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CONTENTS

- 4 Staff and Contributors
- 5 From The Publisher
- 6 Welcome From Our Elected Representatives
- 14 Welcome to Hawai'i
- 16 Basics of Hawai'i
- 18 Calendar of Events
- 22 Island Royalty
- 26 The Aikane
- 28 Two Hearts One Love
- 36 Fashion For That Special Occasion
- 38 12 Month Plan
- 42 Must See on Each Island
- 48 Art of Hula
- 52 Hawaiian Cuisine Recipes
- 56 Business Directory:
 - KAUAI
 - OAH'U
 - MOLOKA'I
 - LANA'I
 - MAUI
 - HAWAII ISLAND



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FROM THE PUBLISHER

ALOHA! It is with great pihoihoi and ha'aheo (excitement and pride) that I welcome you to the 2015 *Hawai'i Pride Guide Edition*. The Pride Guide[®] family started nine years ago with its first publication in Arizona. The Pride Guides[®] are the only guides of this type in the country. The Pride Guide[®] concept has been so welcomed that I am especially proud to provide this total LGBT resource... the most comprehensive travel, relocation and wedding guide to the Aloha State, also known as the Rainbow and Pineapple State.

We are very proud to be the first LGBT publication to promote Hawai'i as a travel & wedding destination on the mainland and endorsed by Hawai'i Governor David Ige. As of December 2nd, 2013 marriages became legal for Gay & Lesbian couples which is estimated to bring in over 217 million dollars in to the state's economy in the coming years.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender visitors will find a safe and welcoming environment. While experiencing a warm sunny climate year-round, you will enjoy world-class cultural attractions and festivals, recreational adventure, breathtaking scenery, incredible dining and unique shopping opportunities. This guide will help plan your vacation, honeymoon or wedding.

We are a publication that values being part of the community and are proud to show off Hawai'i and its LGBT community as never before. Just as important, we are an asset to local businesses and municipalities as they attract LGBT visitors and new residents to this beautiful area of our country.

Many thanks to you all!

Mahalo nui ia 'oukou!

Michael McFall, Publisher

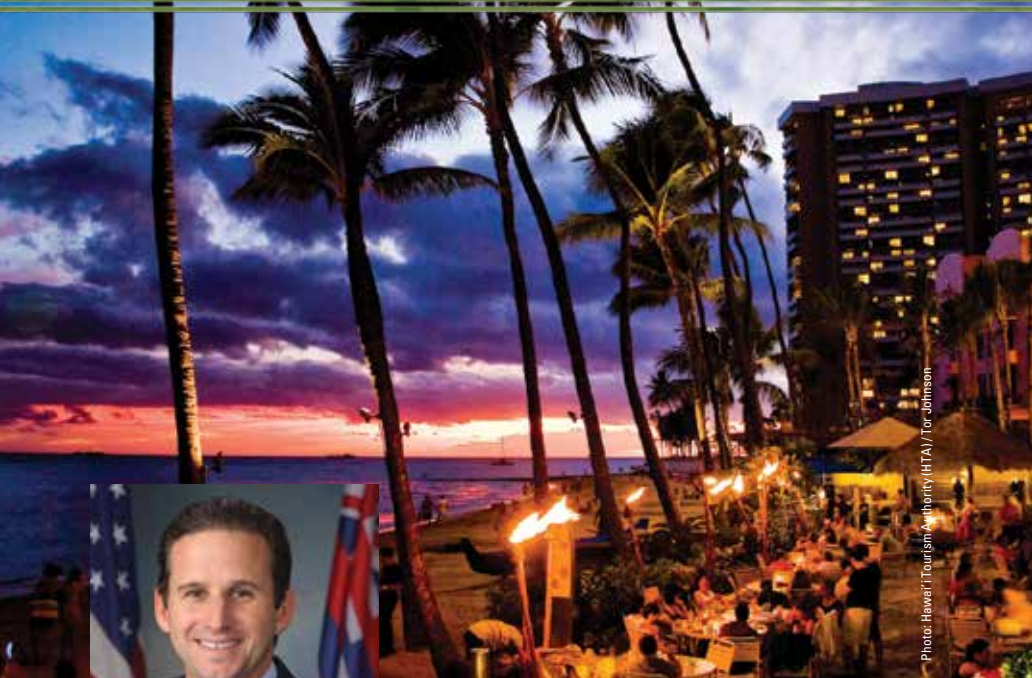


Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson



BRIAN SCHATZ
UNITED STATES SENATOR
OF HAWAI'I

ALOHA AND WELCOME TO HAWAI'I. The State of Hawai'i has much to offer LGBT visitors. While our islands boast picturesque beaches, spectacular mountains, and lush forests, Hawai'i is perhaps best known for its aloha spirit: our culture of diversity and compassion.

If this is your first experience to the Aloha State, there is much to do throughout our four counties, in Honolulu, Kaua'i, Maui, and Hawai'i. Please take some time to see and enjoy the many unique sights, natural outdoor amenities, and day and evening activities that are available to you. If you're a returning guest, that means the Islands have captured a part of you, and I hope you discover more reasons to keep coming back.

Best wishes during your travels and thank you for choosing to stay in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,
Brian Schatz, U.S. Senator of Hawai'i

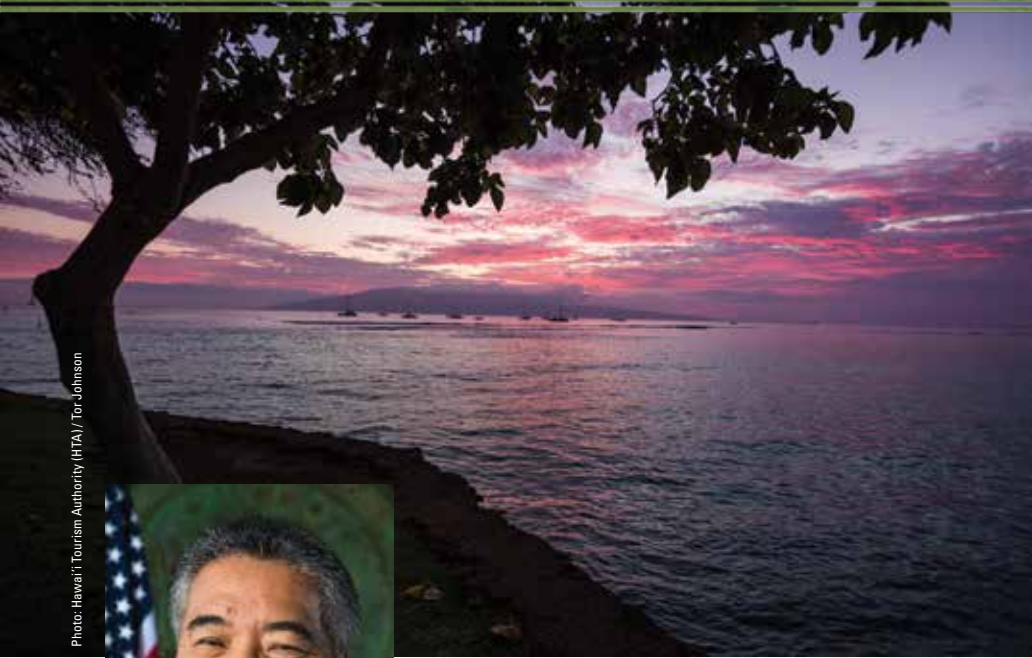


Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR, STATE OF HAWAI'I

ALOHA AND WELCOME to the readers of the Hawai'i Pride Guide® visiting our beautiful islands. The Hawai'i Pride Guide® provides the LGBT community with important information about the Aloha State. Within these pages, you will learn about the many products and amenities offered specifically for the LGBT community.

You will also discover that the people of Hawai'i truly believe in cultural diversity and that we recognize Gay and Lesbian tourism as an important industry that will support our economy.

The Hawai'i Pride Guide® serves as a valuable resource for LGBT business owners and visitor industry service providers to promote the available goods and services that will help LGBT couples and their families create personal memories that will last a lifetime.

Mahalo for choosing Hawai'i as your vacation, wedding and/or honeymoon destination.

Sincerely,
David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i

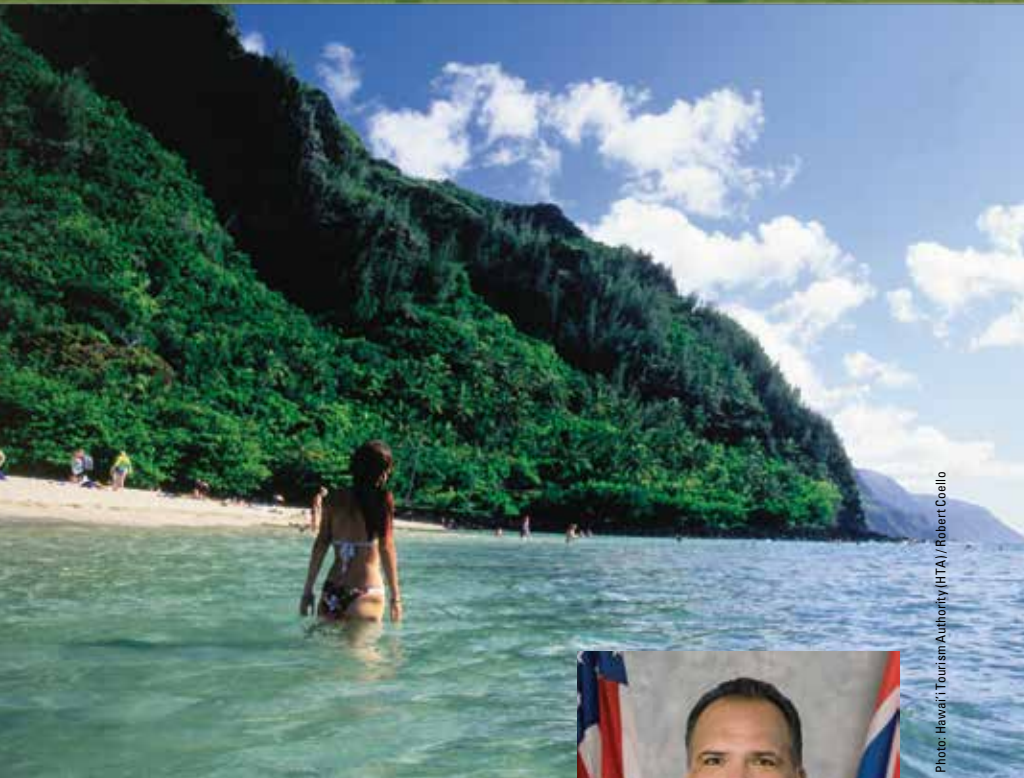


Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Robert Coello



BERNARD P. CARVALHO
MAYOR, COUNTY OF KAUA'I

ALOHA! Mahalo for your interest in Hawai'i, the Aloha State!

The Hawai'i Pride Guide® is a great resource for information on the spectacular sights, sounds and experiences Hawai'i has to offer, especially for the LGBT community. I am sure that you will learn a lot from this unique publication.

Mahalo for choosing to visit the 50th State, and while you are here, I invite you to come to Kaua'i, the Garden Isle. The island's relaxed atmosphere and gentle, fragrant tradewinds will surely carry you away to the paradise you've often dreamed of.

On behalf of the people of the County of Kaua'i, I extend my best wishes to you for an enjoyable stay and hope you will take home fond memories that will last a lifetime!

Aloha pumehana,
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr., Mayor, County of Kaua'i



Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson



KIRK CAIDWELL
MAYOR, CITY & COUNTY
OF HONOLULU

IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE to offer my warmest aloha to the readers of the *Pride Guide*® Hawai'i.

This free guide connects travelers and residents with welcoming and supporting businesses in our islands. In addition, the publication provides a valuable service by listing nonprofit groups and organizations in our community. I hope our visitors to Honolulu will enjoy the variety of cultural activities, entertainment, shopping, and dining that make our city a popular destination choice.

Mahalo to the staff and management of *The Pride Guides*® for publishing a valuable resource containing information on all that our islands have to offer LGBT travelers and residents.

On behalf of the people of the City and County of Honolulu, I extend best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable stay.

Kirk Caidwell, Mayor, City of Honolulu

Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson



ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR, COUNTY OF MAUI



ALOHA! Congratulations to the staff and management of *The Hawai'i Pride Guide*® for all your hard work in establishing this publication for visitors.

Maui County consists of the islands of Maui, Moloka'i and Lana'i and Kahoolawe. Each island is an extraordinary place with its own type of beauty.

I invite you to explore and experience our various activities, from snorkeling off the coast of Molokini to hiking into the dormant crater of Haleakala. Enjoy fine dining or familiarize yourself with one of our local eateries. Take advantage of our cultural events, shopping and other recreational opportunities that cause people to say Maui No Ka Oi (Maui is the best). After all the excitement, relax and enjoy the warm waters, the amazing beaches and the miraculous sunsets.

On behalf of the people of Maui County, e komo mai (welcome), best wishes and we hope you make our islands an unforgettable experience.

Alan M. Arakawa, Mayor, County of Maui



Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson



BILLY KENOI
MAYOR, COUNTY OF HAWAII'I

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE of the County of Hawai'i, I am pleased to welcome you to our beautiful island. GLBT visitors to the Island of Hawai'i will find a thriving gay community, a warm, friendly and diverse local population and an interesting and eclectic offering of recreational activities for day and night.

When you're here, you'll soon discover that the Island of Hawai'i (the Big Island) is like no other in regards to the expansiveness and sheer natural beauty. Our visitor accommodations range from quaint Bed and Breakfast type lodgings to award winning, world-class, 5-Star luxury resort properties and everything in between.

Hawai'i's host culture has a long tradition of acceptance, aloha and pride for the GLBT community, as we recognize the invaluable contributions that GLBT residents and visitors bring to our diverse, multi-ethnic community.

We welcome you to come and experience for yourself the beauty, warmth and authenticity of the Island of Hawai'i and our people.

Aloha,
Billy Kenoi, Mayor, County of Hawai'i

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WELCOME TO *Hawai'i*

Welcome to the Hawaiian Islands!

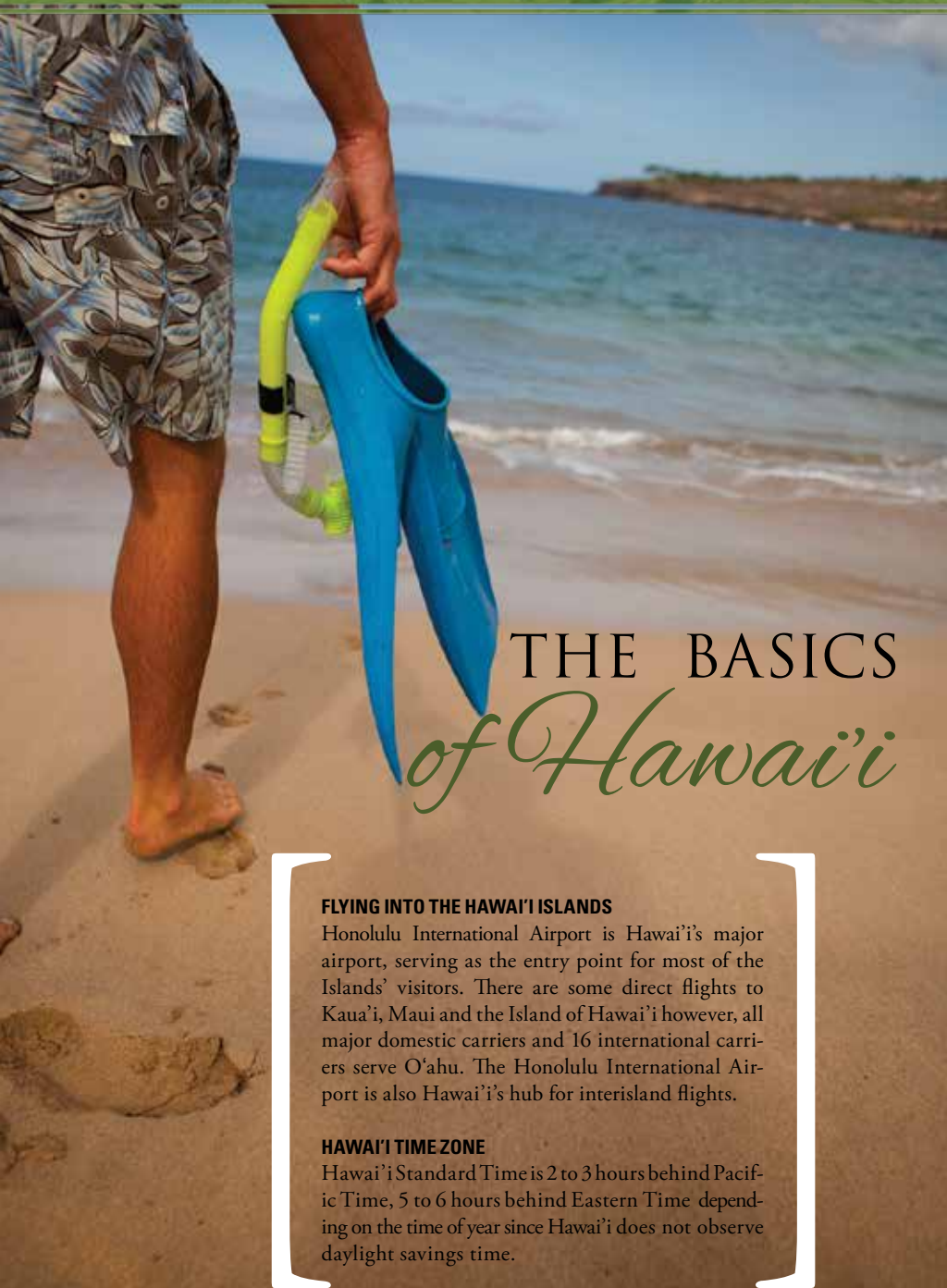
Hawai'i is the Aloha State and is also known as the Rainbow State. This state welcomes the LGBT traveler by allowing legal marriages for same-sex couples and an LGBT non-discrimination policy in accommodations, at the workplace and in housing. When you arrive in Hawai'i the fresh, floral air energizes you. The warm, tranquil waters refresh you.

The breathtaking, natural beauty renews you. Look around. There's no place on earth like Hawai'i. Whether you're a new visitor or returning, the six unique islands offer distinct experiences that will entice any traveler. We warmly invite you to explore the Hawaiian Islands and discover your ideal travel experience.

No matter which island you visit, each has its own character, flavor and personality of its own. While the rich history, culture and hospitality irrevocably connect the Islands, the geography itself defines the unique feeling of each one.

Let the Aloha spirit and friendliness capture your imagination and your heart as you enjoy the Hawaiian Islands.





THE BASICS of Hawai'i

FLYING INTO THE HAWAII ISLANDS

Honolulu International Airport is Hawai'i's major airport, serving as the entry point for most of the Islands' visitors. There are some direct flights to Kaua'i, Maui and the Island of Hawai'i however, all major domestic carriers and 16 international carriers serve O'ahu. The Honolulu International Airport is also Hawai'i's hub for interisland flights.

HAWAII TIME ZONE

Hawai'i Standard Time is 2 to 3 hours behind Pacific Time, 5 to 6 hours behind Eastern Time depending on the time of year since Hawai'i does not observe daylight savings time.

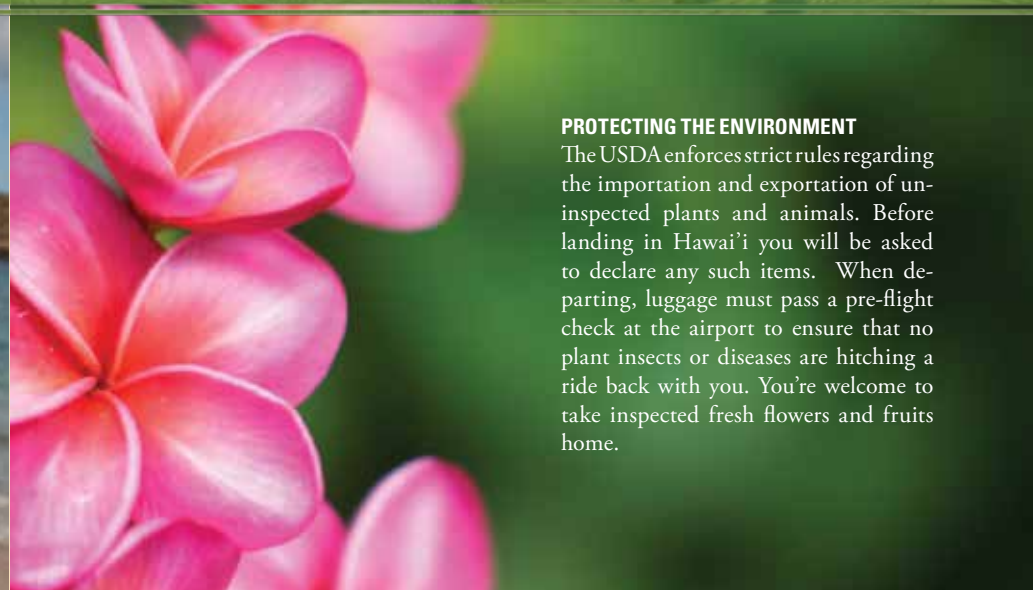


Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Max Wanger

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

The USDA enforces strict rules regarding the importation and exportation of un-inspected plants and animals. Before landing in Hawai'i you will be asked to declare any such items. When departing, luggage must pass a pre-flight check at the airport to ensure that no plant insects or diseases are hitching a ride back with you. You're welcome to take inspected fresh flowers and fruits home.

CLIMATE

There are two seasons, Winter (November through April), when temperatures range in the low-70's to mid-80's, and summer when the high can run into the low-90's. This can change from 10 to 20 degrees when traveling in the high elevation of the mountains.

WEAR SUNSCREEN

With the cool breeze coming off the ocean you are not feeling the heat as much, but you are in the tropics and closer to the equator. The sun is stronger here and sunburn will develop faster than you thought possible, so be sure to use sunscreen.



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THE LANGUAGE OF HAWAII

Hawai'i's two official languages are Hawaiian and English. The melodious Hawaiian language is a Polynesian dialect. There are only 13 letters in the Hawaiian alphabet: A, E, H, I, K, L, M, N, O, P, U, W and the 'okina ('). The 'okina is a glottal stop like the sound between the ohs in oh-oh and is considered a consonant. The glottal stop (') or 'okina, and macron (-), or *kahak-o*, are often used to help clarify pronunciation.

A few common words to know:

Aloha: a greeting with love, hello, good-bye

Mahalo: thank you

Lei: a flower garland given for an occasion

'Ohana: family

Ha'ahao: pride

CALENDAR OF *Events*



FEBRUARY

WORLD WHALE DAY (MAUI)

Free, all-day celebration that honors the humpback whales that come to Maui each winter.

Penny Palmer Photography

JANUARY

WAIMEA OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL (HAWAII ISLAND)

The Waimea Ocean Film Festival brings a combination of film, breakfast talks, filmmaker Q&As, receptions, art exhibits and activities to the Big Island each year in early January.



Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Dana Edmunds

FEBRUARY

ANNUAL HILO CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL (HAWAII ISLAND)

Celebrate the year of the Sheep. Performances, displays, cooking & cultural demonstrations show the Chinese influence in Hawaii.

'Q'UISINE OF HEARTS (HAWAII ISLAND)

Enjoy sumptuous food by Big Island chefs along with desserts, wine, handcrafted ales and Kona coffee.



Photos: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson

MARCH

HONOLULU FESTIVAL (OAHU)

Hawaii's premier cultural event, promoting understanding, economic cooperation and ethnic harmony between the people of Hawaii and the Pacific Rim Region.

PRINCE KUHIO CELEBRATION OF KAUAI

Two weeks of numerous events are set to celebrate Prince Kuhio's birthday.

LAVAMAN WAIKOLOA TRIATHLON (HAWAII ISLAND)

The Annual Lavaman Triathlon Festival features an Olympic distance 10K-run, 40K-bike and 1.5K-swim open to individuals and relay teams.



Photos: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Dana Edmunds

APRIL

THE HAPALUA - HAWAII'S HALF MARATHON (OAHU)

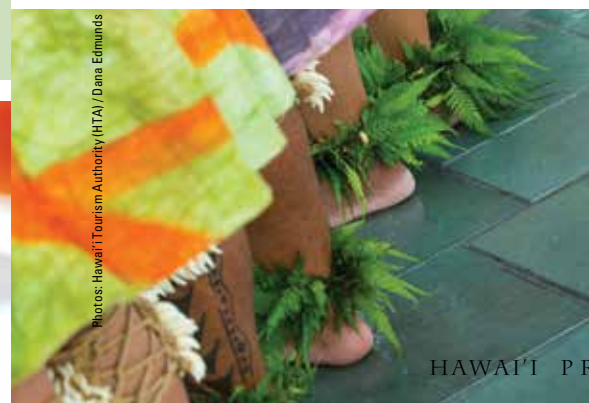
The start of the Hapalua is by The Duke Kahanamoku statue in Waikiki and finishes in Kapiolani Park.

HAWAII ARTS, CRAFTS AND FOOD FESTIVAL (HAWAII ISLAND)

The largest and the best quality arts, crafts & food festival held annually during Merrie Monarch Week.

BANYAN TREE BIRTHDAY (MAUI)

Join the birthday bash of Lahaina's arguably most famous resident, a 138-year-old Banyan tree!



Photos: Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) / Dana Edmunds

MAY

ANNUAL EAST MAUI TARO FESTIVAL (MAUI)

Hawaiian Cultural Festival focusing on Taro/Kalo, the staple food of Hawaii.

ANNUAL KAUAI WORLD CHALLENGE (KAUAI)

Hundreds of paddlers perform a 34 mile canoe relay race along the East and Southern coast of Kauai.

ANNUAL LEI DAY CELEBRATION (OAHU)

The mission of the Hilo Lei Day Festival is to preserve, perpetuate, celebrate, and share the many types of the traditional Hawaiian lei, and the specialized language associated with them, and to celebrate the multi-cultural heritage of the Hawaiian Islands.

ANNUAL WAIKIKI SPAM JAM STREET FESTIVAL (OAHU)

The WAIKIKI SPAM JAM Festival is a street festival that celebrates the people of Hawaii's love for SPAM products, a canned meat from Hormel Foods.

KAU COFFEE FESTIVAL (HAWAII ISLAND)

Celebrating the bean in the beautiful Kau district.



JUNE

HONOLULU RAINBOW FILM FESTIVAL (O'AHU)

Annual Gay & Lesbian Film Festival.

HONOLULU PRIDE PARADE & CELEBRATION (O'AHU)

Annual Celebration.

ANNUAL RED CLAY JAZZ FESTIVAL (KAUA'I)

Featuring national and locally known jazz and blues artists.

Hawaiian SLACK KEY GUITAR FESTIVAL (MAUI)

It's the sort of music you could fall in love with — the music that's made when human hands and steel and rare wood come together to form the warm, intricate sound pioneered by the paniolo of old.

TROPICAL TRIPLE CROWN: MANGO DAYS 5K (O'AHU)

The annual Mango Days 5k is a benefit for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.



Photos: Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA)

JULY

4th OF JULY

Celebrating Independence Day throughout the islands.

RELAY FOR LIFE OF KONA (HAWAII ISLAND)

Communities across the globe fight against cancer at the 2015 Relay for Life of Kona.

PLANTATION DAYS IN KOLOA (KAUA'I)

Over 25 events celebrate the plantation heritage and modern-day vitality of Kaua'i's south shore communities of Koloa and Poipu, during this 10-day family-oriented festival.

UKULELE FESTIVAL HAWAII (O'AHU)

Ukulele Festival Hawai'i's mission is to bring laughter, love and hope to children and adults throughout Hawai'i and the world through the music of the ukulele.

AUGUST

GREEK FESTIVAL (O'AHU)

The Greek Festival, held at McCoy Pavilion at Ala Moana Beach Park, celebrates Greek culture with ethnic food, live entertainment, cultural booths and more. The popular annual festival is sponsored by the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral.



SEPTEMBER

ANNUAL OKINAWAN FESTIVAL (O'AHU)

The Hawai'i United Okinawa Association presents the largest ethnic festival in the state of Hawai'i. The event kicks off with a mini procession inside Kapiolani Park featuring a taiko drum performance.

ANNUAL QUEEN LILIUOKA-LANI OUTRIGGER CANOE RACE (HAWAII ISLAND)

The world's largest outrigger canoe race in the beautiful waters of Kailua-Kona.

THE KAUA'I MARATHON (KAUA'I)

The Annual Kaua'i Marathon starts and ends at beautiful Poipu Beach

ALOHA FESTIVALS: WAIKIKI HOOLAULEA (O'AHU)

The largest block party will kick off with the arrival of the Royal Court.

ALOHA FESTIVALS: FLORAL PARADE (O'AHU)

A colorful equestrian procession of female and male pau riders, extravagant floats with cascades of Hawaiian flowers, hula Halau and marching bands.

OCTOBER

MAUI PRIDE (MAUI)

Extend your summer in Hawai'i.

IRONMAN WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (HAWAII ISLAND)

The world's most challenging triathlon.

NOVEMBER

WHALE WATCHING SEASON BEGINS

ANNUAL KONA COFFEE CULTURAL FESTIVAL (HAWAII ISLAND)

This award-winning festival, recognized as the oldest and one of the most successful food festivals in Hawai'i.

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The Transgender Day of Remembrance was set aside to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred or prejudice.



Photos: Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA)

DECEMBER

HONOLULU MARATHON (O'AHU)

Thousands of runners from around the world travel to O'ahu each year to participate in the Honolulu Marathon. The 26.2-mile scenic course includes spectacular views alongside world famous Waikiki Beach and Diamond Head.

HAWAIIAN AIRLINES DIAMOND HEAD CLASSIC (O'AHU)

The Hawaiian Airlines Diamond Head Classic is an eight-team, 12-game bracket tournament that features some of the nation's best collegiate men's basketball teams. The tournament is held at the University of Hawai'i's Stan Sheriff Center.

SHERATON HAWAII BOWL (O'AHU)

Following the University of Hawai'i's move to the Mountain West Conference (MWC), in 2012, the Sheraton Hawai'i Bowl will pit a team from the MWC against a team from Conference USA in the annual college football bowl game played at Honolulu's Aloha Stadium on Christmas Eve.

ISLAND *Royalty*



Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson



Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson



Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

AMONG THE STATES OF THE AMERICAN UNION, HAWAII IS TRULY UNIQUE - NOT ONLY FOR HER ISOLATED LOCATION, WONDROUS CLIMATE, AND IDYLIC SCENERY, BUT FOR HER CULTURE AND HISTORY. TWO OF THE FIFTY STATES OF THE UNITED STATES WERE FORMERLY SOVEREIGN NATIONS: TEXAS AND HAWAII. OF THESE, HAWAII HAD BY FAR THE LONGEST TRADITION OF INDEPENDENT EXISTENCE.

It is also the only one of the fifty states to have existed formerly as an independent monarchy. Hawaiian history prior to the twentieth century was defined in large part by the actions of her ali'i (chiefs and kings), and the legacy of the Hawaiian monarchy remains very much alive today.

For the many centuries following the establishment of major Polynesian settlements in about 1200 CE, the Hawaiian Islands were a shifting patchwork of minor states, ruled by local chiefs and minor kings. Unification would not come about until the reign of Kamehameha I, who came to power on the Big Island of Hawaii in the 1780s. After a series of battles, in which Kamehameha made use of Western advisers and weapons, he succeeded in unifying all of the islands from Oahu to the Island of Hawaii by 1795. The western most major islands, Kauai and Ni'ihau, were eventually added as vassal states in 1810, through diplomacy rather than war, completing the establishment of the united Kingdom of Hawaii.

Brilliant, cunning, ruthless, but also a visionary, Kamehameha I came to be known as "the Great," not only for his superb military skill but for his cleverness in business, diplomacy, and governance. His policies not only unified the islands but, by securing trade and recognition from multiple nations, helped to ensure their independence from the Great Powers. His legacy also remained in his establishment, early in his reign, of the Mamalahoe Kanawai or "Law of the Splin-

tered Paddle." The law is named after an incident early in his reign, in 1782. While leading a raid, the young warrior chief caught his foot on a rock and two frightened fishermen hit him over the head with a canoe paddle, splintering the paddle and leaving the future king unconscious. Twelve years later, with Kamehameha enthroned as supreme ruler, the fishermen were captured and brought before him for punishment. Rather than have them executed, as was expected, the king expressed remorse for having attacked innocent people, and established this new law - "Let every elderly person, woman and child lie by the roadside in safety." This became the first written law of the Kingdom, maintained in the Hawaiian constitution



KAMEHAMEHA II

even after statehood, establishing the rights of noncombatants, and has been cited as an influence on humanitarian laws of war ever since.

It was also Kamehameha I who in 1816 commissioned the official flag of Hawai'i, which remains in use to this day. The flag was designed by, or with the advice of, British naval officers and resembles the contemporary flag of the British navy and of the British East India Company. This is why the Hawaiian flag incorporates the Union Jack in the canton (upper corner, where the stars are in the American "Stars & Stripes") - a source of confusion for some. Hawai'i was never part of the British Empire.

Kamehameha the Great continues to be revered to this day. His most famous statue - one of four - stands in front of the Ali'iolani Hale, seat of the Hawai'i Supreme Court, and faces 'Iolani Palace. Every June 11 in Hawai'i is Kamehameha Day, when his statues are draped with huge wreaths of flower leis.

KAMEHAMEHA II-KAMEHAMEHA III

Following his death in 1819, Kamehameha's son Liholiho would assume the throne as Kamehameha II, while his favorite wife, Ka'ahumanu, would serve as de facto regent with the office of kuhina nui (a title roughly equivalent to Prime Minister, in fact co-regent) for both Kamehameha II and the next king, Kamehameha III, until her death in 1832. It was under Queen Ka'ahumanu's guidance, after the death of Kamehameha I, that the ancient kapu (taboo) religious and legal system was abolished and Protestant Christianity established in the Kingdom.

KALAKAUA

The rule of Kamehameha's dynasty ended with the death of Kamehameha V in 1872. The next King of Hawai'i was elected. David C. Lunalilo, a grandnephew of Kamehameha I, received the unanimous support of the legislature but ruled for only a year before dying without issue. A new election was then called, which proved far more contentious,

putting the widow of King Kamehameha IV, Queen Emma, against David Kalakaua, a descendant of chiefs allied to Kamehameha I, and who had lost to Lunalilo in the previous election. Kalakaua eventually won the contest, becoming King Kalakaua, and often referred to as Hawai'i's "Merrie Monarch."

An avid traveler, inventor, and musician, Kalakaua was also a firm believer in the sovereign powers of the monarchy, and made full use of his authority to appoint and dismiss his Cabinet until his powers were curtailed by the "Bayonet Constitution" of 1887, so called because he was forced to sign it at gunpoint. This constitution, imposed largely by Western business interests, both stripped the king of much of his authority and effectively stripped voting rights from a large part of the population, particularly native Hawaiians as well as Asians. It was Kalakaua who revived the traditional Hawaiian dance, the hula, which had previously been banned under Protestant influence. He popularized the ukele and wrote "Hawai'i Pono'i," which is the state song today. He also built 'Iolani Palace, the only extant royal residence on what is now American soil, and which was at the time a showcase of the most modern household inventions, including the electric light bulb, an innovation which had yet to be installed at the White House in Washington, D.C.

Following his death in 1891, Kalakaua was succeeded by his sister, Lili'u Kamaka'eha, who assumed the throne as Queen Lili'uokalani. Like her brother, Lili'uokalani was an accomplished musician. She composed hundreds of songs, most famously Aloha Oe, "Farewell to Thee," as well as translating the Hawaiian creation chant, Kumulipo, and writing a history and memoir, Hawai'i's Story by Hawai'i's Queen. Her short reign was to be marked by tragedy, for she was the last of the sovereign rulers of Hawai'i. She was deposed by Western business interests in 1893, after attempting to replace the "Bayonet Constitution" with one that would have restored some of the monarch's powers - and voting rights to



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

a majority of the population. After a failed restoration attempt, Lili'uokalani was imprisoned within her own palace before finally being forced to accept her removal from power. The era of Hawaiian monarchy, and of Hawai'i's status as an independent nation, had come to an end.

'Iolani Palace continued to be used as the seat of government for the new U.S. Territory, and later State, of Hawai'i until 1968. The Palace had suffered badly, both from

remodeling undertaken after the fall of the monarchy and from neglect. Following extensive renovations, the Palace was opened to the public in 1978. Renovation work continues to this day, spearheaded by the Friends of 'Iolani Palace, an organization dedicated to restore and preserve this unique piece of history as it was in the glory days under Kalakaua and Lili'uokalani. Thanks to their ongoing efforts, both natives and visitors to Hawai'i have the opportunity to appreciate the unique royal history of the islands.



CHORIS, LOUIS, 1795-1828. DANSE DES FEMMES DANS LES SANDWICH. Dess. Et lith. par CHORIS. LITH. DE LANGLOME. [PARIS, 1822]. PUBL0072-16. UNITED STATES PUBLIC DOMAIN.

The Aikane: SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIPS IN TRADITIONAL HAWAIIAN CULTURE

by Jason E. Posey

Hawai'i has long been a land of openness, diversity, and freedom and traditional native attitudes towards sex and sexuality were no different.

When Captain James Cook visited the islands, members of his crew documented the social and cultural norms of the native Hawaiians, providing an invaluable glimpse into native life prior to missionary and other Western influence. Among many other valuable observations, they noted the prevalence of same-sex relationships among the ali'i ruling class of Hawaiian society.

'Aikane,' in Hawaiian, denoted both the practice of (male) same-sex relations

and those who engaged in them. There were several different Hawaiian terms for same-sex relationships and their practitioners, such as ho'okamaka and lawakua, as well as mahu, which refers to an intersex or transgendered person. Aikane was the term for those men who were involved in a close social and sexual relationship with another man, typically a higher-ranking member of the ali'i noble class. Captain Cook and his men witnessed this practice firsthand in the court of Kamehameha I, the chief who would eventually unite all of the Hawaiian islands under his rule. With the homophobia and moral condemnation typical of Western attitudes at the time, one wrote, 'We have had opportunities before of being acquainted with a detestable part of his character which he is not in the least anxious to conceal,' while another notes of the aikane that '[It

is] their business to commit the Sin of Onan upon the old king.' The accounts suggest that the homosexual nature of these relationships within the royal court were considered normal and unremarkable by the Hawaiians themselves, a fact supported by the evidence of oral history and comparison with the closely related cultures of Tahiti and the Maori of New Zealand.

Of that oral history, Bradford Kaiwi Lum of the Hulumanu Foundation notes, "In our chants and legends the great god Lono meets a commoner and falls in love with him. He was the chief named Kapahi of Kaua'i, he says to Lono in one of the chants.... 'I follow you everywhere because I love you so dearly'.... the pig god Kamapua'a, follows his 'aikane Niho'olekiin... (in) the Pele legends and chants, the fire goddess Pele yearns for her sister Hi'iaka and the Handsome chief Lohi'au and lover of Pele yearns for his 'aikane Paoa."

There is no known historical reference to aiwahine, a female equivalent of the aikane, but this may be because Western chroniclers of native Hawaiian culture were themselves overwhelmingly male, and had neither ready access to, nor great interest in, native women's culture. Hawaiian culture was very sexually open, and men and women tended to spend much of their time with other members of the same sex, rather than sequestered apart in nuclear family units, so that it seems unlikely that female same-sex relationships were not similarly common. We do know that some women in traditional Hawaiian society filled roles that did not fit in with typical gender stereotypes, such as the wahine kaua, 'battle women,' also known as koa wahine, 'brave women,' who accompanied men on military campaigns and sometimes fought alongside them. Female sexual and romantic intimacy is also described in the mythology of the islands, with several goddesses

having lesbian relationships and liaisons.

The arrival of Christianity and Western influence, particularly after the powerful widow of Kamehameha I, Ka'ahumanu, converted to Christianity, soon worked to suppress the aikane tradition and force the Hawaiians to conform to Victorian sexual and social norms. However, the tradition did not disappear, and the old Hawaiian character sometimes reasserted itself. Bradford Kaiwi Lum notes:

"King Kamehameha the 3rd rebelled against the missionary-influenced sobriety imposed by Queen Ka'ahumanu in the 1830's. King Kamehameha the 3rd bought back hula dancing, gambling, and all sorts of love making; these forms were called le'ale'a (gaiety). The people of Honolulu were overjoyed because the old customs were brought back to life again.

When came time for Kamehameha the 3rd to appoint a kuhina nui (prime minister) he was forced by other ali'i to bypass his aikane Kaomi and choose his half brother Christian convert Kina'u. Another high chief turned Christian named Kaikio'ewa kidnapped Kaomi and, in a struggle with the king who had come to free his favorite aikane, he shouted to him, 'you are not the ruler of this kingdom, please stop indulging in evil ways!' Kamehameha the 3rd rescued his aikane. Kaomi returned to Tahiti and within a year Kaomi was found dead, whether from disease or poison it is not known. Kamehameha the 3rd was very distraught at things to come for the Hawaiian nation."

Although Western influence long suppressed native Hawaiian traditions of same-sex intimacy, the rise of LGBT awareness in Western society has led, in recent years, to a reawakening of interest in the history of the aikane, mahu, and other manifestations of LGBT identity in native society. With the legalization of same-sex marriage in 2013, Hawai'i is proving once again to be the Aloha State.

TWO HEARTS,

One Love

by Jason E. Posey



Photo: Kelli Bullock

The wedding ceremony: a chance to publicly consecrate and celebrate a couple's love and commitment to one another. As more and more same-sex couples choose to hold a ceremony to tie the knot, the LGBT-oriented wedding industry is set to explode - by some estimates, if same-sex marriage is legalized nationwide, the LGBT wedding business could be worth as much as \$17 billion. Even without legal recognition in some states, many couples are opting to hold a wedding ceremony. But, as same-sex ceremonies are generally new territory - for both providers and the couples themselves - and as there are still some wedding providers who are not LGBT knowledgeable or friendly, it's useful to know who you can trust to handle your special day right. And for any couple, it can be helpful to have a little guidance when making plans. The *Pride Guide*® is here to help!

*The Rings*

Of course, one of the most popular traditions for weddings, and proposals, is the exchange of wedding and engagement rings. In a heterosexual relationship the man traditionally surprises his would-be bride with an engagement ring, typically something gold or platinum with as large a stone as he can afford, preferably a diamond. The couple then exchange simpler gold bands for their wedding ceremony, which are sometimes merged with their engagement rings afterward. There's no requirement to follow tradition, though, unless you want to.



Photo: Kelli Bullock

For a same-sex couple, one of the first challenges can be "who proposes to whom?" For some, it's easier and wiser simply to discuss with their partners what they want and work together on finding rings. If you want, you can purchase or make a cute mock ring. Get a cheap costume ring, a ribbon, or something similar to present to your partner, or to each other, at your proposal. If you want to surprise your significant other, then you'll need to make certain you pick out a ring they will love, and will be practical for them to wear, without busting your budget. Keep in mind their preferences in style when it comes to clothing and jewelry - do they like sleek and modern, or elegant and conservative, or fun and causal? Goth or punk, granola or hip-hop, preppy or country, it is important to pick a ring that matches their style. If you're picking rings out for both of you, you will probably want a pair that match, or are complementary. This is easier if you both prefer the same styles, but can be more difficult if the two of you tend to dress differently. Be creative. A common



Photo: Kelli Bullock

color or design theme can unite two otherwise very different rings.

Whether you shop alone or together, remember a few important things. First, be certain to use a reputable jeweler, especially if you plan on spending a lot of money. Lisa Krikawa, of Krikawa Jewelry Designs, suggests, “Think about whether you want a mass produced ring or if you want to go the custom route. Prioritize your objectives: price, design, materials, origin. Keep in mind that many mass produced rings are made overseas, and decide whether or not that is an issue for you. If you want something that is unique and one-of-a-kind, know that it doesn’t have to be expensive. Find a good custom jeweler with a large portfolio of designs, a high number of great reviews and a 100% money back guarantee, and treat yourself to a custom design appointment. With the right designer, it can be fun, informative, and it can result in a very meaningful product that you will treasure for the rest of your lives together.”

Second, know what you’re looking for. Some jewelry terminology may be useful; the “band” is the metal loop that goes around your finger (the ring itself); the “setting” is the part of the ring that holds the

gemstone(s), if any, in place.

Lisa Krikawa has this advice: “Do your research. Make sure that you get the opportunity to try on different rings to see how they feel, especially as far as the size and width are concerned. Look at the different metal options available; what color suits you best? Did you know that there are three white metals? Make sure you learn about the pros and cons of the different white metals. Decide upon a general budget to start with. You can save yourself and your jeweler a lot of time if you keep your search in the price range that is optimal for you. Be sure you think about: metal, width, accent stones, and decorative details. Do you want your rings to match, or is having some similar detailing or element enough?”

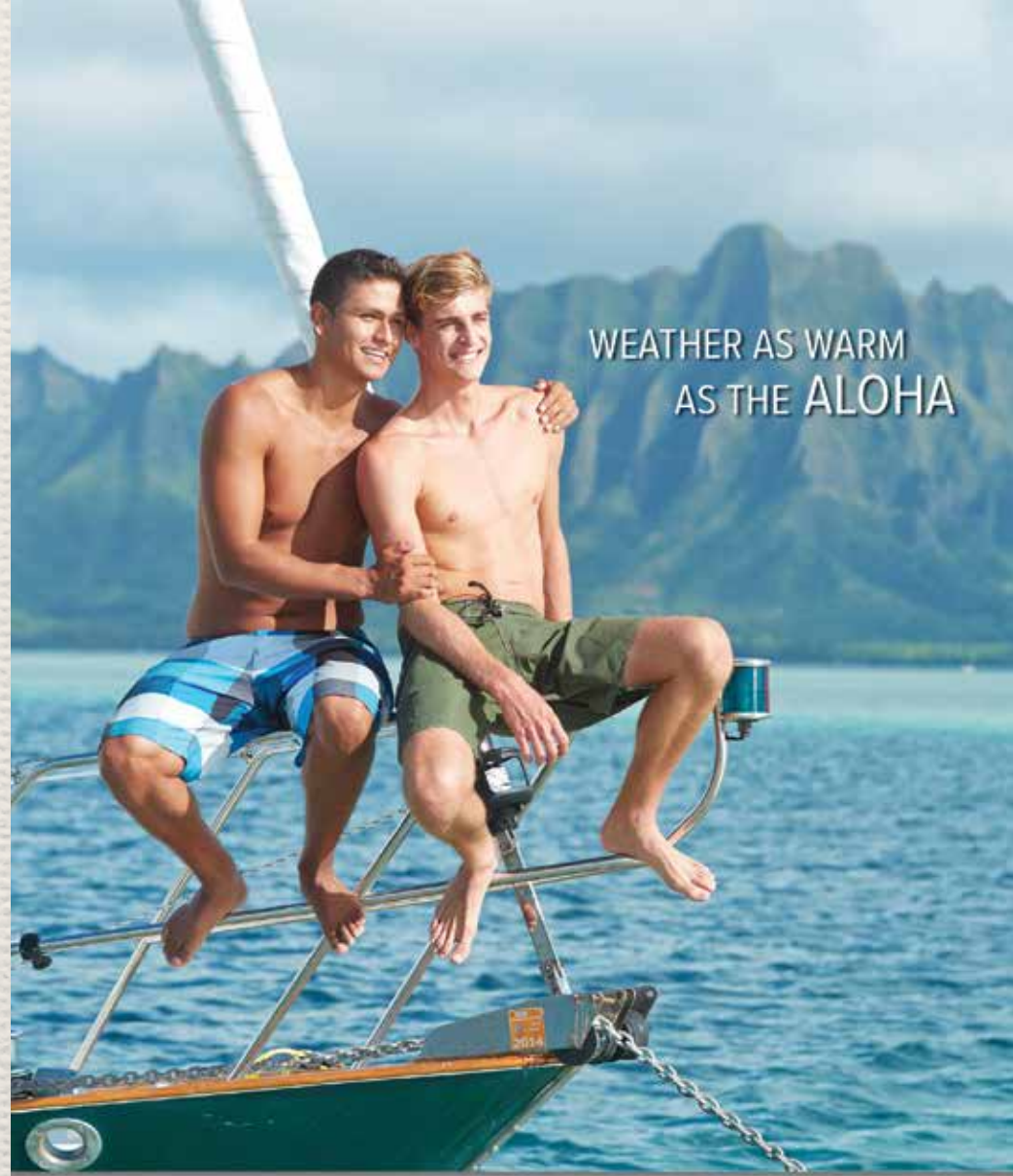
First Thing First

You proposed to your partner and they’ve said yes, it’s now time to start planning your special day. Many couples immediately start thinking about what kind of wedding they want, where they want it and when. Unfortunately none of this can be properly done without deciding two very important and sometimes difficult things.

First the Guest List!

Why you ask? Knowing who will be attending will determine things like your budget, where you will be able to have your ceremony and reception, what to have at the reception, how big of a cake and even what kind of ceremony to have.

Picking your guest list can be overwhelming, but we have done some research and have a few suggestions on how to make this process a little easier. The most important people to invite first are you two. So many couples get caught up in all the hoopla and forget to include themselves as two of the guest. Next are your attendants, then your parents & siblings, family and finally friends and acquaintances.



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Photo: Penny Palmer Photography

The easiest way of chiseling away at the latter is to ask yourselves “Have you socialized with them in the last six months?” and “Are you inviting them because you think you should?”. You have to remember it’s your day, not theirs! Make sure you surround yourself with those who will make it even more memorable. It’s OK to be selfish!

Second the Budget!

As special a day as this is, you don’t want to overextend yourselves and start out your union in debt! Weddings can get very pricey very fast. Later on in this guide you will find an article on some of the “I Do’s” & “I Don’ts” when creating your budget. It’s actually easier than you think, but you have to monitor it closely or it can get out of control.

Having these two big items taken care of, you’re now ready to continue with the rest of the planning process. Have fun with it, your engagement time should be a memorable time.

The Venue

Picking a venue for your ceremony and reception can be a challenge. Any couple will want to make certain the location they

choose can handle their needs, both in terms of setting and decor and their capacity to accommodate the wedding party and all the guests. And of course, you need to have confidence that the establishment that is hosting your event is competent and concerned to make your special day go smoothly. You’ll want the peace of mind knowing you and your guests will be treated with respect.

Similarly, if a couple wishes to have their ceremony in a church or other sacred building, they should be aware that some denominations - even generally LGBT-affirming denominations - may not allow same-sex ceremonies on their premises. Be certain you know a denomination’s policies. If in doubt about an organization, you can avoid some heartache by doing a little research or asking other friends who have gone through this. Or just check out your Pride Guide®.

The Ceremony

For many LGBT couples, one of the biggest challenges in planning a wedding or commitment ceremony is simply figuring out what to do. Until recently, modern weddings were designed exclusively for het-



Photo: Kelli Bullock



Photo: Kelli Bullock

erosexual couples. Add to that the fact that LGBT people come from every faith background, and often choose a faith different from the one they were raised in, or none at all, and couples can be left with little guidance as to how to arrange their ceremony. Of course, this can also allow for a great deal of creativity. Try writing your own vows. Nothing is more meaningful than something written from the heart.

Many wedding experts say: "The most important thing when planning a wedding of any sort, would be deciding on a theme. When the couple has a theme planned out, it's easy to look for and describe what is needed for the wedding, and others are able to help deciding what works best for the couple's wedding."

Couples may or may not choose to hire a wedding planner to help them with setting things up. A good wedding planner can make a huge difference between a successful and relatively stress-free event, and disaster. But for LGBT couples, there's also the issue of finding a wedding planner who knows and understands the particular needs of our community. According to Marisa Tristan of I Do Events, "Marriage is a right that has been denied to gay people until recently. Over the years, many wedding traditions have formed that are specific to a man and a woman. However, some of these traditions

have a great meaning or purpose so gay couples would like to incorporate them, but don't always know how to do so. For example, a father usually gives the bride away, but if there is no bride, who gives the grooms away? The good news is there are some great solutions. Working with a wedding planner who is familiar with same sex weddings can give some great suggestions for questions such as this."

Plan Ahead

How far ahead should you start planning your event? A great deal depends on the details. If you're looking at a very small and simple wedding, with no big bells and whistles, not a lot of travel for yourselves or guests, then you might be able to put something together quickly. Otherwise, most people in the wedding industry would advise at least six to eight months, preferably as much as a year. Some couples will plan as far as three years in advance, giving them plenty of time to make all the arrangements -and to change arrangements as they go along - but, of course, not everyone will want to wait that long. Six months to one year would be ideal, especially if they want a specific date or venue to ensure availability." Similarly, Marisa Tristan of I Do Events, says: "Six months should be enough time, but beginning



Photo: Kelli Bullock

planning a year out will help ensure that you get your pick of the vendors you want."

The Laws

What legal options does an LGBT couple have in order to help guarantee their relationship has some legal basis? It all depends on what state you get married in and which state you reside in after you get married. Same-sex marriage is legal in Hawai'i and many other states, thus affording a same-sex couple all the rights and privileges provided to heterosexual couples under state law, as long as you live in that state. With the defeat of D.O.M.A. many of your federal rights are now extended to you as well no matter where you live.

It's still very important to protect yourselves in other ways especially if you decide to move out of a legally protected state. Get medical and financial power of attorneys put in place. Your partner will be able to do things on your behalf should you find yourself unable to do so. It will prevent one partner from being turned away at a hospital for not being a "family member." It is also important for couples to have Wills in place to make sure they receive any and all property upon their partner's death. Couples need things like real property, bank accounts and life insurance policies that have their partner as the beneficiary. It's all

about protecting yourselves and what you have built together as a couple. However long it may take for all state laws to recognize the love and commitment of same-sex couples, one thing is certain - LGBT citizens in the United States will no longer be silent and are celebrating their relationships with the openness and joy they deserve.

LET THE PRIDE GUIDE®
HAWAI'I BE YOUR GUIDE
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Check out our [wedding directory!](#)

Kaua'i
See page 58

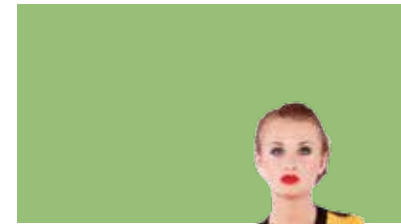
O'ahu
See page 70

Moloka'i
See page 98

Lana'i
See page 104

Maui
See page 110

Big Island of Hawai'i
See page 128



FASHION FOR THAT *Special Occasion*

Photos by Ronald Leon Hale

FASHION DESIGNED BY BORRIS POWELL

Borris Powell is a nationally recognized fashion designer who has clothed celebrities at major events, such as the Oscars, Grammys, and Emmys as recent as 2014, and been receiving attention for his work in women's and men's fashion since 2006.

Borris been awarded for winning the Academy Awards' Oscar Designer Challenge. His work has been shown in London's Fashion Week, New York Fashion Week, and in Chicago since 2006. Many notable public figures and celebrities own my clothing, with some of my biggest supporters being Chaka Khan, Natalie Cole, Patti LaBelle, and Cristen Barker.

For more information on Borris Powell fashion go to
www.BorrisPowell.com

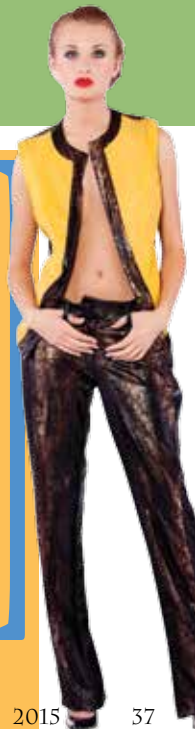




Photo: Malia Leinau Photography

NOW THAT YOU ARE ENGAGED
*it's time to start
 planning your wedding.*
 HERE IS A 12 MONTH PLAN.

Month 12: (It All Begins Here)

- Decide on what type of wedding you want
- Finalize your wedding date
- Decide on a budget
- Hire a wedding planner if necessary
- Secure the Ceremony and Reception sites
- Mail Save the Date cards if you are having a destination or holiday wedding



© Fotofilia.com

Month 11: (Start looking for the following)

- Start to look for your wedding attire
- Caterer (Bring them a list of your favorite foods)
- Florist (Bring pictures of flowers/arrangements you like)
- Entertainment (DJ/Band)
- Invitations (Be sure to pick a font that can be used on programs & menu cards)
- Photographer (Never Skimped on your photographer)

Month 10:

- Choose your Officiant
- Choose your Attendants

Month 09:

- Review estimates from vendors
- Adjust budget as you start getting estimates

Month 08:

- Book your Caterer, Florist, Entertainment & Photographer
- Choose and order your wedding attire
- Begin creating guest list (Prioritize Guests)
 - Groom & Groom or Bride & Bride Attendants
 - Parents & Siblings
 - Family
 - Friends



© Joltsstock - Fotolia.com

Month 06:

- Decide what kind wedding cake you want and place the order
- Meet with vendors to plan details (Menu, Flowers etc.)
- Order invitations (15 extra invitations & 25 extra envelopes)
- Proof invitations with friends and family before printing



© Julisita - Fotolia.com



© Tyler Olson - Fotolia.com

Month 05:

- Research and book honeymoon
- Hire limos for the wedding party
- Brides shop for bridesmaid dresses
- Register for gifts
- Order wedding bands

Month 04:

- Reserve any rental equipment you may need
Chairs, Tables, Tents etc.
- Order Bridesmaid dresses
- Finalize your guest list
- Prepare your invitations
- Schedule your rehearsal and rehearsal dinner
- Grooms pick out your tuxedos and reserve them
- Reserve accommodations for out-of-town guests.

Month 03:

- Mail invitations
- Go over ceremony details with your officiant
- Think about finalizing your look (Consult a Stylist)
- Buy gifts for your wedding party
- Order wedding favors
- Book a hotel room for the wedding night
- Check the state requirements for a marriage license

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06 Weeks:

- Print Programs
- Send Wedding Announcement to the Newspaper (if desired)
- Start writing your vows (No more than 3 minutes)



© Eric Limon - Fotolia.com

02 Weeks:

- Submit a shot list to your photographer
- Inform your DJ what you want them to play & say (Songs for your first dance)
- Call anyone who hasn't RSVP'd
- Finalize seating plan
- Write speeches for the rehearsal dinner and reception
- Get marriage license if possible

01 Week:

- Pack for the honeymoon
- Give final guest count to your caterer
- Confirm details with all your vendors
- Pick up dresses & accessories
- Break in your shoes and scuff the soles

01 Day:

- Pick up tuxedos
- Get a manicure & pedicure
- Prepare wedding-day schedule
- Hold rehearsal dinner
- Give gifts to your wedding party

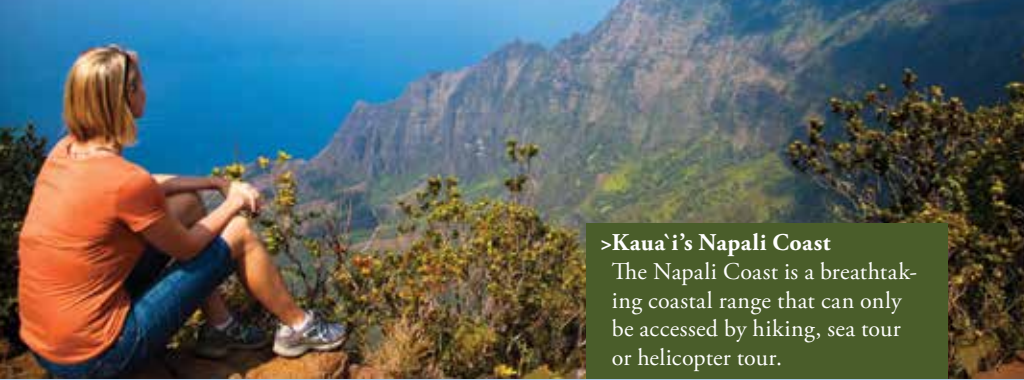
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Your Wedding Day

- Have your hair done
- Get dressed
- Take a moment to relax before the ceremony

A MUST SEE ON EACH Island



>Kaua'i's Napali Coast

The Napali Coast is a breathtaking coastal range that can only be accessed by hiking, sea tour or helicopter tour.

Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

>Oah'u's Leahi (Diamond Head)

Hike to the top of the iconic Diamond Head State Monument for panoramic views of Waikiki and Honolulu.

KAUAI

The greenest of Hawaiian Islands is a place to kick back, relax and unwind. Rediscover a special connection to nature on this beautiful, island paradise.

>Daniel K. Inouye Kilauea Point Lighthouse

On Kaua'i's northernmost tip is a wildlife refuge offering amazing views.

>Opaekaa Falls

With a roadside lookout, this is one of Kaua'i's most accessible major waterfalls.

>Poipu Beach Park

Poipu Beach Park, on Kaua'i's south shore, was once voted "America's Best Beach."

>Spouting Horn

Spouting Horn Park features a blowhole that's one of the most photographed spots on Kaua'i.

>Waimea Canyon

Waimea Canyon, on Kaua'i's west side, is nicknamed "The Grand Canyon of the Pacific."

OAH'U

This is where the action is. The lively heart of the Hawaiian Islands. A vibrant gathering spot with an unpredictable energy. A place of unforgettable possibilities.

>Haleiwa (North Shore)

This historic surf town is the gateway to the legendary North Shore.



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

>Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve

This Marine Life Conservation District is one of Oah'u's most popular snorkeling destinations.

>Iolani Palace

The only official state residence of royalty in the U.S., Iolani Palace's grounds and galleries are now open to the public as a museum.

>King Kamehameha Statue

The most famous Kamehameha Statue stands in front of Aliiolani Hale in Downtown Honolulu.

>Nuuanu Pali Lookout

Nuuanu Pali Lookout is one of Oah'u's most popular scenic spots with panoramic views of Windward Oah'u and the Koolau mountain range

>Pearl Harbor

Five Pearl Harbor Historic Sites honor this National Historic Landmark where World War II both began and ended for the United States.

>Waikiki Beach

Once a playground for Hawaiian royalty, Waikiki is now a vibrant gathering place for visitors from around the world.



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

>Moloka'i's Halawa Valley

Take a guided hike into this cathedral valley, blessed with beautiful vistas and towering waterfalls, and see Hawai'i back in time.



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Japan

>Lana'i's Kaiolohia (Shipwreck Beach)

4-wheel drive about a half-hour north from Lana'i City and you'll discover Kaiolohia, also known as Shipwreck Beach.

MOLOKA'I

Unspoiled and untouched, this is a timeless Hawaiian Island unlike any other. Life is simpler here. This is a place where Hawaiian culture and community continue to thrive.

>Kalaupapa National Historical Park

Take a memorable mule ride from 1,700 feet to the seaside Kalaupapa National Historical Park, one of the most remote settlements in Hawai'i.

>Kapuaiwa Coconut Grove

Located in Kaunakakai, Kapuaiwa Coconut Beach Park is one of Moloka'i's most recognizable natural landmarks.

>Papohaku Beach

At three miles long, Papohaku Beach is one of the largest white sand beaches in Hawai'i.

LANA'I

The luxurious resorts of Hulopoe Bay and Lana'i City are just the start. The unexpected discoveries, found while exploring the uncharted roads, feel even more personal on this secluded isle.

>Keahiakawelo (Garden of the Hawaiian Gods)

Keahiakawelo, also known as Garden of the Gods, is an otherworldly rock garden at the end of rocky Polihua Road.

>Polihua Beach

For visitors looking for an off-the-beaten-path getaway, Lana'i offers the secluded sands of Polihua Beach.

>Puu Pehe (Sweetheart Rock), Lana'i

Rising from the waters between Hulopoe Bay and Manele Bay is the Lana'i landmark Puu Pehe, also known as Sweetheart Rock.

MAUI

Maui is the best of both worlds, offering its unique blend of sophistication and small town charm. Graced by beaches, sunsets and tropical getaways, romance is always in the air on the Valley Isle.

>Haleakala National Park

Haleakala National Park, a scenic national park on the island of Maui and home to Maui's highest peak.

>Hana

Hana is a small, untouched town on Maui's eastern coastline. To get here visitors must travel one of the world's most scenic drives.

>Kaanapali Beach, Maui

Kaanapali Beach is the signature beach of West Maui.



>Maui's Iao Valley State Park
Central Maui's Iao Valley State Park features one of Maui's most recognizable landmarks, the 1,200-foot Iao Needle.

Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

>Hawai'i Island's Pololu Valley Overlook

As you drive north on Highway 270 where the black lava landscapes of the Kohala Coast give way to the flourishing, green pastures of North Kohala.

>Lahaina

Lahaina is a historic whaling village and lively west Maui hot spot.

>Makena Beach State Park (Big Beach & Little Beach), Maui

Makena Beach, also known as "Big Beach," is one of the largest beaches in Maui. Plus right over the hill is Little Beach, a very gay beach!

>Molokini

Molokini is a small island a few miles off of Maui's southwestern coast that's well suited for snorkelers and divers.

>The Pools of Oheo

Located just past Hana, are beautiful pools fed by cascading waterfalls.

HAWAII ISLAND

This is an island made for exploration. A place of stark contrasts – from black sand beaches to rugged volcanic coastlines. Take a road trip on the biggest of Hawaiian islands.

>Akaka Falls State Park

Located along the northeastern Hamakua Coast, you can see two gorgeous waterfalls on one short hike.



>Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Watch the landscape change before your very eyes. Located 30 miles southwest of Hilo, this is the home of Kilauea volcano, one of the most active volcanoes on earth.

>Kailua Village

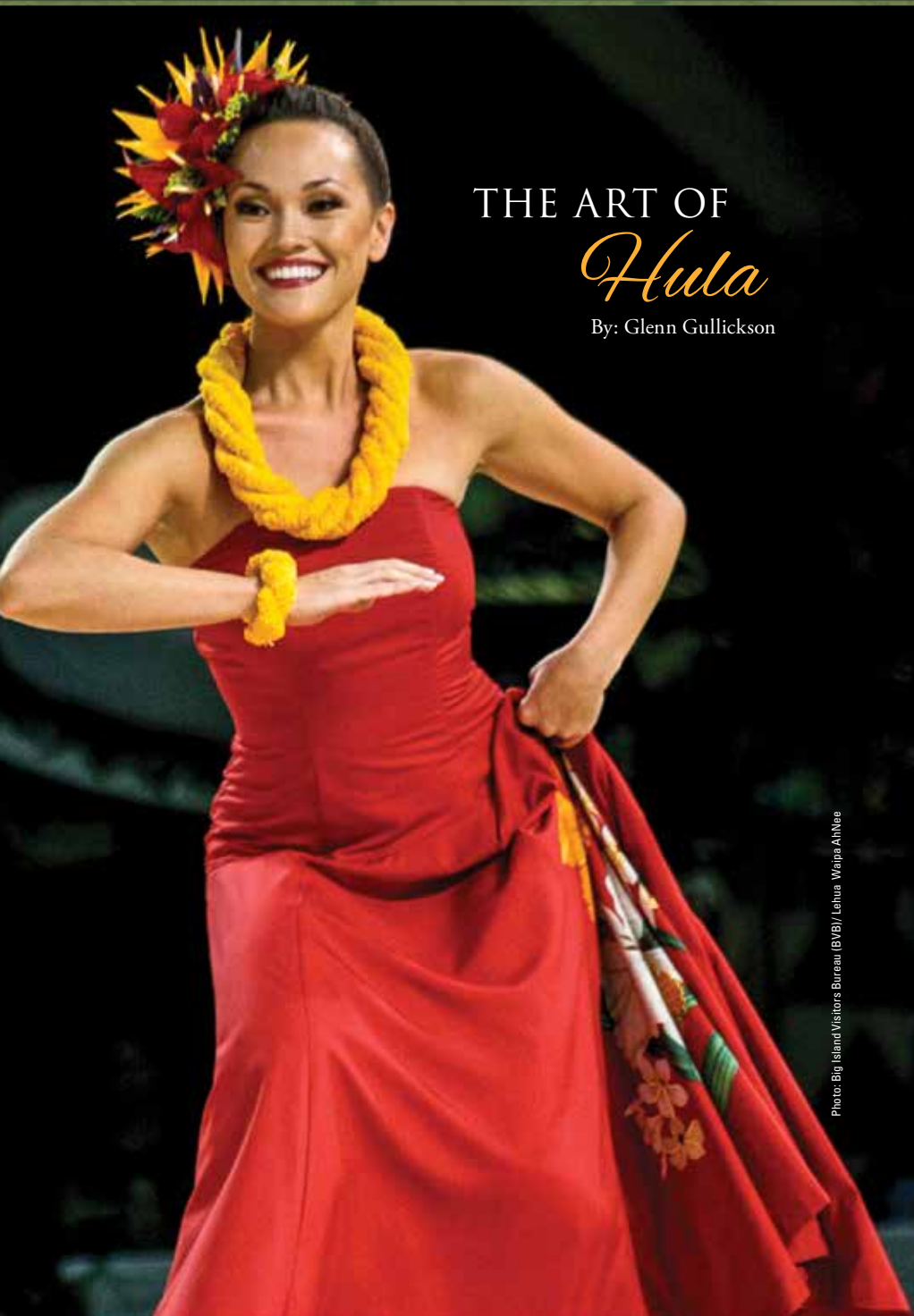
Is a lively seaside town in the heart of the sunny Kona Coast. Once a sleepy fishing village and a retreat for Hawaiian royalty, Kailua Village is now a destination for affordable accommodations, great shopping, dining and learning about Hawai'i's rich culture.

>Puuhonua o Honaunau National Historic Park

This historic park immerses you in Hawaiian culture. This 180-acre national historic park was once the home of royal grounds and a place of refuge for ancient Hawaiian lawbreakers.

>Puukohola Heiau National Historic Site

Home to one of the largest restored heiau (temple) in Hawai'i and is part of the National Park System. Heiau were sacred places of worship for Native Hawaiians, and Puukohola Heiau was a site built to fulfill a historic prophecy.



THE ART OF *Hula*

By: Glenn Gullickson

Photo: Big Island Visitors Bureau (BVB) / Lehua Wejpa AhNee



Not every state has an official dance, but it's no surprise that Hawai'i's state dance is the hula, a tradition that symbolizes the islands.

Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Dana Edmunds

For tourists, the hula is a dance that's featured as part of Hawaiian luaus, a highlight of any visit to the islands.

But for natives, the hula is an important part of Hawaiian history and culture, and it's often performed as a part of blessings and celebrations – including weddings – on the islands.

The late hula master Maiki Aiu Lake had a motto that sums up the way Hawaiians feel about the dance: "Hula is the art of Hawaiian dance expressing all that we see, hear, feel, taste, touch and smell; hula is life."

There's even an organization dedicated to recording the history of hula – the Hula Preservation Society – formed in 2000 to document the stories of hula elders and promote authentic hula.

The experts at the society say there's more to the hula than the flowing movements of hips, arms and hands. Along with the hula's vocals – a chant or song – the dance is actually telling a tale of Hawaiian tradition and culture, an oral history with stories that range from the spiritual to the erotic.

And since the vocals are in the Hawaiian tongue, the hula can be credited with helping to save the native language.

The storytelling includes Hawaiian beliefs, values, history and legends with movements that often symbolize nature, like ocean waves or rustling trees.

The story of the hula begins in ancient times, when the dance was considered sacred. Legend has it that the hula was performed for the volcano goddess Pele and protected by the goddess Laka.

Even now, some hula dances are performed to honor the Hawaiian gods and goddesses. Other dances were created to praise the tribal chiefs.

Hula has gone worldwide, but its roots are in Hawai'i. Originally called "Ha'a," the dance was developed by Polynesians when they settled on the islands.

In the 19th century, the dance's name was changed to "hula." And by 1999 – 40 years



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority/Tor Johnson

Hawai'i's last king, David Kalakaua, known as "the Merry Monarch," promoted the hula with new moves and music as part of his legacy of perpetuating Hawaiian traditions, native language and art.

The king is remembered with the Merrie Monarch Festival, an annual springtime event in Hilo that's considered the world's premiere hula competition.

It's one of the seasonal festivals and competitions that are a good place to witness authentic hula with performers wearing more traditional costumes and dancing to dramatic chants.

The dance evolved during the 19th and 20th centuries into the modern version with more fluid movements and accompaniment instruments like the guitar, ukulele and double bass.

after Hawai'i achieved statehood – the hula was designated the state dance.

Hula traditions vary by island, even by family, resulting in different varieties of the dance. But the hula has developed around two main styles. The traditional style is found mostly on the islands and is usually accompanied by chants and rudimentary percussion instruments. The modern version is more melodic, influenced by Western music and accompanied by stringed instruments.

Considered sacred by the natives, a dance performed by women wearing wrapped skirts and men in loincloths riled Christian missionaries, who arrived on the islands in the early 1800s and considered the hula a pagan ritual. When it was banned, hula dancing went underground and was performed in secret.

But in the 1830s, the hula was back – although performed wearing more clothing – after King Kamehameaha III declared religious freedom.

Hula purists complain that the dance loses something when it leaves the island, and deride what they call the Americanization or "Hollywoodization" of the dance.

Now typically performed by dancers wearing grass skirts and leis, hula can be done for audiences by male, female or co-ed troupes.

Hula scholars say that the dance has a tradition of accepting gays, and its connection to the LGBT community includes many gay men who perform the dance. It's a tradition that harkens back to a time when Hawaiian culture had more open attitudes about sexuality, before Christianity imposed its sexual mores.

Most visitors will witness the dance during luaus, which can feature traditional and modern hula dancing in shows featuring production values. It's a chance for tourists to learn about Hawaiian culture, and perhaps even get up on stage to try a few steps.

HULA TERMS

Kumu Hula: hula teacher
 Hālau Hula: hula school
 Noho dance: sitting
 Luna dance: standing
 Oli: chant
 Mele: song
 Ka'i: opening dance
 Ho'i: closing or exit dance

HULA FESTIVALS

Merrie Monarch Festival: April in Hilo
 Ka Hula Piko: May or June in Moloka'i
 Prince Lot Hula Festival: July in Honolulu
 Kaua'i Mokihana Festival: September on Kaua'i
 Moku O Keawe International Festival: November at Waikoloa Beach Resort, Island of Hawai'i
 Waikiki Hula Conference: November on O'ahu



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority/Tor Johnson

CUISINE OF *Hawai'i*

The Cuisine of Hawai'i incorporates five distinct styles of food reflecting the diverse food of settlement and immigration in the Hawaiian Islands. In the pre-contact period of Ancient Hawai'i (300 AD–1778), Polynesian voyagers brought plants and animals to the Islands. As Native Hawaiians settled the area, they fished, raised taro for poi, planted coconuts, sugarcane, sweet potatoes and yams, and cooked meat and fish in earth ovens. After first contact in 1778, European and American cuisine arrived along with missionaries and whalers, who introduced their own foods and built large plantations. Christian missionaries brought New England cuisine while whalers introduced salted fish which eventually transformed into the side dish lomi lomi salmon.

As pineapple and sugarcane plantations grew, so did the demand for labor, bringing

many immigrant groups to the Islands between 1850 and 1930. Immigrant workers from China, Korea, Japan, the Philippines, and Portugal arrived in Hawai'i, introducing their new foods and influencing the region. The introduction of new ethnic foods, such as Chinese char siu bao (manapua), Portuguese sweet bread and malasadas, and the Japanese bento, combined with the existing indigenous, European, and American foods in the plantation working environments and in the local communities. This blend of cuisines formed a "local food" style unique to Hawai'i, resulting in plantation foods like the plate lunch snacks like Spam musubi, and dishes like the loco moco. Chefs further refined the local style by inventing Hawai'i Regional Cuisine in 1992, a style of cooking that makes use of locally grown ingredients to blend all of Hawai'i's historical influences together to form a new fusion cuisine.



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority/John DeMello

Here are some recipes to try for yourself:

PUPUS (SNACKS):



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Japan

LOMI LOMI SALMON

Ingredients:

- 1/2 lb salted salmon
- 5 tomatoes, diced
- 10 green onions, chopped
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 1 cup crushed ice

Procedure:

Soak salmon in water for 3 hours. Remove skin and bones; shred. Combine salmon, tomatoes and onions; lomi or knead until well mixed. Chill thoroughly. Add ice before serving. Makes 6 servings.

MAIN DISHES:

HULI HULI CHICKEN

Ingredients:

- 3 broken fryers, split or quartered
- 1/4 cup catsup
- 1/4 cup shoyu
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 1/3 cup white wine
- 1/4 cup frozen pineapple juice concentrate
- pinch of fresh or dried ginger
- drop or two of worcestershire sauce

Procedure:

Mix ingredients in bowl, brush over washed chicken splits. Grill over barbecue, turning and basting with sauce until it is done (about 40 minutes). For a real Hawaiian picnic lunch, eat with sticky rice and macaroni salad.



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Japan

PORK LUAU

Ingredients:

- 2lbs pork
- 2lbs salt salmon or butterfish
- 7-8 bundles of spinach
- corn husks
- salt
- sweet potatoes

Procedure:

Cut pork into small chunks about 2-3 inches square. Cut salmon in smaller chunks. Wrap a piece of pork and one of salmon in a thick pad of spinach. Wrap each package in corn husks. Tie at tip. Place in a steamer, the bottom of which is covered with water.

Put sweet potatoes around packages of luau and steam 3-4 hours. Be sure water is always in steamer.

Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Japan



KALUA PORK

Ingredients:

- 3 lbs pork butt
- 2 cups water
- 1 teaspoon liquid smoke
- 1/4 cup Hawaiian Salt (or rock salt)

Procedure:

Place pork fat side up in a roasting pan or deep casserole dish. Combine water and liquid smoke; pour over meat. Sprinkle with salt. Cover and roast in oven at 400 degrees F. for three hours. Remove from pan and shred. Makes six servings.

Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Japan



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority/Dana Edmunds

DESSERTS:

GUAVA CAKE

Ingredients:

- 12 tbs butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 cups flour
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 8-10 oz guava paste

Procedure:

1. Preheat oven at 350F
2. Cream butter. Add sugar little by little. Add eggs one by one, followed by the vanilla
3. Sieve flour and baking powder and mix with the above
4. Pour half the batter on a greased mold
5. Place the guava paste (cut in slices) so as to cover all the batter
6. Pour the rest of the batter and bake for 45-60 min, or until an inserted toothpick comes out clean.

BANANA GUAVA PIE

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups sliced bananas
- 1 1/4 cups guava nectar
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons cornstarch
- 3 tablespoons cold water
- 1 baked pie shell

Procedure:

Combine guava nectar, lemon juice, sugar and salt. Bring to boil over low heat. Mix cornstarch and water to a smooth paste and stir into mixture. Stir until thickened and clear. Cool. Combine with bananas and pour into baked pie shell. Serve with whipped cream.

Recipes courtesy of University of Hawai'i



Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Dana Edmunds

2015 BUSINESS

Directory

- 58** **Haua'i**
Lihue, East Side, North Shore,
South Shore, West Side
- 70** **O'ahu**
Honolulu, Pearl Harbor, Waikiki
- 98** **Moloka'i**
Central Moloka'i, East End, West End
- 104** **Lana'i**
South Lana'i, Central Lana'i, North Lana'i
- 110** **Maui**
West Maui, Central Maui, South Maui,
Upcountry, East Maui
- 128** **Hawai'i, The Big Island**
Hilo, Kailua-Kona, Waimea

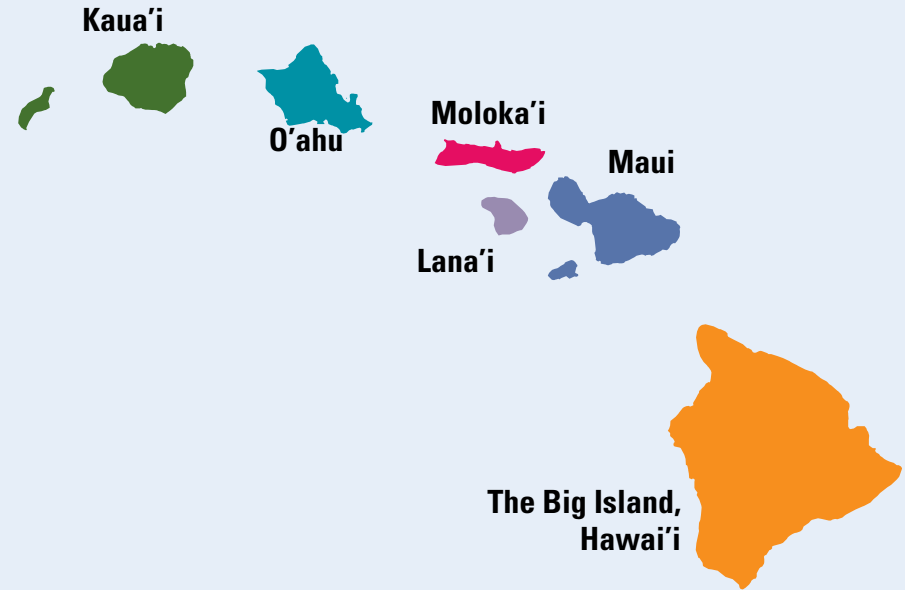


Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson.



Kaua'i is the fourth largest of the inhabited Hawaiian islands, as well as being the oldest and the northern-most. A lush island of jagged cliffs, cascading waterfalls, and emerald tropical forests; some parts of the island's interior can only be reached by air. It is also the only Hawaiian island with navigable rivers.

Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) / Linda Ching

Kaua'i

THE GARDEN ISLE

LIHUE, EAST SIDE, NORTH SHORE,
SOUTH SHORE, WEST SIDE

Kaua'i is divided into five regions - Lihue, East Side, North Shore, South Shore, and West Side.

LIHUE

Lihue, in the southeast of the island, is the center of government and commerce, the site of both Lihue Airport and Nawiliwili Harbor and the major air and sea hubs of Kaua'i. Lihue also boasts excellent beaches, scenic waterfalls, and a great deal of local history. Among the sites to see are Wailua Falls, north of Lihue proper, which some may recognize from the opening credits of "Fantasy Island"; Kilohana Estate, a huge Tudor-style mansion that was once the heart of a vast sugar plantation and is now the site of one-of-a-kind shops; the Grove Farm Homestead Museum,

where one may learn about the history of the Hawaiian sugar industry while touring the gardens; the Kaua'i Museum, featuring both local artwork and history; and the Huleia National Wildlife Refuge, where sits Alekoko Menhune Fishpond, an artificial pond built by native Hawaiians to trap fish nearly 1,000 years ago - though local legend claims it was built by the mysterious Menhune, a mischievous little people of the forest.

THE EAST SIDE

The East Side of Kaua'i (north of Lihue) is sometimes known as the Coconut Coast, because of the groves of coconut palms which grace her beachside resorts. It is the most populous region of Kaua'i. The town of Kapa'a, north of the Wailua

Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson



Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Robert Coello



Photo: Hawaii Tourism Authority / Tor Johnson

River, offers shopping and dining, as well as water skiing and kayaking. Between Kapa'a and Lihue, just south of Wailua, is Lydgate State Park, where you'll find one of Kaua'i's gay-friendly beaches. Another is Donkey Beach, north of Kapa'a, known as both a gay and a nudist beach. And not far from Donkey Beach is Anahola Beach, where you can find Mahina Kai Ocean Villa, a gorgeous, Japanese-style establishment catering to the LGBT community. You can also take a boat ride up Wailua River, where you might visit such magical places as Opaeka'a Falls, the famed Nounou Mountain (the Sleeping Giant), or the amazing Fern Grotto, a popular (if out of the way) wedding destination once reserved for Hawaiian royalty.

NORTH SHORE

The North Shore area is a region of extraordinary beauty, perhaps best known for the towering cliffs of Napali Coast. Heading west from along the north coast of the island, you'll reach Kilauea, where the famous Kilauea Lighthouse stands

aloft overlooking the sea. Not far from here is also where you'll find Kauapea Beach, the third of Kaua'i's gay beaches and a spectacularly beautiful spot in itself. Further along you'll come to the high-end resort town of Princeville, and then Hanalei Town, where you'll find art galleries, shopping and dining, as well as the historic Waioli Mission House. This is also the place to come for ukulele concerts, held at the Hanalei Community Center. Beyond Hanalei are the breathtaking, 3,000-foot cliffs of the aforementioned Napali Coast. There is no automobile access to these cliffs; you'll either have to rough it with a long and arduous hike, or take an air or boat tour.

SOUTH SHORE

South Shore, to the south and west of Lihue, is known for beautiful Poipu Beach Park. In addition to natural beauty and relatively calm waters, Poipu is frequented by a wide variety of marine life, including humpback whales, green sea turtles, and endangered Hawaiian monk seals. Nearby are shops, restaurants, resorts, and golf

courses. Old Koloa town, nearby, features picturesque buildings from the sugar plantation days. Learn about the role of the sugar industry in Hawai'i's development on the 'Ka Ala Hele Waiwai Ho'olina o Koloa', or Koloa Heritage Trail, a self-guided tour featuring 14 historic sites.

WEST SIDE

The West Side of Kaua'i includes attractions of both historical interest and immense natural beauty. Hanapepe Town, west of Koloa, is known as a center of the art scene in Kaua'i and has more art galleries than any other community on the island. The plantation-era architecture has been little changed over the last century, giving this small town a quiet charm - Hanapepe was the inspiration for the hometown of the main characters in the Disney animated film, *Lilo & Stitch*. Check out the 'Hanapepe Swinging Bridge' as well as the galleries, shops, and restaurants, especially during Friday evening's Art Night. Further west along the coast is Waimea Town, which

is near where the famed explorer, Captain James Cook, first landed on the Hawaiian islands. A statue of Cook, modeled on an original from Whitby, England, stands in the center of town. Also of interest is the West Kaua'i Technology & Visitor Center, where you can learn much about the island's history. Inland, north of Waimea, is the gorgeous Waimea Canyon, known as the 'Grand Canyon of the Pacific.' Though not as large or as ancient as Arizona's Grand Canyon, Waimea Canyon presents 14 miles of extraordinary vistas unlike anything else in Hawai'i. Beyond the canyon lies beautiful Kokee State Park, a realm of lofty cliffs adorned with the emerald splendors of native forests. Visitors, especially those who plan on going on a long hike through this verdant area, should check out the Kokee Natural History Museum. Kokee Park opens out into the majestic sea cliffs of Napali Coast, in Kaua'i's North Shore.

With so much to see and do, Kaua'i, Hawai'i's "Garden Isle," is truly a treat for the sophisticated traveler.

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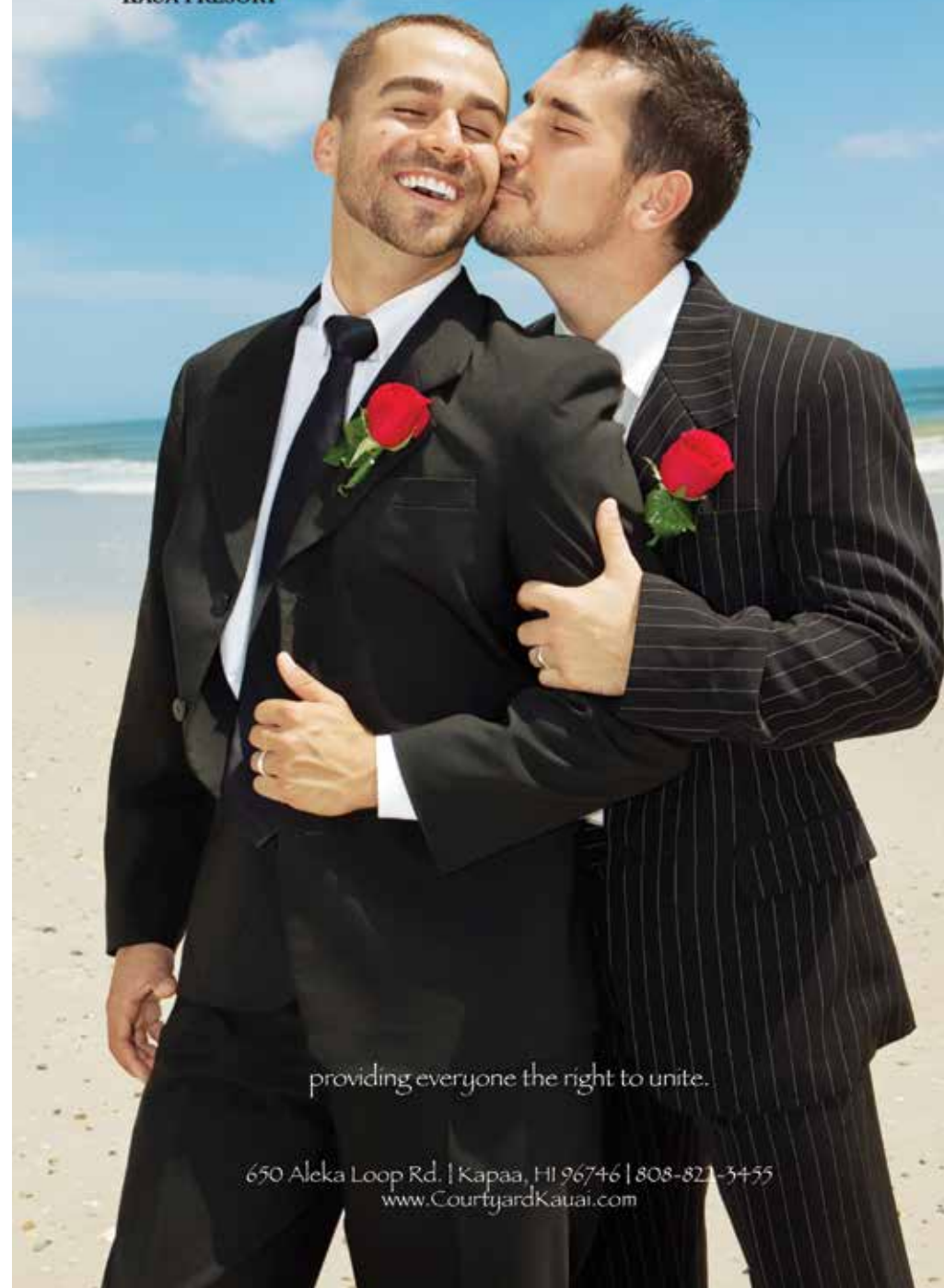
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O'ahu

THE GATHERING PLACE

HONOLULU, PEARL HARBOR, WAIKIKI

Photo: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Dana Edmunds



Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tom Johnson

Also known as “the gathering place,”

O'ahu is the third largest in size among its fellow islands in the Hawaiian chain, but it is first in population. Over 950,000 people share O'ahu's 600 square miles of mountains and beaches. Almost half inhabit the bustling city of Honolulu and nearby resort town of Waikiki.

O'ahu is also the most visited of all the Hawaiian islands, at approximately 4.5 to 4.7 million visitors annually.

O'ahu is primarily defined by the state capital of Honolulu, Pearl Harbor, and the famous beach known as Waikiki. These areas absorb tourists by thousands daily. Oah'u boasts a fantastic climate, inexpensive accommodations, a large variety of shopping options, and world renowned beaches - it's fair to say the island lures in visitors from around the world. Though this may be the one fault of the island, as many are discouraged by the large crowds of Oah'u and thus dismiss the island, instead visiting one of the other, less visited, islands in the chain. After

all, chances are if you are staying on Oah'u you too will book a room in Waikiki or Honolulu yourself. Nearly all of the island's resorts are crammed into this small area. Honolulu is the state's capital and major financial center. It is also home to the main campus of the University of Hawai'i. Honolulu wasn't always the main seat. Until 1845 the capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom was located on the island of Maui. King Kamehameha III ordered the move and the Iolani Palace was built later.

But Oah'u is much more than Honolulu or Waikiki - it may well be the most beautiful of all the major islands. The Hawai'i *Pride Guide*® will help guide you to experience the beauty that is Oah'u.



Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tri Johnson

O'ahu, is made up of two separate but overlapping volcanoes, known as a volcanic doublet. Its asymmetrical butterfly shape is formed by two mountain ranges: the Waianae Range in the west and the Ko'olau Range in the east. Slicing through the center is the flat Leilehua Plateau. Recent, geologically speaking, volcanic eruptions in the southeastern portion of the island which formed the Diamond Head, Koko Head and Punchbowl craters can be blamed for Oah'u's uneven shape.

The eastern coast of O'ahu is hemmed in by a gorgeous mountain range and boasts three of the island's best beaches. Surprisingly, you'll find no major accommodations here, just a few vacation homes along the quaint towns that dot the coast. The eastern region offers many visitors an escape from the bustling Waikiki scene while still offering the proximity to the shopping and activities of the nearby city just a half hour drive away. The jaw-dropping Ka'a'awa Valley is also located on this side of the island. It is easily recognizable as the backdrop for the hit television series "Lost." The island

has played host to a slew of films and television shows such as the current CBS hit show "*Hawai'i Five-O*."

The famous north shore of O'ahu is a surfer's paradise, especially in the winter months when the surf is up. The monster waves and laid-back atmosphere have professional surfers flocking to Banzai Pipeline and Waimea Bay to ride some of the most killer waves in the Pacific. About an hour's drive from Honolulu, this region has a surprisingly unpopulated feel to it. Many miles of beaches stretch along this portion of O'ahu, making it a popular haven for those looking to relax in the sun.

The western, northwestern, and central regions are where most of the island's residents live. For the most part, there isn't much here for the typical island visitors— just a few scattered beaches. Central O'ahu does however have one of the island's largest attractions, Pearl Harbor and the U.S.S. Arizona Memorial. More than one million people a year pay their respects to the many military personnel who lost their lives during the Japanese attack. Many of these men and



Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) / Linda Ching

women and veterans of many wars are laid to rest in Punchbowl National Cemetery at Pu'owaina Crater (Punchbowl).

Beyond the sky scrapers and decidedly urban nature of the southern tip of the island is an O'ahu of great natural beauty and old-time charm. For the traveler looking to experience a modern paradise, O'ahu has it all - the excitement and culture of a large metropolitan city, the unspoiled beauty of tropical coastlines and verdant mountains plus everything in between.

There are many gay beaches in Hawai'i, and one of the most scenic and well-known in the world is Queen's Surf Beach in the heart of Waikiki. The beach here draws a mostly gay & lesbian crowd, although certainly not exclusively gay.

Queen's Beach is across Kalakaua Avenue from the Honolulu Zoo and a few blocks from Hula's Bar.

There are over seven gay & lesbian bars in Honolulu where you can enjoy a drink, with the open windows to enjoy the fresh ocean air. Make sure you check out the "Out in Waikiki Map" in this *Pride Guide*® to map out your evening. And make sure you ask your bartender about the catamaran trips as some bars offer over the weekend gay catamaran tours.

Join other world travelers on the bustling streets of cosmopolitan Honolulu. Wherever you go, allow time to savor the unique character of each part of the Island, to visit the shops, dine in the local hotspots, enjoy the gay nightlife and take in the stunning vistas.

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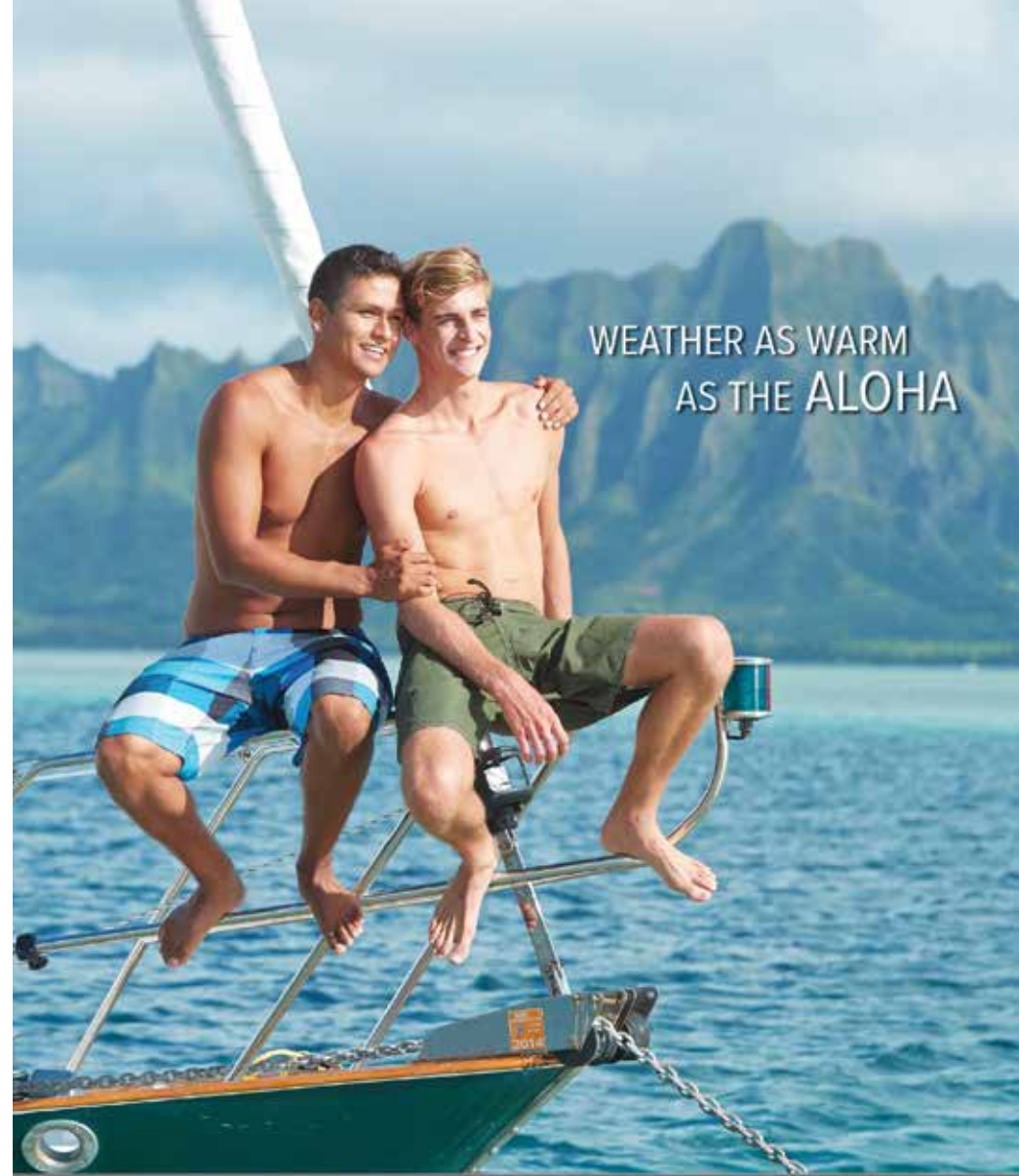
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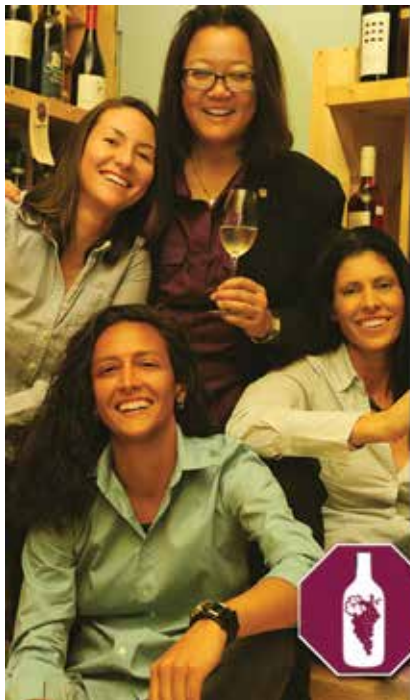


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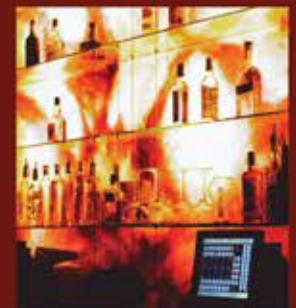
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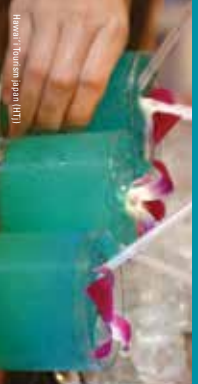
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Hawaii Tourism Japan

Molokai is Hawaii's 2nd smallest

inhabited island. Quiet and rural, with a high percentage of the population being of native Hawaiian ancestry, parts of Molokai offer an opportunity to see Hawaii much as it was in the days before Western contact. Molokai is said to be the birthplace of hula, the distinctive Hawaiian dance.

Molokai

THE OLD STYLE ISLE

CENTRAL MOLOKA'I. EAST END, WEST END

The island is divided into three sectors - Central, East End, and West End.

CENTRAL MOLOKA'I

Central Molokai is the most heavily populated area. Molokai Airport is located in the town of Ho'olehua, which also features a macadamia nut farm. South of Ho'olehua is Kaunakakai, the island's largest town, where you can enjoy the local shops and historic attractions or go boating or fishing from Kaunakakai Harbor. The town is also home to Kapuiwa Coconut Grove, planted under King Kamehameha V in the 1860s and one of the last royal coconut

groves still standing in Hawaii. Along the south shore, near Kaunakakai, are Molokai's ancient fish ponds, engineered by the Hawaiians to provide fish for the ali'i (chiefs or nobles), many of them built 700-800 years ago. To the north is Kalaupapa Peninsula, site of Kalaupapa National Historical Park. The park is inaccessible by car, being reached only on foot or by mule-ride along 1,700-foot cliffs. In the 1800s the revered Catholic priest, Father Damien, tended to victims of Hansen's Disease in this isolated but beautiful community, before succumbing to the affliction himself.



EAST END

The East End of Moloka'i is dominated by tropical forests and by Kamakou, the island's largest mountain at 4,970 feet. Off shore is the longest continuous fringing reef in the Hawaiian islands, at 28 miles. Along Kamehameha V Highway you'll find Kumimi Beach, also known as 20 Mile Beach or Murphy's Beach, Halaway Bay, and Halawa Beach Park. Inland is the beautiful Halawa Valley. You'll need to arrange a guided tour to hike Halawa Valley, as much of the trail crosses private property. Near the summit of Kamakou is the Kamakou Preserve, with over 2,700 acres and hosting over 250 rare Hawaiian plants as well as endangered birds.

WEST END

Moloka'i's West End is the site of Papohaku Beach, one of the largest white sand beaches in the islands, and one of the quietest in terms of foot traffic. Every third week in May the beach hosts the Moloka'i Ka Hula Piko Festival, the largest cultural celebration in Moloka'i, dedicated to the hula. The only town in West End is the plantation village of Maunaloa, featuring rental condos and unique shopping. Another famous nearby beach, Kapukahehu Beach, also known as Dixie Maru Beach, is also a great spot to relax and enjoy a beautiful sunset.



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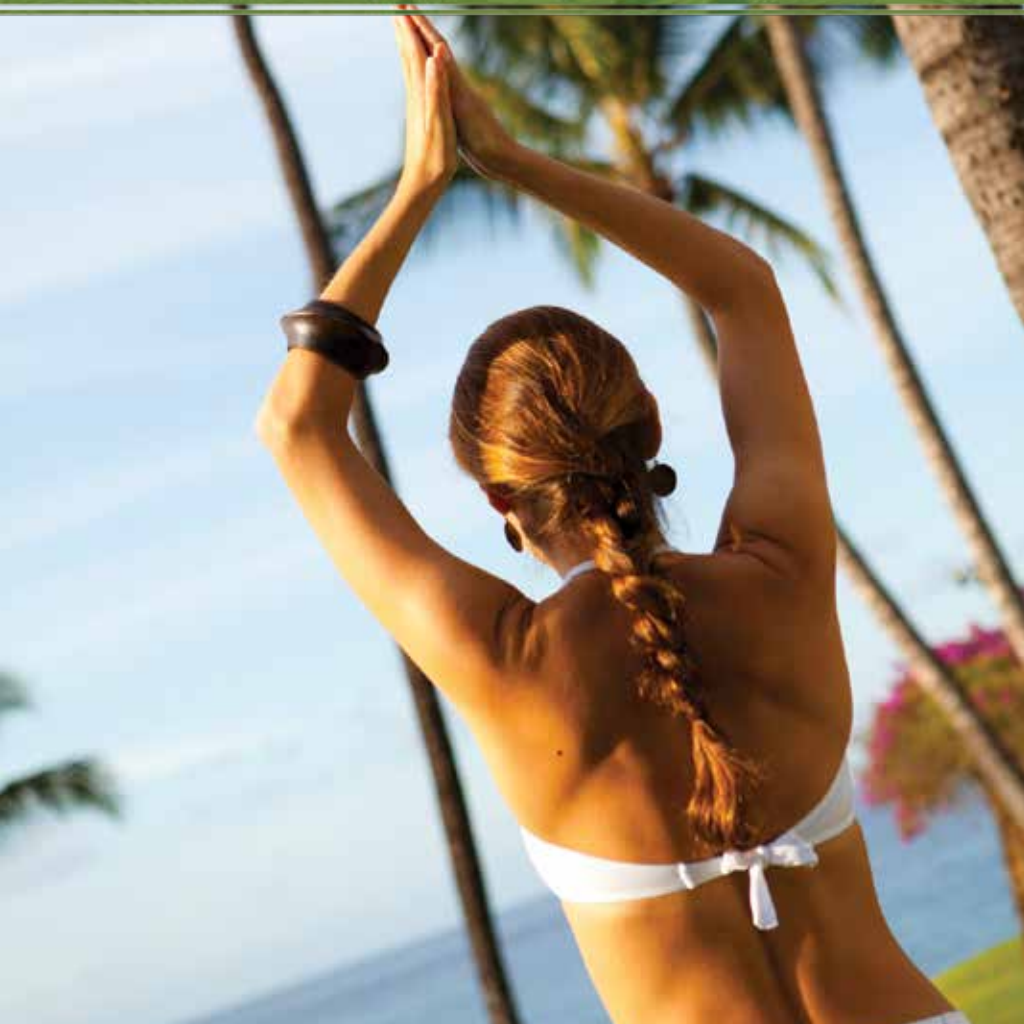
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Lana'i

ISLAND OF RARE DELIGHTS

SOUTH LANA'I, CENTRAL LANA'I, NORTH LANA'I

Lana'i, Hawai'i's "most enticing isle," is a wonderful place to get away from it all. The smallest of the inhabited Hawaiian islands, Lana'i lies close to Maui. It has a drier climate than most of the islands, receiving about 37 inches of rainfall per year.

It was only settled in the 1500s, and still has only a small regular population, and just 30 miles of paved road. There are three regions in Lana'i - South, Central, and North.

SOUTH LANA'I

South Lana'i is the site of famous Hulapoe Bay and Manele Bay - there is ferry service to and from Maui at Manele Bay. One of the island's two major resorts is here, together with the world class Challenge at Manele golf course. Between Hulapoe Bay and Manele Bay is the iconic Pu'u Pehe or 'Sweetheart Rock,' so named

because of the legend of tragic love between the warrior Makakehua and the maiden Pehe. It's a great place for beautiful and romantic views, and a chance to see the spinner dolphins which frequent this area. At the southern tip of Lana'i is Kaunolu Village, the largest surviving ruin of a prehistoric Hawaiian village, where King Kamehameha I, unifier of the Hawaiian islands, maintained his fishing retreat. The village features the remains of Halulu Heiau (a temple), petroglyphs, and Kehekili's Leap, a 60-foot jump into the waters where warriors would demonstrate their bravery.



CENTRAL LANA'I

Central Lana'i is an area of highland plains dotted by Cook pines and by Lana'ihale, the island's highest peak. 10-12 degrees cooler than the coastal areas, it is often advisable to bring a sweater or jacket when travelling here. Lana'i City sits at the very heart of the island and is the site of unique local shopping, dining, and art galleries centered around Dole Park, as well as the historic Hotel Lana'i, and the island's other major resort featuring the Experience at Koele golf course. Lana'i Airport is also located near the city, with service to the other Hawaiian islands. North of Lana'i City is the start of Munro Trail, named after George Munro, the New Zealand naturalist who introduced the Cook pine to the island. The trail stretches 12.8 miles and offers stunning views of Maunalei gulch as well as (on a clear day) the islands of Maui, Moloka'i, Kaho'olawe, and even the Big Island and Oah'u.

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Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Pierce M Myers Photography

NORTH LANA'I

North Lana'i is served by dirt roads, but the bumpy ride will be worth it to see some of the sights. Be certain to get clear directions before heading out - the roads are unmarked. About 30 miles north of Lana'i City is Kaiolohia, 'Shipwreck Beach.' The rocky, shallow channel here has wrecked a number of ships over the years, including an oil tanker from the 1940's whose hull still sits atop the coral reef, in plain view from the beach. Northwest of Lana'i City are the 590 acres of Kanepu'u Preserve, home to 48 species of native plants, such as the lama and alea trees, which once covered much of the Hawaiian islands. Farther to the northwest is Keahiakawelo, known as the 'Garden of the Gods,' a rocky, barren landscape. Still farther west is the remote Polihua Beach, the most isolated beach on the island.



Photos: Top & Bottom: Hawai'i Tourism Authority / Pierce M Myers Photography

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The second largest of the Hawaiian
islands, Maui, the 'Magic Isle,' has a relatively small population, making it a quiet and peaceful place to live or to visit. Maui consists of two mountain ranges, massive Haleakala, a dormant shield volcano, in the east, and the West Maui Mountains - actually the remains of an older, extinct volcano - to the west, connected by an isthmus which forms the low-lying central plain.

Maui

THE MAGIC ISLE

WEST MAUI, CENTRAL MAUI, SOUTH MAUI, UPCOUNTRY, EAST MAUI



The island is divided into five major regions - West, Central, South, Upcountry, and East Maui.

WEST MAUI

West Maui comprises Maui's northwest corner, and features the major resort towns of Lahaina and Kapalua and the famed Ka'anapali Beach and Honalua Bay. Drier than other parts of Maui to the east, West Maui was once a gathering place for Hawaiian royalty, and Lahaina for a time served as the capital of the Kingdom of Hawai'i. It was

also a major center of the whaling industry during the 19th century. Now, Lahaina is known most as a tourist destination, her famed Front Street a busy thoroughfare of shops and restaurants, terminating in the Banyan Tree Square at the south end, site of an enormous banyan tree as well as the reconstructed ruins of Lahaina Fort. Ka'anapali Beach, north of Lahaina and Front Street, features Pu'u Keka'a, 'Black Rock,' where a torch lighting and cliff diving ceremony is held nightly at the Sheraton Maui to commemorate a feat by the great

Maui King Kahekili. Ka'anapali is also the site of ocean side golf courses and Whalers Village, a major open air shopping destination. Nearby Kapalua is also noted for beautiful beaches, resorts, and golf courses; Honalua Bay is a popular surfing and snorkeling location, and during the winter months features enormous waves that test the mettle of the hardest pro surfers.

CENTRAL MAUI

Central Maui is the major population center of the island. The county seat, Wailuku, is here, as is the largest population center, Kahului, immediately east of Wailuku. Kahului is the site of Kahului Airport, where the great majority of travelers will arrive on the island. To the west of Wailuku is scenic Iao Valley, once a retreat for the chiefs of Maui, where is located the iconic Iao Needle. Iao Valley was the scene of the great Battle of Kepaniwai between the forces of the Maui kingdom and Hawaiian King Kamehameha I, the ruler who united the Hawaiian islands into the Kingdom of Hawai'i. Wailuku features many historic buildings as well as locally

owned shops and restaurants, while Kahului features retail stores and the Maui Arts & Cultural Center.

SOUTH MAUI

South Maui is the region along the island's southwestern coast, including the towns of Kihei, Wailea, and Makena. Like West Maui, it is more dry than other parts of the island, featuring sandy, pleasant beaches, and is also a major resort area, with shopping, restaurants, and golf courses. Beaches here tend to be less crowded than those in Lahaina and Ka'anapali. Particularly well known is Makena Beach State Park, better known as 'Big Beach,' 2/3 of a mile of warm golden sand. Just north of Big Beach, across an outcrop of black volcanic rock, is 'Little Beach,' famous as both a nude beach and a gay beach. Little Beach features a wide assortment of people (young and old, gay and straight, nude and not quite) and on Sundays often hosts drum circles and fire dancing. Both beaches feature warm sand and water, beautiful views of nearby Kaho'olawe Island and Molikini Crater, and are great for surfing, swimming, and



Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson

snorkeling. Besides Little Beach, Kihei to the north hosts Maui Sunseeker Resort, the only resort on Maui catering specifically to the LGBT community, and much of the island's bar scene in the area known locally as the 'Triangle.' This includes Ambrosia Martini Lounge, which hosts a gay night every Sunday evening, in case you feel like adding some nightlife to your Maui adventure.

UPCOUNTRY MAUI

Upcountry Maui, located along the western slopes of Haleakala Volcano, is a lush, green land of rolling hills and valleys. Farms, ranches, and wineries are to be found here, as is the summit of Haleakala itself, rising 10,023 feet above sea level. In the northern area, near the shore, is the town of Paia and the famed Ho'okipa Beach, windsurfing capital of the world. Paia itself is well known for her shops and eateries, particularly the fresh seafood. Farther up the slopes of Haleakala is the Kula region, a rich farming area where much of Maui's delicious fresh produce comes from. Check out O'o Farm, the Ali'i Kula Lavender Farm, the Shim Coffee and Protea Farm, and the Kula Botanical Gardens in this area. The town of Makawao, is known for her vibrant art scene as well as for the paniolo - Hawaiian cowboys - who have been a part of Maui's social fabric since the 1800's. Take in the Hui No'eau Visual Arts Center while you're here.

EAST MAUI

East Maui is a lush region, site of the famed, winding 'Road to Hana' along the northeastern coast, as well as the small town of Hana itself. Hana is the site of Pi'ilanihale Heiau, believed to be the largest heiau (ancient Hawaiian temple) in the Hawaiian islands, situated within Kanahu Gardens. There are also a number of gorgeous beaches. South of Hana are the beautiful Pools of Oheo, in Oheo Gulch in the Kiaphulu area of Haleakala National Park. Waterfalls and tropical forests cover East Maui, making the area an amazing getaway for hikers and sightseers. Waterfall-fed pools, at Oheo and throughout the area, offer the adventurous a chance to take a brisk swim in the flowing waters. The waterfalls themselves, such as the 400-foot Waimoku Falls.

There are two seasons in Maui; winter, from November through April, when temperatures typically range from the low-70s to the low-80s, and summer, when highs can reach the low-90s. Those are temperatures near the coasts and lowlands; higher up the mountains, temperatures drop, and near the summit of massive Haleakala are generally in the 40s or lower - so it may suit you to bring a sweater or jacket, depending on where you go and the time of year.



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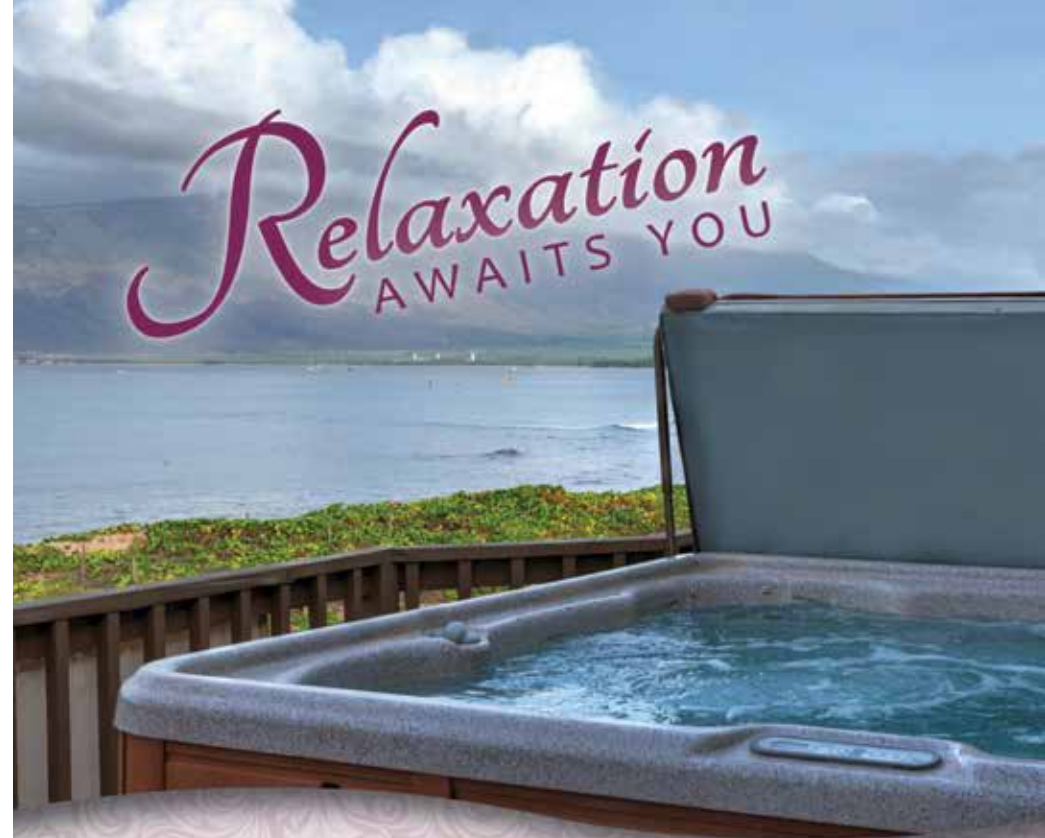
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www.HolyMaui.org

St. John's Episcopal Church

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808-878-1485

www.StJohnsmaui.org

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Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) Maui

P.O. Box 606

Lahaina, HI 96767

PFLAGMaui@gmail.com

www.PFLAG.org

Support, Education, Advocacy and Local community information.

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Teen Suicide Hotline

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www.TheTrevorProject.org

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14TH

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MARCH
21ST

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APRIL
18TH

321 karaoke party

MAY
9TH

The LAVA Soiree

JUNE
20TH

PRIDE PROM

JULY
18TH

DRAG QUEEN CAR WASH

AUGUST
29TH

Maui Mystery Mayhem

SEPTEMBER
19TH

LGBTQ BEACH BBQ DAY

OCTOBER
1ST - 4TH

MAUI PRIDE WEEKEND CELEBRATION

NOVEMBER
21ST

Out of Our Closets Rummage Sale



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Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Ethan Tweedie



Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) / Tor Johnson

Hawai'i - The Big Island abounds

with natural wonder. From active volcanoes spewing molten magma, snow-kissed mountain peaks, to lush tropical rainforest and its white, green and black sand beaches. You can find every major ecosystem on the planet all in one place.

Hawai'i
THE BIG ISLAND

HILO, KAILUA-KONA, WAIMEA

The big Island of Hawai'i is an adventure of nature's finest work. Hawai'i Island is actually formed from five individual shield volcanoes that erupted in succession. Of the five volcanoes, one is extinct, one is dormant and three are active to varying degrees. Kilauea for example has been erupting continuously since 1983 and is part of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Mauna Kea could be considered the tallest mountain on the planet if you go from the ocean floor. It towers almost 14,000 feet above sea level and is snow capped most of the year. Mauna Loa is considered the widest volcano on the planet.

Whether you're planning a destination gay wedding, a relaxing intimate couple's retreat, an anniversary celebration, single or group getaway - The Big Island of Hawai'i has so much to offer in terms of pristine natural beauty.

As the entire state is called Hawai'i, many refer to the Island of Hawai'i as "The Big Island" to avoid confusing it with the state in general. You'll find that many of the island's accommodations, restaurants, bars, social groups, services and venues are gay owned and operated, agreeable and very accommodating to the LGBT community.

HILO

Hilo is the county seat of The Big Island and the town overlooks the gorgeous and pristine Hilo Bay. Hilo in the native language means “to twist” and is home to several LGBT and gay friendly businesses as well as Pride Hilo, and a registered independent student organization at the University of Hawai‘i, Hilo. Having one of the oldest established tourism areas in the Hawaiian Islands, Hilo boasts a bustling business area with plenty for LGBT travelers and tourists to see and do, including several shopping centers, bars, restaurants and cafes, a number of movie theaters and of course hotels. Be sure to check out the Hilo Farmers Market for fresh, seasonal fruits, flowers, coffee and local arts and crafts. There’s also a tsunami museum, a rainforest zoo and Hilo is home to the Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Corporation.

Hilo Farmers Market is open year-round every Wednesday and Saturday, “from dawn ‘til it’s gone,” this is one of the better open markets in Hawai‘i. And food is only part of the fun. Arrive early for the best selection of made-in-Hawai‘i crafts, fresh tropical flowers, aloha wear and handmade jewelry.



Hawai‘i Tourism Japan (HTJ)

KAILUA-KONA

Kailua-Kona was established by King Kamehameha I to be his seat of government. Today it has undergone a real estate and construction boom fueled by tourism and investment. Kona is a gay mecca of sorts, as Kailua-Kona is served by nearby Kona International Airport. Kailua is the start and finish of the annual Ironman World Championship triathlon, the Hawaiian International Billfish Tournament and the annual Kona Coffee Festival. Kona coffee is world renowned for its unique and distinctive rich flavors and the coffee plants thrive in the lush, local climate.

Historic Kailua Village is no longer the sleepy fishing village it was for Hawaiian royalty. Leave from here on sport fishing charters or stroll down the main road of Ali‘i Drive to find a variety of attractions beyond the shops and restaurants. Kailua Pier, the starting and finishing point of the world-famous Ironman World Championship, is a great place to watch the sunset.

WAIMEA

The upland town of Waimea is paniolo (Hawaiian cowboy) country. Saddle up and ride through the wide-open spaces.



Photo: Big Island Visitors Bureau

Several area ranches offer the opportunity to ride the range in a guided tour of the pastures with spectacular views of the coastline and peaks. For the less adventurous, there are storytelling tours by horse-drawn wagons. The ranchers and horses of the Big Island look forward to sharing their unique country with you.

Pu‘uhonua O Honaunau National Historic Park, also known as Hawai‘i’s last “place of refuge,” provides a look into early Hawaiian culture. Restored to its early 1700’s appearance, step back in time and explore the many archeological sites including Keone‘ele Cove, the royal canoe landing, as well as heiau (sacred place of worship), halau (long house of canoes) and fishponds. Beautiful at sunset, this sacred place gives visitors an important glimpse into Hawaiian culture.

Because of its combination of high altitude, clear air and absence of light, Mauna Kea is home to many international observatories. Take a guided tour or learn about Mauna Kea and its observatories at the Onizuka Center for International Astronomy Visitor Information Center. Bring the family and see why stargazing atop Mauna Kea is such an unforgettable experience.

A trip to Hawai‘i Island would not be complete without a visit to Hawai‘i

Volcanoes National Park. Dramatic, diverse, vast (more than 333,000 acres) and still growing, the park has been designated a International Biosphere Reserve and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Beyond those very significant international honors, the Island’s volcanoes are revered and deeply respected as the home of the goddess Pele and of rare and threatened plant and animal species. The Kilauea Visitor Center is a good place to start any adventure in the park. A film introduces the park and rangers offer updates on volcano activity as well as maps. Driving the loop of Crater Rim Drive will take you 11 miles around the lip of the Kilauea Caldera.

In addition to being a top gay destination, The Big Island is also known for its strides with “sustainable tourism.” Home to so many natural splendors and enthralling ecosystems, Hawai‘i is focused on sustainable tourism growth. Dedicated to maintaining a vibrant island experience for years to come, as an LGBT tourist you’ll see evidence of this in everything from nature preserves, conservation districts and advanced support for the local economies, ecologies and precious natural resources as you partake of the island experience. There is no place on earth like Hawai‘i Island.

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Award-winning snorkel cruises to Kealakekua Bay, plus nightly manata ray adventures.

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"Best Snorkel Cruise on the Big Island"

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► The Hula Kai - Luxury Snorkel & Dive Adventures along the Remote South Kona Coast



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www.Huggos.com

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See our ad on page 135

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www.MyBarKona.com

Kona's hottest LGBT bar.

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See our ad on page 78

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See our ad on page 78

CHURCHES & RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

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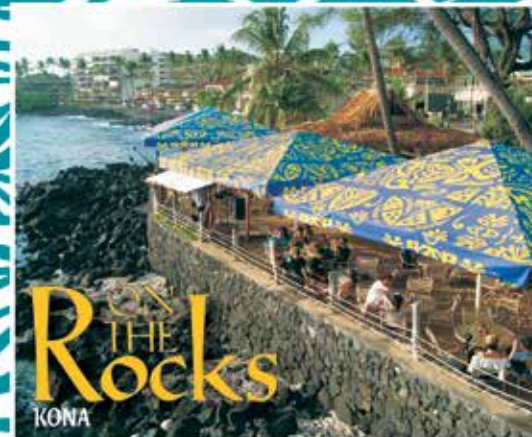
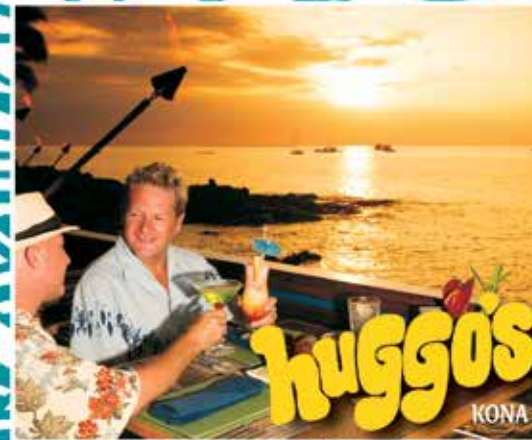
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Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
West HI 808-331-8177
East HI 808-982-8800
www.HIHAF.org

The Hawaii Island HIV/AIDS Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to building a healthier, stronger community with emphasis on HIV & related health issues.

Ku Aloha Ola Mau

900 Leilani Street
Hilo, HI 96720
808-961-6822
www.DashHawaii.org

Committed to enhancing the quality of life in Hawaii through excellence in service and responsive action toward the individual and community's needs surrounding chemical dependency.

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15-1926 Puakala St.
P.O. Box 2300
Pahoa, HI 96778
808-982-9555
www.DashHawaii.org

Committed to enhancing the quality of life in Hawaii through excellence in service and responsive action toward the individual and community's needs surrounding chemical dependency.

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) Hilo

157 Keawe Street
Hilo, HI 96720
808-238-2880
PFLAGBigIsland@gmail.com
www.PFLAGBigIsland.org

Support, Education, Advocacy, and local community information.

The Trevor Project

Teen Suicide Hotline
866-4-U-TREVOR
866-488-7386
www.TheTrevorProject.org

The Trevor Project is a national organization focused on crisis and suicide prevention efforts among the LGBTQ youth.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES - ENTERTAINMENT & EVENTS

Hawaii Island Pride

www.HawaiiIslandPride.com

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www.Huggos.com

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Pahoa, HI 96778
808-965-7611

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Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
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www.Kalani.com

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www.LavaLavaBeachclub.com

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INDEX

17 Palms Kauai Vacation Cottages..... 62

A

A Beautiful Maui Beginning..... 125

Ala Moana Center 86

All Saints' Episcopal Church..... 64

Aloha Bears 80

Aloha Experiences of Hawaii 90

Aloha Maui Dream Weddings 125, 126

Ambrosia Martini Lounge 118

Aston Hotels & Resorts 62, 74, 114, 132

Auntie Pasto's..... 84

B

Bacchus Waikiki 74

Bay Front Coffee Kava & Tea Co. 134

Bear Cafe..... 134

Betty's Beach Cafe..... 120

Bistro Casanova 120

Black Rock Steak & Seafood 120

Black Rock Terrace..... 120

Bookkeepervirtual.com..... 74

C

Cafe 565..... 108

Cafe at La Plage	120	Four Seasons Resort Lana'i	108
Cafe O'Lei Kihei	120		
Cake Fanatics	118, 122	G	
Cake Works	76, 86	Gay Hawaii Weddings \$95.00	90
Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church	77, 86	Gay Men's Chorus of Honolulu	79
Casanova Italian Restaurant & Deli	120	GayVacationsHawaii.com	80, 119, 136
Christ Church Episcopal	134, 138	Gerard's Restaurant	120
Church of the Crossroads	77	Grass Shack Parties and Rentals	138
Coffees of Hawaii	102	Gregory House Programs	78
Condominium Rentals Hawaii	114		
Courtyard King Kamehameha's		H	
Kona Beach Hotel	132	Hawaii Coast Realty, LLC	137
Courtyard Marriott Resort Kauai at		Hawaii Holiday Vacation Rentals	114, 132
Coconut Beach	62	Hawaii Island HIV/AIDS Foundation	136
		Hawaii Island Pride	136
D		Hawaii Timeshares by	
Dignity Honolulu	78	SellMyTimeshareNow.com	132
Discount Hawaii Car Rental		Hawaiian Paddle Sports	114
.....	62, 76, 102, 118, 134	Hilo Coffee Mill	134
		Hilton Waikiki Beach	74, 88
F		Holo Holo Charters	62
Fair Wind Cruises	132	Holy Innocents Episcopal Church	118
Farm Lovers Farmers' Markets	82	Honolulu Gay & Lesbian	
First Unitarian Universalist Church	78	Cultural Foundation	79

Honolulu Men's Dining Club	80	Kauai Museum	64
Honolulu Pride	80	Kauai Tropical Weddings &	
Huggo's	134, 137	Photography	66, 69
Hula Shores	102	Kelli Bullock Photography	
Hyatt Place Waikiki	74	66, 84, 90, 103, 108, 125, 138
		Kelli Bullock with an "EYE DO"	90
I		Kings Shops at Waikoloa	137
I Do Hawaiian Weddings & Gay Marriage	90	Ku Aloha Ola Mau	78, 136
Imperial Court of Hawaii	78	Kulia Na Mamo	78
In Between Waikiki	74		
Island Pet Movers	64, 83, 102, 108, 119, 136	L	
Island Sunset Weddings	126	Lanai City Grille at Hotel Lanai	108
		Lava Lava Beach Club	132, 138
J		Life Foundation	78
Jhonny Rox-Hollywood	84	LightSea Images	
Joyful Ceremonies - Joyful Kauai	66	66, 90, 103, 109, 120, 125, 139
		Like Hike	80
K		Lima Kokua	78
Kai Market	84		
Kalani	132, 137, 139	M	
Kanaana Hou-Siloama	102	MAC 24/7 BAR & RESTAURANT	74, 84
Kanemitsu Bakery	102	Maison de Ware	80, 88
Kauai Calls	62	Makana Terrace	64
Kauai Grill	64		

Malia Leinau Photography84,92

ManOH Males Au Natural of Hawaii80

Marry Me Maui Wedding Planners..... 126

Maui AIDS Foundation..... 118

Maui Eco Retreat..... 114

Maui Hands Ka’anapali 117

Maui Hands Lahaina 117

Maui Hands Makawao..... 117

Maui Hands Paia 117

Maui Kayak Adventures..... 116

Maui Pride 119

Maui Stand Up Paddleboarding..... 116

Maui Sunseeker LGBT Resort.....114, 124

Maui Wedding Cakes.....118, 124

Maui Wedding Photographers..... 125

Moloka’i Charters..... 102

Moloka’i Vacation Properties 103

My Bar Kona 134

N

Nalu Kai Grill & Bar64

Napali Cafe.....65

Ning’s Thai 137

North Shore Surf Girls - Surf School.....86

O

On The Rocks 134, 137

One Forty 108

Open Arms Metropolitan
Community Church 134

P

P.F. Chang’s86

Pacific Dream Photography.....69, 92, 125, 139

Paddler’s Inn 102

Paradise Gourmet Catering..... 137

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays
(PFLAG) Hilo..... 136

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays
(PFLAG) Kaua’i.....64

Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays
(PFLAG) Maui 119

Penny Palmer Photography
..... 69, 92, 103, 109, 120, 125, 139

Philip Rickard Honolulu Factory
& Showroom.....66, 82, 88, 124, 138

Piiholo Ranch Zipline 116, 122

Plantation Hale Suites 62

Poipu Plantation B&B Inn &
Vacation Rentals62

Pride of Maui 116

R

Rainbow Family 808.com..... 78

Royal Hawaiian Heritage
Jewelry66, 83, 90, 124, 138

Royal Kona Resort..... 132, 138

Rum Fire76, 86

S

Savory Palate Hawaii.....118, 124

Sheraton Maui Resort & Spa.....114, 124

Sheraton Waikiki Hotel..... 74, 88

Spa at the Lodge at Koele..... 108

Spinning Dolphin Charters of Lana’i, Inc..... 108

St. John’s Episcopal Church..... 118

St. Regis Princeville Resort62, 66

Sunseeker Activities 116

Sushi Rock 137

Sylvia Burton, Realtor-Broker 120

T

Teppanyaki Dan 122

The Dining Room 108

The Lavender Clinic82

The Mask-querade Bar..... 134

The Shops at 505 Lahaina 122

The Shops at Kukui’ula.....66

The Terrace..... 108

The Trevor Project 64, 79, 102, 108, 119, 136

The Wine Stop.....76, 86

Tiki Terrace 122

Tortilla Republic.....65

W

Weddings A La Heart 138

West O’ahu Hope for A Cure Foundation..... 79

White Orchid Wedding
..... 69, 92, 103, 109, 126, 139

Y

Yoshiya Restaurant86






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