolulu's Chinatown district. The family-friendly two-day event celebrating the start of the Year of the Rabbit will include food and craft booths, live entertainment, special cultural performances, lion and dragon dances, lion dancing on poles, and more. ChineseChamber.com

◆ **January 22, 2023**

Maui Pops Orchestra 2023 Concerts (Maui) — Founded in 2004, the Maui Pops Orchestra is dedicated to presenting light classical and contemporary pops music for island residents and visitors. The orchestra's family-friendly concert series showcases a broad spectrum of music written by and for Hawai'i-based artists and entertainers. Its 2023 concert series will present vocalists such as Nikki Renée Daniels and Jeff Kready, Swearingen and Kelli, and three-time Grammy-award winner, Kalani Pe'a. MauiPops.org

- ◆ Broadway Pops — January 22
- ◆ Winter Pops — February 26
- ◆ Spring Pops — March 12

◆ **January 29, 2023**

21st Annual Art of Aloha (Maui) — Maui's largest art show celebrates another year of local art at Lahaina Galleries in the Shops at Wailea and welcomes nine artists from around the world. Visitors to this year's exhibition will enjoy art from Alex Bernstein, Leon Bronstein, Guy Buffet, Dario Campanile, Ronaldo Macedo, Robert Lyn Nelson, Andreas Nottebohm, Steve Turnbull and Caroline Zimmermann. LahainaGalleries.com

FEBRUARY 2023

◆ **February 4, 2023**

30th Annual Waimea Cherry Blossom Heritage Festival (island of Hawai'i) — Headquartered from Church Row Park (home of cherry blossom trees that are "pretty in pink") and Parker Ranch Center in upcountry Waimea, this popular event includes cultural demos, food booths, mochi pounding, entertainment, and more! Facebook.com/people/Waimea-Cherry-Blossom-Heritage-Festival

◆ **February 6-March 26, 2023**

E Kanikapila Kākou 2023 (Kaua'i) — The Garden Island Arts Council presents eight weeks of E Kanikapila Kākou on Monday nights. The theme is centered around the story of *mele* (music) and will feature the best of Hawaiian music, artists, composers and storytellers. Guests are invited to learn from *bula* practitioners, who share their heritage, culture and history through *bula* and *mele*. The weekly events will be held at the Kauai Beach Resort. GardenIslandArts.org

◆ **February 18-26, 2023**

Waimea Town Celebration (Kaua'i) — Kaua'i's longest-running festival celebrates its 45th anniversary with nine days of music concerts, cultural exhibits and vibrant cuisine, all culminating in a two-day *ho'olaule'a* (celebration) inviting attendees to engage in the island's rich history. Visitors and residents are invited to experience the popular celebration in historic Waimea town. WaimeaTownCelebration.com

◆ **February 25-26, 2023**

SOKO 8th Annual Artists Studio Tour (island of Hawai'i) — Visit South Kona artists in their studios at more than a dozen locations along the scenic Māmalahoa Highway, from Keauhou throughout South Kona to Hōnaunau. Plan for a full day of learning and talking story with the artists about their inspiration and techniques. SokoArtists.com.

MARCH 2023

◆ **March 5, 2023**

Maui 5K (Maui) — Runners are invited to join the 12th annual Maui 5K, presented by the Maui Ocean Center, which includes opportunities to participate in the event's timed 5K race, untimed 1-mile run/walk for *keiki* (children) and adults, stroller 5K run, 1-mile walk, or even a virtual option. Maui5k.org

◆ **March 10-12, 2023**

Honolulu Festival (O'ahu) — Celebrating its 27th anniversary in 2023, the Honolulu Festival is one of Hawai'i's premier cultural events. The three-day festival shares the rich, vibrant cultures of Hawai'i and its Pacific Rim neighbors with attendees through arts and entertainment, educational programs and activities, craft fairs, and a grand evening parade through Waikīkī. The festival concludes with the colorful and dramatic Nagaoka Fireworks show off Waikīkī's beaches. HonoluluFestival.com

◆ **March 11, 2023**

28th Annual Kona Brewers Festival (island of Hawai'i) — An experience unique to the island of Hawai'i, the festival — produced “in the spirit of working together and respecting place” — draws thousands of people together to enjoy incredible craft beer, island-style cuisine, great music and the company of good friends. KonaBrewersFestival.com

◆ **March 26, 2023**

Prince Kūhiō Day Celebration (Kaua'i) — Hawai'i's annual Prince Kūhiō Day holiday celebrates the life, accomplishments and birthday of Kingdom of Hawai'i Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole and his legacy promoting native Hawaiian culture and practices in the hearts and minds of people around the world. Visitors to this Kaua'i celebration are invited to participate in a day of fun educational and cultural activities created for the whole family to enjoy. PrinceKuhioDayCelebration.com

◆ **March 26, 2023**

Lavaman Waikoloa Triathlon (island of Hawai'i) — The Lavaman Triathlon is an annual extravaganza of sports and fitness comprised of a 10K run, 40K bike ride and 1.5K swim. The event

is open to individuals and relay teams of all ages and abilities, and ends with an awards party and beach barbeque at 'Anaeho'omalū Bay. LavamanTriathlon.com

◆ **March 31-April 2, 2023**

Kawaii Kon (O'ahu) — Kawaii Kon is a three-day convention celebrating Japanese anime (cartoons), manga (comics) and all facets of Japanese culture. Offering a variety of events and activities throughout its weekend schedule, Kawaii Kon is held annually at the Hawai'i Convention Center. KawaiiKon.com

APRIL 2023

◆ **April 7-8, 2023**

31st Annual Celebration of the Arts (Maui) — The Ritz-Carlton Maui, Kapalua's Celebration of the Arts is one of Hawai'i's premier arts and cultural festivals, and a celebration of Hawaiian culture and the spirit of *aloha*. Its upcoming 31st annual edition will welcome more than 60 of the state's top artisans, educators, cultural practitioners, speakers and entertainers. Opening ceremonies include traditional Hawaiian *oli* (chants), with music and *hula* presented throughout the weekend. Hands-on art workshops, cultural demonstrations, local-made films, Hawaiian cultural panels, music and dance welcome visitors and residents giving all who attend opportunities to personally connect with Hawaiian culture. KapaluaCelebrationoftheArts.com

◆ **April 9-15, 2023**

Merrie Monarch Festival (island of Hawai'i) — Celebrating its 60th year in 2023, the world's premier hula festival will again present the Islands' best *hālan hula* (hula schools) honoring Hawai'i monarch King Kalākaua and his contributions to the revitalization of *hula*. Held at Hilo town's Edith Kanaka'ole Stadium, the weeklong celebration is highlighted by the prestigious, three-night Merrie Monarch Hula Competition, which is broadcast live on Hawai'i television and live-streamed globally. MerrieMonarch.com

◆ **April 16, 2023**

The Hapalua (O'ahu) — Hawai'i's largest half marathon, The Hapalua returns for in-person competition in 2023. The 13.1-mile race begins and ends in Waikīkī, with runners enjoying scenic views as they take a loop course through Honolulu and up and around the slopes of Lē'ahi (Diamond Head State Monument) before ending at a Kapi'olani Park finish line. Runners completing The Hapalua receive a medal and shirt. Also at the finish line, participants can relax, recover and celebrate their success with fresh, hot malasadas and cold, refreshing shave ice. TheHapalua.com

◆ **April 23, 2023**

Maui Marathon and Half Marathon (Maui) — The Maui Marathon is Hawai'i's longest consecutively-held running event and oldest marathon west of the Mississippi River. Runners can participate in a full marathon, half marathon, 10K, 5K or a newly added full marathon relay. The full marathon and marathon relay begin in Kahului and end on Maui's west side in Kā'anapali with scenic views greeting runners along much of the course. MauiMarathon.com

◆ **April 28-29, 2023**

10th Annual Big Island Chocolate Festival (island of Hawai'i) — Join in for everything from chocolate cooking demos and a unique tequila and chocolate pairing event to a grand gala. The festival is presented by the Kona Cacao Association, whose mission is promoting Hawai'i Island's cacao industry. All festival events happen at the Waikoloa Beach Marriott Resort and Spa. BigIslandChocolateFestival.com

◆ **April 29, 2023**

Waikiki SPAM JAM® (O'ahu) — The annual Waikiki SPAM JAM® celebrates Hawai'i's love for, of course, SPAM®, with local restaurants offering creative SPAM® dishes alongside special SPAM® merchandise and products from Hawai'i crafters. The event benefits Hawai'i Foodbank, the state's largest nonprofit feeding those in need. SpamJamHawaii.com

MAY 2023

◆ **May 1, 2023**

May Day Lei Contest (Kaua'i) — The Kaua'i Museum presents the 42nd Annual Walter & Irmalee Pomroy May Day Lei Contest at the Royal Sonesta Kauai Resort. The beauty and intricacy of the traditional Native Hawaiian art form are on full display as master *lei* makers share their culture and history through their craft at the annual contest. Visitors can purchase these original *lei* in a Silent Auction! KauaiMuseum.org

◆ **May 1, 2023**

Lei Day Celebration (O'ahu) — As one of Hawai'i's most emblematic symbols of *aloha, lei* — and the crafting of *lei* — have been celebrated in the Hawaiian Islands on Lei Day since 1927. The City and County of Honolulu's official Lei Day event is held at Kapi'olani Park in Waikiki, honoring *lei* and the traditions surrounding it with festivities, including pageants and competitions for *lei* queen and the crafting of colorful, fragrant flower *lei*. HonoluluParks.com

◆ **May 12 – May 21, 2023**

Maui Classical Music Festival (Maui) — The annual Maui Classical Music Festival aims to gather world-renowned musicians for its 41st season to create and showcase a wide-appeal program spanning the Baroque period to 20th-century works. The festival's work is focused on enriching and educating the Maui community by presenting celebrated musicians performing chamber music to build a growing audience of Maui and Hawai'i residents and visitors. MauiClassicalMusicFestival.org

◆ **May 13, 2023**

'Ahahui Kīwila Hawai'i O Mo'ikeha: Ka Moku O Manokalanipō Pā'ani Makahiki and May Day by the Bay (Kaua'i) — This community event at Wai'oli Beach Park in Hanalei features *mele* (music), *hula* (dance), cultural practitioners, Kaua'i-made products, a silent auction and 'ono (delicious) food, all of it celebrated with an aim of perpetuating Hawaiian culture and creating an authentic experience for visitors. Moikeha.org

◆ **May 21, 2023**

Honolulu Triathlon (O'ahu) — The Honolulu Triathlon is an Olympic-distance triathlon beginning and ending at Ala Moana Beach Park. It includes a 1.5K shoreline swim, a 40K bike course along O'ahu's south shore and a 10K double-loop run ending at the park's Magic Island area. HonoluluTriathlon.com

JUNE 2023

◆ **June 3, 2023**

IRONMAN 70.3 Hawai'i Triathlon (island of Hawai'i) — A qualifying event for the October IRONMAN World Championship — also held on the island of Hawai'i — this Olympic-distance race is comprised of a 1.2-mile swim at Hāpuna Beach Park, 56-mile bike ride on lava-surrounded Queen Ka'ahumanu Highway, and a 13.1-mile run through the scenic grounds of Mauna Lani Resort. Ironman.com

June 8-11, 2023

Kapalua Wine and Food Festival (Maui) — One of Hawai'i's longest-running culinary festivals, the Kapalua Wine and Food Festival annually celebrates the delicious pairing of great food and great wine with a four-day culinary extravaganza. The festival's aim is to explore the most exciting trends in the gastronomic world, bringing together world-renowned winemakers, top master sommeliers, celebrated chefs and industry insiders for themed tastings, seminars and evening gala culinary events. [KapaluaWineAndFoodFestival.com](https://www.kapalua.com/wine-and-food-festival)

◆ **June 9-11, 2023**

Hawai'i Kuauili Pacific and Asia Cultural Festival (island of Hawai'i) — This three-day event, celebrating its sixth-annual edition in 2023, spotlights the island of Hawai'i and its significance as a cultural melting pot. Attendees enjoy 'ono (delicious) food, fashion, cultural expressions, a *keiki hula* (children's *hula*) competition and cultural workshops. [HIKuauili.com](https://www.hikuauili.com)

◆ **June 11, 2023**

King Kamehameha Day Celebrations (Statewide) — Celebrated across the state of Hawai'i on June 11, the Kamehameha Day holiday, honors Kamehameha I, the chief who united the Hawaiian Islands under his rule in 1810. Festivities span across Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui, Moloka'i, and the island of Hawai'i from *lei* draping ceremonies, parades, *pā'u* (skirted) riders on horseback representing the Hawaiian royal court to other special gatherings with 'ono (delicious) food and family-friendly activities, residents and visitors alike come together in celebration of the great *ali'i nui* (king). [Hawaii.gov/Kamehameha](https://www.hawaii.gov/kamehameha)

◆ **June 28-July 30, 2023**

Maui Film Festival (Maui) — The Maui film community honors some of cinema's brightest and most unique talents at this annual event. For its 2023 edition, the festival will present a hybrid schedule featuring an in-person Stardust Cinema as well as an array of virtual-cinema feature film premieres created by diverse storytellers from Hawai'i and around the world. [MauiFilmFestival.com](https://www.mauifilmfestival.com)

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Special Note to Media:

Hawai'i Tourism United States (HTUSA), managed by the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB), recognizes the use of the 'okina [ʻ] or glottal stop, one of the eight consonants of the (modern) Hawaiian language; and the *kahakō* [ā] or macron (e.g., in place names of Hawai'i, such as Lāna'i). However, HTUSA respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

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